

NATIONAL AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF MEXICO

The *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)*, National Autonomous University of Mexico, is home to the *Centro de Innovación Tecnológica (CIT)*, Centre for Technological Innovation. This is a technological development institution that channels industrial projects to the appropriate departments or faculty within the *UNAM*. The *CIT* plays a coordinating role and does not carry out its own research projects.

The *CIT* coordinates all types of technological projects and is intended to provide industrial clients with "one window" access to the university's facilities, including four computer assisted design (CAD), computer assisted manufacturing (CAM) and computer assisted engineering (CAE) centres. If the particular research needs are beyond the university's capabilities, external consultants are contracted to provide the missing elements.

One of the *UNAM*'s key facilities is the *Centro de Diseño y Manufactura (CDM)*, Design and Manufacturing Centre of the School of Engineering. This is Mexico's largest training and research facility in the area of numerically-controlled (NC) tools. It concentrates primarily on equipment used in manufacturing in medium- and small-sized industries. The purpose of the centre is to train students in order to increase the level of automation in national industry, thus helping it to modernize. Because of the capital squeeze caused by the economic crisis, the *CDM* has stopped purchasing equipment for research and has instituted a five-year program by which equipment will be purchased strictly for academic purposes.

MONTERREY'S TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

The *Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM)*, Monterrey's Technological Institute, provides technology consulting services to Mexican companies through its *Centro de Fabricación de Sistemas Integrados*, Centre of Integrated Manufacturing Systems. This centre is entirely devoted to solving production automation problems. The centre's main areas of specialization include design of manufactured products, flexible automation, industrial materials, production engineering and manufacturing systems administration.

NATIONAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

The *Instituto Politécnico Nacional (IPN)*, National Polytechnic Institute, offers industrial consulting services, but is relatively specialized. Its expertise includes laser technology. In addition, its *Centro de Investigación y Estudios Avanzados*, Centre for Research and Advanced Studies, is developing robot prototypes.