

# PRESS RELEASE



## Innovative Local 3D Printing Service Stirs Up Market and Fights Recession

**13th May 2009, Bristol, UK.** As the UK's newest 3D printing service provider, 3D Creation Lab has opened for business offering its clients practical and straightforward 3D model building options. From the company's facilities close to Bristol, 3D Creation Lab provides a multiple high-technology range of services and utilises a fast and interactive on-line quoting process, which can see clients in receipt of their models within 24 hours of confirmation of order. 3D printing is a compelling technology area that during its 20-year history has challenged the way that products — in any industrial sector — are designed and made.

3D Creation Lab is fully dedicated to providing a superior service producing high-quality three dimensional parts using Objet's Polyjet technology and Z Corporations's colour 3D printers. By choosing to offer these technologies, the company can produce models and prototypes that meet many needs — in functional and coloured materials. This, in combination with the quick and responsive nature of the quoting process is a direct reflection of the key philosophy driving the 3D Creation Lab concept — no-nonsense quality and value for money.

For many local, national or indeed, global manufacturers that are necessarily focused on their cost and balance sheets in the current climate of economic turmoil and company shut-downs, 3D printing offers a viable solution for ongoing R&D. This is particularly true when a company looking to gain or maintain a competitive edge can do so **and** avoid any capital investment in the technology by using the services of a 3rd party service provider that can cost-effectively meet targets and deadlines as required.

What is more, this service is available to anybody, the company does not just supply to businesses — but to anyone that can benefit from the 3D printing process. Any aspiring designer, entrepreneur with a new idea or enthusiastic model maker that needs to make a one-off product, verify a design, make an ornament, to name a few of many applications; 3D Creation Lab offers a quick and affordable solution.

The 3D Creation Lab web site offers visitors a wealth of information on 3D Printing in general, the specific platform technologies that the company offers, the various options available in terms of turn around times, materials and cost; together with a complete walk-through of the quoting process for first-time users and how to maximise the benefits of the service by optimising software files before uploading. With a comprehensive FAQ section, Knowledge Bank and informative and entertaining blog the website is a must-visit for 3D printing veterans and newcomers alike.



***A 3D model produced using Objet's Polyjet process.***

***Hi-res image available on request.***

Incidentally, for the growing number of iphone users out there, has anyone else designed and built a 3D model from their phone?

### **Note to Editors: About 3D Printing**

3D printing pertains to a host of related processes that are used to 'print' three-dimensional physical objects - in single sub-millimetre layers - directly from 3D CAD data. The revolutionary aspect of 3D printing processes is their additive nature compared with traditional prototyping processes, which are subtractive. 3D printing machines add and bond materials in ultra-thin layers to form the required part or model — such systems are also known as additive fabrication, rapid prototyping, and layered manufacturing machines. Today's additive technologies offer many advantages for a broad range of product development applications compared with classical subtractive fabrication methods such as milling, machining or turning.

One of the key advantages of additive processes is the ability to build parts with complex geometries and intricate details without the need for elaborate machine setup or final assembly, which are both time consuming and cost-intensive, and in some cases 3D printing has proved to be the only method that can meet some complexity demands. 3D printing systems can reduce the construction of complex objects to a manageable, straightforward and relatively fast process - while also reducing the associated costs.

Many of the dominant 3D printing processes have seen huge technological developments in recent years and the applications for which they are used have grown exponentially. From aesthetic concept models through to fully functional prototypes in materials that replicate the final production product, 3D printing can significantly reduce product development cycle times.

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