

# Magi-Cut *Express*

## Guide

Revision 1.06

### Contents

1. Working with Express .....	2
2. Setup (install) .....	14
3. Parameters .....	26
4. More about Cutting lists .....	31
5. More about Review runs .....	39
6. File Management .....	54
7. Backup and Restore .....	56
8. Access to Help .....	59

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This Manual and the Software referred to are licensed to the Company or Person identified by the Licence and shown on the Startup screen. Please make sure that you have read and understood the Software Licence Agreement provided before you install and use the software.

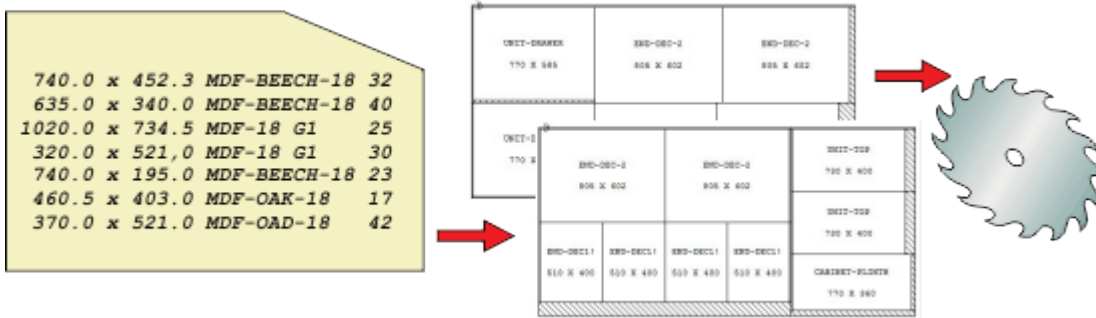
## 1. Working with Express



The Express program is a simple and straightforward way of generating cutting patterns for a cutting list. It is designed for the smaller workshop using a sliding table saw or vertical saw and is focused on producing efficient cutting patterns from lists of part sizes and available materials (boards).

It is Windows software running on a single PC.

### Express - at a glance



This is how to work with Express:-

- Create a New cutting list
- Enter the part sizes, material and quantities required
- Enter the available board sizes



Optimise

- Review and print the results
- Use the Cutting instructions to set the saw

### What is Optimising?

The aim of the optimiser is to produce the most efficient patterns in terms of cost. This depends on:-

- Cutting list sizes
- Constraints on cutting (trims, saw kerf)
- Board sizes available
- Material costs

The process of optimising weighs all these factors and produces a set of cutting patterns.

### A tour of Express

As an introduction to the software we enter a cutting list, optimise it, and look at the results.

*If Express is not yet installed - look at the section: 'Setup (install)'*

(It may be helpful to read through this guide before installing the software to become familiar with the overall operation of the program).



To run the program click on the icon on the desktop

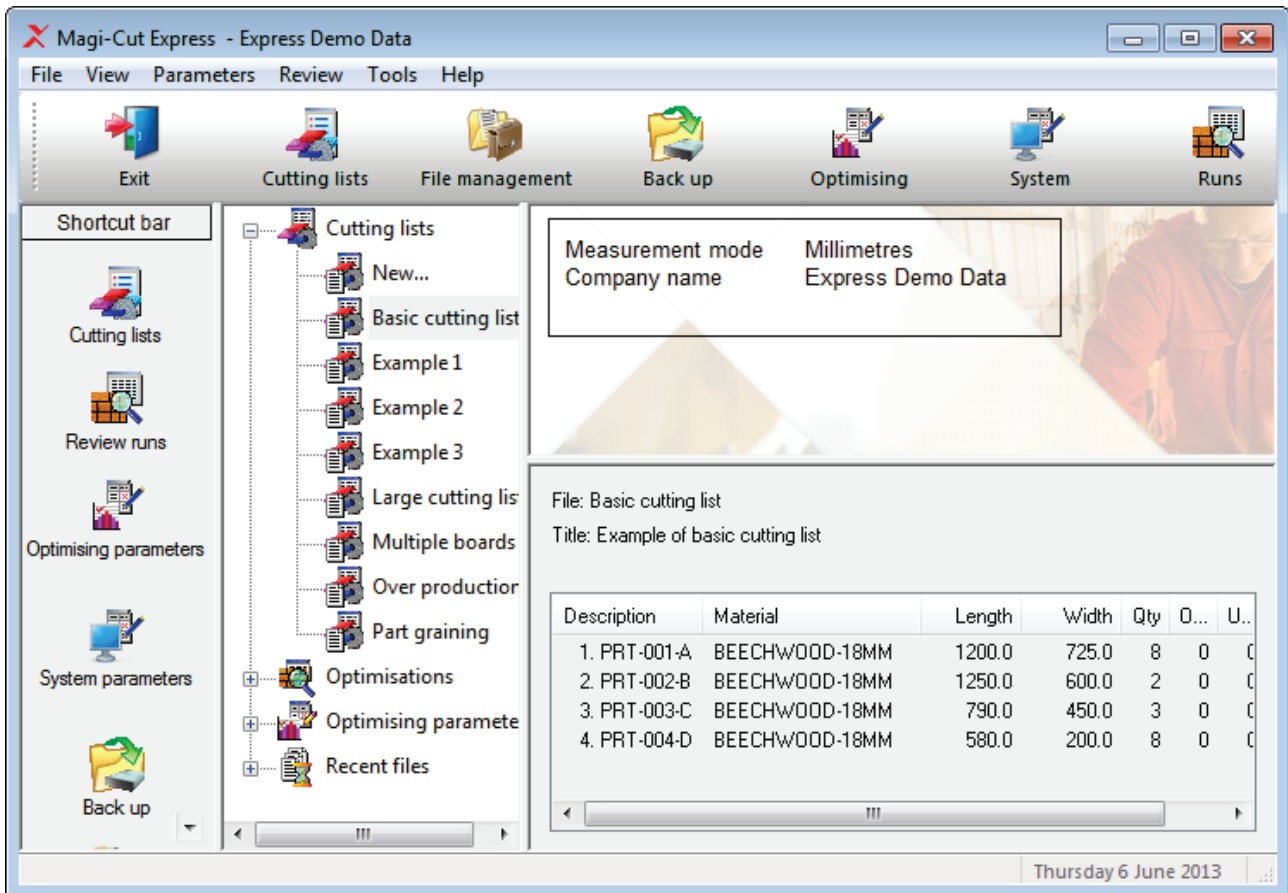
The first screen is the 'Splash' screen which appears for a few moments.



The program moves automatically to the Main screen.

### **Main screen**

This is the command centre of the system. Access all the options and choices from here.



*Note* - A set of demonstration data is included when the program is setup.

At the far left is a stacked Toolbar (Shortcut Bar) giving quick access to each section of the program.

At the centre left is a tree/index showing the various options and existing data.

There is also a top toolbar and menu options to access all the other program features.

The other section of the screen optionally shows an information panel and a pane showing the contents of the currently selected file, for example, a cutting list.



**Measurement mode** - The program works in millimetres, fractional inches, or decimal inches. The operation of the software is the same in each case except that fractional inches are displayed and entered in fractional format (44 x 61-1/4, 96 x 48-1/2).

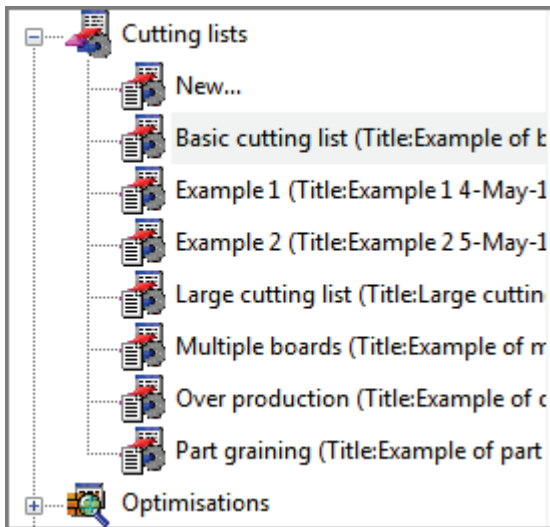
This tour uses: **Millimetres**.

*Note* - arrange the screen to suit your way of working with the *View* menu option and by adjusting the size of each pane with the mouse (place the cursor at the edge of a pane to display the grab handles).

### **Enter a cutting list**

To enter a list of sizes:-

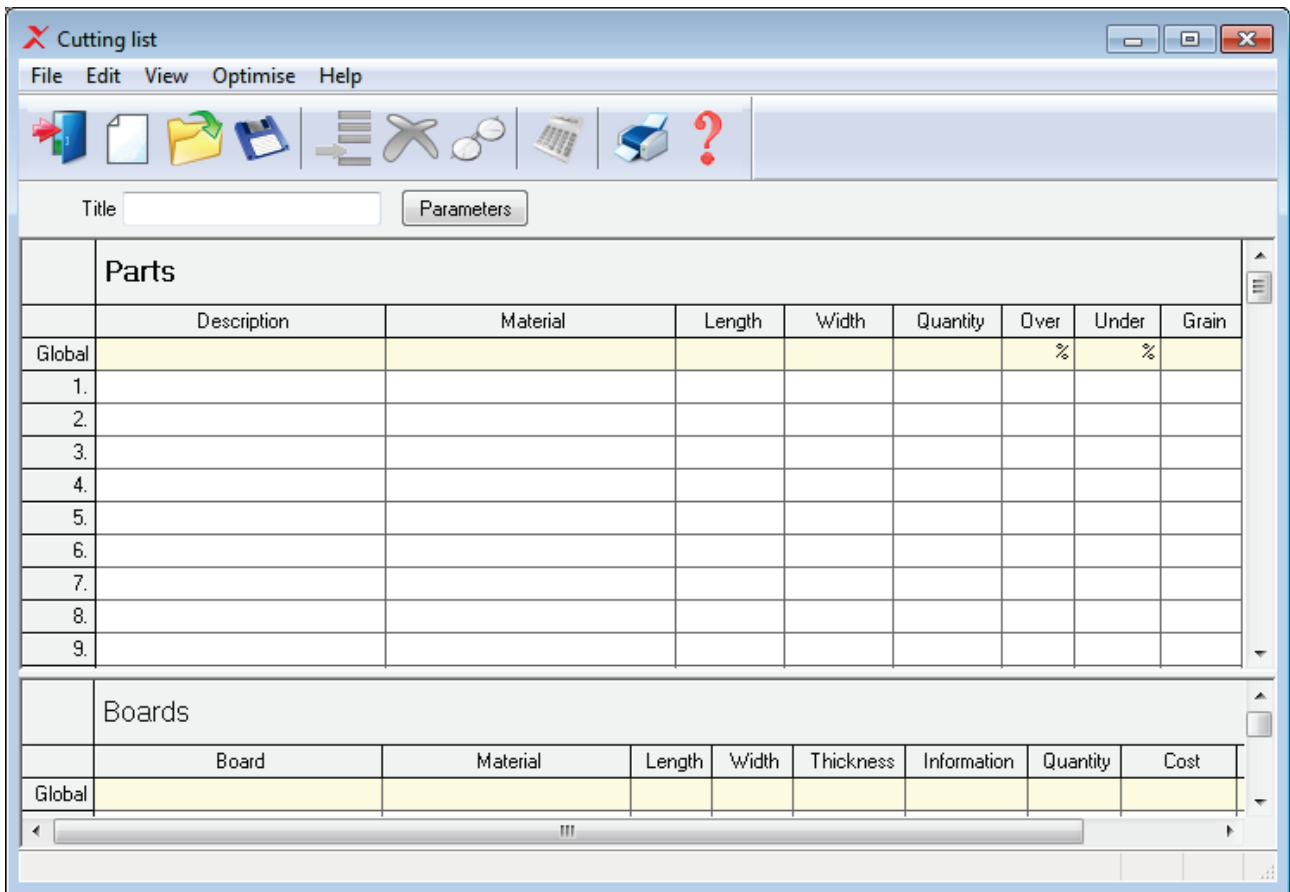
At the tree open up the 'Cutting lists' branch (click on the + symbol).



- Double click on the **New...** option

The program moves to the Cutting list screen and shows a new blank list.

At the 'Title' box enter a title for the list.



(If the 'Title' box is not visible - select: *View - Properties* to switch on the Title box)

- Move to the line labelled 1 in the 'Parts' section (use the mouse or **Tab**)
- Enter the part details including the quantity required

The details to enter for each part are as follows:-

*Description* - Any code or short description of the part.

*Material code* - A code for the board material to use for that part.

Express uses this to match up the parts with the available boards in the board list. Each board size and material needs a unique code. For example:-

MEL-CHIP-18MM (melamine faced chipboard 18mm thickness)  
 MED-DEN-FIBRE-18 (medium density fibre board 18mm thickness)

*Sizes* - the length and width of the part.

*Quantity* - the quantity of the part required for this job

*Grain* - the material grain of the part

Y - grained (grain runs with length of the part)  
 N - no grain (part can be placed either way)  
 X - grained (grain run across the width of the part)

White melamine typically has no grain but Teak laminate is grained. The program uses the grain setting to make sure that each part is correctly laid out on the board and where the grain needs to run along the length of the part it does so.

*Overs and Unders* - these columns specify any over or under production (these are ignored on this tour).

*Global line* - the line at the top of the list is called the global line. This can be used to provide a common answer for every part in the list for a given field - in this example the over and under percentages are set to 0 percent for all parts as they are not used in this tour.

After entering a few sizes the 'Parts' section should be similar to the following.

	Description	Material	Length	Width	Quantity	Over	Under	Grain
Global						0 %	0 %	
1.	UNIT-BASE	MEL-CHIP-18	585.0	470.0	8	0	0	N
2.	UNIT-DRAWER	TEAK-LAM-18	770.0	585.0	12	0	0	Y
3.	UNIT-END	TEAK-LAM-18	770.0	400.0	8	0	0	Y
4.	UNIT-PLINTH	MEL-CHIP-18	623.0	230.0	8	0	0	Y
5.	UNIT-SHELF	MEL-CHIP-18	470.0	390.0	12	0	0	N
6.	UNIT-DOOR	TEAK-LAM-18	620.0	390.0	9	0	0	Y
7.	CABINET-PLINTH	TEAK-LAM-18	770.0	360.0	12	0	0	Y
8.	PANEL-FCE	TEAK-LAM-18	1190.0	740.0	8	0	0	Y
9.	CABINET RAILS	MEL-CHIP-18	790.0	190.0	16	0	0	Y
10.	END-DEC1	TEAK-LAM-18	510.0	400.0	12	0	0	N
11.	UNIT-DBL-TOP	MEL-CHIP-18	935.0	618.0	6	0	0	N
12.	UNIT-TOP	TEAK-LAM-18	730.0	400.0	12	0	0	Y
13.	CABINET-RAIL	TEAK-LAM-18	920.0	195.0	3	0	0	Y

We can now enter some board sizes.

- Move to the Boards section (click on row 1 with mouse or **Ctrl Tab**)
- Enter details of the available boards

At the cutting list the board codes used were:-

MEL-CHIP-18MM  
TEAK-LAM-18

The details to enter for each board are:-

*Board* - a board code or description

*Material* - a material code

Express uses this to match up the parts with the available boards in the board list. Each board size and material needs a unique code

*Sizes* - the length and width of the board

*Information* - any extra details about the board (e.g. supplier, quality)

*Quantity* - the number of each board size in stock

*Cost* - the cost per square area (metre) of the material.

Enter an accurate cost as the program uses this to assess the pattern layout.

*Grain* - the material grain of the board

Y - grained (grain runs with length of the part)  
 N - no grain (part can be placed either way)  
 X - grained (grain run across the width of the part)

Parts								
	Description	Material	Length	Width	Quantity	Over	Under	Grain
Global						0 %	0 %	
1.	UNIT-BASE	MEL-CHIP-18	585.0	470.0	8	0	0	N
2.	UNIT-DRAWER	TEAK-LAM-18	770.0	585.0	12	0	0	Y
3.	UNIT-END	TEAK-LAM-18	770.0	400.0	8	0	0	Y
4.	UNIT-PLINTH	MEL-CHIP-18	623.0	230.0	8	0	0	Y
5.	UNIT-SHELF	MEL-CHIP-18	470.0	390.0	12	0	0	N
6.	UNIT-DOOR	TEAK-LAM-18	620.0	390.0	9	0	0	Y
7.	CABINET-PLINTH	TEAK-LAM-18	770.0	360.0	12	0	0	Y

Boards								
	Board	Material	Length	Width	Thickness	Information	Quantity	Cost
Global								
1.	BRD/ML/01	MEL-CHIP-18	2440.0	1220.0	18.0		320	1.340
2.	BRD/TL/02	TEAK-LAM-18	2440.0	1220.0	18.0		250	1.560
3.	BRD/ML/01	MEL-CHIP-18	2440.0	1220.0	18.0		120	1.310

### Save the Cutting list

When data entry is finished - save the cutting list. To do this:-



Select the Save symbol

The program prompts to save the cutting list to a file.

- Enter a file name

Save As

File: Example1

Title: Example 1

Measurement mode: Millimetres

Buttons: OK, Help, Cancel

- Select **OK** to confirm the save

Note - the title can be changed here if necessary

**Optimise**

The cutting list is now ready to optimise.

Along with the Part and Board sizes the program also requires values for the cutting constraints, for example, the 'Saw kerf', 'Size of trims' etc. These are set via the 'Optimising parameters'.

There is a default set of parameters which the program uses automatically - these are used for this tour.

(There is a section on how to adjust the parameter values later in the guide).

At the cutting list screen:-



Select the optimise symbol

Express starts the optimisation.

A small window appears while the optimisation is in progress. Use **Cancel** to abandon the optimisation.

Express shows the results.

The first screen shown is an overall summary of the optimisation called the 'Management Summary'. The optimisation results (a set of patterns) is also called a 'run' and this section of the program for looking at the results is called 'Review runs'.

The screenshot shows a software window titled 'Review runs' with a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Settings, Summaries, Help) and a toolbar with navigation icons. The main area displays a 'Management summary' for 'Example 1'. The table below summarizes the results of the optimization.

Management summary							Example 1	
Description	Quantity	m2	m3	Percent	Rate	Cost	Statistic	Value
Required parts	177	54.59	0.98	87.33%			Number of patterns	13
Plus/Over parts	5	1.00	0.02	1.60%			Headcut patterns	4
Scrap		6.92	0.13	11.07%			Rotated patterns	0
Boards	20	62.51	1.13	100.00%			Recut patterns	6
							Number of cycles	20
							Waste (%Parts)	12.45%
							Yield (%Boards)	88.93%
Boards used		62.51	1.13	100.00%		91.66		
<b>Total parts</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>55.59</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>88.93%</b>	<b>1.649</b>	<b>91.66</b>		

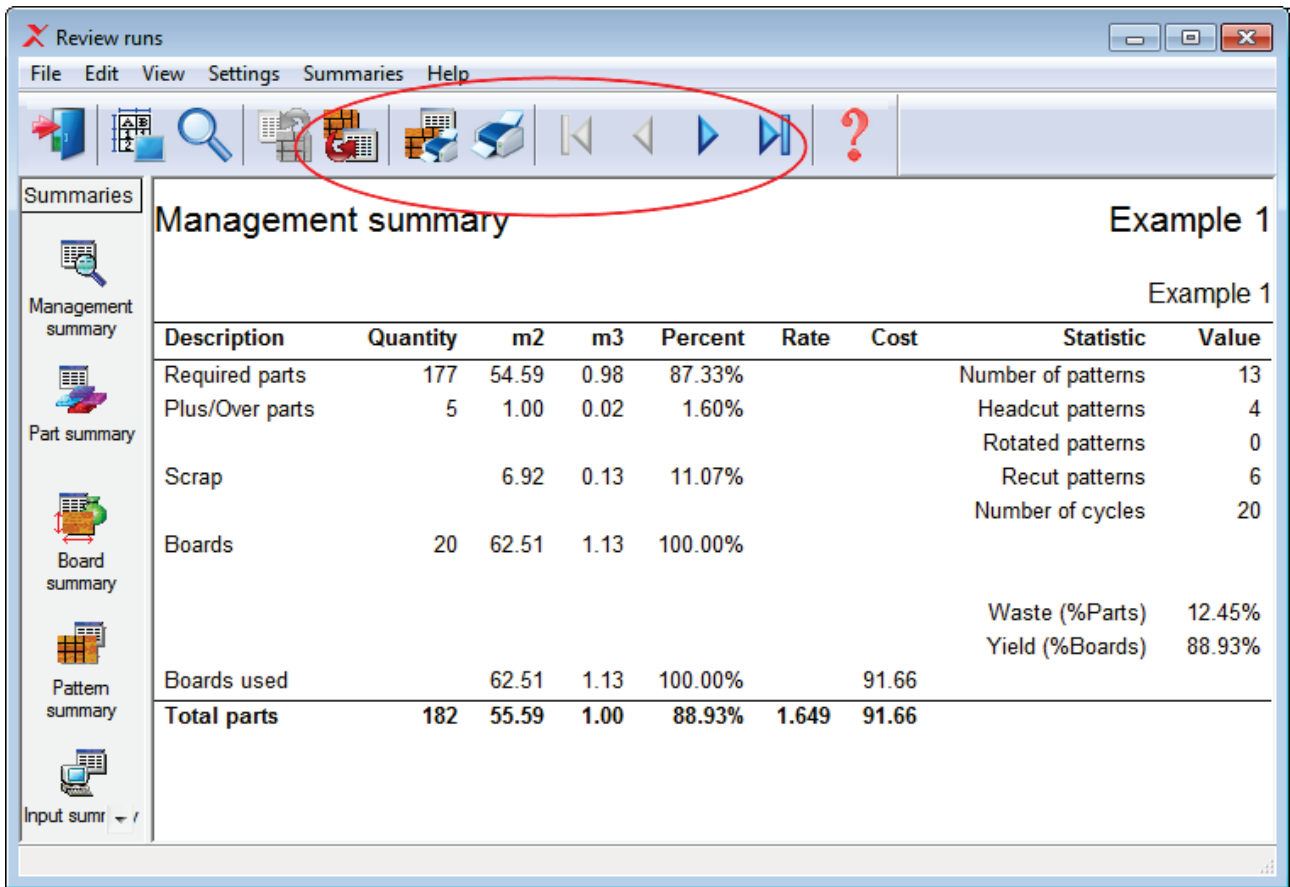
Once the optimisation is complete the results are stored and can be reviewed and printed as required.



The Management summary report shows the overall statistics for the run. For example:-

- Number of parts produced
- Number of boards used
- Overall cost
- Overall yield

Use the Navigation bar to look at the other reports.



The other reports are:-

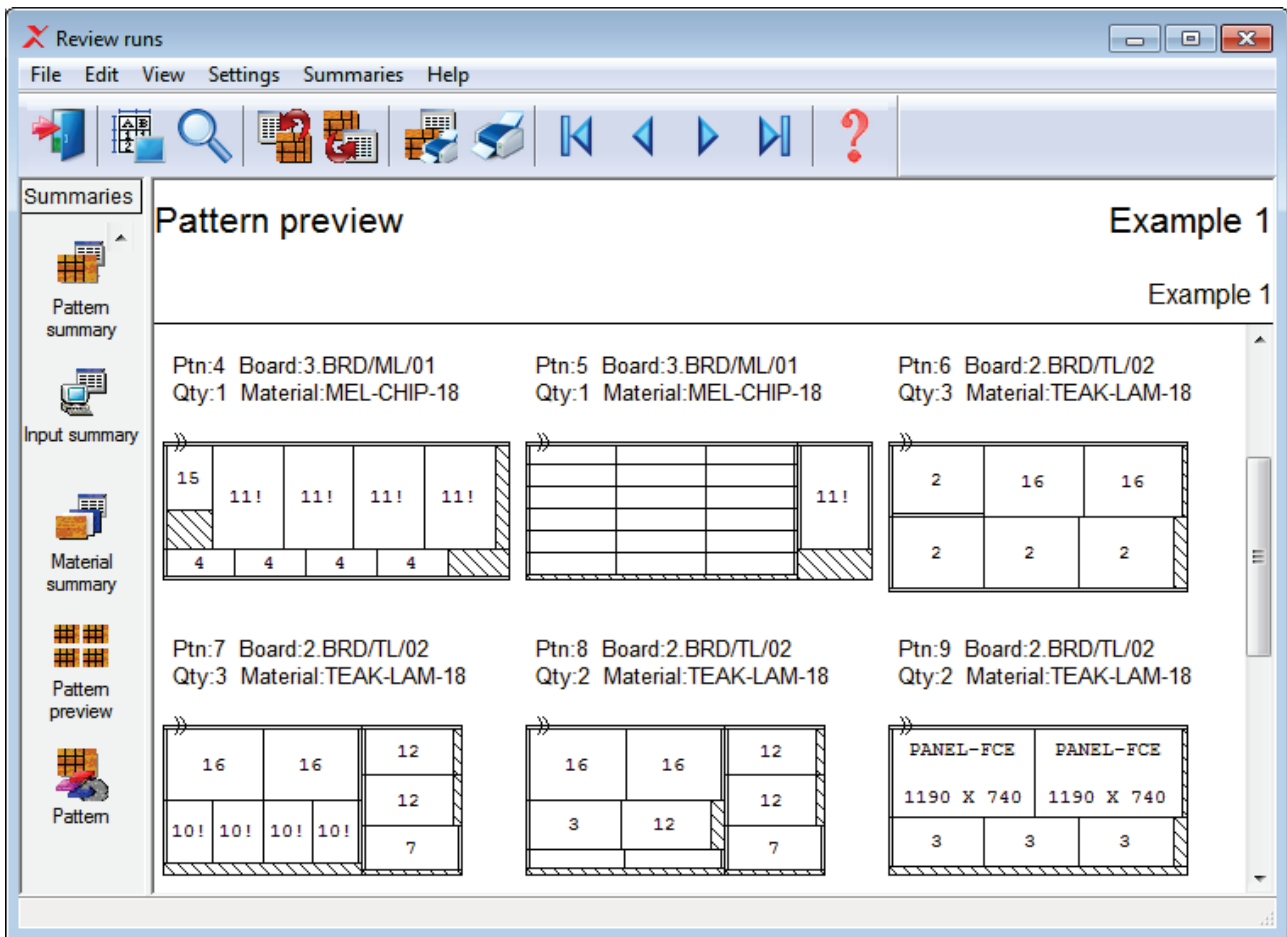
- Part summary
- Board summary
- Pattern summary
- Input summary
- Material Summary
- Run Summary
- Pattern preview
- Patterns

The stacked toolbar at the left can also be used to access the reports and to view the patterns.



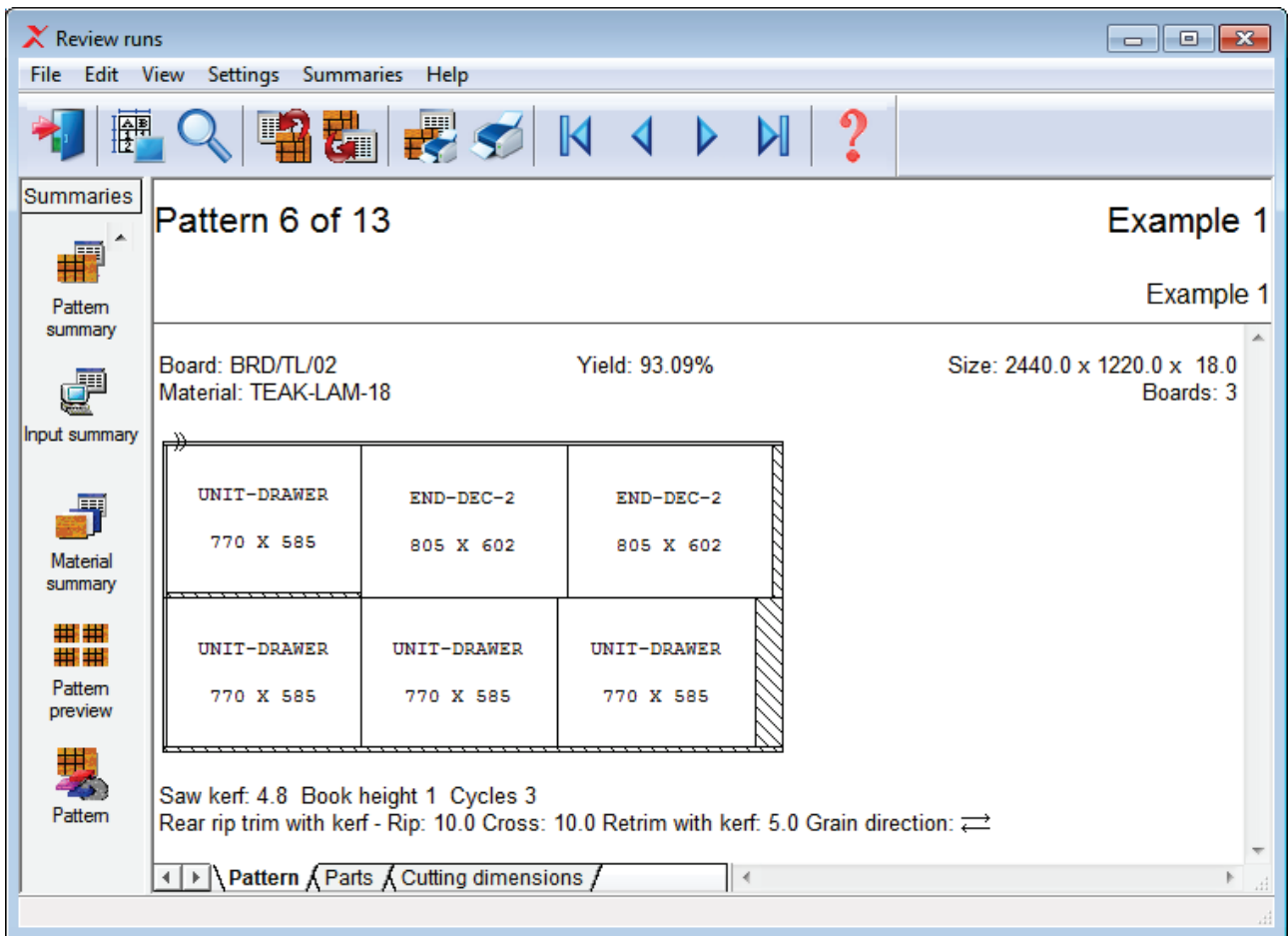
- Click on the pattern preview symbol

A thumbnail preview is shown.



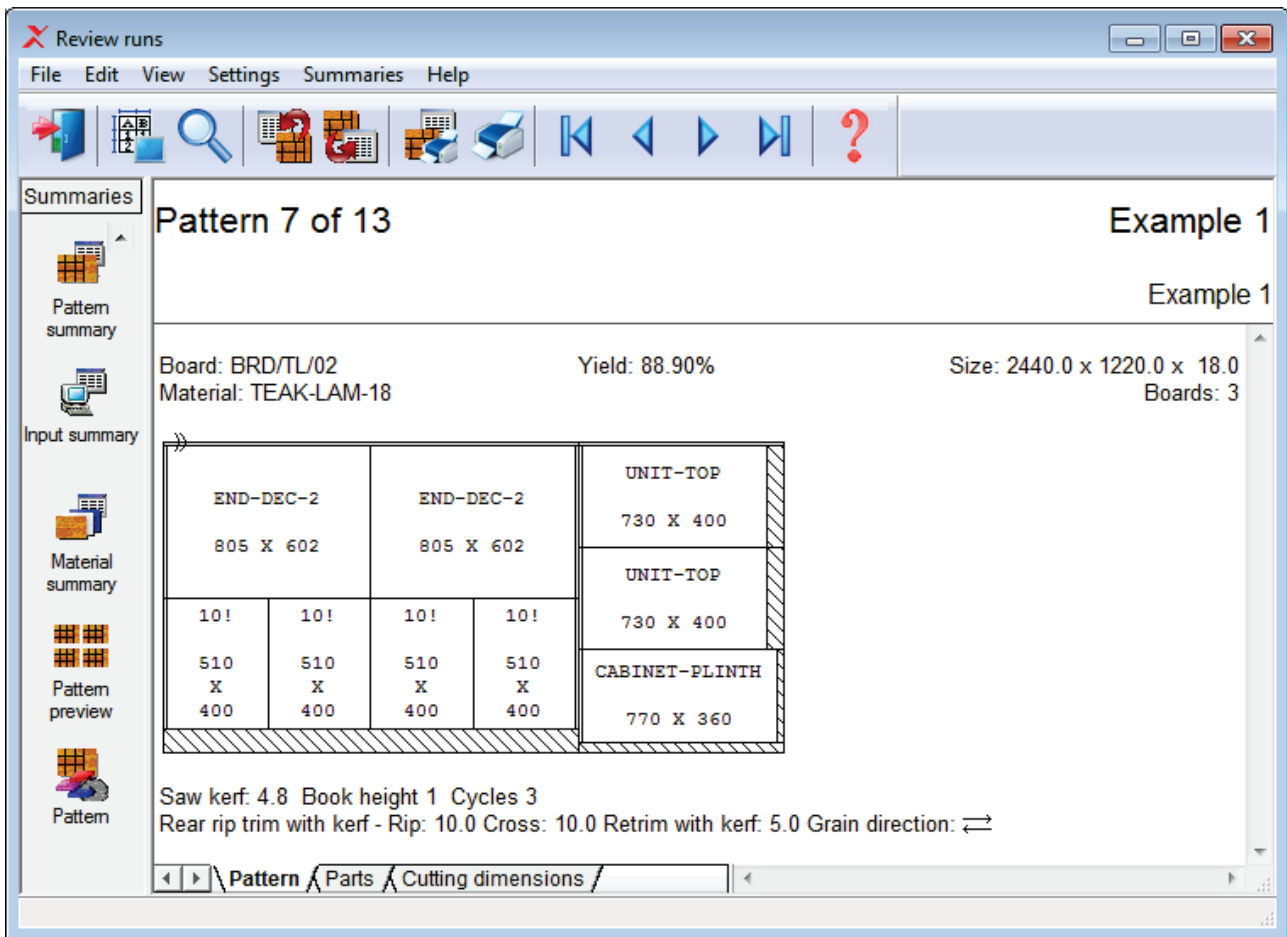
The preview shows all the cutting patterns grouped by material code.

- Double click on a thumbnail to see the full pattern



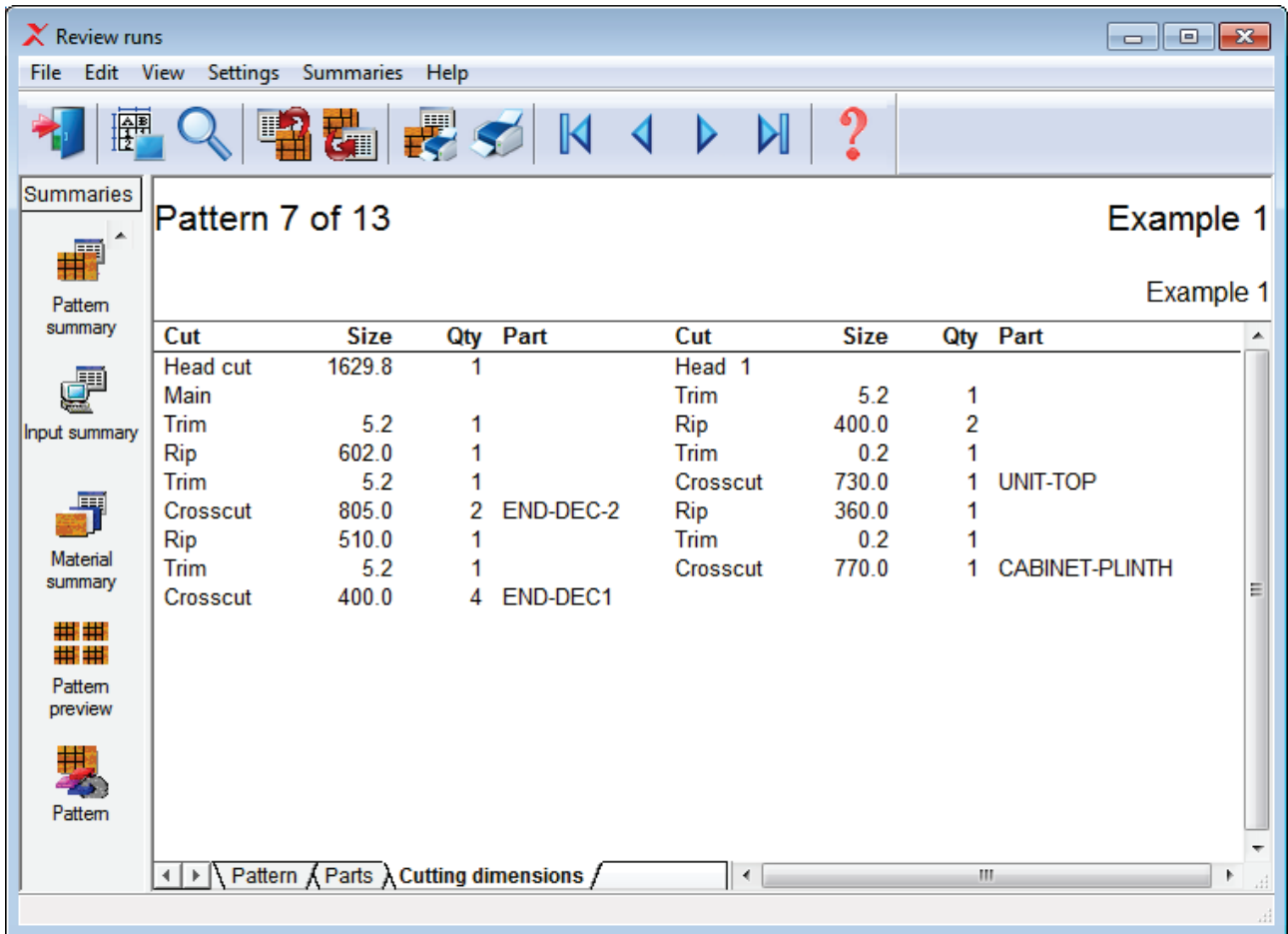
The waste areas are shown with hash lines (or via a colour).

The patterns can include recuts and head cuts (as shown below).



The tab bar at the foot of each pattern shows the other pattern information, Part sizes and Cutting instructions.

The cutting instructions are for a sliding table saw and can be used to set the saw for cutting.

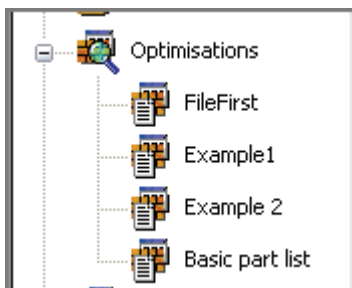


Select exit to leave Review runs

The program returns to the Main screen.

At the main screen open up the 'Optimisations' branch of the tree. The recent optimisation is now in the list.

This run can be reviewed at any time by selecting the item.



*Note* - if the parts or boards are changed after an optimisation the results are no longer valid and the lists should be optimised again.

### **End of Tour**

The tour above has shown the principal operations of Express and how to use it. The later sections give more details about the program.

## **2. Setup (install)**

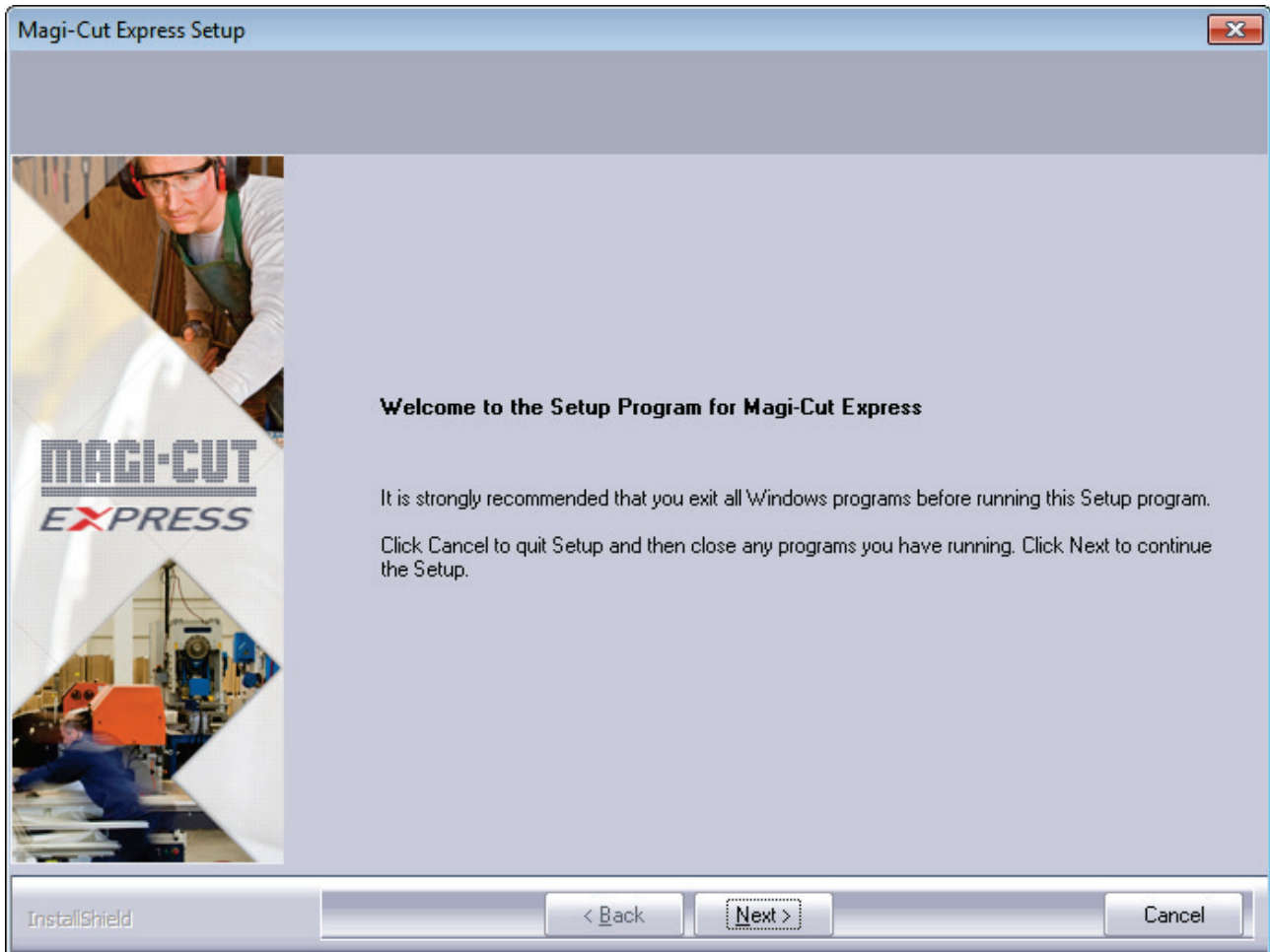
Express is downloaded as a single file named:-

### **Magi-Cut Express Setup.exe**

- Click on this program to start the setup.

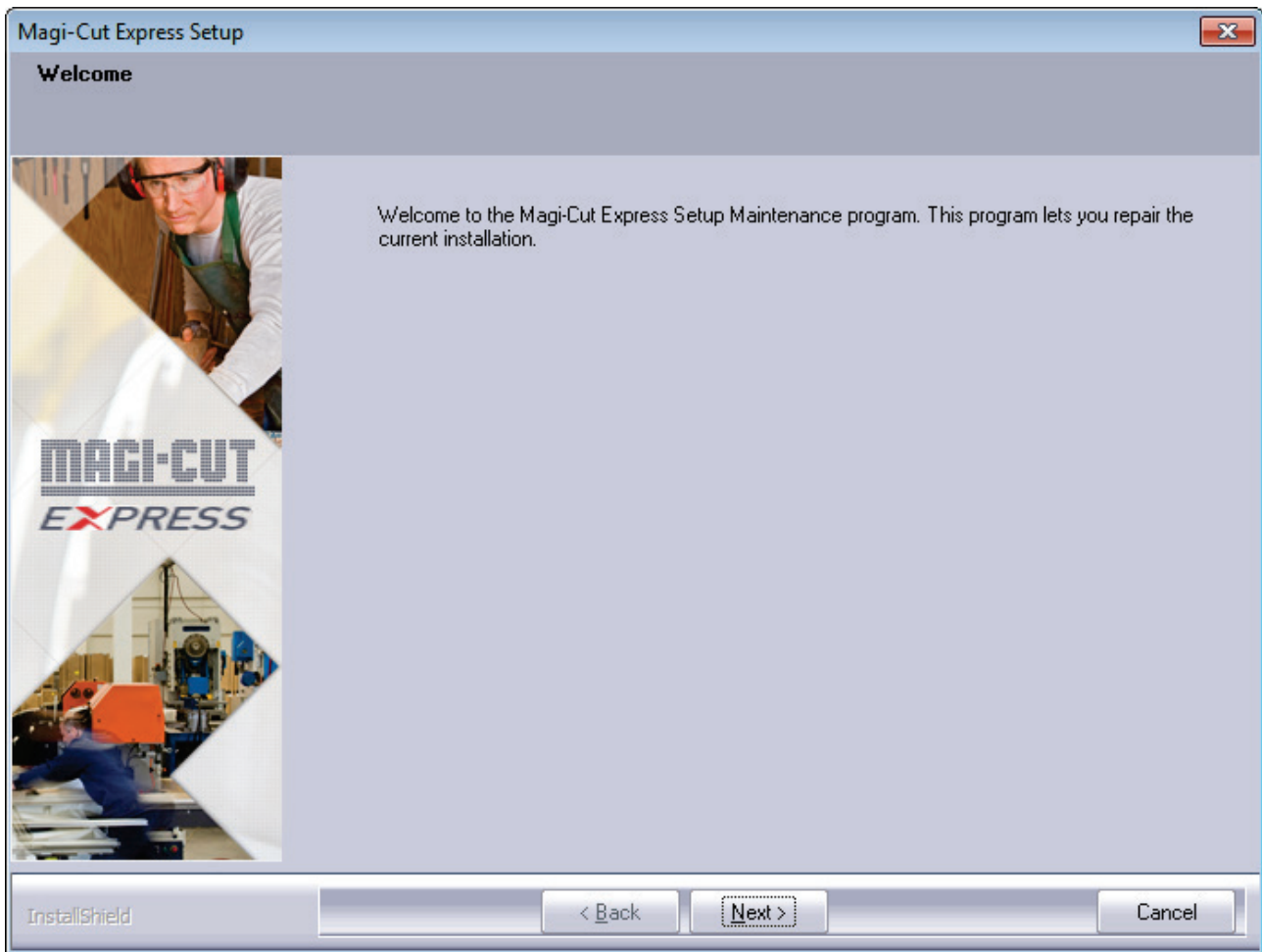
Follow the setup (install) instructions carefully. When finished the software and demonstration data is ready for use.

The Setup program displays the first screen:-



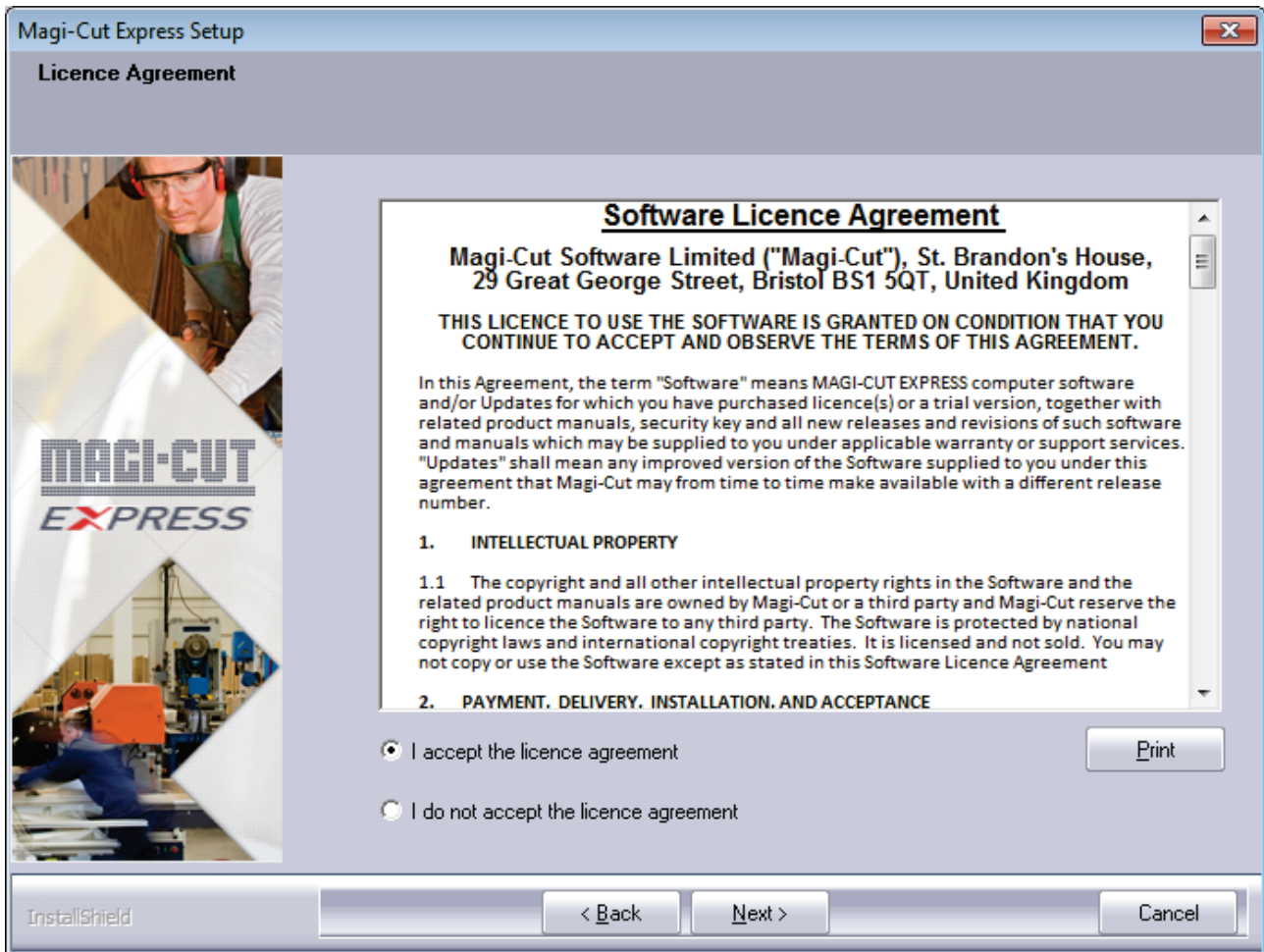
The above screen is NOT shown if Express is already installed on the PC.

Instead the program prompts to update the existing installation.



- If the existing install is modified or repaired the cutting list data is not changed - but parameter settings and screen view options are not preserved.

- Select **Next** to continue (**Cancel** to abandon)



The screen shows the Licence agreement for the UK. Use the scroll bar to navigate up and down the document (use **Print** to make a copy)

- Check the radio button to accept the agreement

*The agreement must be accepted for setup to continue*

- Select **Next** to continue



The program prompts for User name and Company name.

Magi-Cut Express Setup

**Customer Information**  
Please enter your information.

Please enter your name and the name of the company for which you work.

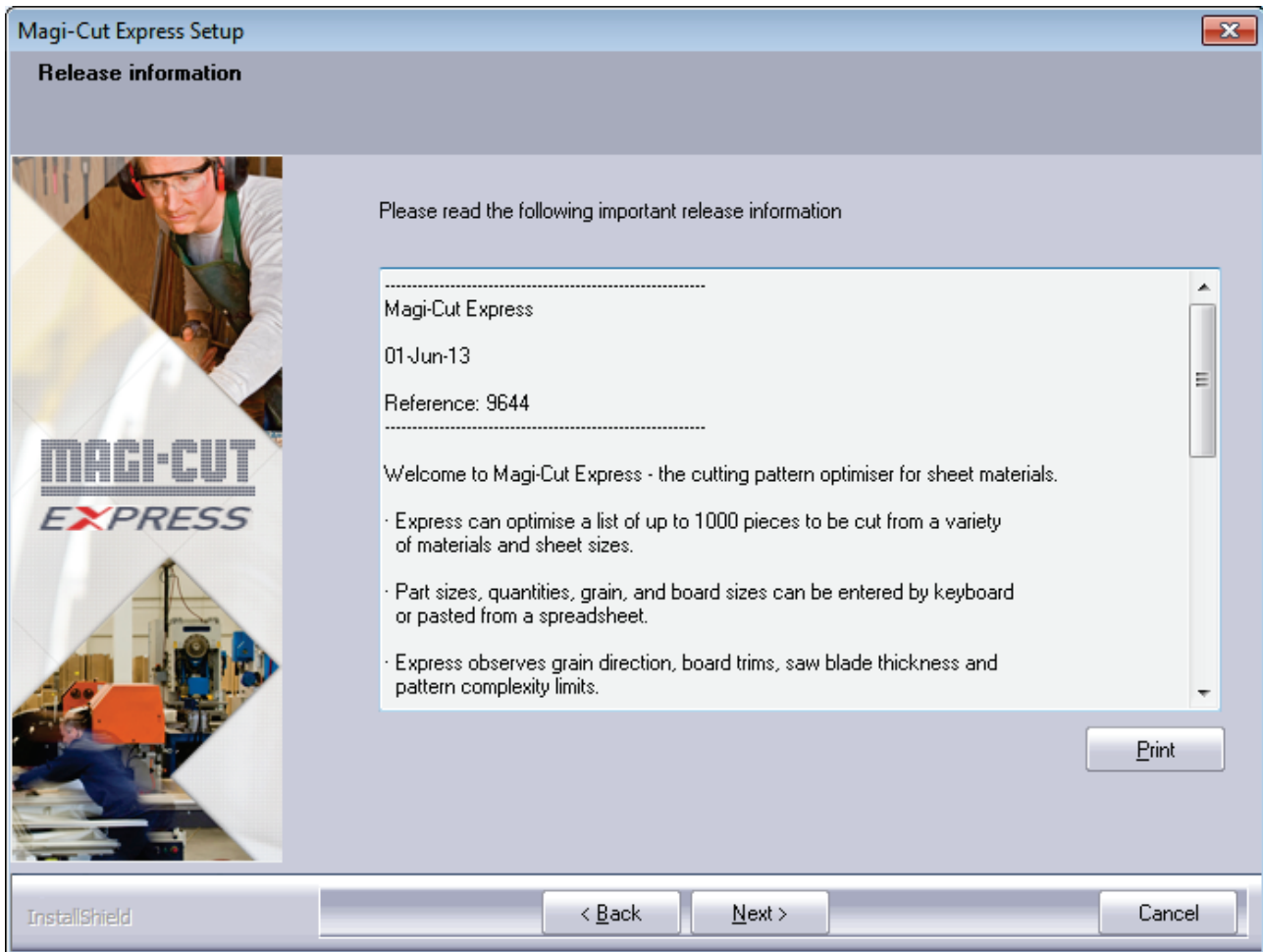
User Name:  
TS

Company Name:  
Company Ltd

InstallShield < Back Next > Cancel

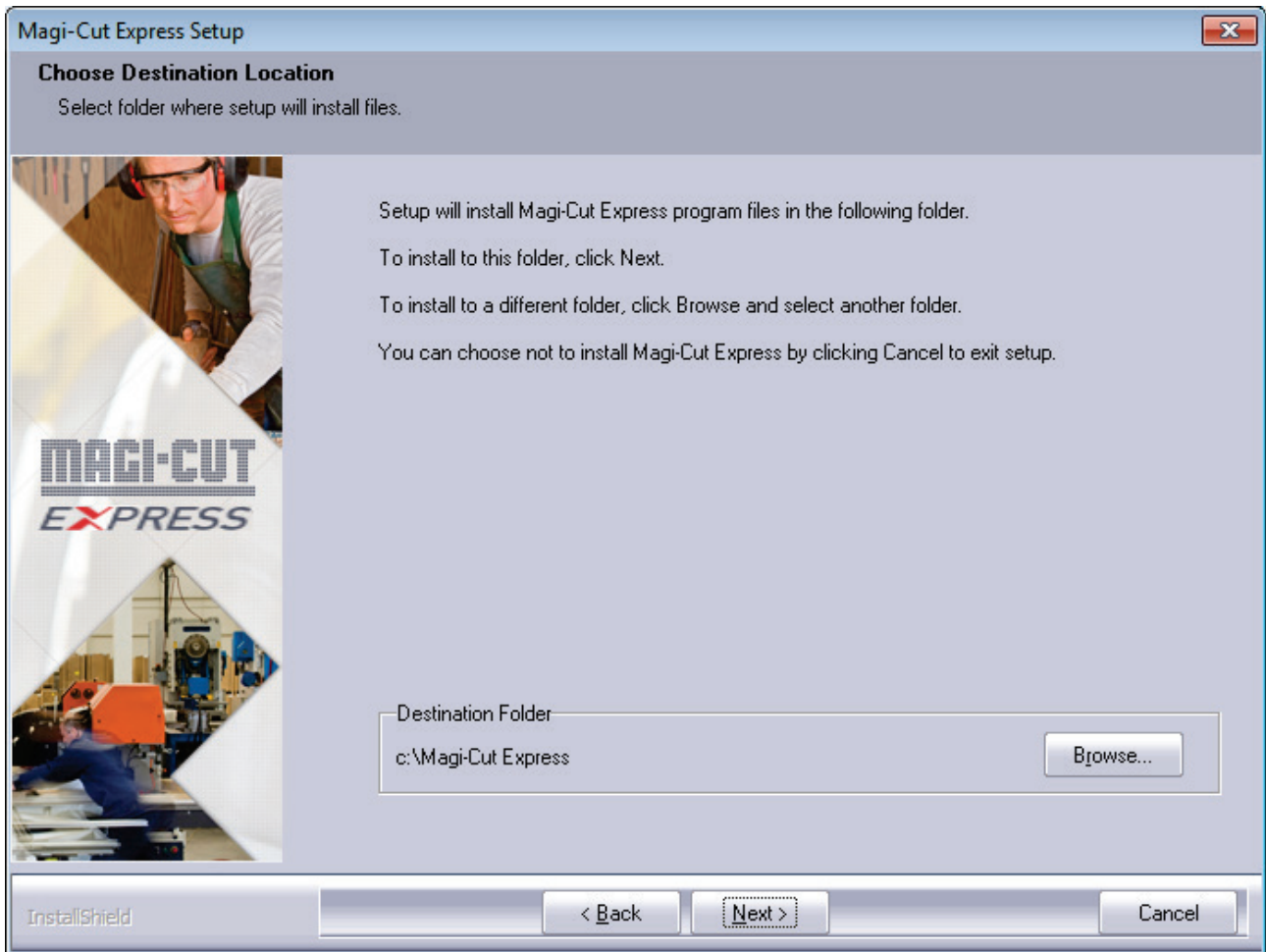
- Enter the details

- Select **Next** to continue



The screen shows the version number and minimum hardware requirements for the program (use the **Print** button to print a copy - if required).

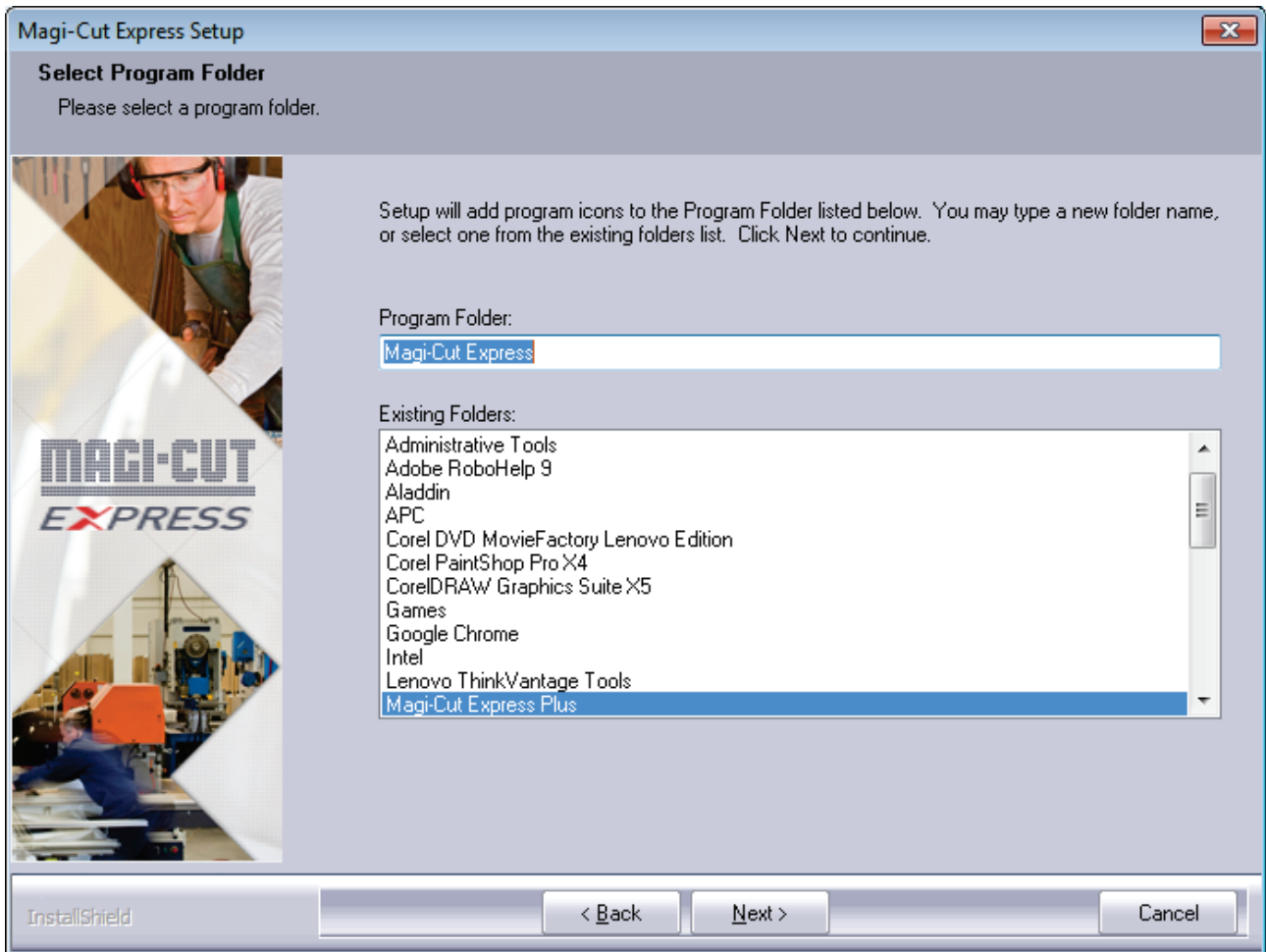
- Select **Next** to continue



The program selects a default folder to install to.

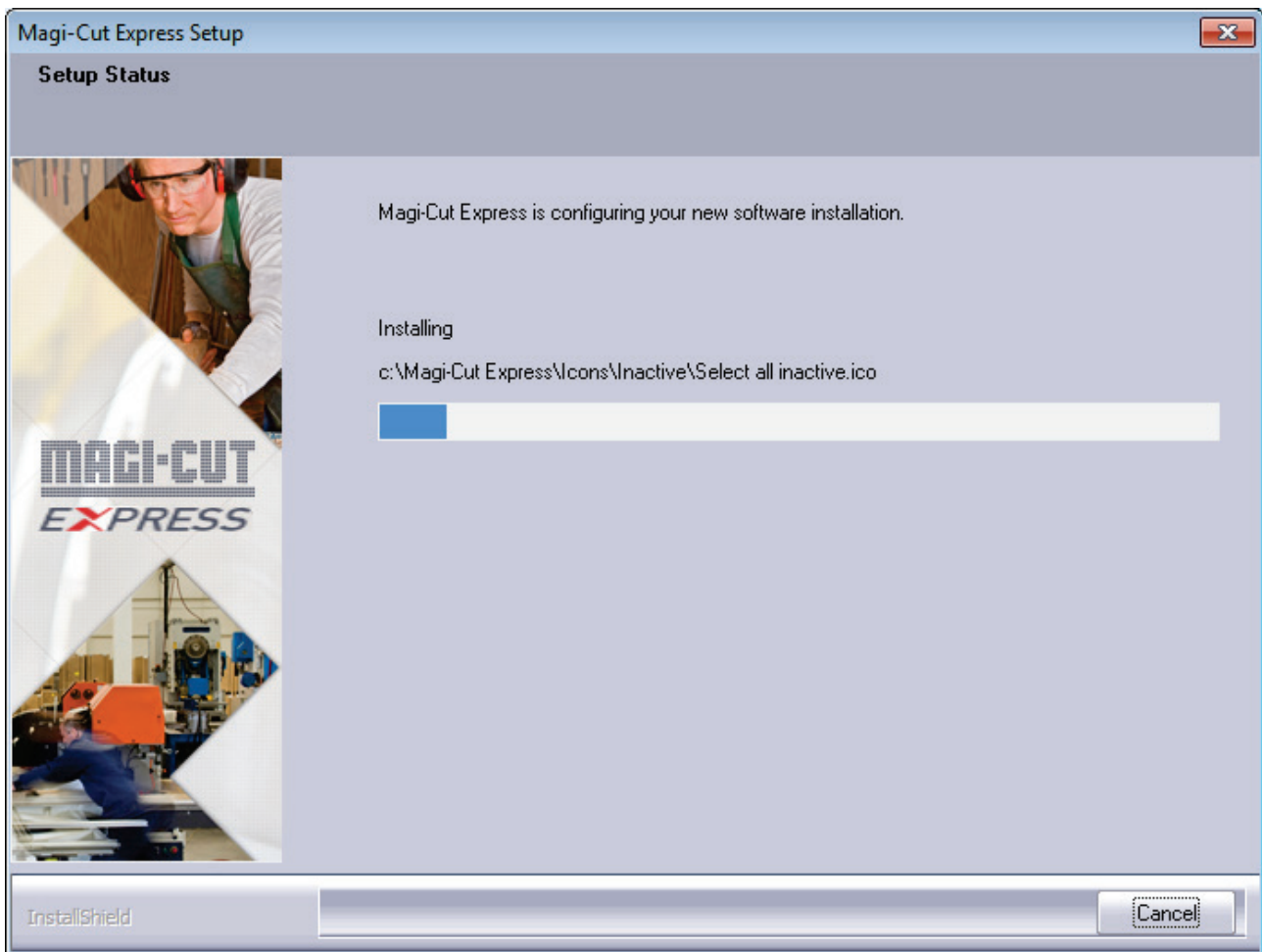
To select another folder use the **Browse** button.

- Select **Next** to continue



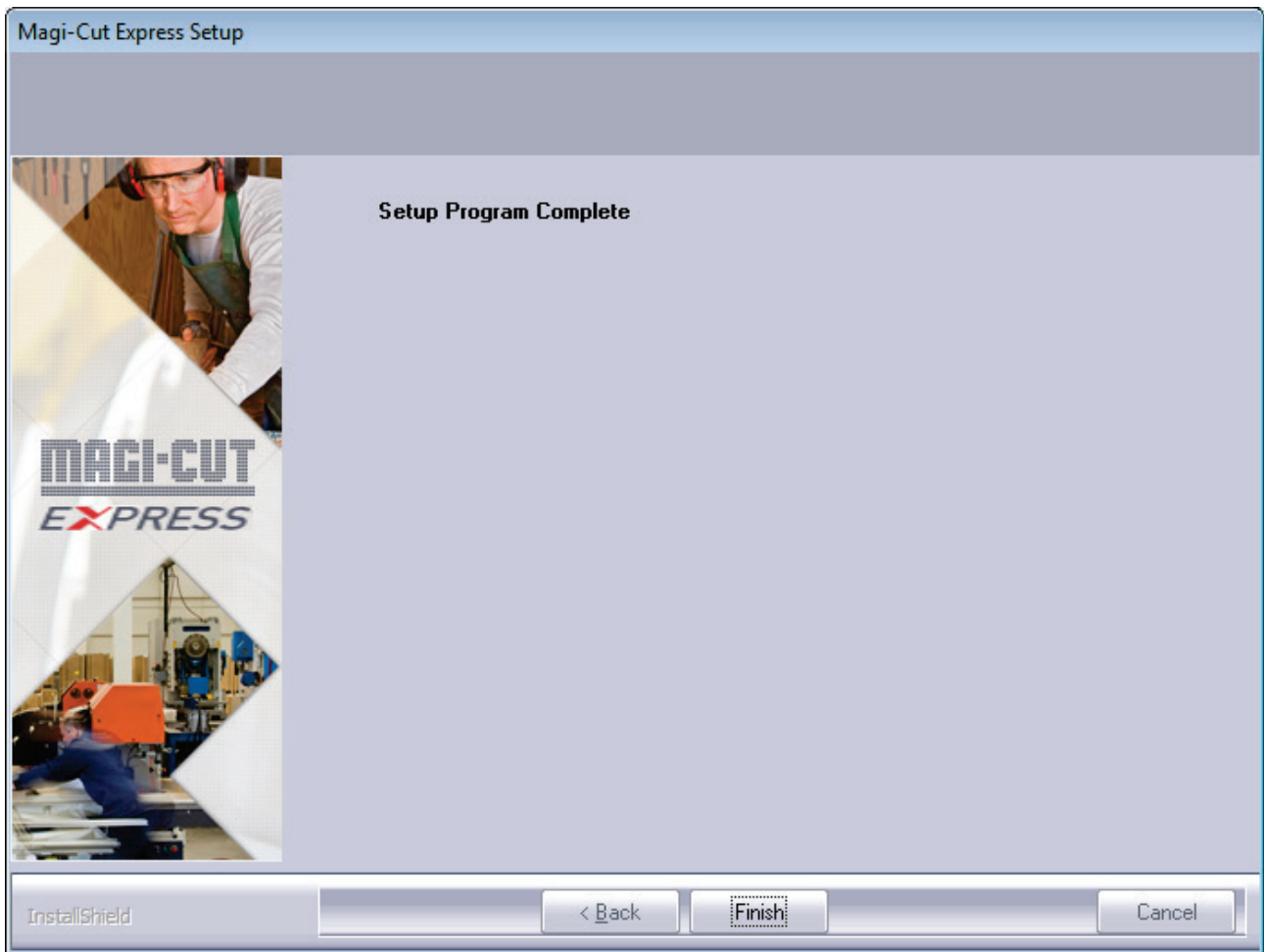
- Enter the name for the program folder (if required) or select a different folder.

- Select **Next** to continue



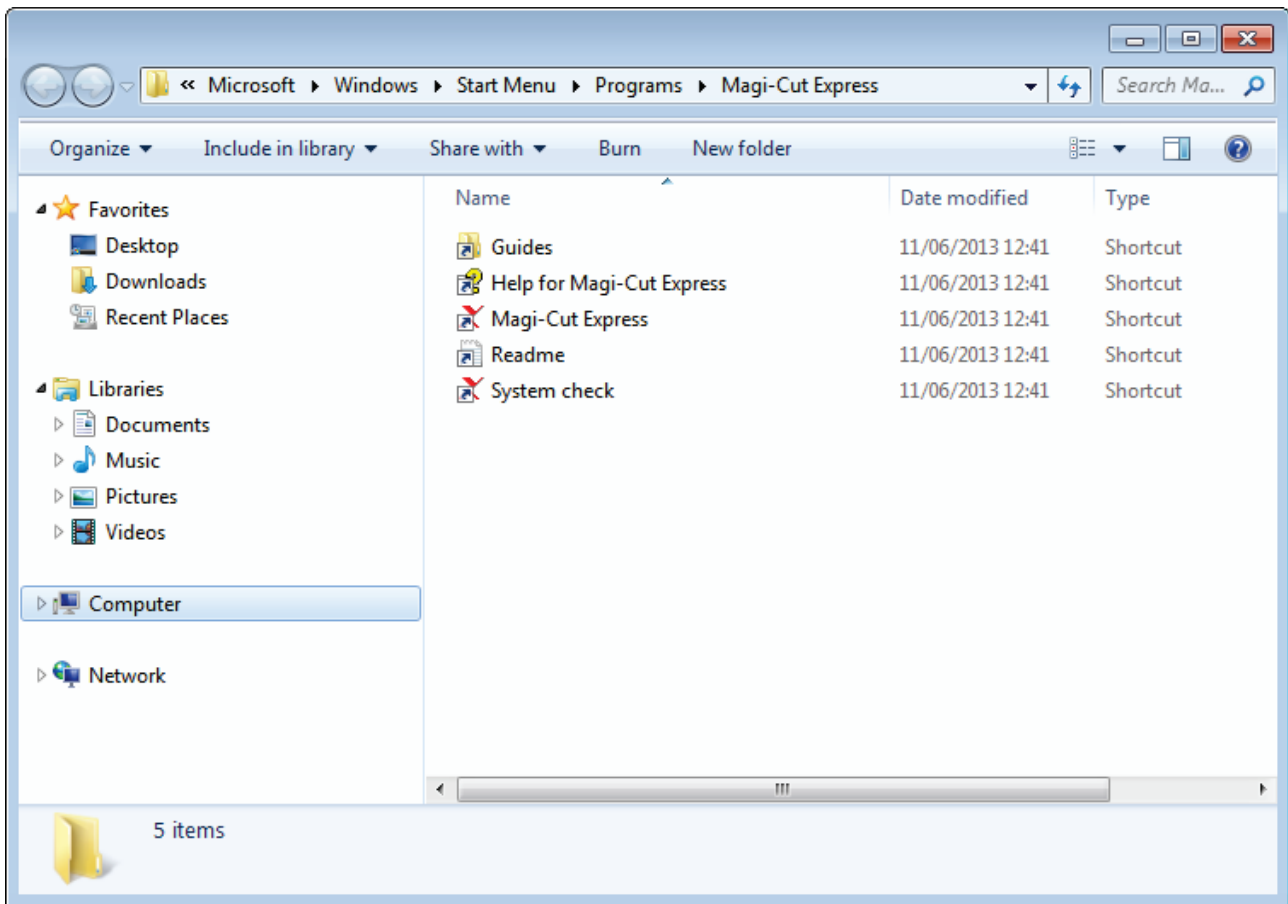
The Setup program proceeds with the installation.

When Setup is finished the final screen is displayed.



- Select **Finish** to close the Setup program

The program displays the program group.



A shortcut is installed on the desktop and the program group is added to the Windows 'Programs' bar (at the Windows 'Start' button)

- Close the program group

*Note* - To uninstall use the Add/Remove (Program features) option at the Windows control panel. There is no option in the program group to remove the program.

*Security* - For the trial version the first screen shows the remaining days for the trial; there are other options for purchasing the program. Press the 'Continue' button to move to the main screen. For the purchased system the program moves directly to the main screen; it is protected by a software security code.

### **Program does not run**

If the program does not run there are only a few main causes.

- Program was not installed correctly
- Hardware is below minimum requirements
- The Trial version has expired (it runs for a limited number of days)

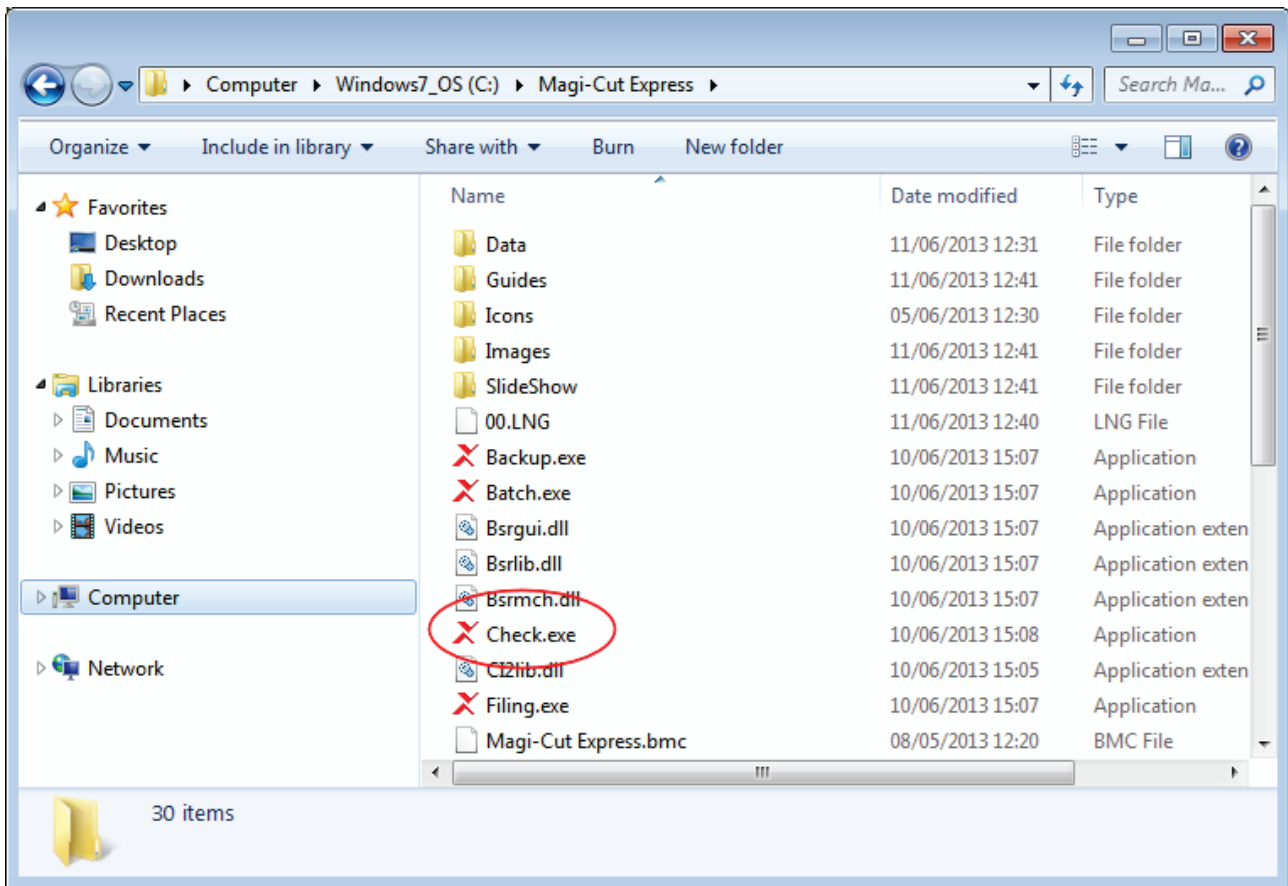
### **Program setup problems**

It may be the program setup failed (this is quite rare unless the setup was cancelled)

- Re-try the install (in this case install to a different location on the PC)

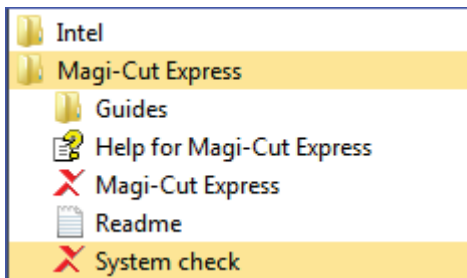
The state of the program can be checked (if the Setup finished Ok) by running the 'Check' program.

Use Windows Explorer to move to the program directory (where the program was installed e.g. c:\Magi-Cut Express).



Double click on the program 'Check.exe' to run the system check.

Alternatively select the 'System Check' option from the Program group on the Windows 'Start' button.



### Help

If there are problems running the program the help can still be accessed. To do this:-

Move to the directory where the program is installed  
Double click on the program 'Check.exe' to run it  
Click on the **Help** button (this is the full help for Express)

### Language file problems

If a message appears:-

#### *Error reading language file*

This means a critical program file is missing or cannot be accessed. The language file is installed on setup so this means the setup failed or was cancelled. Re-try the setup.



### Minimum hardware

The program does NOT run on any PC below the minimum specification. The minimum specification is:-

Processor speed 1.5 Ghz  
Memory 512 MB  
Hard disk 1GB free  
Display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

The supported operating systems are:-

Windows XP Home Service Pack 3  
Windows XP Professional Service Pack 3  
Windows XP Professional X64 Edition Service Pack 2  
Windows Vista Service Pack 2 (32bit and 64bit versions)  
Windows 7 (32bit and 64bit versions)  
Windows 8 (32bit and 64bit versions)

### **3. Parameters**

For effective optimising the program should be set up to allow for the correct measurement mode, saw kerf, and trims etc. These parameter values can vary for different jobs and between companies.

Use the 'Parameters' options to set these values.

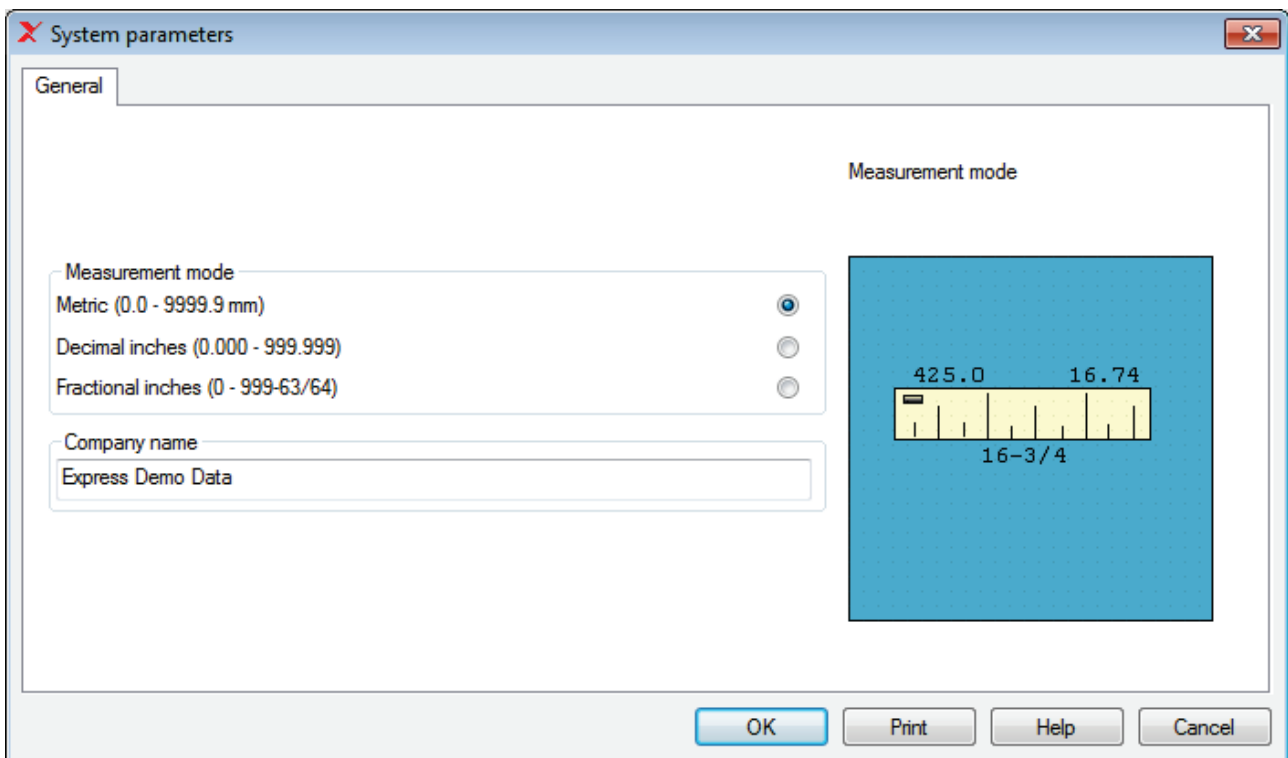
The parameters are set to reasonable default values when the program first runs but it is important to check all these values and adjust them where necessary to reflect your way of working.

There are only a few parameters to consider.

#### **System parameters**

These are basic settings for the program. At the main screen:-

- Select: **Parameters - System parameters**



- Select the measurement mode to work in.

For Express this is typically Millimetres.

- Enter a name for the Company

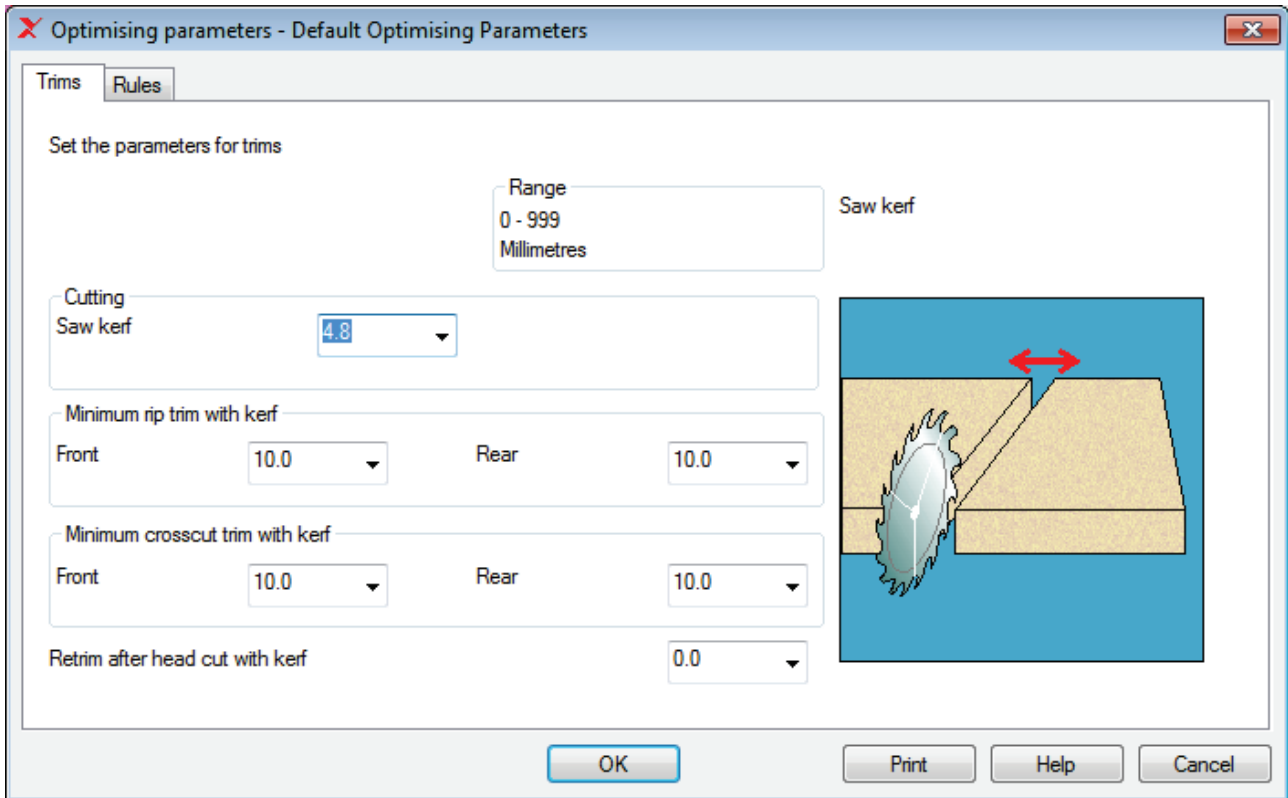
This name is shown on the screen and in the header/banner of most printed reports.

*Note* - These parameters are usually only set once and rarely need to be considered again.

## Optimising parameters

Optimising parameters are important as they set the saw kerf, trims and type of cutting allowed. To adjust the default values for the optimising parameters, at the main screen:-

- Select: **Parameters - Optimising parameters**



Optimising parameters - Default Optimising Parameters

Trims Rules

Set the parameters for trims

Range  
0 - 999  
Millimetres

Saw kerf

Cutting  
Saw kerf 4.8

Minimum rip trim with kerf  
Front 10.0 Rear 10.0

Minimum crosscut trim with kerf  
Front 10.0 Rear 10.0

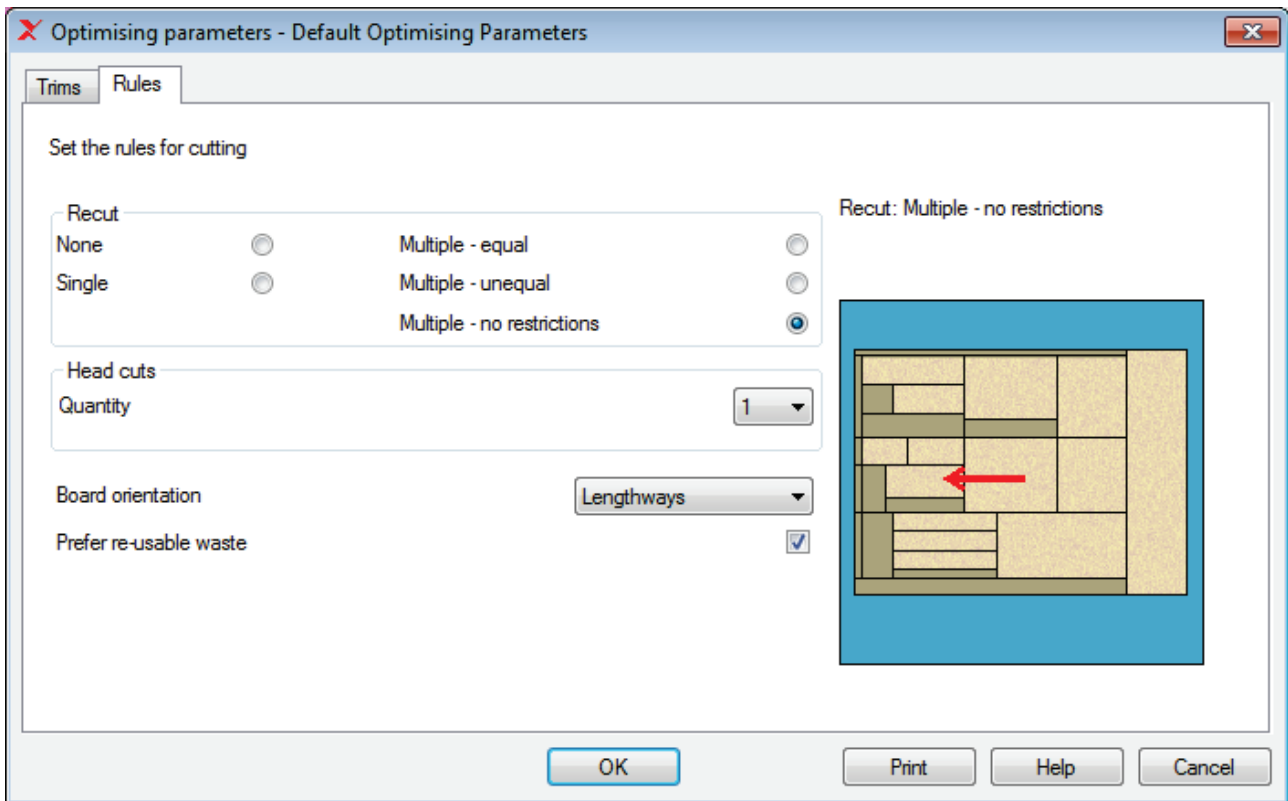
Retrim after head cut with kerf 0.0

OK Print Help Cancel

Work through the values on the first page and set the required values for the saw kerf, front and rear trim, and retrim value.

The picture at the right gives an overview of what the parameter does (select **Help** for further details).

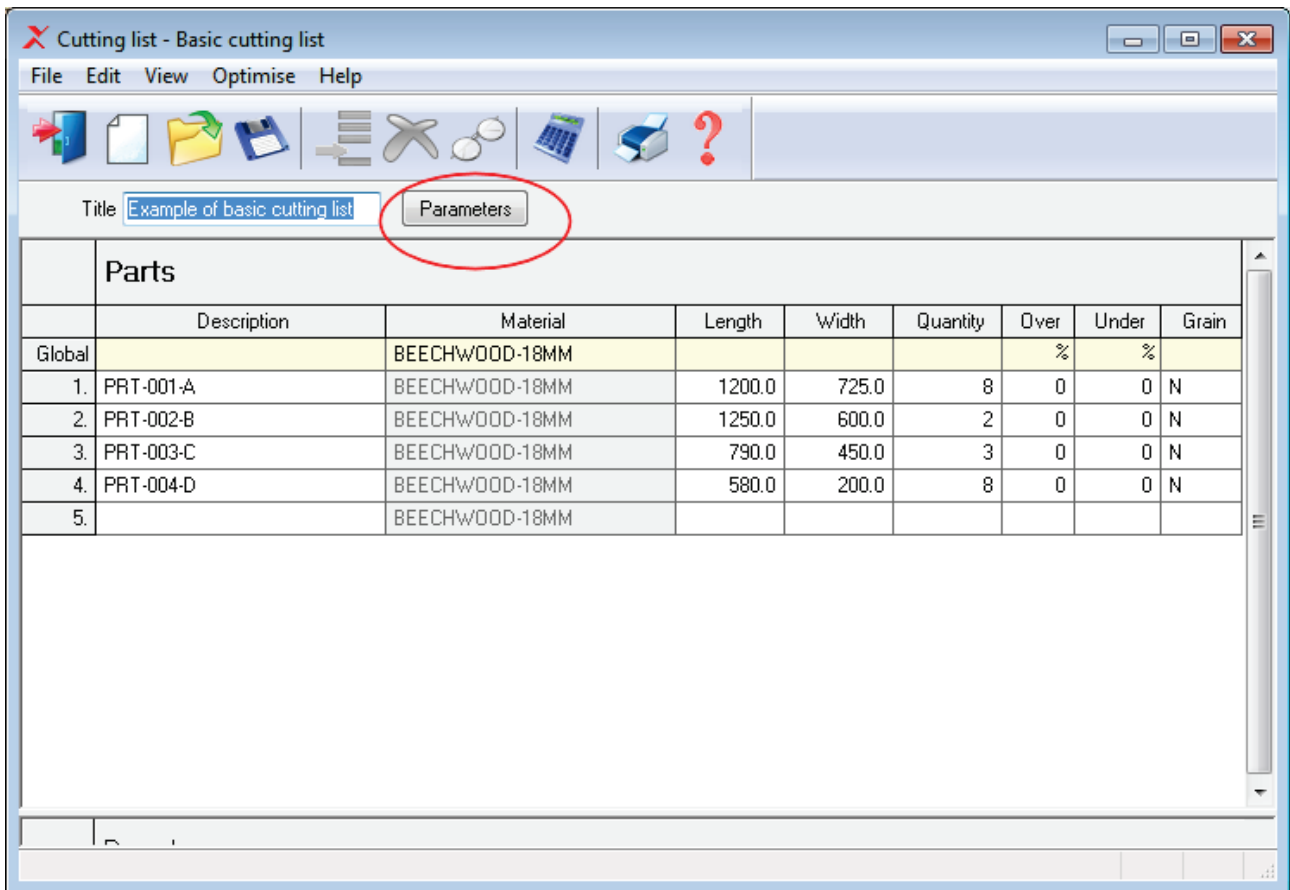
The second tab shows the 'Rules'. These can be used to set the cutting style.



For example, recuts can be limited to 'single recuts only' and the number of head cuts allowed can be restricted to '1'.

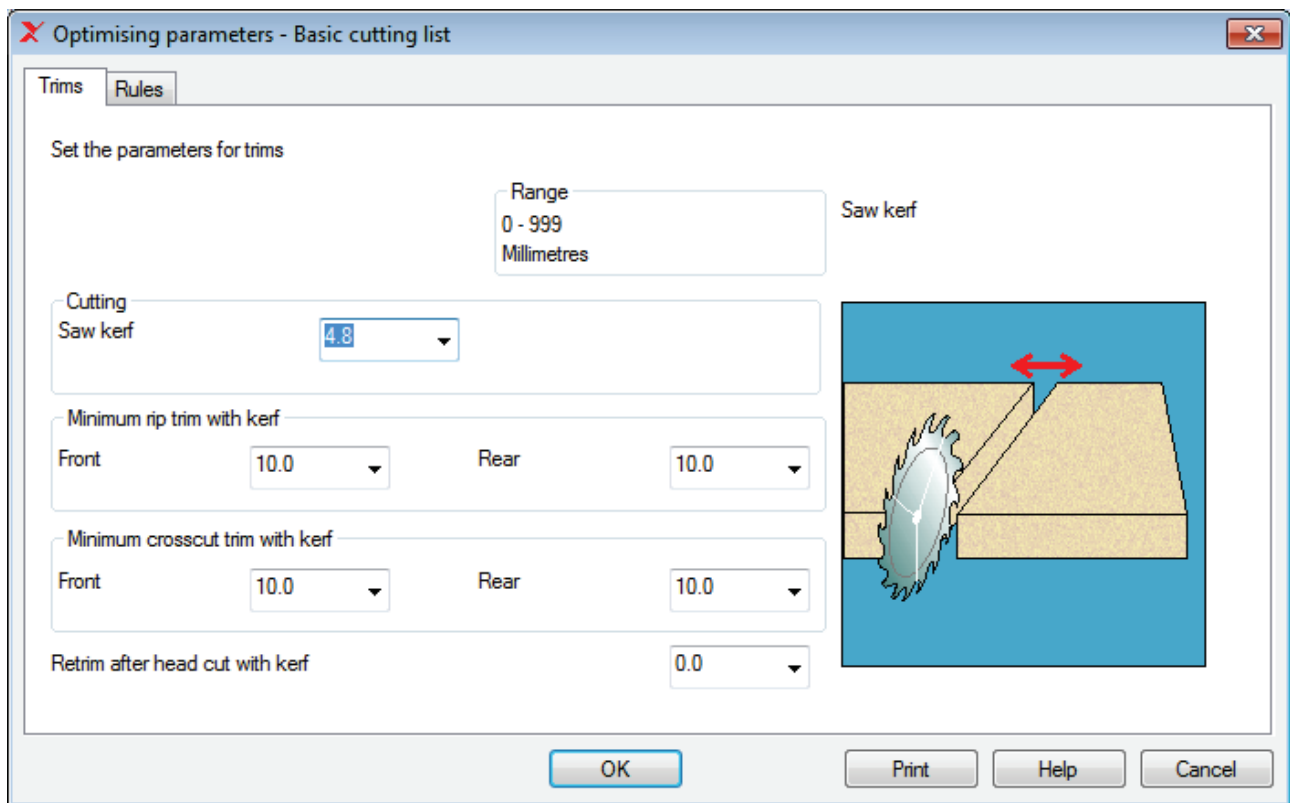
These default values apply to all optimisations BUT there is also an option to adjust the values for each cutting list (at the cutting list screen). This is may be necessary, for example, to change the trims for one type of material, or to set 'no head cuts' for an optimisation. To do this:-

- Move to the required cutting list



- Click on the parameters button

The program displays the Optimising parameter screen (for the cutting list)



- Adjust the required values

***Any changes (at the cutting list) only apply to the cutting list chosen***

## 4. More about Cutting lists

There are several options for searching, sorting and for changing the view of the cutting list.

Parts								
	Description	Material	Length	Width	Quantity	Over	Under	Grain
Global						20 %	0 %	
1.	UNIT-BASE	MEL-CHIP-18	585.0	470.0	8	1	0	N
2.	UNIT-DRAWER	TEAK-LAM-18	770.0	585.0	12	2	0	Y
3.	UNIT-END	TEAK-LAM-18	770.0	400.0	8	1	0	Y
4.	UNIT-PLINTH	MEL-CHIP-18	623.0	230.0	8	1	0	Y
5.	UNIT-SHELF	MEL-CHIP-18	470.0	390.0	12	2	0	N
6.	UNIT-DOOR	TEAK-LAM-18	620.0	390.0	9	1	0	Y
7.	CABINET-PLINTH	TEAK-LAM-18	770.0	360.0	12	2	0	Y

Boards								
	Board	Material	Length	Width	Thickness	Information	Quantity	Cost
Global								
1.	BRD/ML/01	MEL-CHIP-18	2440.0	1220.0	18.0		320	1.340
2.	BRD/TL/02	TEAK-LAM-18	2440.0	1220.0	18.0		250	1.560
3.	BRD/ML/01	MEL-CHIP-18	3050.0	1220.0	18.0		120	1.210

These options can be useful when dealing with larger lists or where not all the fields (columns) are required.

### Find

To locate an item in the list (for example, a part description or material code).

- Click on a cell in a column
- Select: **Edit - Find (Ctrl F)**

The program displays the Find dialog.

Find what:

Direction  
 Up  Down

Match case

- Enter text to search for
- Select the [ **Find Next** ] button

The program moves to any found items.

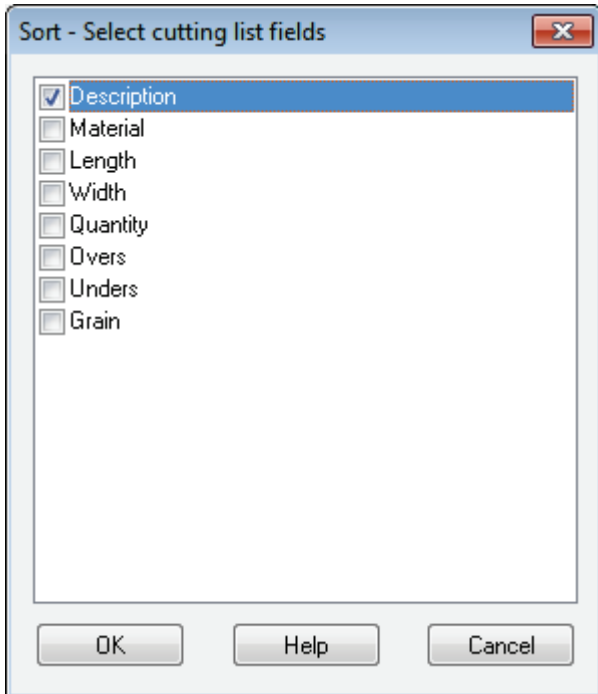
*The search is only for the current column and only applies to the list the cursor is located in; Parts and Boards are searched separately.*

## **Sort**

The list can be sorted by material, or by length, or by a combination of these. At the Cutting list screen:-

- Move to the 'Parts' section
- Select: **Edit - Sort**

The program displays a dialog to select the part fields to sort by.



- Check a box to select a field

The sort can be based on more than one field.

- Select **OK** to confirm

*Note* - A sort can also be applied to the Boards section (move to the Boards section and select: *Edit - Sort*).

## **Save and Copy lists**

In some cases it is useful to save an existing list and use this as the basis for a new list. For example, where many of the part details are the same but the quantities are different. There are two ways of doing this.

### **Save As**

- Select: **File - Save As**

The program prompts for the name of the new list.

Take care when using this method because if the existing list is already optimised opening a list gives the warning message:-

*Patterns exist - changing list deletes patterns*

It is Ok to open the list but make sure no changes are made.



## Merge lists

- Create a NEW cutting list:-
- Move to the first line
- Select: **Edit - Merge**

The program prompts for the name of the cutting list to merge in.

	File	Title	Quantity
1	Basic cutting list	Example of basic cutting list	1
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			

- Enter the list name (or use the **List** button to select available lists)
- Enter the quantity of the list to merge in.

The merge applies to the Parts section and Boards section separately. Move to the Boards section to merge in Boards (*Edit - Merge*).

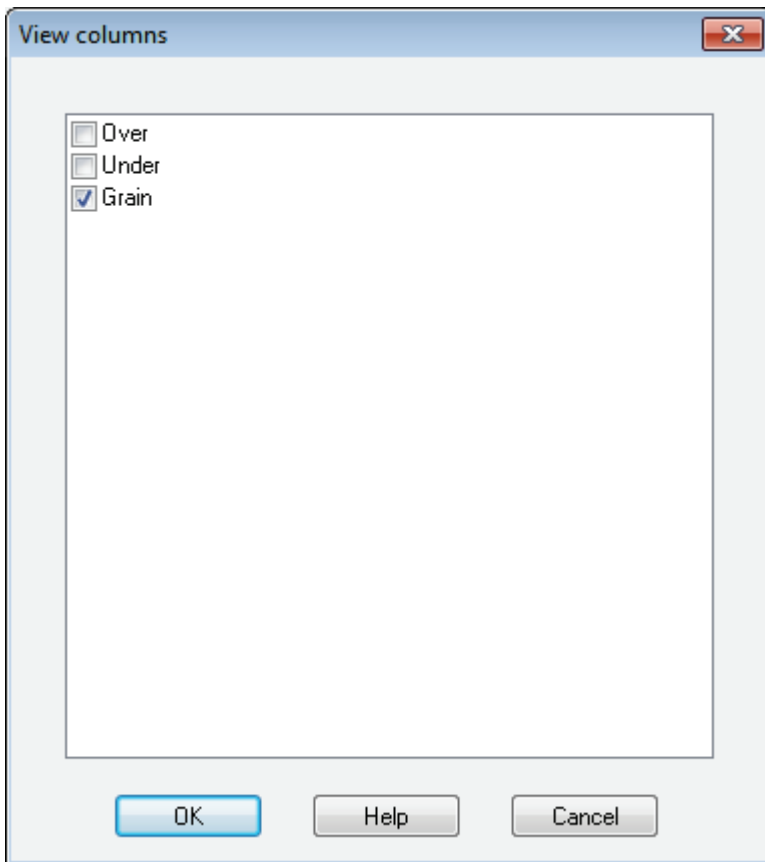
*Note* - Merge can also be used to add one list to another.

## View menu

Use the View menu to alter the style and appearance of the cutting list

For example, to hide columns:-

- Select: **View - Columns**



- Un-check a column to hide it.

In the example below 'Overs' and 'Unders' columns are hidden.

Parts						
	Description	Material	Length	Width	Quantity	Grain
Global						
1.	UNIT-BASE	MEL-CHIP-18	585.0	470.0	8	N
2.	UNIT-DRAWER	TEAK-LAM-18	770.0	585.0	12	Y
3.	UNIT-END	TEAK-LAM-18	770.0	400.0	8	Y
4.	UNIT-PLINTH	MEL-CHIP-18	623.0	230.0	8	Y
5.	UNIT-SHELF	MEL-CHIP-18	470.0	390.0	12	N
6.	UNIT-DOOR	TEAK-LAM-18	620.0	390.0	9	Y
7.	CABINET-PLINTH	TEAK-LAM-18	770.0	360.0	12	Y
8.	PANEL-DOOR	TEAK-LAM-18	1100.0	710.0	8	Y

Boards								
	Board	Material	Length	Width	Thickness	Information	Quantity	Cost
Global								
1.	BRD/ML/01	MEL-CHIP-18	2440.0	1220.0	18.0		320	1.340
2.	BRD/TL/02	TEAK-LAM-18	2440.0	1220.0	18.0		250	1.560
3.	BRD/ML/01	MEL-CHIP-18	3050.0	1220.0	18.0		120	1.210

### **Edit Parts and Boards**

The Cutting list operates like a spread sheet. Use the standard 'Windows' options to cut and paste data. These options are on the Edit menu.

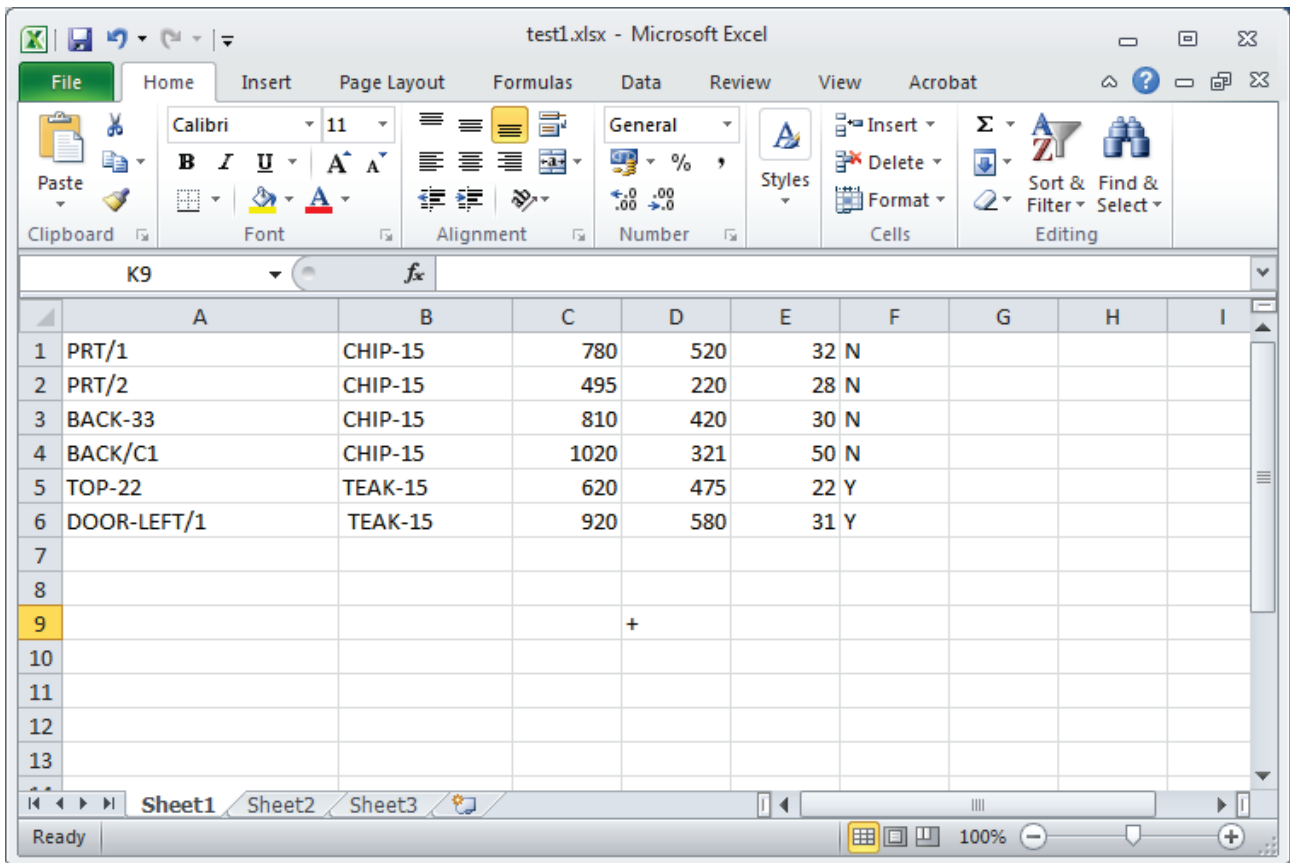
Edit - Cut (Ctrl X)  
 Edit - Copy (Ctrl C)  
 Edit - Paste (Ctrl V)  
 Edit - Undo (Ctrl Z)  
 Edit - Clear (Del)

Edit - Insert line (F6)  
 Edit - Delete line (F7)

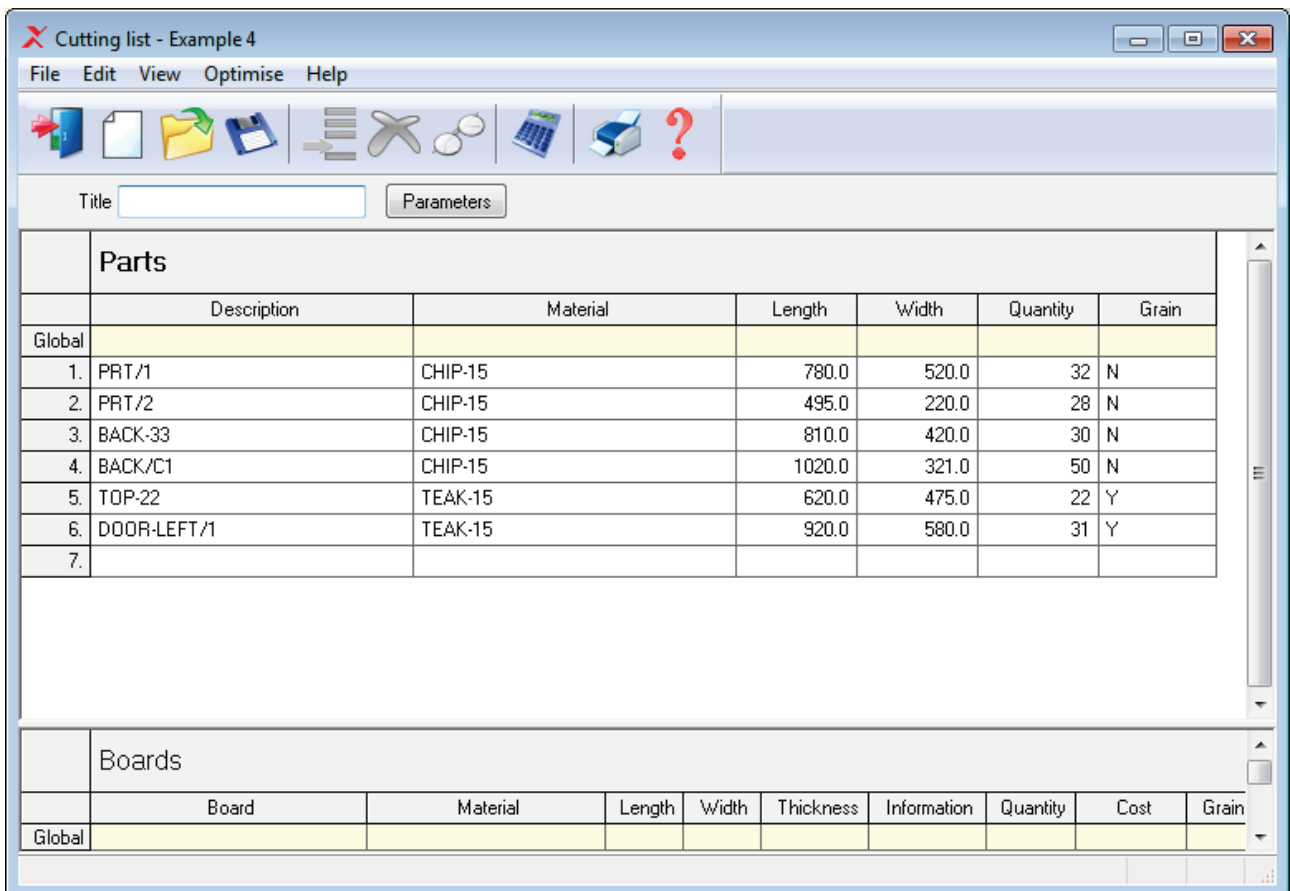
Cells, rows or blocks of data can be copied. When copying more than one cell make sure that the selected block and the area to copy to match exactly in terms on the number of columns and rows.

It is also possible to copy data from an external spread sheet.

In this case the columns in the spread sheet must match the columns as set in the Cutting list. For example:-



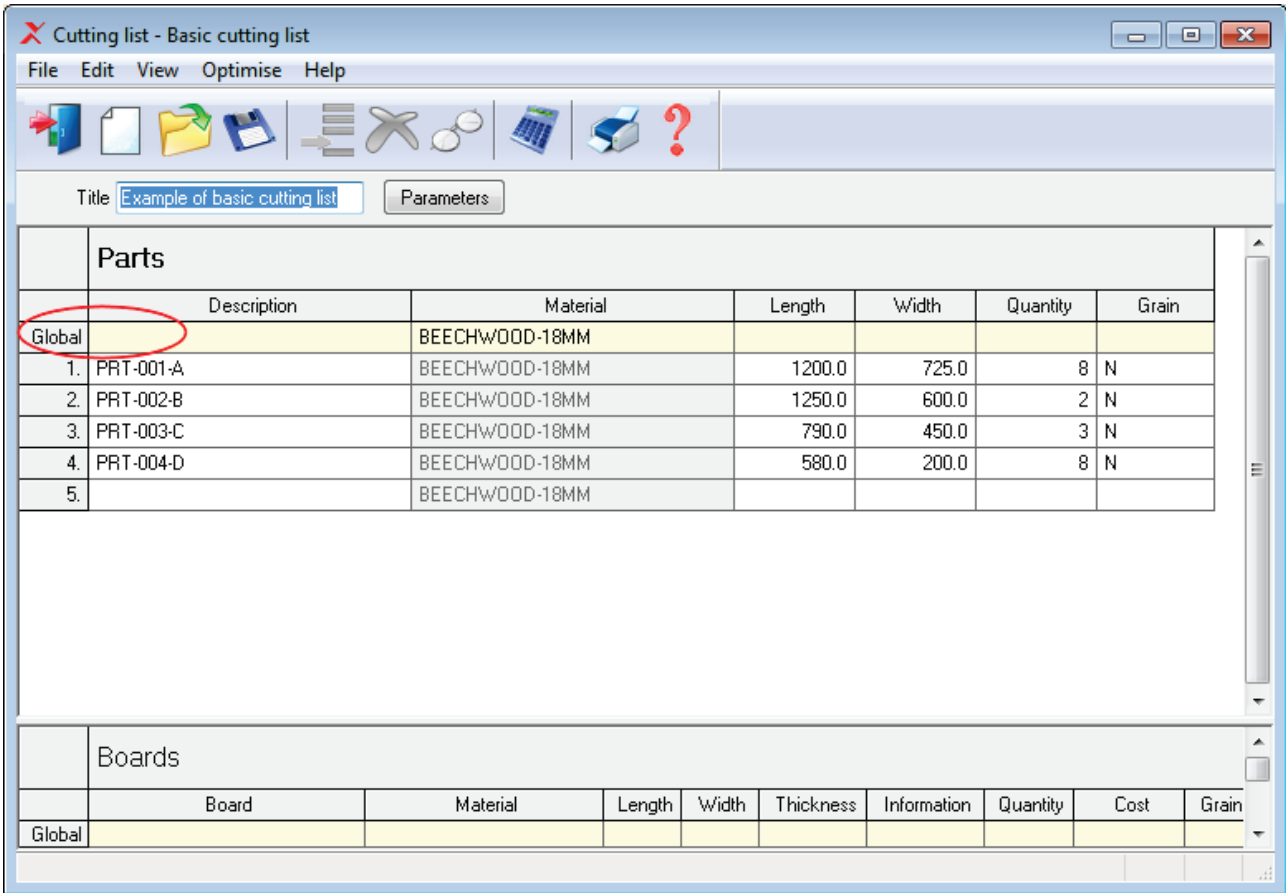
The data can be pasted into a new or an existing cutting list.



Note - if copying *from* Express to a spread sheet any hidden columns are automatically included in the copy - allow for this in the spread sheet format.

**Global line**

The Global line is the line at the top of the list of Parts and list of Boards.



If there is an entry in this line the entry applies to every item in the list. This saves typing effort where the value is the same for every part, for example, if all parts are the same material. The lines below the global line are greyed out and cannot be changed.

To remove a global entry; delete the entry at the global line and move off the cell.

## Print - Cutting list

To print the current list:-

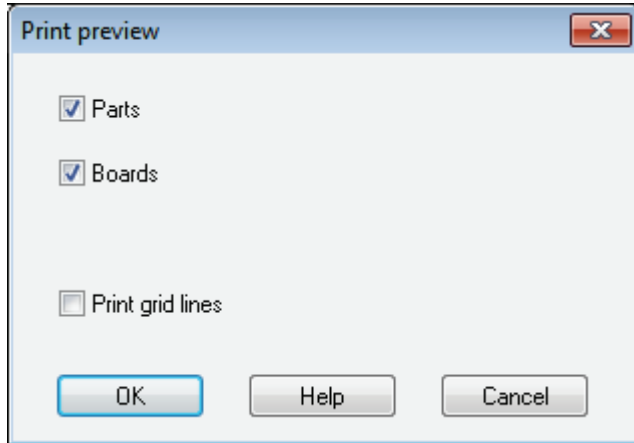
- Select: **File - Print (Ctrl P)**

or



Select the ToolBar option

The program prompts to choose the data to print.



- Check the options to print parts, boards or both.

The following example shows a print including Parts and Boards.

Express Demo Data		Magi-Cut Express			Tuesday 11 June 2013 14:42				
<b>Cutting list</b>				Example of basic cutting list					
Ref. Basic cutting list									
No	Description	Material	Length	Width	Quantity	Grain			
		BEECHWOOD-18MM							
1.	PRT-001-A		1200.0	725.0	8	N			
2.	PRT-002-B		1250.0	600.0	2	N			
3.	PRT-003-C		790.0	450.0	3	N			
4.	PRT-004-D		580.0	200.0	8	N			
<b>Board list</b>									
No	Board	Material	Length	Width	Thickness	Information	Quantity	Cost	Grain
1.	BEECHWOOD-18MM/01	BEECHWOOD-18MM	2550.0	1525.0	18.0		104	2.340	

The other Print options are:-

- **File - Print preview** (view the printout on-screen before printing)
- **File - Print setup** (change paper size, orientation, etc.)

## Using Board list with Merge

Where there is a fairly standard and limited set of board sizes it can be useful to set up a full list of boards in a cutting list and use Merge (at the Board list) to copy the list of boards into other cutting lists as required.

To do this:-

- Select any cutting list
- Select: **Save As**
- Enter a name for the new list

(for example, 'Standard')

- Enter the standard board sizes

At any cutting list (boards section) where some or all of the standard boards are required select 'Merge' to merge in the 'Standard' list. Adjust the quantities or boards available as required.

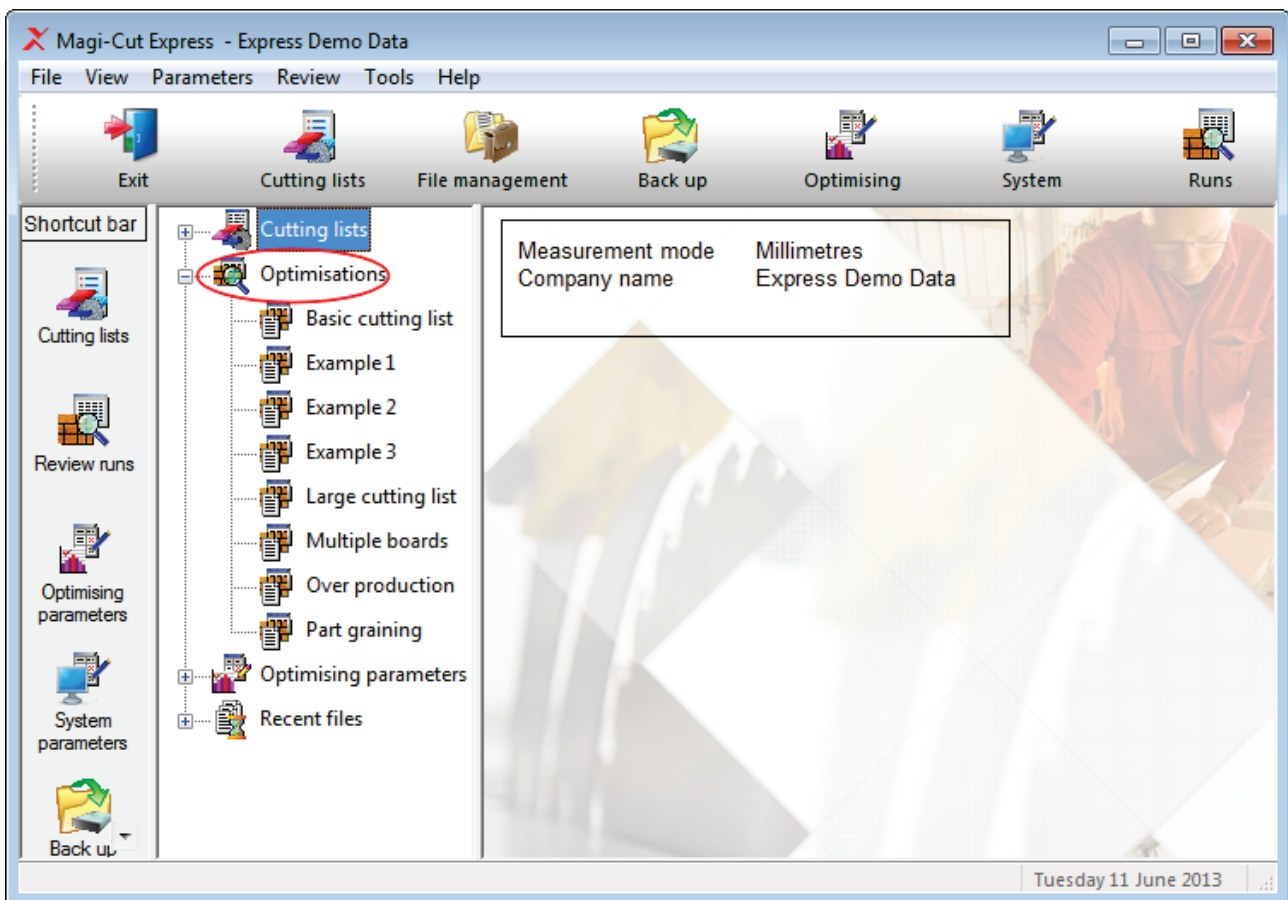
*It does not matter if the standard list contains boards with materials that are not in the parts section - these boards are ignored.*

## **5. More about Review runs**

The 'Review runs' options are used for looking at the cutting patterns (optimising results). They show a set of summaries, the full set of patterns, and cutting instructions.

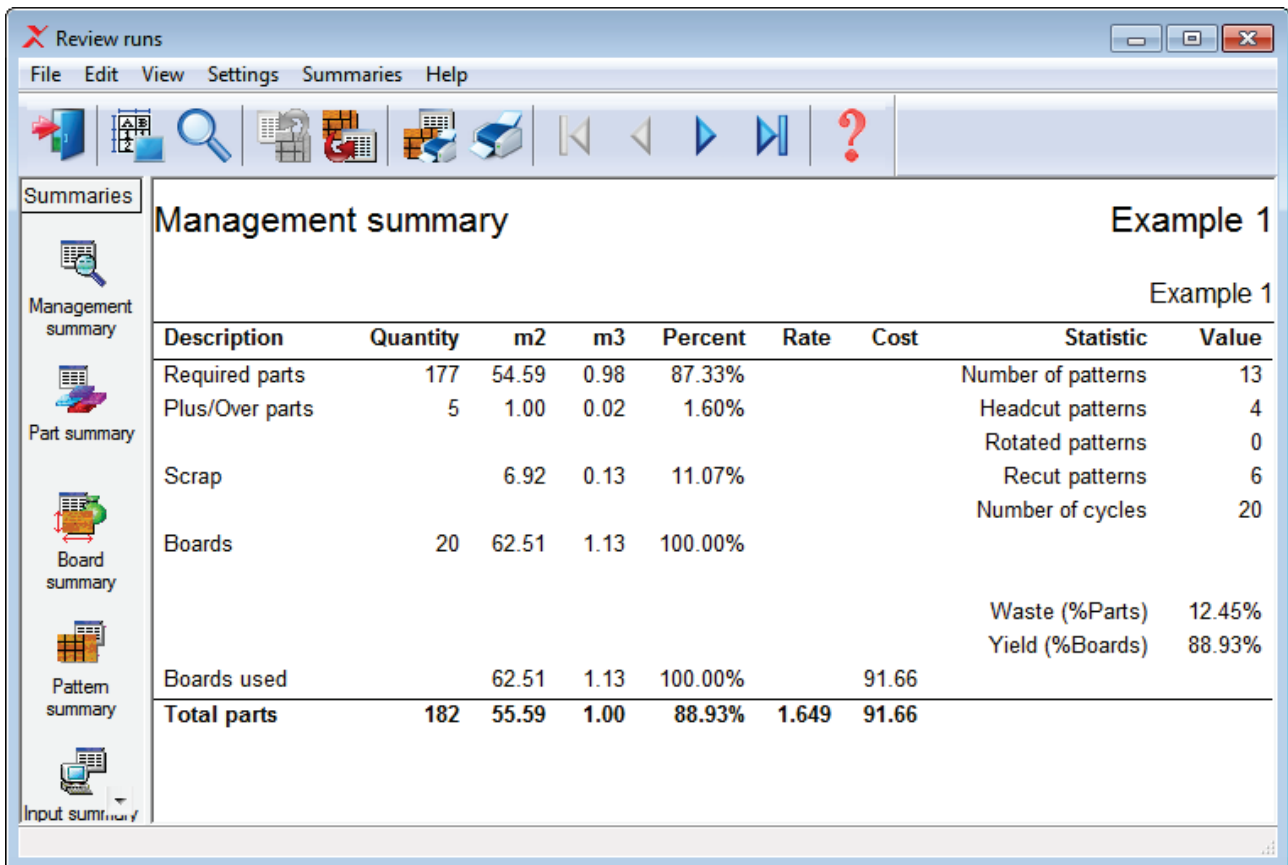
To look at any optimised run, at the main screen:-

- Open the 'Optimisations' branch of the tree



- Double click on a run to view it.

The first report shown is the Management Summary



Use the navigation options and/or the stacked toolbar at the left to see the other reports and patterns.

### **Customising reports**

Each report can be customised. The items that can be changed are:-

- Report content
- Report format (font style and size)
- Report layout (column widths, grid lines etc.)

To customise the 'On-screen' report:-



- Move to a report (e.g. Part summary)

**Part summary** Example of over production

Over production

No	Part / Description	Len... mm	Width mm	Total Req	Over Total	Under Prod	m2 / Part	Total m2	Material ... /Part	Material ... Total	Grain
<b>MFC18-TEAK Thickness 18.0 Book 1</b>											
1.	BTH-CAB-BACK	664.0	564.0	18	+1	19	0.375	7.12	1.29	24.54	N
2.	BTH-CAB-BOTTOM	664.0	144.0	19	+1	20	0.096	1.91	0.33	6.59	N
3.	BTH-CAB-DOOR-L...	349.5	450.0	12	+1	13	0.157	2.04	0.54	7.05	N
4.	BTH-CAB-DOOR-...	349.5	450.0	20		20	0.157	3.15	0.54	10.85	N
5.	BTH-CAB-END-LEFT	162.0	600.0	17		17	0.097	1.65	0.34	5.70	N
6.	BTH-CAB-END-RI...	162.0	600.0	9		9	0.097	0.87	0.34	3.02	N
7.	BTH-CAB-SHELF	664.0	144.0	16		16	0.096	1.53	0.33	5.28	N
8.	BTH-CAB-SHLF-B...	664.0	162.0	20		20	0.108	2.15	0.37	7.42	N
9.	BTH-CAB-TOP	664.0	162.0	16		16	0.108	1.72	0.37	5.94	N
11.	DDC-BACK	928.0	311.0	17		17	0.289	4.91	1.00	16.92	N
12.	DDC-SIDE-LEFT	564.0	311.0	20	+2	22	0.175	3.86	0.60	13.31	N
15.	DDC-SIDE-RIGHT	564.0	311.0	16	+1	17	0.175	2.98	0.60	10.28	N
16.	DDC-RUNNERS	790.0	75.0	20	+2	22	0.059	1.30	0.20	4.49	N
18.	DRESSER-BACK	964.0	1082.0	10		10	1.043	10.43	3.60	35.98	N
				<b>230</b>		<b>238</b>		<b>45.63</b>		<b>157.38</b>	

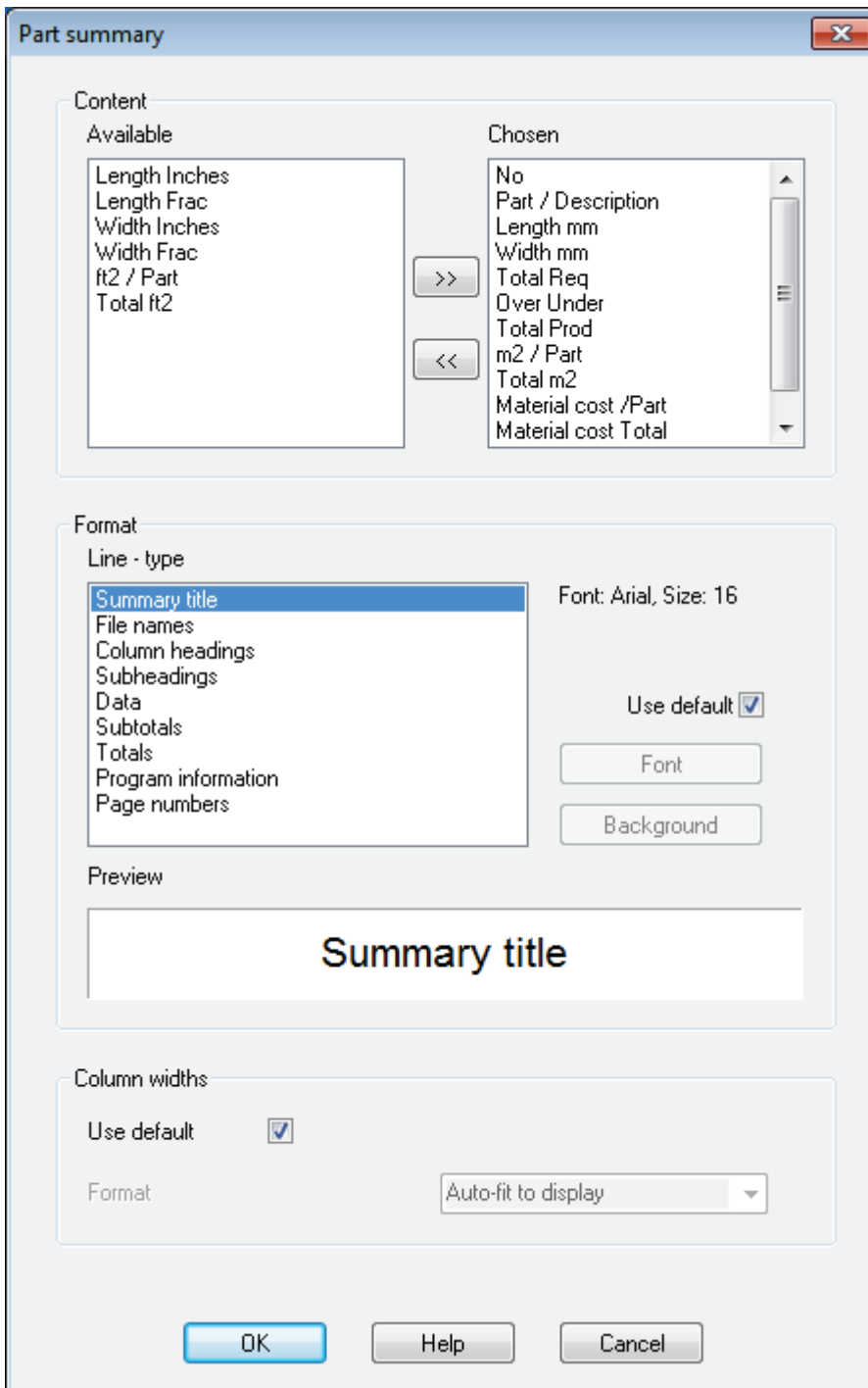
- Select: **Settings - Report settings**

Or



Select the Toolbar symbol

The Report layout dialog is shown.

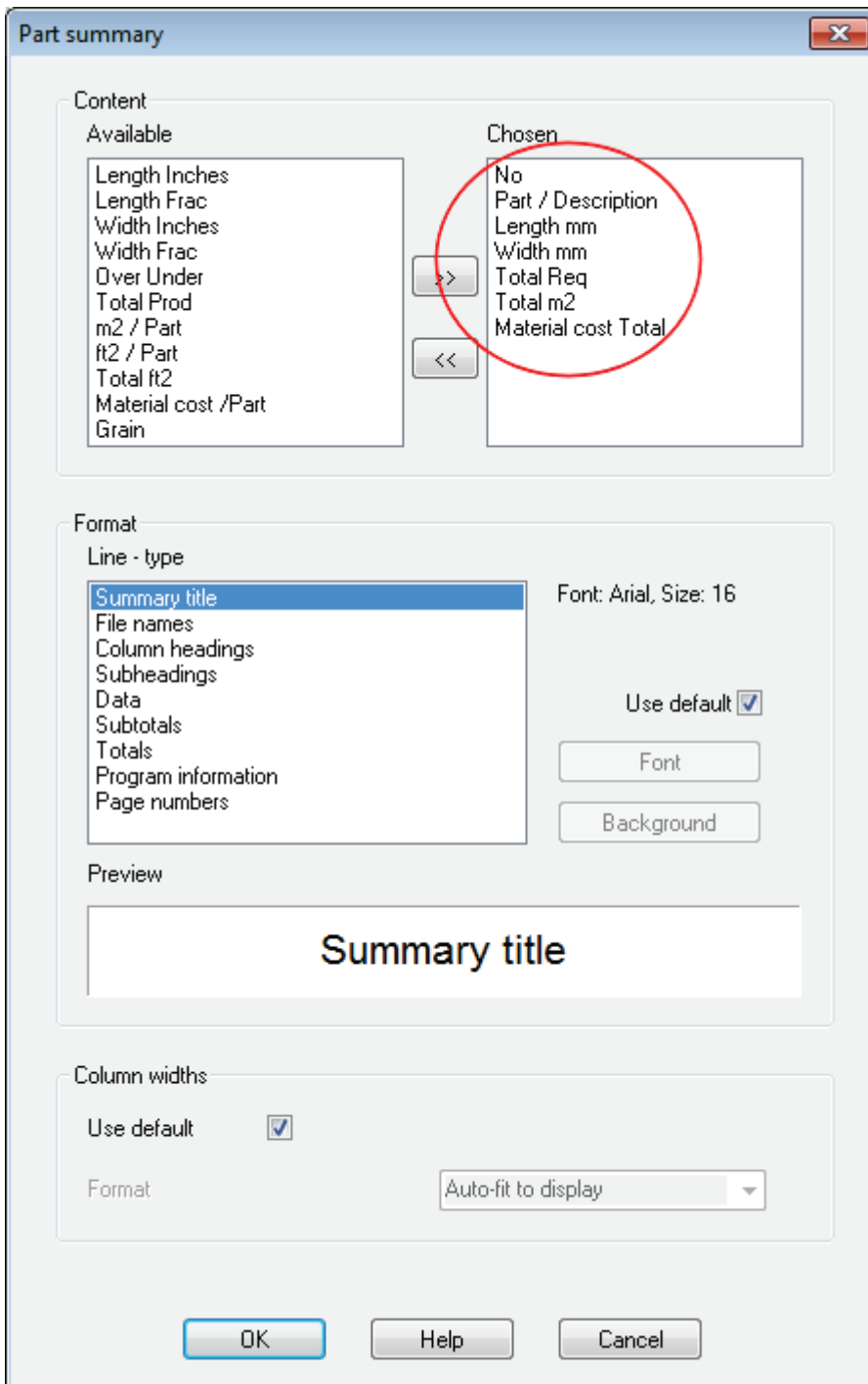


### Content

These boxes show the available fields on the left and the fields already chosen for the report on the right.

- Select an item and use the arrow buttons to move the item to and from the report.

In the following example some fields are removed from the report.



The report now looks like this:-

**Part summary** Example of over production

Over production

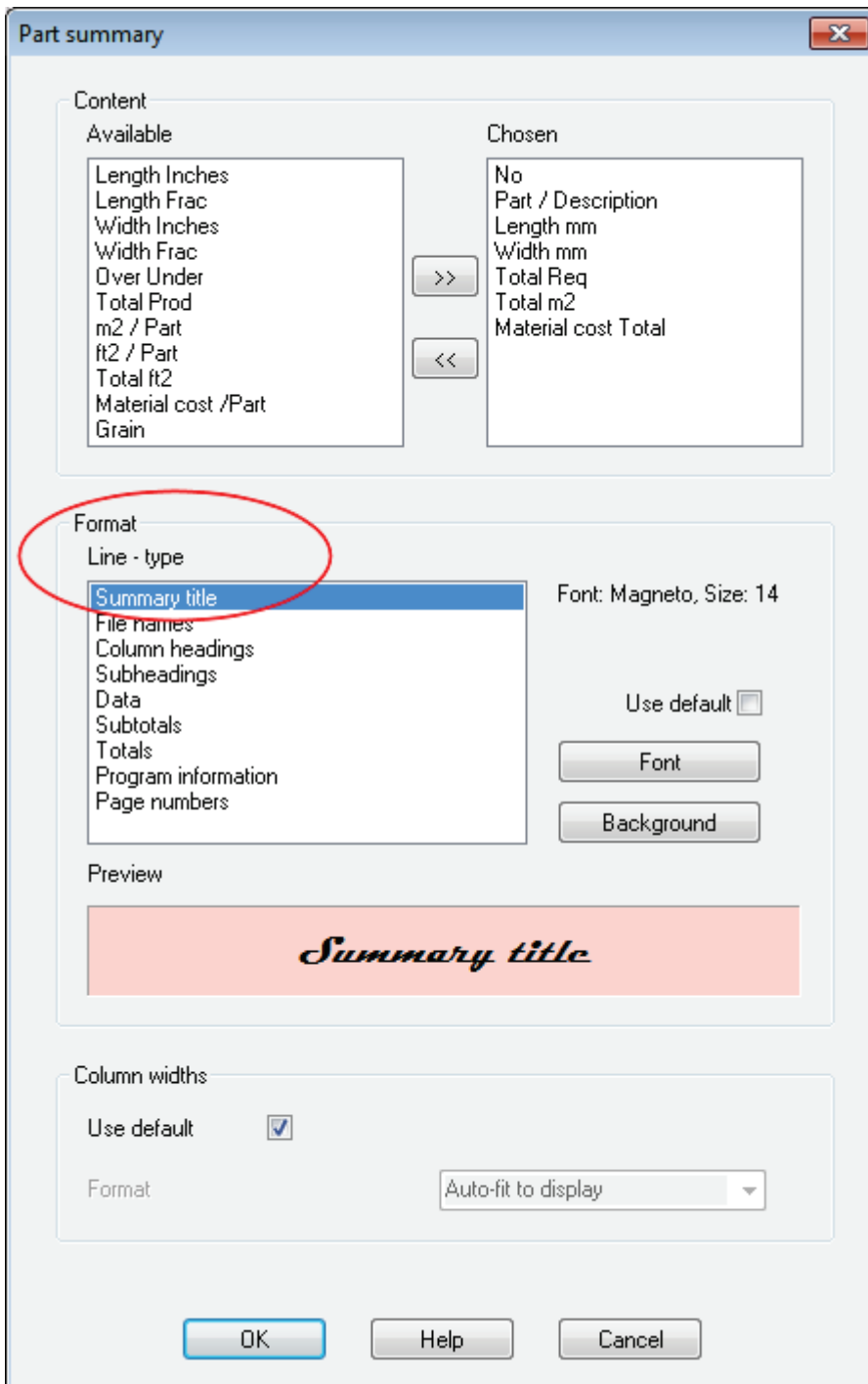
No	Part / Description	Length mm	Width mm	Total Req	Total m2	Material cost Total
<u>MFC18-TEAK Thickness 18.0 Book 1</u>						
1.	BTH-CAB-BACK	664.0	564.0	18	7.12	24.54
2.	BTH-CAB-BOTTOM	664.0	144.0	19	1.91	6.59
3.	BTH-CAB-DOOR-LEFT	349.5	450.0	12	2.04	7.05
4.	BTH-CAB-DOOR-RIGHT	349.5	450.0	20	3.15	10.85
5.	BTH-CAB-END-LEFT	162.0	600.0	17	1.65	5.70
6.	BTH-CAB-END-RIGHT	162.0	600.0	9	0.87	3.02
7.	BTH-CAB-SHELF	664.0	144.0	16	1.53	5.28
8.	BTH-CAB-SHLF-BASE	664.0	162.0	20	2.15	7.42
9.	BTH-CAB-TOP	664.0	162.0	16	1.72	5.94
11.	DDC-BACK	928.0	311.0	17	4.91	16.92
12.	DDC-SIDE-LEFT	564.0	311.0	20	3.86	13.31
15.	DDC-SIDE-RIGHT	564.0	311.0	16	2.98	10.28
16.	DDC-RUNNERS	790.0	75.0	20	1.30	4.49
18.	DRESSER-BACK	964.0	1082.0	10	10.43	35.98
				<b>230</b>	<b>45.63</b>	<b>157.38</b>

Line type

This box shows the different sorts of information on the report, for example, Report header, column headings, data. The style of each of these can be changed.

- Click on Line type
- Click off the check box (Use default)
- Select the Font and Background buttons to change the font and background

In the example below the 'Summary title' font and background are changed.



The report is now as follows:-

*Part summary* *Example of over production*

Over production

No	Part / Description	Length mm	Width mm	Total Req	Total m2	Material cost Total
<u>MFC18-TEAK Thickness 18.0 Book 1</u>						
1.	BTH-CAB-BACK	664.0	564.0	18	7.12	24.54
2.	BTH-CAB-BOTTOM	664.0	144.0	19	1.91	6.59
3.	BTH-CAB-DOOR-LEFT	349.5	450.0	12	2.04	7.05
4.	BTH-CAB-DOOR-RIGHT	349.5	450.0	20	3.15	10.85
5.	BTH-CAB-END-LEFT	162.0	600.0	17	1.65	5.70
6.	BTH-CAB-END-RIGHT	162.0	600.0	9	0.87	3.02
7.	BTH-CAB-SHELF	664.0	144.0	16	1.53	5.28
8.	BTH-CAB-SHLF-BASE	664.0	162.0	20	2.15	7.42
9.	BTH-CAB-TOP	664.0	162.0	16	1.72	5.94
11.	DDC-BACK	928.0	311.0	17	4.91	16.92
12.	DDC-SIDE-LEFT	564.0	311.0	20	3.86	13.31
15.	DDC-SIDE-RIGHT	564.0	311.0	16	2.98	10.28
16.	DDC-RUNNERS	790.0	75.0	20	1.30	4.49
18.	DRESSER-BACK	964.0	1082.0	10	10.43	35.98
				<b>230</b>	<b>45.63</b>	<b>157.38</b>

### Column widths

To change the column widths:-

- Click off the 'Use default' box
- Select the type of column width

User defined  
 Auto fit to contents  
 Auto fit to display

In this example the column width is set to 'User defined'.

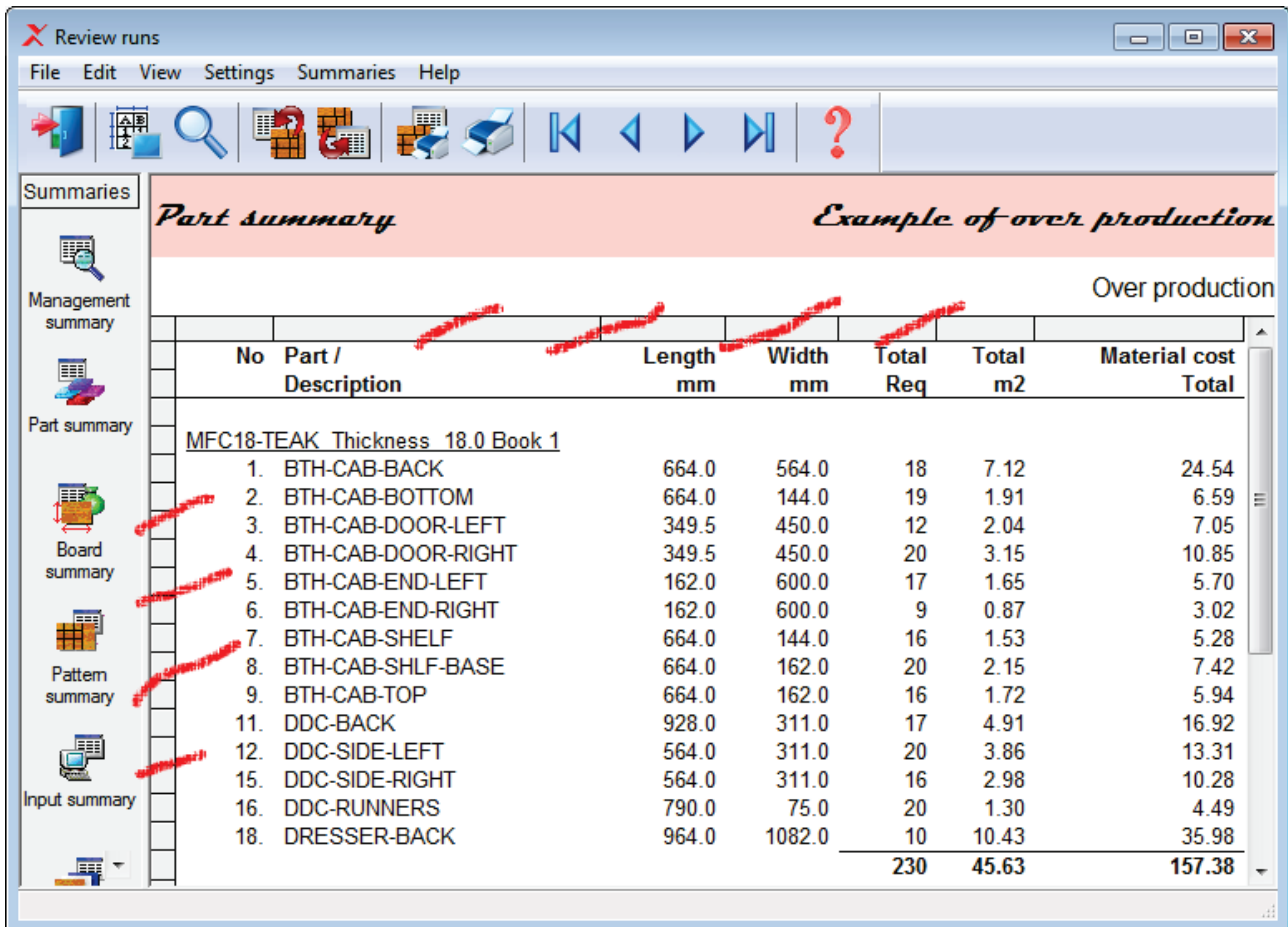
Whilst the grid widths can be changed at this dialog it is often easier to do this at the Report screen via the options on the 'View' menu.

## Using the View menu to customise reports

There are several options at the 'View' menu to help customise the report. For example:-

To manually change the column widths.

- Turn on the Grid labels (these act as grab handles for the columns).



The screenshot shows the 'Review runs' application window. The main area displays a table titled 'Part summary' with the subtitle 'Example of over production'. The table has columns for 'No', 'Part / Description', 'Length mm', 'Width mm', 'Total Req', 'Total m2', and 'Material cost Total'. The data rows list various parts like 'BTH-CAB-BACK', 'BTH-CAB-BOTTOM', etc., with their respective dimensions and costs. Red dashed lines are drawn over the grid labels (the junctions between columns) to illustrate how they can be used to adjust column widths. The 'Material cost Total' column shows a total of 157.38.

No	Part / Description	Length mm	Width mm	Total Req	Total m2	Material cost Total
<u>MFC18-TEAK Thickness 18.0 Book 1</u>						
1.	BTH-CAB-BACK	664.0	564.0	18	7.12	24.54
2.	BTH-CAB-BOTTOM	664.0	144.0	19	1.91	6.59
3.	BTH-CAB-DOOR-LEFT	349.5	450.0	12	2.04	7.05
4.	BTH-CAB-DOOR-RIGHT	349.5	450.0	20	3.15	10.85
5.	BTH-CAB-END-LEFT	162.0	600.0	17	1.65	5.70
6.	BTH-CAB-END-RIGHT	162.0	600.0	9	0.87	3.02
7.	BTH-CAB-SHELF	664.0	144.0	16	1.53	5.28
8.	BTH-CAB-SHLF-BASE	664.0	162.0	20	2.15	7.42
9.	BTH-CAB-TOP	664.0	162.0	16	1.72	5.94
11.	DDC-BACK	928.0	311.0	17	4.91	16.92
12.	DDC-SIDE-LEFT	564.0	311.0	20	3.86	13.31
15.	DDC-SIDE-RIGHT	564.0	311.0	16	2.98	10.28
16.	DDC-RUNNERS	790.0	75.0	20	1.30	4.49
18.	DRESSER-BACK	964.0	1082.0	10	10.43	35.98
				230	45.63	157.38

- Move the mouse over the junction of a grid label to alter the column width
- Hold down the mouse button to drag the column to change the width

In the following example the column widths have been altered.

**Review runs**

File Edit View Settings Summaries Help

*Part summary* *Example of over production*

Over production

No	Part / Description	Length mm	Width mm	Total Req	Total m2	Material ... Total
<u>MFC18-TEAK Thickness 18.0 Book 1</u>						
1.	BTH-CAB-BACK	664.0	564.0	18	7.12	24.54
2.	BTH-CAB-BOTTOM	664.0	144.0	19	1.91	6.59
3.	BTH-CAB-DOOR-L...	349.5	450.0	12	2.04	7.05
4.	BTH-CAB-DOOR-R...	349.5	450.0	20	3.15	10.85
5.	BTH-CAB-END-LEFT	162.0	600.0	17	1.65	5.70
6.	BTH-CAB-END-RIG...	162.0	600.0	9	0.87	3.02
7.	BTH-CAB-SHELF	664.0	144.0	16	1.53	5.28
8.	BTH-CAB-SHLF-B...	664.0	162.0	20	2.15	7.42
9.	BTH-CAB-TOP	664.0	162.0	16	1.72	5.94
11.	DDC-BACK	928.0	311.0	17	4.91	16.92
12.	DDC-SIDE-LEFT	564.0	311.0	20	3.86	13.31
15.	DDC-SIDE-RIGHT	564.0	311.0	16	2.98	10.28
16.	DDC-RUNNERS	790.0	75.0	20	1.30	4.49
18.	DRESSER-BACK	964.0	1082.0	10	10.43	35.98
				<b>230</b>	<b>45.63</b>	<b>157.38</b>

The view menu can also be used to add grid lines.



- Select: **View - Grid lines**

**Part summary** *Example of over production*

Over production

No	Part / Description	Length mm	Width mm	Total Req	Total m2	Material Total
MFC18-TEAK Thickness 18.0 Book 1						
1.	BTH-CAB-BACK	664.0	564.0	18	7.12	24.54
2.	BTH-CAB-BOTTOM	664.0	144.0	19	1.91	6.59
3.	BTH-CAB-DOOR-L...	349.5	450.0	12	2.04	7.05
4.	BTH-CAB-DOOR-R...	349.5	450.0	20	3.15	10.85
5.	BTH-CAB-END-LEFT	162.0	600.0	17	1.65	5.70
6.	BTH-CAB-END-RI...	162.0	600.0	9	0.87	3.02
7.	BTH-CAB-SHELF	664.0	144.0	16	1.53	5.28
8.	BTH-CAB-SHLF-B...	664.0	162.0	20	2.15	7.42
9.	BTH-CAB-TOP	664.0	162.0	16	1.72	5.94
11.	DDC-BACK	928.0	311.0	17	4.91	16.92
12.	DDC-SIDE-LEFT	564.0	311.0	20	3.86	13.31
15.	DDC-SIDE-RIGHT	564.0	311.0	16	2.98	10.28
16.	DDC-RUNNERS	790.0	75.0	20	1.30	4.49
18.	DRESSER-BACK	964.0	1082.0	10	10.43	35.98
				<b>230</b>	<b>45.63</b>	<b>157.38</b>

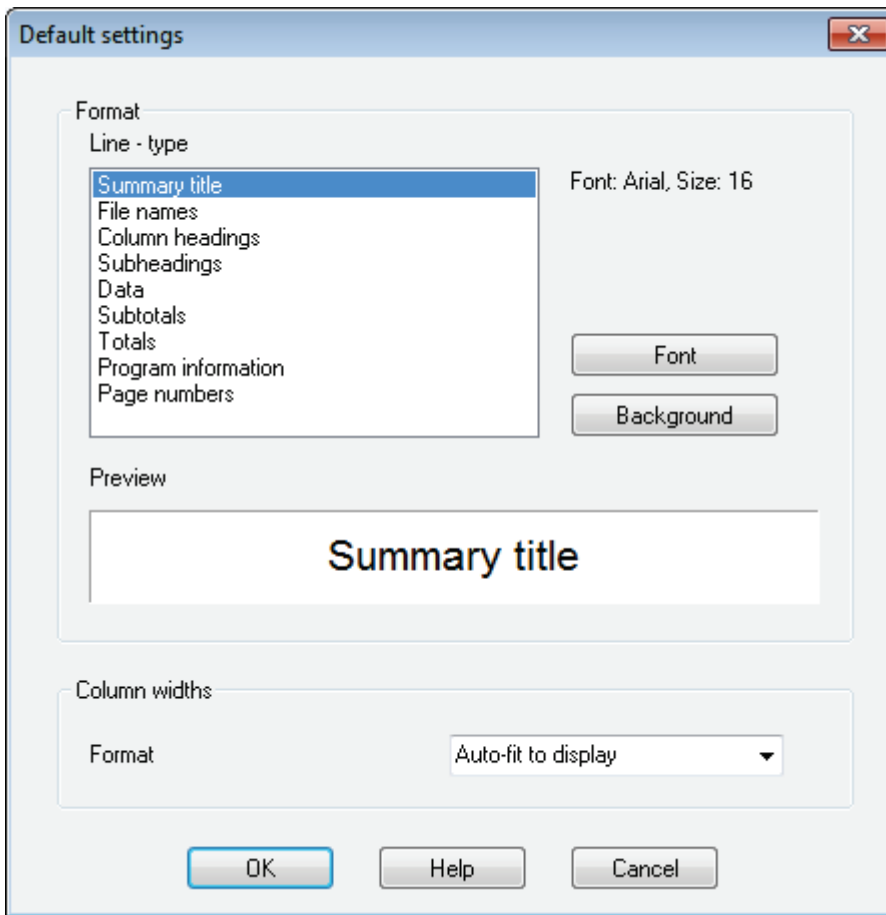
### **Default report settings**

On the report settings dialog there is a box labelled 'Use default'. If this is checked the default settings for a report are used. These defaults apply to ALL the reports where this box is checked.

To change the default settings themselves, at any report:-

- Select: **Settings - Default settings**

The default settings are shown.



*Note* - The content of each report is also set as a default - this default is set by the program and cannot be changed.

### **Printing reports**

To print a report (or pattern).

- Move to the report/pattern
- Select: **File - Print (Ctrl P)**

or



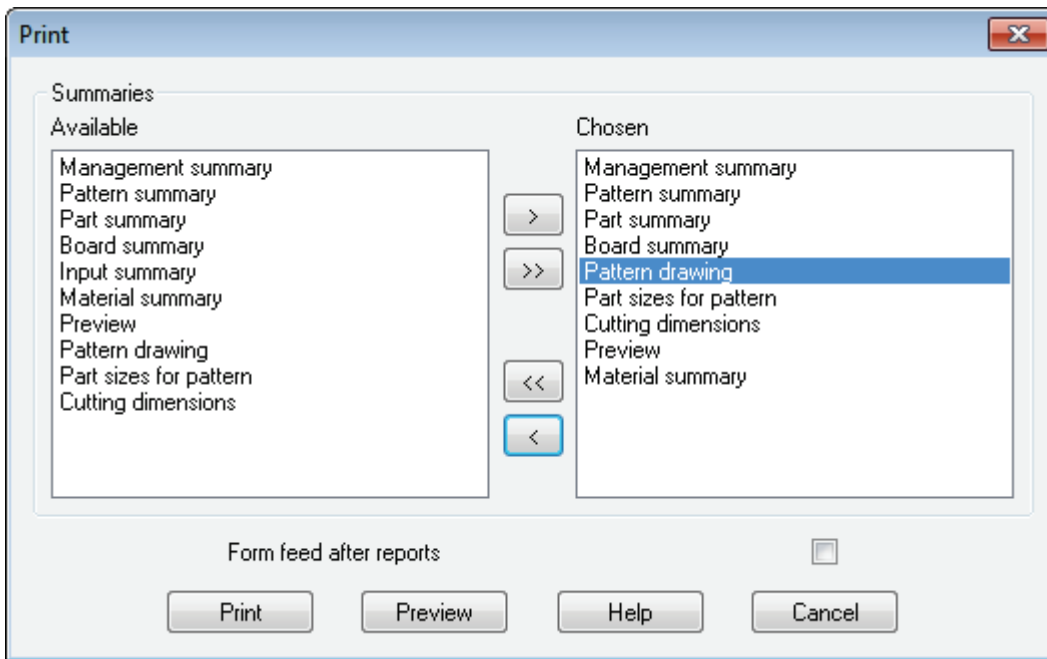
Select the ToolBar option

This prints the current report.

To print all the reports and/or patterns.

- Select: **File - Print summaries**

The program prompts with a dialog to select the items to print.



- Use the arrow buttons to move the reports from 'Available' to 'Chosen'.

The program retains the choices for future sessions.

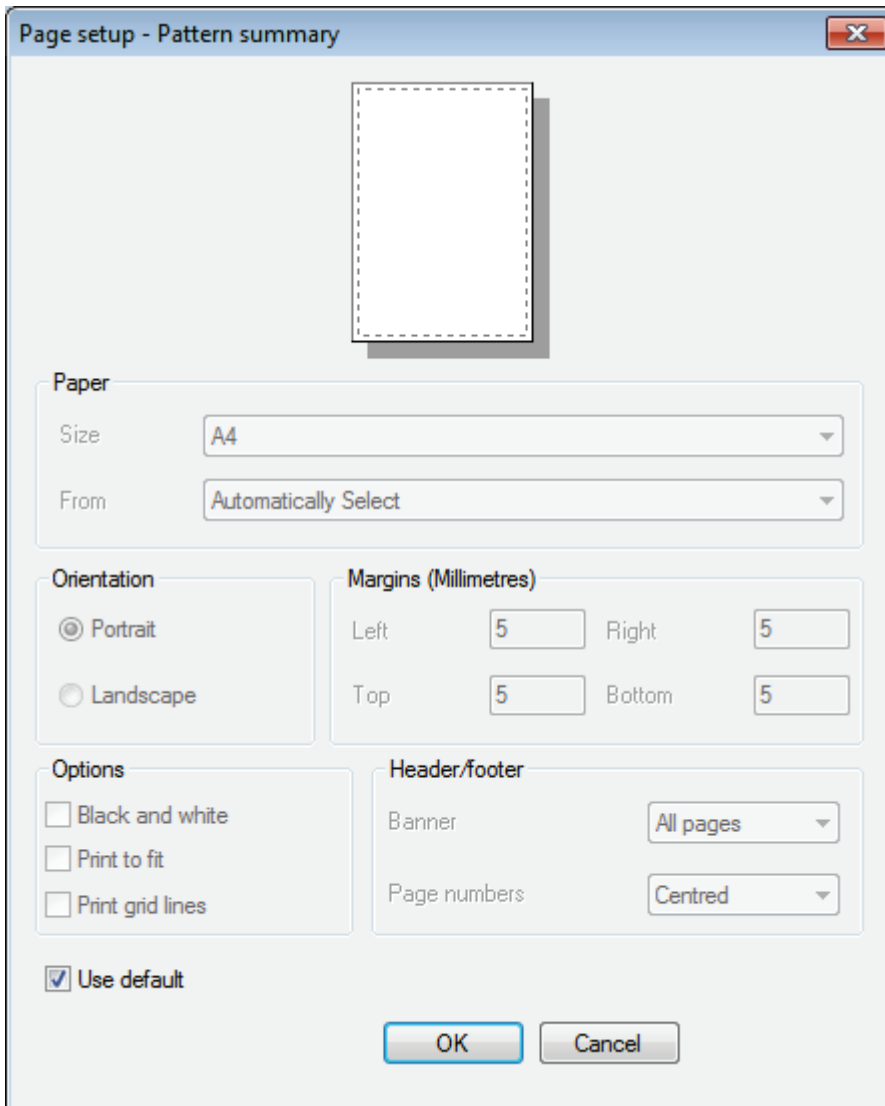
(The default reports to print are set at the 'Review runs Parameters' dialog).

There are options on the File menu to alter the Page Setup and Printer Setup.

- **File - Page setup**
- **File - Default Page setup**

The page setup can apply separately to each report.

- Move to the report
- Select: **File - Page setup**



These options control the paper size, orientation and basic report items such as the banner and page numbers.

- Check the 'Use default' settings to apply the default settings. The default settings apply to all reports where 'Use default' is checked.

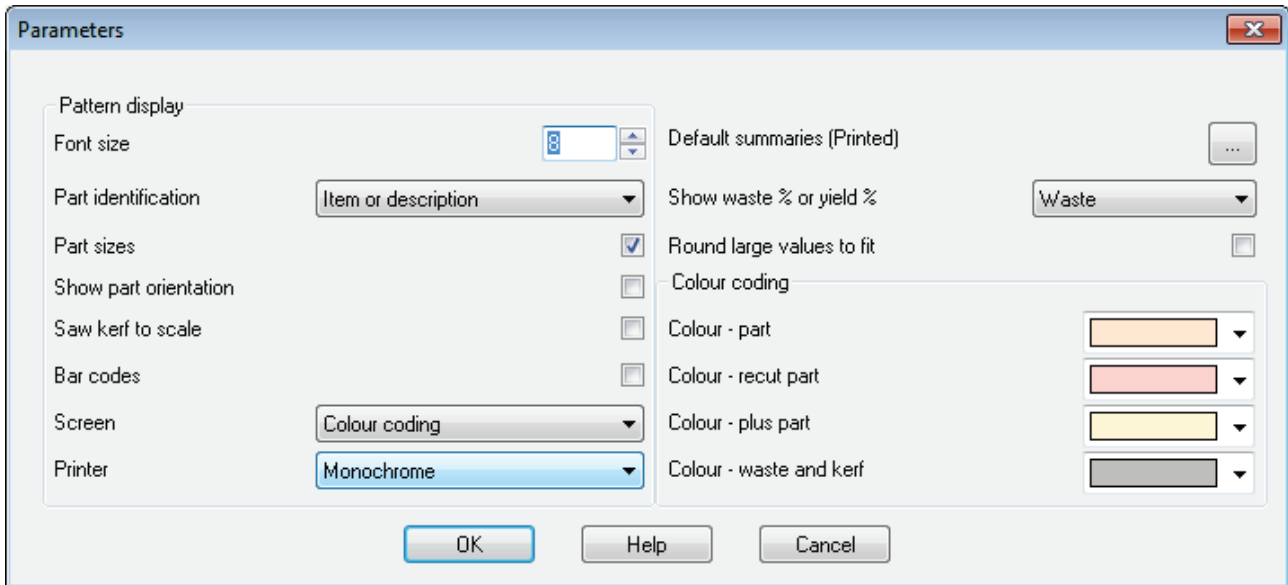
The default settings can be changed via the option: **File - Default page setup**. Any changes to the default settings apply to all reports using the default settings.

*File - Print setup* - This is not often needed since the printer can be changed at the standard Print dialog which always pops up before printing reports and the page layout is best set at the 'Page setup' or 'Default page setup' dialogs.

## Review runs parameters

The operation of Review runs can be customised via 'Review runs parameters'. At the Review runs screen:-

- Select: **File - Parameters**

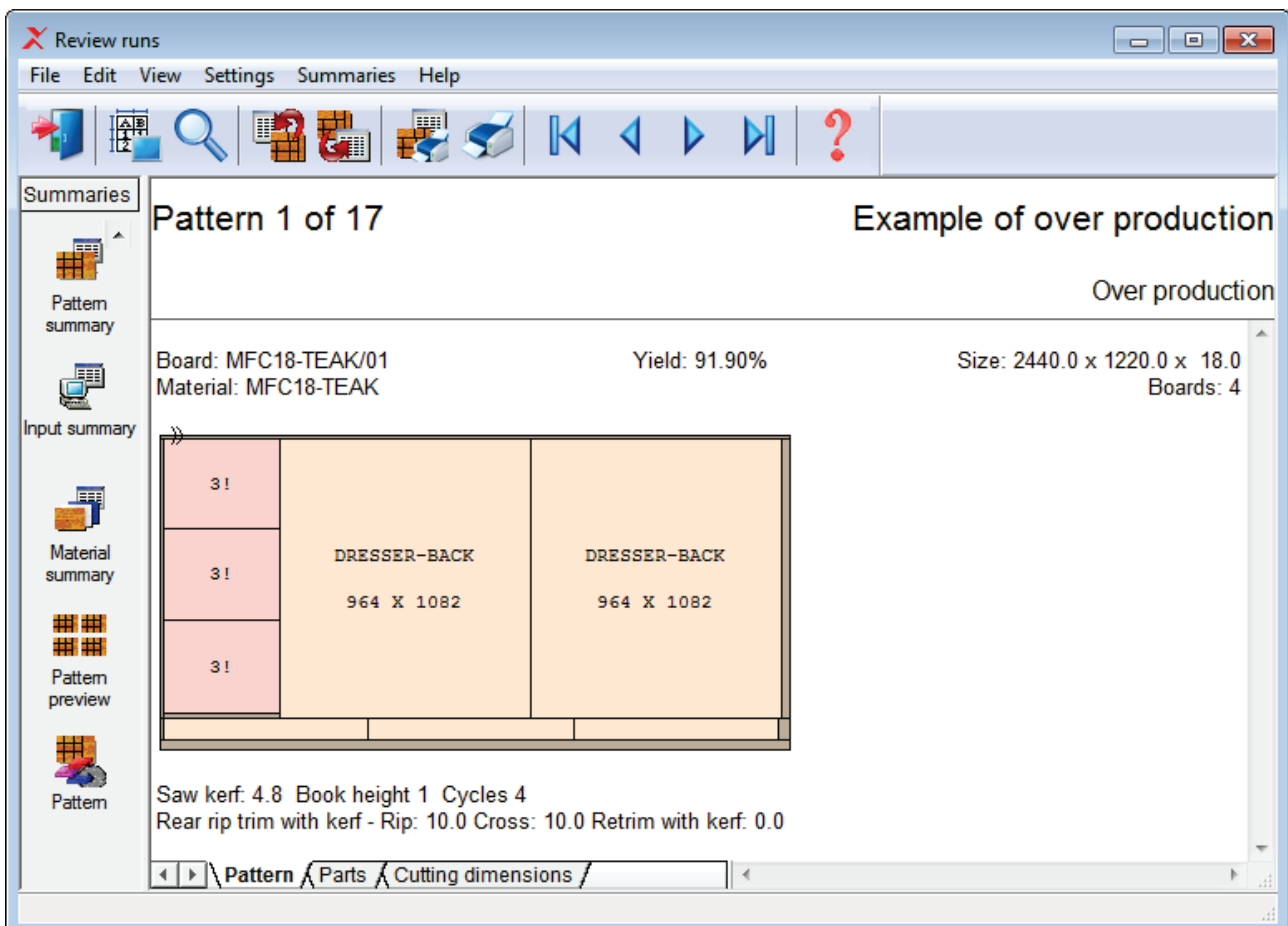


There are options to alter the pattern display and how patterns are shown (e.g. monochrome or colour).

The Reports can be set to show waste percent or yield and whether large values are rounded or not.

The Review runs parameters help describes each setting in detail.

The following example shows the pattern diagram using colour codes rather than monochrome.



## 6. File Management

The File management options are for organising and maintaining the files created by Express. At the main screen:-

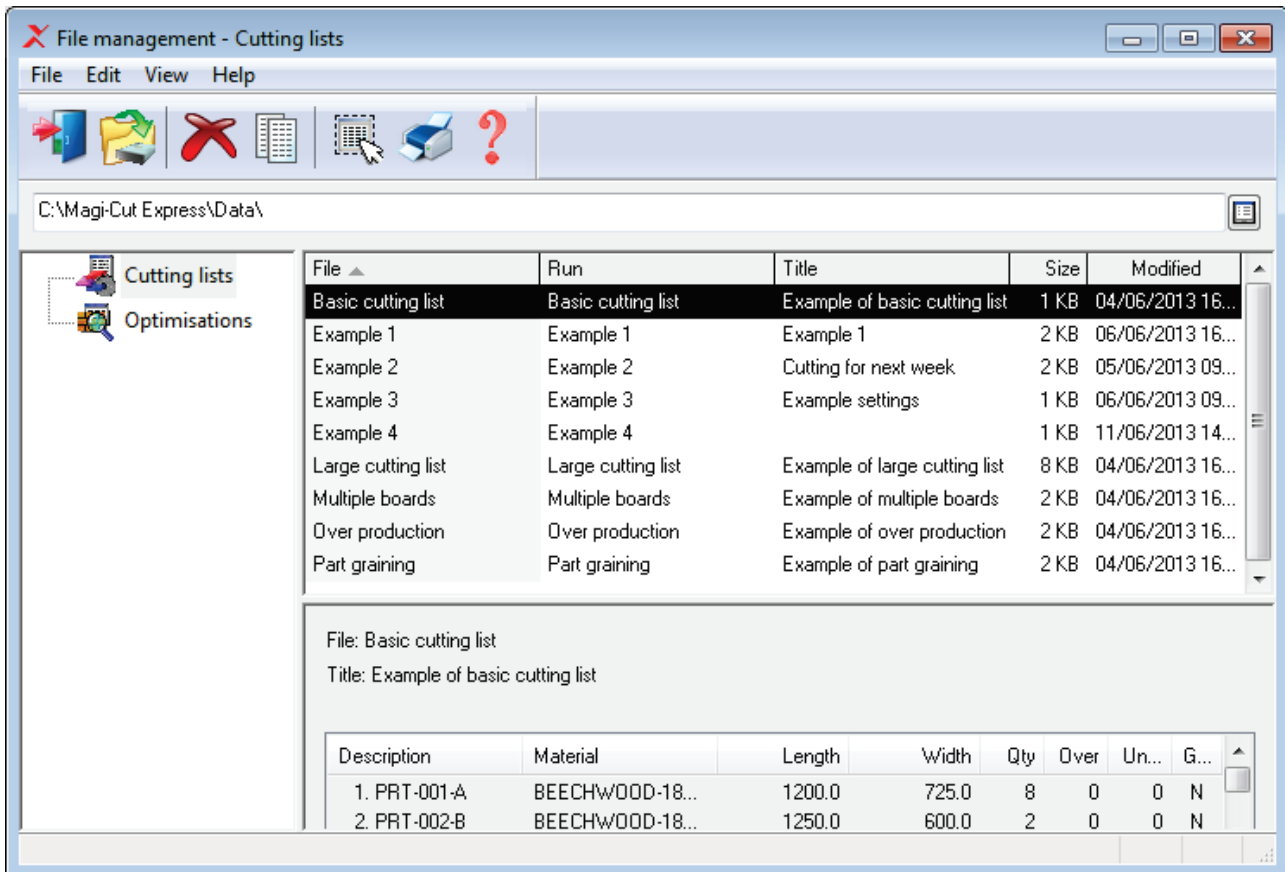
- Select: **File - File Management**

or



Select the Toolbar option

The file management screen is displayed:-



At the left the tree shows the different types of file used by Express.

Cutting lists

Optimisations

- Click on a category to see the files

The pane at the foot of the screen shows the contents of the currently selected file.

## **Copy files**

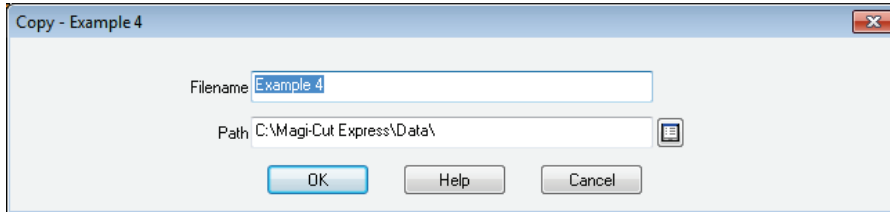
- Select type of file in the left pane
- Select on or more files
- Select: **File - Copy**

or



Select the Toolbar option

The program prompts to select a file name and/or directory to copy the files to.



Use the list box to select a path

- Select **OK** to finish

## **Delete Files**

To permanently remove files.

Select type of file in the left pane

- Select files
- Select: **File - Delete**

or



Select the Toolbar option

The program prompts to confirm delete.

## **Notes**

For optimisations (runs) the program deletes all the files associated with the run. A run consists of several different files as well as the main run file.

```
Example1.ctt - cutting list  
Example1.brd - board list  
Example1.ptn - patterns  
Example1.btc - internal file  
Example1.cut - cutting instructions
```

## **Print (File management)**

To print the current list of files, at the File Management screen:-

- Select: **File - Print (Ctrl P)**

or



Select the Toolbar symbol

The program prints the current list.

To set up the printer: Select: **File - Print setup**

The program displays a standard Windows dialog to change the printer settings.

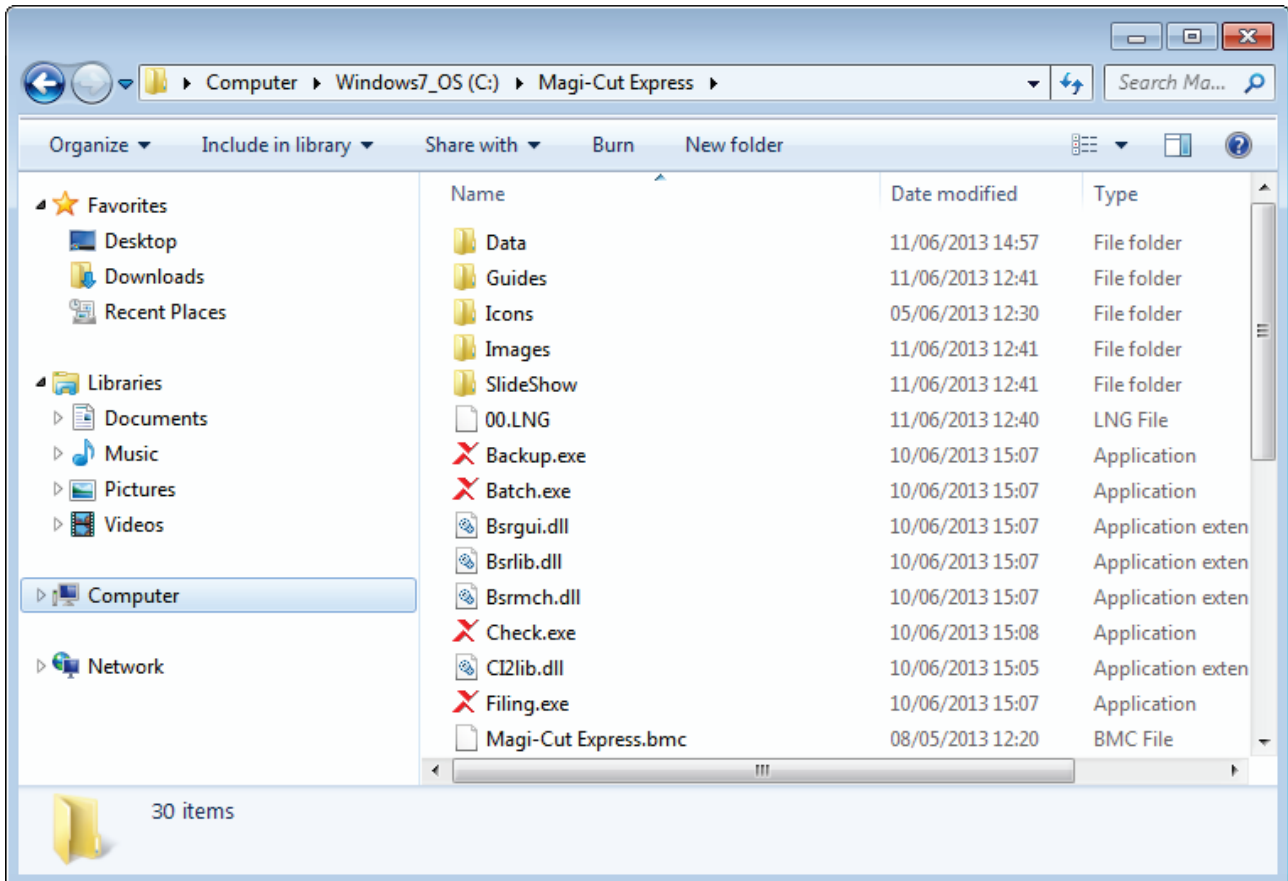
To print with a preview: Select: **File - Print Preview**

## **7. Backup and Restore**

Once the program is in regular use - make sure the System Administrator includes the Express directory in the regular system backups. This is the directory that was set up during the install process, for example:-

c:\Magi-Cut Express

The program and all the data are typically stored in this directory/folder with data and other information in sub-directories, for example:-



### **Backup**

The program includes a 'Back up' option. This takes a copy of the current data and stores it in a single compressed file.

'Back up' can be used to take a snapshot of the data for archiving or testing and as a regular back up - *but it should not replace a regular back up set by the System Administrator.*

At the main screen:-

- Select: **File - Back up**

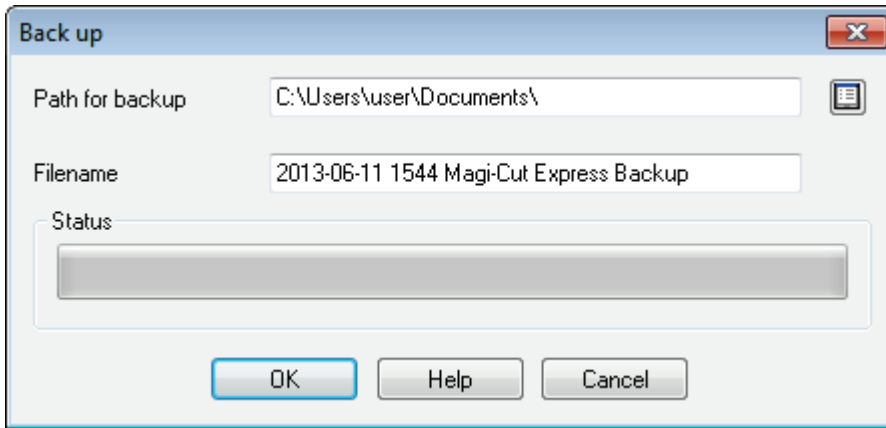
or



Select the Toolbar option



The Backup dialog is displayed.



The 'Path for back up' defaults to 'My documents'. Use the list box to select an alternative path.

The 'File name' box contains a default name based on the date and time. Click on the field to edit the name or enter a different name.

- Select **OK** to confirm

The data is backed up to a single file (e.g. 2013-06-11 Magi-Cut Express Backup.bkp ). This is a 'zipped' file containing all the files in a compressed form.

When back up is complete the program prompts with a message showing number of files and overall size.

- Select **OK** to finish

*Note* - The 'Back up' option is also available at the File management screen.

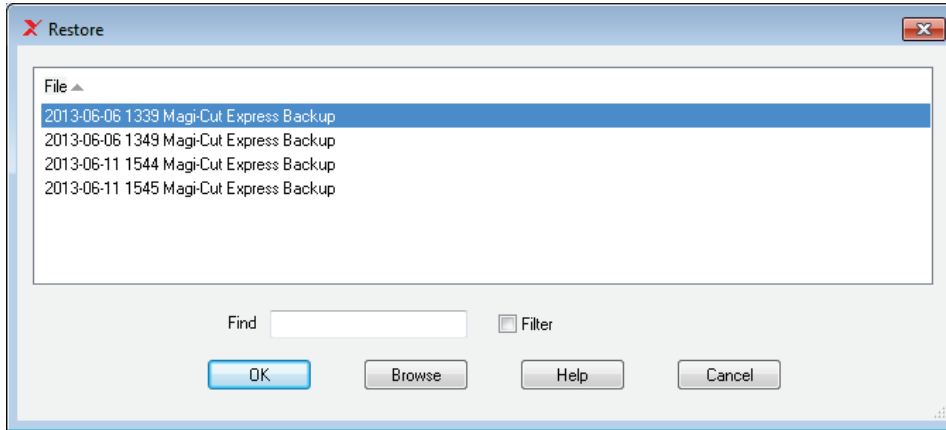
## Restore

To restore backed up data. At the main screen:-

- Select: **File - Restore**

(If there are no back up files in the current back up directory the program warns with the message '*No entries found*' - select OK to continue).

The program prompts with a list of Back up files.



- Use the Browse button to choose from a different back up directory.

- Select **OK** to continue

Any existing data is replaced.

*The program automatically takes a back up of the existing data before replacing it.*

- Select **Yes** to continue

When the restore is complete a message '*Restore finished*' is shown on the screen.

## 8. Access to Help

There are a range of Help options when using Express.

At each screen or dialog there is typically a help button and usually Help choices on the menu.

? Click the help symbol

- Choose an option from the Help menu

The screenshot shows a software window titled "Cutting list - Basic cutting list". The menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Optimise, and Help. The Help menu is open, displaying the following options: Contents, Cutting list, Help, Using help, and About. A red circle highlights the Help menu button in the menu bar. Below the menu bar, there are icons for file operations and a red question mark icon. The main area of the window is divided into two sections: "Parts" and "Boards".

	Description	Material	Length	Width	Quantity	Grain
Global		BEECHWOOD-18MM				
1.	PRT-001-A	BEECHWOOD-18MM	1200.0	725.0	8	N
2.	PRT-002-B	BEECHWOOD-18MM	1250.0	600.0	2	N
3.	PRT-003-C	BEECHWOOD-18MM	790.0	450.0	3	N
4.	PRT-004-D	BEECHWOOD-18MM	580.0	200.0	8	N
5.		BEECHWOOD-18MM				

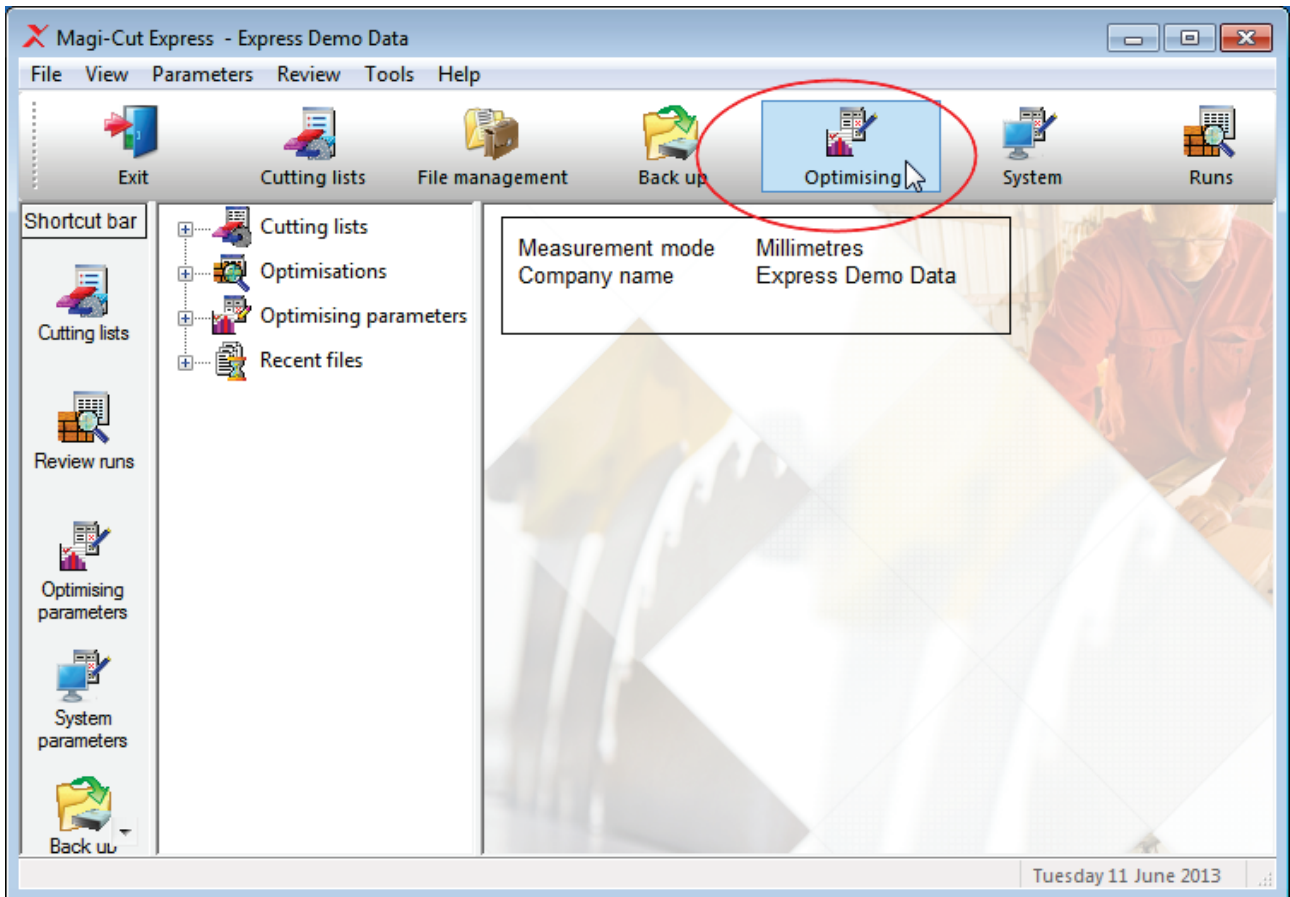
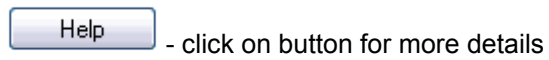
  

	Board	Material	Length	Width	Thickness	Information	Quantity	Cost	Grain
Global									
1.	BEECHWOOD-18MM/01	BEECHWOOD-18MM	2550.0	1525.0	18.0		104	2.340	N
2.									

Where the cursor is located at a field or check box press F1 to bring up help about that item.

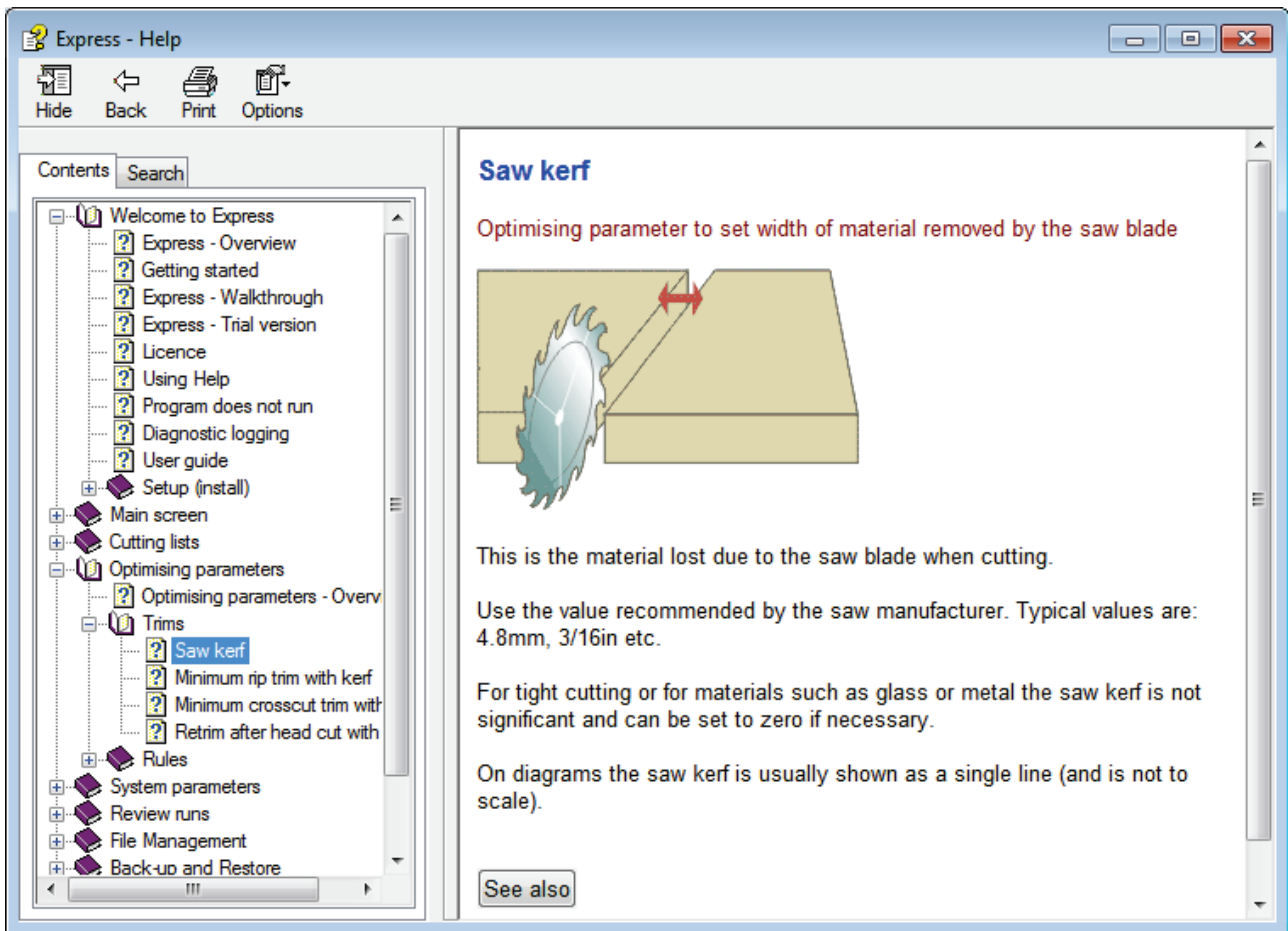


On most dialogs a help button is provided.

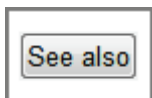


- Place the cursor over an object to view a tooltip

Help is shown in a Window that sits on top of the program window. The Left pane shows the Contents and the Right pane the current topic.



The Toolbar and Help menu at the top of the Help screen gives access to other options, for example, Print.

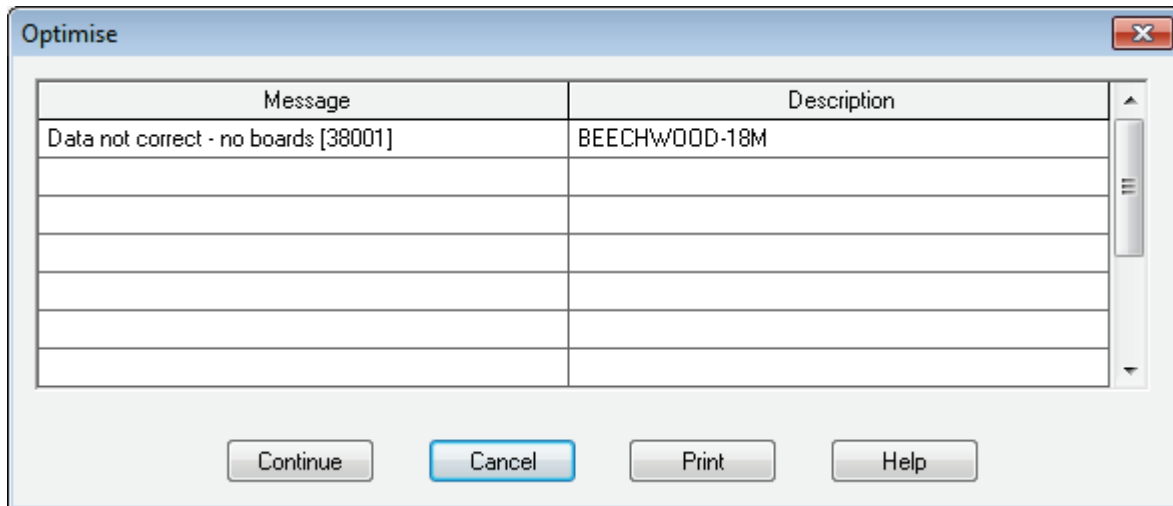


On most topics there is a 'See also' button - this shows other links relevant to the topic.

- Print any help topic by using the **Print** option from the menu at the top of the screen.

## Errors

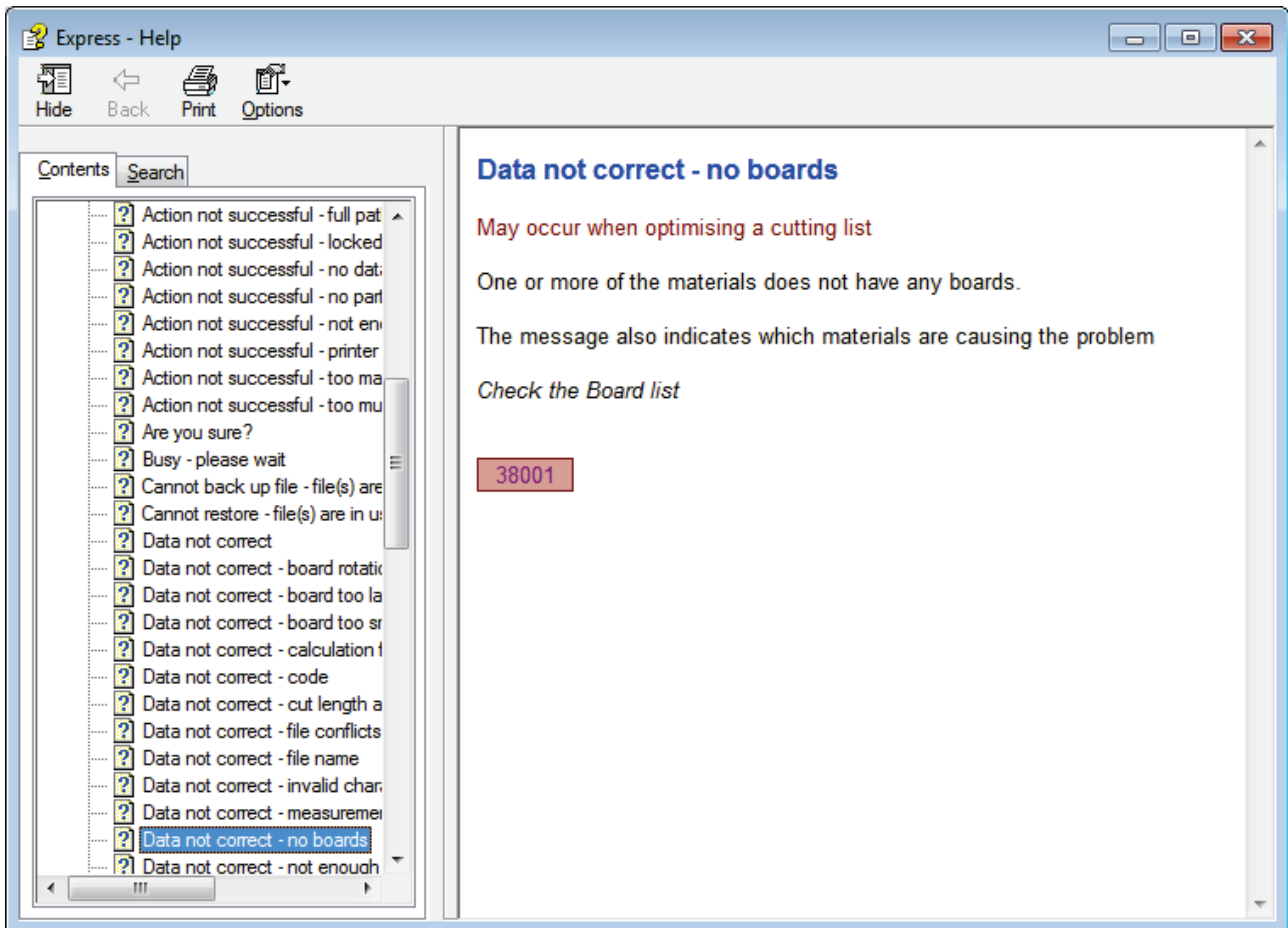
If a problem occurs this is typically reported as an Error message on-screen. For example:-



When working with cutting lists, runs etc. problems are often caused by missing or wrong data. In these cases the start of the message indicates the type of problem and the rest of the message describes the missing data.

Help

- select the Help button for details of the error



All the error messages are included in the Help file and can also be accessed from the Help menu or by searching the help. Each error also has a fixed number to help identify it.

- To search for a phrase like: *Data not correct - No boards* enclose the phrase in quotes: "Data not correct - No boards"

- Some errors messages can have several different causes - check the topic carefully to identify the correct cause.

#### After the error message

Where the error is advisory the program may continue to complete the operation - in this case check the results carefully.

In most cases the error prevents the operation and the program moves back to the previous screen.

#### **System Check**

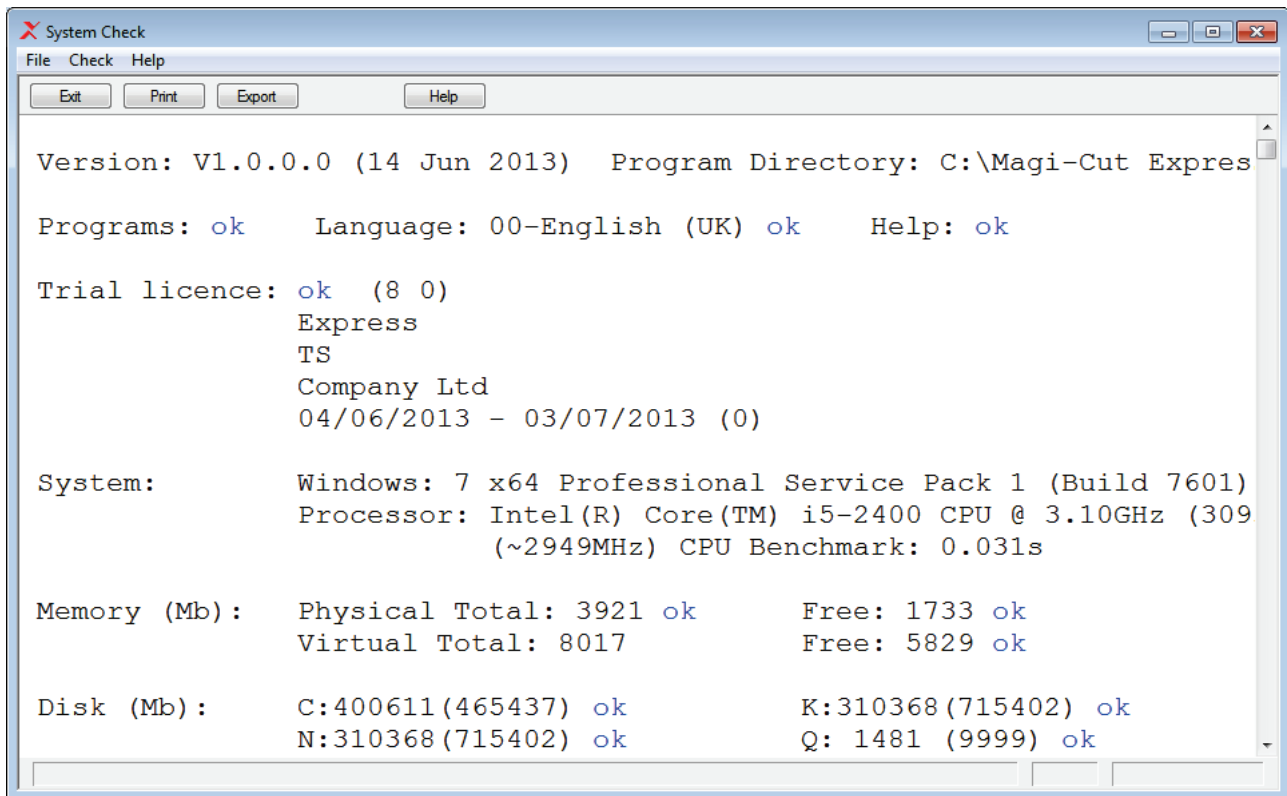
This option performs basic checks on the hardware, operating system and Express installation.

It is useful for investigation of problems with the software not running and problems with the Licence.

At the main screen:-

- Select: **Tools - System Check**

The System Check Report is displayed



Some of the individual checks are available on the Check menu.

The Initial screen shows the following information.

Version number and directory checked  
Program and language status  
Licence details  
System details  
Memory details  
Disk drives

If an item shows Ok the item is Ok for running the program

If there is an X check the item as it may be a problem

To print a system check report:-

- Select: **File - Print**

or



- Select the print button

### Notes

The System check option can also be run as a stand-alone Program. It is in the program directory (where the program was installed) and is named 'Check.exe' - this can be useful where Express is not running. The 'Check' program does not require a licence.