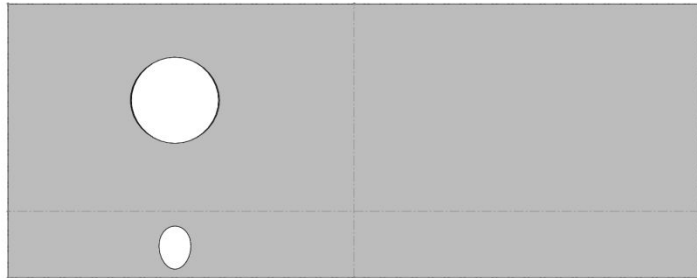# *Sheet Metal*

DigitalDimensions
Forward Engineering Solutions

Sheet Metal features have come a long way since they were first introduced back in the 1990's. SOLIDWORKS 2016 introduces 3 new enhancements to its sheet metal functionality:

- Cuts in Swept Flanges
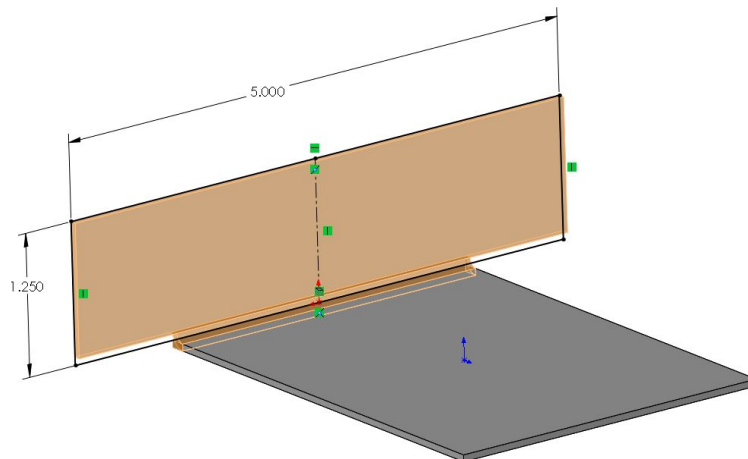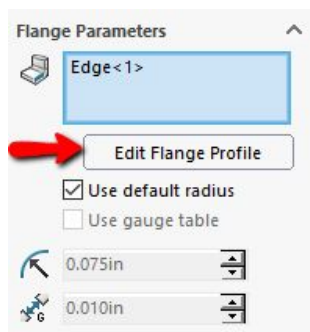- Edge Flange Extension
- Flattened Mass

Cuts in Swept Flanges

Earlier versions of *Swept Flange* features omitted any cut features when the part was viewed in its flattened configuration. Now in SOLIDWORKS 2016, any holes or cuts will be mapped to the correct location on the flat pattern.

Edge Flange Extension

You are now able to create an edge flange that is longer than the edge that it is attached to. Prior to this enhancement you would need to create a flange and then create a Tab feature to extend the profile beyond the attached edge.

Using Flattened Mass

Prior to SOLIDWORKS 2016 the only Mass value that was available for a sheet metal part was calculated in its folded state. However, this mass value was often misleading due to variables found in the manufacturing process (i.e. material stretching or compressing would change the part mass). With SOLIDWORKS 2016 you now have the option to include **Flattened Mass** as a standard file property value for sheet metal parts.