



45 years
and still making the best groove in town!

Her-Saf

Made in the USA

Panel Router

Safranek Enterprises, Inc. have been making the Her-Saf Panel Router since 1961

The Panel Router was born from necessity. In the late fifties dado blades were not designed to cleanly cut the thin wood veneers being used on plywood. Some people managed to get a decent cut by pulling the workpiece backwards over the dado blades but this is a very dangerous method. Most cabinet shops were turning to router bits to solve the splintering problem. Herrmann & Safranek (a millwork shop) also looked to routers to solve the problem. Lee Safranek designed and built a bench router system to handle their dado needs. The bench router system worked but was labor intensive. Lee Safranek worked to find a better way, a way that would handle the workpiece easily, was safe to use, accurate and would reduce labor. His efforts resulted in the first panel router. A friend who was both a judge and a woodworking enthusiast saw the panel router and insisted that Lee apply for a patent. The Judge helped him to succeed in getting a patent for the crown shoe with pantographic action.

In the Spring of 1960, Haven Machinery in San Jose, California, was the first machinery distributor that agreed to take on this new product. Herrmann & Safranek decided to expand their millwork production to include machinery manufacturing. They put a new Her-Saf Panel Router on a flatbed trailer and, with one of Haven Machinery's outside salesmen leading the way, Lee and the Panel Router went door to door for several weeks showing cabinet makers an easier and faster way to put grooves in boards. That was the introduction of the Her-Saf Panel Router to the woodworking industry.

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