Appearance Models
Identical look-and-feel models with full functionality for testing and design verification
Accelerating the design process
When developing a new product, there are several stages where the use of appearance models accelerates the process and ensures that the final product meets the needs and demands of the market.

Among these stages are:
- Board decisions
- Internal sign-offs
- Customer clinics
- Sales meetings
- Launch events
- Consumer test events
- Exhibitions

With expert customer support throughout the entire design process, 3D Systems On Demand manufactures appearance models of the highest quality and functionality.

We offer this service as a “stand alone” project or, more often, as part of the complete On Demand manufacturing process chain: starting with rapid prototypes to functional prototypes and appearance models up to low-volume or ramp-up production.

Wide range of production and finishing processes
Whatever you are developing and producing – we are able to supply an appearance model with identical ‘look-and-feel’ characteristics and functions to your final production part.

3D Systems On Demand makes use of a unique blend of 3D printing and materials technologies, traditional manufacturing processes, engineering expertise, and artistic finishing skills:
- Plastic Additive Manufacturing (Stereolithography (SLA), Selective Laser Sintering (SLS), Figure 4®)
- Metal Additive manufacturing (DMP)
- CNC machining
- Toolmaking
- Sheet metal processing
- Assembly (with hinges, closures etc)
- Finishing
- A wide range of surface treatment options
- Integration of electronics and mechatronics incl. programming

With these technologies and the craftsmanship of our staff, we make your designs come to life quickly and early in the product development stage.

A perfect prototype
There are virtually no limits (except those of physics) in mimicking the quality and aesthetics of the real product.

This is true for details like radius, soft edges, flashes, gaps and graphics.

It is also true for the ‘look-and-feel’ of the future product. We are experts in surface treatments like painting, chroming and foiling. In our paint mixing room, we are able to match colors exactly to any reference supplied by our customers.
It begins with your idea

What do we need to start a project?

Just one CAD sketch and the purpose of the prototype (scale, level of detail and complexity, functions etc). Our project engineers select the combination of production processes and the best ways to assemble and finish your products.

Our specialists convert your CAD file for production, identifying the best manufacturing method for each component. In the end, each is assembled into a highly realistic appearance model.

You sketch it – we build it

Over more than thirty years, we have gained comprehensive experience in producing appearance models for many brands.

Some current examples include:

• Mobile phones for internal design reviews / sign-offs
• Models of complex offshore equipment for trade fairs
• Refrigerators with hinges & lighting
• Complete car interiors with cockpit, seating, doors etc
• Fully functional clock radios
• Headphones and hearing aids
• Premium washbasins
• Taps, valves and fittings for washbasins
• 1:5 models of computer tomographs and MRT systems

A question of time

One thing is common for all our projects: The clock is ticking.

Customers want to see their appearance model as soon as possible in order to get production under way. Our team of experts are ready to tackle your projects – whatever the size and complexity. Our production processes and capacity are highly flexible, combined with a workflow overseen by a highly skilled project manager for every single project, ensures very short delivery times even for complex prototypes.

With multiple technologies and craftsmanship precision, we make your designs come to life early in the product development process.
We Provide Worldwide Service

For an instant quote visit 3dsystems.com/ondemand

For more information on 3D Systems On Demand’s capabilities of advanced prototyping and appearance model production, contact our experts at 3dsystems.com/on-demand-manufacturing/contact

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