

BigRep and BASF finalizing negotiations over strategic alliance for industrial 3D printing materials

Berlin, 14 November 2017. On the occasion of formnext in Frankfurt am Main, BigRep and BASF are finalizing negotiations surrounding a strategic alliance to jointly develop 3D printing solutions, aimed at accelerating the wholesale introduction of additive manufacturing technologies into industrial applications.

Upon successful finalization, BASF will become a preferred material and application development partner for BigRep, while BigRep will continue to develop advanced equipment and software solutions ready for integration into digital manufacturing environments.

Berlin-based 3D printing manufacturer BigRep, which provides hardware, software, materials and services for large-scale 3D printing, sees a future cooperation with chemical company BASF as proof of its continuing commitment to engineering and manufacturing cutting-edge filaments and printers.

“Our goal is to offer the best additive manufacturing solutions to our customers with BigRep equipment and BASF industrial materials,” said René Gurka, CEO of BigRep, of the forthcoming partnership. “Continuous innovation into new additive materials will help us support our customers to realize the full potential of additive manufacturing in their businesses.”

Although BigRep was launched just 3.5 years ago, the start-up has quickly become the world-leading provider of large-format 3D printing technology, and is now on the cusp of partnering with the world’s largest chemical company. In September of this year, BASF underscored its commitment to exploring 3D printing potential, by announcing the creation of a dedicated subsidiary: **BASF 3D Printing Solutions GmbH**.

Volker Hammes, Managing Director of its parent Group, BASF New Business GmbH, said of the potential partnership, “BASF and BigRep share a vision to bring 3D printing to production floors and workspaces of all sizes. Our common goal is to help our customers across industries to meet current and future needs with innovative solutions.”

Both companies expect to be finalizing the partnership in the coming weeks, and solidifying plans to work together internationally on innovative 3D printing applications and materials.

BigRep will run a booth at leading international additive manufacturing fair **formnext** in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, from 14-17 November. CEO René Gurka will give a speech on the *tct Introducing Stage* at 14:00 on 14 November, presenting the latest innovations in additive manufacturing for end-use spare parts and prototyping.

About BigRep

BigRep is a technology start-up based in Berlin with offices in New York and Singapore, which develops and manufactures the world's largest 3D printers. One of the ground-breaking developments of the company founded in 2014 is the BigRep ONE, which is supplemented by the smaller BigRep STUDIO. Interdisciplinarity and well-founded experience in the field of additive manufacturing characterizes the multinational team of BigRep, now comprised of more than 70 employees. In addition to new products, the Berlin company is now concentrating on complete solutions for industrial customers in the form of integrated additive manufacturing systems. The goal of the highly innovative engineering company is to revolutionize design, prototyping and industrial production from the ground up.

About BASF

At BASF, we create chemistry for a sustainable future. We combine economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility. The approximately 114,000 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 about €58 billion in 2016. BASF shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt (BAS), London (BFA) and Zurich (BAS). Further information at www.basf.com.

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