

Ford Models Instrument Panel with Ren Shape 440 Styling Material

To build simple, durable models of specific interior car sections, known as interior evaluation bucks, automakers like Ford have traditionally used wood or 20-lb. density foam. More recently, engineers have turned to Ren Shape 440 styling board to quickly CNC machine models for marketing and consumer evaluation of new automotive component designs.

To build a styling buck for an instrument panel, for example, Ford technicians machined a block of Ren Shape 440 board to the desired dimensions on a 5-axis mill. The styling board cut easily, even in sections where 100 mm slab cuts were made. A further benefit of the Ren Shape material was that it produced less cutter wear than conventional foam.

CAD data was downloaded to a 5-axis milling machine to cut a dimensionally accurate model of an instrument panel.



The finished instrument panel was primed and then mounted in a roll-up buck with a seat, steering wheel and foot pedals for consumer evaluation.

