

From: education@scwmetalclub.com
Sent: Sunday, June 7, 2020 5:21 PM
Subject: Email #8: Vcarve PRO & Laguna Certifications – Summer Procedures

To All Plasma Cutters,

When the new Laguna Machine was purchased, it was the most expensive plasma cutter ever acquired in the history of the Sun City West Metal Club. Before it was procured, shopping was done across the country for a well-built unit that would withstand the rigors and demands put on it by it being used by a lot of different members. A trip was made to Los Angeles to check out the company and learn as much as possible about the unit before purchasing.

After the transaction was completed, a factory representative came to fine tune the unit and teach a small group of members how to set up and cut on the machine. That group became a committee that agreed to help other members learn how to cut on the machine and help keep the unit running as smooth and long as possible.

The committee then learned that the factory suggested we investigate using a better software to design patterns for cutting. VCarve Pro was the suggested software. It was found that the corporation which owned the software had a special licensing fee for large clubs such as ours. Although it became available to all members at the same time, the committee tried to get a jump start on the learning. We discovered that the best way to learn it was online through watching the numerous tutorials available.

Then COVID-19 hit! No one said that learning could not continue....and it did! It was soon found that the current patterns being utilized contained many more nodes than necessary and probably contributed to the breakdowns we had been experiencing. Additionally, it was determined that the DXF files we were using were a major contributor to our dilemma. The committee members found that VCarve Pro had a solution to this problem. It easily loaded the DXF files, cleaned them up and converted them into a cleaner format for cutting.

Now the club is ready to reopen on June 10, 2020. The committee, under the direction of the president of the club, is issuing the attached procedures for becoming certified on the use of VCarve Pro software followed by training on the correct operation of the Laguna plasma machine.

In line with last year's procedures, cutting on the Blaze and Laguna will be limited to the hours of 8 AM to 12 PM (Noon) each weekday due to the heat in the back-yard area. There will be no exceptions including for maintenance, testing or repairs. There will be no cutting on the weekends. These hours will be in effect until further notice.

Only Hypertherm original manufactured nozzles will be allowed for use on the Laguna. No aftermarket nozzles will be allowed. We sell only the original nozzles in the shop.

We ask for your understanding on the VCarve Pro and Laguna Training. Due to the social distancing requirements, we will not be able to train a large class of people. Also due to

the many tutorials available for learning VCarve Pro, we will ask all members to self-learn the program. We are requesting that members utilize the tutorials that are available just like the committee members had to do. A list of how to get started can be found on the clubs website under <https://www.scwmetalclub.com/vcarve-pro-info.htm>

We will start certifying members on VCarve Pro, two at a time, as shown on the procedures notice attached. Once a member is certified, they can sign up for the Laguna Certification class and learn how to correctly operate and run the Laguna Plasma Machine. This will be a slow process as we have 57 certified blaze members, and another 50 members wanting to learn VCarve Pro and become certified on the Laguna. Again, your patience in getting all of us through this process will be greatly appreciated. As usual, the attached procedures are subject to change at any time.

Sign-up sheets for the VCarve Pro certification and Laguna certification will be posted on clipboards along with the rest of the clubs training classes. This will be done on a first come first serve basis.

The following members have been certified on VCarve Pro and the Laguna cutting procedures at this time. Any of these members will be available for questions and training as they have time.

Joe Faraone
Jim Filipiak
Alan Green
Larry Myers
Rod Flack
Pat Frantz
Avis Acton
Ken Booth

Joe Faraone is the head of the committee. All questions and concerns should be directed to him. Thanks for your understanding again, as we work our way through all this and great cutting!

VCarve Pro Committee