



# News Release

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## Chuck Hull, Inventor of 3D Printing and Founder of 3D Systems, Honored by International Academy for Production Engineering

- Chuck Hull Receives Prestigious General Pierre Nicolau Award during 64<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of International Academy for Production Engineering (CIRP)
- Third Recognition in Six Months for Hull's Pioneering Work in 3D Printing

**ROCK HILL, South Carolina, September 4, 2014** – [3D Systems](http://www.3dsystems.com) (NYSE:DDD)

announced today that its Founder and Chief Technology Officer, Chuck Hull, has been honored with the General Pierre Nicolau Award from the International Academy for Production Engineering (CIRP). Hull accepted the award in person from Professor Laszlo Monostori, CIRP President, during the 64th General Assembly of CIRP in Nantes, France on August 25, 2014.



Chuck Hull accepting his award from Professor Laszlo Monostori, CIRP President, during the 64th General Assembly of CIRP.

Headquartered in Paris, France, CIRP is the world leading organization in production engineering research and is at the forefront of design, optimization, control and management of processes, machines and systems. The Academy has restricted membership based on demonstrated excellence in research and has some 600 academic and industrial members from 50 industrialized countries.

The General Pierre Nicolau Award, named after CIRP's founder, is given annually "in recognition of significant and distinguished scientific and industrial contributions to a specific area within the field of production engineering encompassed by the interests of CIRP." Hull received the award in recognition of his groundbreaking invention of the original 3D printing technology, Stereolithography (SLA®). Hull also co-created the STL file format, which continues to be the gold standard in ultra high-definition 3D printing connectivity with all CAD formats. Today, SLA technology is used to print everything from personalized, in-ear hearing aids and professional music devices to automotive parts for design-to-manufacturing. In 1983, Hull 3D printed a small cup, the first-ever object created with additive technology. The success of Hull's process served as a catalyst to his founding of 3D Systems in 1986.

"It is a tremendous honor to be chosen for this prestigious award by an institution of CIRP's caliber and reputation," said Chuck Hull, Founder and Chief Technology Officer at 3DS. "As 3D printing technology becomes standard equipment on the factory floor and engineer's workbench, I am excited to see the innovative ways in which my distinguished peers at CIRP and around the world can apply this technology."

Hull's award comes just months after being inducted into the [National Inventors Hall of Fame](#) on May 21 for his invention and advancement of 3D printing, and being honored as the winner of the [2014 European Inventor Award](#) in the non-European category on June 17.

Learn about 3DS' commitment to manufacturing the future at [www.3dsystems.com](http://www.3dsystems.com)

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## **About 3D Systems**

3D Systems is pioneering 3D printing for everyone. 3DS provides the most advanced and comprehensive 3D design-to-manufacturing solutions including 3D printers, print materials and cloud sourced custom parts. Its powerful digital thread empowers professionals and consumers everywhere to bring their ideas to life in material choices including plastics, metals, ceramics and edibles. 3DS' leading healthcare solutions include integrated 3D planning and printing for personalized surgery and patient specific medical and dental devices. Its democratized 3D design and inspection products embody the latest perceptual, capture and touch technology. Its products and services replace and complement traditional methods with improved results and reduced time to outcomes. These solutions are used to rapidly design, create, communicate, plan, guide, prototype or produce functional parts, devices and assemblies, empowering customers to manufacture the future.

## **Leadership Through Innovation and Technology**

- 3DS invented 3D printing with its Stereolithography (SLA) printer and was the first to commercialize it in 1989.
- 3DS invented Selective Laser Sintering (SLS) printing and was the first to commercialize it in 1992.
- 3DS invented the Color-Jet-Printing (CJP) class of 3D printers and was the first to commercialize 3D powder-based systems in 1994.
- 3DS invented Multi-Jet-Printing (MJP) printers and was the first to commercialize it in 1996.
- 3DS Medical Modeling pioneered virtual surgical planning (VSP) and its services are world-leading, helping many thousands of patients on an annual basis.

Today its comprehensive range of 3D printers is the industry's benchmark for production-grade manufacturing in aerospace, automotive, patient specific medical device and a variety of consumer, electronic and fashion accessories.

**More information on the company is available at [www.3DSystems.com](http://www.3DSystems.com).**