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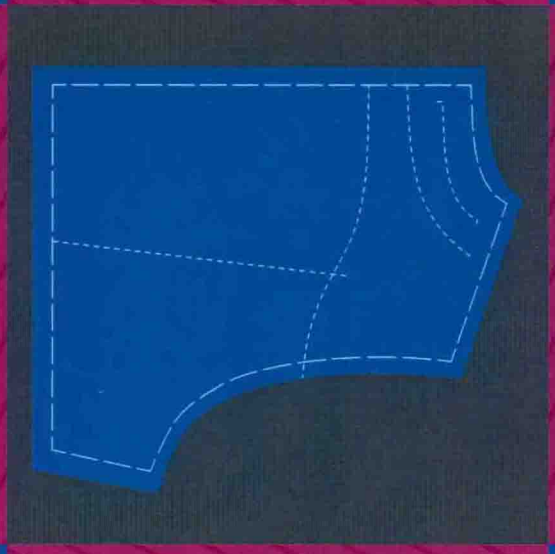

Pattern cutting for clothing using CAD

How to use Lectra Modaris pattern cutting software

M. Stott

The Textile Institute

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Preface

This book provides a practical and easy-to-use guide to how to make the most of Lectra's Modaris pattern cutting software. It is based on my 40 years as a Pattern Cutter, including 10 years using CAD pattern cutting software such as Modaris. This practical experience has, I hope, put me in a particularly strong position to show you how to use Modaris to its full potential in the classroom and in the workplace. As anyone who has used software knows, there are all sorts of shortcuts, functions etc. that you only really learn by trial and error as you use the software in your day-to-day work. I hope readers will benefit from what I have learnt over the years in making my own work easier.

I am going to assume that you already have some computer skills, as it is very unlikely that you have embarked on pattern cutting with CAD without having some knowledge of 'Word' or spreadsheets such as 'Excel', or of using email or the web. Opening a specific program, creating, saving and using files is pretty much the same for all types of computer software. In fact I have discovered that some commands are the same for a number of completely different and unrelated programs. The use of control + Z, for example, seems to be universal in undoing the last command, and the way that functions can have 'hot keys' is not special to Modaris. I will build on this basic understanding but assume you are new to the specific functions in Modaris.

My training courses gave excellent instruction on what the various functions did, but I often forgot how to do something if there was a long time gap between the training and using a function. Because of this I made notes and then refined them every time I needed to perform a specific task, making the task the focus rather than the capabilities of the function. This book began as this series of notes, initially for my own use, but then for Junior Pattern Cutters working on CAD and visiting students on work experience. I hope you find them as useful as I have.

M. Stott

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