André-Luc Allanic, Director of the R&D department of Prodways, voted 2016 Engineer of the Year

During the 2016 Engineers of the Future Awards Ceremony, held at the Pavillon Champs-Elysées in Paris on Tuesday, December 6, André-Luc Allanic, co-founder and Director of the R&D department of Prodways (a Groupe Gorgé subsidiary), was awarded the Engineer of the Year prize by the editorial staff of Usine Nouvelle magazine. This award marks a significant year with many developments at Prodways, with the sale of its 70th ProMaker 3D printer, and the first sale of its selective laser sintering ProMaker P1000.

- Recognizing an innovator’s achievements

This award acknowledges André-Luc Allanic’s contribution to the technological advances of additive manufacturing. André-Luc Allanic is one of the global experts and pioneers in 3D printing. He has worked on various innovative technologies over the last 25 years (in particular stereolithography and metal and polymer powder sintering). In the early 90s, he developed some of the first European 3D printers for the CNRS. Joining the corporate world in 1993 at "Laser 3D", André-Luc Allanic designed stereolithography machines that were already the fastest on the market at that time.
In 1997, André-Luc Allanic created his own company, "Optoform", and developed revolutionary 3D printing systems. In 2001, the company was purchased by the global leader in 3D printing, "3DSystems" (US), which already saw Mr. Allanic's innovations as foreshadowing "the future of the industry".

In 2007, André-Luc Allanic created his own company in France, in order to implement his new technology: the patented MOVINGLight® technology, which offers unparalleled resolution combined with very high productivity. His meeting with Raphaël Gorgé in 2013 marked the entry of Groupe Gorgé in 3D printing.

- The completion of new stages in its development

This award also marks the end of a significant year with many developments for Prodways, positioned as a key player in additive manufacturing. Prodways recently announced the renewal of its partnership with CEA (the French Atomic Energy Commission), further to its announcement of the joint development of an exclusive metal printing technology, and the strengthening of its selective laser sintering offer with new high-temperature printers using innovative polymer powders allowing for unprecedented applications in the industrial sector. Lastly, Prodways is also making progress in the biomedical industry by strengthening its ceramic offering and signing numerous strategic partnerships with key players in their fields, thereby confirming its positioning as a major multi-technology player in 3D printing.

Prodways takes this opportunity to announce the sale, in December, of its 70th 3D printer for an application of manufacturing of injection mold in 3D printing (spanning all technologies). This end of year is also marked by the first success of its most recent innovation, the ProMaker P1000, its professional selective laser sintering printer at less than €100,000. Its first sale was completed directly at the FormNext trade show held end-November alongside all the major global players in additive manufacturing.

By 2017, this machine could be the best selling machine of the range.

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About Prodways

Prodways, a subsidiary of Groupe Gorgé, assists major industrial firms with innovations and production processes by providing high-end solutions for additive manufacturing. Prodways' strategic positioning is to combine the necessary technological solutions with the capacity to provide services and support necessary to help companies develop and meet industrial challenges by:
- providing a top-quality, state-of-the-art industrial solution
- providing a complete range of technologies to meet their needs in terms of productivity and reliability
- developing materials suited to industrial constraints (mechanical properties, biocompatibility, flammability etc.)
- proposing product design and engineering and consulting on production technologies and processes
- qualifying business processes beforehand by creating test parts and process simulations
- proposing manufacturing solutions for back-up and peak reduction
- investing in innovative players in the 3D ecosystem.

Prodways is now one of the few players able to overcome all industrial challenges and boost the emergence of additive manufacturing in series production. Prodways’ offer is backed up by additional activities that enable it to position itself as a serious rival to the two global market leaders and also become the only company outside the USA to offer clients a wide range of 3D printing technologies and a complete range of 3D printing services.

For further information: [www.prodways.com](http://www.prodways.com)

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