



# HOW SAND 3D PRINTING IS REVIVING FOUNDRIES

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How Sand 3D Printing is Reviving APAC Foundries

Introduction to Robotic Binder Jetting

WEBINAR

May 25
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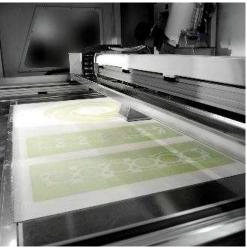


## **About ExOne**

Part of the Desktop Metal family since 2021, ExOne is the pioneer in sand binder jet 3D printing. Since 1995, we've delivered powerful 3D printers that help foundries survive and thrive with more efficient and innovative production technology.









# Established in the Industry | 20 Years of Sand 3D Printing

200+ ExOne printers installed in foundries around the world. Learn more at exone.com/sandsuccess







Third-generation familyowned business transformed its outlook with the largest fleet of sand 3D printers in the U.S.

#### **Hoosier Pattern**

► First pattern shop in North America to own and operate a sand 3D printer in-house offers customers fast turnaround times

#### Kimura Foundry America

 Prototype foundry places sand binder jetting at the core of its business to deliver top-quality rapid prototypes

#### **Xylem**

 OEM simplifies production with 3D printed cores that improve quality while decreasing production costs

#### Eisengiesserei Mezger

▶ Iron foundry expands services with sand 3D printing and semiautomated desanding to grow with less labor

# Sand 3D Printing | Transformational Benefits

Faster delivery times, done-in-one pours, and new design freedoms

OEMs and foundries optimize business with binder jetting to deliver castings with complex designs and fast turnarounds, while saving money on patterns, molds, and labor.

#### **SAVINGS**

Eliminate patterns, molds, and labor

labor, and expense of mold creation, extraction, repair, and assembly and deliver complex cores at a lower total cost than core shooters

#### **NO PATTERN STORAGE**

Replace physical inventory with digital storage

Print direct from CAD files without the need to store patterns or molds for core shooters while removing the risk of lost patterns or repair for degraded molds

### **RAPID DESIGN CHANGES**

**Improve designs** without a cost penalty

Save time and money while reducing waste and optimizing designs by iterating instantly without scrapping existing or creating new patterns and molds for core shooters

### **EXCEPTIONAL** DESIGN **FREEDOM**

**Optimize final parts and** mold package design

Complex and organic geometries for both final parts and rigging and riser design deliver higherquality castings and enable low-pressure pouring at no extra cost

Regardless of complexity, deliver molds and cores within hours or days, not the weeks and months needed for traditionally manufactured patterns

**SPEED** 

**Reduce delivery times** 

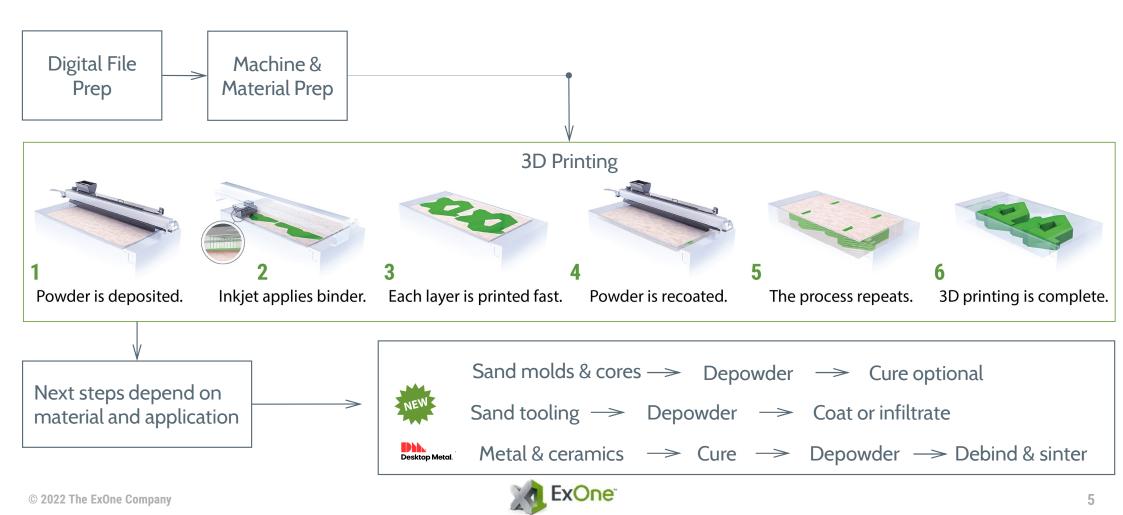
Eliminate the added time.



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# **Binder Jetting | Process Overview**

Liquid binder applied to powder to form parts and tooling



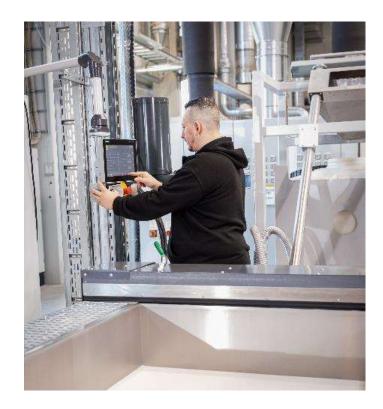
# THE ECONOMICS OF SAND 3D PRINTING

# True Cost of Traditional Foundry Technology

#### Beyond cost per cubic inch

Factors to consider when evaluating 3D printing and other processes affected where cost savings may occur:

- Traditional tooling (lead time & iterations)
- Consumables (resin, media, activator, cleaner)
- Assembly labor
- Downstream operations (machining, grinding, balancing, etc.)
- Erosion of traditional tooling
- Rework (welding, grinding, etc.)
- Quality check & scrap



# When is Sand 3D Printing a Fit?

From rapid prototyping to production volume castings without conventional tooling

Sand 3D printing is another tool in the foundry toolbox. Taking advantage of digital manufacturing makes sense for:

- Quick-turn, tooling-less castings
- Low volume / small batch production
- Fast design iterations
- Complex assembled cores
- Organic geometries not possible with traditional methods



## **Mold Production**

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Design freedom to create complex mold rigging







When time is of the essence, complete mold packages can be 3D printed without traditional tooling.

Done-in-one pours are also enabled with the design freedoms that provide the ability to throttle the velocity of the pour and achieve the optimal feeding distance to reduce casting defects.

- Eliminate the need for drafts
- New design options for rigging, risers, gates
  - Optimized cross sections for runners and gating
  - Hyperbolic and conical helix sprues
  - Spherical risers to guide flow of liquid metal

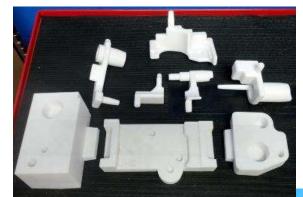
## **Core Production**

Complex designs that lead to core consolidation

When expensive tooling is required, 3D printing is advantageous for low quantity production.

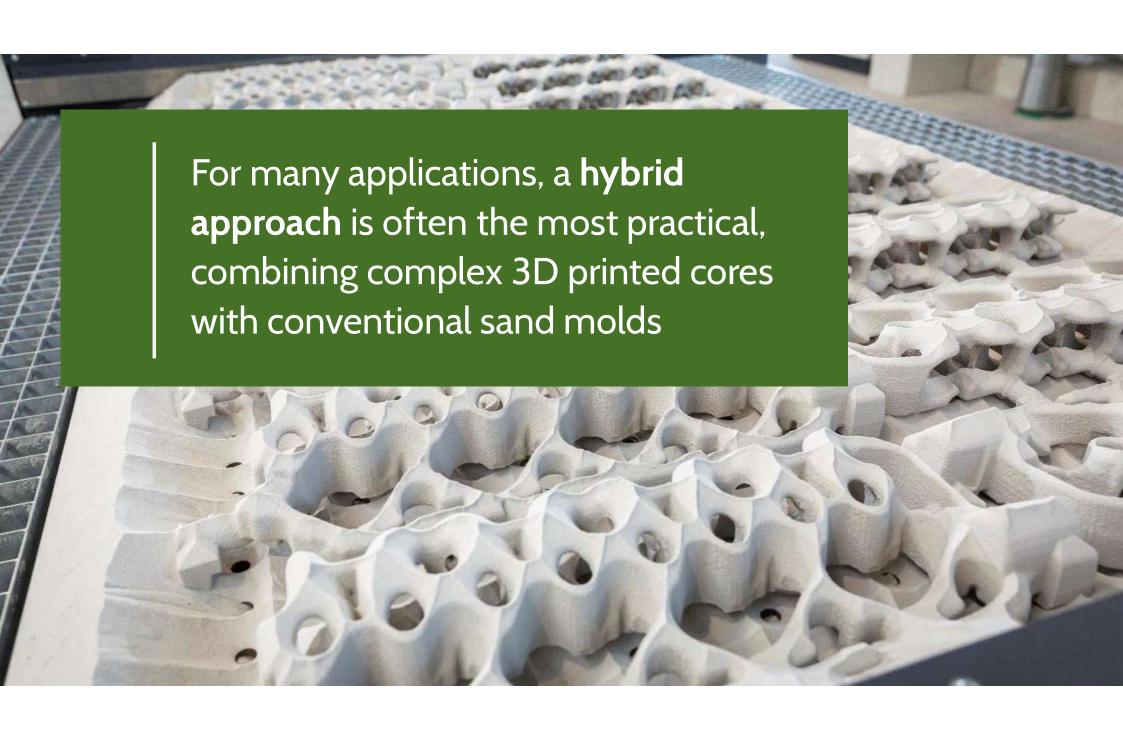
For highly complex parts, sand 3D printing may be cost effective, even if tooling exists or for high quantity production, especially in situations where core assembly can be reduced.

- Eliminate the need for assembly labor and increase productivity
- Removal of stacking tolerances
- Increased accuracy and decreased scrap rates from core shift



Traditional
8 core assembly
reduced to one 3D
printed core at
Humtown





# **Beyond 3D Printing | OneCast Sandcasting Solutions**

Full 360° support from combined binder jet and metalcasting experts

#### VIRTUAL CASTING WITH SOLIDIFICATION MODELING

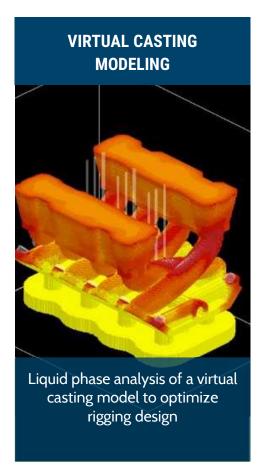
- Simulate solidification to determine hot spots
- Calculate rigging system components to optimize pour velocity and perform fluid flow and solidification modeling
- Iterate designs quickly without trial castings

#### **DESIGN AND ENGINEERING**

- Complex mold and core package design
- Optimize rigging and riser designs and enhance castings with elements such as hyperbolic sprues and bottom gates

#### SUPPORTING OEMs. FOUNDRIES. PATTERN SHOPS. & DESIGNERS

- Sand 3D printing and foundry sourcing
- Full inspection services
- On-site pour supervision
- Training for digital mold package design







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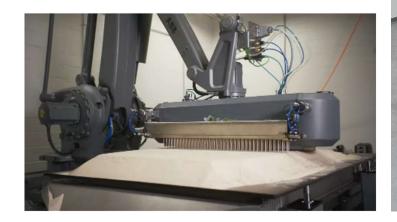
# **Efficient Operation**

Do more, even without hard-to-find labor

- Digital manufacturing enables foundries to operate more efficiently, despite labor shortages
  - Print complete job boxes in 12 hours
  - Lights-out core and mold production
  - Consolidated cores eliminate assembly labor

We're able to do more with the people that we have

Jeff Burek, Vice President D.W. Clark





## **Labor Attraction**

Engaging a new generation of workers familiar with the digital age

- ► The next generation of foundry talent is attracted to modern manufacturing that enables working smarter, not harder
  - Design optimization
  - Digital manufacturing
  - Lights-out production
  - Automation and robotics
  - Digital monitoring for real-time insights





# SAND 3D PRINTING SOLUTIONS

# Sand 3D Printing | Scalable Foundry Solutions

Binder jetting for sand molds, cores and new tooling options













User-friendly and affordable robotic sand 3D printer. Features an industrial robot with an end effector using advanced Single-Pass Jetting. Launched in 2022.

#### MAIN SPECIFICATIONS

Job box (L×W×H): 1,900 × 1,000 × 1,000 mm Build volume: 1,900 l (67 ft³) Build rate\*\*: up to 115 l/h Layer height\*\*\*: 0.28 - 0.5 mm Loss on ignition (LOI)\*\*\*\*: 1.1 % A fast, flexible, reliable and compact sand 3D printing machine. Delivering highly accurate complex parts from digital data since 2005.

#### **MAIN SPECIFICATIONS**

Job box (LXWXH): 800 × 500 × 400 mm Build volume: 160 l (5.6 ft³) Build rate\*\*: up to 40 l/h Layer height\*\*\*: 0.2 - 0.5 mm Loss on ignition (LOI)\*\*\*\*: 1.0 - 2.1 % A large and robust sand 3D printer known for reliable performance. Double job box option. Printing cold-hardening binders since 2010.

#### MAIN SPECIFICATIONS

Job box (LxWxH): 1,800 × 1,000 × 700 mm Build volume: 1,260 l (44 ft³) Build rate\*\*: up to 125 l/h Layer height\*\*\*: 0.2 - 0.5 mm Loss on ignition (LOI)\*\*\*\*: 1.0 - 2.1 % Our fastest and smartest large sand 3D printer. All-new automated printhead and recoater. Innovative production features. Introduced in 2019.

#### MAIN SPECIFICATIONS

Job box (L×W×H): 1,800 × 1,000 × 700\* mm Build volume: 1,260 l (44 ft³) Build rate\*\*: up to 145 l/h Layer height\*\*\*: 0.2 - 0.5 mm Loss on ignition (LOI)\*\*\*\*: 1.0 - 2.1 %

<sup>\*</sup> Available 400 mm option box-in-box system. \*\* Depending on layer height. \*\*\* Depending on material. \*\*\*\* Depending on part size and geometry (0.1% of part size)

# **ExOne | S-Max® Flex**

The most affordable sand 3D printer ever offered by ExOne for a fast payback

- Industrial robot arm with innovative printhead end effector binder jets into telescoping job box
- ► Patent-pending Single Pass Jetting for fast print speeds
- Easy-mount printhead design ensures accuracy and maximizes uptime
- Enhanced robot calibration process provides 100micron accuracy in XYZ space
- Turnkey system is customizable to different space configurations and safety requirements

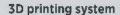
# All-new patent-pending robotic sand 3D printer developed for ease of use Leverages best expertise of Desktop Metal and ExOne

#### **TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

Job box: (L x W x H)	1,900 x 1,000 x 1,000 mm (74.8 x 39.3 x 39.3 in)	External dimensions: (L x W x H)	8,5 x 4,9 x 4,9 m (28 x 16 x 16 ft)
Build volume:	1,900 l (67 ft <sup>3</sup> )	System weight:	5,900 kg (13,000 lbs)
Build rate*:	up to 115 l/h	Binder system:	Furan
Layer height**:	0.28 to 0.5 mm (280 to 500 μm)	Electrical requirements:	480V, 3 phase, 15 amps
Dimensional accuracy***:	+/- 0.5 mm (500 μm)	Exhaust air:	26 m³/h



<sup>\*</sup> Depending on layer height \*\* Depending on part size and geometry \*\*\* Depending on part size and geometry (0.1% of part size)



- A Industrial robot
- B Single Pass Jetting printhead
- C Telescoping build box
- D Build station
- E Cleaning station
- F Fluids cabinet
- G Robot controller
- H Printer operator station
- Bulk sand conditioning hopper
- J Depowdering station
- K Depowdering bins
- L Ancillary operation station
- M Safety curtain



Turnkey
Configuration
with Flexible
Footprint and
Safety
Solution

# S-Max® Flex | All-New Printhead Design

Easy operation and maintenance with fast print speeds

- ➤ Single-Pass Jetting (SPJ) strategy with three actions each directional pass for fast throughput:
  - Drop sand drops from the depositor trough
  - Spread sand is spread flat across the build table
  - Print binder is jetted onto the sand surface
- ➤ Titanium spreader bar ensure repeatable dimensional accuracy across a range of operating conditions
- Easy-install printhead mount design eliminates timely calibration and alignment for greater uptime and accuracy



# S-Max® Flex | Automated Telescoping Job Box & Desanding

Unique design works similar to a collapsing drink cup

- Print builds layer-by-layer as sides automatically lift with the job
  - Contains powder to prevent spills and protect integrity of the build
- Finished job box slides to the desanding station
  - Release gate opens for bulk depowdering as the job box collapses around the build
  - Unbound powder falls into containment system and is available for reuse
  - 3D printing can resume in parallel in a separate job box



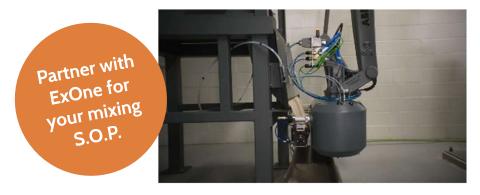
Telescoping Job Box



# S-Max® Flex | 3D Printing Foundry Sand

Seamless integration into existing foundry operations

- Dry-mixture of sand plus dry activator
  - Source your own silica sand
- Room temperature cure
- No post processing required
- Unbound sand is recyclable back into future builds to keep part costs down
- ▶ 3-6 month shelf life of pre-mixed sand





# **Binder Jetting | Exceeding Customer Expectations**

Accessible 3D printing enables precision core delivery for components with complex interior geometries

**INDUSTRY** Energy

**APPLICATION** Vapor recovery fuel nozzle **LOCATION** Alpha Foundry Wright City, MO

**CHALLENGE** Intricate component required six individual cores to be

assembled with high labor and hard tooling costs

#### **SOLUTION**

**3D PRINTERS** ExOne S-Max® Flex

MATERIAL Printed silica sand with furan binder for aluminum casting

**BENEFITS** 3D printing opens new design possibilities and Alpha Foundry is able to produce intricate, complex cores in one piece. The complex nozzle includes fuel delivery and vapor recovery passages within the part. Segments weave in and out of each other and connection points are small cross sections, but no assembly is required.

Alpha foundry produces over 60 cores with each S-Max Flex build cycle, running 2-3 jobs per day on a continuous basis









"The system comes in at a price point that is achievable for a business of our size and allows us to get into industry technology that makes us more competitive. I don't know how else you would produce this part other than a 3D printed sand core"

Ryan Barron, President, Alpha Foundry Co.

# **X1 Tooling Portfolio**

Rapid tooling printed in sand for the production of metal, plastic, and composite parts

#### X1 SandCast

# Algir M 5.076

Sand 3D printing quickly and accurately produces complex molds and cores for metalcasting. ExOne premium machine tools deliver organic geometries and consolidated assemblies that improve the quality of cast products.

#### X1 ThermoForm



On-demand tooling for thermoforming, vacuum forming, or other compression applications delivers tools more durable than other low-cost options that can withstand production without delamination or failure.

#### X1 Layup



Whether low-cost prototyping or production tools, 3D printed sand molds deliver complex geometries durable enough to withstand the temperatures and pressures of autoclave with a CTE comparable to aluminum and fast turnaround times.

#### X1 Washout

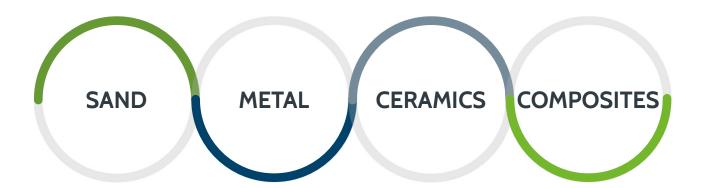


Eliminate the expense, lead time, and manufacturing challenges of composite part production with trapped geometries. Sacrificial sand cores for hollow objects wash away with tap water after layup and autoclaving.

# **TeamDM | We Turn Powder into Parts**

Binder jetting a wide range of powder materials

#### POWDER MATERIALS WE PROCESS



Industrial Sands for metal casting

EX: Silica sand, ceramic sands, and more ...

Ultra-fine metal MIM powders

EX: 316L, 304L, 17-4PH, and more ...

Wide variety of ceramic powders

EX: Silicon carbide and more ...

Industrial-grade composites

EX: Tungsten Carbide Cobalt and more ...





# **Print, Pour, Produce | Questions?**

"Every part is always right. Quality remains high across the entire production run, including years down the road when you have to make the part again and just start with the digital file."



"500% revenue increase in the five years after investing in ExOne sand binder jetting."



"We're able to do more with the people that we have."



"We not only eliminated steps of assembly that allow us to avoid core shift or variation in the parting line... the freedom of design allows us to respond to our customers quicker."



"The post-processing of the cast part requires much less time and effort because the printed core does not have any drafts."

