

Laser-sintering: laser-based industrial 3D printing

Tobias Abeln

EOS GmbH, Electro Optical Systems, Robert-Stirling-Ring 1, 82152 Krailling/Munich, Germany

Abstract

„3D printing“ has generated a lot of attention over the last few years. Looking behind the hype, we see an assortment of technologies with very different performance levels and applications. At the high end, these technologies indeed start to change several paradigms of industrial manufacturing: Geometric complexity almost comes for free, personalisation is not expensive, design alterations of new products can be fast and cheap. These changes are evolutionary in nature rather than revolutionary, meshing nicely with existing manufacturing technologies and emerging design capabilities. And suiting the global trends of customised product designs, shortened life cycles and limited resource availability. This presentation will show where industrial 3D printing is today and which way it is heading.