

News Release

Solid Concepts Introduces FRP (Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic) to Their Line of Rapid Prototyping Services

TROY, MI Solid Concepts Inc., a supplier of rapid prototyping and direct digital manufacturing services, now offers FRP (Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic) out of their new Troy, MI facility. FRP is a well established and proven technology used to produce accurate, rigid, large panels with high impact strength.

Sheets of fiberglass are skillfully cut and laminated with proprietary epoxies to offer a variety of desirable properties. Panels are created from a one-sided layup tool where the A side geometry is accurately reproduced. The back, or B side, of the geometry often requires brackets, hinges, boss clusters and/or other hardware. The use of proprietary fixtures allows Solid Concepts to precision locate B-side hardware, providing a much tighter fitting assembly with consistent and level reveals.

FRP panels have exceptional surface finish ideal for single sided cosmetic purposes. Additionally, FRP allows for faster production of large panel parts when compared to the pricier alternative, RIM (Reaction Injection Molding). Although typical application for FRP includes large cosmetic prototype panels for automotive, agricultural, construction and medical industries, the 2009 introduction of UL 94 V0 Fire retardant materials has enticed various other industries to turn to FRP. These panels are light and very tough.

Founded in 1991, Solid Concepts supplies rapid prototyping, direct digital manufacturing, tooling and injection molding services. Solid Concepts has grown steadily to a five-facility, multiple technology company known to be a solutions provider with project management and engineering expertise. Capabilities in PolyJet™ high precision 3D printing, Stereolithography (SLA) models and patterns, HDSL (High Definition Stereolithography), Selective Laser Sintering (SLS), Direct Digital Manufacturing, CNC models and patterns, and QuantumCast™ advanced urethane castings, allows for low-volume production of plastic, urethane, and metal components directly from design data, resulting in significant time and cost savings. Capabilities in tooling and injection molding make Solid Concepts a one-stop source to bring concepts from prototype to finished product ready for market. ISO 9001:2008 and AS9100 Rev. B certified.

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