CONNECT

Heart medicine and dentures from the 3D printer

Background

Formlabs manufactures 3D printers for business customers. The US company employs 550 people worldwide, 165 of them in Europe. The Formlabs printers use special synthetic resins that are certified for medical use. They can be used to create dental crowns, for example, or individually fitted braces. To do this, the dentist scans the patient‘s dentition with a special device. The crown is then printed on the basis of the scan. If necessary, a design service can digitally rework the models in an intermediate step before they are made. These days, this service provider is sometimes based in India or the Philippines. In the end, the production costs for this digitalised manufacturing method are lower than for classic methods.

Market on the rise

According to the Federal Statistical Office, seven per cent of all German companies used 3D printers in 2020. At 23 per cent, the share was significantly higher among companies with 250 or more employees than among smaller companies. In most cases - 60 per cent - prototypes or models are printed for in-house use, especially in the manufacturing sector.

3D printing is not yet able to compete in mass production with the classic casting processes used in industry. Production is too slow, and at the same time the costs are too high. But in the case of supply bottlenecks, so-called additive manufacturing in the 3D printer is a sensible option. Especially during the pandemic, enormous supply gaps for test sticks were closed here. Spare parts can also be printed. The advantage of this is that large quantities do not have to be kept in stock. This is an advantage in the supply chain and production strategy, especially for medium-sized medtech companies.

The prices for the best-selling Formlabs printers range from about 3,700 to 15,000 euros. The development of the resins that the devices work with is done in the USA.

Are you interested in other fields of application for 3D printing? We would be happy to put you in touch with the company. In addition, we have researched further national and international companies in the field of medical 3D printing for you. arcoro CONNECT connects trends, people and knowledge for tomorrow - personally and directly.

COMPANY	LOCATION	WEBSITE	FIELD OF EXPERTISE
Formlabs	USA (MA)	https://formlabs.com/de/	Medical 3D printing
3D Systems Corporation Inc	USA (SC)	https://www.3dsystems.com/	Medical 3D printing
EOS GmbH	Germany	https://www.eos.info/de	Medical 3D printing
Trumpf GmbH & Co. KG	Germany	https://www.trumpf.com/de_DE/	Medical 3D printing
Stratasys Ltd.	Israel	https://www.stratasys.com/de	Medical 3D printing
SHERA Werk-stoff-Technologie GmbH & Co. KG	Germany	https://shera.de/	Medical 3D printing
Asiga	Australia	https://www.asiga.com/	Medical 3D printing
envisionTEC Inc.	USA (MI)	https://envisiontec.com/de/	Medical 3D printing
Rejoint srl	Italy	https://www.rejoint.life/	Medical 3D printing

Are you looking for a direct contact person? Simply contact us and we will be happy to help you get in touch. We have already examined some exciting experts in the field of medical 3D printing for you in more detail. Let the expertise, experience and visionary ideas inspire you.

INDUSTRY EXPERT	JOB POSITION	FIELD OF EXPERTISE
Gautam Gupta	Vice President & General Manager Medical devices at 3D Systems corporation	Medical 3D printing
Dr. Jenny Chen	Founder and CEO of 3DHeals	Medical 3D printing
Prof. Dr. Tal Dvir	Director of the Laboratory for Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine	Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine