



Company: Dallas Makerspace

Project: Tabletop CNC - Woodshop

Subject: Frankenpoko Upgrade

Date: 10/7/25

Background:

- Several years ago Inventables donated a Xcarve CNC machine to DMS.
- After an assessment, and mainly due to some limitations to Inventables Easel software, the machine was converted to a Carbide 3D machine – xCarve frame, Carbide controller and software.
- The machine was affectionately call “Frankenpoko.”
- While functional, it still has several limitations.
- Through discussions with Carbide 3D, they have offered to provide a Carbide 3D machine of our choice at 50% off, with the understanding the Frankenpoko is retired.
- With a Shapeoko machine, Carbide 3D wants to enter a relationship with DMS where DMS is used as a demo location and meetup location - details to be determined.

Request/Cost:

- Upgrade the “Frankenpoko” to a 4x4 Shapeoko 5 Pro – \$1, 950 (cost plus shipping w/ discount)
- Since we have access to a one-time 50% cost upgrade, the Woodshop feels with the larger, studier machine, it would be good to upgrade the spindle to a VFD Spindle 220V - \$600 (cost w/ discount)
- The current VFD Spindel 110V will be moved to the plastic shop Shapeoko 3

Why Now?

- While Carbide 3D did not put a timeline on the offer, we do want to move on it.
- Want to get the new machine in to minimize a small amount of retraining required.
- Will allow DMS to move forward with its Carbide 3D relationship.

Activation Considerations:

- While still early in the Frankenpoko training rollout, to date the Woodshop has not worked through its new member acquisition approach.

Justification/Benefits:

- Much better, more accurate and stable machine for DMS
- Standardization of Shapeokos across woodshop and plastic
- Allows DMS to pursue a relationship with Carbide 3D, wherever that takes us

Risks:

- Volunteer resources needed to upgrade the machines. Feel the excitement of a better machine with draw in volunteers.

Motion:

- Motion to approve \$2,500 for the upgrade of the Frankenpoko to the Shapeoko 5 Pro, with the 220V spindle and retire Frankenpoko.