

Canvas For the Outdoors

Scissors, chalk, tape measure, punches and sewing machines... these basic tools used to make canvas goods have not changed for decades. Which is all the more reason why automated cutting can make a huge difference to this type of business.

Automated cutting is faster, more accurate and more economical than hand cutting. In fact one plotter can normally do the work of at least three people, but with zero mistakes and improvements in product quality, reduced waste and profitability.

Aeronaut manufactures high performance, high reliability plotter-cutters which even the smallest factory can afford. We also make the widest and largest plotters in the world too... up to 10.7 metres wide and 45 metres long. And unlike many low-cost plotters, Aeronaut Maxis plotters have the accuracy required to make sure that the fabric components fit the metal components... every time.

Aeronaut cutters have been designed from the beginning to work with industrial textiles. They are heavy duty machines and can put an enormous amount of force down on the cutting blade.

So Aeronaut cutters are a natural choice for use with the wide range of materials found in this work. You can mark and cut heavy canvas as well as materials like window mesh, PVC and even foam rubber all on the same machine.

And from the beginning, we've designed the software and hardware to be incredibly easy to use. If you can move a mouse pointer around a computer screen then you can do a CAD drawing.

Aeronaut plotter-cutters offer three types of cutting technology. The most common method of cutting woven textiles is to use a rotary blade knife. This tool cuts with a rolling action and is fast, clean and precise. Aeronaut cutters can take rotary blades in 18mm, 28mm and 45mm diameters. The more detailed the work, the smaller diameter blade you use.

Aeronaut plotters take a very wide range of off-the shelf drag blades. The blade holders are fitted with a micrometer depth stop for precise adjustment of cut depth.



All Aeronaut plotter cutters are fitted with a universal pen holder which fits most markers so you can draw accurately on almost any material, even rough canvas.

The simplest Aeronaut plotter cutters is the Maxis LC which carries a rotary blade, marker pen and interchangeable drag blade. You can easily fit a sign cutter in the pen holder for logos and stickers. The Maxis LC is the workhorse of the industry and in use 24 hours a day from Barbados to Moscow.

Drop-in quick-change tooling is a feature of many Aeronaut cutter. Drag blades can cut small, accurate shapes. Creasing tools have proved very useful in canvas work, marking crease and fold lines on both side of the fabric. A drill-punch tool can make accurate holes in half a second. And changing these tools takes just a few seconds.

Aeronaut quick-change tooling allows the fitting of powered tools such as a reciprocating blade cutter which can be used to cut difficult and thick materials with ease including a range of materials from foam rubber to cardboard and carpet, extending the uses of the cutting system beyond what's offered on conventional plotter-cutters.

A key part of any automated cutting system is the software used to drive it. Aeronaut's Tangent program the most powerful and easy to use nesting and plotting software on the market. Tangent has been designed from the start to work with industrial textiles, and reads all common CAD and fabric based file formats.

There's no programming involved in this type of work. Using a simple CAD program, you colour the shapes you draw to assign them to the various tools... cut, crease, punch, draw etc. Save, and press the Go button.

Repetitious patterns can be automated using plug-in tools (macros) programmed specifically for your designs. This means you can reshape a design with a few numerical entries to customise it for a new use.

We've worked hard to develop an automated cutting system which is very easy to use, and still powerful, flexible and affordable. The Aeronaut cutting systems will let you work with the software, materials and techniques you want. If you'd like to know more about Aeronaut products, please have a look at our web site, email or call the factory for a chat and a demonstration with your patterns and your materials.

