"One picture is worth a thousand words" goes a well-known proverb.

A picture in the third dimension that can be appraised in the earliest stage of product development not only saves more than a thousand words but also provides opportunities to optimize a product at the development phase. Even at this stage it is possible to carry out and improve assembly tests with electronic and other components with the prototypes that have been created.

All of the departments that are involved in the manufacture of the product, such as Mechanical Production, Assembly or also Product Management, can bring in information regarding optimal design of the product with reference to their own areas right from the first prototypes. This procedure saves time-consuming and costly changes and modifications to the subsequent injection part.

Prototyping at BOPLA

BOPLA offers the option to create prototypes within product development. The 3D printer at BOPLA creates articles out of ABS on the basis of the 3D data that is provided. This is done by heating ABS threads from a material cassette and applying them in layers in the 3D printer by means of a material jet. The material can be processed later in the same way as an ABS injection part and can also be glued, ground and painted. The ABS base material is the natural colour, but special colours are likewise also possible on request.

Technical data in overview

- Database: STL, STEP, SAT, IGES
- Volume max.: 250x250x300 mm
- Component material: ABSplus
- Colour: Natural
  (other colours on request)
- Wall thickness min.: 1.0 mm
- Accuracy: ± 0.25 mm

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