

New technology – 3D printing

Sculpteo, the 3D printing specialist website for people at large

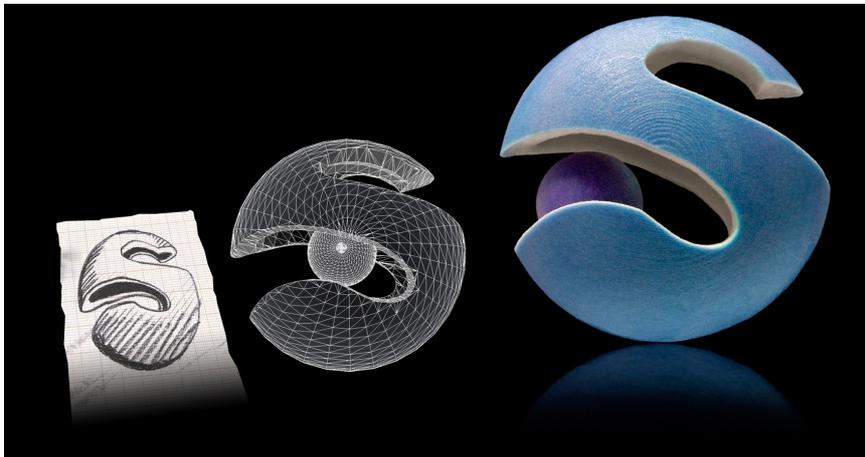
The technology of 3D printing

1. 3D printing in a few words

3D printing is a process which allows to make a real object from a 3D file. The final object is created by successive layers of material.

This technology is bound to people who wish to turn concept into concrete, imagination into reality. The virtual will be transformed in a tangible object, which can be handled and put on situation.

A few hours is enough to make this dream come true, with a price more affordable than the other making techniques (casting, machining..).



2. The Sculpteo 3D printers

Sculpteo owns 2 printers, one (Zcorp) located in the headquarter in Vanves, and the other (Eos) in its workshop in the Pyrenees :

- [Formiga P100 from Eos](#)
Monochrome printing, laser system.
Available material : plastic, flexible when the object is fine, and very strong..
- [ZPrinter 650 from ZCorp](#)
Monochrome and colored printing.
Available material : a high-performance compound, which has the appearance of a plaster casting.
Quite breakable for small details. Non optimal use for jointed objects. Colored during building of the part.

The maximum size for a 3D printing depends on the chosen machine :

- on the Formiga P100 from Eos : 200 mm x 250 mm x 319 mm
- on the ZPrinter 650 from ZCorp : 254 mm x 381 mm x 203 mm

The minimum thickness to have a strong object depends on the used material.

In white plastic, a wall with a thickness of 0.8mm would be reasonably strong but flexible. Above 2 mm walls are really strong.

In colored material, the minimum wall thickness is 3 mm to be sure that the object will be strong enough.

The Sculpteo services to make 3D printing accessible to people at large

Sculpteo offers a 3D printing service, fast and available for everyone. Starting from a 3D design, Sculpteo makes a specific object : interior decoration, characters, robots, miniatures, models, mechanic objects...

The website also aims to develop the community side, by allowing the scoring of the models and the addition of comments. A blog has also been launched to put in light the experience sharing on new functionalities and on the original orders of customers.

This community platform allows to upload its own 3D design, to buy creations made by 3D designers, to share ideas, to create models directly online, and to make them real thanks to 3D printing.

The objects are delivered directly at home, to get the most of them.

1. 3D printing for all, from beginners to professionals

- For the experts in 3D creation : they just have to design a 3D model on their usual software, then to upload the file on the website to order their object.

A repair service for the broken models is proposed for free, in order to match the models with 3D printing.

The 3D creators can also open their shop on the website and earn a royalty on each 3D printing ordered from their models.

- For the beginners in 3D conception : advices are given on the website to upload free software such as Sketchup, Wings 3D or Blender.

They can also create models directly online, with different modules : text in 3D, geometric forms, images in relief and free key rings.

Finally, they can order objects from the creations made by the 3D designers, who sell their models on the website.

2. Affordable prices for people at large

Sculpteo has implemented a tapering charges system depending on the volume, to make 3D printing more affordable to people at large than the other making techniques (casting, machining...).

Sculpteo has also a price policy for its launch, with regular promotion offers, and offers for its loyal customers.

A team devoted to innovation

Eric Carreel and Clément Moreau associated themselves into a new challenge, by creating Sculpteo in September 2009.

They quickly succeeded to surround themselves with technical, commercial and marketing skills, to assure the website development.

The team is divided into 2 experts centers : the workshop team make the printing of the 3D designs, with different techniques, and take in charge the delivery of the objects. Whereas the web portal team devises and operates the online services, and assures the promotion of the Sculpteo brand and the customers relationship. Sculpteo invests one million euros per year in research and development to be innovative in the online 3D applications.

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