



# ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING AIDS: JIGS & FIXTURES



# THE 3D PRINTING SOLUTIONS COMPANY™



## Agenda

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Section 1: The Stratasys Ecosystem

Section 2: Overview of Manufacturing Aids: Jigs and Fixtures

Section 3: Transforming the Manufacturing Floor

Section 4: Traditional Processes

Section 5: Challenges and Opportunities

Section 6: Customer Stories



SECTION ONE

# The Stratasy's Ecosystem

# The Stratasys Ecosystem



01 —————  
3D printers and 3D  
production systems

02 —————  
Stratasys Direct  
Manufacturing™

03 —————  
Industry expertise  
and specialized  
applications

04 —————  
Stratasys Strategic  
Consulting

05 —————  
Professional  
Services and  
Customer Support

06 —————  
Extensive range  
of materials

07 —————  
Design and  
engineering  
communities

08 —————  
Strategic  
partnerships

# Our Solutions

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Automotive



Aerospace



Medical



Education



Dental



Commercial  
Products



Consumer  
Products

## Industry-Specific Applications

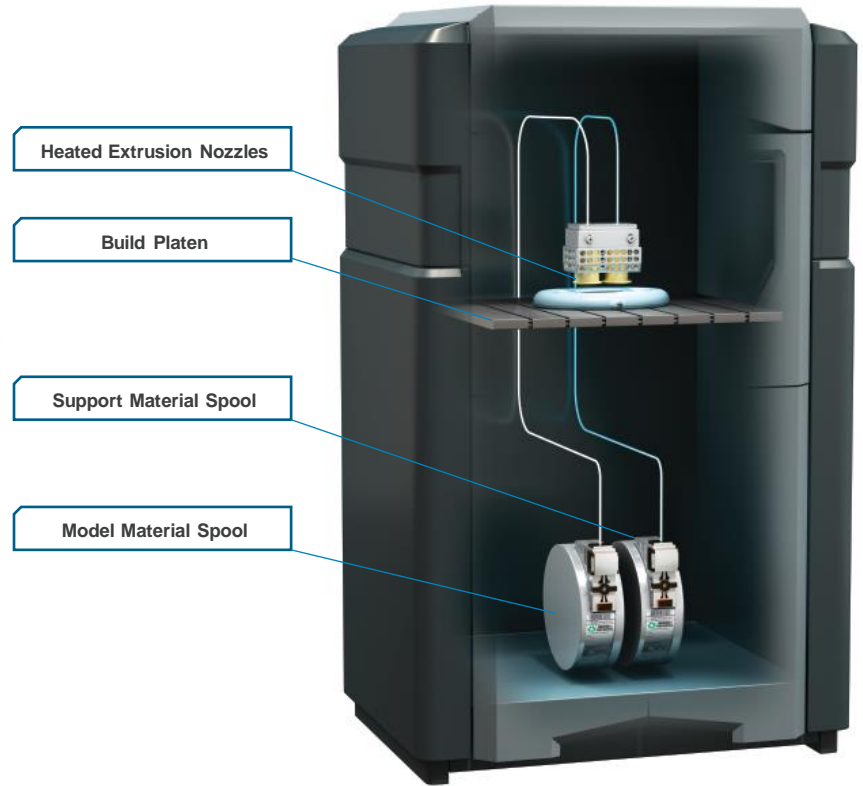
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- » Investments in advanced applications spark innovation in targeted industries
- » Custom solutions, such as certified materials, are developed to fit unique needs of each industry
- » Dedicated personnel have deep expertise in education, dental, medical, aerospace, automotive and manufacturing

# FDM® (Fused Deposition Modeling)



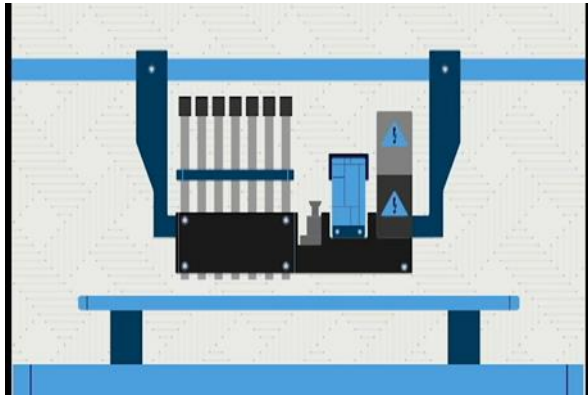
Thermoplastic filament is heated to a semi-liquid state and extruded across computer-controlled tool paths to build parts layer-upon-layer.



# PolyJet™



PolyJet 3D Printing works similarly to inkjet printing, but instead of jetting drops of ink onto paper, PolyJet 3D Printers jet layers of curable liquid photopolymers on to a build platen.





SECTION TWO

# Overview of Manufacturing Tooling: Jigs and Fixtures

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# Jigs & Fixtures Definitions

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## Jigs

- Custom-made tools used to **guide & control the location and motion** of another workpiece during an operation. An example of a jig is a drill guide.
- Purpose is to provide repeatability, accuracy, and interchangeability as well as to maximize efficiency in the manufacturing of products.

## Fixtures

- Devices used to **locate & hold a work piece in a fixed location** during either a machining operation or any other industrial process. Examples of fixtures are chucks and vises.
- Purpose is to maintain consistent quality, reduce cost of production, enable a variety of parts to be made to correct specifications.

# Types of Jigs and Fixtures

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**General Purpose:** Usually relatively inexpensive (off the shelf). Can be used to hold a variety of types and sizes of work pieces. (Examples: vises, chucks, clamps, collets, etc.)



**Special Purpose:** Designed and produced to hold a particular work piece for a specific operation on a specific machine or process.



# Jigs and Fixtures: Departments

**Quality Control** - Tooling to aid in the inspection and QC process, specialty holding devices or measurement aids



**Packaging & Logistics** - Tooling designed for movement of parts within a facility or during shipment



**R&D** - Tooling used in the early phases of product development and manufacturing



**Assembly** - Tooling for the assembly process, aiding workers to align and hold parts during assembly



## General Manufacturing Floor



**Health & Safety** - Specialty tooling designed to aid worker safety and address ergonomic issues in the production environment



**Production** - Parts and tools for the equipment used in the fabrication process



# Jigs & Fixtures: Common Terminology

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## Production & Assembly

- Alignment Tools
- Holding Devices
- Feeders
- Hand Tools
- Check Tools
- Surrogate Parts
- End Effectors
- Milling Fixtures
- Drill Guides

## Health & Safety

- Hand/Wrist Guards
- Holding Devices
- Bumpers and Guards
- Ergonomic conversion

## Quality Control & Inspection

- Check Gauges
- Work Holding Devices
- Test Fixtures
- Go/No-Go Tools
- Surrogate Parts

## Packaging & Logistics

- Surrogate Parts
- Tool Guards
- Dunnage Trays
- Thermoforming Molds
- Kit Boxes



SECTION THREE

# Transforming the Manufacturing Floor



# Streamline Production Floor Workflows

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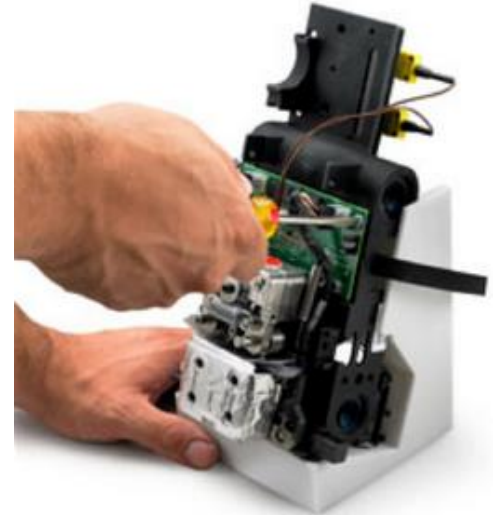
3D printing jigs and fixtures optimize manufacturing by reducing cost and cycle time, while increasing product quality and repeatability.



# Most Important Considerations

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- Accuracy
- Durability
- Ease of use
- Workforce safety
- Economy in production
- Line flexibility

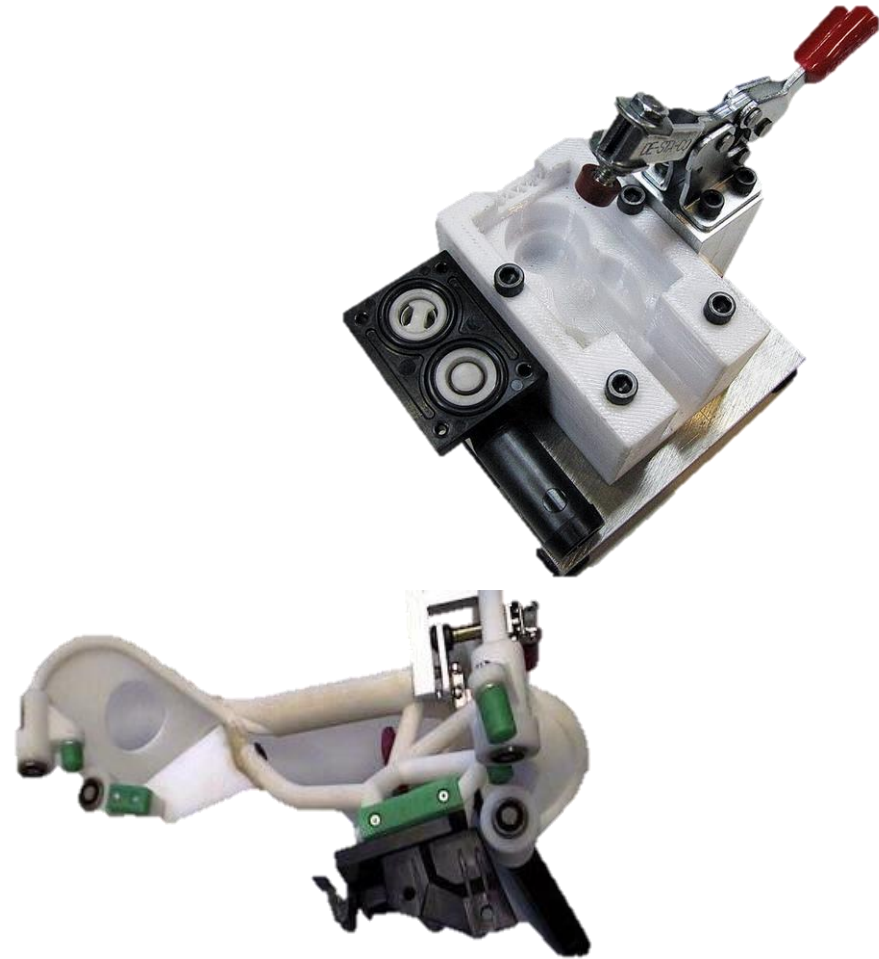




# Objectives

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- Ensure interchangeability and accuracy of parts manufactured
- Minimize the possibility of human error
- Permit the use of medium-skilled labor
- Reduce manufacturing time
- Allow production of repeat orders without retooling
- Custom, low-volume products





SECTION FOUR

# Traditional Processes

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# Traditional Processes

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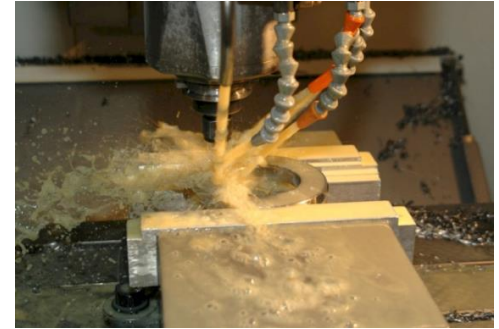
## Fabrication Techniques:

- CNC
- Manual processes – welding, assembly

## Typical Materials:

- Wood
- Plastic – Acetal/POM (Delrin®)
- Metals – Steel and Aluminum

Process and Assembly Time – Days to Weeks





SECTION FIVE

# Challenges and Opportunities

# Today's Challenges

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- Long machine set-ups
- Variation during assembly and fitting
- Complicated part-holding requirements
- Ease of handling and transportation
- Defects caught too far down production line
- Employee safety and ergonomics
- Cost, time, and storage prevents manufacturers from producing needed efficiency tools



# Addressing Today's Challenges

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- Complex geometries no longer a barrier
- Design flexibility
- Shorten set-up times
- Part consolidation
- Integrated features
- Improved ergonomics
- Simple duplication



# Value Proposition

## Increased Operational Efficiency:

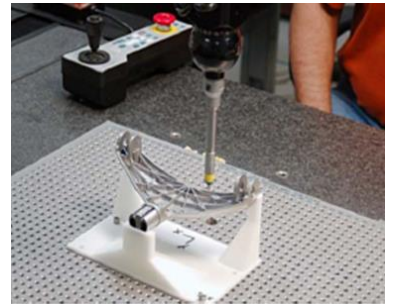
- Bring new manufacturing lines online faster
- Enable low-volume precision assembly
- On-demand tooling with digital inventory

## Lower Costs:

- AM technologies have less material waste than machining
- Hybrid solutions allow for lowest cost
- Reduction in the cost of poor quality

## Greater Design Freedom and Improved Performance:

- Consolidate several components to reduce tool complexity
- Integrate features – fastener, RFID, pockets, text, etc.
- Redesign for ergonomics or maximum functionality rather than manufacturability
- Customize to user and/or operation



# Benefits of 3D Printing/Additive Manufacturing

## Time & cost savings:

- 40-90% lead time reduction
- 70-95% cost reduction

## Streamlined, efficient process

- Minimize PO & payment requirements
- Immediate response to needs from manufacturing floor

## Digital inventory

- Reduction in storage space
- Quick replacement or design revision
- Simple duplication

## Identifying the Best Fit Tools that:

- ✓ Are complex
- ✓ Have multiple components to consolidate
- ✓ Can be improved for better ergonomics
- ✓ Would benefit from weight reduction
- ✓ Require user or function customization
- ✓ Have low quantities (1-100+)



SECTION SIX

# Customer Use Cases

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# Opel

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## Optimized Assembly Floor Tools:

- Tooling is designed to last
- Created customized tools for workers and vehicle models
- Shortened design development times drastically

Reduced tooling costs up to 90%

Materials:

FDM Nylon 12 and ASA

# Solaxis



## Door Seal Assembly Jig:

- Allowed for a 4 second per cycle decrease, with over 250,000 cycles per year
- ROI on jig in 12 months based on time saved
- Integrated components - locking pins and feedback light

Weight savings – From 150 lbs to 28 lbs (>80%)

Time savings – 16-20 weeks to 3-5 weeks (>75%)

## Materials:

ULTEM™ 9085 resin and FDM Nylon 12



# Volvo Truck



## Assembly and Manufacturing Aids:

- Improved overall plant flexibility and efficiency – reducing time and waste
- Using additive manufacturing for over 30 different internal tools
- Enables the equipment design team to be far more responsive, now able to create one-off and custom fixtures

Cost savings – As much as 99% savings

Time savings – 36 days to 2 days (94%)

Material:

ABS-M30

# Genesis

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## Fabrication Tooling : End Effectors

- Part consolidation and integration of air lines directly into tool
- Ability to increase uptime with digital inventory and on-demand tooling
- Lower tool weight opens possibility to use smaller, less expensive robots

Weight savings – 35 lbs to 3 lbs (91%)

Time savings – 20 days to 3 days (85%)

Material:

ULTEM™ 9085 resin

# Summary

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- Reduction of tooling costs is a key part in manufacturing costs savings.
- Jigs & fixtures are a subset of the broader global tooling market, used throughout the manufacturing process in various departments.
- Many companies are adopting 3D printing to manufacture new jigs & fixtures, enabling lower costs, lighter tools, lower storage costs and customization to the specific requirements.
- FDM offers a significant value over traditional metal jigs and fixtures.
- FDM tooling can be a 1:1 replacement in many applications.
- Additive manufacturing provides design flexibility that removes the restrictions of traditional manufacturability.

## More Information and Resources

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[www.Stratasys.com/Webinar-ManufacturingAids](http://www.Stratasys.com/Webinar-ManufacturingAids)

- View webinar on-demand
- Download webinar slides
- Download application documents





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# Questions?



THANK YOU

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