

THERE ARE NO BOUNDARIES

“I never really think about anything except design,” says **Loyola O’Neill**, owner of **Purple Heart Construction and Millwork** in Delta, B.C. “I’ll take the CAD drawing from some architect or engineer and redraw it in **Microvellum** and as I redraw it I’m basically creating g-code. Then it is a matter of sending it to the floor. The boys pick it up from there, and they can concentrate on the finishing aspects and on the details of crowns and making it beautiful. Software makes sense to take away the human connection and human error. You can concentrate on the finer details of architectural millwork when you have the front end being taken care of by software.” O’Neill says he knew he needed to find ways to free up himself and his employees from hours of manual programming on their CNC machinery. With bars, liquor stores and restaurants a major part of his business, the ability to be creative and execute original designs quickly was crucial. He settled on Microvellum because he found it the most versatile for making new drawings versus simply producing cookie-cutter cabinet boxes. “Once you learn the program, any creative mind can take this software and relay what is in his mind into a CAD system and out onto a shop floor. The sky is the limit, really; you can do anything. It depends on your imagina-

tion.” O’Neill has seen a speedy payoff on his investment. “My business tripled,” he says. “I could take on more work and I could manage it more easily. When I was hands-on we could only take on so much because of the amount of time it took to make cut lists and break everything down with pen and paper to its least common denominator, then taking it out and cutting everything by hand and drilling it all and making all the connections for hardware and so on. I’m at a position right now where I’m tapped out and I need a bigger place in order to keep growing.”

