

New machines for rapid prototyping

Faster, smaller, more precise

Rapid prototyping for jewellery production is becoming faster, the equipment smaller and the cost per piece lower. This is the message that experts such as DWS, Envisiontec and Solidscape have brought to BASELWORLD.

The Italian manufacturer DWS places an emphasis on high throughput. To demonstrate this, the company has arranged four of its highest performance machines, the Digitalwax 029, in series. Up to 270 pieces can be achieved in one day using one machine, says Samer Noujaim, Sales Area Manager at the firm. The company offers its devices in three sizes, from the desktop machine for 16,000 euros to the large machine at a price of 82,000

euros. "One of our outstanding points is that our machines use mouldable and castable hard resin," explains Noujaim. Customers that wish to gain an impression of the capabilities of the products can see them in action on the stand. In addition to machines in three size classes, DWS has also brought along resins in new colours.

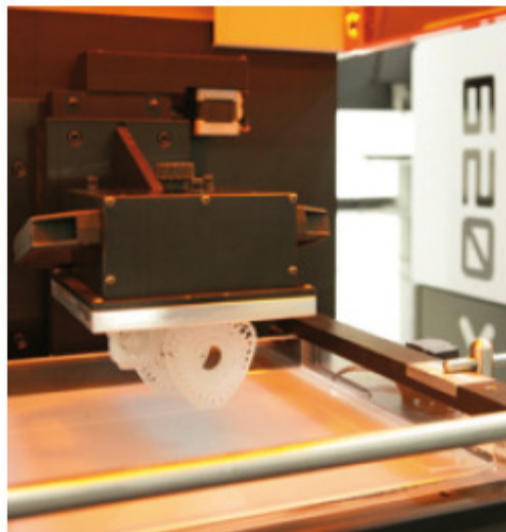
Envisiontec GmbH's flagship this year is the new Aureus, a desktop machine for 34,900 euros. The customers for this are varied, says Lars Gossen, Sales Office Manager of the company. They include smaller jewellery producers, who use them to offer services to others, as well as larger companies that use the machines to create

models. The Aureus is capable of manufacturing up to 18 pieces in four hours with an accuracy of 25-40 microns. The company is also showing composite materials which can withstand high temperature rubber moulding techniques. This development in the materials used needs to keep pace with the increasing performance of the machines themselves. The BASELWORLD is enormously important to his company, as distributors have the opportunity to take a good look at the machines, explains Gossen.

Solidscape is exhibiting its T76+ and R66+ system with the new SCP printing technology, which stands for Smooth Curvature Printing. This technology was



Envisiontec's Aureus machine fits on a table



DWS places emphasis on high throughput



Solidscape's Fabio Esposito shows printer with enhanced curvature

introduced in 2009, BASELWORLD is the first jewellery show where the company is presenting it. The strengths of these products lie in the fact that the material does not shrink when being processed, it behaves just like the wax that jewellers use, says Fabio Esposito, Vice President

Worldwide Sales and Marketing at Solidscape. The R66+ is destined for custom retail jewellers and is priced at 30,000 US dollars. The T76+ is aimed at large manufacturers and costs 45,000 US dollars. The main difference between the two machines is the production volume. (pg1) ■

Good resonance to equipment in hall 3U

The good mood of the jewellery and watch sector starts to reach manufacturers

"We've had some good conversations and in some cases have even closed deals here at the show," says Didier Migy of Crevoisier. His company is very satisfied with its attendance at BASELWORLD, having made various new contacts, including from India. Customers were evidently prepared to invest in machines which enable the production of high quality products.

"For us BASELWORLD is important because it is the show with such a broad overview on equipment for the watch and jewel industry", comments Fabio M. Esposito Vice President of Solidscape. He saw an increase in visitors, mainly from Latin America. "BASELWORLD gives us the

chance to reach a high variety of people, be it designers, retailers or manufacturers", Esposito adds.

At Bijoutil, an expert in producing tools for jewellers, the company reported more contacts, primarily from India and Spain. Morale has improved, reports Managing Director Roland Wagner. Following a difficult year, there is now a renewed sense of optimism.

The good atmosphere in halls 1 and 2 was completely matched by that of the machine and tool manufacturers.

According to Robert Arn, Senior Consultant at Witschi, there were plenty of high quality discussions and concrete questions. "The good sales and atmosphere in hall 1 could lead to our customers investing more again," explains Arn.

"The wave is beginning to gather momentum but has not yet fully hit the machine manufacturers," confirms Paolo Orlando of Topcast. His company primarily secured itself new customers from Brazil and Russia. Overall, contacts were on a similar level to last year, says Orlando. However, there was good feedback about the new smaller machines being exhibited, says Martin B. Fink of Proficast about his company's overall perception. (pg1) ■



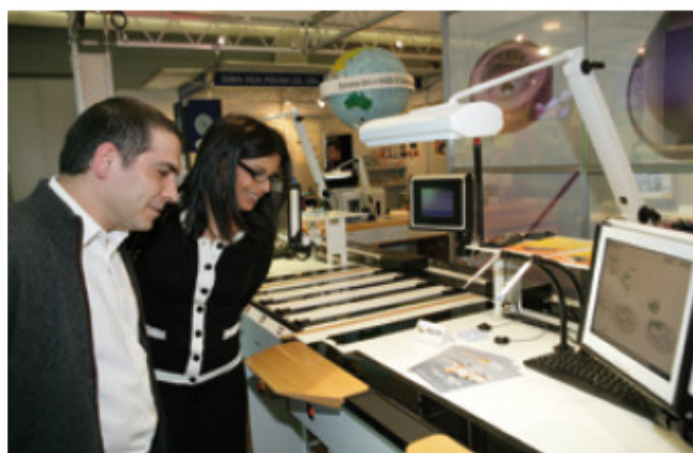
Designers, manufacturers and retailers enjoyed the presentations in hall 3U



Fabio M. Esposito, Solidscape, had more visitors



Didier Migy, Crevoisier, is satisfied with the show



High interest in presentations for jewellers