


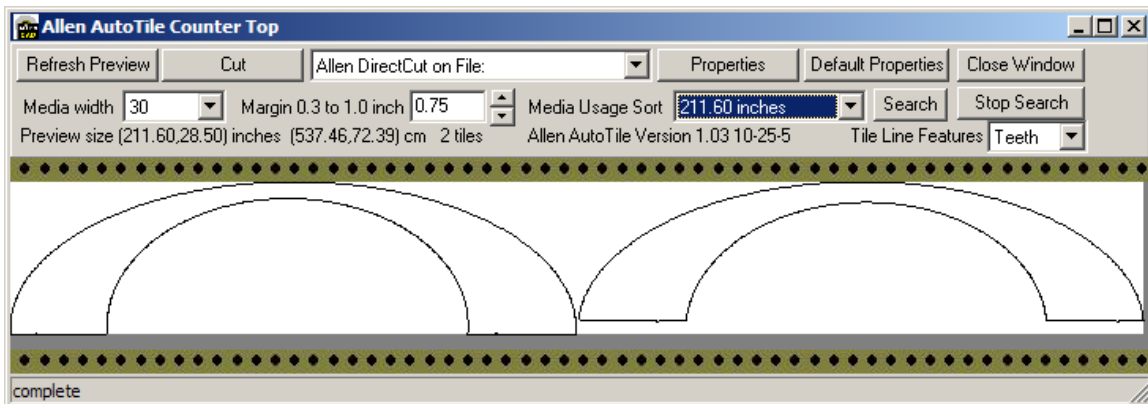
ALLEN DATAGRAPH


AllenCAD Tile Program

Last Updated October 25, 2005

Abstract: AllenCAD Tile automatically fits a countertop onto the media being used. From the Allen Tile toolbar select Tile and Print Countertop . Select the objects for the countertop and press enter key. Several tiling solutions are displayed and can be selected using the media usage sort drop down box. You may change media width or margin and redo the search. You may also select from 3 different tile line features.

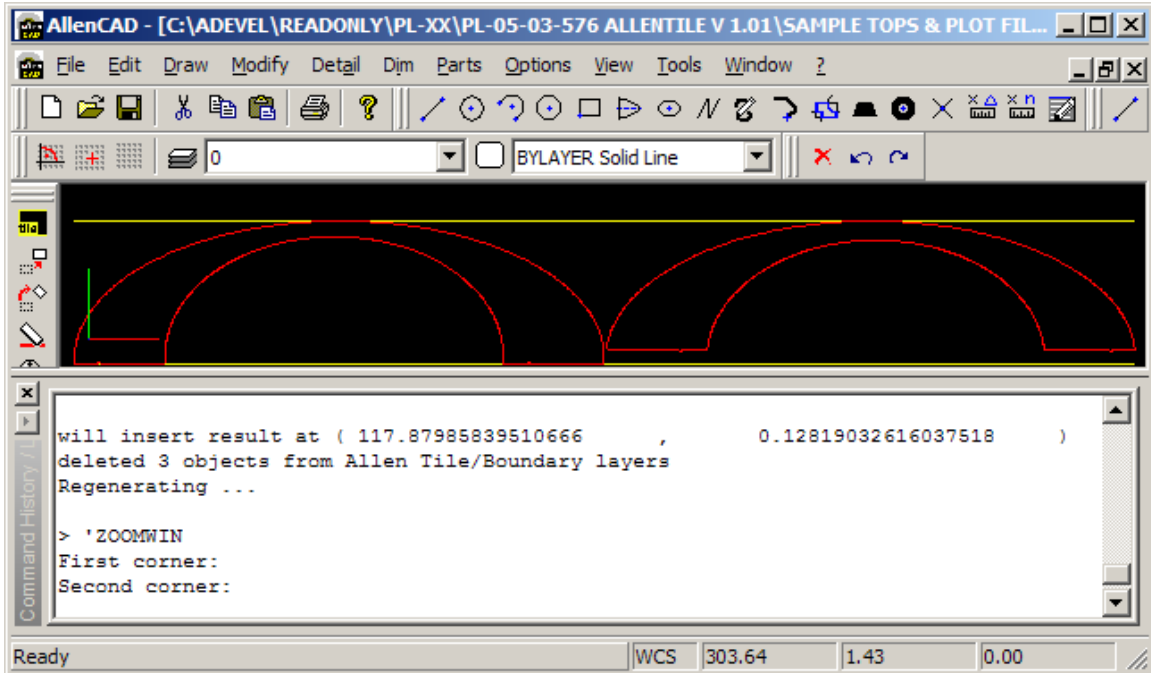
This is the top12.flx countertop example available with the install. It is in the C:\Program Files\Allen Datagraph\AllenCAD\sample tops & plot files after running the install.




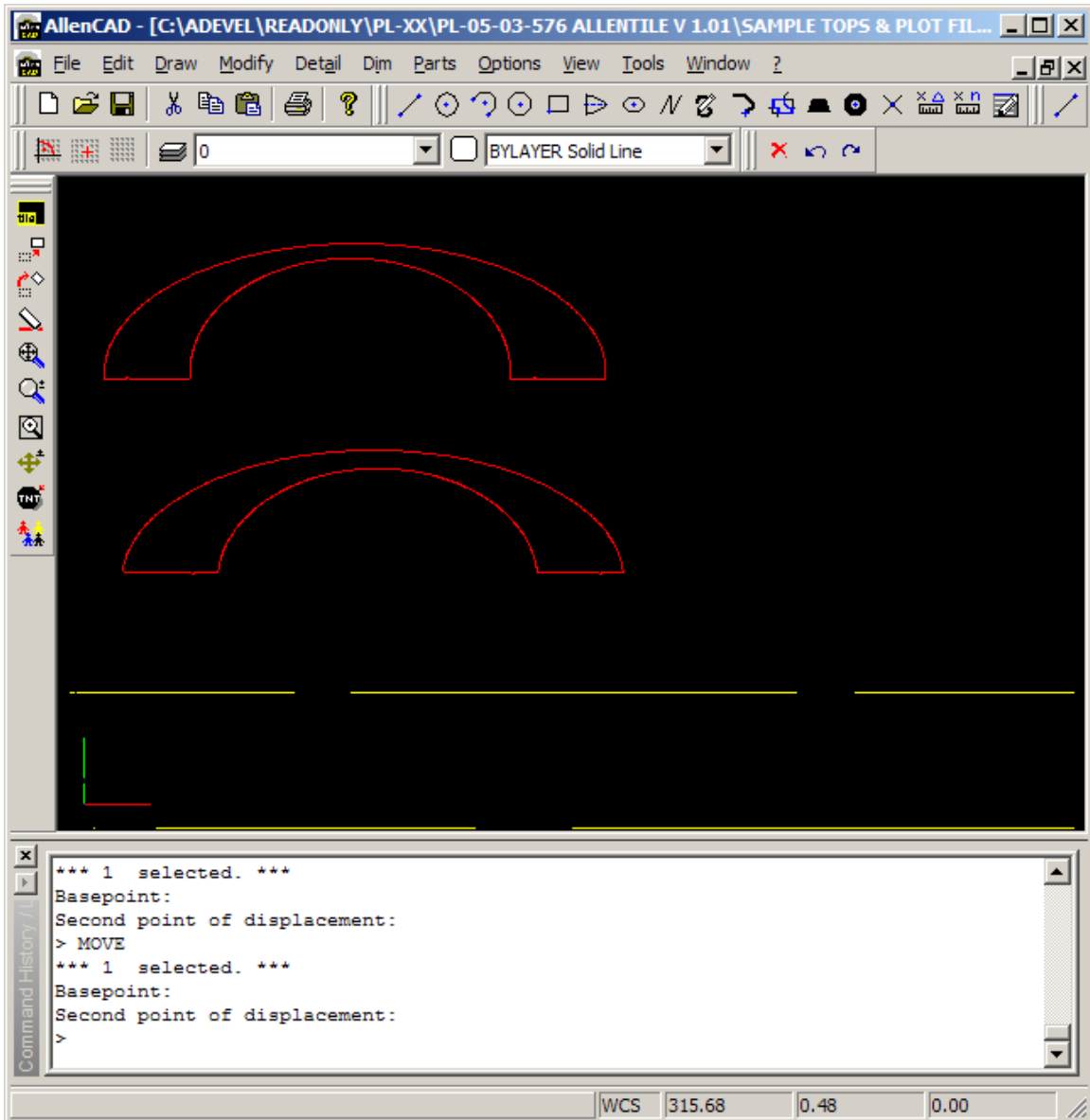
After clicking of the Tile and Print countertop tool and selecting the objects for the countertop from AllenCAD the Auto tile program is displayed with the least media usage solution to tiling the countertop. You can pick from 1 of 4 widths of Allen Datagraph template material (23.5, 30, 36, or 52 inch). You can then select the margin size on the template material. If you change either of these parameters you have to select refresh preview to redisplay the current solution. There are 3 types of tile line features available: (none, marks, and teeth). Mark adds small marks on either side of the tile line. Selecting teeth makes small bumps  on the tile line. **If the x length of the solution is less than 258" inches you can cut the solution directly from Auto tile. We will be doubling this limit in the near future.**


You can select from several solutions to tiling using the media usage sort box. Sometimes a solution that uses more media can actually reduce media usages if one of the tiles can fit in a vacant space in the tile.

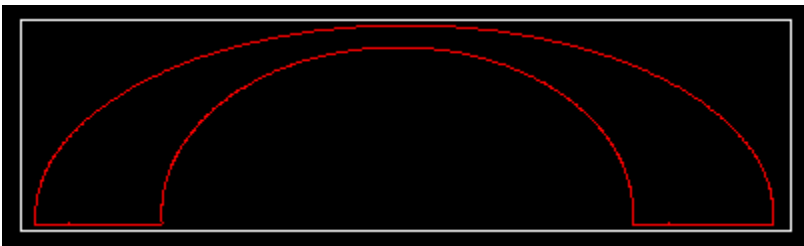
When you close the window the tiles are exported back in to AllenCAD for printing or modification.



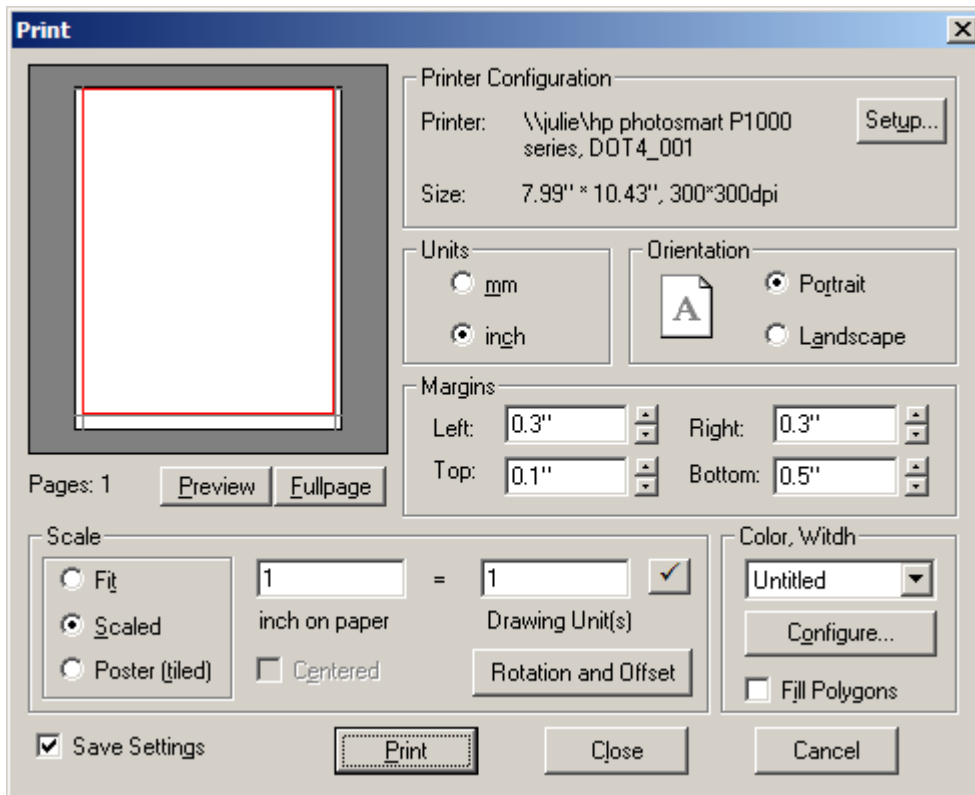
The yellow lines on the AllenBoundary Layer show the distance between the pinch wheels using the selected media size and selected margins. This is helpful if you are trying to save media. The red lines show the tile pieces. They are placed on the AllenTile layer. If you want to print from the AllenCAD you can move the tiles apart using the move tool .



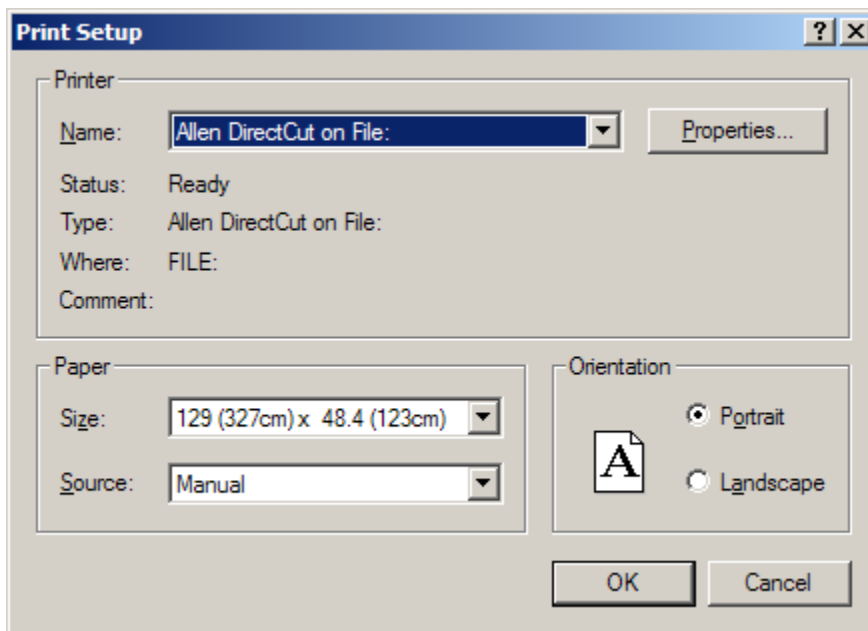
You can then select the printer tool . Then select the **Window** tools from the options toolbar. Draw a window around on of the pieces



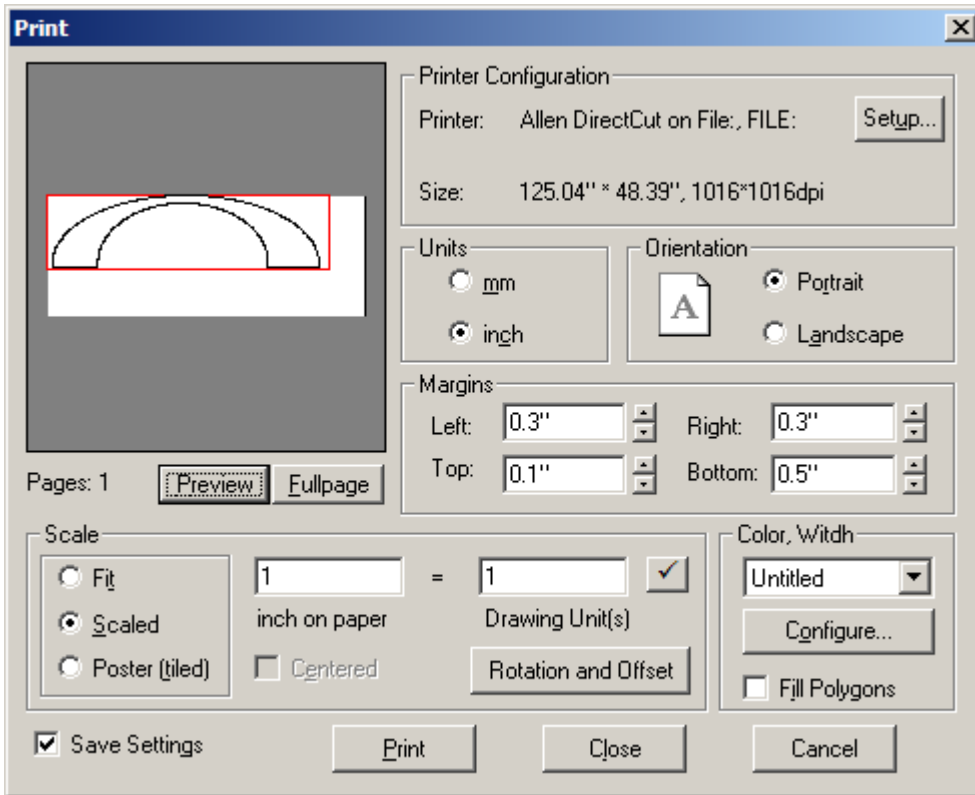
The print menu is displayed:



Click on setup and select the Allen DirectCut printer driver

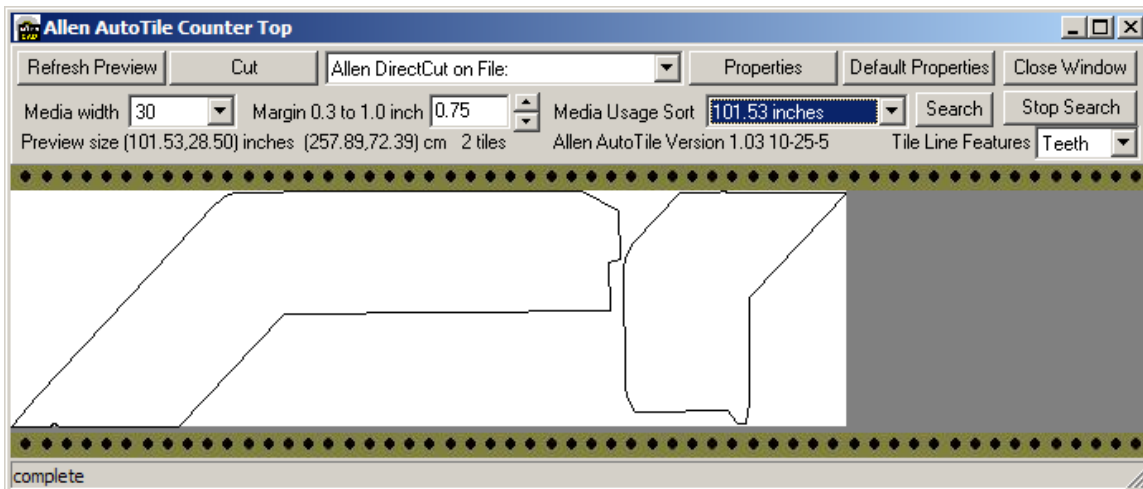


Click on OK



Click on preview and you will see the red boundary for the piece and the piece drawn inside the red boundary. Be sure your units of measure are set to inch and scale is set to Scaled and 1 inch on paper = 1 drawing units. Click on print and the tile piece will be cut on the template maker.

Example of how to save media using the top9.flx example:



Exported image

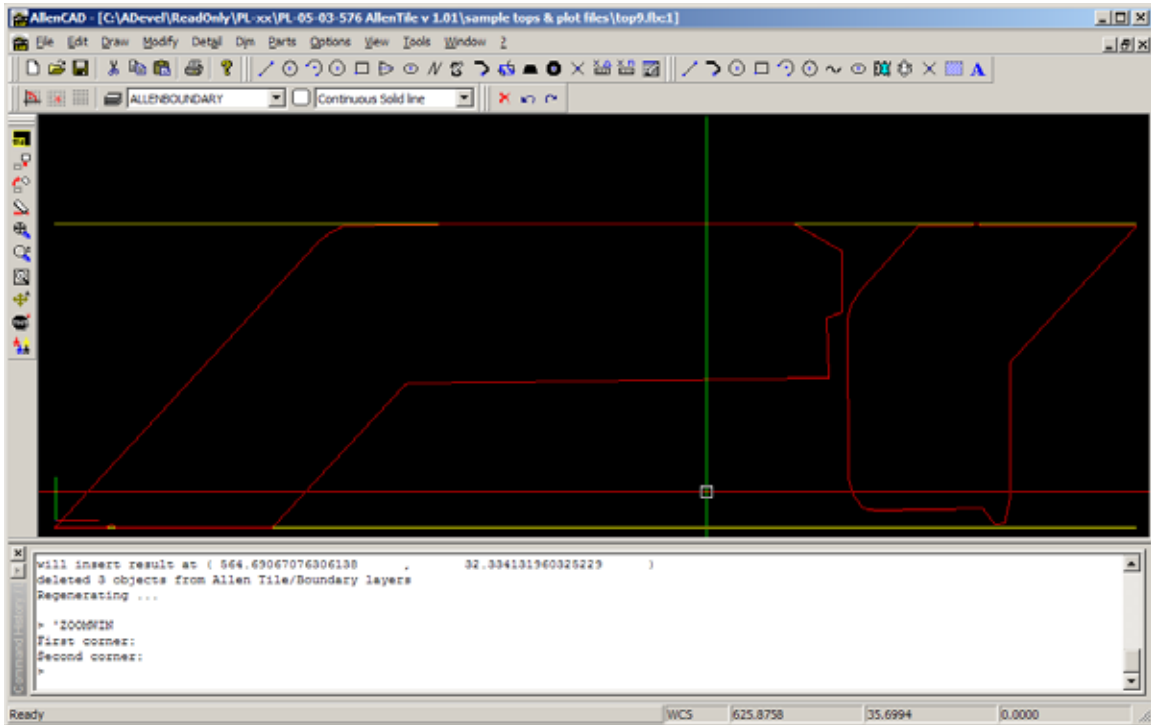
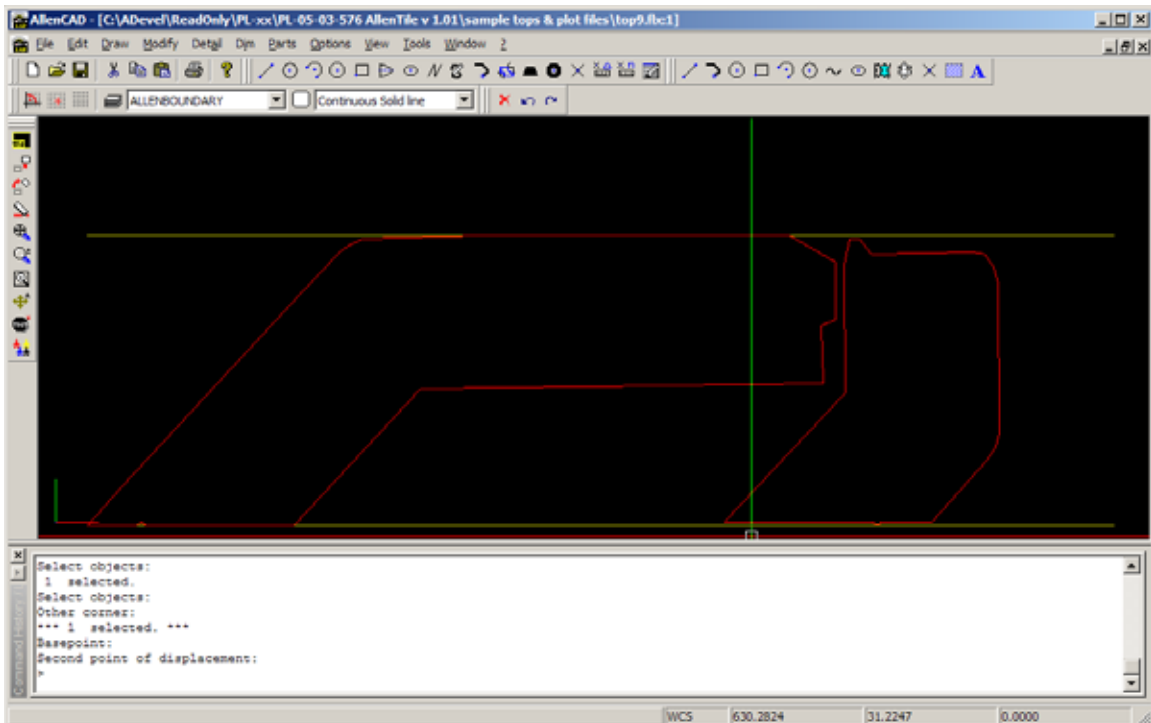
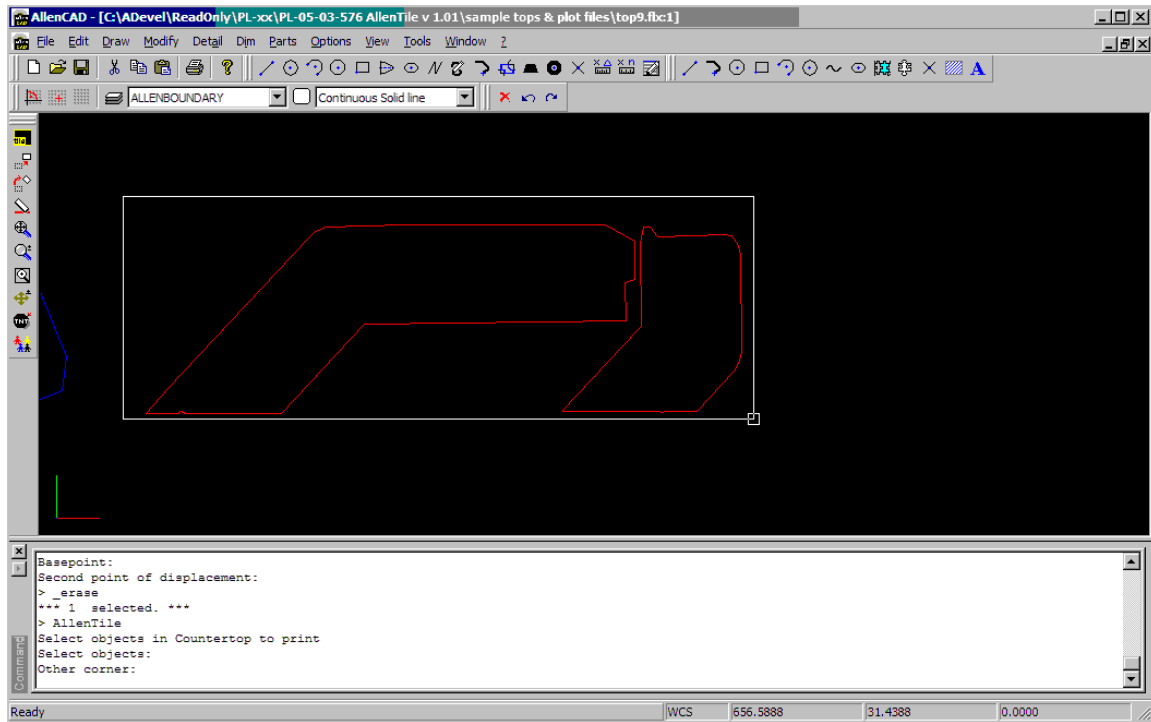


Image after rotating and stuffing the 2nd tile inside of first tile.

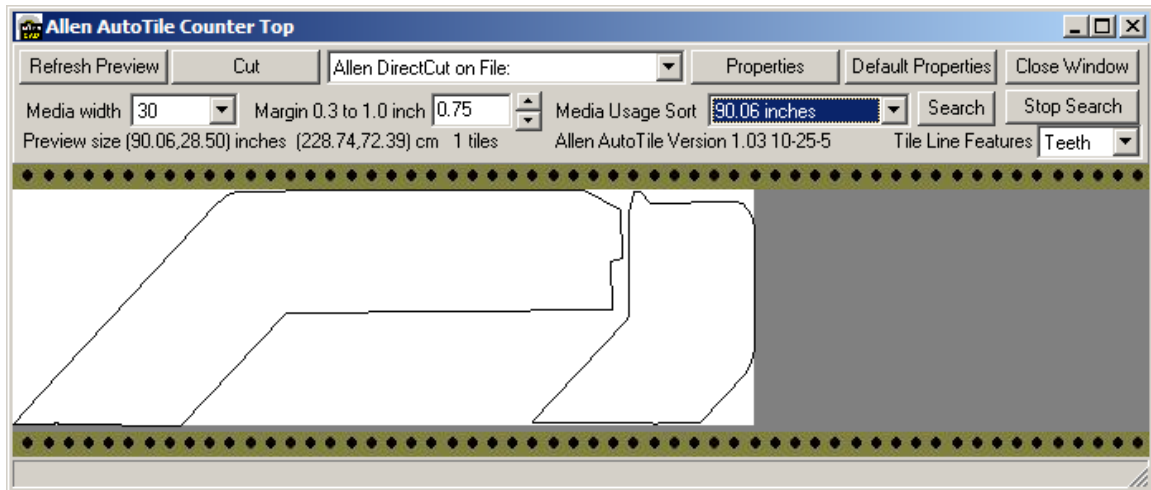


This example saved about 1 foot of media.

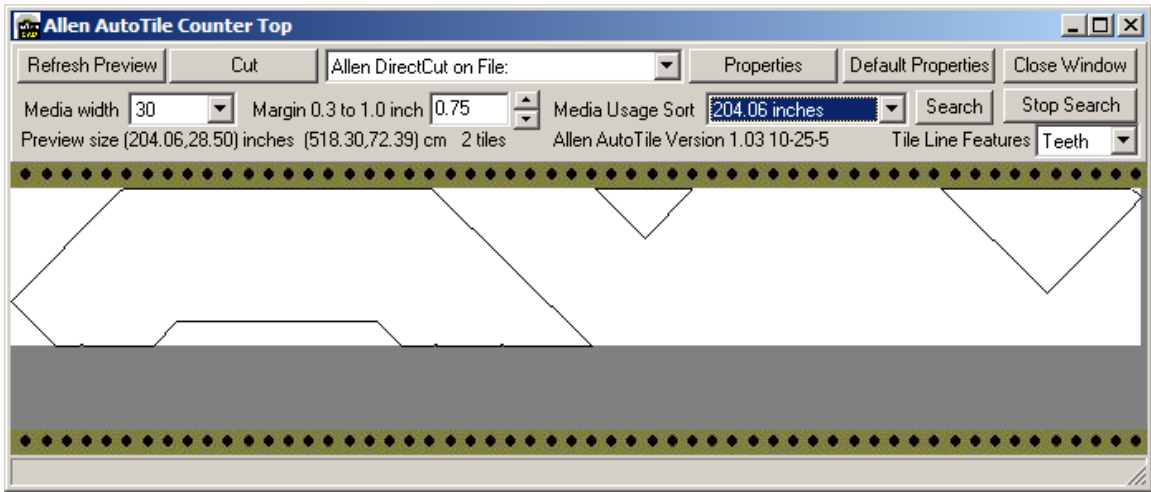
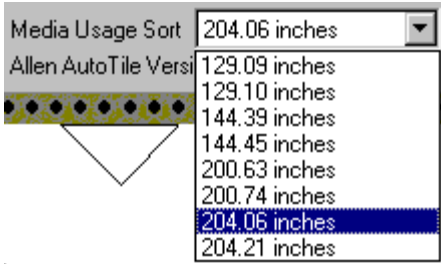
You may also print by sending modified tiles back to AllenTile for printing. First select the yellow tile lines and press the delete key. Then click on the



Pressing enter activates Allen Auto tile showing the 1-foot savings on media.

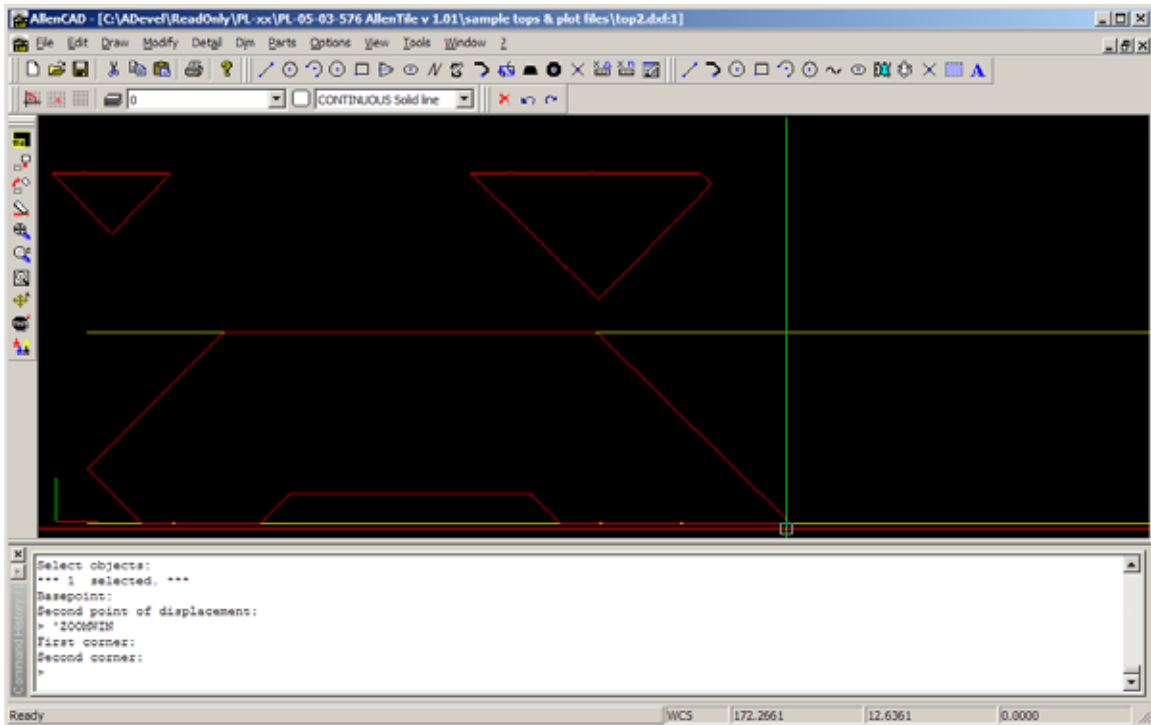



Using Explode and Group commands to fix up large gaps left by some solutions: Start with top2.dxf. Choose the 7th solution:

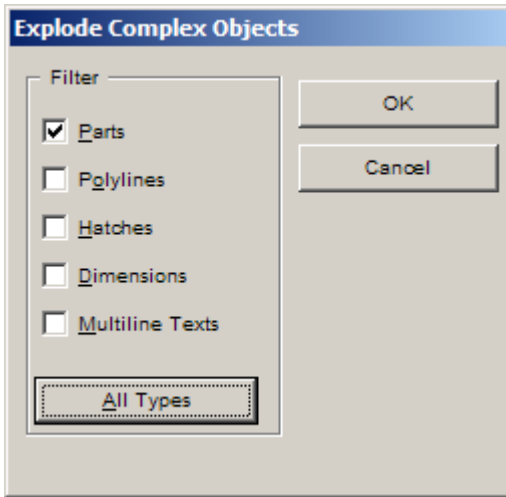



You will note that the 2nd tile has a large gap between the 2 triangles.

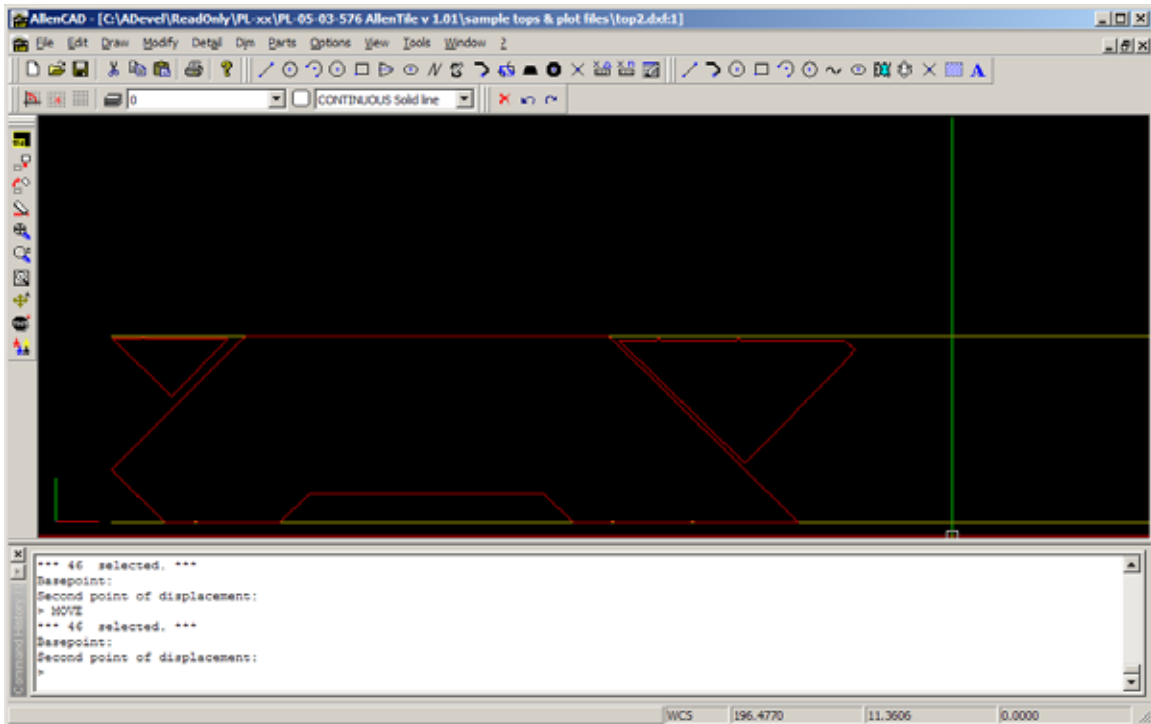
Move 2nd tile above first as shown.



Select the 2nd tile again and explode the part using the  explode tool.



select parts and ok. Use  group tool to make two groups out of your two triangles. Select **Create** from the options tool bar. Type in a group name: e.g. gp1, press enter on description, "Yes" to selectable. Draw a window around first triangle Press enter to create group. Repeat with other group. Now move the two triangles within the yellow boundary lines.



Run tile again on the three pieces.

You will note that choosing this alternate solution reduced media usage from best auto solution of 129 to 113.7 inches.

