When you import a 3D surface or solid model, you have nothing but 3D surfaces. By looking at the Part View list, you can see that there are no features or operations listed for the setup, but there are many surfaces. These surfaces have no manufacturing information. For parts created in most CAD systems the part will be made up of many small surfaces like the one highlighted below.

**Step 1 - Import the model**

When you import a 3D surface or solid model, you have nothing but 3D surfaces. By looking at the Part View list, you can see that there are no features or operations listed for the setup, but there are many surfaces. These surfaces have no manufacturing information. For parts created in most CAD systems the part will be made up of many small surfaces like the one highlighted below.

**Step 2 - Identify the Features**

FeatureRECOGNITION provides a step-by-step graphical interface for identifying features directly from the imported surfaces. This step is also called feature recognition.

**Step 3 - Simulate Toolpaths**

Since FeatureCAM is a feature-based system, generating toolpaths is easy once you have the features. Just click the simulate button and FeatureCAM will show exactly how the part will be machined.