

The Prompt Command

The Prompt command allows you to ask the operator for information. It creates a variable label that allows you to use the information in a variety of ways. Watch the corresponding video clip and follow along as I explain how this feature will benefit you and your company.

From the **Flow** pull down select **Messages** and then **Prompt**.

1. Variable Name: 1-16 characters, first char must be a letter, allows for underscores only, and is not case sensitive.

2. Must be checked in order to declare a variable.

3. Max and Min values are numbers that control what the operator may enter. I use these to avoid typing errors. This is demonstrated in the following exercise.

The Prompt command will stop the program during Repeat Mode and wait for the operator to enter Variable information (Character, Integer, Real, Boolean). The Prompt Text field allows you to enter a descriptive message to be displayed when the Prompt is executed. EXAMPLE: You want the operator to enter an angle value, the Prompt Text would say 'Enter Angle Degree'.

Char: A variable that uses letters such as Y for yes and N for no.

Integer: A variable that is a rounded number like 1 or 4 or 856.

Real: A variable that is a whole number like 2.7391 or 1.999

Bool: A variable that is true or false

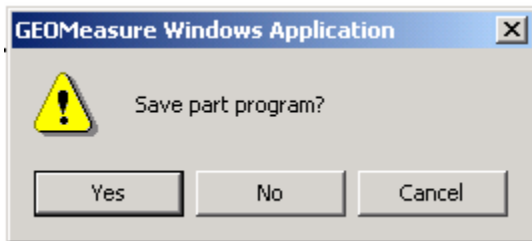
Using the Prompt Command

In this exercise I will demonstrate several uses for prompting variable information from the operator. Let's begin with a real common use. Almost all companies have dimensions on their print that they are unable to check with the CMM. In this case most companies will use templates, calipers or gages and write down the results. Well we can actual prompt the operator for results and tolerance them in this software. This way all the dimensions are on one printed report.

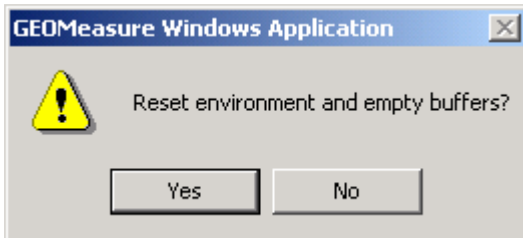
Let's begin.

Step 1: From **File** in the **Part Program** window select **New**.

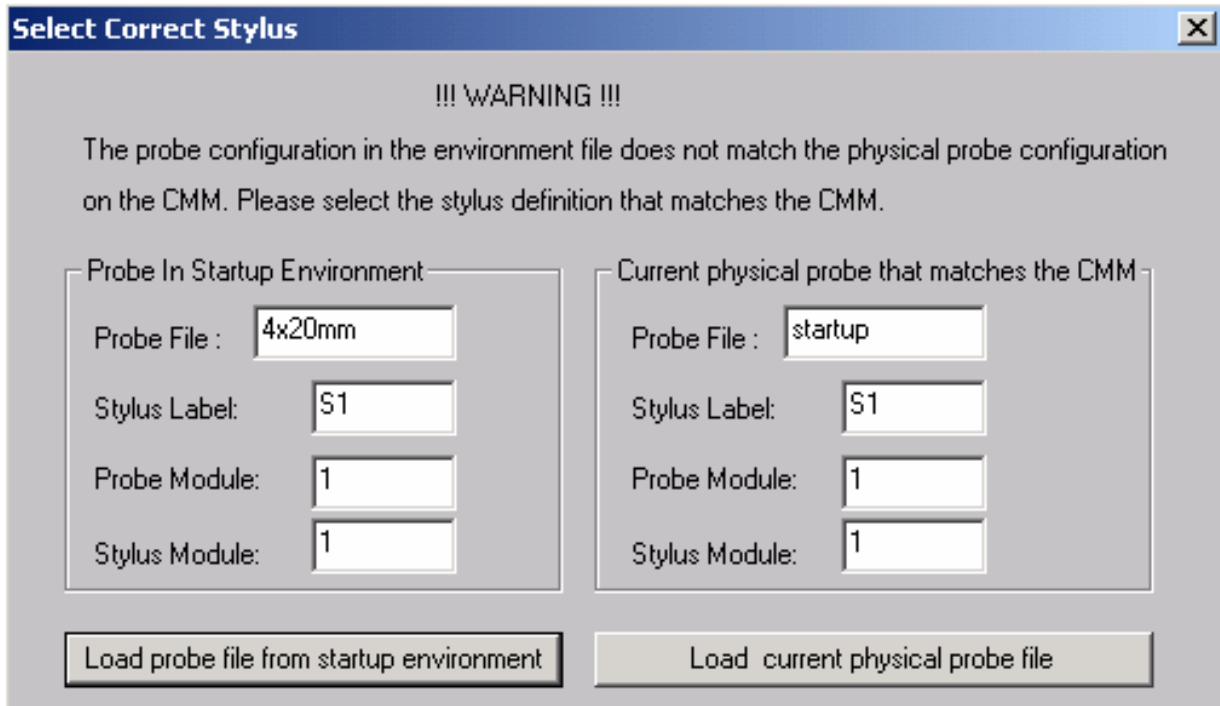
Step 2: When prompted to save program, select **No**.



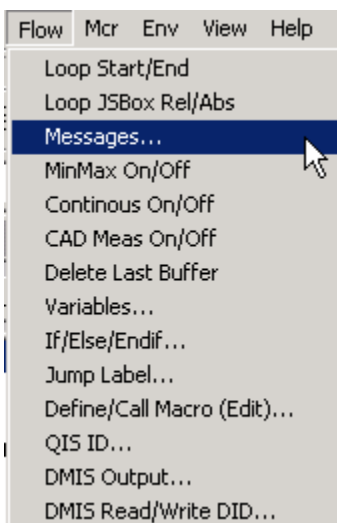
Step 3: When prompted to reset Environment, select **Yes**.



Step 4: If this screen appears click the X in the top right corner.



Step 5: From the **Flow** pull down select **Messages**.



Step 6: When this screen appears select **Prompt**.
Fill out screen as shown.

1. Change label

2. Check boxes as shown and enter values of 5 and 4.

Messages

Operator Text | Comment | Pause | Prompt

Variable Name: Dim47

Declare Var Char Integer Real Bool

Max Value: 5 Min Value: 4

Prompt Text: Enter the caliper check for Dim #47

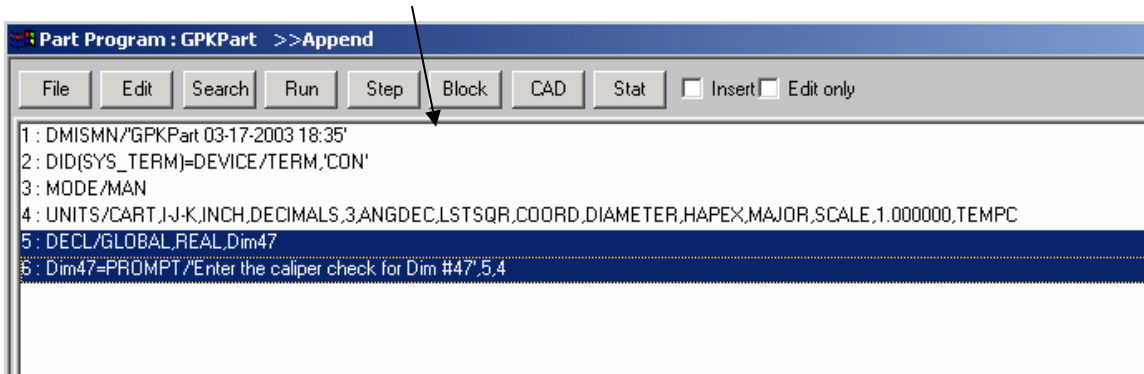
The Prompt command will stop the program during Repeat Mode and wait for the operator to enter Variable information (Character, Integer, Real, Boolean). The Prompt Text field allows you to enter a descriptive message to be displayed when the Prompt is executed. EXAMPLE: You want the operator to enter an angle value, the Prompt Text would say 'Enter Angle Degree'.

OK Cancel Apply

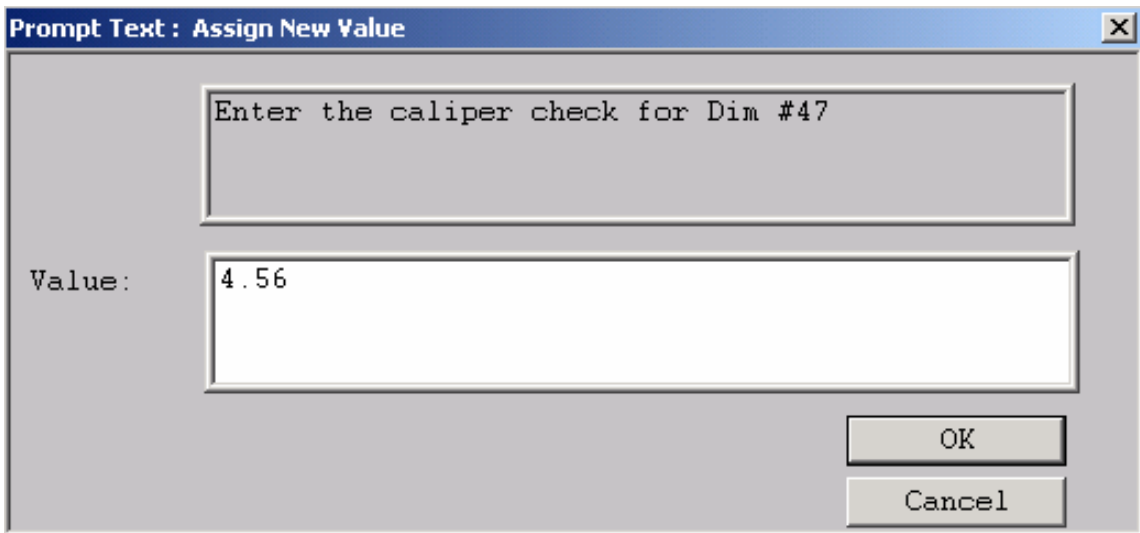
3. Enter text instructing the operator to check a dim with calipers. Select OK when finished.

You have just created a variable called Dim47. When this program runs it will prompt the operator to enter the value he measured with the calipers. The value cannot exceed 5 or be lower than 4. These are the max and min values the computer will accept. You can change these depending on your measurements.

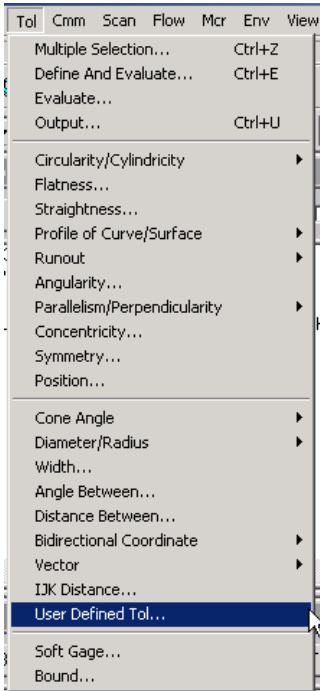
Step 7: Your program should look like this. Highlight the two lines shown and select **Block** to execute the prompt.



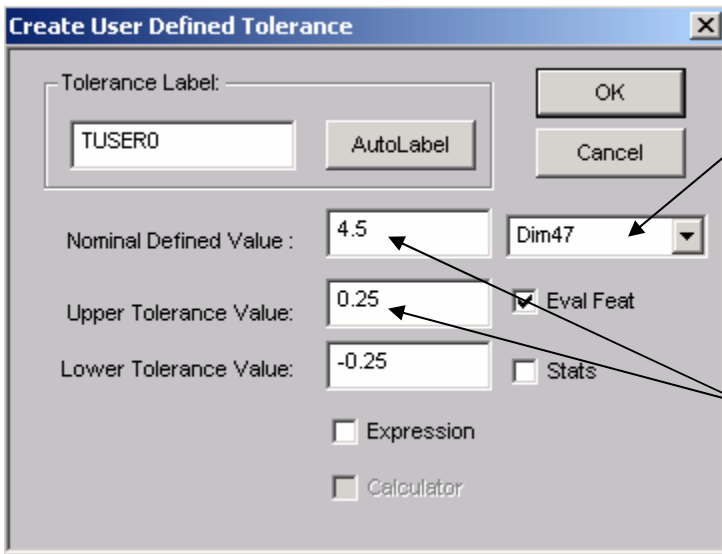
Step 8: This screen should appear. Enter any value between 4 and 5. Whatever # you enter now becomes variable Dim47. This # should be the actual measurement results from the caliper check.



Step 9: From the Tol pull down select **User Defined Tol.**



Step 10: Fill out screen as shown.



1. Select the label from the pull down.

3. Check Eval Feat and select OK when finished.

2. Enter nominal and tolerance info.

Step 11: Look in the Output Window for results.

