Prodways presents the first industrial laser sintering printer at under €100,000 and signs a strategic partnership with BASF

At the opening of Rapid, the unrivaled additive manufacturing event, from May 16 to 19 in Orlando, Florida, Prodways, a subsidiary of Groupe Gorgé, presents its new industrial laser sintering printer, the ProMaker P1000 and announces the signature of a strategic partnership with the leading chemical company, BASF, for the marketing of their new PA6 laser sintering powder.

- **ProMaker P1000** – Prodways makes professional performance accessible

The development of this new printer is the result of the purchase of Norge Systems in March 2015 combined with the Prodways R&D teams’ expertise in powder sintering technology. It extends the current "Prodways powered by Farsoon" range in the industrial segment. ProMaker P1000 demonstrates Prodways’ ambition to make industrial plastic powder laser sintering performance accessible to a wider market in order to facilitate innovation and the development of new applications.

The new ProMaker P1000 printer boasts a wide manufacturing platform for printing large items and the added advantage of professional productivity. It offers excellent thermal stability, thanks to its smart temperature control system, and benefits from a very fine laser for high-resolution items with optimized mechanical properties.

In addition, the ProMaker P1000 has the following new features developed specially for this printer: a completely new modular coating system, enabling optimal control of the powder distribution and...
more even layers using all types of material, as well as a touchscreen, making it easy for users to operate.

The ProMaker P1000 benefits from Prodways' wide range of materials with high recyclability rates, as well as the strategy of being open to other materials, which Prodways applies to its full range of printers in order to facilitate customer innovation and the development of new applications.

The ProMaker P1000 will be unveiled for the first time worldwide at the Rapid 2016 event and will be available at the end of 2016 at a special launch price of under €100,000 (excl. tax). It extends Prodways' range of industrial laser sintering printers and confirms Prodways' strategy of opening up new fields of application in additive manufacturing by addressing new professional user segments.

- **Partnership with BASF – integration of BASF's new PA6 Powder into Prodways' materials portfolio for 3D printers using laser sintering**

Thanks to this partnership, Prodways integrates the brand new PA6 polymer powder - announced at the end of 2015 and developed by BASF jointly with LSS, Hunan Farsoon Tech Ltd and Varia 3D - into its portfolio of laser sintering materials.

BASF’s development of this new PA6 material for 3D printing by laser sintering technology is a major breakthrough for the industrial sector. It offers new possibilities for the series production of parts, for example functional components, with more complex structures and more customized designs, but with the similar mechanical resistance, hardness and thermal stability properties as parts produced today in PA6 via traditional injection techniques.

PA6 is a widely-used material today, in particular in the automotive and electronics industries, where it can replace metal in order to produce lighter-weight parts and reduce production costs for massive parts, hot engine parts and electronic components. This new material meets the requirements of applications in all areas of industry for a wide range of components and machine parts.
It stands out by its good recyclability and adds to Prodways' materials portfolio, which already includes over 10 grades of PA12, PA11 and TPU allowing the development of new applications for series parts.

Specifically developed to treat high performance materials such as PA6, the Prodways ProMaker P2000 HT laser sintering printer "powered by Farsoon" offers a unique high temperature capacity in its segment. It operates at a temperature of 220°C thus guaranteeing all the mechanical properties expected from BASF's high-end PA6 powder range.

This partnership with BASF confirms Prodways' strategy to offer new materials and technologies that allow the development of the "rapid manufacturing" applications expected by the market.

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About BASF

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. The approximately 112,000 employees in the BASF Group work on contributing to the success of our customers in nearly all sectors and almost every country in the world. Our portfolio is organized into five segments: Chemicals, Performance Products, Functional Materials & Solutions, Agricultural Solutions and Oil & Gas. BASF generated sales of more than €70 billion in 2015. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (AN). Further information at www.basf.com and http://www.basf-new-business.com/en/projects/additive-manufacturing/3d-printing/

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About Prodways:

Prodways, a subsidiary of Groupe Gorgé, enables major industry players to find new routes to successful innovation and production processes by providing premium additive manufacturing solutions.

Prodways' strategic positioning aims to develop technological solutions and the necessary support and service capabilities to support companies in their development and meet their industrial requirements:
- **By providing industrial solutions with the highest levels of quality:**
- By providing a complete panel of technologies capable of meeting their needs in terms of productivity and reliability;
- By developing materials adapted to industrial constraints (mechanical properties, bio-compatibility, flammability, etc.);
- By offering product, engineering and consulting solutions for production processes and technologies;
- By qualifying the business processes upstream via the production of test parts and process simulations;
- By offering activity peak manufacturing, back-up and management solutions;
- By investing in innovative actors in the 3D eco-system.

To date, Prodways is one of the rare actors able to meet all industrial challenges and promote the emergence of additive manufacturing for series production. For this, Prodways' offering is based on complementary activities that allow it to be positioned as a serious alternative to the two world market leaders and to become, in parallel, the only non-US company to offer a wide range of 3D printing technologies and all 3D printing services to its customers.

For more information: www.prodways.com/en

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