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Micro Laser Sintern

3D MicroPrint GmbH 2024

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- Since 2006: Technological development of laser beam sintering through cooperation between 3D-Micromac & EOS
- 2013: foundation of the company 3D MicroPrint
- Business model:
 - Micro metal parts (prototypes to large serial production)
 - Engineering & design services for 3D printing
 - Micro Laser Sintering machines
- Certified according to ISO 9001
- Work according to ISO EN 13485



We specialise in the manufacture of high precision micro metal parts and micro laser sintering machine technology.





We have over 10 years of experience in technology & serial production for all types of industries, including:

- Medical & robotics industry
- Automotive & Aerospace
- Fluid engineering
- Energy technology
- Jewelry & watches



- Business model:
 - Technical Services > Prototyping > Serial Production
 - MLS-machines sales

MLS - Technology / Process description

- 1. A powder bed of < 10 μ m layer of ultrafine metal powder less than 5 μ m thick is applied to the platform.
- 2. The laser spot smaller than $30 \,\mu m$ melts the sliced structure of a three-dimensional micro-object.
- 3. The platform is lowered by the thickness of the **powder bed** < 10 μ m to apply the next layer of powder.
- 4. The entire process of steps 1-3 of powder **coating**, **fusing** & **lowering** the platform is repeated until the desired target geometry is achieved by the full size of the part.
- 5. At the end of the building process, the platform is de-powdered, further cleaned by ultrasonic & the parts are cut from the platform by fine **wire EDM**.
- 6. If required, the **post-processing** can start.



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MLS - Technology / Process description



< 30 µm

- Minimum layer thickness:
 - Laser focus:

- Component density: > 99 %
- Roughness (as built): Ra 2-3 μm

micro PRINT

3D micro PRINT

Key data for MLS:

- Prototype part accuracy: <5 μm
- Serial part accuracy: <25 μm
- Minimum wall thickness: <30 μm
- Minimum hole diameter: <30 μm
- Minimum gap width:
 20 μm
- Powder handling & processing in purified argon atmosphere with < 20 ppm O2 & H2O
- Ability to print complex 3D structures & moving mechanisms in one piece with high accuracy & low clearance

Materials for MLS: For prototypes / series productions:

- Stainless steel:
- Titanium (alloy):
- Nickel-based alloys:
- Copper:

1.4404 (316L) 1.4542 (17-4PH) 3.7164 (Ti6Al4V) Grade 4/5/23 Inconel 718 CuCrZr, pure copper

Possible as development project:

- Precious metals (platinium, gold,...)
- Bronze, Tungsten, ...
- Molybdenum, ...







Building platform:

- Build area: 60 x 60 mm
- Build height: 40 mm

Post-processing:

- Wire EDM
- Microblasting (corundom & glas)
- Plasmapolishing





Technical specifications DMP 7X:

- Infrared fibre Laser: 50 Watt
- Laser spot size Ø*: ≤ 30 μm
- Building platform: 60 mm, max. build height 30/50 mm
- Layer thickness: **1 μm to 5 μm**
- Powder particle size: ≤ 5 µm (D90)
- Purified argon atmosphere: < 20 ppm H₂0 & O₂
- Gas tight design & gas purification included, low cost of ownership
- Air locks & quick transfer ports
- Remote access for fast service
- Zero-point clamping system
- Processing of highly reactive materials

- Glove box for powder preparation
- Data preparation software & PC
- CE & UL compliance available (option)
- Pneumatic shock absorbers for harsh environments (option)
- Laser upgrade DMP 74: 200 W infrared fibre laser (option),

laser spot size Ø* **20um**



micro



Merger Tree

- Connection tube (Ø 7 mm) branched to 1.024 tubes (200 μm)
- Min. 80 µm wall thickness
- Support free production
- Material: titanium (Ti6Al4V)

Honeycomb

- Complex micro lattice structures
- Honeycomb size (inside)
 250 μm
- 60 µm wall thickness
- Material: 1.4542 (17-4PH)

Extruder/ Mixer

- Internal spiraled structures in μ-range with high resolution
- > 150 μ m inside wall thickness
- < 300 µm outside wall thickness
- Ra < 1,0 μm surface roughness
- Material: 1.4404 (316L)







Applicationen MLS



Mikrowave-Bandpassfilter 180GHz

- 200 µm internal structure size
- Ra < 2 μm internal surface roughness
- Material stainless steel 1.4542
- Gold plating for end application
- Application University of Birmingham, UK

Jewellery "Skull"

- Complex 3D-grid structure
- Bar width 250 μm
- Support free production
- Material: gold 18k

5-hole flow sensor

- 5 internal 150 µm channels
- 120 µm internal wall thickness
- Ra < 2,0 μm surface roughness
- Material: 1.4404 (316L)
- Application by Vectoflow GmbH, Germany









Gyro grid structure

- 150 µm wall thickness
- Cell size 1.5 mm
- Material: copper alloy CuCr1Zr •



- Filter, diplexers, horn antennas & various other components
- Material: pure copper CU-OF

Inductor

- 150 µm internal cooling channels
- 500 µm wall thickness
- Material: CuCr1Zr copper alloy
- Heat treated to achieve conductivity up to 94 % IACS









Heat Exchanger

- Complex micro-grid structure
- Tube inner-Ø 150 μm
- 35 µm wall thickness
- Material: 1.4404 (316L)



Satellite engine

- Complex structure of the inner channels
- Smallest channel 300µm
- Size: 48 x 40 x 39 mm
- High thermal stability (up to 700 °C)
- Material: 2.4668 (Inconel[®] 718)

Optical fiber guide

- Twisted fiber guide for modular system
- Complex channel ducts with very good surface quality & geometry tolerances
- Inner channel diameter 500 μm
- Min. 200 µm wall thickness





Approved: DLR, Germany





→ Complex assembly of several bodies is fused into a single printable 3D printed component



1 component instead of 6 parts Improved functionality

- **Reduced** wear ٠
- **Shortened** prototype phase
- **Reduced** overall manufacturing **costs**







Print-as-one design for MLS

Ø6mm

→ Complex mechanism consisting of several bodies printed as one component

Design concept

HEALTHCARE APPLICATION

AWARD #TCTAwards

→ Complex mechanism consisting of several bodies printed as one component

Conventional design



Print-as-one design for MLS

- 1 component instead of 5-7 parts
- Extended features
- **Reduced** production time & total cost





3D micro

Design rules







Horizontal holes: Rule of thumb:> 300 μm Min: 120 μm Shape like gothic arch or drop

Pin diameter:Rule of thumb: 150 μmMin. so far:50 μmAvoid:> 2.000 μm



Overhang angle: Min. 30 degrees, Below must be supported



Vertical holes diameter: Rule of thumb:> 130 μm Min: 30 μm



Gap size: Vertical walls: 45° walls:

15 μm 50 μm

- Details or sub structures have to arise from an existing structure.
- Structures must be sufficiently open to allow loose powder residues to be removed.
- Lightweight, hollow or lattice structures should be used instead of solid & high walls.
- Feature size limits also depend also on the actual part design & the material used.

Thank you for your attention!

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