

FOUNDRIES & 3D PRINTING

Foundries have been using 3D printing for quite some time, leveraging it for years as a competitive tool. As the 3D printing market gains more and more momentum, what does this mean for Foundries today? Follow along to gain a better understanding of 3D Printing and Foundries – a modern pairing and cause for success.

UNLIMITED CUSTOMIZATION

Pattern makers no longer need to factor in the limits of a cutting machine when designing their patterns - whatever they can dream and design is more than probable, despite complex geometry, thanks to the additive process of 3D printing.



ACCURACY

The precision of a 3D printing bodes well for foundries, whose sand-cast tolerances are plus or minus 1/32nd of an inch. Closer tolerance parts are in high demand by customers seeking to reduce waste and ensure consistency in their end-products.



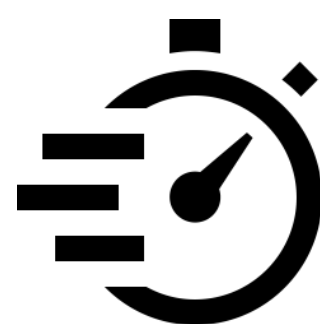
PATTERN ENHANCEMENTS

Components like locks, pins, and other detailed products used to be added to the pattern. Now, those parts are built into the 3D design, saving time and money on additional labor and parts.



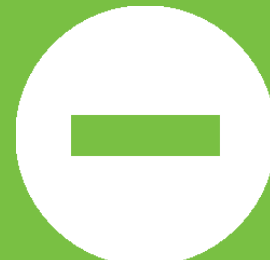
FAST & EFFICIENT

Foundry patterns that took weeks to design and then fabricate now take hours from CAD design to finished product. This efficiency gets your product to market faster.



REDUCED WEIGHT

Traditional methods require additional materials for things like sand casting to ensure safe removal of the product from the pattern. The 3D printing process doesn't require extra materials, thus reducing the weight of the final product.



REDUCED COST

Now that tooling products take less time to make, foundries will no longer need to store a customer's pattern if they are uncertain it will be used again. Now, they can just print up a new one once an order is renewed. This saves costs on warehouse storage, therefore improving profitability.



\$33.7
Billion

Dollars attributed to the foundry industry.

50 States

Number of states with foundry facilities. The top 8 are: OH, PA, WI, CA, MI, IL, TX, IN.

200,000
Jobs

Amount of jobs directly provided by foundries in the U.S. alone.

90%

Amount of durable goods that include castings.

Automotive
Trucking
Aerospace
Oil & Gas
Infrastructure

Just a few of the industries that depend on castings.

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SOURCES:
Danko Arlington: www.dankoarlington.com
ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING: www.additivemanufacturing.media
American Foundry Society: www.afsinc.org