



A Solution Tailored for Your Specific Business Needs:

ESPRIT CAM - Empowered by Visual Basic® for Applications

“ VBA offers flexibility. It gives people the power to manage change themselves. It's well supported by Microsoft and having a VBA interface shows that an application is capable of being easily integrated or customized .

VBA is an empowering technology. ”

Today's manufacturing challenges require creative solutions that soon take you beyond the realm of off the shelf pre-packaged software. You need a CAM system that embraces your ideas and individual needs rather than forcing you to work within the limitations of a generic solution.

ESPRIT is uniquely qualified to empower companies to build complete automated solutions (add-ins) tailored to fit their individual business needs. ESPRIT is also the ideal platform for building the “macros” many CNC programmers are accustomed to using for task automation on the job. With ESPRIT “The Limit is Your Imagination”.

For macros and add-ins ESPRIT provides a complete Application Programming Interface (API) that opens the door for communication between ESPRIT and any third party program. And with Microsoft® Visual Basic® for Applications (VBA), the industry standard macro language, included within the ESPRIT CAM system you have the simplest, fastest and most reliable mechanism for automating your business processes.

An Open Architecture - the Application Programming Interface

As a Windows® compliant software, ESPRIT features all the advantages of an API built upon the robust Microsoft® COM foundation. The ESPRIT API supports the use of Visual Basic, Visual Basic for Applications (VBA), C++, or any other Windows® programming language. This means end-users and software developers can build their macros and add-in programs in their language of choice which, when used, appear as a natural integral part of ESPRIT. You gain ease of connectivity with the many other Windows applications you may already use in your company. This feature especially appeals to large end users seeking to integrate programs, complex manufacturing processes, or build extensive custom solutions.

Empowered by Visual Basic® for Applications

VBA is important to both CNC programmers and software developers because it enables ESPRIT to be easily customized using macros and forms. These can then be integrated with existing data,



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business processes and systems. VBA is a widely accepted “subset” of the Microsoft Visual Basic programming language.

A major advantage of VBA is its “strength in numbers”. VBA is by far the most commonly used macro language. A benefit of learning VBA is that once you master the language, you can more readily write macros for other applications.

Within ESPRIT, VBA is the ideal tool for building a macro. For example: a machinist can create a new dialog box which asks for parameters to define a hole (diameter, depth, XYZ location, hole type). Then the VBA macro automatically creates circles representing the holes, selects the cutting tools, automatically creates the drilling operation(s), and produces the G-code program all in one step.

Customize Tool Bars, Menus and Keyboard Shortcuts

Using ESPRIT’s Customize feature, a standard component of all Windows compliant software, machinists can change the layout of the ESPRIT icons, menus, and toolbars to suit their individual preferences. For example, a user can create a personal toolbar that includes their favorite icons from any other toolbar. Standard keyboard shortcuts and menus can be edited, and custom keyboard shortcuts and menus can be created.

All of ESPRIT’s menus and tool bars are also accessible from within a macro or add-in program via the ESPRIT API. This allows the macros and programs to adapt the ESPRIT interface to suit the individual needs of a particular application or business. As a result, programs run inside ESPRIT as if they were a natural extension of the product; usage is simplified and the learning curve is minimized.



The ESPRIT API Benefits

Macros and add-in programs built with the ESPRIT API can be developed quickly and deployed easily with minimal maintenance. This provides a tremendous business benefit in terms of return on investment (ROI) and timeliness.

- Easily customize ESPRIT to meet your specific business requirements.
- Use your language of choice: VBA, VB, C++, or any other “Windows” programming language.
- Your macros and add-in programs appear as a natural, integral part of ESPRIT thanks to the ESPRIT API “Add-In” technology.
- Visual Basic for Applications and the ESPRIT API are included in every standard ESPRIT product at no extra cost.

Benefits to End Users of VBA-Based Solutions

According to Microsoft, users will benefit overall the most from improved quality and functionality, as the applications they use today incorporate richer functionality and integration and are tailored to meet their individual needs.

- Solutions perform faster thanks to tight integration between VBA and host applications.
- Solutions look and work like the applications users already know, so less training is required.
- Take advantage of the huge number of Visual Basic resources and developers (currently over 3.2 million developers worldwide)
- VBA plays a large role in helping companies lower costs by reducing the number of software development environments and languages they need to train developers on.