

A pro at prototyping

Meldon Plastics chooses Eastman Amphora^m 3D polymer for die cable quide prototype testing.

With the expansion of technology, more companies are investigating new ways to speed up their production processes. As a good example of these changes, service provider Meldon Plastics B.V. Company has anticipated the industry's growing needs and has invested in rapid prototyping technologies using additive manufacturing methods.

An expert in extruding plastic profiles, Meldon Plastics was tasked to create a new die cable guide prototype with very specific parameters that had to be met before its customer created the final metal product. When stereolithography, or SLA, failed to create a tough enough prototype for testing, Meldon Plastics turned to Helian Polymers and colorFabb XT-Copolyester made with Eastman Amphora™ 3D polymer.

With superior toughness and dimensional stability, Amphora enables functional design and durability in 3D printed projects while ensuring final products meet expectations. When Meldon Plastics' specialists tested the Amphora built profiles, they actually tried to break them and had trouble damaging the products due to Amphora's excellent layer adhesion.

"We were very surprised by the toughness of the printed profiles," said Peter Lubbers, Project Manager of Product Development at Meldon Plastics. "The higher heat resistance proved to be an advantage. Even after thermal testing in an oven, the printed profile was still stress resistant."

Printing the results

By using these 3D printed profiles, Meldon Plastics' customer was able to design a profile in real time and with real cost savings—a huge advantage over other additive manufacturing processes. "Amphora produced optimal results for our testing purposes," said Lubbers. "Our customer feels really good about the results of the testing."

For more information on Eastman Amphora™ 3D polymer, visit www.eastman.com/3D or visit www.colorfabb.com to purchase colorFabb XT filament from Helian Polymers.

For more information on Meldon Plastics, visit www.meldon.nl.





The results of insight

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