SPOTLIGHT ON: THE COST VALUE OF 3D PRINTING

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COST SAVINGS IN MULTIPLE AREAS

3D printed prototypes and final parts production is proven to save time and money:

- by reducing the total life cycle cost
- by increasing development speed
- by allowing design optimization with unlimited geometries
- by enhancing communication to clients and investors
- by producing customized/personalized manufactured products



1. TOTAL LIFE CYCLE COST REDUCTION

3D Printing # of ChangesIterative, rapid prototyping to modify
and prove out design can be done at
the front end of the product life cycle
when costs are lowest

When investment in tooling, factory prep, personnel is committed, the cost to change design is highest

Traditional Manufacturing # of Changes

Cost per Change

Traditional prototyping occurs in the latter stages of design, and are often expensive handbuilt or one-off models

Concept Development
Detail Design

Build / Test
Manufacture / Ship

Time

2. DEVELOPMENT SPEED

Rapid prototyping and fit and function testing leads to faster design iteration

By prototyping early, design revisions are done without retooling, saving time as well as costs. Time to a finished design can be significantly reduced

Concept Development

Detail Design

Build / Test

/ Manufacture Ship

3D Printing Time to Market

Traditional Time to Market

3. OPTIMIZED DESIGN

With 3D printing's ability to produce virtually any geometry, designs can be drawn organically to minimize cost, weight and material use.



Optimized Airbus A380 bracket printed in stainlesssteel (front) as a replacement for the standard cast steel bracket (rear)



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4. ENHANCED COMMUNICATION

Concept and display models can be built with full and accurate detail to impress investors, customers and design team members

Finished product (top) Concept Model (bottom)



Photo credit: Hackett3D



Scale model of EasiHeat Exchanger for trade show display

Photo credit: Moldmaking Technology



5. CUSTOMIZED MANUFACTURING

3D printers can build unique parts at the same time, allowing mass production of personalized products. Whether it's individualized braces or joint replacements, each part can customized but built together on the same platform



Photo credit: Align Technology





ABOUT INTERMOUNTAIN 3D INC

Intermountain 3D was started in 2014 to bring commercial 3D printing and scanning to manufacturers, product designers and entrepreneurs in the pacific northwest.

Engineer to Engineer

When you work with Intermountain 3D, you tap into decades of professional engineering experience, brought to bear on the specific problems and opportunities your project presents. More than just consulting, our engineers work with you to ensure what you envision is actually produced: in CAD drawings, prototypes, production parts, or design-for-manufacturing files.

You know your products; we know 3D design, prototyping and production. Whether you're a one-person shop or 200-people strong, Intermountain 3D is an extension of your team and focused on your success.

Contact us to see how we can help

