

AMPOWER REPORT 2021

Polymer Additive Manufacturing

THE INDEPENDENT MARKET & TECHNOLOGY SOURCE

Analytics of the international market size segmented by technology, industry, region and material
Covering all leading user industries • Supplier and user perspective • Representing more than 80% of
the installed system base • Global database of system, service and material suppliers with more
than 650 entries • Catalogue with industrial applications

Preface: A challenging year

The year of 2020 was marked by the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. The impact on the world was severe as lockdown measures, travel bans and social distancing turned everyday life upside down. The aftermath of the pandemic and the subsequent significant slump in the global economy of course also affected the field of Additive Manufacturing. Strong drivers of the technology, such as the aviation and automotive sectors, were affected and development activities were put in the backseat to focus on core processes.

During the beginning of the crisis 3D printing gained media attention, as there were high hopes of absorbing the collapse of supply chains through the flexibility of additive technologies. There are success stories, such as the additive production of nasal swabs, that allowed quick production of the necessary testing equipment without access to specialized machinery. However, even if Additive Manufacturing is a feasible alternative, it became apparent that switching a production technology takes time: processes have to be set up, quality demands have to be met, and of course AM production capacity has to be available. The future will show how companies will cope with the dependency and resulting risk from international supply chains, and whether AM can become a viable solution to cover short-term demand for certain products or even replace traditional manufacturing methods.

2020 was also a year, where large investments and funding into start-ups of new additive technologies continued as well as company acquisitions in the triple-digit millions and onset of further stock market listings. These activities will have a lasting impact on the market and landscape of Additive Manufacturing.

The extend of the COVID-19 pandemic on the metal Additive Manufacturing market is shown in the AMPOWER Report 2021: METAL, now published in its 3rd edition. The AMPOWER Report 2021: POLYMER is released for the first time. The aim of this new market report is to provide a comprehensive and reliable market overview for the additive use of plastics. In addition to the updated market figures for 2020 and the outlook for 2025, the AMPOWER Report includes for the first time input from esteemed AM experts and thought leaders, that provide an overview on regional developments in Additive Manufacturing technology.

The market and technology report, the databases as well as the application catalogue of real-world industrial use cases are available online through the interactive website at

<https://additive-manufacturing-report.com>

This PDF is compiled from the data available online. Additional resources such as databases and technology deep-dives are only available online.

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