

CW TIP 11 — Example of a Clock Gear Made Using the DelphUSA Gear Wheel Designer Software/Dave Bishop

Dave Bishop recently completed a clock gear project using his Sherline CNC mill and gear designer software. Below is his account of the projet.

"I've just finished the great wheel for a John Wilding skeleton clock using my Sherline CNC mill and the DelphUSAGear Wheel Designer software we discussed a while ago (see Figure 1). The wheel is large, 8.6" in diameter. You can see the scale, a machinist's rule is next to it. I cut it with a .036" carbide cutter and it took almost six days of machining to complete. The scale of the teeth determines the size of the cutter and then one needs to pick a slow enough feed to keep from breaking it. The wheel has 290 teeth. One of the real advantages of making it this way is the alignment is nearly perfect. The conventional way of making this type of gear has you mounting it on various machines as you make the blank, cut the teeth, drill the center and mounting holes, etc. and errors accumulate with each setup."

All the best, Dave Bishop



FIGURE 1—The wheel is 8.6" in diameter and the machinist's rule is 6" long. Photo credit: Dave Bishop.