



CNC Machine Dwarfs Football Fields



To mill industrial wind-turbine blades that span the width of a Boeing 747, a typical CNC machine won't cut it. Literally. Meet the mega rig known as the HSM-Modal.

Unlike puny CNC machines we use to mill casters, this one is longer than a football field. Built by EEW Maschinenbau in Germany, it's primarily used for cutting positive and negative molds massive objects like turbine blades, but it can be equipped with tools for sawing, drilling, grinding; and, for extra testosterone, jet, plasma and ultra-sonic cutting.



Its giant size doesn't hold it back, either. The 495-foot-long machine can mill 1-to-1 scale molds that are more than 160 feet long, and it does so at a rate of nearly 500 feet per minute – faster than other large CNC machines.

And even though it requires a huge warehouse to operate, it doesn't weigh as much as it looks. An 8-inch thick concrete floor is more than enough to handle the HSM-Modal, which operates using standard CAD and CAM programs.

For more details, check out the [EEW website](#).

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