



Going Beyond Trailer Design With Geomagic Design

TrailTech Trailers located in Klerksdorp, South Africa, specializes in standard and custom trailer design and production, parts production, sales, service and support. As a small but growing company TrailTech decided it needed to hire Bernard Brits as a design engineer in 2014. Choosing a viable CAD system for Brits to use was more challenging.

“TrailTech primarily uses a CNC plasma cutter for production work on the shop floor,” said Brits. “So we needed a very cost-effective but fully-functional 3D MCAD system to streamline design for the CNC system.”

During the search for a CAD platform, Brits discovered 3D Systems’ Geomagic Design – an advanced, feature-based MCAD system that delivers additional applications and tools for sheet metal design, dynamic motion analysis and more. At a cost of \$2400, Geomagic Design provided TrailTech with the tools that are perfect for designing and customizing trailers, and also ideal for parts production.

As a qualified structural steel draftsman, Brits now performs tasks for TrailTech including custom design of trailers, estimating, CNC operation and quoting, using Geomagic Design almost everywhere.

“I had two days’ worth of training on the software at first and quickly mastered it soon after,” said Brits.

Brits adapted to Geomagic Design very quickly, enough so that he doesn’t limit his design work to trailers and parts, but also other projects that interest him. A recent project was for a local company that is friendly with the team at TrailTech. The

company was hoping to increase storage space in its facility. Fortunately the ceiling in the space was high enough to create a second story of floor space out of steel.

“My structural steel background plus Geomagic Design made this project very easy,” he said. “After I measured the space, I modeled each part separately in Geomagic Design and then assembled them together in the software.”

This allowed Brits to quickly see and assess if there were missing parts, problems with the fit and any structural issues that would need to be addressed.

“Geomagic Design is the most user-friendly program I have ever worked on,” said Brits. “I find it easy to design anything, it is highly flexible and the possibilities are endless.”

Brits is currently awaiting design approvals before production will start.

