

# Additive Manufacturing @ BW

Adding Layers of Flexibility to Design, Manufacturing, & Sourcing



# Session Agenda



- Updates Making the complex simple
- Tools & Support to simplifying and drive adoption
- Additive Manufacturing's Impact @ BW
  - Enabling Quick-Turnaround in Converting
  - SpeedLinerX Product Development at Papersystems
  - High Value Applications at BWFS
- Simplifying Adoption with relevant examples



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# **Quick Updates**

- New Team Members supporting
  - Elisa Jara in Stuttgart



- Progressing with our Strategic Vision
  - Two Global Additive Manufacturing Centers (AMC's) now open
  - AMC-Stuttgart & AMC-Clearwater
- Support Available to help with implementation
  - Hands-on Training, Workshops, Site Visits, and more
- Printing production parts across the enterprise
  - Get started now to save time & cost, simplify sourcing, and enhance designs!

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### WHY use the AMC's?

#### Internal AMC utilization is vital to our success in AM

- Provides expertise & experience
- Standards Quality Reduced Variability
- Industrial Capabilities + Capacity (scale)

#### Why use the AMC now?

- High utilization = lowest possible cost
- Consistent material, process, and design standards
- Centers in both EMEA and NA enables consistent global production



About more than just cost savings  $\rightarrow$  provides responsive manufacturing and ensures stable / resilient supply

# **HOW** to implement AM?

Knowledge Building (Training)

Hands-on Experience (Prototyping)



Production & Support @ AMC's



# **HOW?** → Training & Support Options

Virtual or In-Person Training Walk the Floor Visits

Hands-On Workshops

Design Reviews









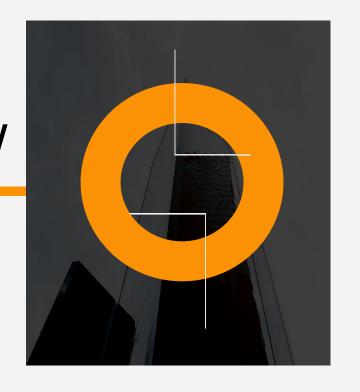
# Simplifying Adoption



- Why?
- → Benefits
- Where?
  - → Examples

- How?
- → Tools & Support

### Where & Why – AM Across BW



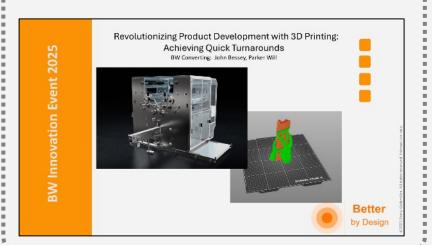


# WHERE, WHEN, WHY to use AM?

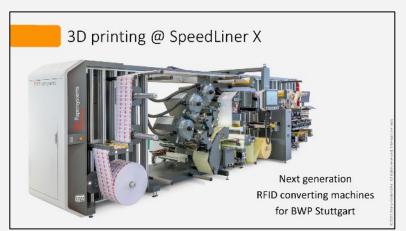
Real world BW examples illustrating Applications, Processes, and Value

On-site printers

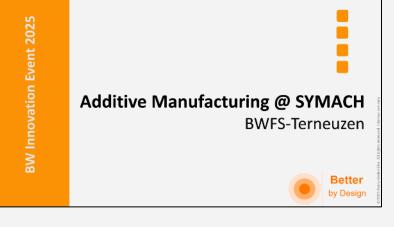






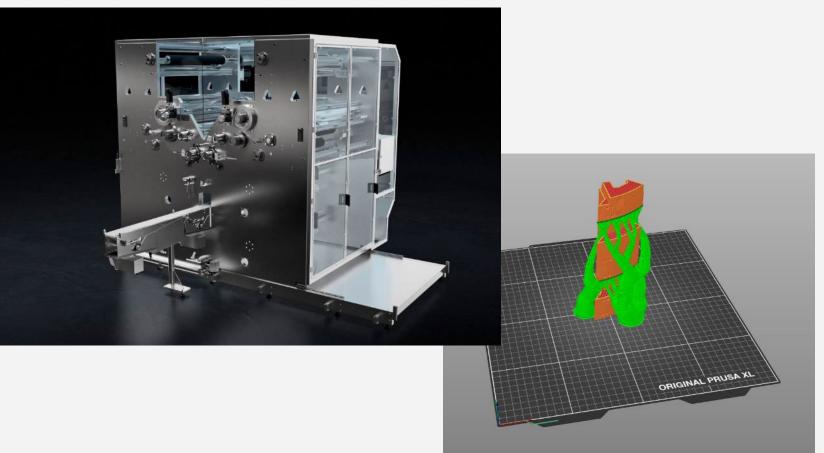






# Revolutionizing Product Development with 3D Printing: Achieving Quick Turnarounds

BW Converting: John Bessey, Parker Will





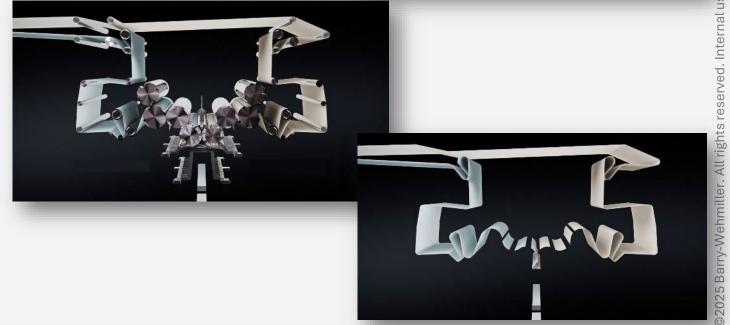
Better by Design

### Introduction

#### Vertis Rotary Interfolder

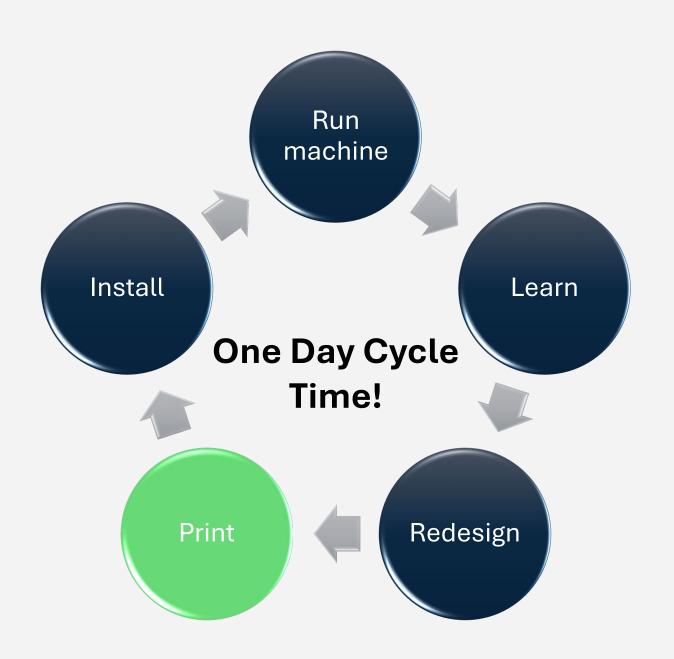
- Produce tear-resistant wet wipes from biodegradable materials
- Multiple unknowns requiring innovative solutions and rapid iterations
  - Vacuum system
  - Prefold rolls
  - Knife rolls
  - Stacking and separating
  - Gripping and tucking





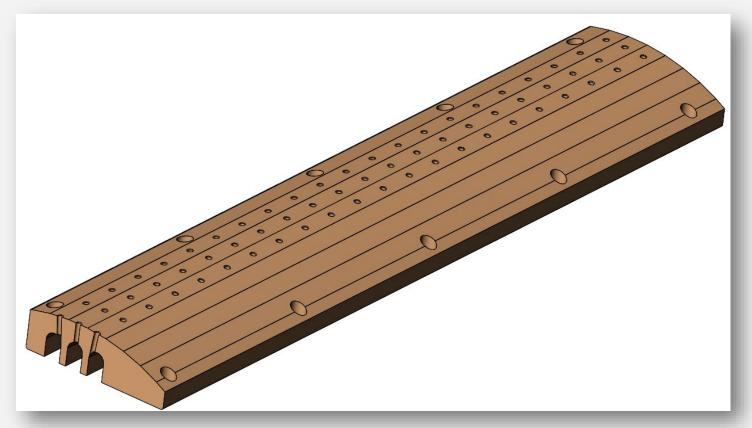
# **Quick Turn Story**

- Run machine to identify issues
- Learn from performance data
- Redesign components to address problems
- Print new parts using 3D technology
- Install components for testing
- Re-Run machine again to validate improvements



# Run and Learn - Quick Turn Story

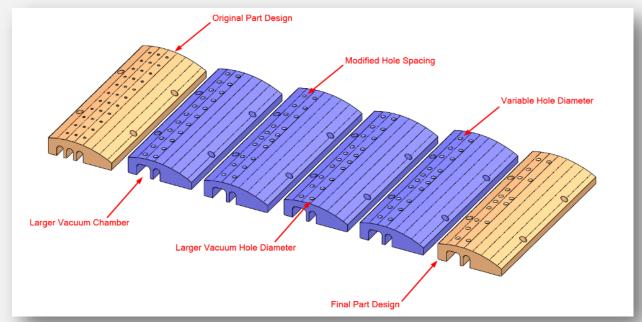
- Original part analysis revealed design limitations
- Identified specific issues to address:
  - Inconsistent web handling during operation
  - Excessive component wear reducing lifespan/indicating interferences
  - Vacuum efficiency problems affecting product handling



# Redesign - Quick Turn Story

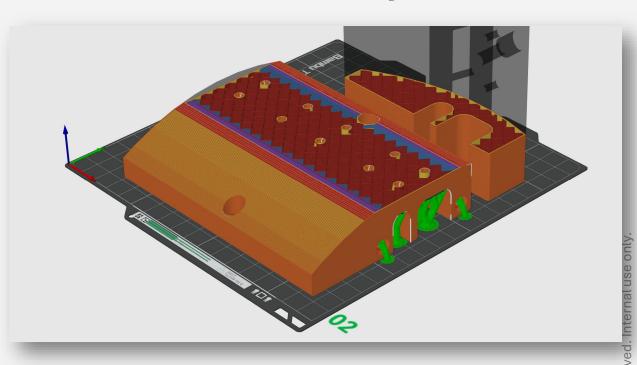
- Innovation through Incremental Design
  - Simulation only takes you so far for Non-Woven substrate
  - Enhanced vacuum channel geometry
    - Larger vacuum chamber
    - Modified hole spacing
    - Larger vacuum hole diameter
    - Variable vacuum hole diameter

Many design iterations are needed



# 3D Print Learnings - Quick Turn Story

- Developed a Local Community of Practice
  - Printer and slicer capabilities
  - Print best practices
    - Materials, # of walls, infill type, infill %, support, types of support
    - Learn advanced features
  - Printer Operation/Collaboration Tracking Sheet
  - Print Failure Modes and Recovery
- Build Teamwork
  - Rally around a cause



4	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G F	1	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG		
					Quantity	Total	Total	Print Progress Tracking						Drint Cottings											
1	Part Number	Priority	Owner	Printer	Needed	'l in   Complete ■ P = Printing F = Finished X = Delivered ■						183													
2						Progress	& Delivered	1	2	3	4		6	7					Infill Pattern	Walls		Supports	Notes		
14	314/031/		John Bessey	Bessey PCIVIC Core One #1				X	Х	Λ	٨	^	Λ Ι	N/A	IN/A	PLA	0.1511111	10%	Recumear	2	INO	INO			
15	31476517		John Bessey	PCMC Core One #2				Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	PLA	0.15mm	10%	Rectilinear	2	No	No	Print Standing on End		
16	31476517.001.01	High	Eric Jensen	Home	30	30	30	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	PLA	0.15mm	10%	Rectilinear	2	No	No	Need 30 complete parts, .001.01 & .001.02 are split halves. It does not matter which way the parts are		
17	31476517.001.02		Eric Jensen	Home				Х	Х	X	N/A N	I/A I	N/A	A/N	N/A	PLA	0.15mm	10%	Rectilinear	2	No	No	printed so long as the total is correct.		
18	31476517.001.02		John Bessey	PCMC Core One #1				Х	Х	Х	X N	I/A I	N/A	A/N	N/A	PLA	0.15mm	10%	Rectilinear	2	No	No			
19	31476517.001.02		Cory Schubring	Home				Х	Х	Х	Х	X I	N/A	A/N	N/A	PLA	0.15mm	10%	Rectilinear	2	No	No			
	31461911.3DP	Mid	John Bessey	PCMC XL	2	2	2	2	2	х	х	N/A I	N/A N	I/A I	N/A I	N/A	N/A	PLA	0.2mm	15%	Rectilinear	Standard	l No	No	Print with groove facing upward
20		,																					5-7 top surface layers (wear surface)		
	31461911.002.3DP	Mid	John Bessey	PCMC XL	2	2	2	v	l x	NI/A I	u/Λ   Λ	1/A N	NI/A I	N/A N/	N/A	PLA	0.2mm	15%	Rectilinear	Standard	No	No	Print with groove facing upward		
21	31401311.002.3DF	iviiu	Joini Bessey	PCIVIC XL	2		- 2		2	^	^	IV/A	*/-A I	77	V/A	V/A	IV/A	FLA	0.2/1111	1370	Recuilled	Standard	NO	NO	5-7 top surface layers (wear surface)

# 3D Print Learnings - Quick Turn Story

- Install/run
  - Did we solve our problems

- Many design cycles
  - Performed daily design cycle iterations from November, '24 to April, '25
- Start with 3D Print prototyping right away.



Look Familiar?



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# **Process Timeline Comparison**

Week 1			Week 2						Week 3			Week 4								
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday			Wednesday			Monday		Wednesday		Friday
Additive Manufacturing		Slicing / Printing		Machine	Update 3D Model	Printing		Machine	3D Model	_	Printing	Test in Machine	Update 3D Model	Slicing / Printing	Printing	Test in Machine	Update 3D Model	Slicing / Printing	Printing	Test in Machine
Conventional Production		Quoting	Cut PO	Leadtime Day 1	Leadtime Day 2	Leadtime Day 3	Leadtime Day 4	Leadtime Day 5	Shipping / Receiving	Test in Machine	Update 3D	Quoting	Cut PO	Leadtime Day 1				Leadtime	Shipping /	Test in Machine

#### Additive Manufacturing:

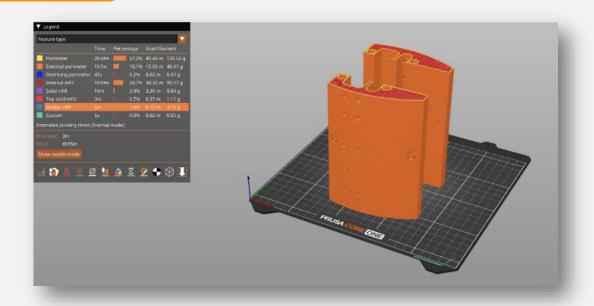
- Quick iterations and part production
- Cuts out traditional bottle-necks
- Doesn't rely on outside resources (vendors, transportation, etc)

#### **Conventional Production:**

- Complex system with slow results
- Requires involvement from several departments and processes
- Subject to delays

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### **Process Cost Comparison**



#### Additive Manufacturing:

- Cost of material (\$8)
- Cost of printer wear and tear (\$28)
- \$432 per iteration \$192 in material



#### **Conventional Production:**

- Cost of machined Acetal part (\$630)
- Cost of internal operations
- 30-day lead time
- \$15,120 per iteration

# Process Impacts and Key Takeaways

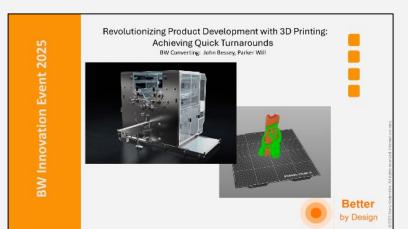
- Validated in-house printing capabilities
- New 3D printers
  - Greatly increased part production and decreased testing down-time
- Exposed team members to additive manufacturing
- Facilitated mindset shifts regarding 3D printing in a test environment

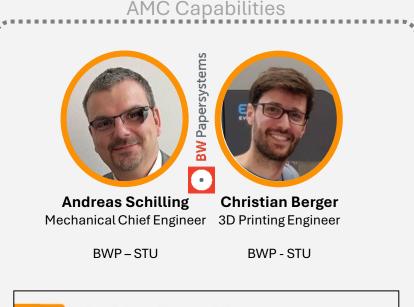


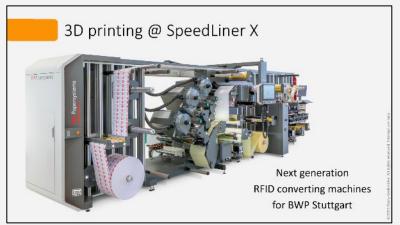
# WHERE, WHEN, WHY to use AM?

Real world BW examples illustrating Applications, Processes, and Value









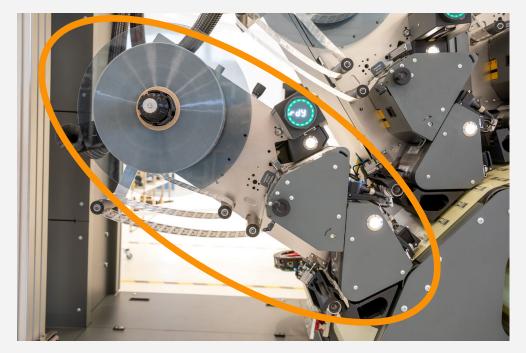




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# 3D printing @ SpeedLiner X





The next generation RFID converting machines for BWP Stuttgart feature an entirely new designed attaching module for the RFID inlays!

It is the key-component! Everything had to be invented from scratch!

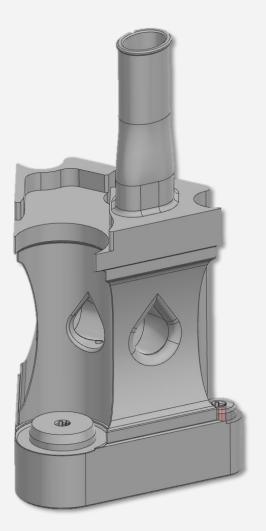
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# Fast iteration with 3D printing

Vacuum suction box for the attaching module of SpeedLiner X!

#### Initial idea:

- 3D printed
- Single piece design
- No leakage

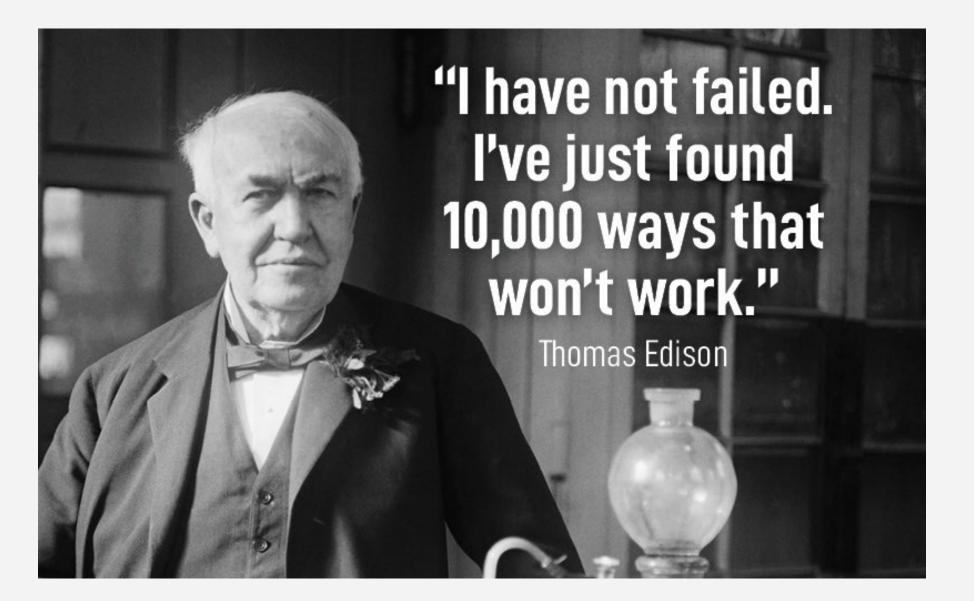


Initial design/idea

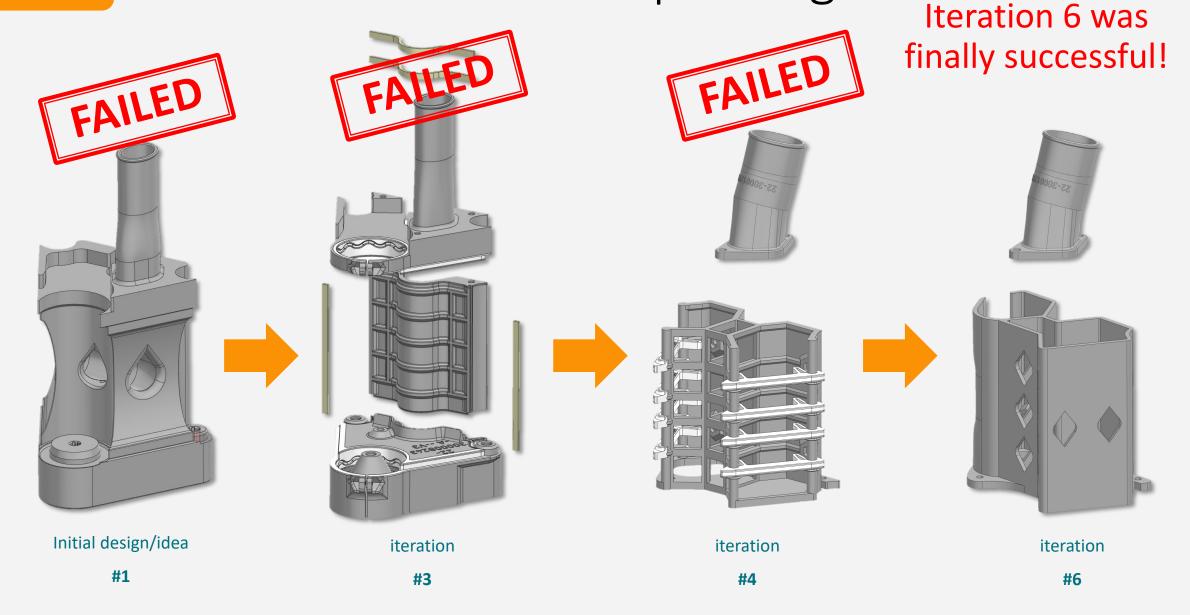




# Fast iteration with 3D printing



# Fast iteration with 3D printing



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# Fast iteration with 3D printing

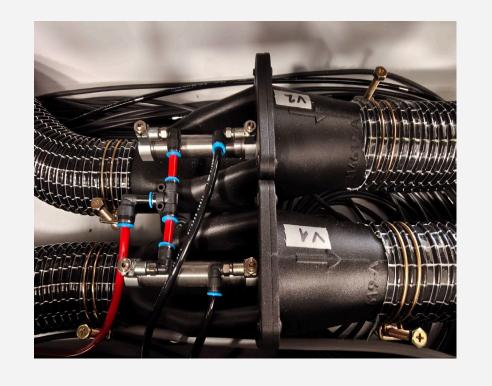


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# 3D printing @ SpeedLiner X

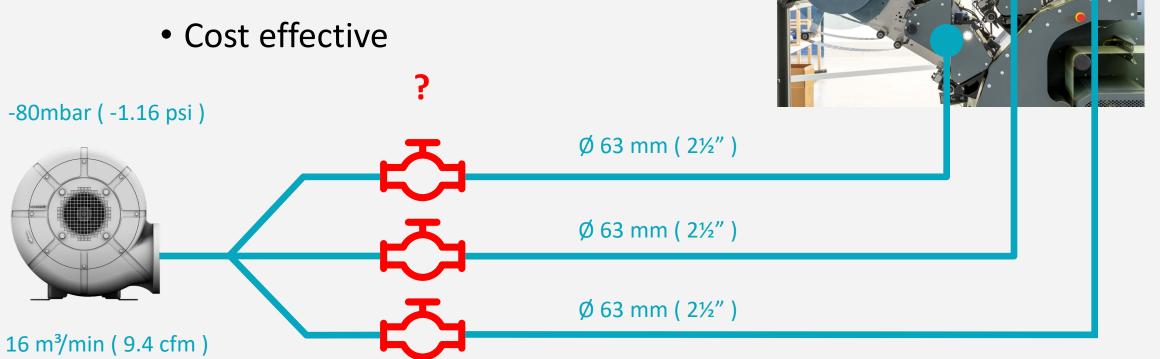




With the SpeedLiner X, we also redesigned the vacuum system completely!

How to switch on / off vacuum:

- Big hose diameter
- Fast
- Compact



Option 1

2½" BÜRKERT valve



≈ 350,-\$

(5,2 kg / 11,5 lbs)

Option 2

2½" MAC valve series 59



≈ 600,-\$

(6,3 kg / 14 lbs)

Option 3

2½" TAMESON pinch valve



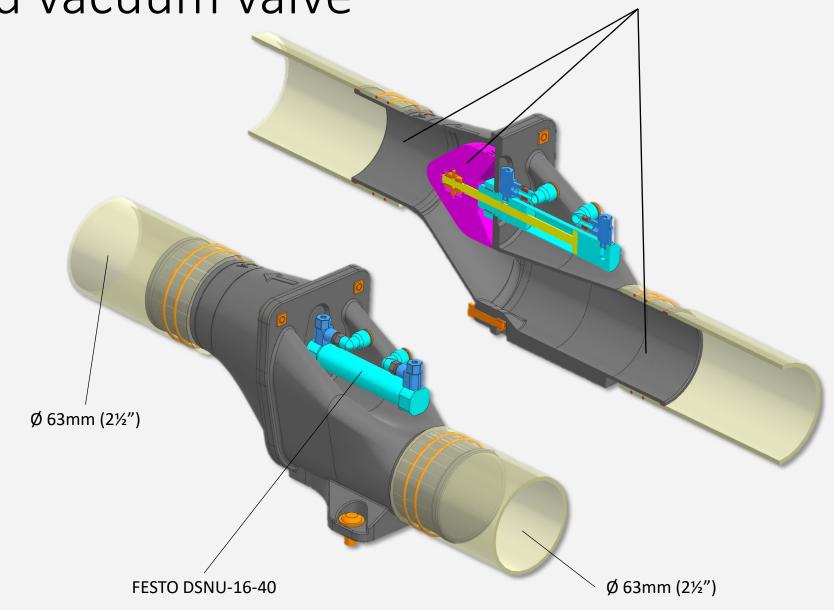
≈ 1000,-\$

3D printed

Our solution: pneumatically operated "bathtub plug"

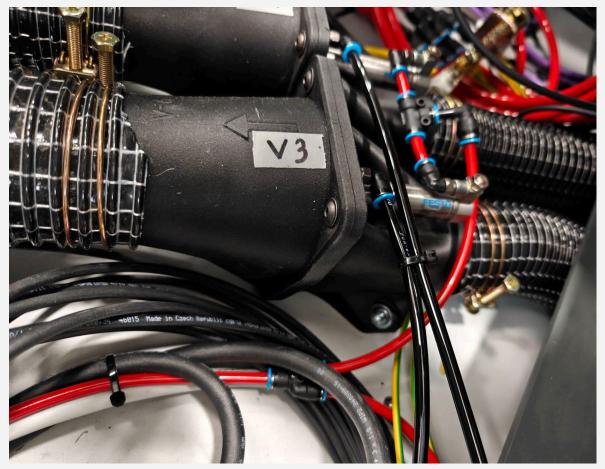
Almost no restriction to the airflow!

(pressure loss < 1 mbar / 0.014 psi)

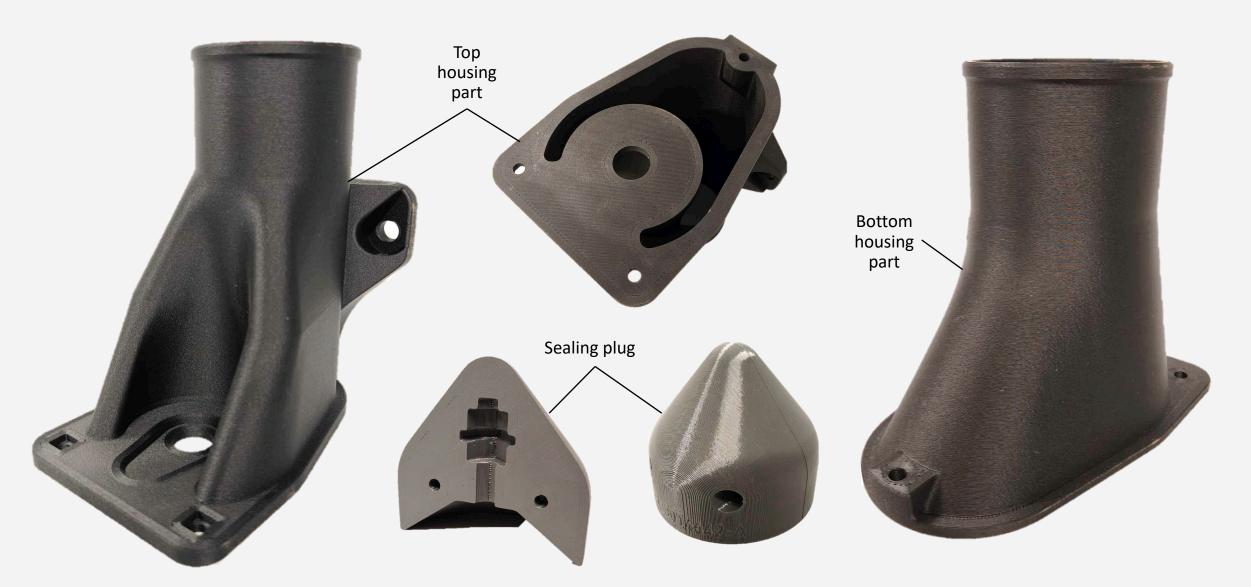


Completely assembled in the machine

Creation of two housing parts



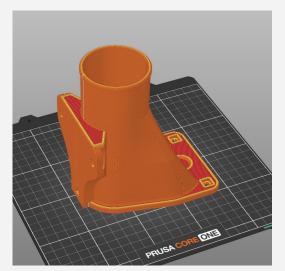




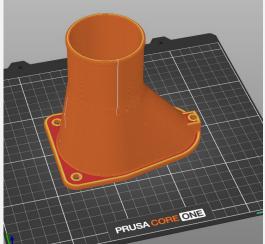
Printer hourly rate AMC: 6\$

Total print time: 12:30h

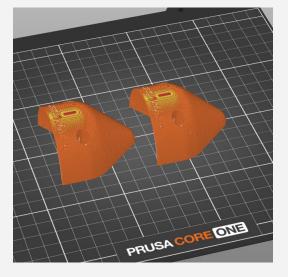
Material consumption: 400g



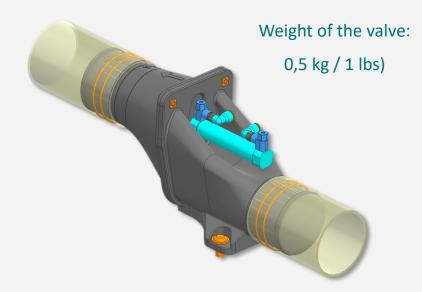
Part 1 6:30 h (\$)



Part 2 3:45 h (\$)



Part 3 2:15 h (\$\sqrt{}\$)



Part 1	39,-\$
Part 2	22,50 \$
Part3	13,50 \$
Cylinder	25,-\$
Assembly cost + small parts	50,-\$
Total	150,-\$

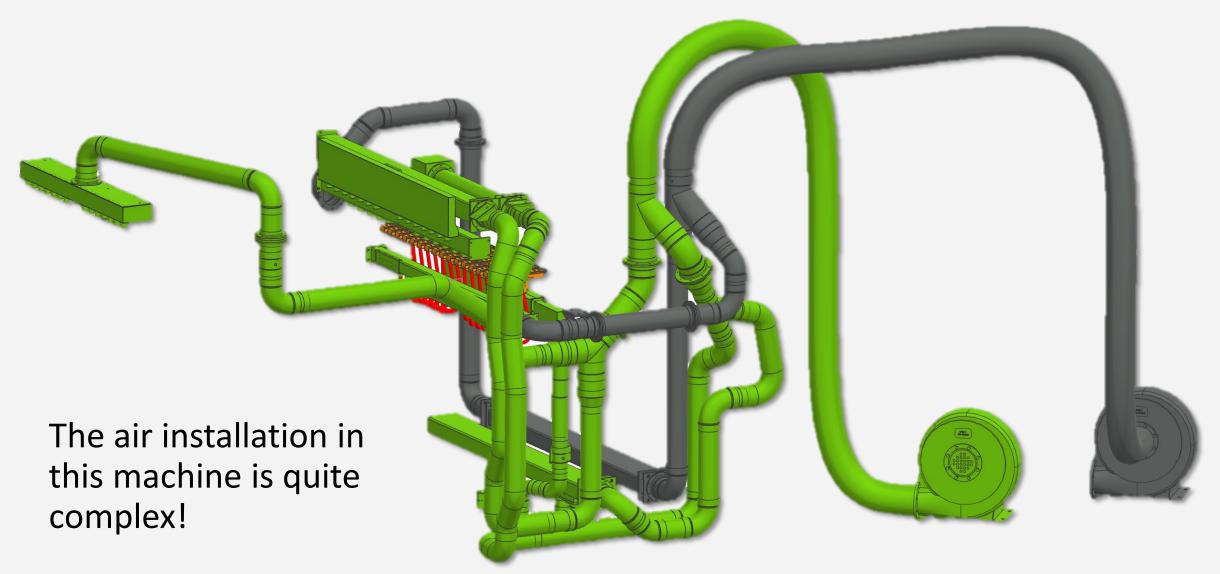
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# 3D printing improves air distribution



Questec – ultra compact folio size sheeter with "Airstream technology"

# 3D printing improves air distribution



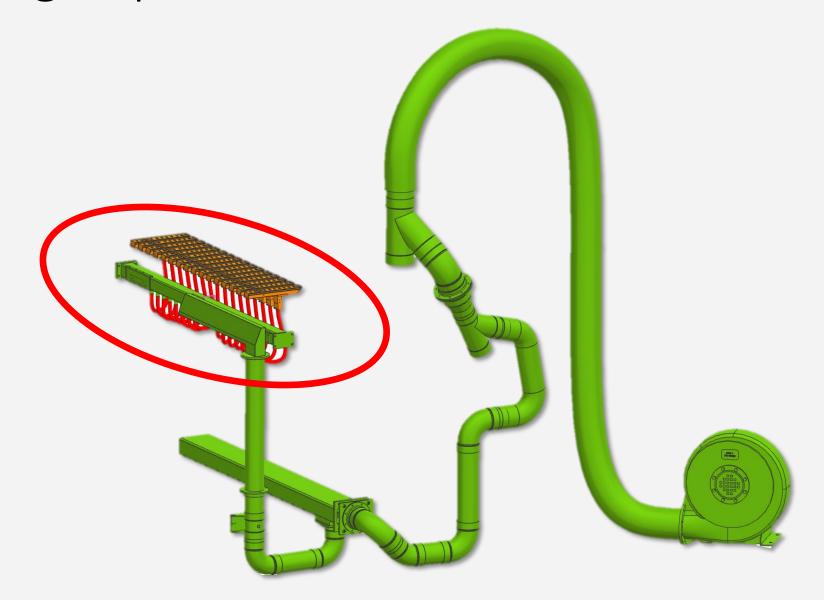
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# 3D printing improves air distribution

One of the airstream tables suffered from insufficient air supply!

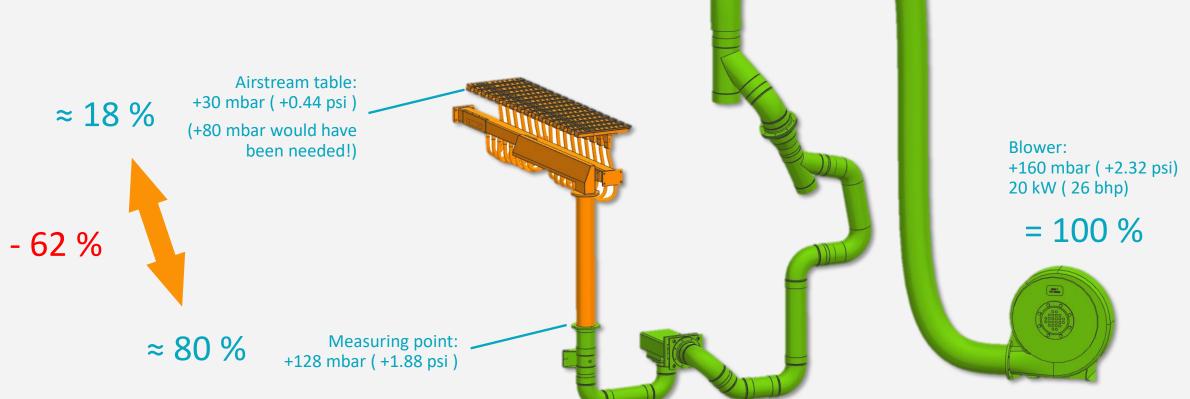
Safe operation could not be guaranteed!

The team already looked for a bigger blower!



# 3D printing improves air distribution

We lost 62 % of our pressure on the "last mile" because of conventional welded air distribution channels and small hoses!



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### 3D printing improves air distribution

We replaced the welded parts on the "last mile" with 3D printed aerodynamically designed components!

- Designed on Friday
- Printed over the weekend
- Installed Monday morning
- First tests started Monday afternoon

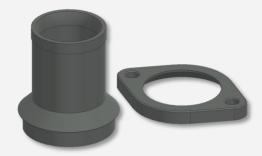


1 piece  $\emptyset$  106 mm  $\rightarrow$  4x  $\emptyset$  63 mm

4 pieces  $\emptyset$  63 mm  $\rightarrow$  4x  $\emptyset$  25 mm

16 pieces Ø 25 mm

### Part 3 purposefully designed in two pieces



No need for support easier / faster / cleaner

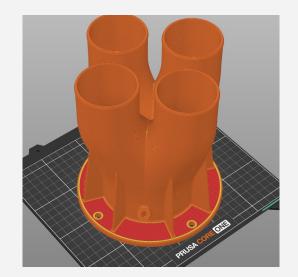
Total	638,-\$
Assembly cost + small parts	250,-\$
Hoses	100,-\$
Part3 (16pcs)	90\$
Part 2 (4pcs)	126\$
Part 1 (1pc)	72,-\$

### 3D printed ducting

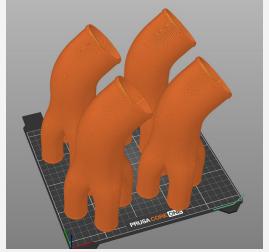
Printer hourly rate AMC: 6\$

Total print time: 48h

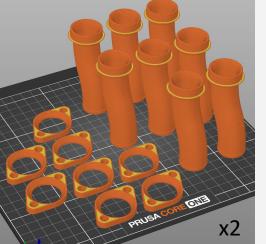
Material consumption: 1610g



Part 1 (1pc) 12:00 h



Part 2 (4pcs) 21:00 h (\$\sqrt{\$}\$)



Part 3 (16pcs) 15:00 h (5)

### 3D printing improves air distribution

Airstream table: +90 mbar (+1.3 psi) ≈ 56 % (+80 mbar would have been needed!)

• Pressure loss was reduced by 38% (60 mbar)

Existing blower could be retained

• Speed of existing blower could even be reduced ;-)

Measuring point: +128 mbar ( +1.88 psi )

≈ 80 %

### 3D printing improves air distribution

... and we started to transfer these learnings across BW Papersystems!

### International Know How Exchange

We had the pleasure to welcome Jacob in Stuttgart!

He was working for 3 month with us!















**Christian Berger** 

Elisa Jara

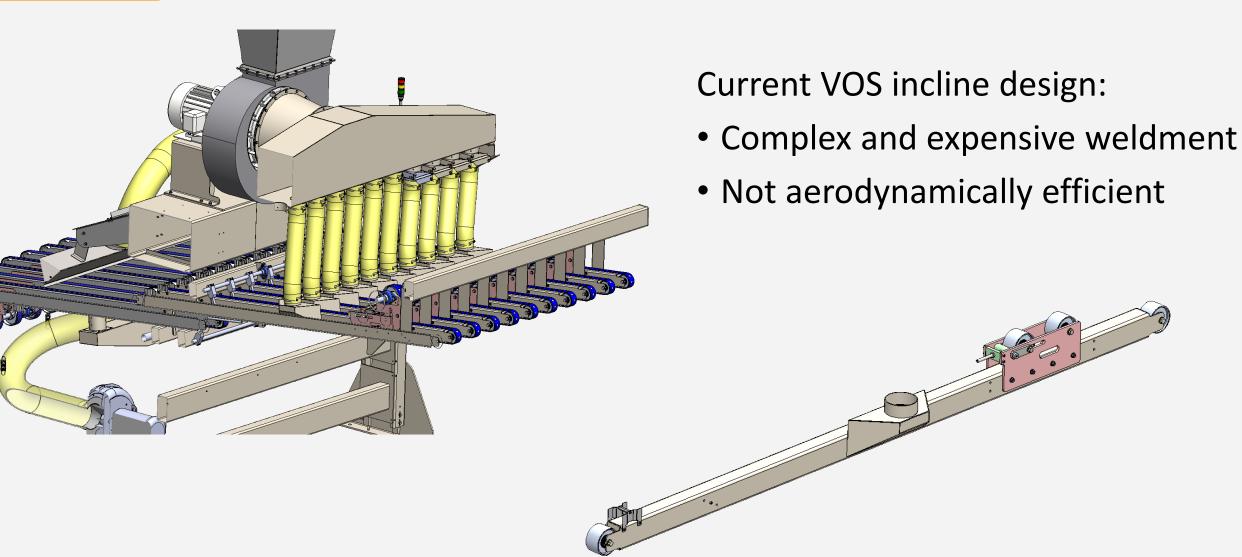
Jacob Strojny

Hansjörg Klein

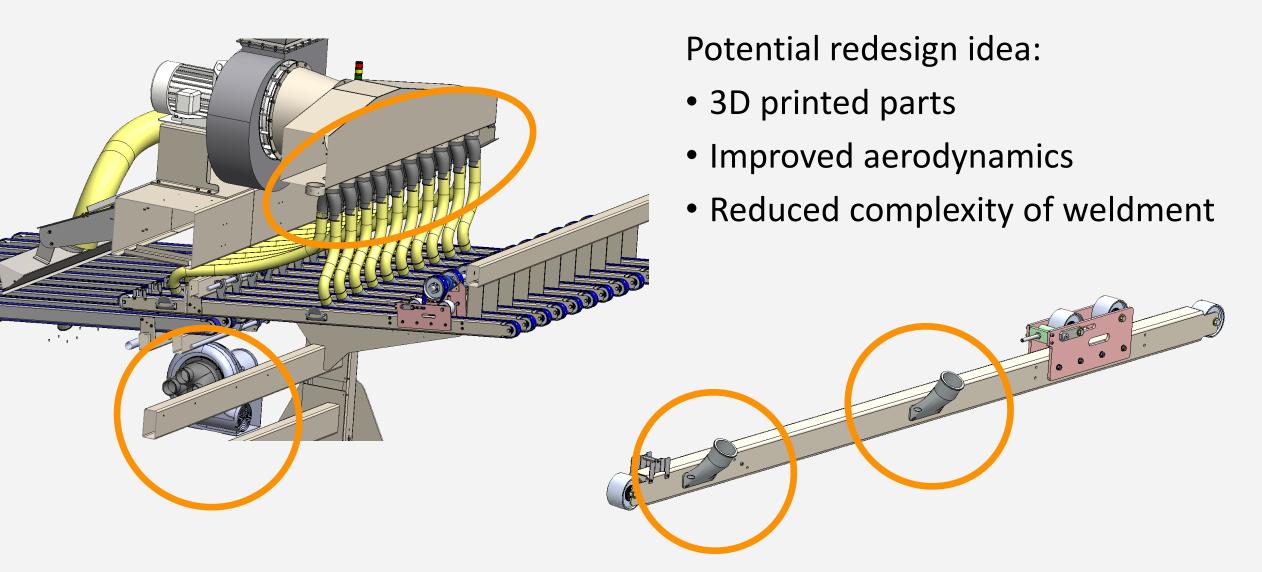
**Artur Konrad** 

Andi Schilling

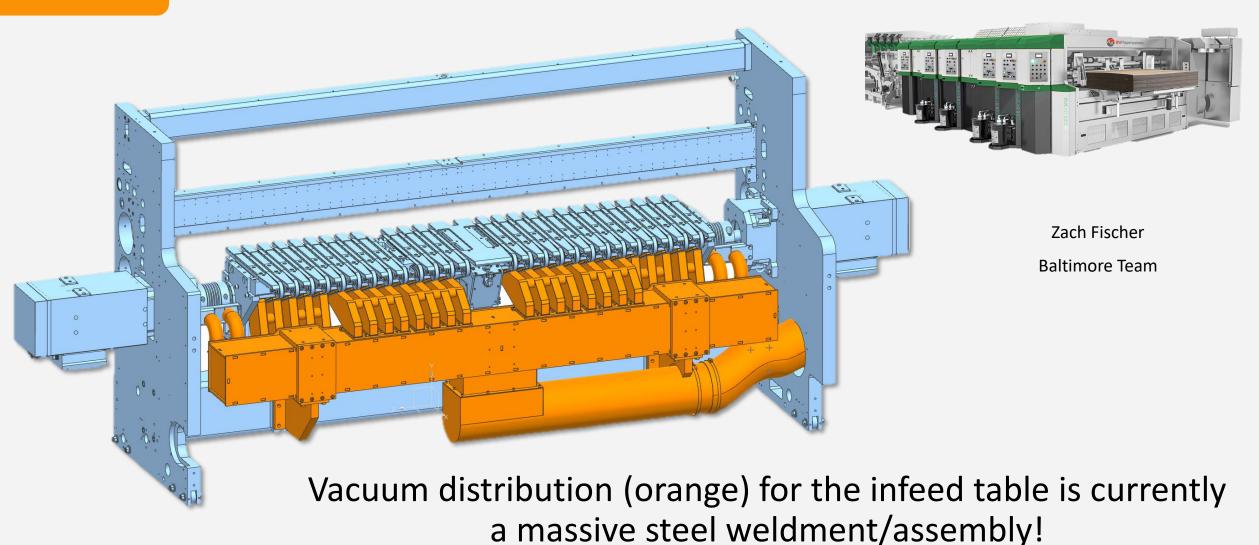
### Vacuum Overhead Stacker



### Vacuum Overhead Stacker



### ServoPro RDC Vacuum Infeed



≈ 450 kg (990 lbs)

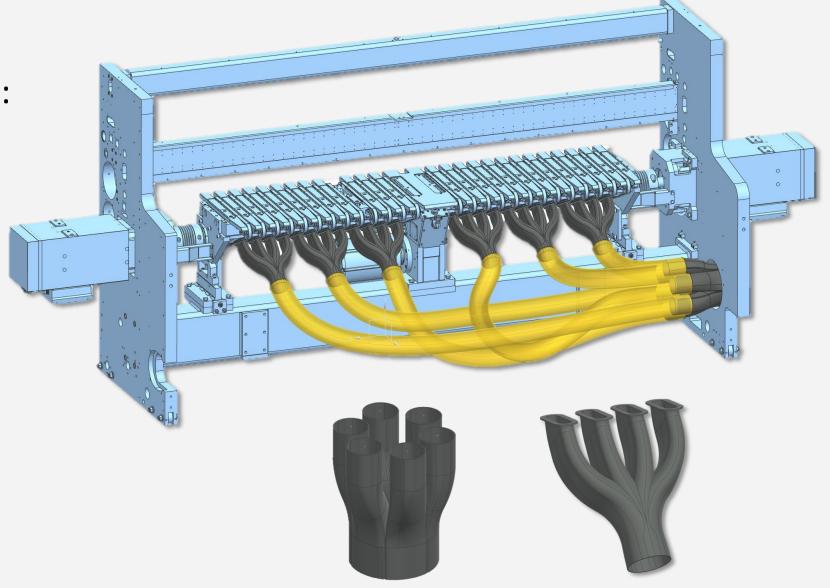
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### ServoPro RDC Vacuum Infeed

#### Potential redesign idea:

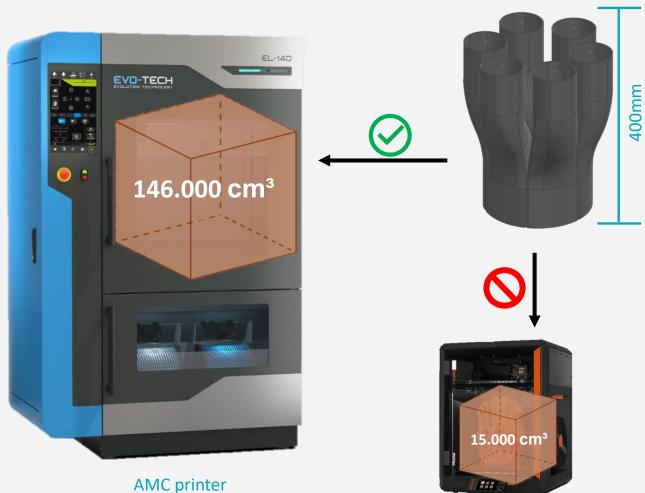
- 3D printed parts
- standard hoses
- Improved aerodynamics
- No inventory
- Lower cost

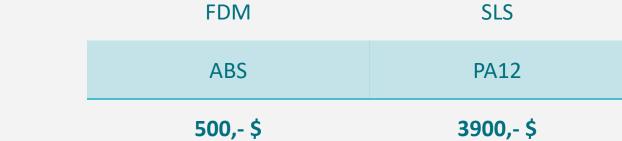
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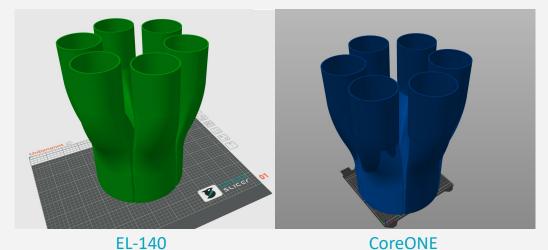
### AMC capable of larger FDM prints

Local printer





**AMC** 



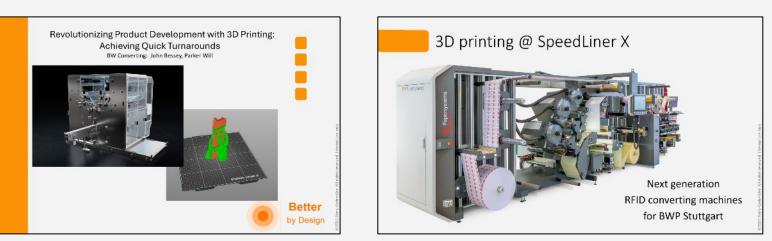
**External vendor** 

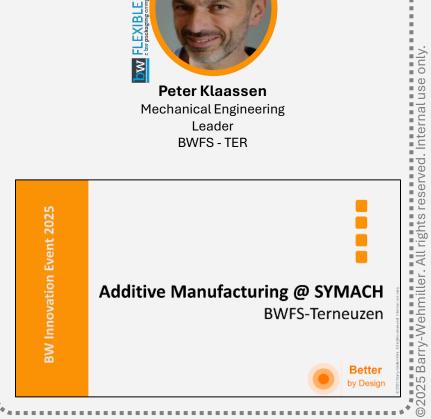
### WHERE, WHEN, WHY to use AM?

Real world BW examples illustrating Applications, Processes, and Value









External Provider for 'alternate' technology



# Additive Manufacturing @ SYMACH BWFS-Terneuzen



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### History and materials

- We use 3-D printed parts since 2018
- Started with small parts, easy to replace
- Last year: 180 unique part numbers -> Total 2.800 parts, Eur 39.500

### **Primary Materials:**

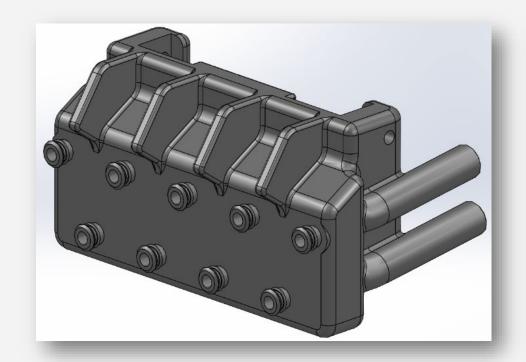
- PA12
- TPU (flexible)
- PA12 Food Approved

#### **Primary Reasons for using Additive Manufacturing:**

- Time savings
- Cost savings
- Design for function and for specific application requirements

### Examples with PA12

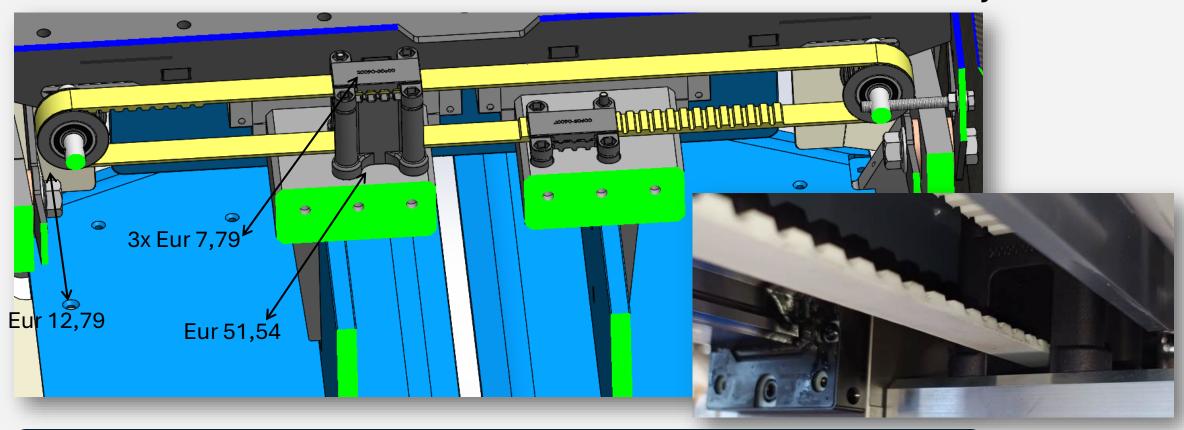
- Suction cup base in FillStar to open the bag at the spout
- Base for multiple cups not standard available
- Eur 74,02





### Examples with PA12

- Toothed belt to synchronize centrating plates
- All fasteners to be mounted from below reduces assembly time

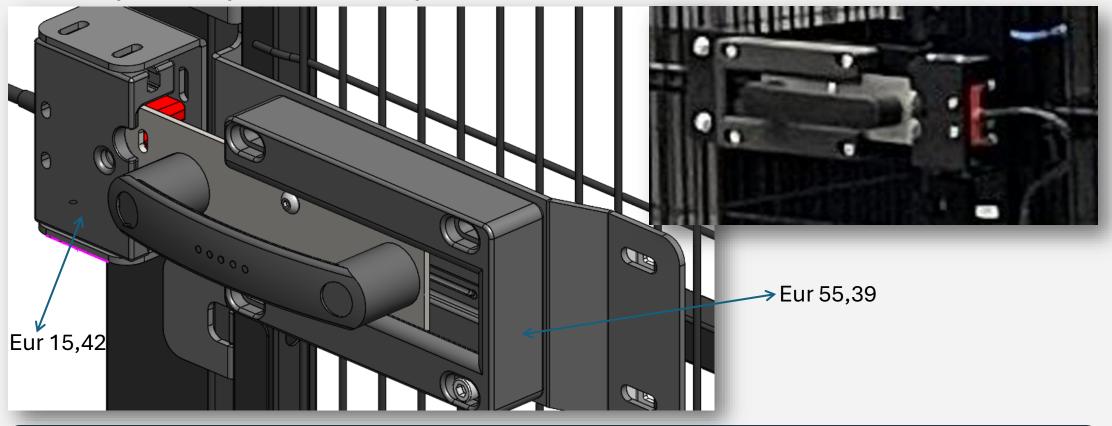


Allows design for function – nut holder in upper part / passing belt through left lower part. Provides the lowest-cost solution.

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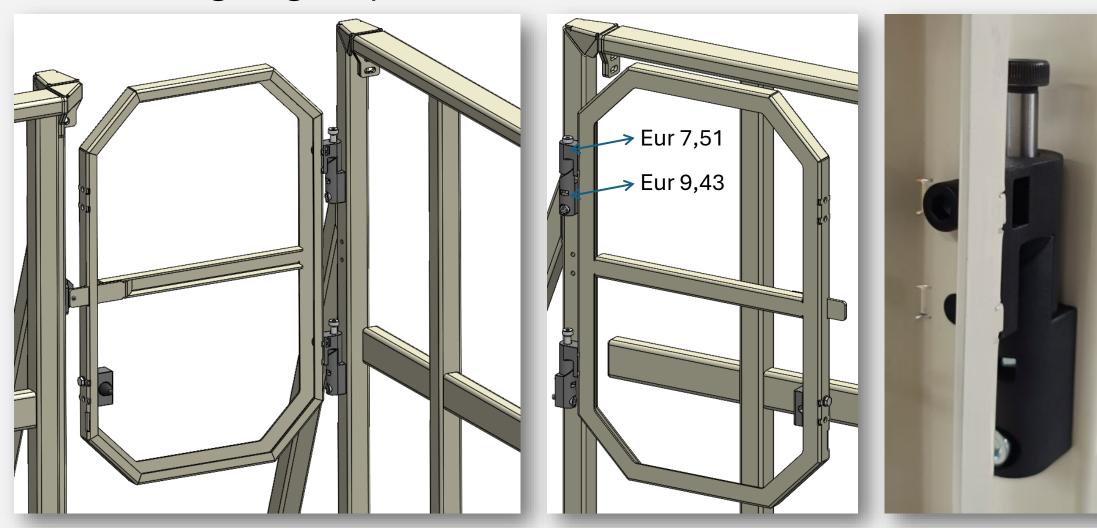
### Integrated application in safety door

- Combined parts to assemble safety sensor reduced part count
- All separate parts are adjustable



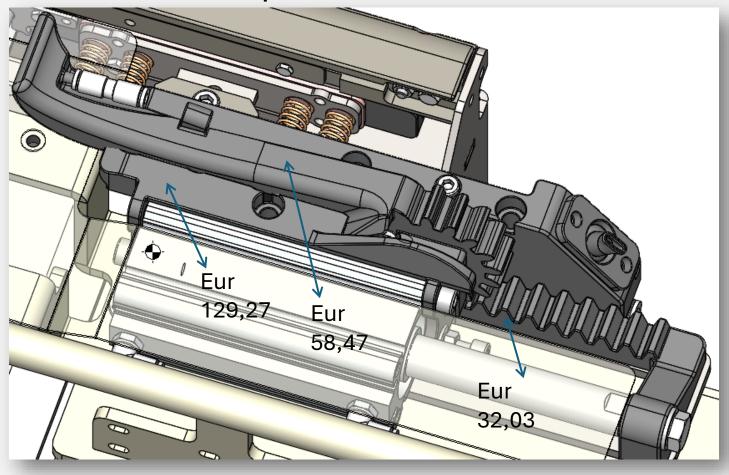
### **Example of Combined Parts**

• Self-closing hinge at platform door



### Foil clamp in wrapping machine

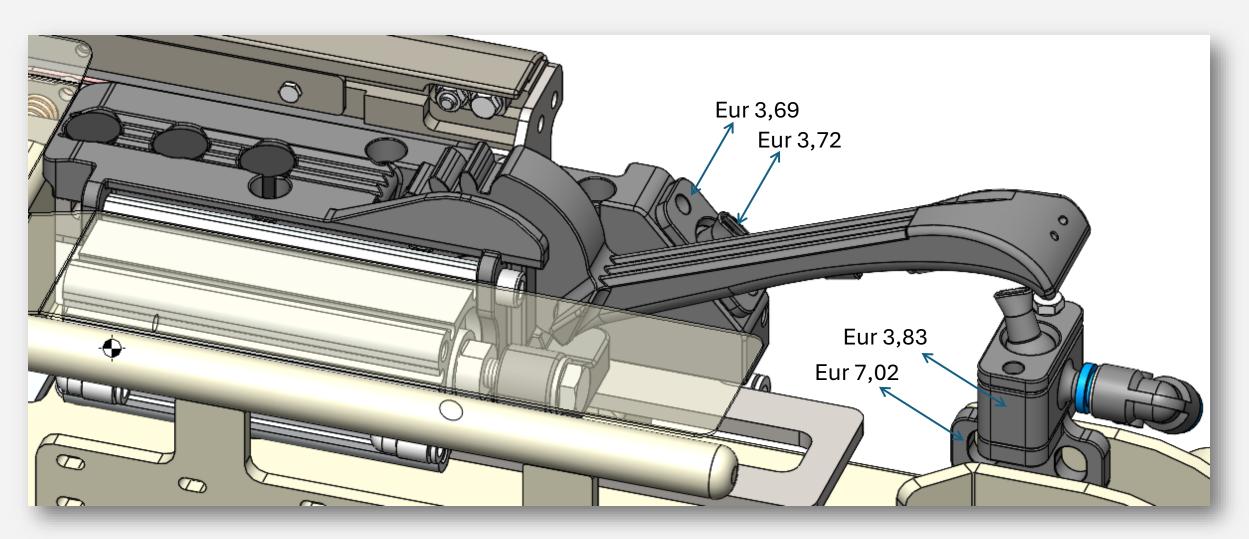
Rack and pinion





### Foil clamp in wrapping machine

• Air nozzles



### Recap



- AM continues to show its value across the enterprise
  - Solve design challenges evaluate & iterate quicker than ever
  - Save time & money, free working capital, add supply chain resilience
- Let us Help 

  Training & Support is available
  - The AM Team is ready and eager to help!
  - Virtual, in-person, hands-on a wide range of options
- The AM Centers exist to provide high quality at lowest cost
- Implementing AM has never been easier!





## Thank You!