

Newsletter #5

RapidPro 2018 fair and conference

Fair

On March 7th and 8th the 3D&FPP partnership was present at the RapidPro fair in Veldhoven, the Netherlands. Many of the exhibitors showed their solutions for 3D printing, scanning or CAD/CAM solutions. It proved 3D&FPP to be the only project tackling all challenges in one project. At the booth, we displayed the scanner and the mirror object, our 3D&FPP dedicated object designed to comprise all challenges of the project. Besides the booth, the partnership also presented their project and work at the RapidPro conference.

Conference

Jurjen Lengkeek of RDM Makerspace took the crowded audience along the challenges in 3D printing of large and small objects, postprocessing and integrating the two. By showing the conventional way of 3D printing, it was pointed out that simply adding post processing to the production chain, is not integration, nor is it reducing overall production time and costs.

Integration of post processing requires cunning solutions for clamping, mapping and milling and polishing, which have to be implemented into one smart and efficient production chain. The challenge is to locate and map the object, establish and translate the required post processing steps with a minimum of support structures and reclamping and repositioning actions. This proves to be a mere quest of interfacing and IT. Moreover, the projects' goal is to design a process that works as an add-on to existing machines. Since existing machines have a typical lifespan of 10–15 years, a system will be created that can be retrofitted. In this way, the project even has a significant impact on the short term.

BNR Nieuwsradio

On Wednesday, May 2nd, the EU presented their multi-year budget for 2021–2027. A reason for Dutch radio, BNR Nieuwsradio, to address this in a special topic. Together with Marjolein Nijhuis, partner/consultant at Plus Projects and Jacobine van den Brink, professor of European and Dutch Administrative law, we talked about the pros and cons of European subsidies, both in generating knowledge as in creating cross border partnerships. The 3D&FPP project served as an example for the practice of executing EU sponsored projects. You can replay the interview here (in Dutch).

Progress

Recently the partnership submitted their first annual progress report on 2017 to the Joint Secretariat. Finishing the report also meant finishing Work Package 1, in which a draft for integrated post processing is designed, and the first feasibility tests are performed. This provided insight into the possible gain for reduction of cost and process time. In future work, the partnership will focus on fine tuning the concept, testing and verification of the concept in separate steps.



Meet & greet

During a meeting in the afternoon of June 6th, the partnership will present an update on the course and results of the project. The draft design for integrated post processing and how this will result in a reduction of cost and process time, will be presented and reflected on with the attendees. You are cordially invited to attend this meeting, which will be held at RDM Makerspace, Rotterdam, the Netherlands. If being present in person is not possible, you can also join using our webinar service via this website.

Upcoming events

- June 6, 2018, Steering Committee Meeting, Annual meeting with the Joint Secretariat of Interreg 2Seas Programme and Informal Progress Meeting
- June 7, 2018, Technical Meeting
- November 7th–8th 2018, Prototype Expo, Kortrijk, Belgium

