# Neotech AMT

Advanced Manufacturing Technologies for 3D Printed Electronics

## Scalable 3D Printed Electronics – "Fully Additive" To High Volume Manufacture

Dr. Martin Hedges – Managing Director

11.03.2021 - Printed, Flexible, Hybrid, & InMold Electronics

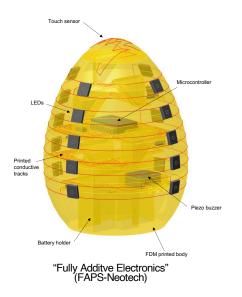
# Agenda

- 1. Company Overview
- 2. Designing a 3D Printed Electronics Process
- 3. Application Examples
- 4. Beyond Simple Circuits
- 5. 3D Print Systems

# Neotech AMT GmbH

- Neotech manufactures system for 3D Printed Electronics.
- Pioneering 3D PE development since 2009.
- First 3D capable system installed in 2010.
- Patented mass-production capable system of type 45X built 2012.
- 1<sup>st</sup> commercial sale & install of mass production system in Q3 2013.
- 1<sup>st</sup> commercial mass production started on Neotech systems in Q3 2015.
- Winner of the 2019 TüV Süd Innovation prize with FAPS

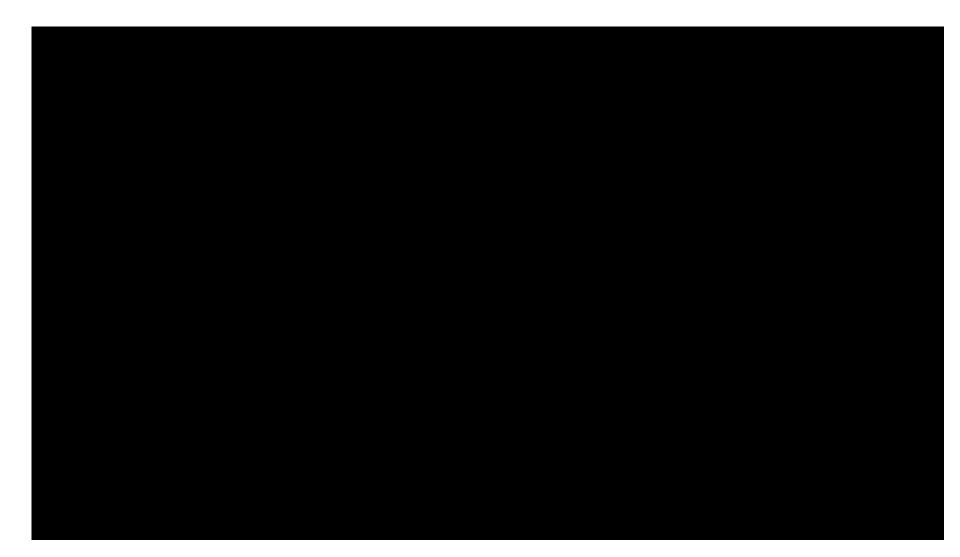




# **Benefits of 3D Printed Electronics**

Design Flexibility	Economics	Environmental
Integrated Products	Reduced Part Count	Reduced Materials Mix
Flexibility of Shape	Shorter Process Chains	Simplified Recycling
Minaturisation	Reduced Materials Use	Reduced Material Quantity
New Functionality	Increased Reliability	Reduced Parts Tourism

## **5 Axis Print Demonstration**



## Example of Dual Print Technologies



#### NanoJet

Fine Line (ca. 60um) Ag Nano-particle Ink Viscosity: 20mPas

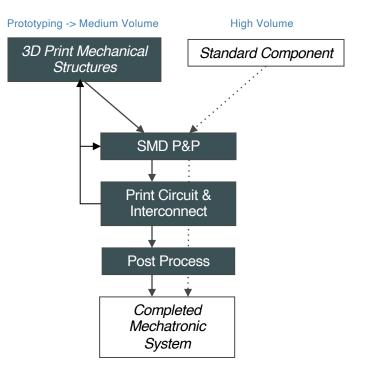
#### PiezoJet

Medium Line (300um) Ag Ink with particles D90 ca. 6um Viscosity ca. 70.000mPas

# Scalable Process Chains

Two basic process chains exist for 3D Printed Electronics:

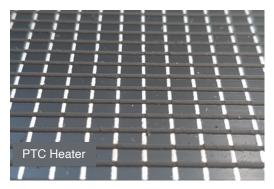
- 1. For high volume manufacture, electonics are intergrated onto the surface of a standard components (mouldings, composites etc.)
- 2. For lower volumes "Fully Additive" manufacture can be applied – classical structural AM (via FFF, SLA...) is combined in the 3D PE process.



**Current Applications** 

## Automotive Applications in Development

Functionality	Current	Planned (2021-2)
Heater Patterns	Lidar/Radar	
	Rear windscreen	
	Cabin Interior (PTC)	
Lighting	Cabin Interior (LEDs) with touch sensor control	3D OLED
	Optical Waveguides	
Sensing	Temperature sensor	
	Pressure sensor	
Sustainability	Weight Reduction for Cabin Interior	Frame/Body panel
	Automated Recycling	Electronics on Sustainable Substrates





### Mobile Communications – Antenna & Circuits

Ag inks & pastes on moulded resins: PA, PC/ABS... Particle free inks in test and show some promise

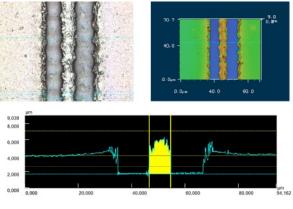
RF Performance: matches industry standard Production Costs: specific antenna designs show cost benefit

Current development: rapid print and laser trim Further cost reduction and improved performance New route also enables <u>rapid</u> processing of fine line features down to 10um



Multi-station Printing. Courtesy: LITE-ON Mobile Mechanical SBG





Fine Line (9  $\pm$  1  $\mu$ m)/High Aspect Ratio

#### Antenna for IoT Device Project by Sentium/Murata/FAPS

Combination of 3D PE with a multi-stack LPWAN IoT device to complete the mechatronic system.

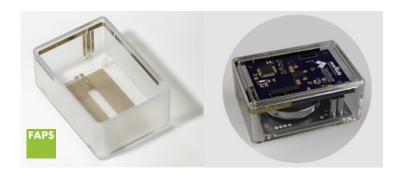
Two Antenna printed on PC housing for the IoT Device:

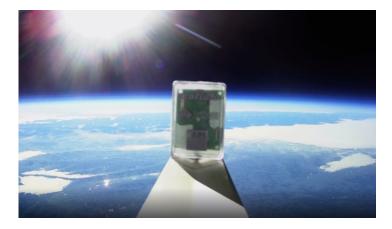
- Base Antenna is NFC for writing and reading data to and from the device motherboard.

- Wall Antennas are combined LoRa (Long Range Wide Area Network) and NB-IoT (Narrowband Internet of Things) antennas for communicating with gateways.

IoT device was sent into the stratosphere with a helium balloon.

The sensor covered a distance of nearly 200 km and reached an altitude of over 40,000 meters with sensor data as well as the position of the device could be monitored during the mission.





## Printed Circuits & Sensors for Healthcare

After suffering a stroke patients are often accompanied by unilateral motor dysfunction resulting in weak finger strength, grip, and poor circulation.

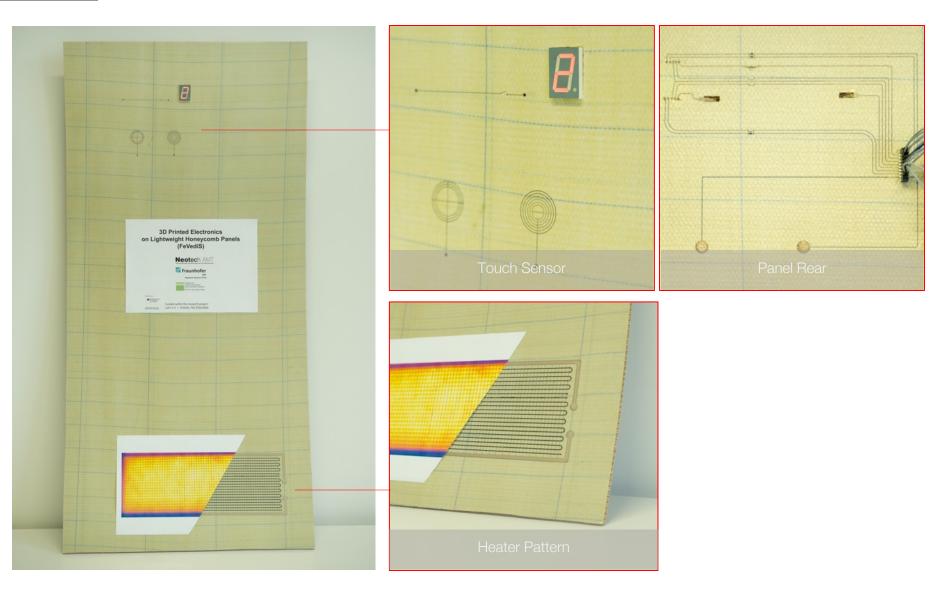
The rehabilitation ball has printed circuits and embedded electronic components on curved, flexible substrates.

It is held in the palm of the hand for close-and-open exercises and effectively increases finger strength and stroke recovery.

The device provides real-time feedback the patient's grip strength and monitors the training process for patients.



## **Smart Cabin Panel**



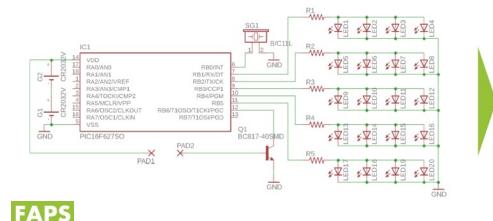
# "Fully Additive" 3D Printed Electronics

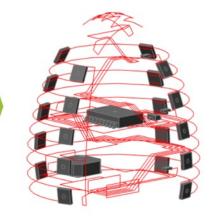
(Combining classical 3D Printing with Printed Electronics)

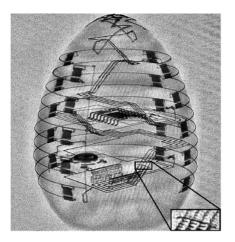
## **3D Printed Egg Timer** FAPS – University Erlangen-Nuremeberg

- 20 white LEDs mounted in five rings on the outer shell
- Embedded PIC16F627 microcontroller
- Powered by two 3 V button cells in series
- Touch switch realized by two comb-shaped pads and a transistor
- Piezo buzzer for acoustic signals
- Conductive path cumulative length of 2m









## "Fully Additive" 3D PE with Ceramic Substrates

1. EU Manunet Project AMPECS developed base process for <u>A</u>dditive <u>Manufacturing process for 3D Printing E</u>lectronics with <u>Ceramic Substrates</u>.

Cermaics based on LTCC analogue with embedded nano-particle Ag circuits.

2. Additive4Industry project PE3D Printed Electronics on 3D Substrates

Conti Temic microelectronic GmbH, FAU – Insitute FAPS, GSB-Wahl GmbH, TNO (NL)

Development of Additive Manufacturing processes for LTCC ceramic substrates with integrated circuit tracks for high temperature automotive applications including HF/antenna and sensor units.





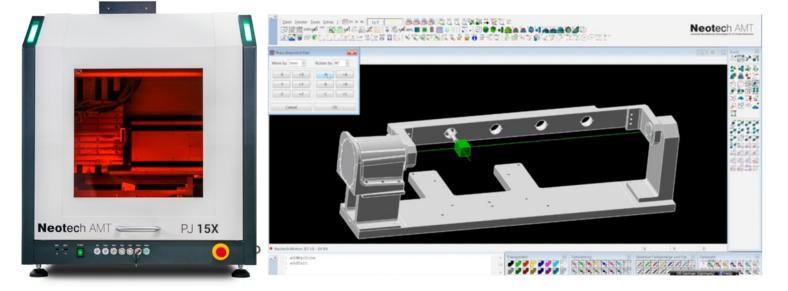
Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung

Grant number: 03INT709BD System Offerings

# **Neotech Products**

Consist of 5 axis machine tools containing a variety of 3D capable print, pre- and post-processing tools with integrated software, training & service:

Print Platforms	Print/Functionalising Tools	Pre/Post-Processing
45X – multi head systems for volume manufacture	Piezo Jetting	CNC Machining
15X – "single" head system for R&D/Product Development	Aerosol Based	Plasma Cleaning
or custom size	Ink Jetting (Single & Multi-Nozzle)	Sintering (Light/Laser)
+ 3D CAD/CAM Software	Dispensing	UV Curing
	FFF & Pellet Extruder	Adaptive Tool Path Vision System
	SMD Pick & Place	Laser Ablation



# Automated QA – KAM El Project

Development of a camera-based monitoring system for "Fully Additive" 3D Printed Electronics

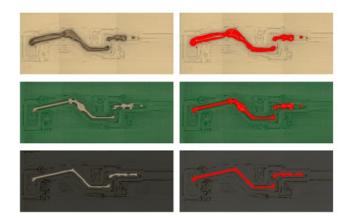
Record and classify the manufacturing process and automatically correct processing errors dependent on type:

1. Vision system will records the printed electrical structures in 3D space.

2. Images compiled, compensating for distortion and depth of field elements.

3. Artificial Intelligence (AI) to check for potential defects such as line breaks, short circuits and geometrical errors in width and thickness.

4. Defect is identified, one of three options that can be executed: automated correction, correction with operator input or part rejection (abort print).



Verification of the ink segmentation algorithm with different filament colours. (University of Hamburg)





Timeframe:1.10.20-30-9.22

# Summary

- 1. Designing 3D Printed Electronics process
- 2. Current Application Examples
- 3. Development to more complex device manufacture
- 4. "Fully Additive" 3D Printed Electronics

# Neotech AMT

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## Thank you for your attention!

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