



OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

For Vinyl Cutters

Omnisign Plus PRO 600 and PRO 1200

Congratulations on purchasing an Omnisign Plus vinyl cutter!
Please read these operating instructions thoroughly to ensure that you can start production with your vinyl cutter without problems.

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Version 2.2

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1. Safety Precautions

Please read these instructions and safety precautions carefully before using your vinyl cutter for the first time!

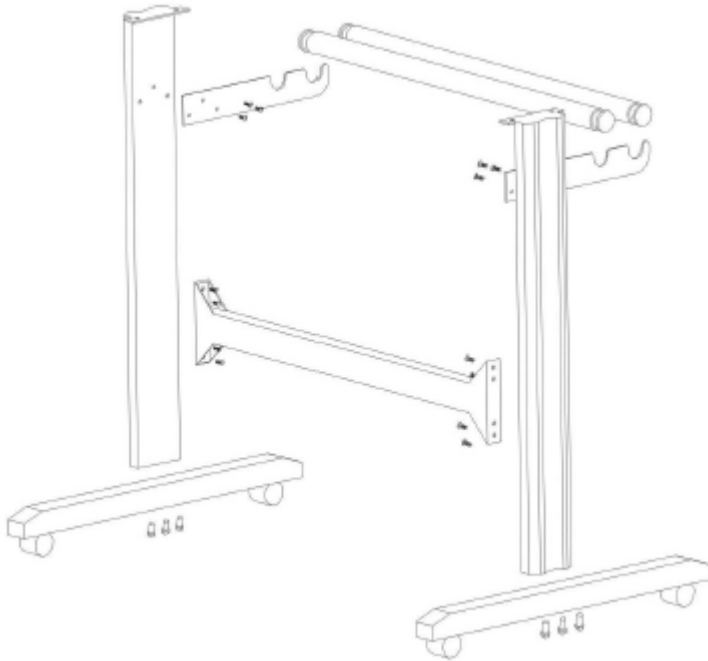
- Do not place any magnetic object anywhere near the cutting head.
- Do not remove the connection cable to the computer while cutting/plotting is in progress.
- Relieve the pressure on the pressure rollers when not in use by moving the pressure lever up.
- Never open the housing or attempt to modify the unit by yourself.
- Ensure liquids and metal objects do not get into the inside of the vinyl cutter.
- Ensure that the wall socket used is grounded and protected with a ground fault switch.
- Ensure that the connected voltage (240V) does not deviate by more than $\pm 10\%$. If so, install a voltage stabilizer.
- Disconnect the power cord when the unit is not used for a longer period of time.
- Stay away from the blade holder/carriage when the vinyl cutter is in operation.
- Stop any cutting/plotting jobs before adjusting the blade holder.
- Always ensure that the vinyl cutter is out of reach of children at anytime.
- Do not touch the tip of the blade to avoid injury.
- Always place the unit on a stable base to prevent it from falling down.
- Do not operate the unit during thunderstorms to prevent the unit from being damaged or destroyed by lightning.

2. Included Items

Before starting work, please check whether the following items are all present:

Item	Quantity	
Om nesign Plus FlexiStarter (PC and Mac)	2	
Om nesign Plus Driver	1	
Blade Holder	1	
Pen Holder	1	
Knife	3	
Pen	1 or 2	
USB Cable	1	
Power Cable	1	
Floor Stand	1	

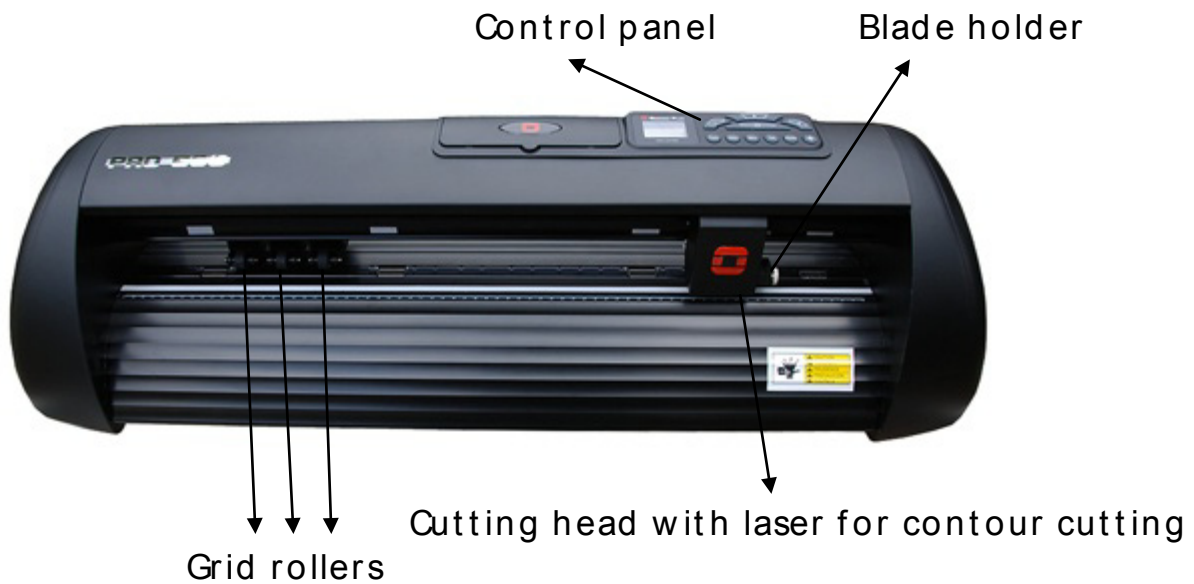
3. Layout of Floor Stand



The floor stand for your Omnisign Plus vinyl cutter can be assembled simply using the parts supplied as shown in the exploded drawing above.

4. Unit Descriptions

4.1. Unit Parts and Their Function



4.2. Side Views

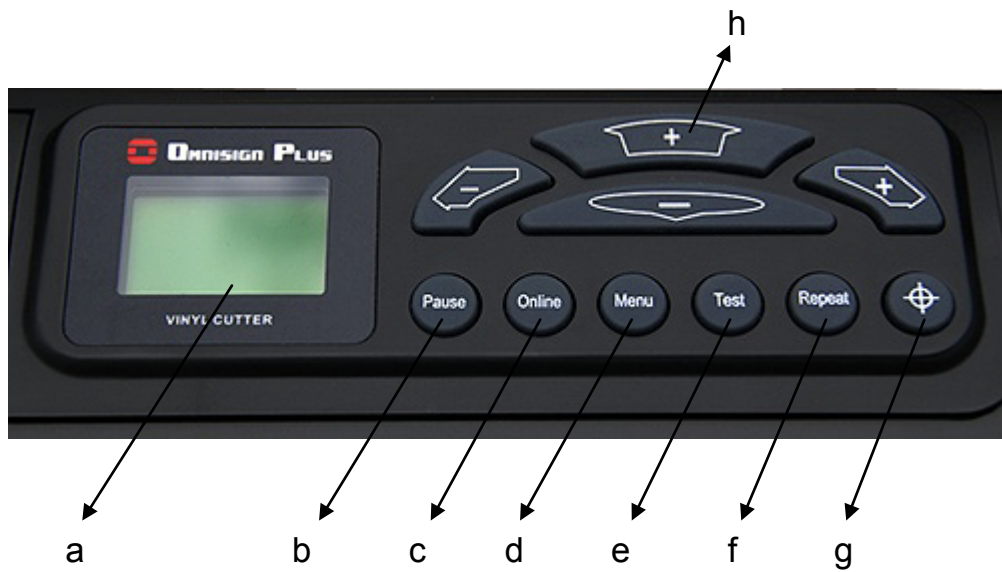
USB port, serial port



Power supply, fuse, switch



4.3. Control Panel



- a) LCD display
- b) Pause button (to interrupt cutting/plotting job)
- c) Online/Offline button
- d) Menu button (to view and change settings)
- e) Test button (for blade test)
- f) Repeat button (to repeat a job)
- g) Origin (or zero point) button
- h) Arrow keys (to control cutting head and to pull/release vinyl)

5. Starting Up Software and Vinyl Cutter

Attention! Please note that you need to install FlexiStarter first to ensure a smooth installation before installing the driver.

Very Important: Do NOT connect the vinyl cutter to your PC before installing the driver.

5.1. Installation of Omnign Plus FlexiStarter

Version 8.6 of the FlexiStarter cutting software with USB-dongle or internet activation is supplied with your Omnign Plus vinyl cutter. To control the vinyl cutter with your PC, install the software as described below:

5.1.1. Version 8.6 with Online Activation

Attention! Please note that your PC has to be connected to the internet while installing this version of FlexiStarter.

- When asked for your personal registration details, please enter all required data in order to activate the software on your computer.
- The activation code (or password) that comes with the FlexiStarter is required to open the software.

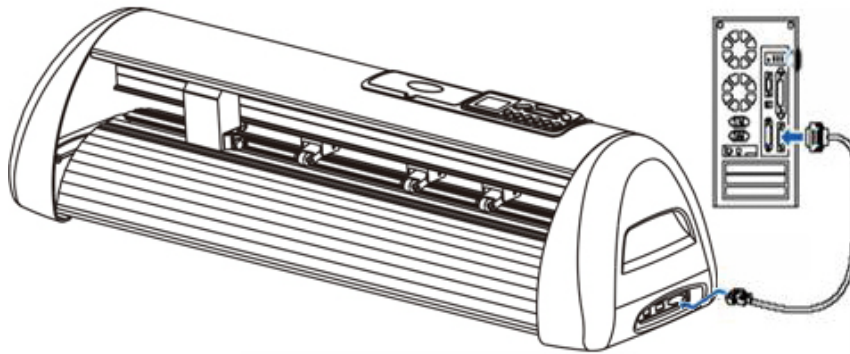
5.2. Connection via USB Interface

Very Important: Again, do NOT connect the vinyl cutter to your PC before installing the driver.

Your Omnign Plus vinyl cutter has an USB interface for connection between your PC and the vinyl cutter.

Please note that your Omnign Plus vinyl cutter can be operated on Windows 7, Vista, XP and Mac.

- Before connecting the vinyl cutter to your PC, first install the appropriate drivers from the supplied driver CD/DVD.
Very Important: Never connect the vinyl cutter to your PC before installing the driver for it.
- After installing the driver, connect the vinyl cutter to the USB interface on your PC using the supplied USB cable. Windows will then indicate that new hardware components have been recognized and shows when the installation is completed.



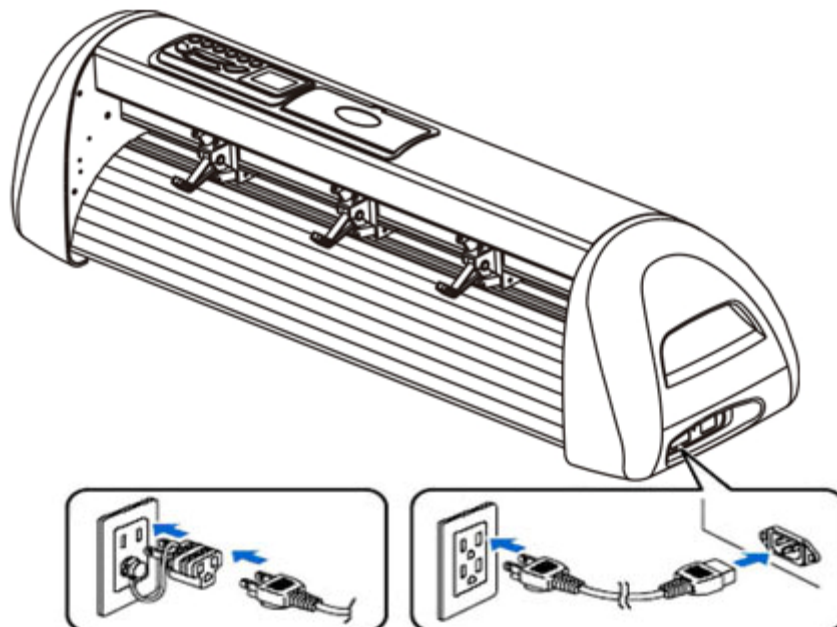
5.3. Connection via Serial Interface

No special installation is required when you connect your Omnesign Plus vinyl cutter to a serial port of your PC. You will only need to connect the vinyl cutter to your PC using the supplied Serial cable.

5.4. Starting Up Vinyl Cutter

Ensure that a sufficient space is available at the back and front of the vinyl cutter. The vinyl cutter should be operated only in clean and dry surroundings, and away from direct sunlight.

- Connect the vinyl cutter to a 240 V wall socket with the supplied power cable.

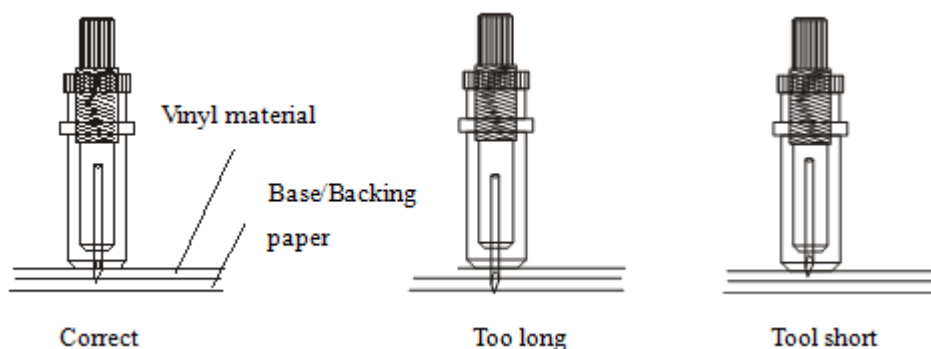


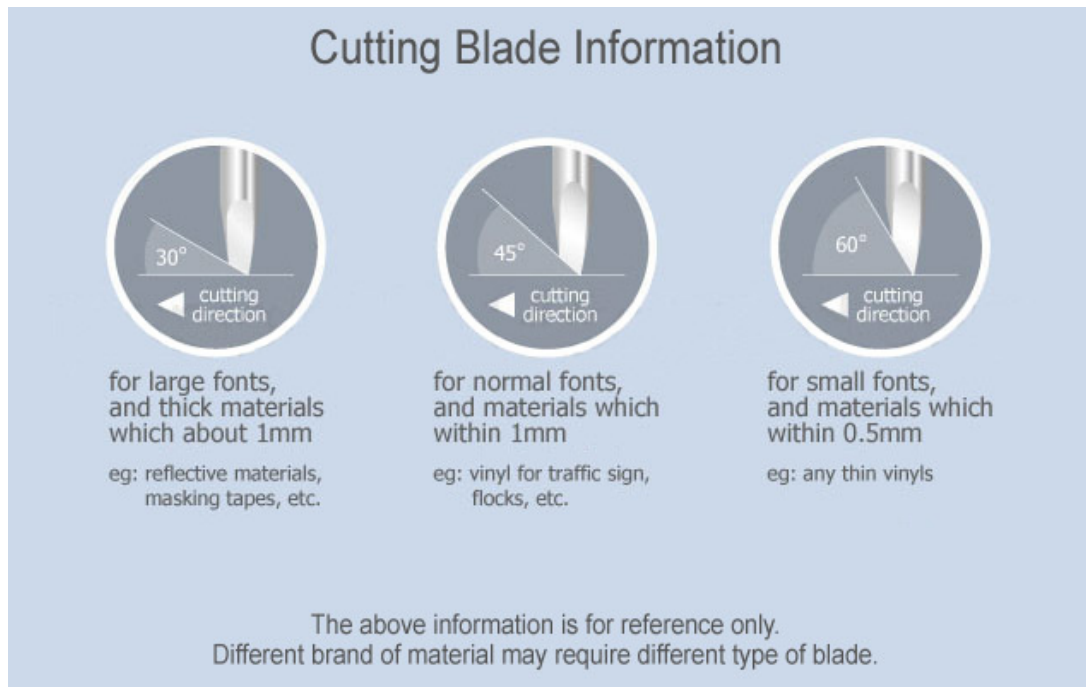
- Then switch the vinyl cutter on. Caution! After switching on, the cutting head will initially move to the right.

5.5. Installing and Adjusting the Blade

- Take one of the supplied cutting blades and place it in the blade holder so that the sharp side extends at the front. The blade is held by a magnet in the blade holder.
- Adjust the cutting depths by turning the cap of the blade holder.
- The depth should be initially set correctly. Since the depth adjustment for the blade depends on the material, it may be necessary to change it later.
- Press the pin on the rear of the blade holder to remove and replace the blade. Caution: Please be very careful as the blade is very sharp!

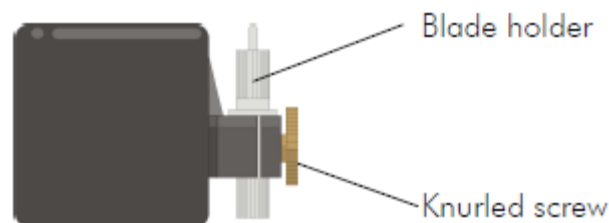
The various material thicknesses require different blade settings or blades; it may therefore be necessary to repeat the adjustments described as above.





5.6. Inserting the Blade Holder

- First turn the clamping screw for the blade holder on the cutting head until it is open wide enough.
- Then insert the blade holder from the top and gently press it down in the hole, and tighten the clamping screw. Caution: Do NOT overtighten it.



5.7. Caring of Vinyl

Media Preservation

- Keep the vinyl away from direct sunlight and water. You should keep the media in dry, shady and cool place before and after using it.
- Do not put the vinyl in the vertical position to prevent from damaging the edge of the vinyl.
- Do not put anything on top of the vinyl roll as it may squeeze the vinyl roll which will affect the vinyl quality.

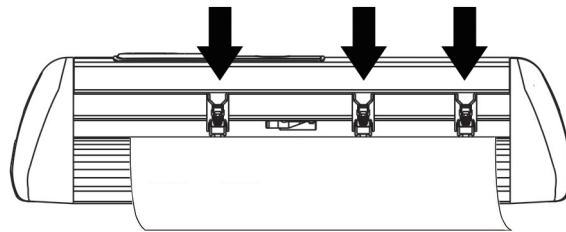
Media Loading

- The vinyl is easy to curl in low temperature, and it is easy to crease in high temperature.
- Do not use the media when it is crease, curl, or dusty as it will damage your vinyl cutter.

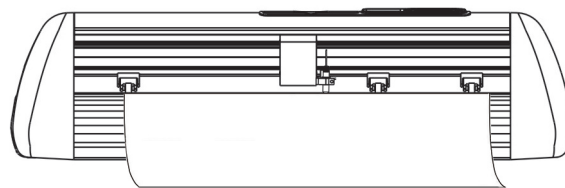
5.8. Inserting Cutting Vinyl

Both single sheet vinyl and rolled vinyl are suitable for the vinyl cutter.

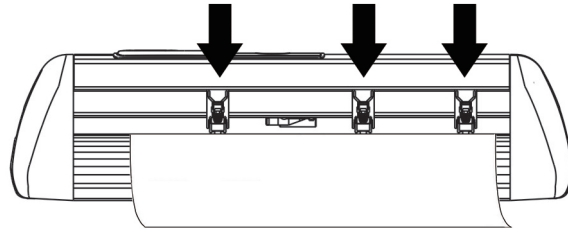
- Always insert the material to be cut from the rear of the vinyl cutter.
- Press down all the levers of the pinch rollers at the rear of the vinyl cutter to raise their wheels.



- Insert the vinyl from the rear, and slide it under the wheels of the pinch roller. Gently pull it out from the front of the vinyl cutter to an appropriate length.

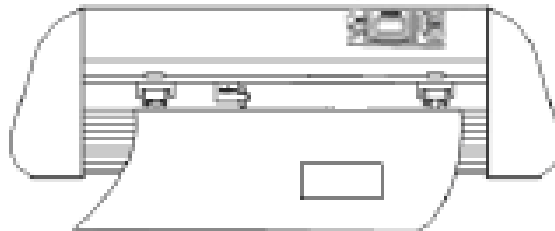


- Move the pinch rollers to the white/yellow identified areas, and adjust the position of the vinyl. The white/yellow identified areas are clearly seen from the front of the vinyl cutter.



- Raise the all the levers of the pinch rollers to lower the wheels. Their wheels will hold down the vinyl against the metal wheels (main shaft) of the vinyl cutter under the vinyl.

5.9. Cutting Test



- To perform the cutting test, put the vinyl cutter in the offline mode, and press the Test button. The vinyl cutter then cuts a rectangle at the currently stored zero point (or origin).
- You can adjust the blade holder (by raising or lowering it) as well as the cutting pressure using this cutting test to ensure the right cutting quality. The inserted vinyl should be cut cleanly and straight during the cutting test; the backing paper of the vinyl should not be cut or damaged.
- If the backing paper has been cut through, either the cutting pressure is set too high or the blade or blade holder is adjusted incorrectly. Change these adjustments and perform the cutting test again.
- You can also readjust the blade in the blade holder to a sufficient depth.

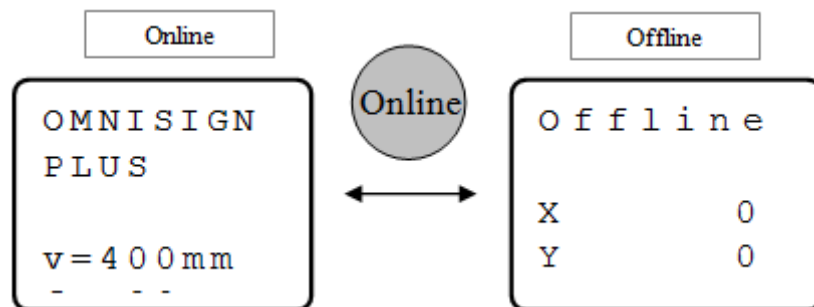
5.10. Installing Plot Pen

The plot pen supplied with the vinyl cutter is used for drawing on paper. The operation methods of using the plot pen are the same as the blade.

6. Settings and Operation

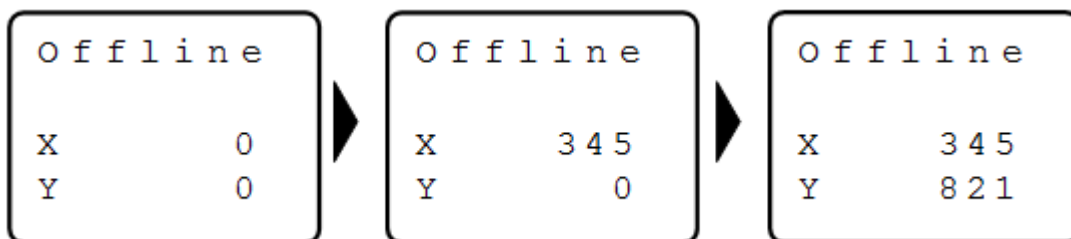
6.1. Online/Offline

After switching on the vinyl cutter, a reset is performed and the unit switches to the online mode. You can switch back and forth between the online and offline modes by pressing the Online button on the control panel. During the cutting operation, the vinyl cutter must be set in the online mode. To change the configuration settings, the unit must be in the offline mode.



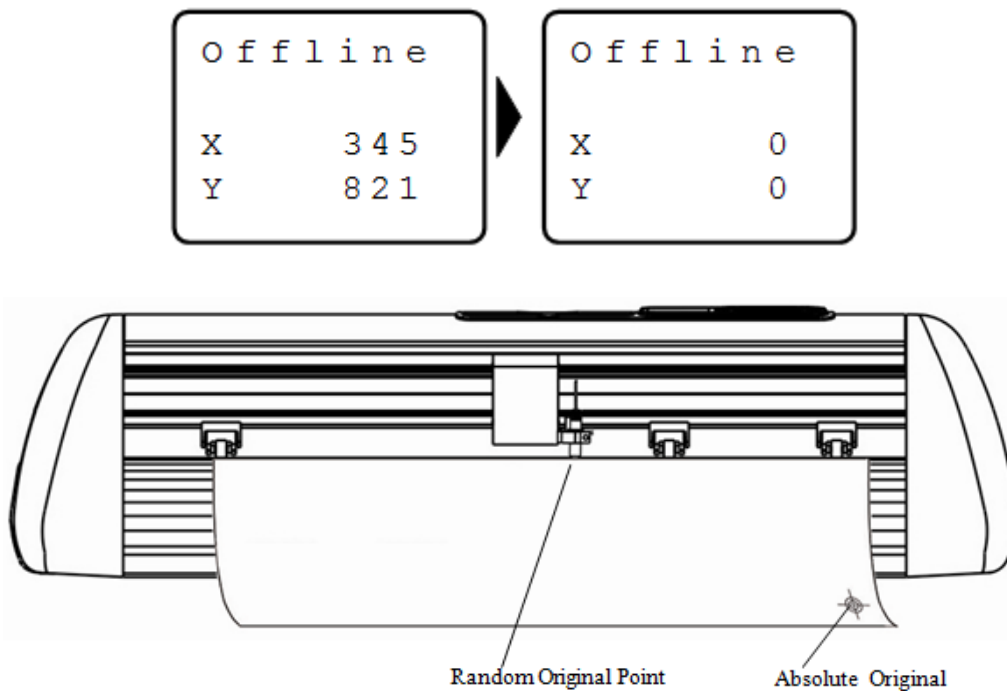
6.2. Moving the Cutting Head (or Blade Carriage)

In the offline mode, the cutting head can be moved to the left and right by pressing the left and right arrow keys “◀▶”, and the main shaft can be moved forwards and backwards by pressing the up and down arrow keys “▲▼”.



6.3. Setting the Zero Point (or Origin)

When you need to move the blade carriage to the starting point, press the origin button, X and Y value will set to “0”. Then the new starting point is set. The vinyl cutter will begin working at the new starting point.




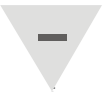
When you switch the vinyl cutter on, the carriage will go back to the starting point automatically.

6.4. Key Function Definitions


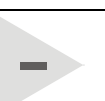


You can make the following changes in the online mode by pressing the corresponding buttons:

1st Level Menu Keyboard Definition

<i>Button</i>	<i>Function</i>	<i>Description</i>
Online	Online/Offline	Press once to switch to Offline mode and vice versa
Menu	Menu Switch	Press once to enter into Settings menu
◀+	Blade Pressure/Force Increase	Press once, the blade force increases by 1. It has a total of 160 steps
▶-	Blade Pressure/Force Decrease	Press once, the blade force decreases by 1. It has a total of 160 steps




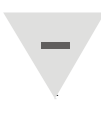
	Cutting Speed Increase	Press once, the cutting speed will increase by 50mm/s
	Cutting Speed Decrease	Press once, the cutting speed will decrease by 50mm/s
Pause	Pause/Resume	Press once to pause the job, press once again to resume working. This is helpful to change the blade pressure or cutting speed during cutting
Repeat	Blade drop/raise	Press once to lower the blade, and press it again to raise the blade

Setting Mode Menu Definition

Button	Function	Description
Menu	Menu Switch	Press once to enter into menu
	Baud Rate Increase	Press once to increase to a defined baud rate
	Baud Rate Decrease	Press once to decrease to a defined baud rate
	Idle Speed Increase	Press once to increase the Idle speed by 50mm/s
	Idle Speed Decrease	Press once to decrease the Idle speed by 50mm/s

Set Per Menu Definition

Button	Function	Description
Menu	Menu Switch	Press once to enter into OMNISIGN PLUS status

	Increase Yp Scale	If the actual cutting scale is smaller than the image size from Y position, press this button will increase the size
	Decrease Yp Scale	If the actual cutting scale is larger than the image size from Y position, press this button will decrease the size
	Increase Xp Scale	If the actual cutting size is smaller than the image size from X position, press this button will increase the size
	Decrease Xp Scale	If the actual cutting size is larger than the image size from X position, press this button will decrease the size

6.5. Repeat Function

Press the Repeat key to repeat the same job without having to transfer the data from the computer again.

Please ensure that the vinyl cutter is in the offline mode before pressing the Repeat key.

The main board of the vinyl cutter has a flash memory. The capacity of the flash memory is limited. The data can not be larger than the buffer memory. If the data is too large, the repeat function will not work. The LCD will display "No data".

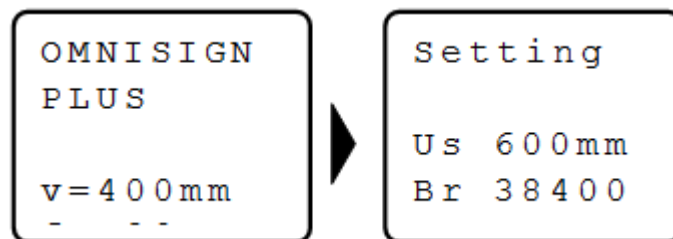
6.6. Limit Switches

If a cutting/plotting job sent to the vinyl cutter is larger than the maximum cutting width of the vinyl cutter, the cutting head is stopped automatically by a sensor at the left and right sides. In this case, the vinyl cutter is reset. You will need to decrease the size of the job, and transfer it to the vinyl cutter again.

6.7. Port Settings

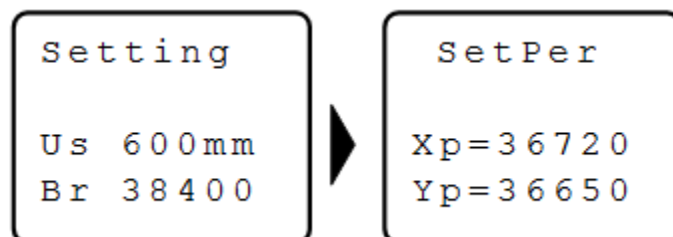
Press Menu button to enter menu settings.

“Us” refers to idle speed (default parameter of Us is 600mm). It can increase the carriage moving speed when it is not cutting. Press the button once, the idle speed will increase/decrease by 50mm/s. “Br” refers to baud rate (default parameter of Br is 38400). There are 6 baud rates available: 57600, 38400, 28800, 19200, 14400, and 9600. The baud rate setting must be the same as the computer’s communication port’s baud rate setting, or the computer can not communicate with the vinyl cutter. The default parameter of the vinyl cutter when it is switched on is 38400. Shown as followings:



6.8. X and Y Scale Settings

Press Menu button once again to enter “Set Per” setting. Xp and Yp refer to cutting scale. The purpose is to set the scale from PC and output file by 1:1. If there is any error between the actual output and the software setting, you can adjust Xp and Yp. The default values are Xp= 36720, Yp= 36650) shown as following:



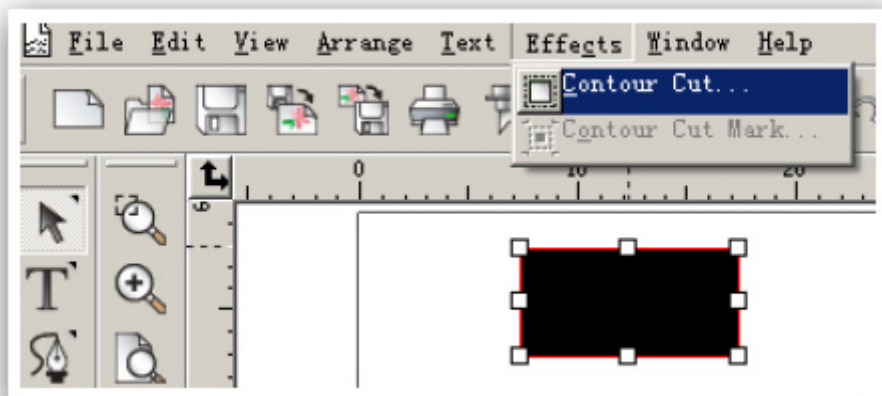
7. Contour Cutting

Contour cutting is positioning printable media with your vinyl cutter so that you can cut the printed objects in the designated contour without offset and free from distortion.

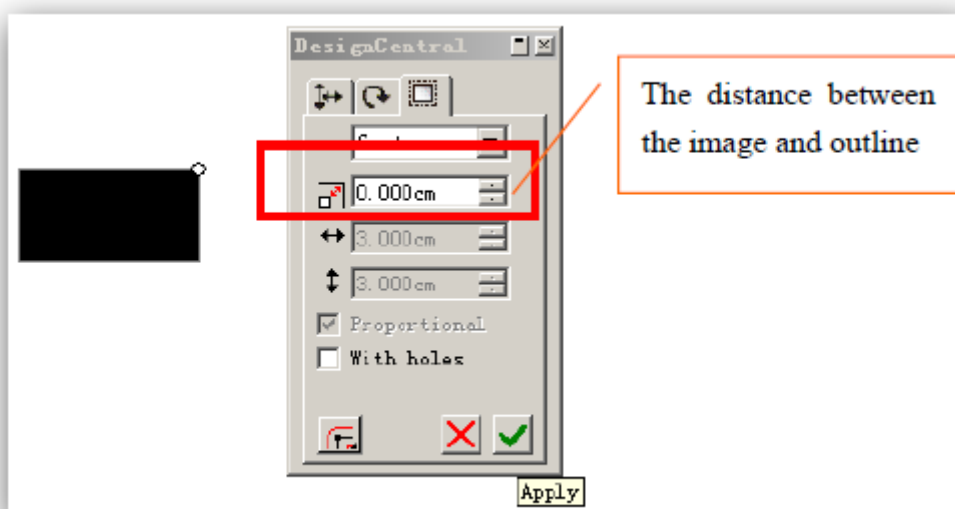
The installation and application of contour cutting are explained in the following steps.

7.1. Setting Up Offset

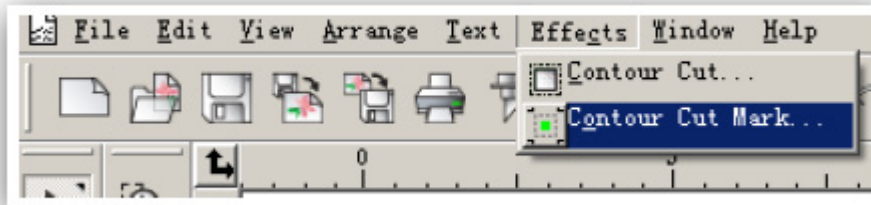
- Insert a plot pen into the carriage holder, and press **ONLINE** → **MENU** → original point key in Online mode to debug the laser.
- Make a small rectangle in the cutting software, and click **Effects** → **Contour Cut** to add an outline.



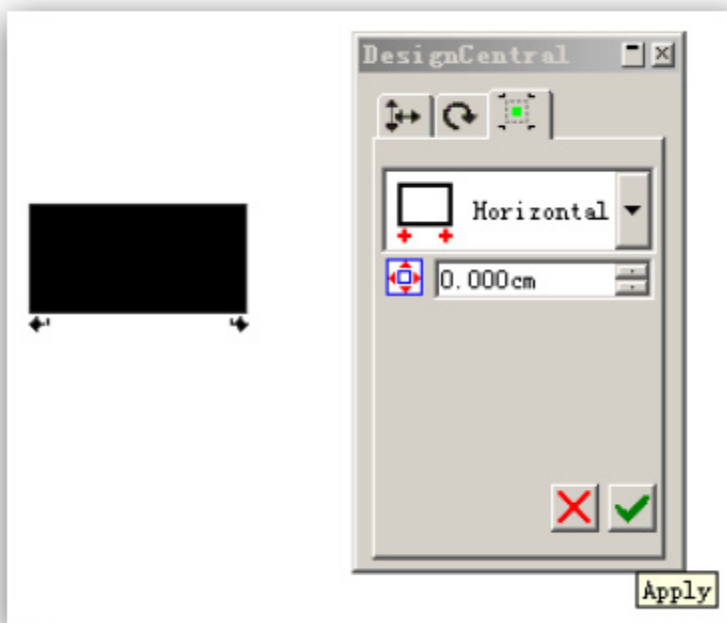
- In the pop up dialogue, set the distance between the image and the outline as 0 cm, and click **Apply**.



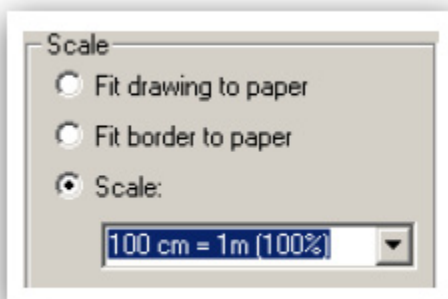
- Click **Effects** → **Contour Cut Mark** to add the mark points (shown as the following)



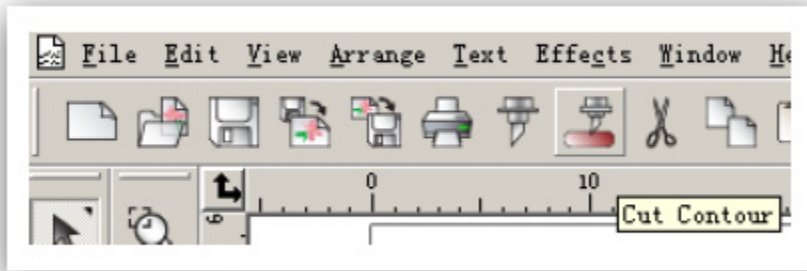
- Choose 2 mark points in the pop up dialogue, and click **Apply** (shown as the following).



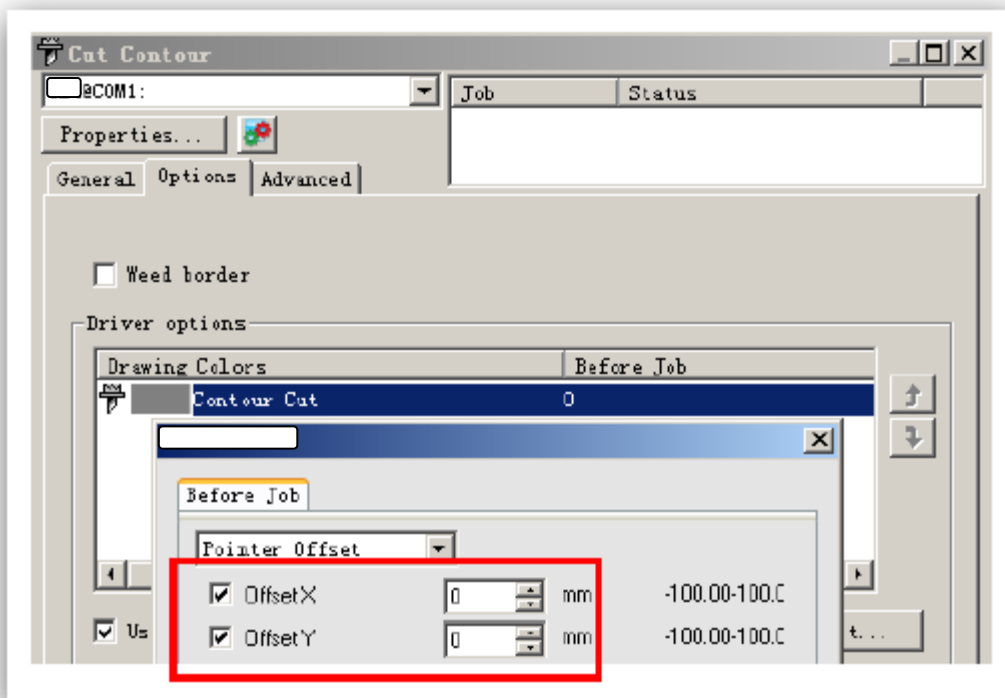
- Press print, and set 100% in the Scale (shown as following), and print out the artwork.



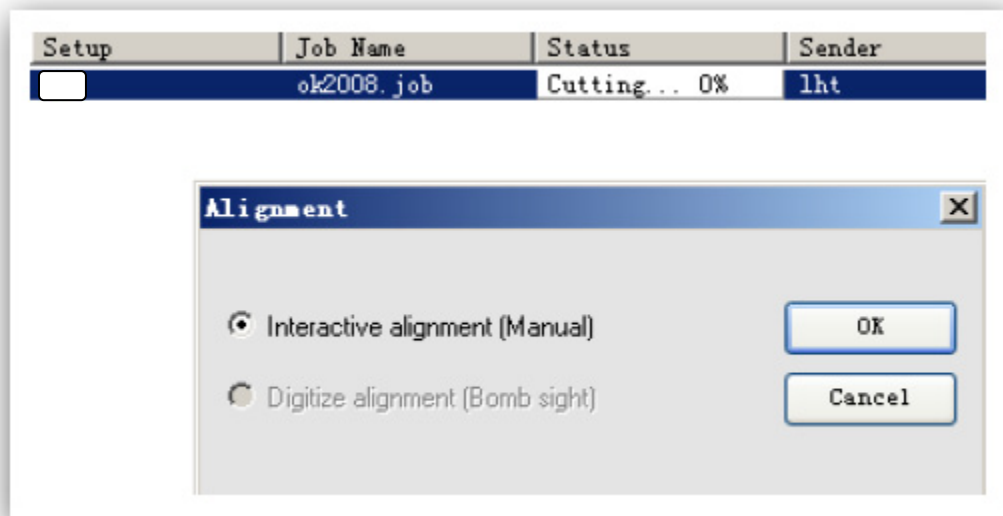
- After printing out the artwork, click **Cut Contour**.



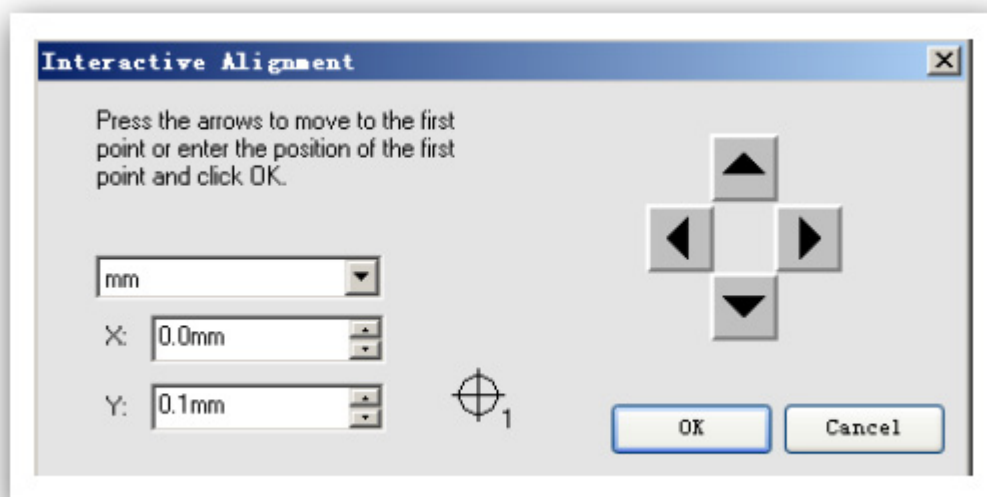
- Press **Options** in the pop up dialogue, click **contour cutting** in the **Options**, and set the OFFSET as 0.



- After clicking **send**, the following pop up dialogue appears, and click OK.

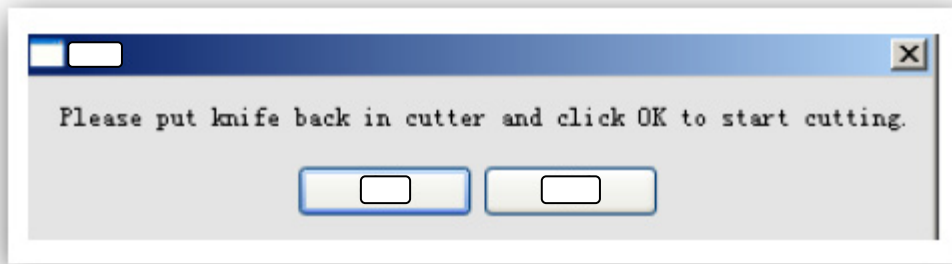


- Click the left arrow in the Interactive Alignment dialogue (shown as the following). The carriage will move a distance automatically. Put the printed material into the vinyl cutter, and let the laser aims at the first mark point (the junction of “+”), and press the pinch roller down. If the laser does not completely aim at the laser point, use the buttons to adjust it to aim exactly at the laser point. Once you have done that, click OK.

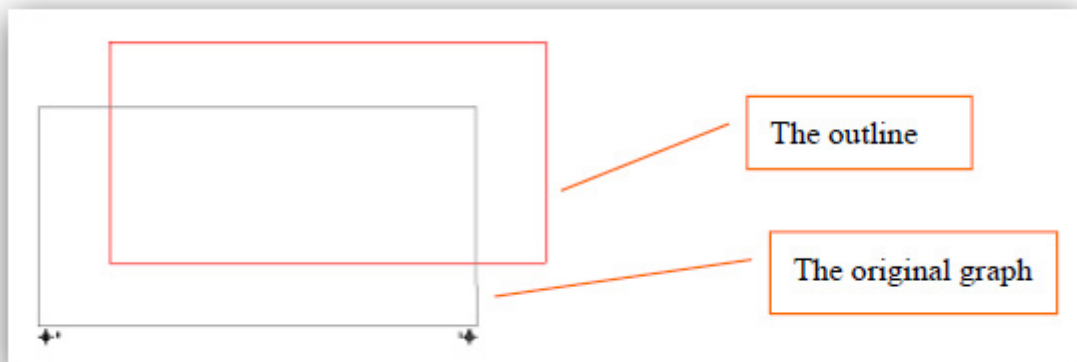


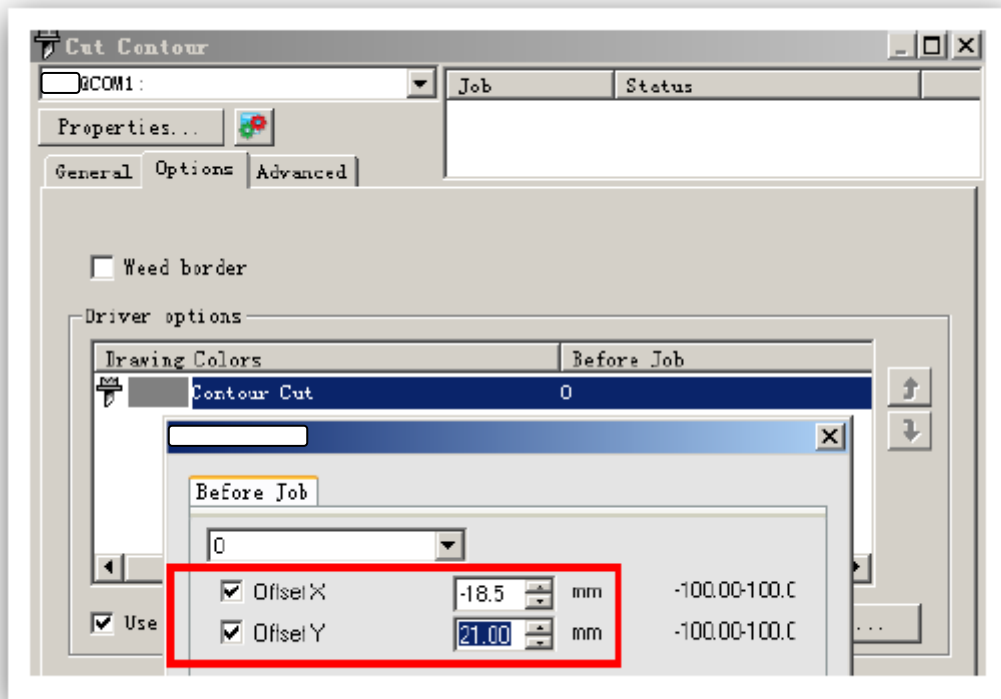
- Use the arrows in above dialogue, and aim at the second mark point the same way as the above instruction. Once you have done that, click OK.

- After setting up all of the mark points properly, click OK in following dialogue, and the cutter will start working.

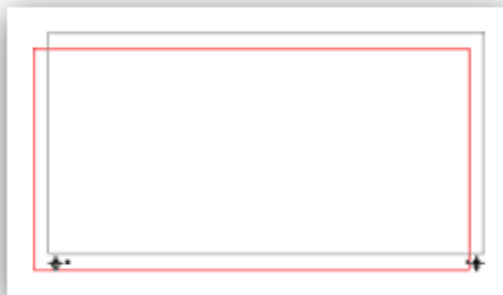


- After testing the outline shown as the following. If, for example, the outline is high 18.5mm and right 21mm than original artwork, set the OffsetX to -18.5, OffsetY to 21 (Different vinyl cutter have different Offsets. If the outline is low 18.5mm and left 21mm than original artwork, set the OffsetX to 18.5 and OffsetY to -21).





- Click **send**, and test it again. If the outline is low 1mm and left 0.5mm than original artwork, set OffsetX to -17.5 (= -18.5+ 1) and OffsetY to 20.5 (= 21-0.5). If the outline is high 1mm and right 0.5mm than original artwork, set Offset to -19.

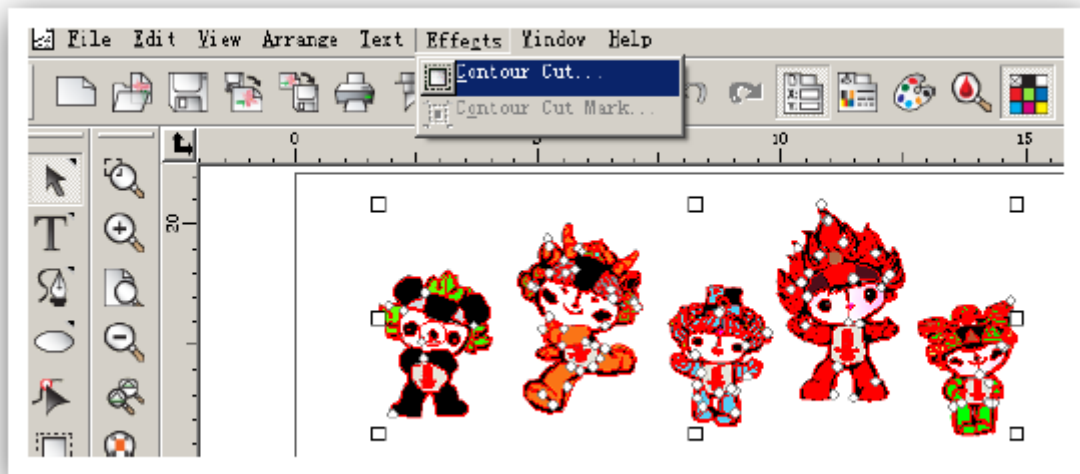


- The same way as the above, test and adjust the Offset until the outline superposition with the original artwork. Once you have done that, save the file.

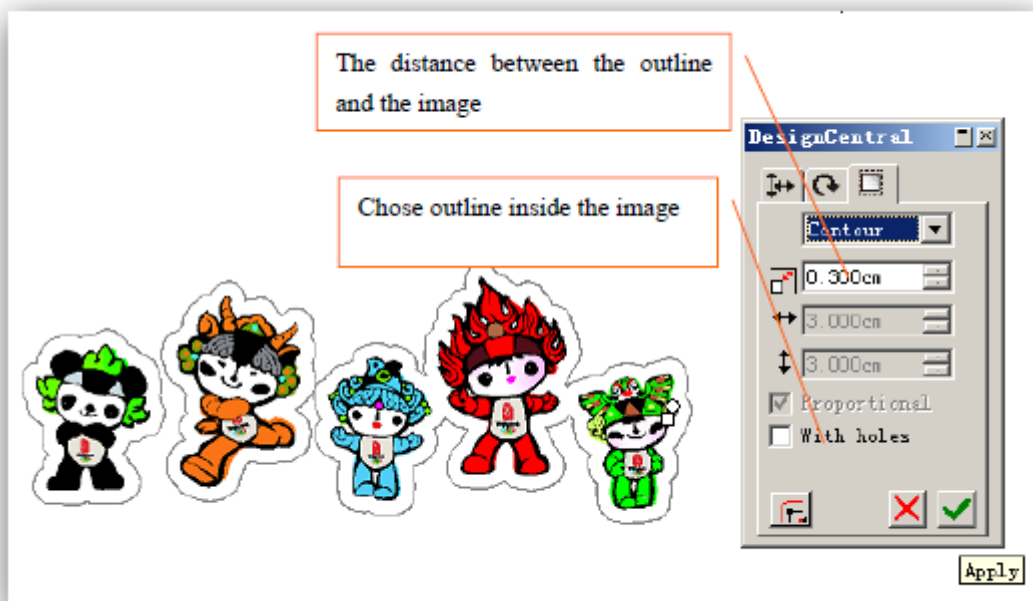
7.2. Application of Contour Cutting in FlexiStarter

- Press **ONLINE** → **MENU** → original point key in Online mode to debug the laser.
- Open or import an artwork from Flexi software, and click **Effects** → **Contour Cut** to make the outline (when you import

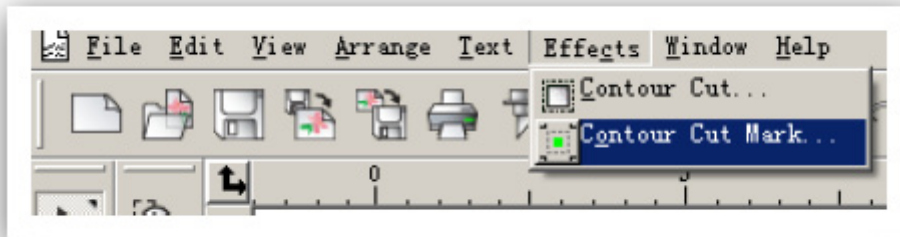
an artwork made in CORELDRAW, it would be best to save it as AI format).



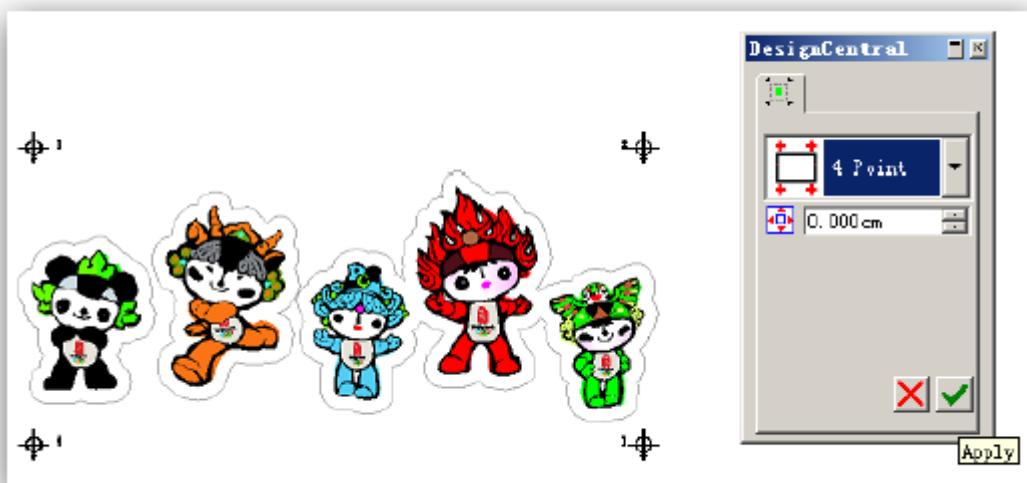
- In the pop-up dialogue, adjust the distance between the image and the dialogue to see whether or not there is an outline inside the image. Once completed, click **Apply**.



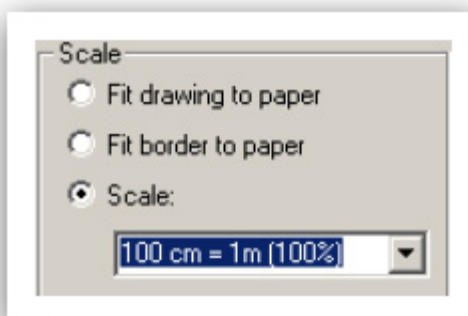
- Click **Effects** → **Contour Cut Mark** to make mark points.



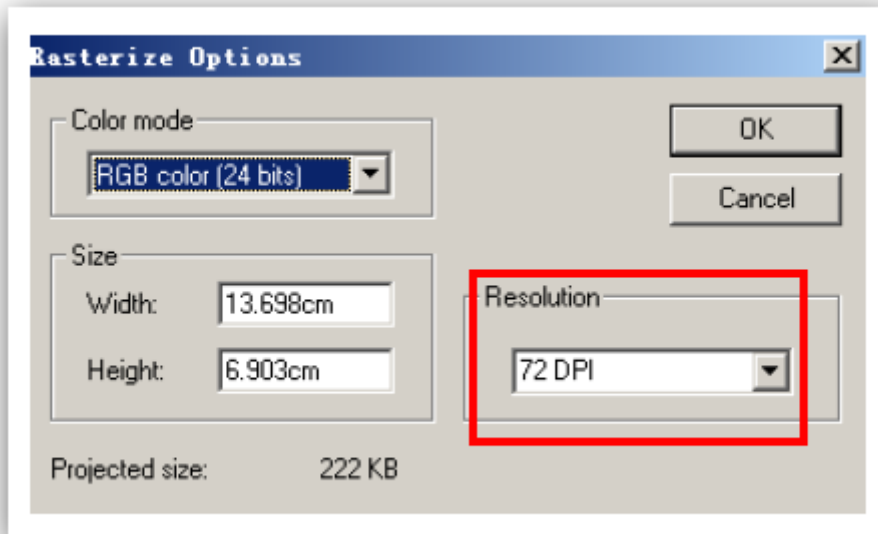
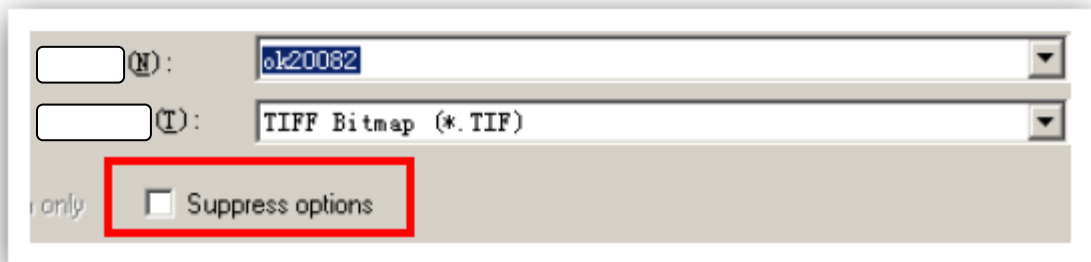
- Choose 2 or 4 mark points in the pop up box. It is easier to choose 2 points, but the resolution is lower than choosing 4 points. Click **Apply** after choosing mark points.



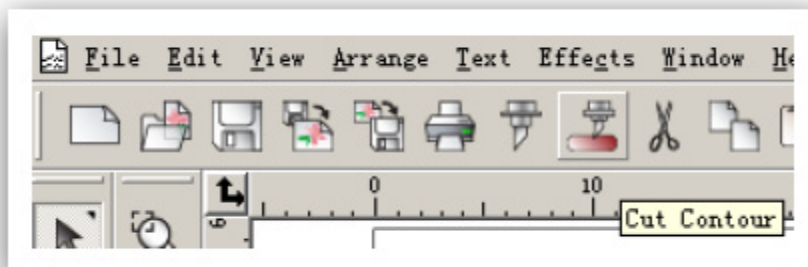
- When doing the contour cutting on the printed artwork, select print first, and then set Scale as 100% in print setting shown as the following.



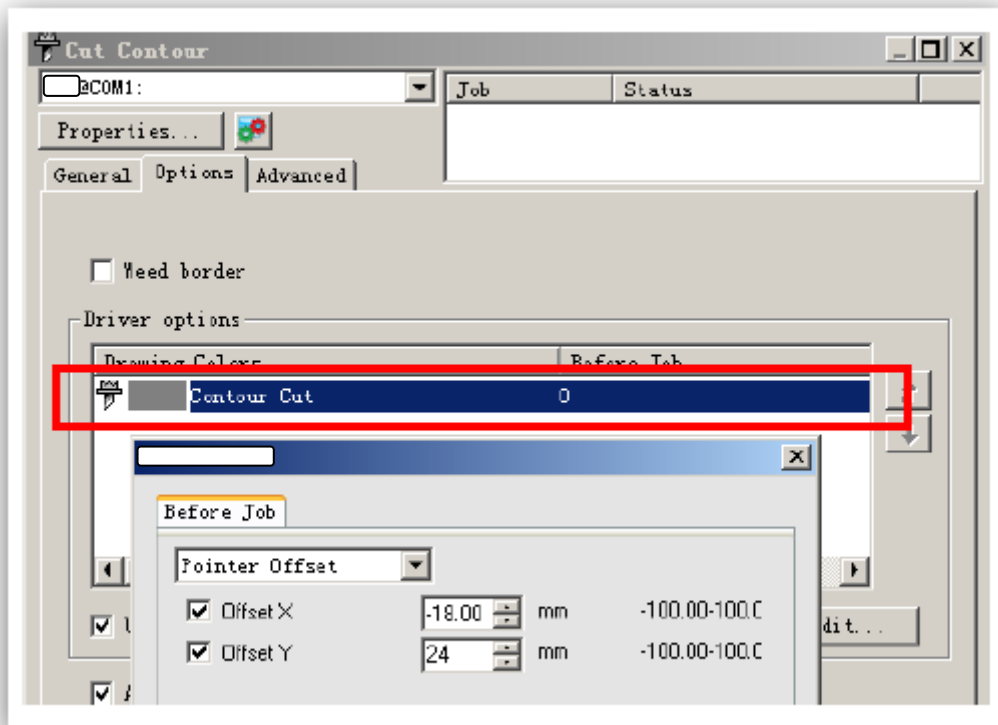
- When printing an artwork, you can click the “√” in front of Suppress options to delete it, and select the higher resolution in the pop up dialogue to improve the print resolution.



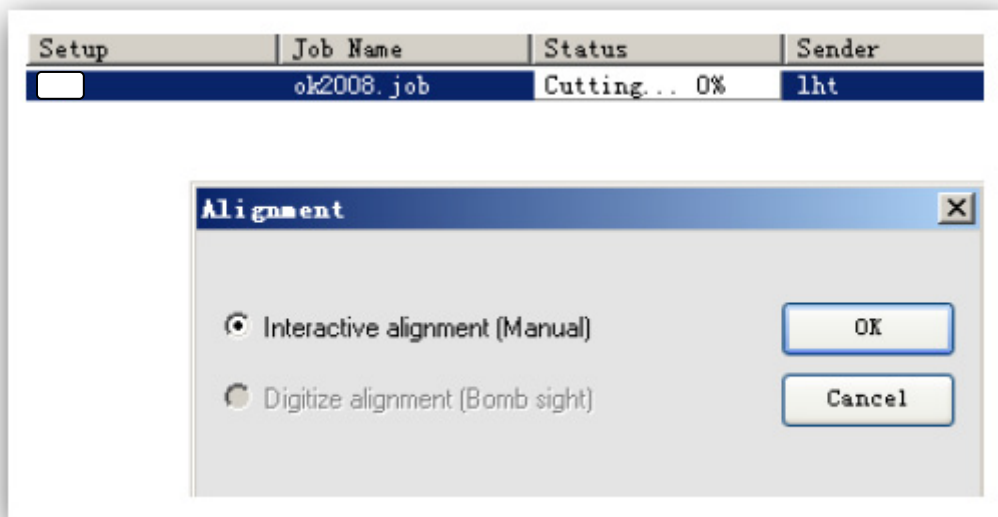
- After printing, click **Cut Contour** to do a contour cutting.



- Click **Contour Cut** in the Options, and set the correct Offset in the pop up box.

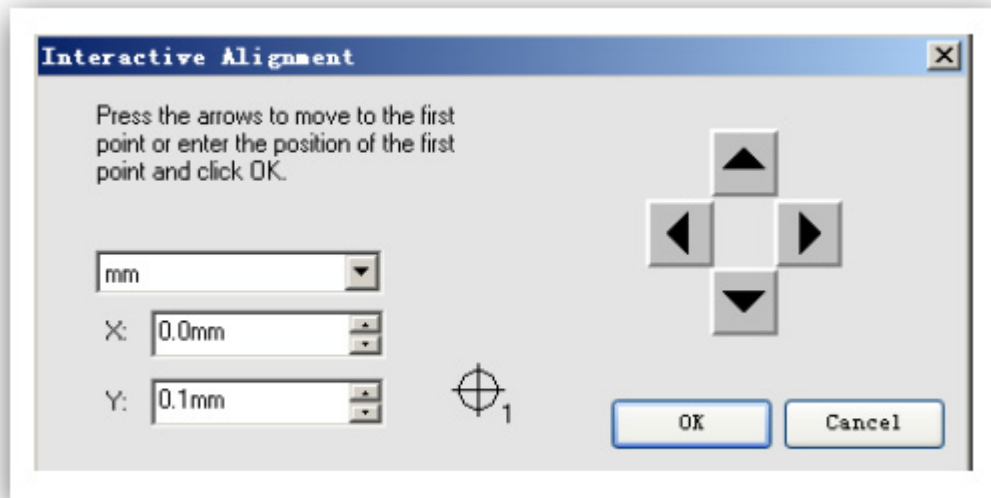


- After clicking **Send** shown as the following, click OK.

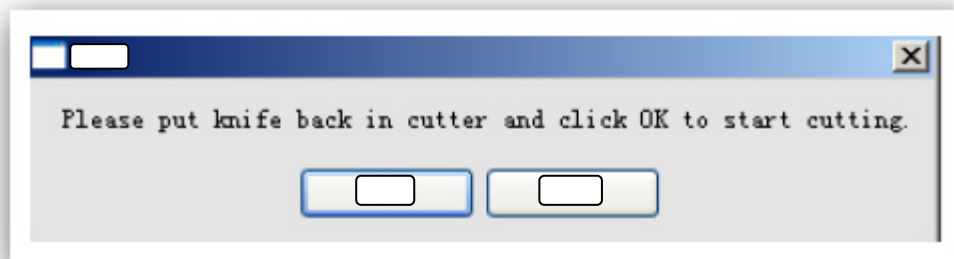


- Click the left arrow in the Interactive Alignment dialogue (shown as the following). The carriage will move a distance automatically. Put the printed material into the vinyl cutter, and let the laser aims at the first mark point (the junction of “+”), and press the pinch roller down. If the laser does not completely aim at the laser point, use the buttons to adjust

it to aim exactly at the laser point. Once you have done that, click OK.



- Use the buttons in the dialogue to aim at another 3 mark points by the same way, and click OK.
- After setting up all of the mark points properly, click OK in following dialogue, and the cutter will start working.



8. After Cutting

8.1. Removing the Cut Vinyl

- After pressing the Online button on the control panel, use the arrow buttons to move the cut vinyl forwards or backwards.

8.2. Further Processing of Vinyl Film

8.2.1. Weeding

Weeding means to remove the unwanted parts of the vinyl film. We recommend using a special weeding knife to prevent damaging the sticker.

8.2.2. Application

- Position the trimmed material on the application vinyl and press it down with a roller or squeegee.
- To apply the sticker to the application vinyl, remove the backing paper of the cut vinyl so that only the actual sticker sticks to the application vinyl.
- You can then apply your sticker to a surface (such as car's window).

9. Cutting Blades

Cutting blades are sensitive, sharp and dangerous precision tools.

- Always keep the blades away from children at anytime!
- Use extreme care when handling blades to prevent injuries.
- Treat the cutting blades carefully and always store them with the associated protective cap when they are not in use. If the tip of a blade hits against a hard material such as glass or stone, the blade may be dull and unusable.

To prevent unnecessary wear to your blades and achieve the maximum possible service life, please do the followings:

- Avoid cutting into the backing/paper material on the vinyl.
- Adjust the cutting depth of the blade so that the vinyl is cut through cleanly.
- Use specially designed blades for thicker materials (e.g. flock blades for flock).
- Rough edges to the cut vinyl indicate that the blade is dull. Always replace dull blades immediately to avoid damaging the vinyl cutter!

10. Technical Data

Model	PRO 600	PRO 1200
Type	Unit including floor stand and laser	Unit including floor stand and laser
Max. media width	720m m	1300m m
Max. cutting width	610m m	1220m m
Connections	USB and Serial	
Display	Back-lighted, 4-line LCD display	
Vinyl cutter languages	HP-GL, DMPL	
Memory	4MB internal memory	
Max. speed	600m m/s	
Cutting pressure	50g – 800g	
Max. medium thickness	1m m	
Power supply	90V AC – 240V AC; 50Hz – 60Hz	
Operation environment	+ 5C - + 35C / 30% - 70% humidity	
Weight without packing	12kg	18kg
Weight with packing	16kg	39kg
Dimensions (W x H x D)	890m m x 265m m x 270m m	1465m m x 265m m x 270m m

11. Troubleshooting

The PC/Computer can not communicate with the vinyl cutter (In other words, after an artwork is sent from the Flexi cutting software to the vinyl cutter, nothing happens).

Possible causes:

The COM port number used by the vinyl cutter in the Windows' DEVICE MANAGER is not the same as the COM port number in the Flexi cutting software.

Solution:

Please find out the COM port number used by the vinyl cutter in the Windows' DEVICE MANAGER, and change the COM port number from the Flexi cutting software to match that number. You may need to restart the computer to take effect.

Should the above solution does not help, try to replace the USB cable that came with the vinyl cutter (it may be faulty).

The vinyl cutter can no longer be used after a Windows update.

Possible causes and solution:

Windows regularly updates existing device drivers on your computer. During this process, the Omnisign Plus driver was replaced by an incorrect version which does not work, by Windows.

To manually undo this update, go to *Device Manager*. Under *Ports (COM & LPT)*, select your device by double-clicking it. Select the *Driver* tab then *Update Driver* and insert the driver CD/DVD into your CD/DVD drive.

Select the source of the driver to be installed, and perform the update. Then restart the PC to apply all settings.

Vinyl cutter terminates job with "Pause" on display and does not react when buttons are pressed.

In this case, it is necessary to restart the vinyl cutter to eliminate the error.

Possible causes:

- Job transferred to the vinyl cutter is in a wrong format (or too large).
- Settings are changed during data transfer operation.
- Vinyl cutter is paused during cutting/plotting operation to change cutting pressure or speed.

Jobs are always outputted too large:

Possible causes:

- Resolution incorrectly adjusted (increments in mm)
- Output size greater than 100%.

An imported job is cut/plotted a number of times at the same position.

Possible causes:

File may be corrupted.

Straight lines are cut zigzag.

Possible causes:

- Blade adjustment and/or cutting pressure is incorrect.
- Cutting speed is too high.

Curves are not cut properly.

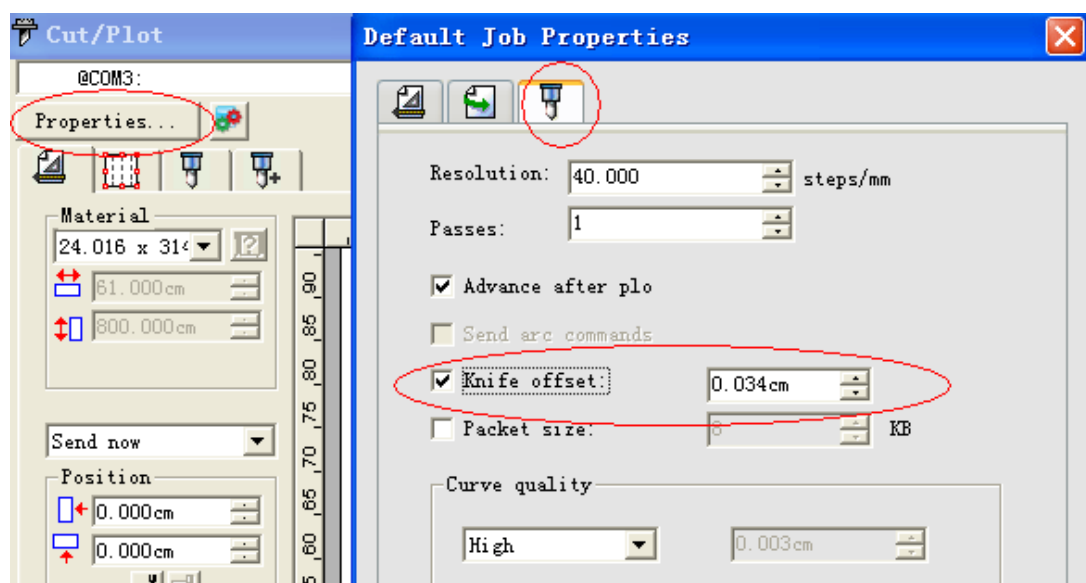
Possible causes:

The curve quality setting in the job standard settings in the FlexiStarter's production manager is not set to high.

The vinyl cutter will not cut sharp corners on text or graphics. All corners on text and graphics cut rounded.

Possible causes and solution:

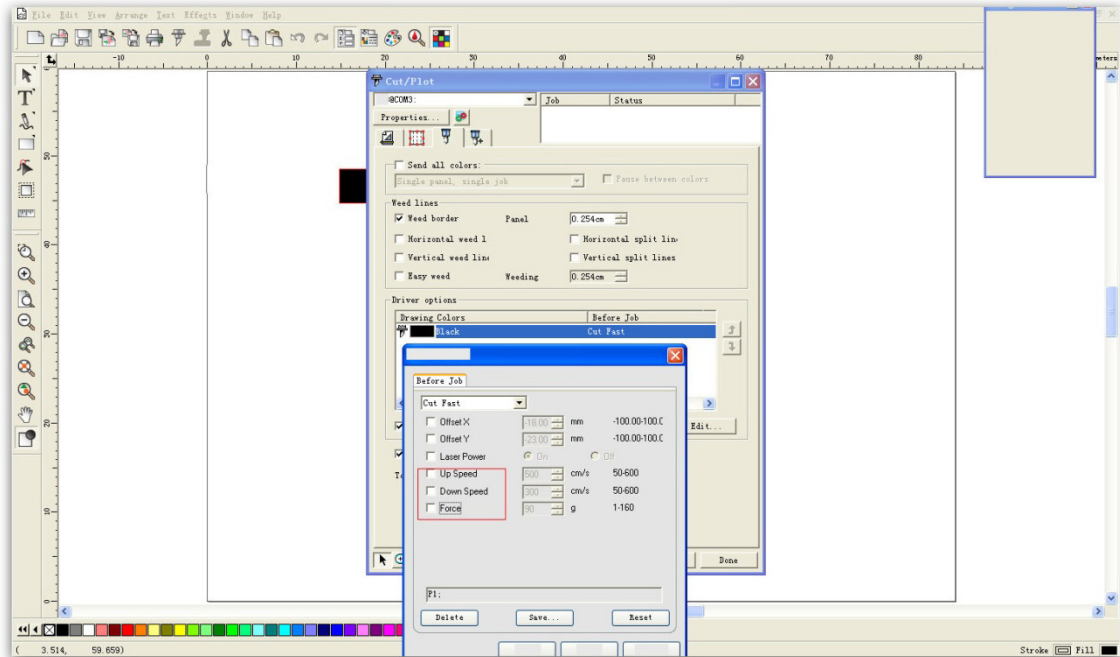
The Knife Offset in FlexiStarter software needs to be adjusted. See the below screenshot.



Cutting pressure is always defaulted to 90.

Possible causes and solution:

The vinyl cutter has a feature to read the cutting pressure and speed from the software. You can disable this feature. Please see the below screenshot how to disable this feature and click 'Save'.



The MAC computer can not communicate with the vinyl cutter

Solutions:

Download a step-by-step software installation guide for MAC and the latest software for MAC from the following 2 links:

http://www.reddotmachinery.com.au/temp/Omnisign_Plus_PRO_600_1200/MAC/omnignplus installation for MAC.pdf

http://www.reddotmachinery.com.au/temp/Omnisign_Plus_PRO_600_1200/MAC/Omnisign.mpkg.zip

Should the option "SerialPort1 usbserial-A9006lfe" does NOT appear, the FDTIchip driver for the USB that is most likely out of date.

If this is the case, you will need to download the latest one for your MAC computer from the following link, and select the one that suits your MAC computer:

<http://www.ftdichip.com/Drivers/VCP.htm>

The vinyl cutter does not cut vinyl properly.

Solutions:

- Ensure the vinyl lays perfectly horizontal on the cutting area/base of the vinyl cutter.
 - Ensure the vinyl has no bubbles, curls (or anything like that).
 - Ensure the cutting strip lays perfectly horizontal on the cutting area/base of the vinyl cutter. Press the strip manually by hand along the strip to ensure it lays horizontally.
 - Ensure the pinch rollers/wheels sit on the metal roller (or grit roller), NOT on the body of the vinyl cutter, and hold the vinyl in between.
 - Ensure the blades rotates freely inside the blade holder. Test it placing the blade holder into the blade carriage/carrier before start cutting. Please be careful, the blade is very sharp.
 - Before start cutting, position the end of blade holder (the one that has a blade pointing out) approx 15mm above the vinyl and tighten the screw of the blade carriage. Do NOT over tighten it. Gently press the blade holder down by hand until you can not press any further, and the blade should touch the vinyl lightly. Lower or raise the blade holder if necessary until the blade touches the vinyl lightly. If the blade touches the vinyl too deep/hard, the blade will destroy the vinyl as well as the cutting strip during cutting.
- Note: The cutting pressure that you set from the vinyl cutter's control panel (or the cutting software) does NOT make the blade cut deeper. It instructs the blade carriage to increase or decrease the cutting power as different vinyls require different cutting pressures.



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