

Component Embedding for 3D Printing

Published date: April 12, 2016

Technology description

The University of Texas at El Paso seeks a partner for licensing a method for embedding metal objects within 3D printed structures to provide additional functionality of the structure.

This invention structurally integrates functional metal objects, such as sensors, with 3D printed structures. Embedding is achieved utilizing an additive manufacturing system with an enhanced range of possible secondary embedding processes. Integrated technologies will fabricate multi-material structures through the integration of multiple integrated manufacturing systems to provide multi-functional products (e.g., consumer wearable electronics, bio-medical devices, defense, space, and energy systems, etc.). Paramount to this concept is the embedding of highly conductive and densely routed traces and surfaces within the 3D printed dielectric structures.



Application area

Consumer wearable electronics
Biomedical devices
Defense
Space and Energy Systems
3D Printed Electronics

Advantages

More accurate Z-height embedding
Precise separation between components
Creating a waveguide for antennae, capacitor sensors, ground plates for electronic devices
Reducing oxidation of embedded components
Printing over epoxy, silicon, or polymer-coated material

Institution

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