3DXpert™

3DXpert Build Simulation

Get Metal Additive Manufacturing Right the First Time

- Minimize number of build tryouts
- Prevent risk of printer damage
- Design & verify builds in the same environment
- Reduce time of design and simulation iterations
Getting a properly printed part out of a metal 3D printer can be a challenge

Achieving the desired metal printed part can often require multiple experimental prints that are both costly and time consuming. The larger the part, the harder it can be to get it right. The reason is not the quality of the printer, but the complexity of the metal printing process and the number of factors that affect it.

Potential failures that might occur during the metal additive manufacturing process include: material failure (tears, cracks), deformation deviating from the desired geometry, builds separating from the build plate and further distortions and warpage after a part is removed from the build plate or supports are taken off.

Moreover, if the deformation that occurs at each layer during the build process is not taken into account, the printer’s re-coater can be in risk of damage.

3DXpert Build Simulation provides simulation and analysis tools as an integral part of the design environment, enabling users to accurately and easily discover and fix manufacturing issues before a part is sent to print. 3DXpert Build Simulation is part of 3DXpert, an all-in one software solution to streamline the entire metal additive manufacturing workflow, from design to final part.

Minimize Build Tryouts

3DXpert Build Simulation helps users discover issues and address problems that might otherwise occur during the printing or the post-processing phases.

Build Phase

Having improperly designed or insufficient supports might result in deformation, causing the part to deviate from the desired geometry and permissible tolerances, or even lead to part damage, such as cracks.

Use 3DXpert Build Simulation to:

- Predict where deformation might occur
- Predict where supports might fail
- Predict where material might fail due to plasticity
- Minimize residual stress
- Get a compensated model that can replace the original in order to print the desired part

Having too many supports or overly engineered supports might result in part stress and material failure. Moreover, in addition to wasted material and longer printing time, it can make the support removal process more difficult and expensive, thus increasing the cost of the build.

Use 3DXpert Build Simulation to:

- Predict and fix areas with excessive strain
- Improve surface quality by removing unnecessary supports
Post Processing Phase

After printing, the part goes through several treatment processes that might result in further deformations. These processes include heat treatment, cutting the part off the plate and removing supports.

Use 3DXpert Build Simulation to:

- Predict the displacement created after cutting the part off the plate
- Predict displacements and stresses after removing supports
- Predict the impact of heat treatment and stress relief on the printed part

Prevent Risk of Printer Damage

The cooling and shrinking that occurs after each layer is printed may cause the metal to rise above the powder bed level. These raised tips could damage the re-coater or even cause the roller to stop its motion.

Use 3DXpert Build Simulation to predict where metal is likely to rise above the next deposit layer and cause damage to the printer, enabling you to take the appropriate corrective action.

Unified Design & Verification Environment

As part of the 3DXpert software suite, 3DXpert Build Simulation is an integral part of the design environment. It allows you to easily make modifications and fix your design based on simulation results without the need to go back and forth between multiple software solutions. You can then re-run the simulation to verify your changes, and save the analysis results with the design file.

Reduce Time of Design and Simulation Iterations

Layer-by-layer simulation results are immediately fed back to you. Upon detection of a problem, you can immediately fix it without having to wait for the entire simulation to finish, thus reducing iteration times. The simulation calculations require immense computing power, so 3DXpert Build Simulation allows you to offload these calculations to a single dedicated computer that can be shared with other 3DXpert users in your premise. While you are free to continue working, the simulation keeps running and each layer's simulation results are immediately sent back to you.
3DXpert - From Design to Manufacturing

3DXpert is the only all-in-one software solution for metal additive manufacturing. It eliminates the need to go back and forth between different software solutions, streamlines your workflow and provides you with full flexibility and control over the entire production cycle, from design to manufacturing.

Increase your productivity and lower cost of operations by:

- Improving data quality and integrity with the ability to work with native CAD data (solid & surfaces/b-rep), eliminating the need to convert files into mesh
- Easily making changes at any stage using history-based parametric CAD tools by working in a hybrid (Mesh, Solid and Lattice) modeling environment
- Accelerating print time while maintaining part integrity using the patent-pending 3D Zoning capability. Easily assign different print strategies to different areas of a part and seamlessly merge them into a single scan-path
- Minimizing part weight or applying conformal surface textures with lightning-fast creation and editing of micro lattices, using structure optimization tools
- Generating optimal scan-paths with unique printing strategies that take into account the design intent and part geometry
- Programming post-processing operations (e.g. drilling and milling) in the same software being used for the entire process

3DXpert Build Simulation is a key element in the 3DXpert workflow, enabling you to get successful prints while eliminating time consuming and costly iterations.

Find out more at: www.3dsystems.com/software/3dxpert

3D Systems provides comprehensive 3D products and services, including 3D printers, print materials, on-demand parts services and digital design tools. Its ecosystem supports advanced applications from the product design shop to the factory floor to the operating room. As the originator of 3D printing and a shaper of future 3D solutions, 3D Systems has spent its 30 year history enabling professionals and companies to optimize their designs, transform their workflows, bring innovative products to market and drive new business models. Specifications subject to change without notice. 3D Systems, the 3D Systems Logo, 3DXpert and the 3DXpert logo are trademarks of 3D Systems, Inc. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

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