

ServoCam® Version Rules

The creation and successful use of ServoCam® part cycles follows some simple versioning rules, detailed below. There are three things which have versions:

- ServoCam® Designer software
- ServoCam® Controller software
- Part cycles (.SCM files)

The versioning rules are:

- Rule 1: The ServoCam® Controller accepts **only** part cycles with a version that is the same or less than its own version.
- Rule 2: The ServoCam® Designer accepts **only** part cycles with a version that is the same or less than its own version.
- Rule 3: The ServoCam® Designer produces part cycles with a version that is always the same as its own version.

The rules have several effects on part-cycle versioning:

- Effect 1: (Rule 1 + Rule 3) The ServoCam® Controller accepts **only** part cycles produced by a version of ServoCam® Designer that is the same or less than its own version.
- Effect 2: (Rule 2 + Rule 3) The ServoCam® Designer accepts part cycles with a version that is less than its own version, and **automatically converts** them to its own version.

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Usage scenarios

There are two basic usage scenarios:

- 1) One version of ServoCam® Designer is used, and part cycles created by this version can be run on any machine (when the proper Machine is chosen in Part Cycle Setup), or
- 2) More than one version of ServoCam® Designer is used, and part-cycles created by these versions can be run on only some machines (as decided by Effect 1 above).

One version of ServoCam® Designer

The simplest usage scenario involves one version of ServoCam® Designer. In this case, the installed ServoCam® Controller versions constrain which version of ServoCam® Designer can be used.

For example, if a shop has three machines with the following versions of ServoCam® Controller software (Advanced Menu | Show version), then the smallest version determines which version of ServoCam® Designer can be used (the last numeric digit and the letter do **not** affect version comparisons):

MachineA	5.60d	-->	5.6
MachineB	5.65a	-->	5.6
MachineC	5.70c	-->	5.7

The smallest version is 5.6 and any ServoCam® Designer with this version (e.g., 5.67g) or smaller (e.g., 5.20c) could be used.

More than one version of ServoCam® Designer

The usage scenario involving multiple versions of ServoCam® Designer is similar to applying the one-version case separately to subsets of machines.

Care must be taken to avoid reading lower-version part cycles into higher-version ServoCam® Designer software because the automatic conversion of Effect 2 may be undesired. A converted part cycle may not run on controllers that the original part cycle ran on, and part cycles cannot be **un**converted. It may be useful to keep different subsets of part cycles in different directories to avoid unwanted conversions.

This more complicated scenario can often be avoided by using a lesser version of ServoCam® Designer (unless the higher version is required to provide desired features or to support newer machines), or by upgrading to a higher version of ServoCam® Controller software on some machines (if an appropriate version is available for all installed machines).