

Press release Sculpteo  
Las Vegas, January 4, 2016

## Sculpteo takes up the titanic challenge of 3D printing in metal

*Titanium, aluminum and steel become simple and affordable thanks to the  
smart 3D printing by Sculpteo*



*The 1<sup>st</sup> 3D printed functional bike worldwide, on display at the Sculpteo booth at CES Las Vegas on January 5-8, 2017 (Booth n°42527, Sands, Halls A-D) – designed by Alexandre Orsetti and Piotr Widelka*

**Sculpteo, the 3D printing and digital manufacturing factory in the cloud, developed the first exclusive metal 3D printing service to turn this technology into a standard manufacturing process. Expert in the world of digital manufacturing, software optimization tools and constantly seeking to innovate in manufacturing, Sculpteo launches an offer based on artificial intelligence to democratize and accelerate metal 3D printing in all industries, an alternative to the current existing solutions, very expensive and very slow.**

### **Metal 3D printing is democratizing**

If today 3D is a well-known technology, metal remains the private turf of several multinational corporations, mainly in the aeronautics and medical industries. Yet 3D printing offers multiple advantages, for instance, in the manufacturing of finished products that can be directly integrated in the industry. According to an EY report on 3D printing [1], metal is the material with the highest demand in 3D printing by companies. With its new offer, Sculpteo makes the potential of metal 3D printing available to all companies, regardless of their activity sector.

3D printing can be performed on a dozen of materials such as titan, aluminum and steel, and can therefore meet a large variety of needs. Sculpteo's objective is to democratize metal 3D printing by allowing its clients to produce in a flexible manner, whether at small, medium or large scale, products designed according to their industrial needs, faster.

Clément Moreau, cofounder of Sculpteo « *By offering a simple and fast access to 3D printing, we allow for all industries to appropriate this technology for their productions. With entirely functional products originating from digital manufacturing, the 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution is no longer a question mark, it is already here* ».

### **Simplified tools made immediately available**

3D printing is currently perceived as complicated and inaccessible because expensive and long. Contrary to other materials, metal 3D printing is a real technical challenge, as a result of the quantity of settings to calculate. Therefore, today, several attempts are often required before establishing the right set of variables for the finished object to match the demand - back-and-fourths that have their price (ranging from 50 000 to 200 000€ for a metal 3D printing project) and their consequent delays (12 to 20 weeks). Thanks to the expertise in several digital manufacturing techniques and artificial intelligence, Sculpteo has the vision of developing a service that clarifies thanks to simulation tools the stages of manufacturing. This sequence of tools will allow to refine the manufacturing criteria of the part and to optimize the process according to the material design and reactions. Thus, Sculpteo reduces the number of attempts required to find the perfect design and launch the production. More specifically, fewer back-and-fourths leads to a significant price decline. Sculpteo has the objective to reduce budgets by 30% in comparison to the observed average, while drastically shortening the delays.

### **1<sup>st</sup> tool: the business case**

Sculpteo unveils at CES the first tool of the suite Agile Metal Technology: the Business Case, a conversational artificial intelligence that evaluates the compatibility of a project to metal 3D printing. Based on 7 years of data resembled by Sculpteo, the AI analyses, compiles the benefits and risks of the project, and prescribes the most adapted material(s). Quick learner, she will enrich the performances as it interacts.

### On the road with Sculpteo

To prove the strength of the materials and its technical mastery, Sculpteo has created the first functional bike printed in 3D! This bike combines all Sculpteo expertise, as well as that of its interactive platform: metal 3D printing, laser cutting and 3D printing in polymeric materials (resin, plastic), as well as the entire execution, costed less than 5000 euros.



Composed of 70% parts manufactured on the Sculpteo platform, it will be on display at the Sculpteo booth at CES.

Better yet, to show that Sculpteo made digital manufacturing *for real*, and not only to create prototypes, the two designers of the project will travel 800 km on the bike, from Las Vegas to San Francisco, starting from January 9<sup>th</sup> 2017 – a world first!

The project was launched on November 9, 2016, and, for two months, the bike evolved through 6 iterations. It was conceived in a modular form to allow an update and optimization depending on the tests that the journey will involve.

The bike thus becomes a symbol of the company itself: a moving company, agile and reactive.

### About Sculpteo

Sculpteo, pioneer and specialist of digital manufacturing, offers a service of online 3D printing, from 3D model transfer to the order of the object, and wants to make this technology easy and accessible to all. Based in San Francisco and Paris, Sculpteo offers on-demand 3D printing and manufacturing in large scale for start-ups, SMEs and design studios. The offer of Sculpteo resembles more than 100 combinations of materials with multiple colors and finishing options, as well as a technical analysis and superior repair of files. The Sculpteo factories use professional 3D printers and laser cutters with a very fast execution and a global delivery. Sculpteo was created in 2009 by Eric Carreel and Clément Moreau.

For more information: [www.sculpteo.com](http://www.sculpteo.com)

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