

# MakerBot and Partners Are Leading the Charge to Crowd Source A MakerBot Desktop 3D Printer in Every School in America

Announcing MakerBot Academy: 3D Printers, Supplies and Curriculum for Schools

BROOKLYN, N.Y.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- MakerBot is on a mission: to put a MakerBot Desktop 3D Printer in every school in America. This initiative is a unique partnership between MakerBot, <u>DonorsChoose.org</u> America Makes, and Autodesk, and was a response to a call to action by the President of the United States. In the recent State of the Union Address, President Barack Obama announced a new initiative to bring manufacturing jobs back to the U.S. He affirmed, "3D printing has the potential to revolutionize the way we make almost everything. We must ensure that the Next Industrial Revolution in manufacturing will happen in America. We can get that done."

MakerBot was inspired by the President's commitment to keep America at the forefront of the Next Industrial Revolution and is eager to do its part to educate today's students, who are the next generation of innovative makers, engineers, product designers, architects, and artists, who could benefit from having 3D printing technology in the classroom.

"We are thrilled that MakerBot and America Makes are joining a growing coalition of citizens working to give American students the ability to design and make almost anything," said Tom Kalil, deputy director for Technology and Innovation, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. "As the President has said, we all need to think creatively about giving our young people the tools to be 'the makers of things, and not just the consumers of things."

Beginning **November 12, 2013**, individuals and corporations interested in helping get MakerBot Desktop 3D Printers in schools can visit <u>DonorsChoose.org</u>, a crowd funding site just for teachers, and pledge to financially support the program. Teachers then register on DonorsChoose.org for a MakerBot Academy bundle. MakerBot is contributing its own resources to launch this education initiative, along with key partners. Bre Pettis, CEO of MakerBot, has personally pledged to put a MakerBot® Replicator® 2 Desktop 3D Printer in public high schools in MakerBot's hometown of Brooklyn, N.Y. In addition, Ralph Crump, original inventor of FDM 3D printing technology and founder of Stratasys, has pledged his support. Pettis encourages everyone to join MakerBot in this effort at an individual or corporate level to help move America's students to the forefront of technology and global competitiveness.

"To get this done, we are going to have to do it together," said Bre Pettis, CEO of MakerBot.

Each MakerBot Academy bundle contains a MakerBot Replicator 2 Desktop 3D Printer, three spools of MakerBot® PLA Filament, and a full year of the MakerBot MakerCare™ Service and Protection Plan. MakerBot will also support the teachers with the development of ongoing 3D printing curriculum that teachers can participate in and utilize in the classroom. MakerBot will leverage Autodesk's software and educator curriculum as well.

"Autodesk signed on as a key partner in the MakerBot Academy initiative because helping students unlock their creativity and prepare for future careers is a core part of our mission," said Samir Hanna, Autodesk vice president, consumer products. "Bringing together accessible applications like Autodesk TinkerCAD project-based curriculum from our instructables.com community and the MakerBot Replicator 2 Desktop 3D Printer will inspire and engage the next generation of design-minded students."

MakerBot is also launching a MakerBot <u>Thingiverse Math Manipulatives Challenge</u>. Math Manipulatives are one of the most requested items on DonorsChoose.org and are an item that can easily be 3D printed in the classroom. The MakerBot Thingiverse website will hold a week-long design challenge, from November 12 through 18, 2013, for its members to quickly develop a variety of different math manipulative 3D designs that can then be available immediately to teachers that receive the MakerBot Academy 3D printing package.

"As a former teacher, I believe strongly in creating a new model for innovation. A MakerBot is a manufacturing education in a box," said Bre Pettis. "We need to encourage our teachers and our youth to think differently about manufacturing and innovation. When you have a MakerBot Desktop 3D Printer, you see the world differently. Instead of waiting for someone to create a product for you, you can create your own. It can change the whole paradigm of how our children will see innovation and manufacturing in America."

To bring manufacturing back to America, students of today must be exposed to and experienced in advanced manufacturing tools that can assist them in securing engineering, architecture, product design and manufacturing jobs tomorrow. To do that, they must have access to these tools that can help take their education to a new level and empower them to think differently about the world and manufacturing. MakerBot sees this as an opportunity to bring 3D printing into our schools and classrooms.

Ralph Resnick, founding director of America Makes said, "We need to nurture the minds of America's youth today, in order to create a strong workforce for tomorrow. This is a key tenet of the National Additive Manufacturing Innovation Institute, so when MakerBot approached us with this opportunity, we were eager to show our full support. When America Makes, America Works."

"We are so grateful to MakerBot and its partners for undertaking this mission," said Charles Best, founder of DonorsChoose.org. "Thanks to this movement, hundreds of thousands of students will have the opportunity to make and innovate in their own classrooms."

"Initiatives like the MakerBot Academy are further examples of how New York City's technology community is leading the way to help young people be better prepared for their future careers," said Rachel Haot, New York City's Chief Digital Officer. "Collaboration and education are key components to keep our workforce competitive and innovative."

# Here's how it works:

Visit <u>DonorsChoose.org</u> and pledge your support. Individuals and corporations can help fund the MakerBot Academy 3D Printing package by making a tax-deductible donation via <u>DonorsChoose.org</u>.

Then tell schoolteachers about the MakerBot Academy program and encourage them to register on <a href="DonorsChoose.org">DonorsChoose.org</a> right away. Students and their community can also help teachers raise the additional funds they need to bring the MakerBot Academy 3D Printing bundle into the classroom.

Participate in the Thingiverse Challenge to develop models teachers can use to improve Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education.

For more information on MakerBot Academy, visit <u>makerbot.com/Academy</u>. For more information on supporting or registering for the program, visit <u>DonorsChoose.org</u>.

## **About MakerBot**

MakerBot, a subsidiary of Stratasys, Ltd., is leading the Next Industrial Revolution by setting the standards in reliable and affordable desktop 3D printing. Founded in 2009, MakerBot has built the largest installed base of desktop 3D printers sold to innovative and industry-leading customers worldwide, including engineers, architects, designers, educators and consumers. The MakerBot 3D Ecosystem drives accessibility and rapid adoption of 3D printing and includes: <a href="Thingiverse.com">Thingiverse.com</a>, the MakerBot <a href="Digitizer">Digitizer</a> Desktop 3D Scanner, the MakerBot <a href="Replicator">Replicator</a> line of Desktop 3D Printers, <a href="MakerWare">MakerWare</a> software, <a href="MakerCare">MakerCare</a>, the MakerBot retail <a href="store">store</a>, and strategic partnerships with top-tier brands. MakerBot has been honored with many accolades, including <a href="Popular Mechanics">Popular Mechanics</a> "Overall Winner" for best 3D printer, <a href="Time">Time</a> Magazine's "Best Inventions of 2012," <a href="Popular Mechanics">Popular Mechanics</a> "Editor's Choice Award," <a href="Popular Science">Popular Science</a> "Product of the Year," <a href="Fast Company">Fast Company</a> "One of the World's Top 10 Most Innovative Companies in Consumer Electronics," and many more. Join the Next Industrial Revolution by following MakerBot at <a href="makerbot.com">makerbot.com</a>.

# About Stratasys

**Stratasys Ltd.** (Nasdaq:SSYS), headquartered in Minneapolis, Minn. and Rehovot, Israel, manufactures 3D printers and materials for prototyping and production. The company's patented FDM<sup>®</sup> and PolyJet<sup>®</sup> processes produce prototypes and manufactured goods directly from 3D CAD files or other 3D content. Systems include 3D printers for idea development, prototyping and direct digital manufacturing. Stratasys subsidiaries include MakerBot and Solidscape and the company operates the RedEye On Demand digital-manufacturing service. Stratasys has more than 1500 employees, holds over 500 granted or pending additive manufacturing patents globally, and has received more than 20 awards for its technology and leadership. Online at: <a href="stratasys.com">stratasys.com</a> or <a href="blog.stratasys.com">blog.stratasys.com</a>.

### **About America Makes**

America Makes is The National Additive Manufacturing Innovation Institute. As the national accelerator for additive manufacturing (AM) and 3D printing (3DP), *America Makes* is the nation's leading and collaborative partner in AM and 3DP technology research, discovery, creation, and innovation. Structured as a public-private partnership with member organizations from industry, academia, government, non-government agencies, and

workforce and economic development resources, America Makes is working to innovate and accelerate AM and 3DP to increase the United States global manufacturing competitiveness. Based in Youngstown, Ohio, *America Makes* is the pilot institute for up to 15 National Network for Manufacturing Innovation (NNMI) institutes. For more information about *America Makes visit americamakes.us*.

# About DonorsChoose.org

DonorsChoose.org is an online charity that makes it easy for anyone to help students in need. To support a classroom, you can make a donation of any size at <a href="https://www.donorschoose.org">www.donorschoose.org</a>. Public school teachers from every corner of America post classroom project requests on DonorsChoose.org. Requests range from pencils for a poetry-writing unit, to violins for a school recital, to microscope slides for a biology class. Individuals can browse the requests and give any amount to the one that inspires them. Once a project reaches its funding goal, DonorsChoose.org sends the materials to the school. For more information visit DonorsChoose.org.

# **Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

Certain information included or incorporated by reference in this press may be deemed to be "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking statements are often characterized by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "may," "will," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate," "continue," "believe," "should," "intend," "project" or other similar words, but are not the only way these statements are identified. These forward-looking statements may include, but are not limited to, statements relating to the company's objectives, plans and strategies, statements regarding the company's products and their expected performance, statements that contain projections of results of operations or of financial condition (including, with respect to the MakerBot merger) and all statements (other than statements of historical facts) that address activities, events or developments that the company intends, expects. projects, believes or anticipates will or may occur in the future. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks and uncertainties. The company has based these forward-looking statements on assumptions and assessments made by its management in light of their experience and their perception of historical trends, current conditions, expected future developments and other factors they believe to be appropriate. Important factors that could cause actual results, developments and business decisions to differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements include, among other things: the company's ability to efficiently and successfully integrate the operations of Stratasys, Inc. and Objet Ltd. after their merger as well as the ability to successfully integrate MakerBot into Stratasys; the overall global economic environment; the impact of competition and new technologies; general market, political and economic conditions in the countries in which the company operates; projected capital expenditures and liquidity; changes in the company's strategy; government regulations and approvals; changes in customers' budgeting priorities; litigation and regulatory proceedings; and those factors referred to under "Risk Factors", "Information on the Company", "Operating and Financial Review and Prospects", and generally in the company's annual report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2012 filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and in other reports that the Company has filed with the SEC. Readers are

urged to carefully review and consider the various disclosures made in the company's SEC reports, which are designed to advise interested parties of the risks and factors that may affect its business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. Any forward-looking statements in this press release are made as of the date hereof, and the company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law.

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