CAD to Ethos via Illustrator

Save files from the CAD application in DWG 2007 format.

Open the file in AutoCAD and have the correct view on screen before using regen, overkill and saving as a dwg.

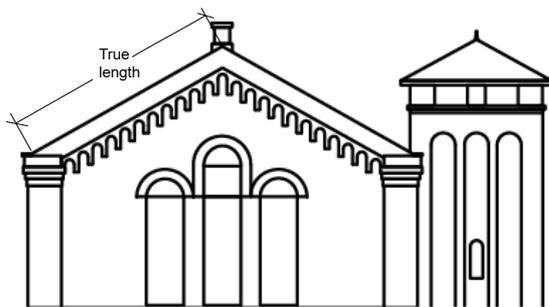**Open the DWG in Illustrator and scale from full-size.**

Scale as required: 100 would be 1:100
set units = 1 mm (direct from DigiMap units=1000mm)

Alternatively scale using the % option:

i.e. 2% = 1:50, 1% = 1:100, 0.5% =1:200, 0.2% = 1:500.

The artboard can be sized to the area of the laser cutter, or a new document can be opened at the correct size.

A1 laser	oversize	990x725mm
A2 laser		594x 420mm

DWG

DXF

True length

Group individual façades in Illustrator before moving them on the sheet. Multiple files can be opened and their contents copied onto one or more pages as required.

Parts may need to be resized to allow for material thickness at corners. Sloping roofs, etc. will need to be stretched to their correct shape.

Tidy up your design in Illustrator, making the file as simple as possible.
Un-lock and un-group all lines in the document before saving.

Drawings should be saved as:

Adobe Illustrator CS2 files.

Choose File > Save As - Illustrator

In the Illustrator Options dialog box, set the Version to Illustrator CS2.
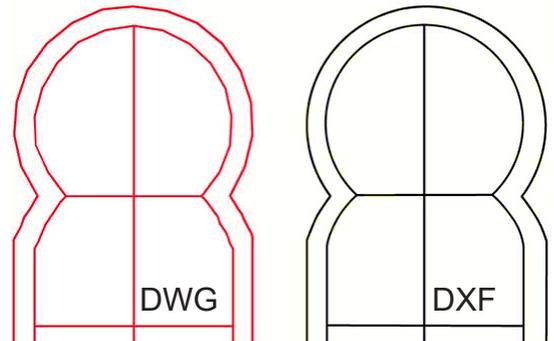
Select: Create PDF Compatible File.

De-select: Use Compression.
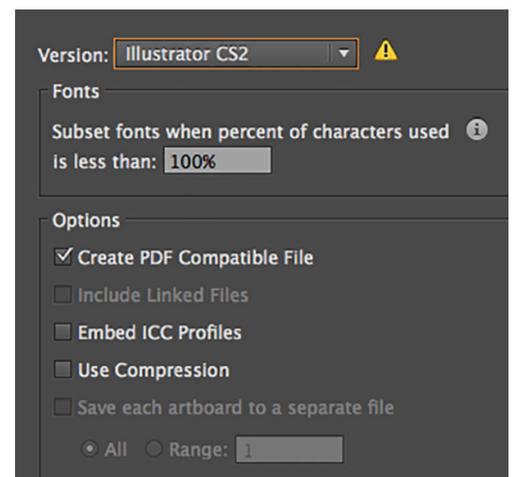

In Ethos: Open the Adobe Illustrator file.

Open a new LaserEffects document this will have cutting lines in red.

Copy all lines into this new document. Move the lines to 0 x and 0 y.

All lines will need to be coloured within Ethos and assigned a **cutting** or **etching value**.

Use the online booking form to upload the file
https://form.jotformeu.com/62242673308353

Enquiries to: EPClasercutters@port.ac.uk