# **EXAMPLE AN INFORMATION TOOL FOR THE METALS INDUSTRY**









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## The Team

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- Vlad Antal, Senior Mechanical Engineering
- Steven Banaska, Senior Electrical Engineering
- Hussain Biyawerwala, Junior Electrical and Computer Engineering / Math
- ♦ John Groszko, Senior Computer Science
- Ryan Jay, Senior Mechanical Engineering
- Kyle Koning, Senior Materials Science and Engineering / Mechanical Engineering



Sangwook Lee, Senior - Electrical Engineering

# The Background

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#### What is heat treatment?

#### Quenching, Tempering, Annealing, Aging





# The Sponsor

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#### A. Finkl & Sons Company, Chicago, IL

- World's leading supplier of forging die steels, plastic mold steels, die casting steels, custom open-die forgings
  - → Some of highest standards/specifications in the industry
- Extensively uses heat treatments
- Irregularly shaped parts from 1/2 to 50 tons





# The Problem

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#### Heat treatment stage

Irregular parts, irregular heat treatment

- Finkl's high standards = high scrap
- Furnace loading difficult
  - → Current solution relies on Trial & Error and Experience
  - Process bottleneck = Slows production

Finkl needs a tool to maximize and document both batch quality and batch size thus decreasing scrap, rework, and the production delay



# The Objective

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To develop a software solution capable of optimizing the heat treatment process at A. Finkl & Sons.

The software must be capable of:

Determining best part placement for best heat treatment

Maximizing batch size

Outputting the loading pattern in simple format
Functioning with CAD Packages and Finkl
Accepting upgrades developed by future IPROs

Replace current hand-drawn method



#### The Previous Work

IPRO 330 Spring 2006 and AutoStack Software

♦ 3D part representation in "furnace"

→ Part Manipulation and collision detection

#### Disadvantages

Non-solid modeling

- ✦ Incompatibility
- Difficult to upgrade



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#### The Present Goals

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- Reconstruct the AutoStack Software
  - Eliminate drawbacks and limitations
  - Build a highly capable and compatible platform

Construct a template portfolio of Finkl parts
Modeled with ProEngineer
Compatible with Finkl work order database



# The Method

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- Examine development packages
  - Limitations, advantages
- Meet with Finkl
  - What they want, what they need
- Develop the software
- Progress meeting with Finkl



Solution foundation delivery

# The Tools

#### Build Environment

- Microsoft Visual Studio and Qt
- Development Packages



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 HOOPS 3D Application Framework (Graphics Engine) ♦ 3D ACIS Modeler (CAD/CAD 3D Modeling Engine) Management of Software Development TRAC Project Management Subversion (Central Source Code Repository) Part Template Modeling ProEngineer (Wildfire 2.0)

# The Assignments

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- Based on technical skill sets, personal interests, and work load division
- Software Development
  - Steven Banaska Software Developer
  - John Groszko Lead Software Developer
  - Sangwook Lee Software Usability Tester
- Template Database Development
  - Vlad Antal 3D Modeler
  - Ryan Jay 3D Modeler
- Communications and Project Support
- Hussain Biyawerwala Document Coordinator and Secretary
  - Kyle Koning Visual Media and Communications Designer

# The Obstacles

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Computer Science

- Re-introduction to programming
- What's a build environment, Dr. Hu?
- Qt and Widgets
- Compatibility
  - ♦ Will it work with CAD?
  - Will it work with/for Finkl?



#### The Ethics

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Code of Ethics Summary for Software Development

- Pressures:
  - Sell and use the software for commercial purposes without adequate permissions and licensing
- ✦ Risks:
  - Delivering educational/trial/development software to Finkl
  - Permitting sale of educational/trial/development software
  - Using copyrighted code and programs



#### The Results

HeaTreat Software

File

Compatible

- Simple Interface
- SD Modeling
- Robust Graphics
- Upgradeable



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#### The Results

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#### Completed:

- ✦ Template Portfolio
  - Represent actual Finkl parts available for purchase



# The Future

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Tasks for upcoming IPRO Teams

- Creating the loading function
  - Thermodynamic modeling functionality for best placement
  - → Maximum Volume Principle / Shipping Software
- Complete a comprehensive shape database
- Migration to handheld device



## The Reflections

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Software development does not start from zero
Based on developmental and public code
High Demand for Computer Science Skills
REQUIRE more CS students in future IPROs
Stress software development in description



# The Acknowledgments IPR0 304-A

#### A. Finkl & Sons - Project Sponsor

Sean McCann (Project Engineer) - Primary Liaison at Finkl
Guy Brada (Chief Metallurgist) and the Metallurgy Staff
The IT Staff

Dr. Zhiyong Hu (IIT MMAE Dept.) - Assistance and Guidance with setup of the software build environment

Spatial Corp. - Educational Licensing for ACIS and HOOPS



IPRO 330 (Spring 2006) - Taking the first steps towards a fully functional solution.



#### The Questions

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Concerns?



Clarifications? Comments?

Questions?

Suggestions?

The IPRO 304-A Team welcomes your input.

Thank you for your attention!

Please visit our exhibit in the northwest corner of the 1st Floor of the Herman Union Building.

