Press release

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A revolution in 3D printing in the composites industry

Heerenveen-based Nedcam Solutions introduces Europe's leading 3D printer. With a reach of 12 metres, the company can now print its moulds, making the traditional production process more sustainable. A revolutionary development in the composites industry.

Printing reusable moulds

Nedcam produces plugs and moulds from composite for the yacht building and wind industry, among others. This is done in several steps with fossil plastic materials and leads to a lot of loss of no longer usable material. With the purchase of the XXL 3D printer, this whole process can be shorter, faster and cleaner. ,,If you use circular materials, you can skip the plug step and print fully reusable moulds at a much lower footprint with much less material and waste," says director Erwin van Maaren.

XXL 3D Printer

In recent years, the company has already gained a lot of knowledge with a smaller Flexbot 3D Robot Printer. After achieving good results in close cooperation with suppliers and universities, the company is ready for the next step with the Fanum Lambda XXL 3D Printer. "The transition is a big investment in time and money for us, but if you really want to change something then you have to go for it seriously" . With the Fanum machine, the company can print with a reach of 12 metres and with an extruder capacity of 50+ kg per hour. That can be called spectacular.

Circular

But more importantly it prints with reusable fossil plastics and new, circular raw materials. By printing parts in one of these materials, you get less complex but highly reusable materials at the end of their life cycle. If a part needs to be strong, you print a stiffening rib to it. At the end of use, the whole part can go into the shredder without post-separation and you print any product from it again.

Printing and milling

Besides printing objects, the new Fanum can also mill. The printed object can thus remain in its position in the machine and can be milled into shape after replacing the print head with a milling cutter. Which also saves a lot of time. "The first direct moulds for customers are now printed and milled and we are very satisfied with this. Of course, there is also plenty of testing, discovery, knowledge acquisition, transfer and discovery of new materials and applications to be done in the coming period, but we, or rather the XXL printer is ready to make the composites industry sustainable."