



Animax Designs streamlines character design with T-Splines and RhinoCAM

>T-Splines enables unprecedented collaboration with clients on design variations and creates CAM-ready models for RhinoCAM.



Company: Animax Designs, Inc.

Industry: Animax Designs, founded in 1989 by Chuck Fawcett, is a character creation company, the High Performance Puppet Workshop, specializing in the design, fabrication, and animation of physical three-dimensional characters including live hand puppets, mechanized puppets, articulated costume characters, and realistic animatronics. Animax Designs provides products for live entertainment, television, advertising, and film.

Headquarters: Nashville, TN

Website: www.animaxdesigns.com

Using both T-Splines and RhinoCAM as part of our design and manufacturing process, we are able to go from concept to production much faster and support many design iterations even with tight project deadlines. The tight integration of both products in Rhino provides a seamless workflow and user experience for our design and process engineers.

Rick Smith, Design and Process Engineer

The challenge

The team at Animax employs various techniques and methodologies in design and construction combining traditional artistic methods and digital design with CNC manufacturing techniques.

Animax derives its 3D content from various sources including 2D drawings, 3D scans, and free-form 3D models. Specific manufacturing techniques are based on model shape, size, material, and purpose. The resulting prototypes, parts and molds are produced through direct CNC machining or Rapid Prototyping.

Key challenges in this process are speed, flexibility and accuracy. Projects for television, advertising and film are often under tight deadlines and there are demanding requirements for the accurate modeling and representation of the characters. Designers need to produce rapid and accurate 3D models that are easy to modify or sculpt-able, CAM-ready and interoperable with other 3D applications.



