SECTION 6
ELECTRONIC PATTERN FILE TRANSFERS

IMPORT PATTERN SUBMITTAL PROCEDURE SPECIFICATIONS

DMC requires an electronic copy of all import TOP patterns. The pattern should be sent electronically to Tech Designer at the same time the TOP is mailed to DMC office. DMC should be in receipt of the TOP pattern and RUL file at the time of TOP sample receipt. This policy has been in effect since May, 2011 and it is mandatory that all vendors comply.

All TOP patterns + rul. file are to be sent directly to the appropriate Technical Designer at the time of TOP submission. This is an automatic process on the vendors' part. The tech should not have to reach out to make this request. Please follow the pattern sending instructions in the DMC Vendor Manual – Section 6 - Import Pattern Submittal Procedure Specifications, and make sure patterns are sent properly as follows:

- Must be base size

- DXF format

- RUL file attached

- All pattern pieces must have DMC style number and color number exhibited

- All pattern pieces are named properly

DMC can transmit and receive patterns from DXF formatting (.dxf) or Optitex System (.pds) formatting only. If pattern is converted to DXF you must specify which format; ASTM, AAMA, or original DXF.

When sending patterns to Destination Maternity Corp, please email the pattern to the appropriate technical designer:

When transmitting the pattern data via email we can only accept 2 forms of data:

Optitex Pattern Data:
Contractors presently using an Optitex Pattern Design System. Pattern files (.pds) do not need to be converted and can be attached and sent, as is, without conversion.

Converted Pattern Data:
Contractors presently using other pattern design systems, i.e. Gerber, Lectra, Investronica, Tukatech, Assyst, etc. must use a DXF conversion program. As of now the most up to date conversion software for general CAD system conversion is DXF conversion software using the ASTM layer formatting. It is generally included with most CAD software systems. Please consult with your software provider for its location in your current software or availability if it is not installed. ASTM includes more information (Layers) that can be converted than if using the older ANSI/AAMA or original DXF formats.

UNDERSTANDING FORMATS IS IMPORTANT. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR SOFWARE SUPPLIER IF YOU NEED MORE INFORMATION ON DXF FORMATS. CONVERSION IN THE INCORRECT FORMAT CAN CAUSE LOSS OF DATA (GRADING, NOTCH INFORMATION, ETC.) OR CAN EVEN CAUSE <u>**THE PATTERN SHAPE TO BE CHANGED WITHOUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE.**</u>

NEW DXF FORMATS

Example of the added information included in new ASTM format verses older AAMA format

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Example of the added information included in new ASTM format verses older AAMA format

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Important: Gerber Users

Do not use the Export Zip in Accumark Explorer. That creates a zip file for <u>Gerber to Gerber</u> email pattern transfers. We use Optitex and can not convert these file types (the files in the zip file will have a .tmp extension). Please use the Gerber - Pattern Conversion Wizard. It enables conversion to the widely-used DXF format.
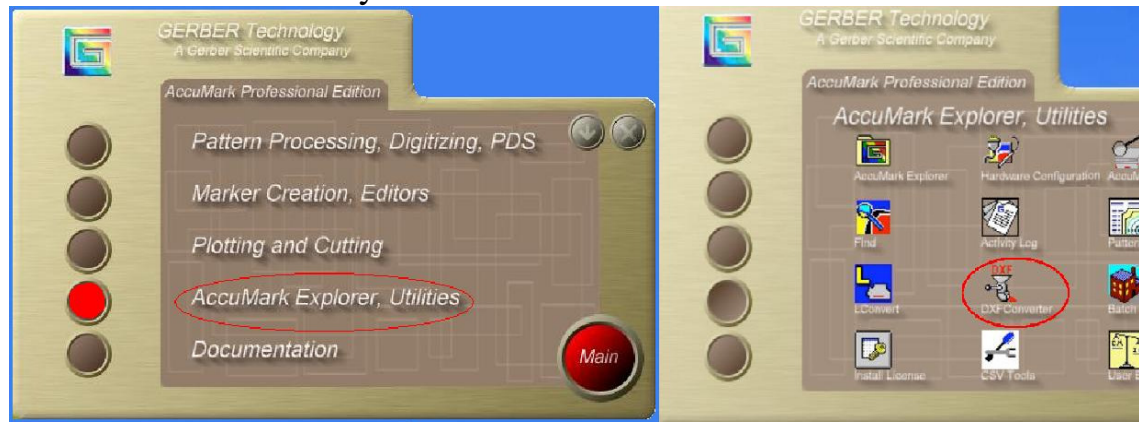
Destination Maternity can transmit and receive patterns from DXF formatting (.dxf) or Optitex System (.pds) formatting only. If a pattern is converted to DXF you must specify which format; ASTM, AAMA. We have had issues with the original dxf format altering the shape of patterns by changing the curve point designation to non-curved point so we will only send if there is no other

option. You will need to check if this has occurred and notify us before the pattern is used. If we send a pattern to you we will specify the format.

NOTE: DXF IS A MULTI FORMAT CONFERSION SOFTWARE. THE FORMATS HAVE BEEN UPDATED OVER TIME TO ACCOMODATE MORE PATTERN INFORMATION. HERE IS A HISTORY OF DXF FORMATS:

1. DXF- was originally introduced in December 1982 as part of AutoCAD 1.0, and was intended to provide an exact representation of the data in the AutoCAD native file format

2. DXF-AAMA - This was the file format developed by the American Apparel Manufacturers Association in 1993 in an attempt to solve the difficulties of using DXF files. DXF is the most commonly used format for the exchange of drawing files. Unfortunately, since they contain neither scale or units, nor usually any method of reliably describing what needs to be cut, drawn, drilled, notched etc. in a pattern file, DXF files are normally not very useful. But if the DXF-AAMA format is used, files can contain many patterns either nested, or non-nested, in a form which can be easily processed and used by plotter operators.

3. DXF-ASTM - This newest standard practice is designed to facilitate two-dimensional, sewn pattern piece data exchange between CAD systems at the level of pattern design. It also facilitates grade rule table data exchange for sewn products in the apparel industry. It uses the DXF file format for pattern piece data exchange and a specially formatted ASCII file format for grade rule tables. It is limited to the transfer of pattern pieces within a style and the associated pattern piece and style information.