

# Four key use cases for the Studio System™

# Agenda

- 01 Why/when to print metal
- 02 Studio System
- 03 4 Key use cases
  - 03\_1 Functional prototyping
  - 03\_2 Jigs & fixture
  - 03\_3 Manufacturing tooling
  - 03\_4 Low volume production

# The promise of metal 3D printing

- Rapid prototyping
- Rapid tooling
- **Part consolidation**
- **Complex geometries**
- **Design customization**
- **On-demand manufacturing**
- **Supply chain re-engineering**





Desktop Metal was founded in 2015 by leaders in advanced manufacturing, metallurgy, and robotics to **make metal 3D printing accessible for engineering and manufacturing.**



# Studio System™

Office-friendly, affordable metal 3D printing. Designed for engineers



# Production System™

100x faster. Quality & cost per part needed to scale. Designed for throughput.



# Studio System

# Studio System™

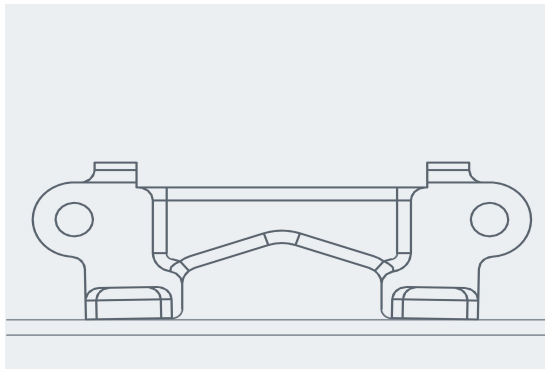
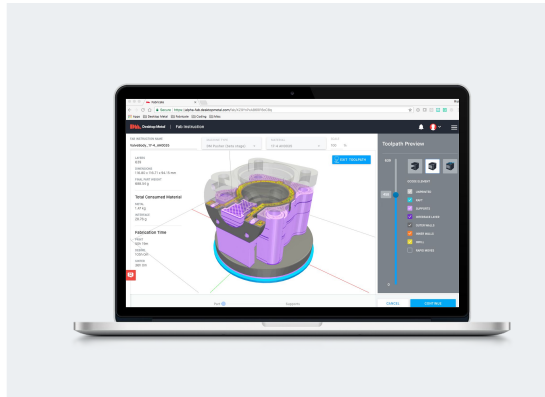
Office-Friendly metal 3-D printing



# STUDIO SYSTEM WORKFLOW

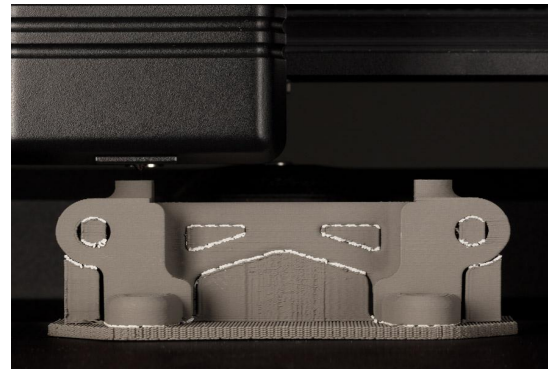
## 1. Prep

Fabricate prepares the part and guides it through fabrication



## 2. Print

The printer shapes the part



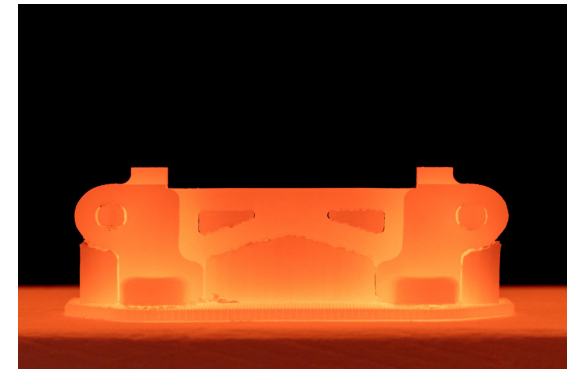
## 3. Debind

The debinder prepares the part for sintering



## 4. Sinter

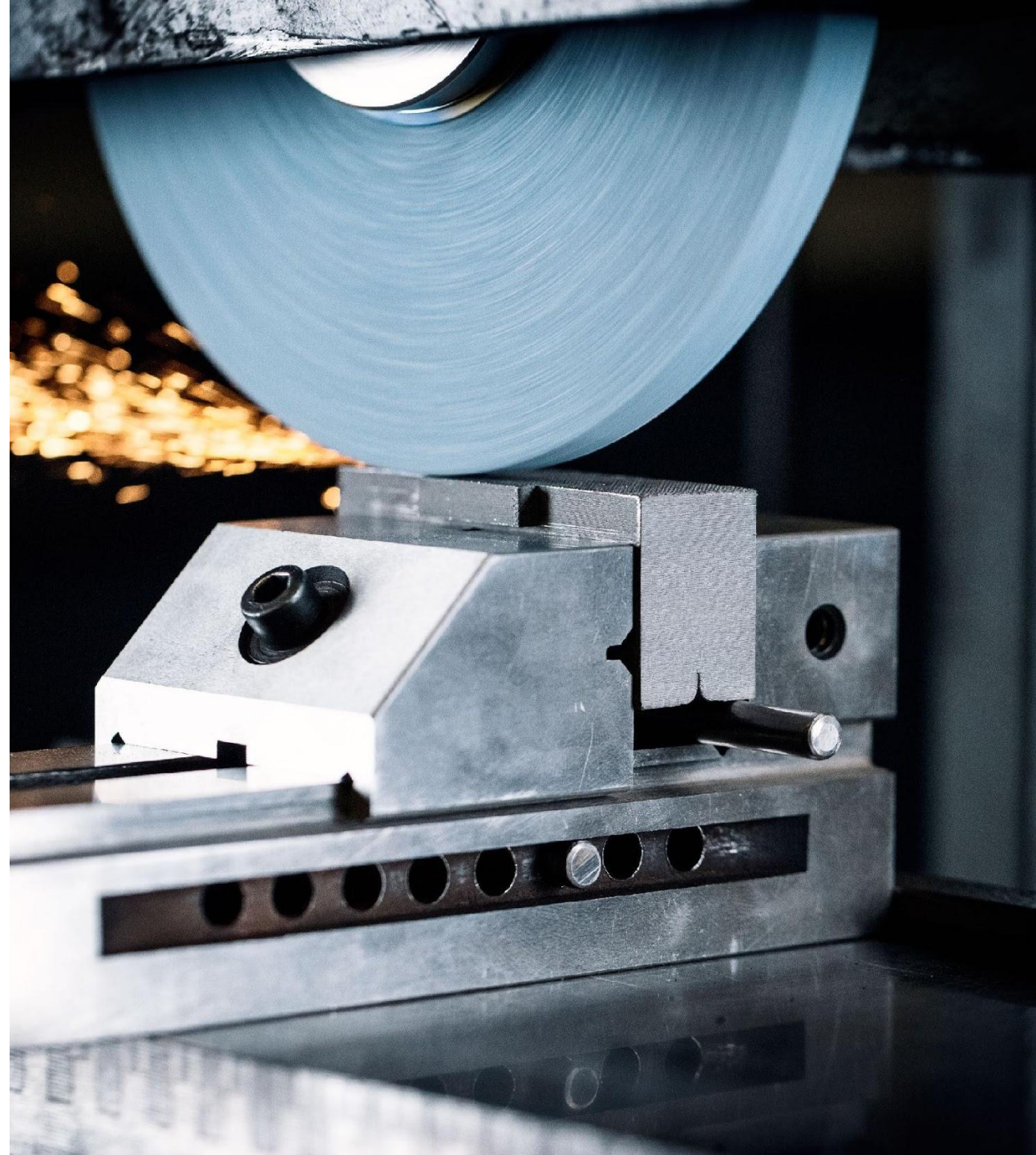
The furnace sinters the part





# Near net shape parts can be post-processed like any other metal

- Optimal part size envelope: 5 x 5 x 5 in
- Build volume: 12 x 8 x 8 in
- Resolution, accuracy and surface finish similar to casting
- Dimensional capabilities to  $\pm 0.8\%$
- Critical dimensions can be achieved via post-processing (e.g., CNC, EDM, grinding, etc.)
- Fully compatible with traditional finishing operations (tumbling, media blasting, plating, etc.), welding, heat treating, etc.



# To print or not to print?

Great candidates for printing with Studio System:

- Complex geometry
- Multiple machining operations
- Part cost above ~\$200
- Weeks of lead time (due to either capacity or tooling)



# Cost considerations

## Machine Shop / CNC

- Material
- Labor
- Custom fixturing
- Post-processing

## SLM

- Build plate
- Materials
- Labor
- Post-processing

## Studio System

- Material
- Consumables (debinder, gas, electricity)
- Labor
- Post-processing

# Four key use cases

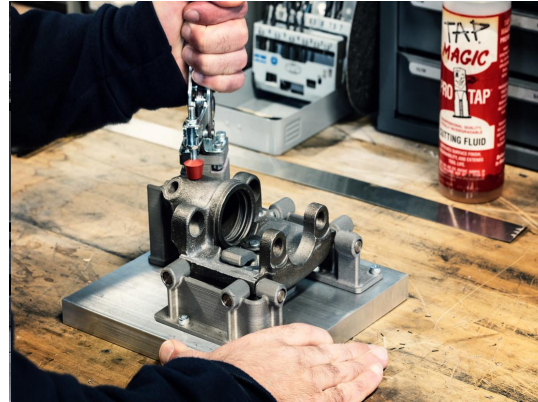


Studio System™

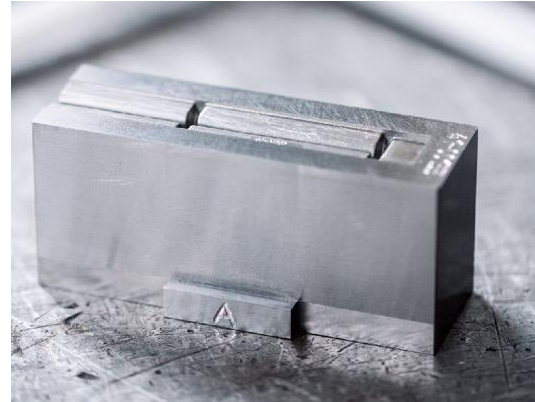
# Four key use cases



Functional prototyping



Jigs & fixtures



Manufacturing tooling



Low volume production

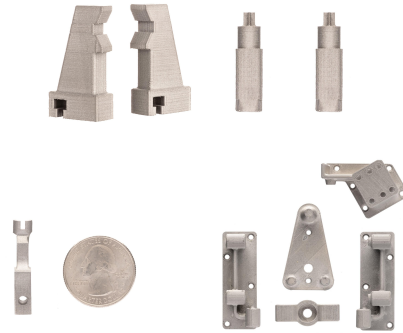
Studio System™

# Four key use cases



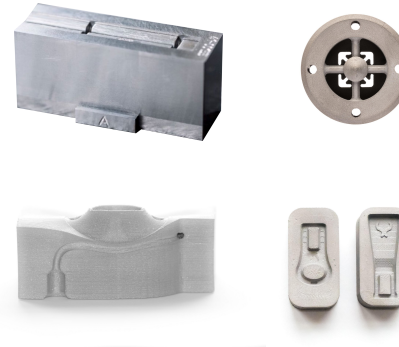
Functional prototyping

- 1 Extruder nozzle
- 2 Shock absorber piston
- 3 Static mixer



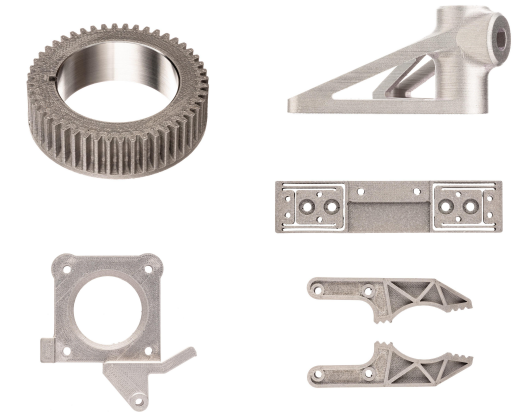
Jigs & fixtures

- 1 Robotic end effectors
- 2 Custom nut drivers
- 3 Brake caliper fixture



Manufacturing tooling

- 1 Injection mold inserts
- 2 Extrusion dies
- 3 Asthma inhaler mold insert
- 4 Zipper mold inserts



Low volume production

- 1 Lathe gear
- 2 Battlebot SawBlaze backstop
- 3 Motor mount
- 4 Motion stage flexure
- 5 End effectors

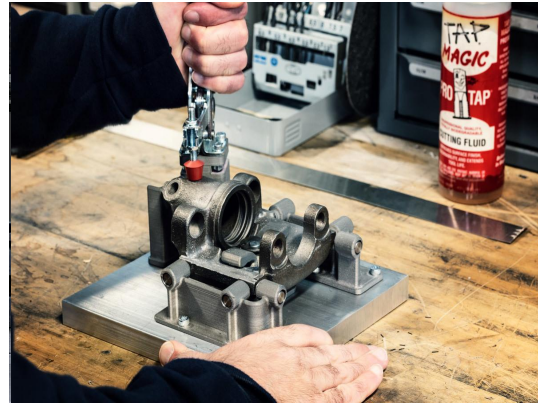
Studio System™

# Four key use cases

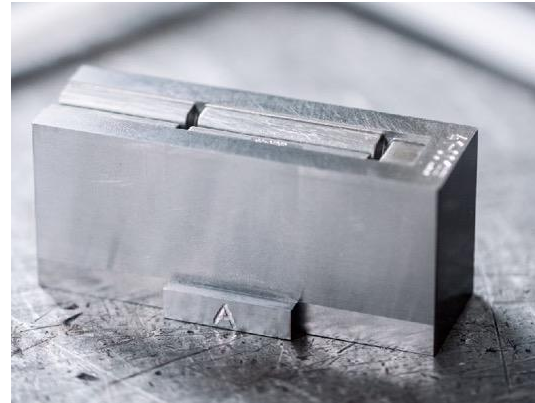


Functional prototyping

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Jigs & fixtures



Manufacturing tooling



Low volume production

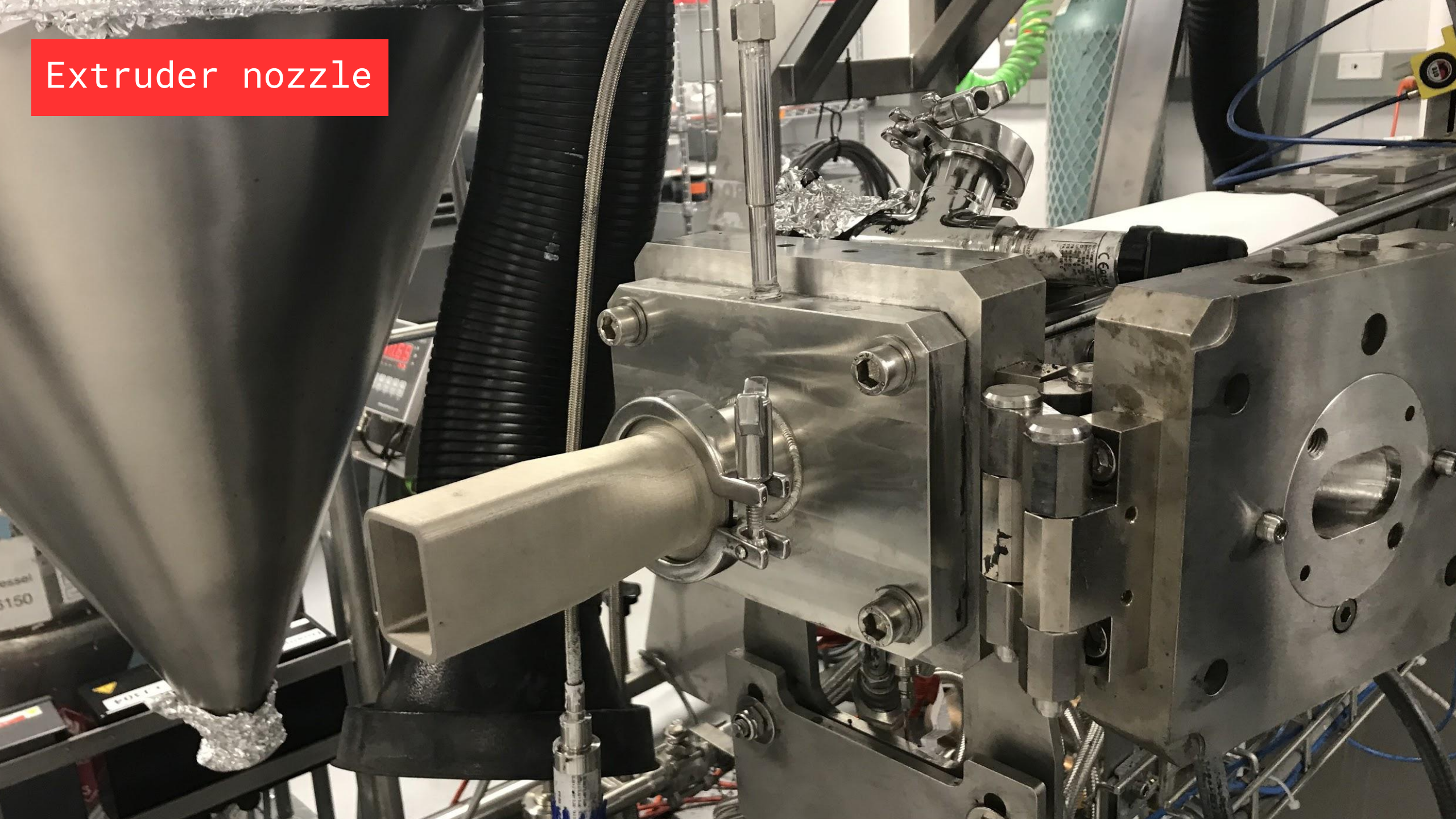
# Functional Prototyping

- Rapid prototyping accelerates product development
- Test not just form and fit, but also function
- Strength, stiffness
- Thermal and chemical resistance
- No tooling required
- Avoid CNC backlog and lead times





Extruder nozzle

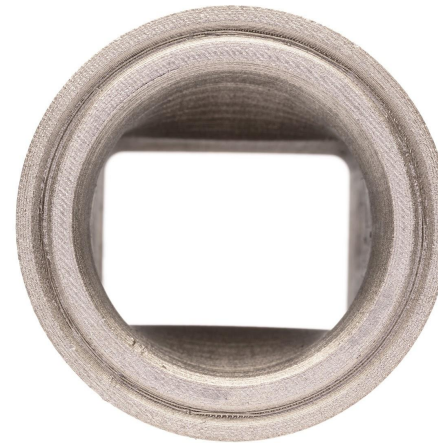




# Extruder nozzle

- Nozzle for twin screw extruder
- Mixing two highly loaded (75-80%) ceramic slurries
- Complex loft to direct flow and define shape
- Must be metal due to: Strength, stiffness, thermal resistance
- To achieve extremely smooth internal surface: sanding in “green” state may be easier/faster than extrusion honing
- 2.5 x 2.5 x 5.0 in (6.4 x 6.4 x 12.7 cm)

	<b>Studio System™</b>	<b>SLM</b>	<b>CNC</b>	<b>Savings</b>
Cost	\$64	\$1,800	\$1,170	>95% cheaper
Lead time	4 days	2-3 wks	2 wks	4x faster

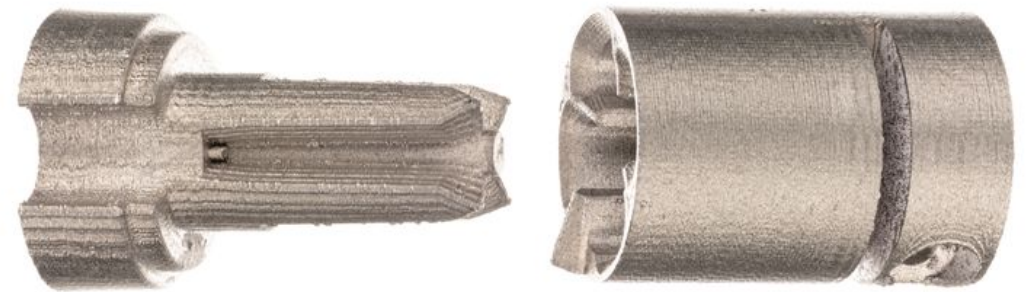


# Custom mechanical coupling



# Custom mechanical coupling

- Custom coupling for rotary power transfer between custom piece of machinery
- Complex geometry to attach to optimize power transfer in complex situation
- Must be metal due to: Strength, stiffness, and lifetime requirements
- Part 1: 1.0 x 0.9 x 1.6 in (2.6 x 2.3 x 4.3 cm)
- Part 2: 0.9 x 0.9 x 1.4 in (2.3 x 2.3 x 3.6 cm)



	Studio System™	SLM	CNC	Savings
Cost	\$32	\$519	\$1,170	>95% cheaper
Lead time	4 days	2-3 wks	2 wks	4x faster



# Worm gear

- A common component in gear drives used to transfer power
- Worm gears are an excellent selection when confined space is necessary for a reduction
- Must be metal due to: Strength, stiffness, and lifetime requirements
- 17-4 PH Stainless Steel
- 3.4 x 5.5 x 1.375 in (8.6 x 13.9 x 3.5 cm)

	Studio System™	SLM	CNC	Savings
Cost	\$95	\$812	\$1,913	>95% cheaper
Lead time	4 days	2-3 wks	2 wks	4x faster



# Roller screw

- An essential component of roller screw linear actuators
- Traditionally manufactured in 5 different components and assembled (5 - 1 assembly reduction)
- Must be metal due to: Strength, stiffness, and lifetime requirements, requires mild corrosion resistance
- 17-4 PH Stainless Steel
- Part 1: 4.8 x 1.3 x 1.5 in (12.2 x 3.3 x 3.8 cm)



	<b>Studio System™</b>	<b>SLM</b>	<b>CNC</b>	<b>Savings</b>
Cost	\$86	\$660	\$1,914	>95% cheaper
Lead time	4 days	2-3 wks	2 wks	4x faster

# Shock absorber piston



# Shock absorber piston

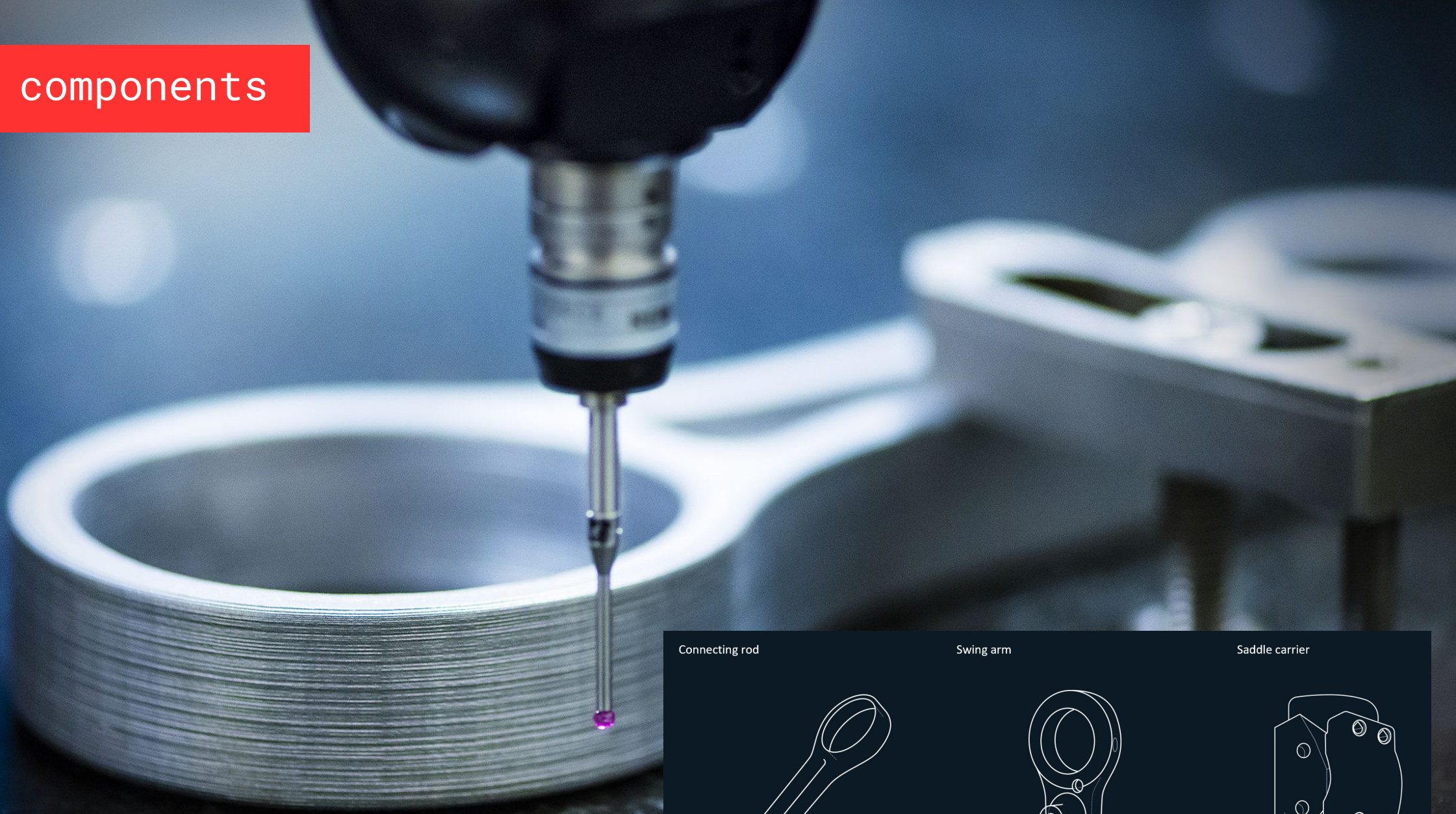
- Shock pistons for vehicle wheel shock absorbers
- Provides damping to reduce uncomfortable bouncing after shock is applied
- Complex internal channels direct the flow of shock fluid to transfer energy away from the shock
- Must be metal due to: Strength, stiffness, corrosion resistance
- 1.9 x 1.9 x 0.6 in (64.7 x 4.74 x 1.5 cm)

	<b>Studio System™</b>	<b>SLM</b>	<b>CNC</b>	<b>Savings</b>
Cost	\$73	\$524	\$402	>80% cheaper
Lead time	4 days	2 wks	2 wks	4x faster





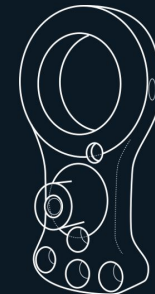
# Engine components



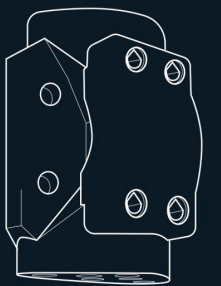
Connecting rod



Swing arm



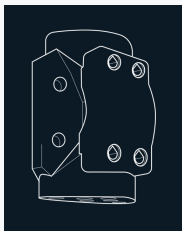
Saddle carrier





# Engine components

- Design of a new internal combustion engine
- Rapid prototyping (20/month) critical to design iteration
- Must be metal (strength, thermal and chemical resistance)
- Printing connecting rods, swing arm, saddle carrier
- 25% shorter product development cycle
- 2.9 x 2.0 x 4.0 in (7.4 x 5.1 x 10.2 cm)

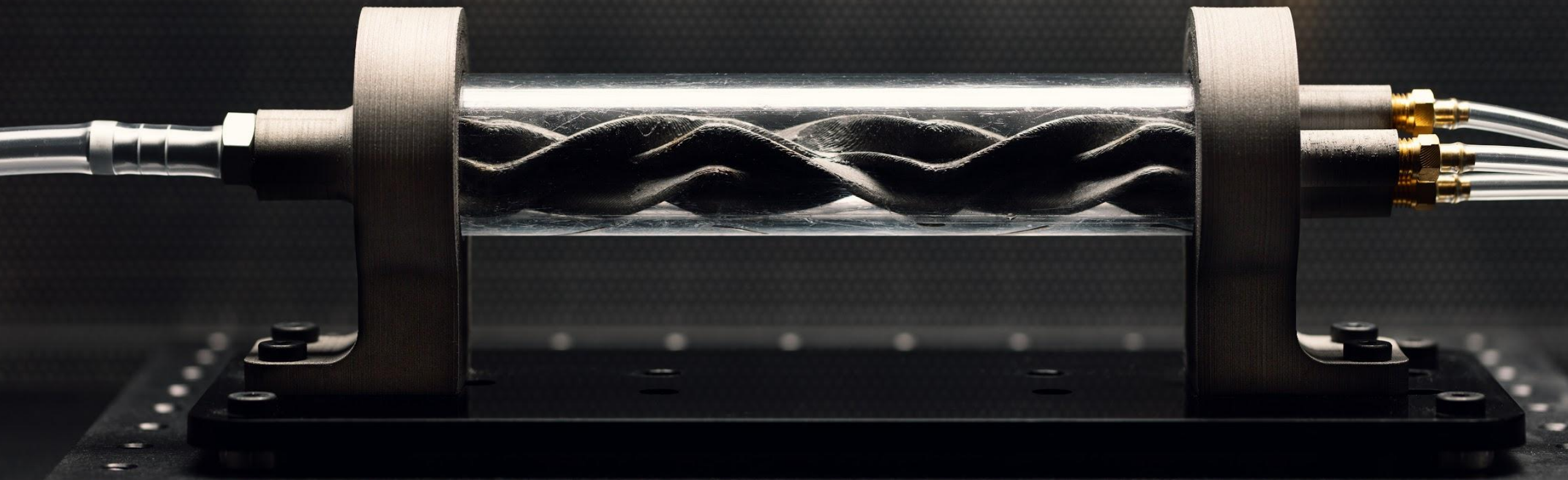


	Studio System™	CNC	Savings
<b>Cost (for saddle carrier)</b>	\$148	\$606	85% cheaper
<b>Lead time (for saddle carrier)</b>	4 days	2 wks	4x faster





Static mixer







# Static mixer

- Precision engineered device for the continuous mixing of fluid materials using baffles (flow-directing vanes)
- Common applications include oil refinery, polymer production, and wastewater treatment
- Must be metal due to chemical resistance and strength
- Prototyping is critical: mixing depends on many variables including the fluids' properties and mixer design.
- 4.0 x 1.0 x 1.0 in (10.2 x 2.5 x 2.5 cm)

	<b>Studio System™</b>	<b>SLM</b>	<b>CNC</b>	<b>Savings</b>
Cost	\$41	\$896	N/A	>95% cheaper
Lead time	3 days	3 wks	N/A	4x faster

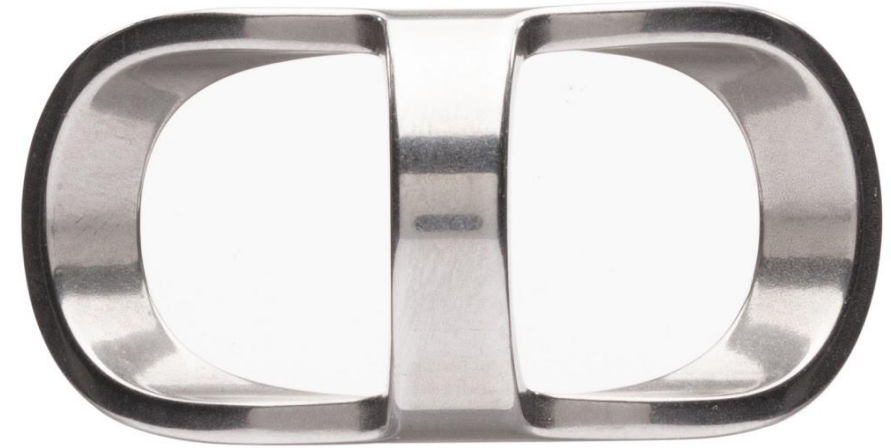


## Orthotic finger splint



# Orthotic finger splint

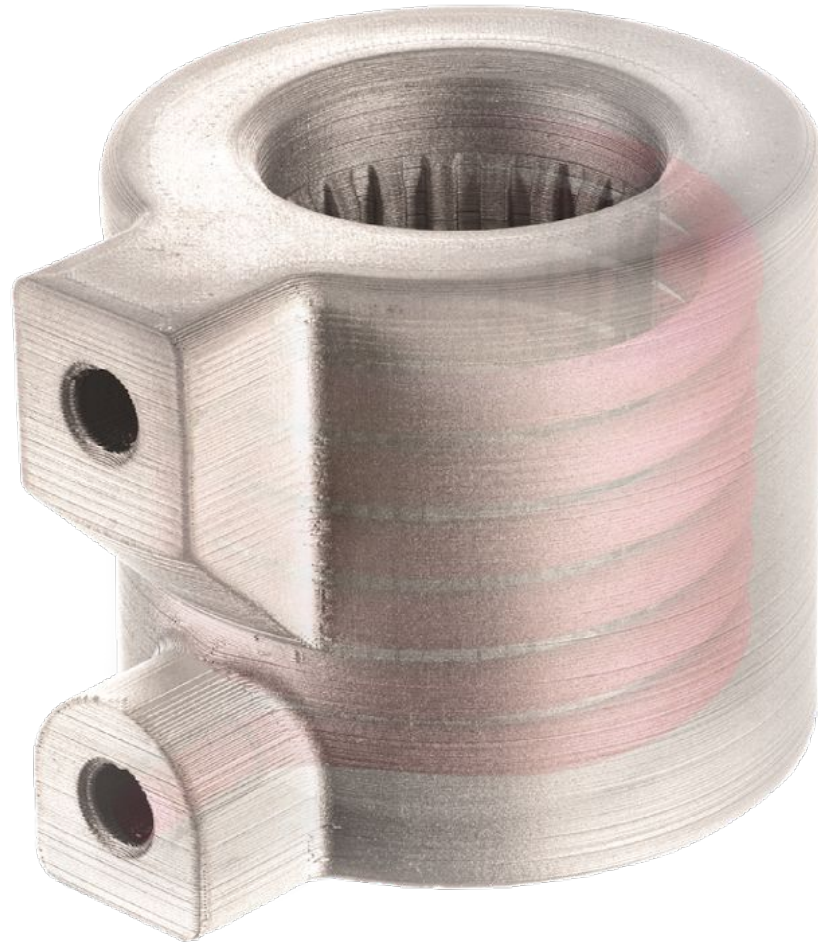
- Used to immobilize or limit range of motion for injured limbs
- Challenges:
  - Typically Injection-molded plastic in standard sizes, are brittle, often break, cannot be customized to improve fit, and “look medical.”
- Why 3D print:
  - Can be customized to improve fit, and are more durable and aesthetically pleasing.
- 4.0 x 1.0 x 1.0 in (10.2 x 2.5 x 2.5 cm)



	Studio System™	SLM	CNC	Savings
Cost	\$xx	\$xxx	N/A	>95% cheaper
Lead time	3 days	3 wks	N/A	4x faster



# Heat exchanger



# Heat exchanger

- asdf
- asdf
- 
- 4.0 x 1.0 x 1.0 in (10.2 x 2.5 x 2.5 cm)

	Studio System™	SLM	CNC	Savings
Cost	\$xx	\$xxx	N/A	>95% cheaper
Lead time	3 days	3 wks	N/A	4x faster



# Impeller

- ...
- ...
- ...
- 4.0 x 1.0 x 1.0 in (10.2 x 2.5 x 2.5 cm)



Studio System™

# Four key use cases

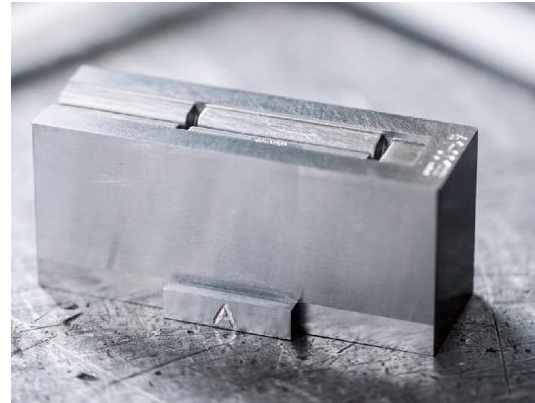


Functional prototyping



Jigs & fixtures

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Manufacturing tooling

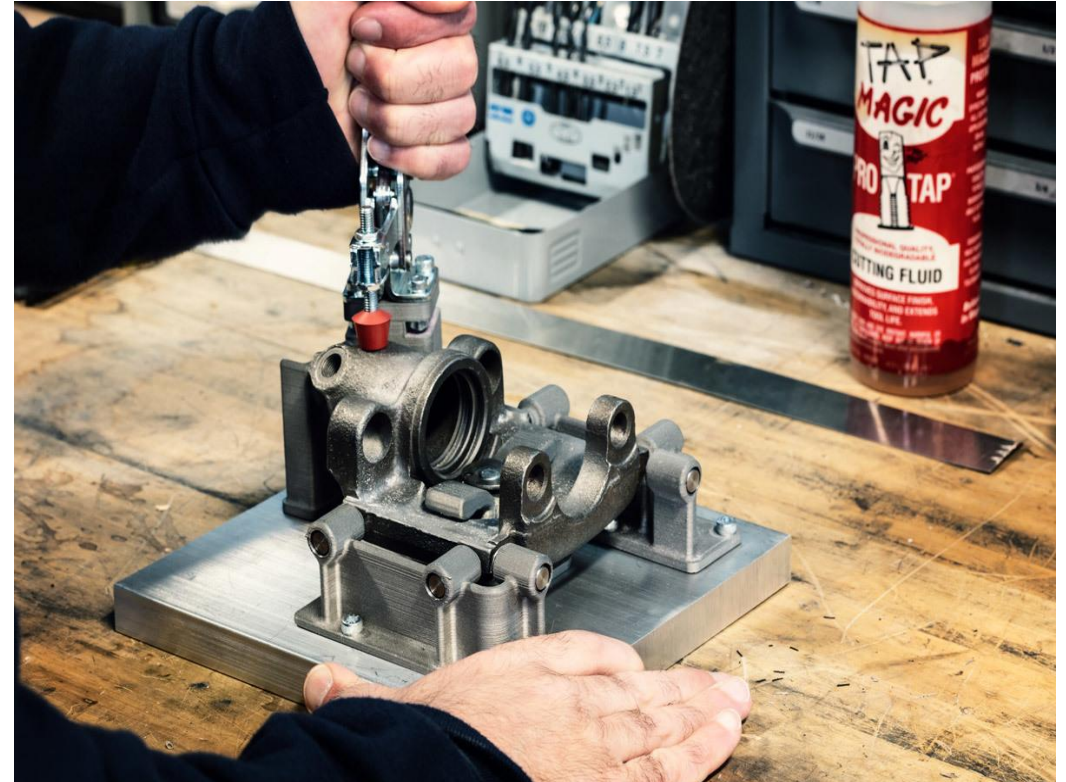


Low volume production



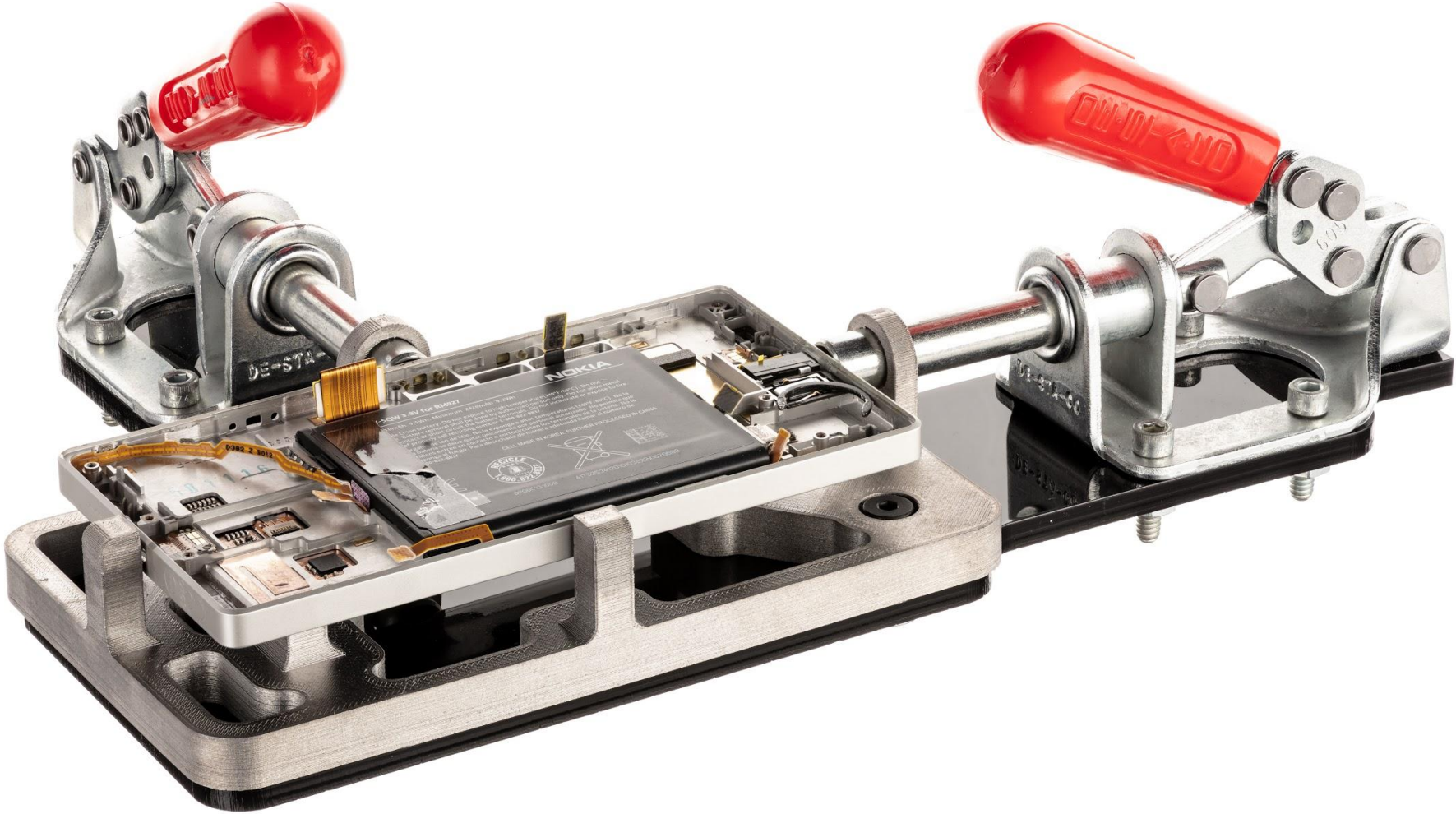
# Jigs & fixtures

- Custom workholding fixtures provide manufacturing operation consistency, and minimize the need for highly skilled operators
- The fixtures' complex geometry can mean long lead times and high expenses
- Because many manufacturing operations include high forces, high heat, and abrasive chemicals, they require the use of metal jigs and fixtures
- Periodically wears out - must be quickly replaced to keep production line up
- Typically produced with labor-intensive machining operations due to the relatively low volume



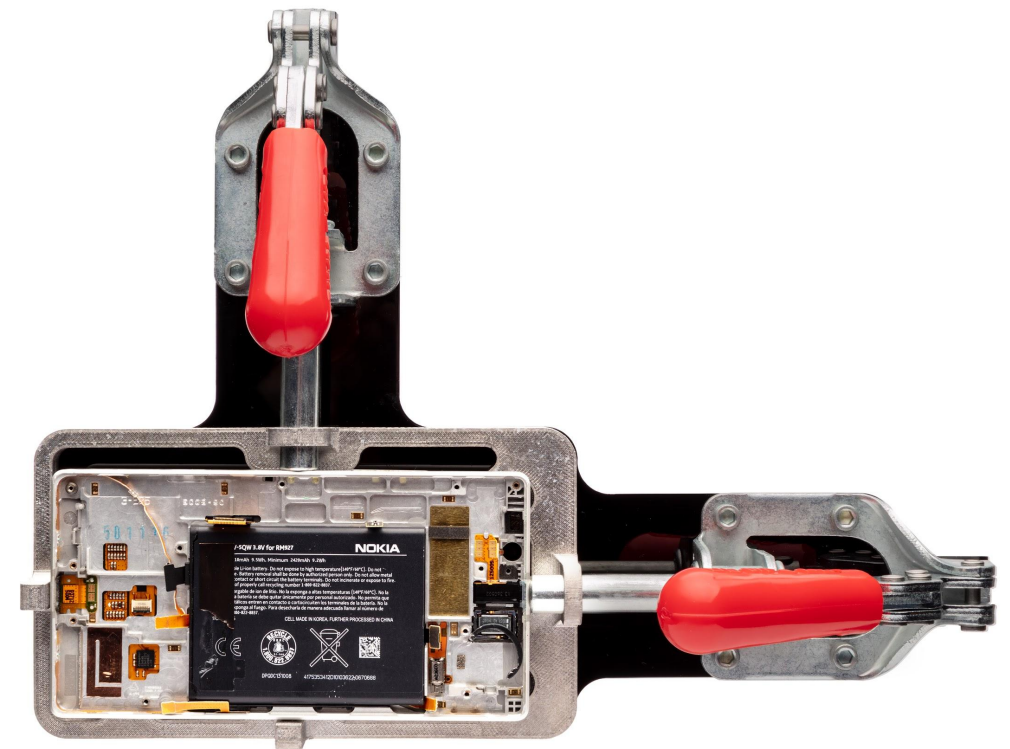
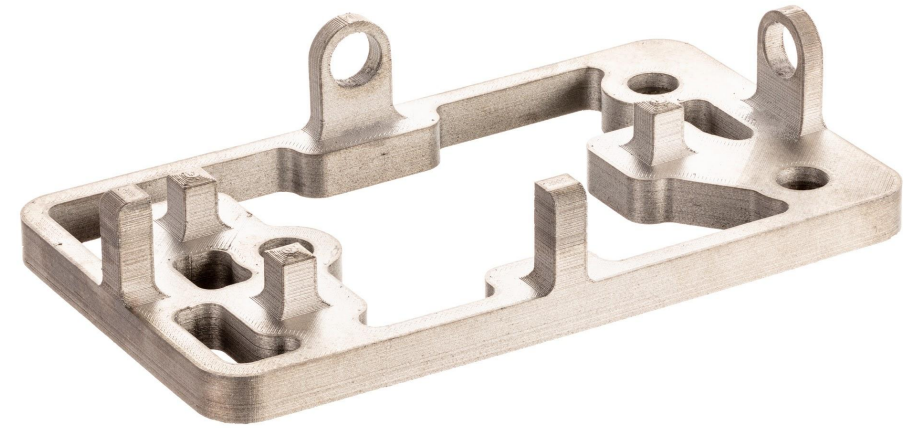


Smartphone fixture



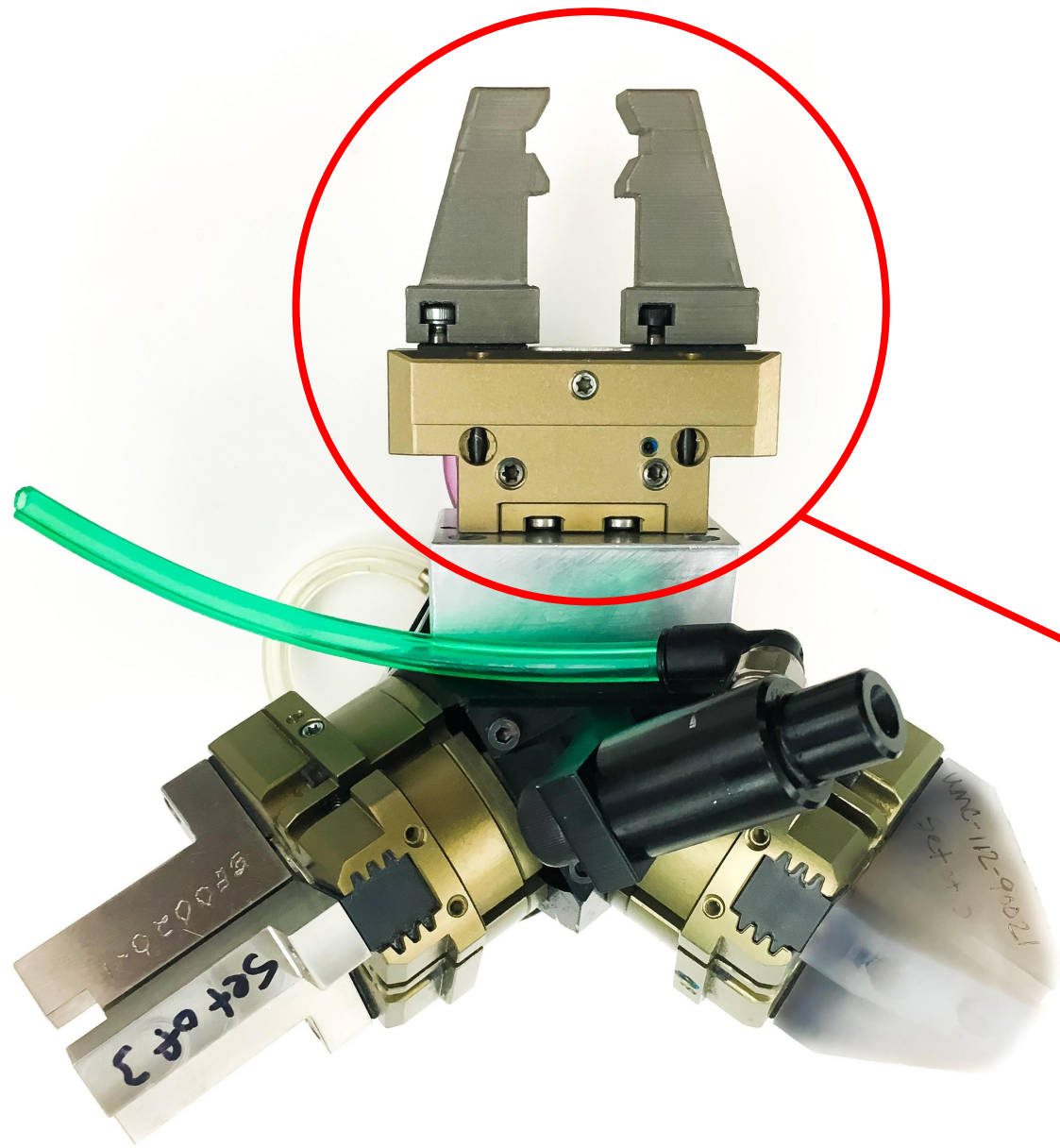
# Smartphone fixture

- Used in many manufacturing operations, workholding fixtures are used for accurately locating subassemblies
- Because many manufacturing operations include high forces (e.g., during automated machining and assembly operations), and/or heat (e.g., during soldering), fixtures must be metal
- Fixtures commonly contain complex custom geometry and are produced in low volume, typically requiring CNC machining
- CNC capacity (machines and operators) can be a bottleneck ⇒ 3D printing eliminates much of the lead time and labor
- When they periodically wears out, fixtures must be quickly replaced to keep production line up
- 7.5 x 4.3 x 1.6 in (19.1 x 10.9 x 4.0 cm)



	Studio System™	SLM	CNC	Savings
Cost	\$150	\$1500	\$450	65-90% cheaper
Lead time	5 days	3 wks	2 wks	4x faster

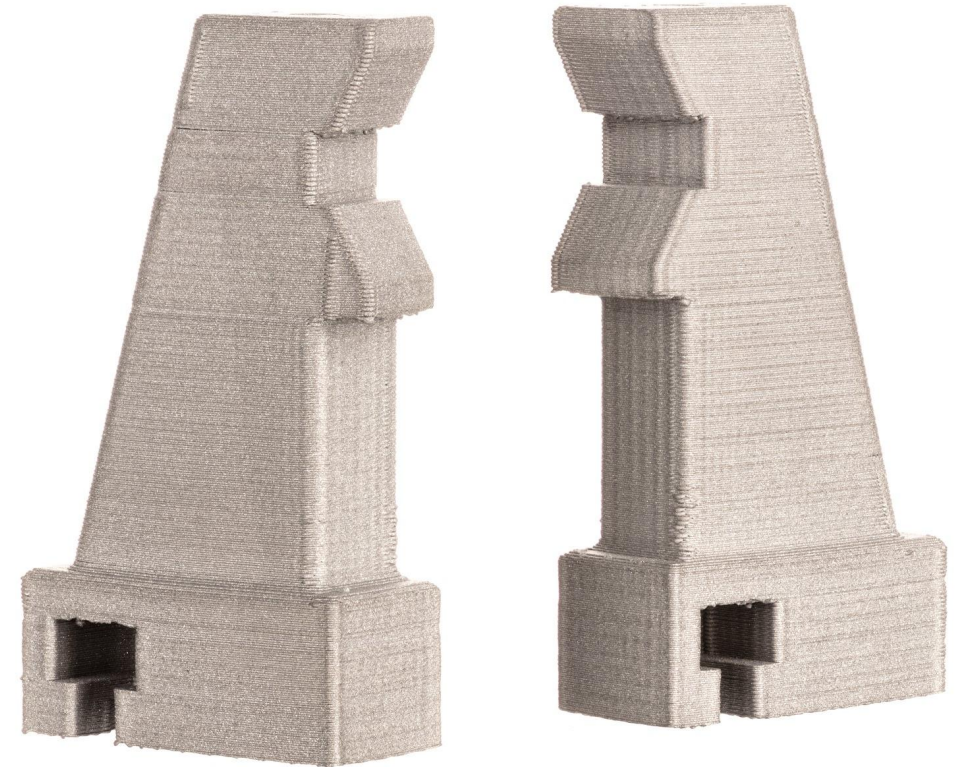




Robotic end effectors

# Robotic end effectors

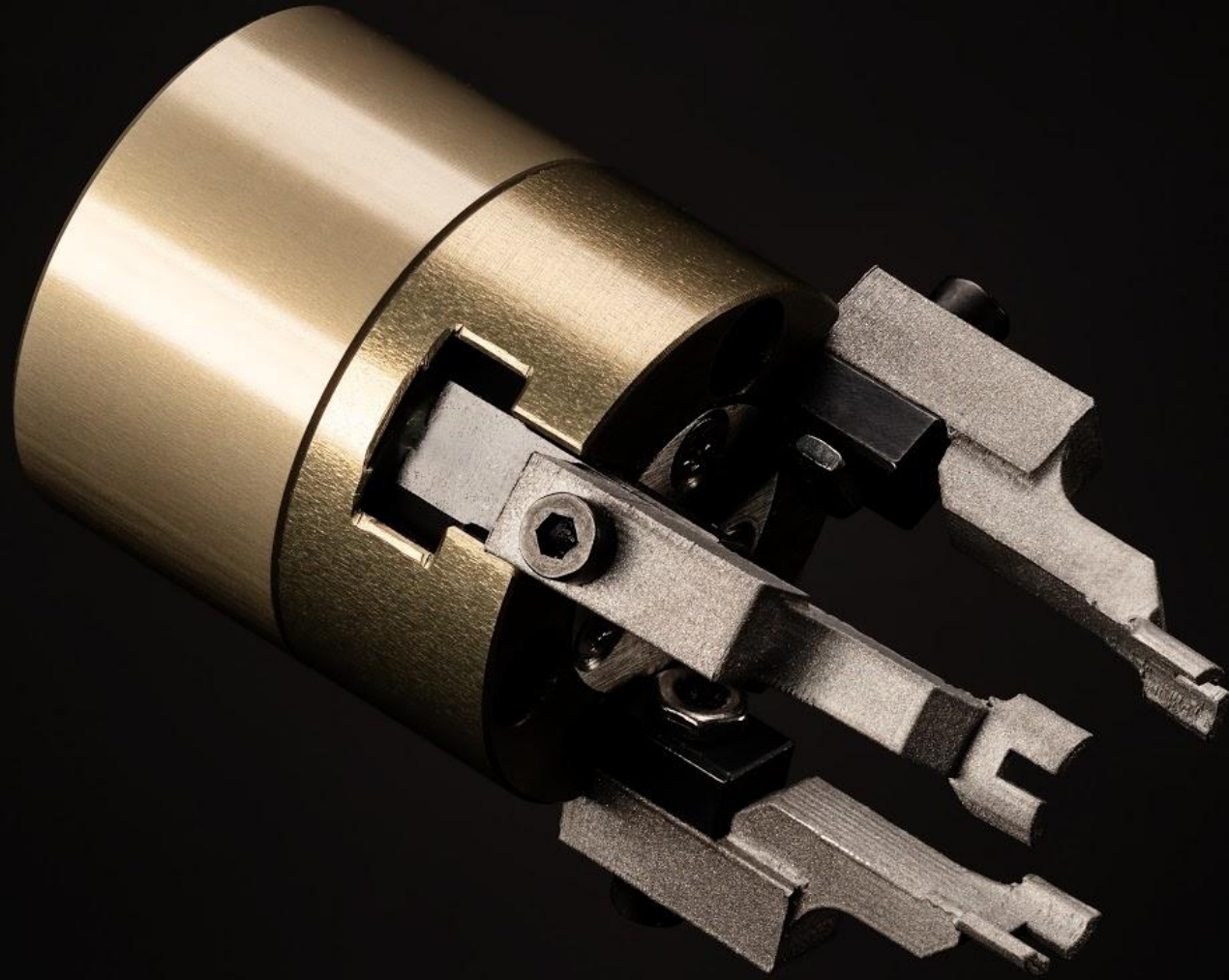
- Used in many manufacturing operations, end effectors are used for fixturing and moving components (aerospace forgings in this case)
- Commonly contain complex custom geometry and are produced in low volume
- Custom geometry and low volume is associated with long lead times and high manufacturing costs
- CNC capacity (machines and operators) can be a bottleneck ⇒ 3D printing eliminates much of the lead time and labor
- If an end effector is to break, the manufacturing line is shut down until it is replaced
- Saves >12 hrs of CNC time, uses 1.5 hrs of post processing with a Bridgeport instead
- 1.9 x 1.3 x 0.5 in (4.9 x 3.2 x 1.2 cm)



	Studio System™	SLM	CNC	Savings
Cost	\$28	\$181	\$165	>80% cheaper
Lead time	4 days	2 wks	2 wks	4x faster



Robotic end effectors



# Robotic end effectors

- Used in many manufacturing operations, end effectors are used for fixturing and moving components (installing a precision-engineered O-ring in this case)
- Commonly contain complex custom geometry and are produced in low volume
- Custom geometry and low volume is associated with long lead times and high manufacturing costs
- CNC capacity (machines and operators) can be a bottleneck ⇒ 3D printing eliminates much of the lead time and labor
- If an end effector is to break, the manufacturing line is shut down until it is replaced
- Swappable high resolution printhead allows for smaller parts with finer features (with sintered voxels as tiny as 240 microns in XY by 45 microns in Z)
- 1.4 x 0.3 x 0.5 in (3.6 x 0.8 x 1.2 cm)

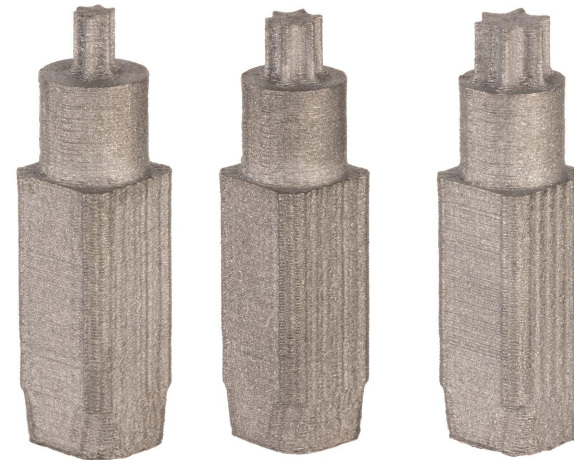
	<b>Studio System™</b>	<b>CNC</b>	<b>Savings</b>
Cost	\$6	\$150	>95% cheaper
Lead time	3 days	2 wks	>5x faster



# Custom nut drivers

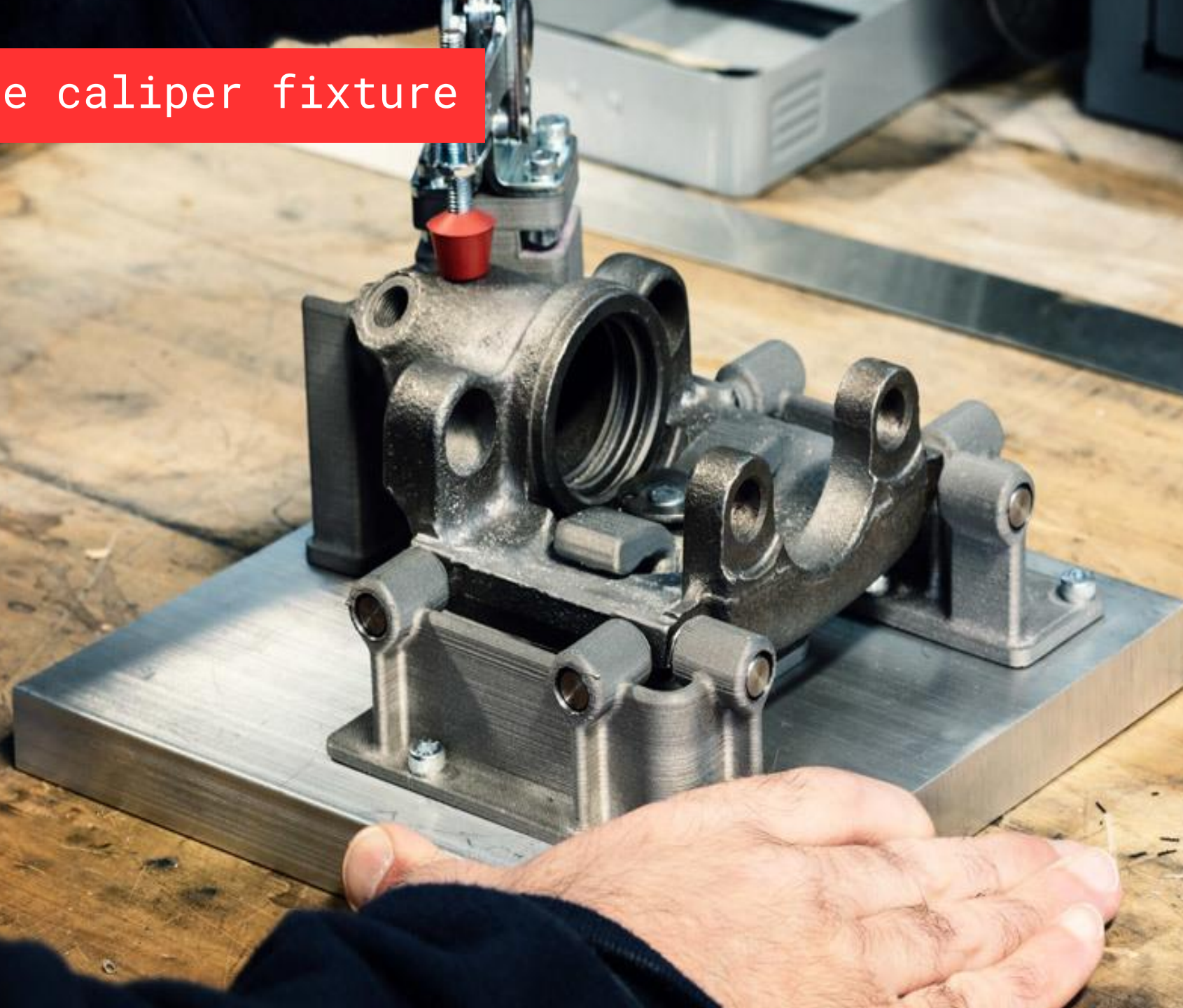
- Used in many manufacturing operations, custom nut drivers typically feature a standard interface on one end, and a custom robot-specific interface on the other end
- Commonly contain complex custom geometry and are produced in low volume
- 3D printing eliminates much of the lead time and labor associated with precision CNC work
- If the driver is to break, the manufacturing line is shut down until it is replaced
- Swappable high resolution printhead allows for smaller parts with finer features (with sintered voxels as tiny as 240 microns in XY by 45 microns in Z)
- 1.2 x 0.3 x 0.3 in (3.0 x 0.8 x 0.8 cm)

	<b>Studio System™</b>	<b>SLM</b>	<b>CNC</b>	<b>Savings</b>
Cost	\$6	\$292	\$122	>80% cheaper
Lead time	3 days	2 wks	2 wks	4x faster





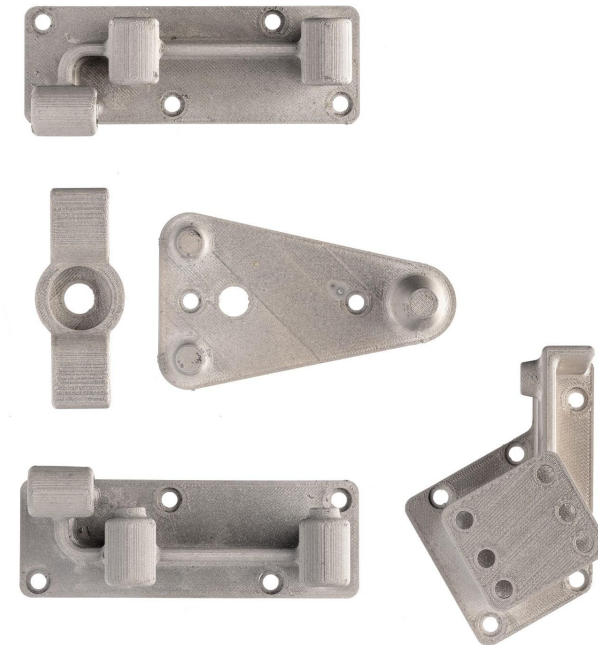
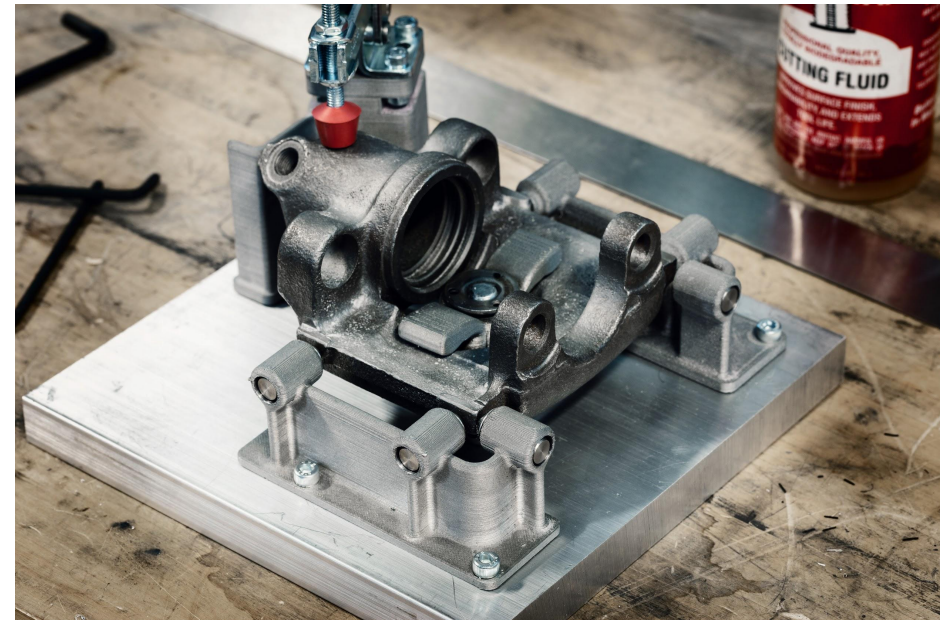
# Brake caliper fixture





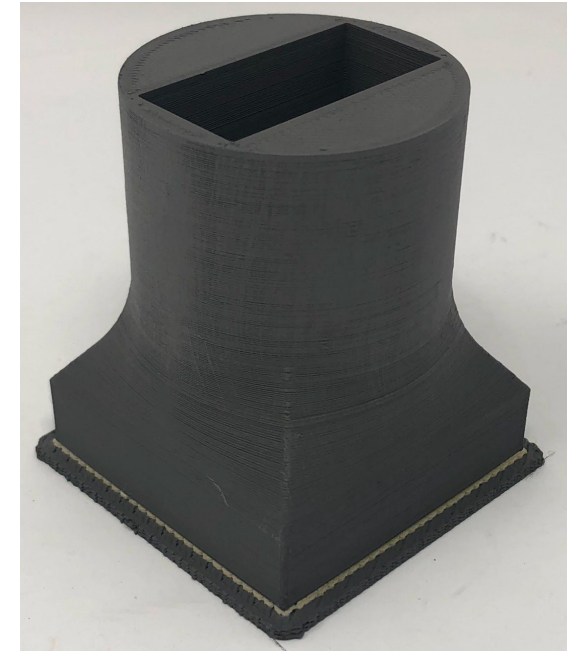
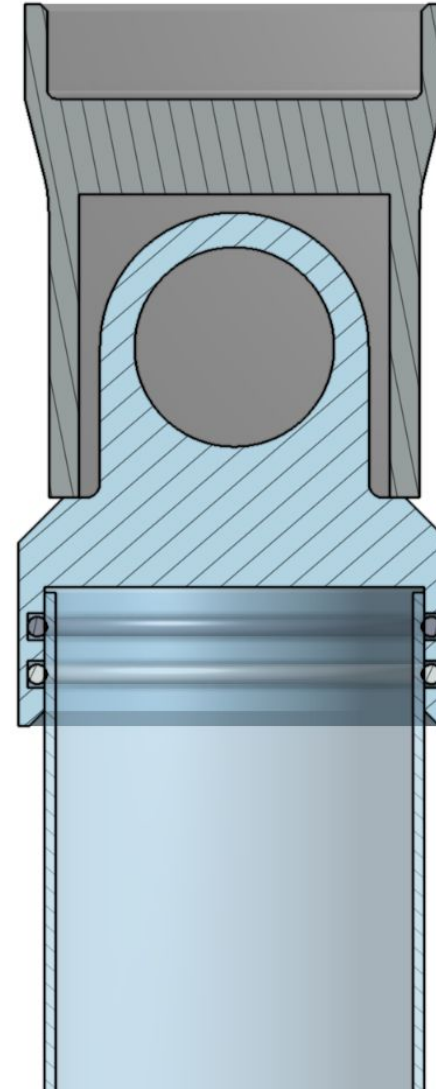
# Brake caliper fixture

- Fixture holds brake caliper in place for machining
- Must be steel due to strength and stiffness requirements
- With the freedom of geometry that is provided with the Studio System designers can design for the fixtures' application, rather than constrained by how it's going to be manufactured
- With the Studio System the lead time and costs of custom fixturing is greatly reduced



# Arbor press fixture

- Complex geometry sometimes needs to be used in conjunction with an arbor press which has only a generic ram
- Must be steel due to strength and stiffness requirements
- With the freedom of geometry that is provided with the Studio System designers can design for the fixtures' application, rather than constrained by how it's going to be manufactured
  - Deep pockets on this part would make it difficult to machine
- With the Studio System the lead time and costs of custom fixturing is greatly reduced



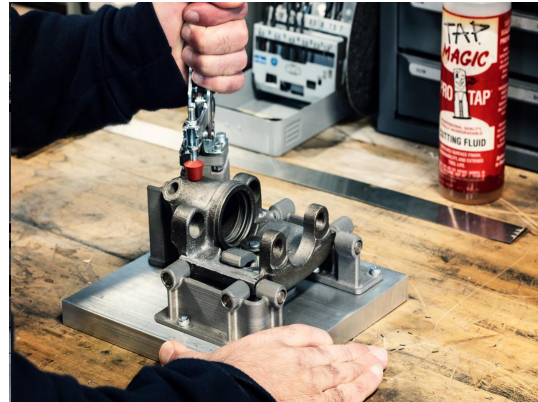


Studio System™

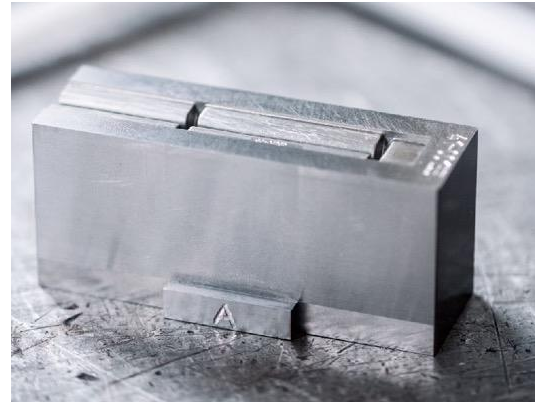
# Four key use cases



Functional prototyping



Jigs & fixtures



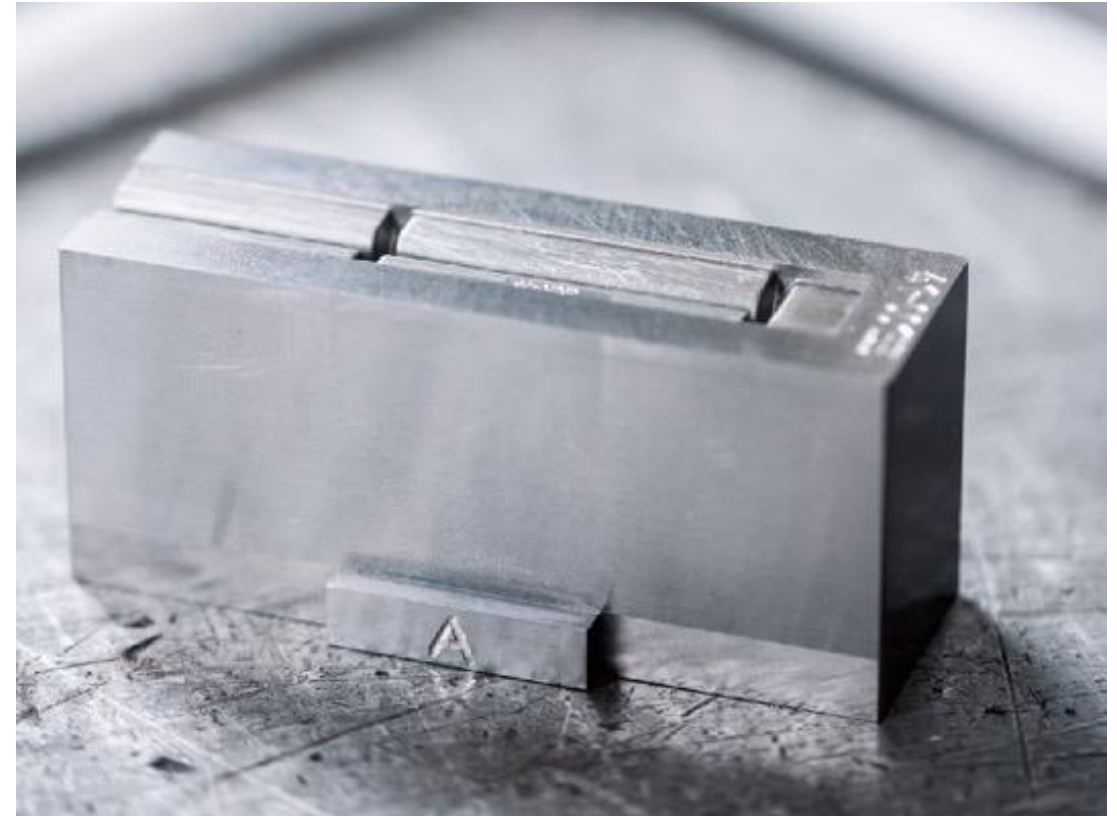
Manufacturing tooling



Low volume production

# Manufacturing tooling

- Parts with complex geometries difficult (or impossible) to produce with conventional mfg methods
- Reduced tooling costs for short production runs
- Shorten tooling lead times
- Quicker tooling iteration
- Quickly replace defective tooling





# Injection mold inserts

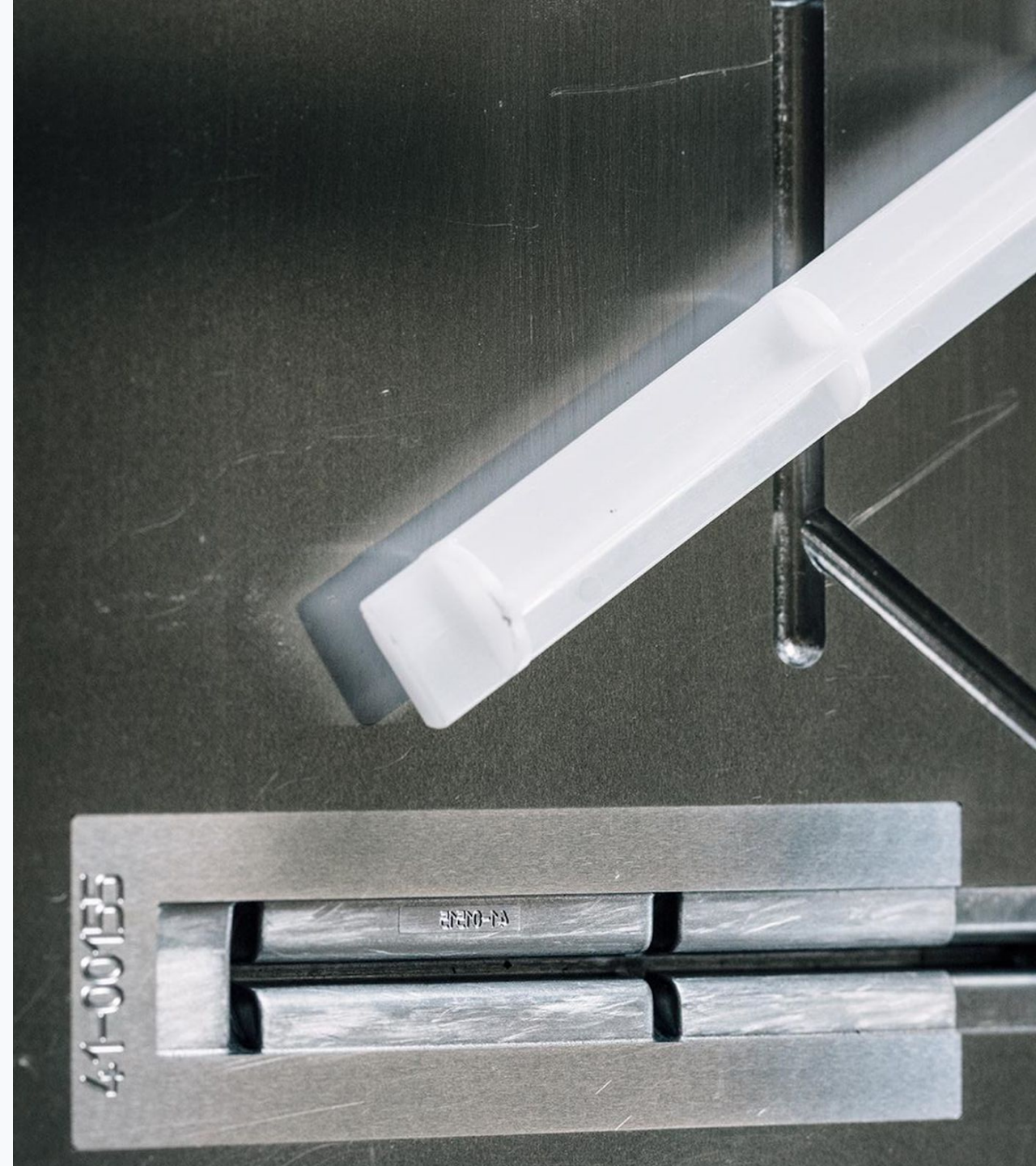




# Injection mold inserts

- Mold shops are under increasing cost and lead time pressures
- Design changes can have a significant impact on time and cost, so the ability to iterate quickly is critical
- Studio System allows mold makers to iterate on mold insert designs faster and at a lower cost
- Printing conformal cooling channels improves throughput
- 1.0 x 1.4 x 3.1 in (2.5 x 3.6 x 7.9 cm)

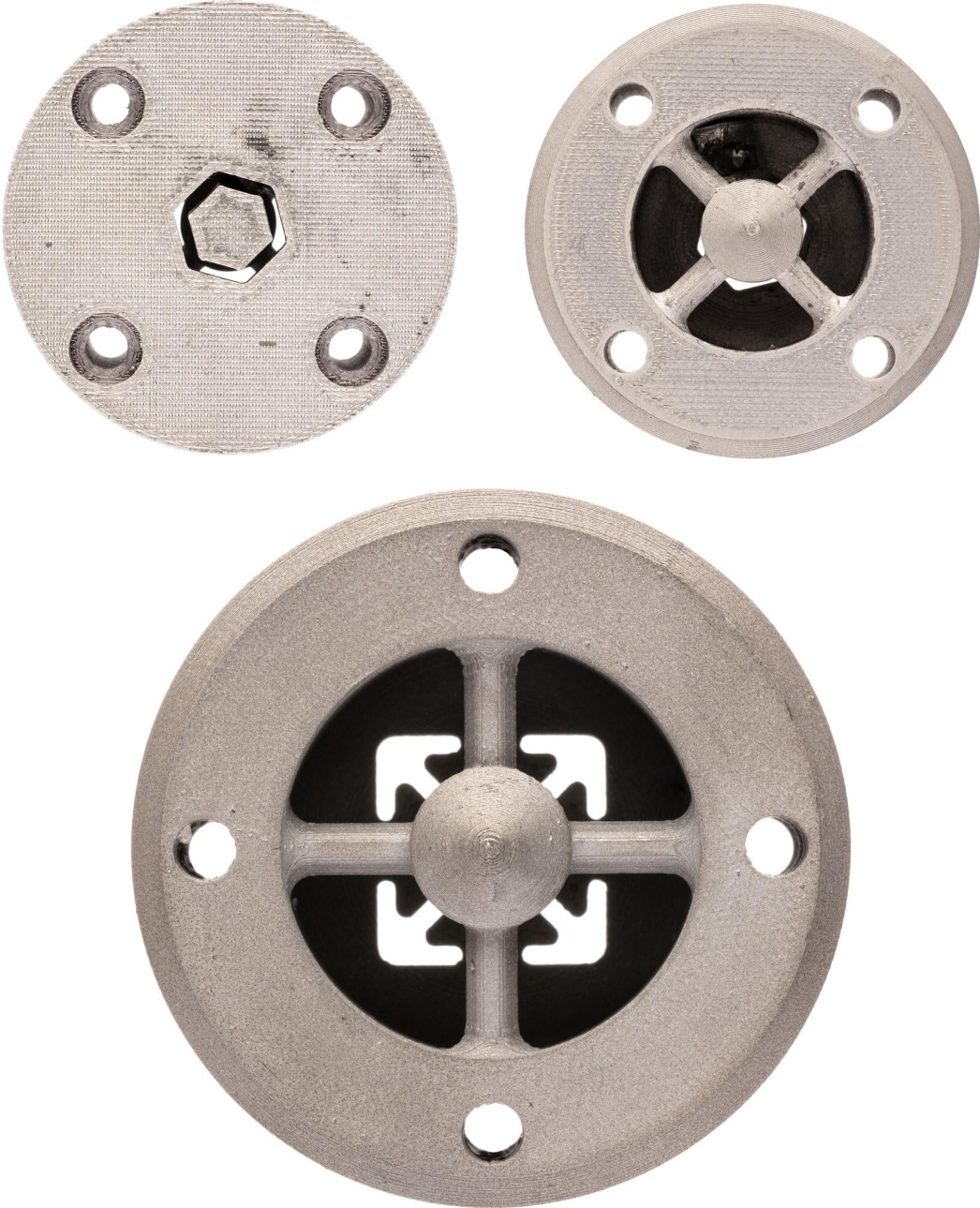
	Studio System™	SLM	CNC	Savings
Cost	\$47	N/A	\$493	>90% cheaper
Lead time	3 days	N/A	2 wks	4x faster



# Extrusion dies

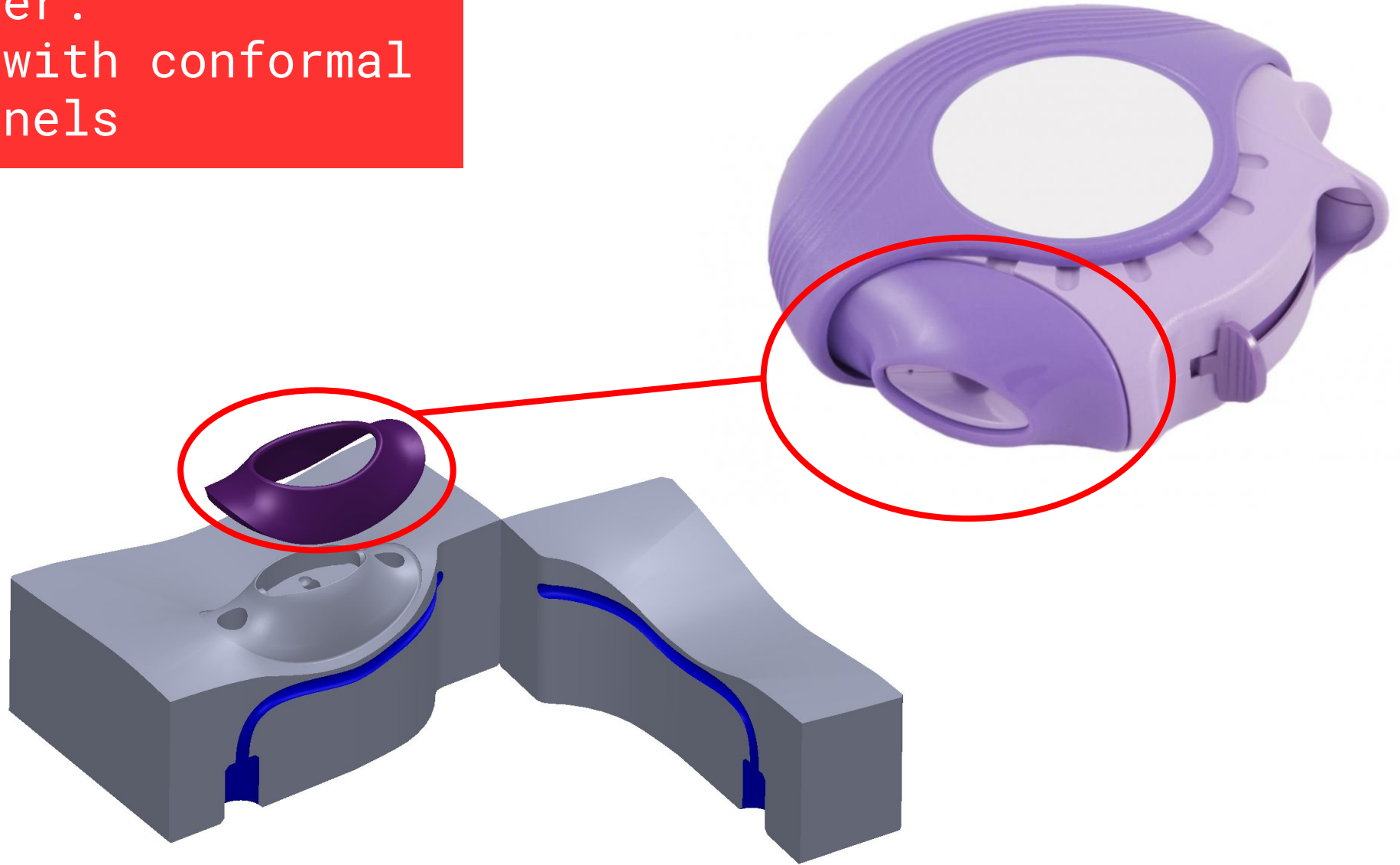
- Extrusion is typically used for high volume production due to high tooling cost
  - With metal 3D printing, the cost of tooling is dramatically reduced - allowing for low volume extrusion runs
- Metal is a necessity due to the high heat and pressure necessary for extrusion
- Iterating on a die design is challenging due to the high costs and leads times
  - With the Studio System, lead times and costs are dramatically reduced - allowing rapid iteration and refinement of the die design
- 2.2 x 2.2 x 1.7 in (5.7 x 5.7 x 4.4 cm)

	Studio System™	SLM	CNC	Savings
<b>Cost</b>	\$58	\$1,692	N/A	>96% cheaper
<b>Lead time</b>	4 days	2 wks	N/A	4x faster





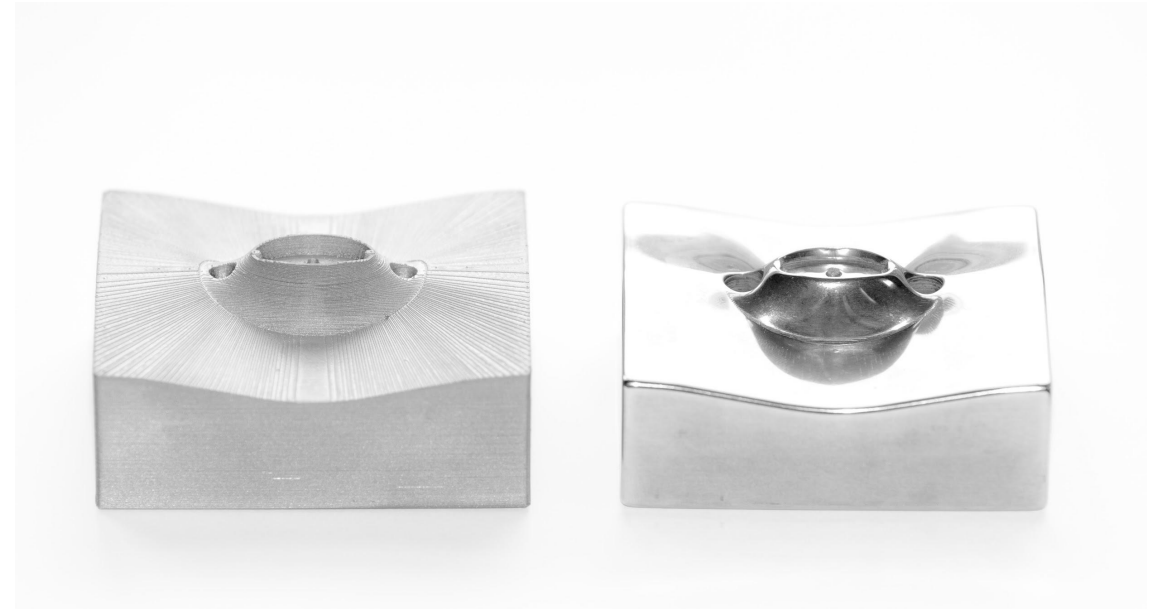
Asthma inhaler:  
Mold insert with conformal  
cooling channels





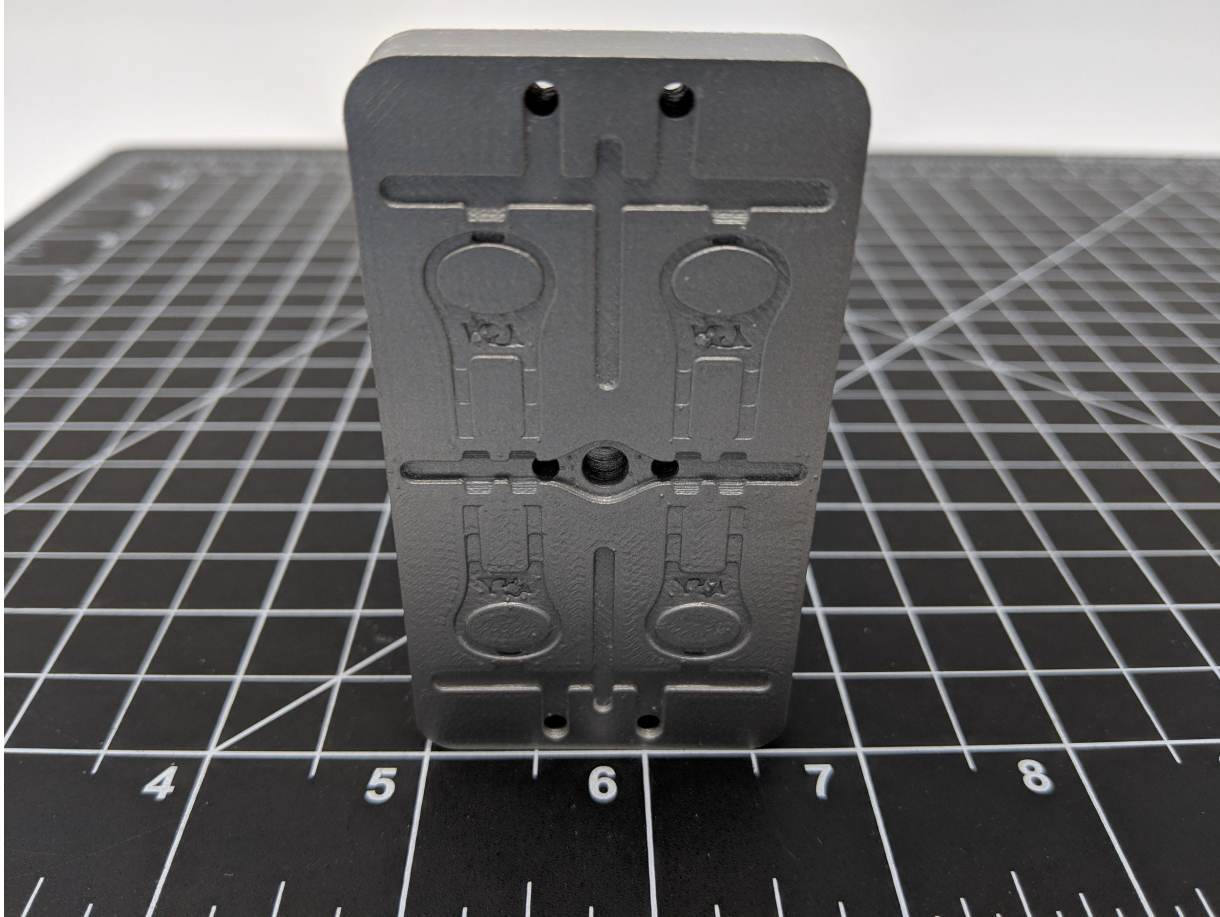
# Mold insert with conformal cooling channels

- Printing near net shape reduces 95% of CNC machining
- Mold insert with internal conformal cooling channels for injection molding
- During the injection molding process cooling can account for up to 95% of the cycle time
- Using internal conformal cooling channel results in an increase in part quality and a reduction of cycle time allowing up to 40% more throughput
- The high temperatures and pressures of injection molding make metal mold inserts a necessity
- 3D printing the inserts shortens production run lead time
- 4.0 x 3.5 x 1.8 in (10.2 x 9.0 x 4.5 cm)



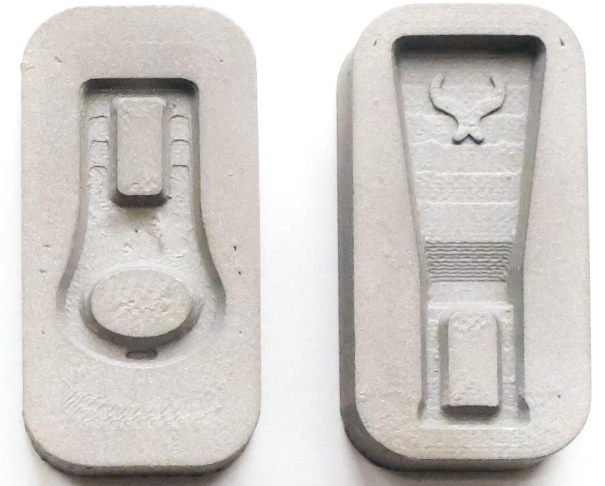
	Studio System™	SLM	CNC	Savings
<b>Cost</b>	\$160	\$3,184	\$933 (w/o internal cooling channel)	83-95% cheaper

# Zipper mold inserts



# Zipper mold inserts

- 3D printing the mold inserts shortens production run lead time and allows rapid iteration and refinement
- Zippers are a fashion element  $\Rightarrow$  Ability to market test is key
- Swappable high resolution printhead allows for smaller parts with finer features (with sintered voxels as tiny as 240 microns in XY by 45 microns in Z)
- Required precision not achievable via SLM
- 1.7 x 0.8 x 0.6 in (4.2 x 2.1 x 1.4 cm)



	Studio System™	SLM	CNC	Savings
Cost	\$15	N/A	\$119	8X cheaper
Lead time	4 days	N/A	2 wks	3x faster

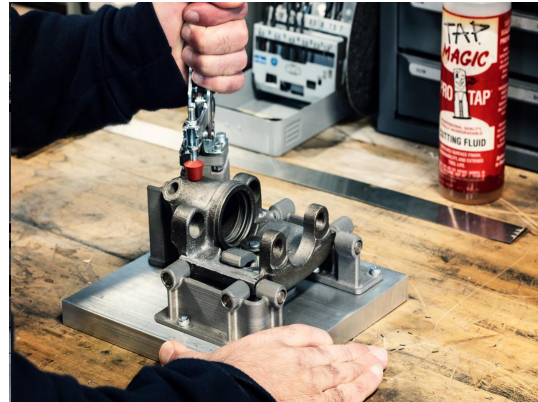


Studio System™

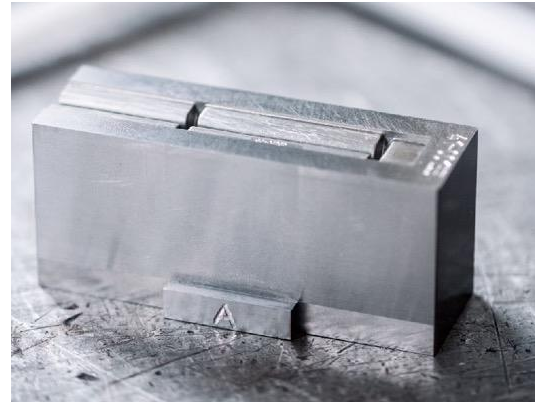
# Four key use cases



Functional prototyping



Jigs & fixtures



Manufacturing tooling



Low volume production

# Low volume production

- No tooling required
- Short lead times
- Customization
- On-demand production
- Replacement parts
- Design flexibility for new/innovative products



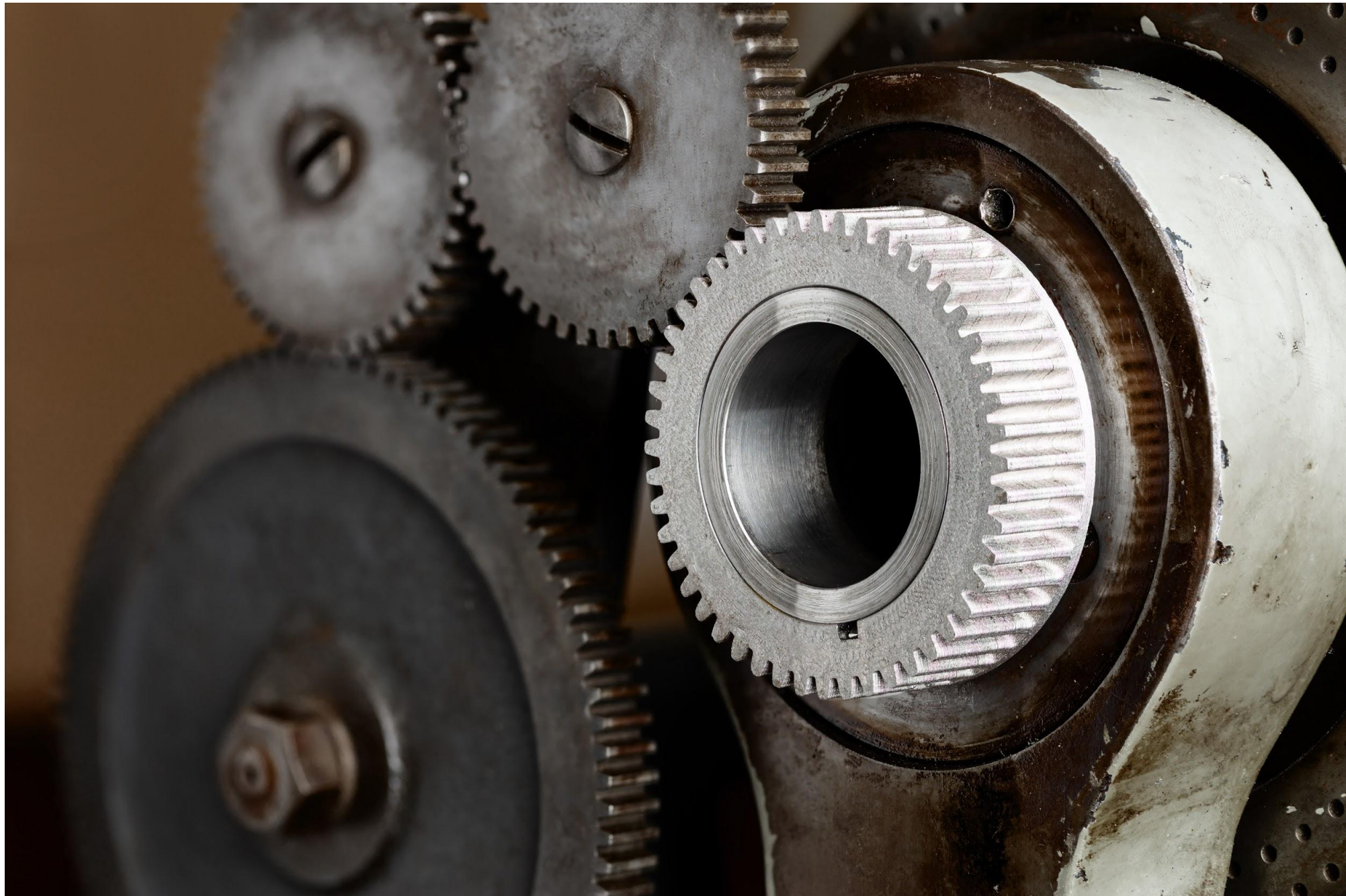
# Low volume production: Three common scenarios

- Specialized / custom applications
  - Small production runs (<500 assemblies)
  - Capital equipment (e.g., packaging machinery)
- Aftermarket parts
  - Original part production is shut down, or cost-prohibitive to reactivate (including tool maintenance)
  - Example: 40+ year SLA to guarantee spare part availability of thousands of SKUs with worldwide demand of ~10/month
- Pilot runs prior to mass production
  - Development, testing, certification, market testing, localization
  - Prior to sign-off on expensive tooling
  - Example: automotive and consumer pilot runs are often in quantities of 100's to 1000's





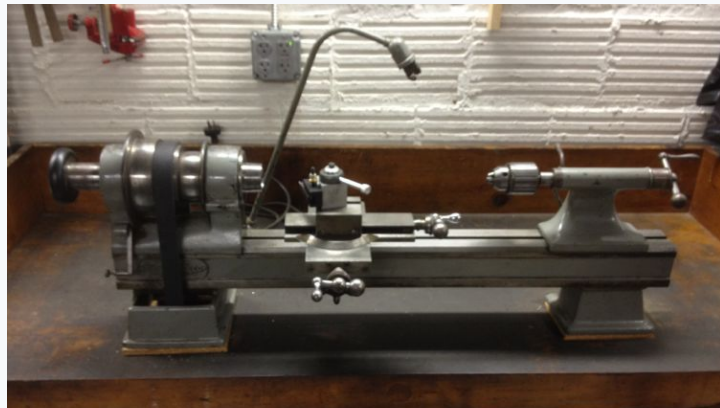
# Lathe gear





# Lathe gear

- Replacement gear for vintage lathe
- Must be metal due to strength and hardness
- Often, no obvious source of replacement parts
- Prohibitively expensive to have a gear maker cut the gear
- Maintenance Repair and Operations (MRO) parts can be great candidates for 3D printing
- 2.5 x 2.5 x 0.8 in (6.4 x 6.4 x 1.9 cm)



	Studio System™	SLM	CNC	Savings
Cost	\$56	\$585	\$340*	80-90% cheaper
Lead time	4 days	2 wks	2 wks	5x faster





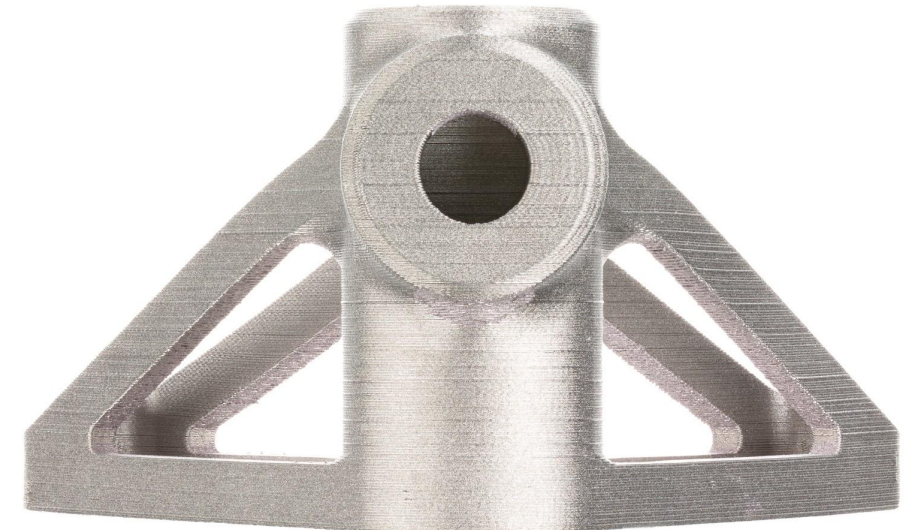
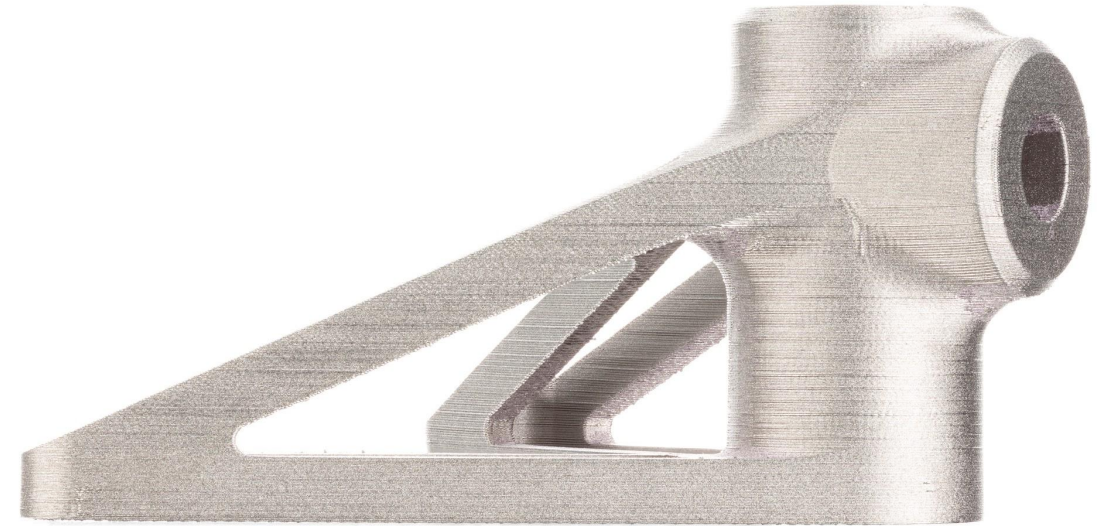
Battlebots SawBlaze backstop

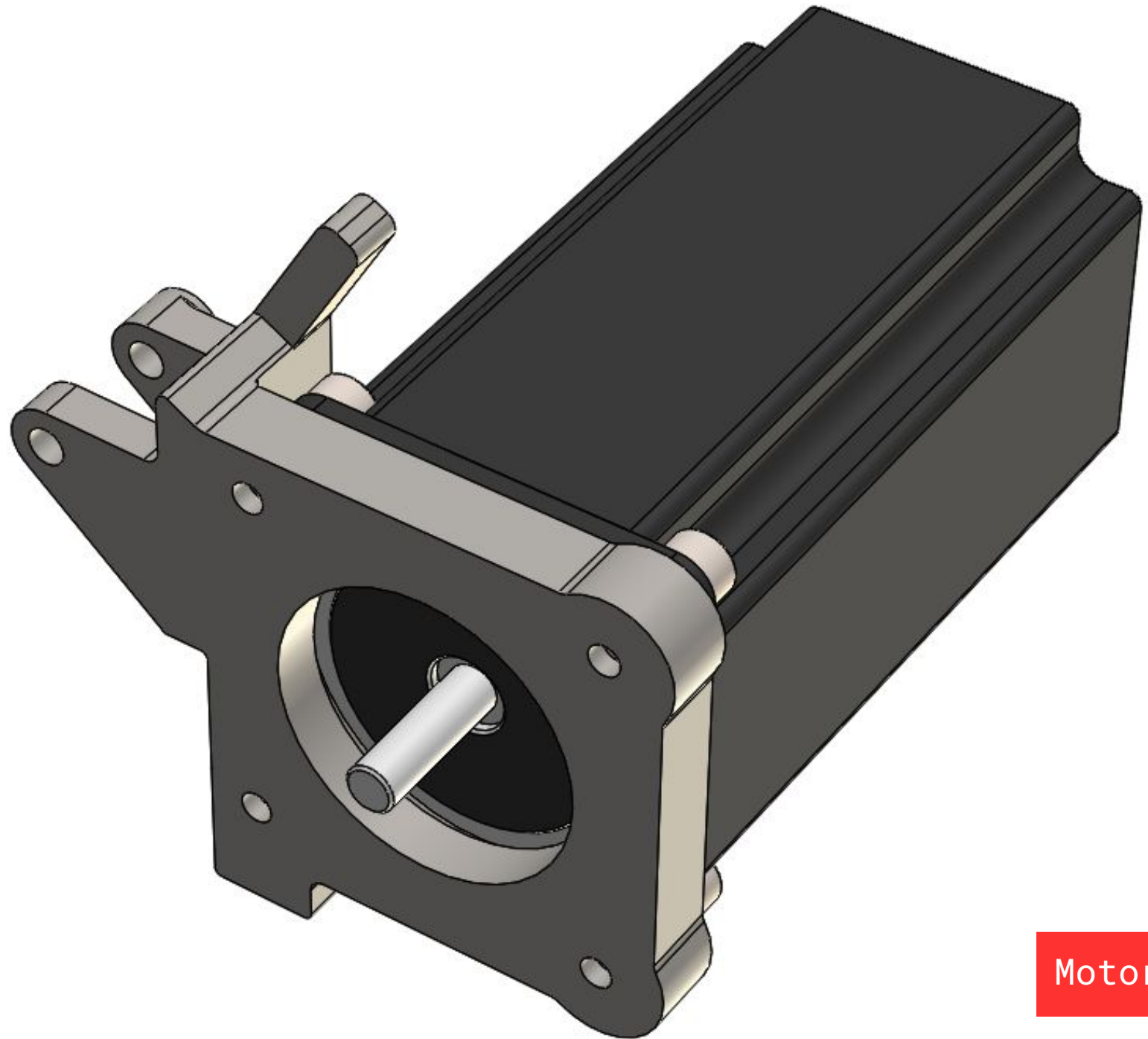


# Battlebots SawBlaze backstop

- Support for BattleBot fighting robot's saw arm
- Structural member - must resist bending and lateral motion
- Must be metal due to: Stiffness, strength, hardness, weldability, fire resistance
- Complex geometry due to strength/weight constraints
- Lead time was critical (1 month to build entire robot)
- Part functioned flawlessly: Performed as intended, withstood extensive stresses without failure and was key to robot's success
- 3.6 x 3.6 x 2.0 in (9.1 x 9.1 x 5.1 cm)

	<b>Studio System™</b>	<b>SLM</b>	<b>CNC</b>	<b>Savings</b>
Cost	\$56	\$1,285	\$606	>90% cheaper
Lead time	4 days	2 wks	2-3 wks	4x faster

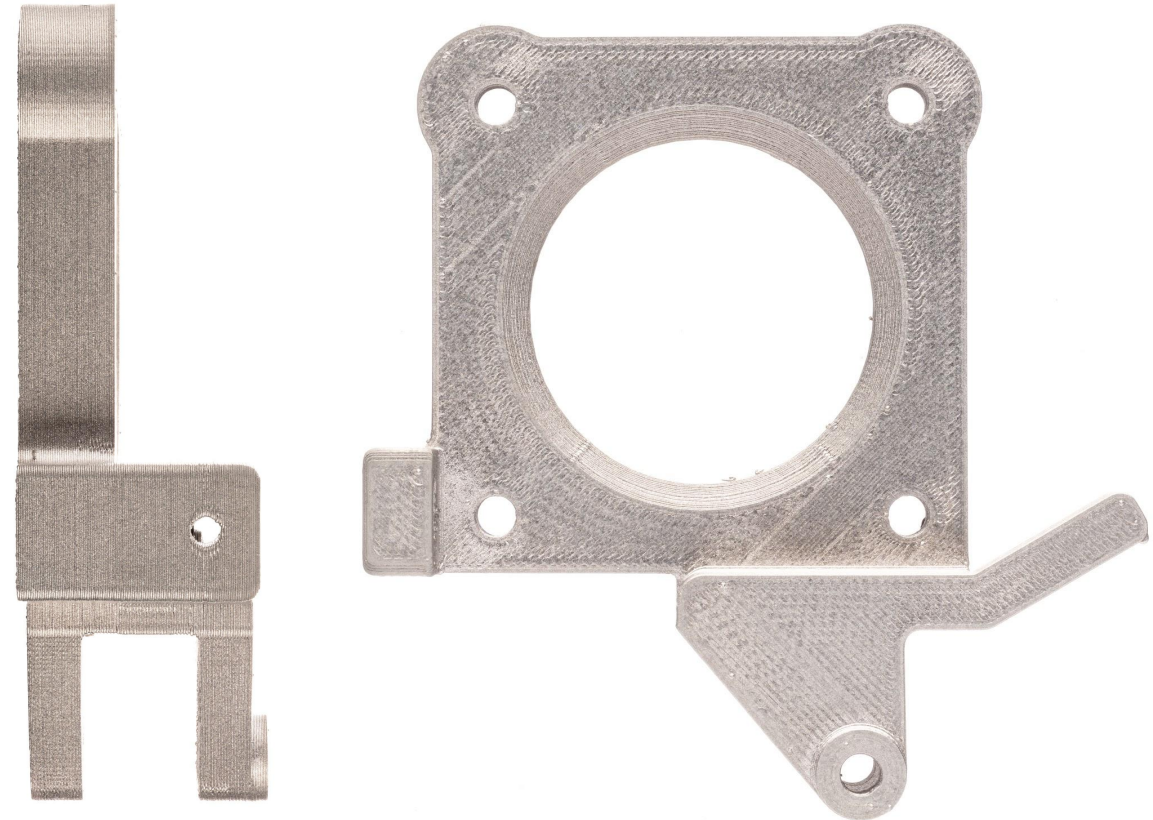




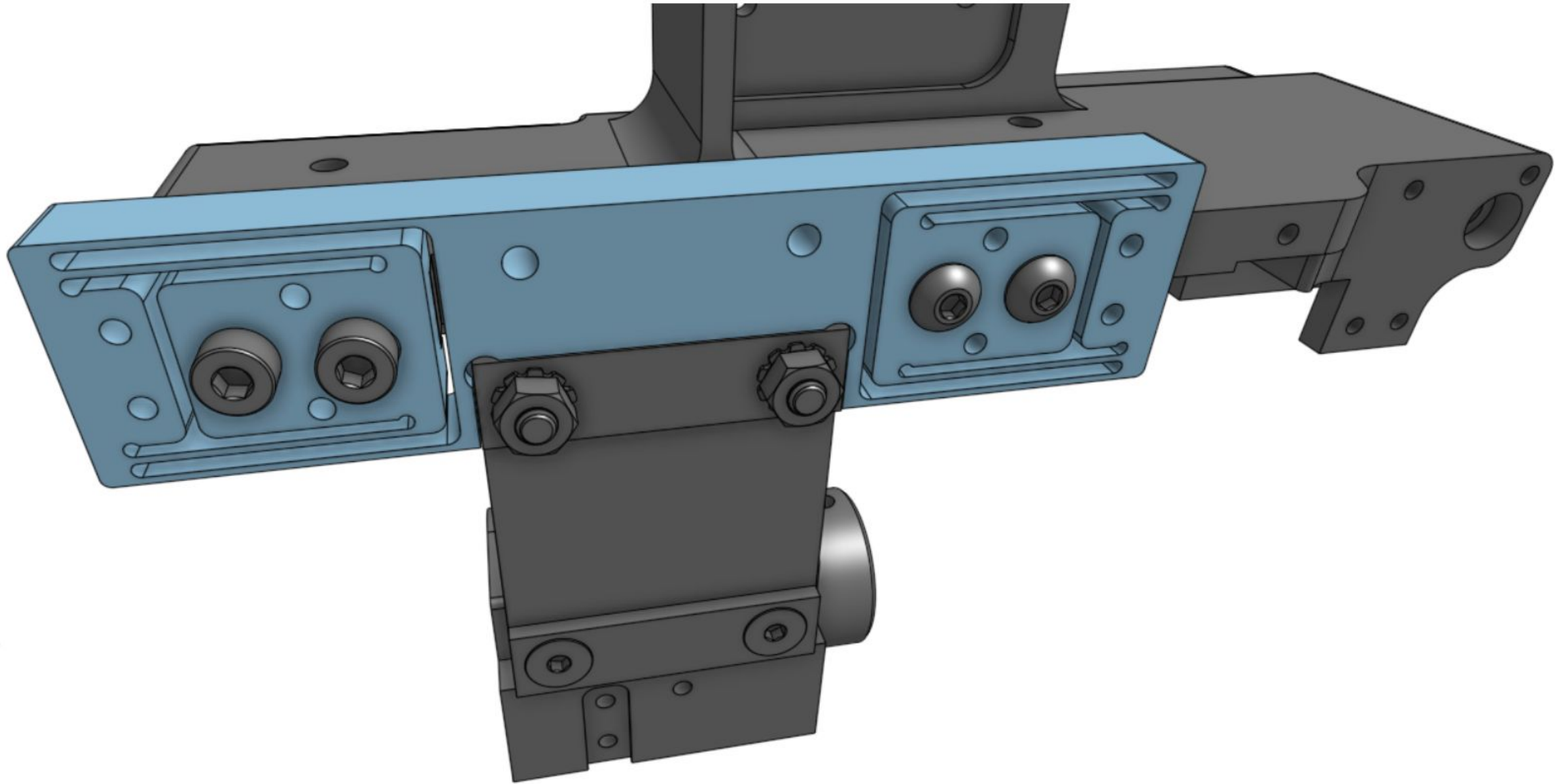
# Motor mount

- Mount for NEMA motor
- Geometry requires several CNC set-ups
- During development, prototyping helps size motor
- For low volume manufacturing (<50/year), on-demand printing eliminates CNC costs and inventory
- 3.5 x 3.4 x 1.1 in (8.9 x 8.6 x 2.8 cm)

	<b>Studio System™</b>	<b>SLM</b>	<b>CNC</b>	<b>Savings</b>
Cost	\$56	\$685	\$245	>90% cheaper
Lead time	4 days	2 wks	2-3 wks	4x faster







# Motion stage flexure

- A flexure is an engineering component designed to be compliant over a small range in a predictable manner
- The flexure is used to allow the ball screw and motion stage to be slightly askew without binding or causing excessive wear
- Complex geometry makes machining and waterjet cutting particularly tricky and expensive
- With 3D printing, the complexity is free (in fact, can be simplified by avoiding fixturing holes)
- 4.3 x 1.0 x 0.4 in (10.9 x 2.5 x 1.0 cm)

	Studio System™	SLM	CNC	Savings
Cost	\$41	\$437	\$210	>90% cheaper
Lead time	4 days	2 wks	2-3 wks	4x faster



# Key business benefits

## Reduced product development timeline

- In-house, rapid design iteration
- Avoid lengthy machining operations
- No tooling required

## Lower costs and increase revenue

- Minimize waste
- Increase manufacturing bandwidth
- No highly-skilled, dedicated operator required

## Optimize part performance for the application

- Achieve complex, intricate geometries
- Produce parts that are not possible using traditional fabrication methods

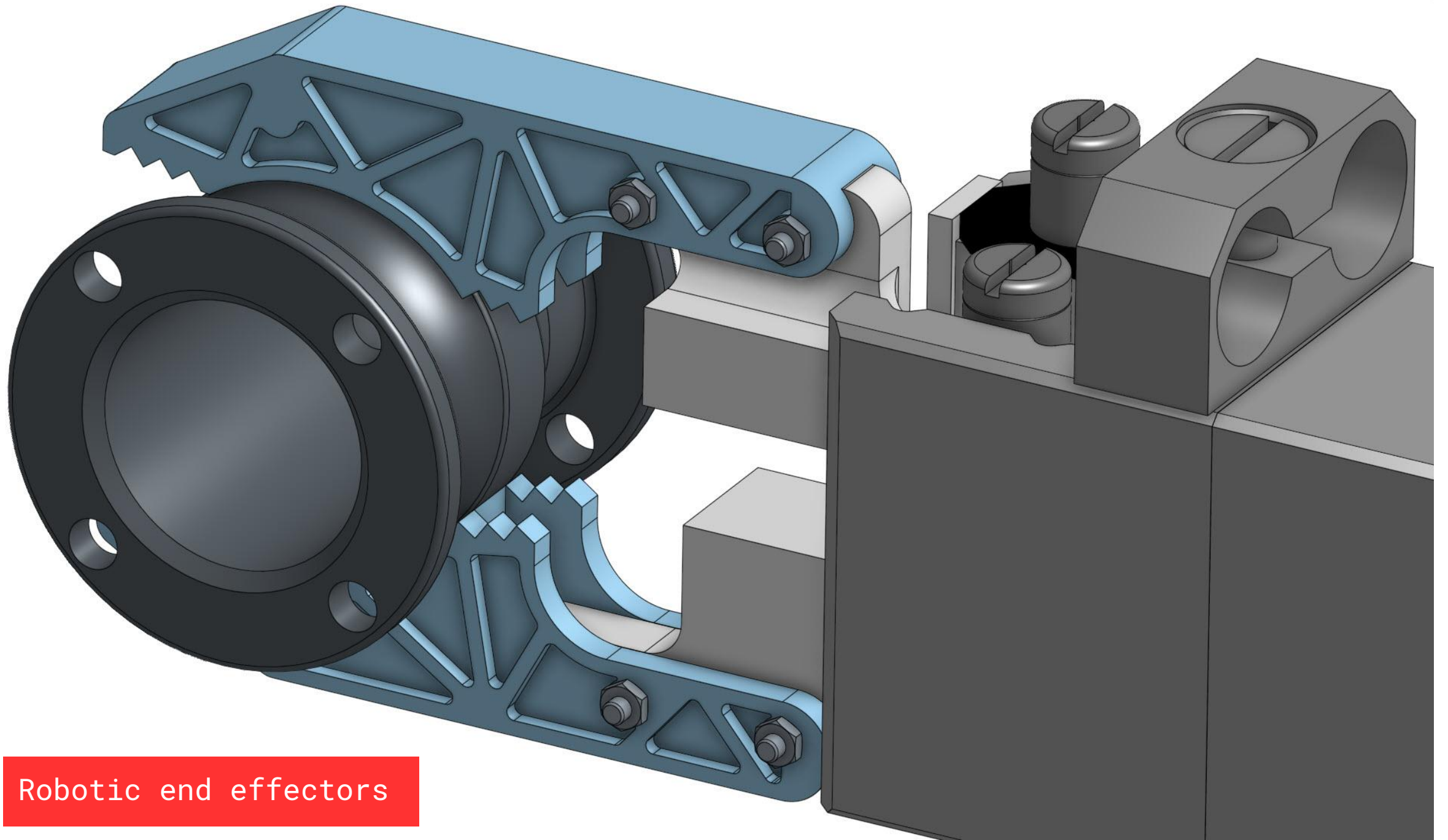


# Thank you.

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Robotic end effectors



# End effectors

- Used in many manufacturing operations, end effectors are used for fixturing and moving components
- Commonly contain complex custom geometry and are produced in low volume
- This custom geometry and low volume is associated with long lead times and high manufacturing costs
- If an end effector is to break, the manufacturing line will shut down until it is replaced
- 3.9 x 1.1 x 0.6 in (9.9 x 2.8 x 1.5 cm)

	Studio System™	SLM	CNC	Savings
Cost	\$23	\$335	\$175	>90% cheaper
Lead time	4 days	2 wks	2-3 wks	4x faster

