# CARACOL

At the Forefront of Additive Manufacturing, Enabling Your Next Move

DOMMINO Webinar

November 2021

**Caracol Offers** 

# EXTREME ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING SOLUTIONS, WITH NO SCALE LIMITS, FOR ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS.

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#### **Our Value Proposition**

# TECHNOLOGY

Working with a wide range of advanced tech solutions: from state-of-the-art industrial printers to our robotic AM system, to manufacture parts with no limits in size.

# **INTEGRATED PROCESS**

Integrating all core competences across the value chain, starting from know-how on materials and a network of partnerships with suppliers, as well as on hardware, software and on our client's industries.

# ENGINEERING

We use the most advanced design for additive manufacturing techniques – working with generative and parametric design, and topological optimization of parts to improve geometries.

# SOLUTION-ORIENTED

We accompany clients starting with identifying their needs and opportunities, and we customize our solutions to provide the most out of their adoption of additive manufacturing, addressing the most demanding requirement of the most advanced industries.

#### We accompany clients throughout the production process



### An integrated process Engineering parts for AM from Design to Production

# **DESIGN TOOLS**

From **parametric design tools** of parts to iteratively find the ideal solution based on performance and geometric requirements, to **computational design** inputting variables to define and manipulate complex geometries.

# **ANALYSIS TOOLS**

We also perform **topological optimization** and **FEM analysis** 

while designing and optimizing parts, for example to anticipate part's mechanical or thermal behavior and more.



### We work with a variety of Technological solutions

# PRINTERS

We work with a variety of state-of-the-art industrial 3D printers.

**30 +** printers (FDM & SLA) Up to **70x100 cm** 

3D Filaments or Resins

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# **ROBOTIC AM**

We developed an AM robotic system to manufacture large-scale, advanced parts, with a wide range of composite materials.

**4** operating robots

Up to **360 cm** 

Raw material Pellets / Shreds + Fibers



# SOON

Fully automated customizable robotic cluster to manufacture large scale, extremely accurate, performing, ready-to-use parts.





### **Our Additive Manufacturing Robotic System**

#### **BETTER MECHANICAL RESISTANCE** & PERFORMANCE

Caracol's robotic system prints very large parts with better material adherence, precision, compactness and resistance.

#### **COMPLEX PARTS**

Caracol's software algorithms and use of a 6-axis robotic arm allow to manufacture a higher number of applications and more complex geometries.

#### LOWER OPERATING COSTS & FLEXIBILITY

A highly flexible that adapts to productive needs, it works efficiently with low operating costs without compromising on quality and performance.

#### LOWER RAW MATERIAL COSTS

Works with a wide range of composites: from advanced techno polymers blended with fibers (e.g., carbon, glass) to recycled material shreds.







### We process a wide variety of polymeric materials

# FILAMENTS & RESINS

#### We work with best-in-class 3d filament and resin providers who manufacture advanced and high-quality techno polymers, often also reinforced with fibers.

We also work with biodegradable and recycled filaments.

# PELLETSRECYCLED& SHREDSMATERIALS

Our robotic system works with raw material in the form of pellets or shreds.

This allows us to work with a much broader variety of materials compared to the ones available traditionally in 3d printing and for much lower costs.

Polymers are blended with carbon, glass, and natural fibers, up to 40%.

Collecting production waste from clients we can process the material, transforming into a reusable blend that we can work with on our robotic systems to manufacture new projects that enable companies to achieve circular economy.

#### CARACOL

The main Industries we serve



#### What We Offer



Design & Concept Development

Using the most advanced AM software and design techniques we can bring to life products and components



Engineering

We optimize design for production in AM and we can test components' mechanical and thermal performance



Prototypes & Pre-Series with no size limit

Using both a variety of industrial 3D printers and an advanced robotic system for meter large prints



### Line Production of Finished Parts

Our flexible manufacturing set up can be organized to print multiple series of pieces



Materials characterization and waste recycling

We develop 3D printing materials in filament or pellet form, starting from production waste materials or according to specific needs



#### Support Internalizing Additive Manufacturing solutions

We assist in understanding needs, identifying and providing the best tech, we install it and provide after service assistance



### Additive Manufacturing Training and Workshops

We train company employees on 3D printing tech: project planning, tech use, identifying and knowing materials

# LARGE SCALE AEROSPACE TOOLING

### **Traditional Aerospace Tooling Manufacturing**

Traditionally produced in several parts milled from solid metal, then assembled into one.

#### lssues:

- Numerous parts requiring manual work for assembly of final tool
- Long lead times 2-4 months for one tool
- Heavy weight of part impacts ability to move tool around causing logistics difficulty
- Significant material waste
- Significant costs



### **Our Solution**

- <u>Part</u>: Large scale jig for suction and positioning of aircraft belly fairing panels
- <u>Composite Material</u>: Techno polymer (e.g., PA, PP, PPS) reinforced with fiber (e.g., carbon, glass)
- <u>Process</u>: Robotic Additive Manufacturing of part in one piece and CNC post-production of tool-face
- <u>Size</u>: 84,8 cm (w) x 125 cm (l) x 32,7 cm (h)

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### **Combining Processes for Sustainable Manufacturing**

- <u>Digitalized workflow</u> combining Additively Manufactured part with CNC milling for surface finishing.

- Achieved Requirements:
  - <u>Dimensional Tolerances</u>: 0.1mm
  - <u>Surface Roughness</u>:1.6 μm
- With <u>direct printing</u> of composite material in pellets we use only the needed material, milling of tool face layer generates limited waste which can be reused in future productions

## **Key Results**

Parts Integration		Design to Lea	o Production d Time	Weight Reduction	
	om 30 + parts 1 single piece		2 months 2 weeks	600%	
		Production t Savings	Other In Cost		
	30-50%		Drastic reduction of material used; logistics & storage costs reduction due to decreased weight		

## CARACOL

### CONTACTS

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