

polyethylene

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# 3D Printing at NOVA Chemicals

Case Studies

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# Agenda

- NOVA Chemicals
- NOVA and 3D Printing
- Dimension SST1200
  - When (and why) NOVA bought into 3D printing
  - Type of printer bought
  - Operating costs, build media, build sequence and build envelope
  - Typical design-to-build sequence
- Case Study 1. COSMO
  - Background
  - Scaling consideration
  - Build times and costs
  - Results and uses
- Case Study 2. Dumpster Mate 5 Slides
  - Background
  - Scaling consideration
  - Build times and costs
  - Results and uses
- Summary

# Introduction

## NOVA Chemicals

Focused on polyethylene products and markets

Annual sales in 2013: \$5.3 billion (USD)

Number of Employees: 2,600 worldwide

Headquartered in Calgary, Alberta

### Corporate Strategy

A foundation of world-class Responsible Care® and talented people, combined with:

cost-competitive feedstock

best in class assets utilizing proprietary technology,  
and focused market leadership

Support NOVA Chemicals' aspiration to be a great company.



# NOVA and 3D Printing

- FMD Team formed in 2008
- Team charged with expanding the rotomolding market through innovation
- 3D Printing introduced in 2009



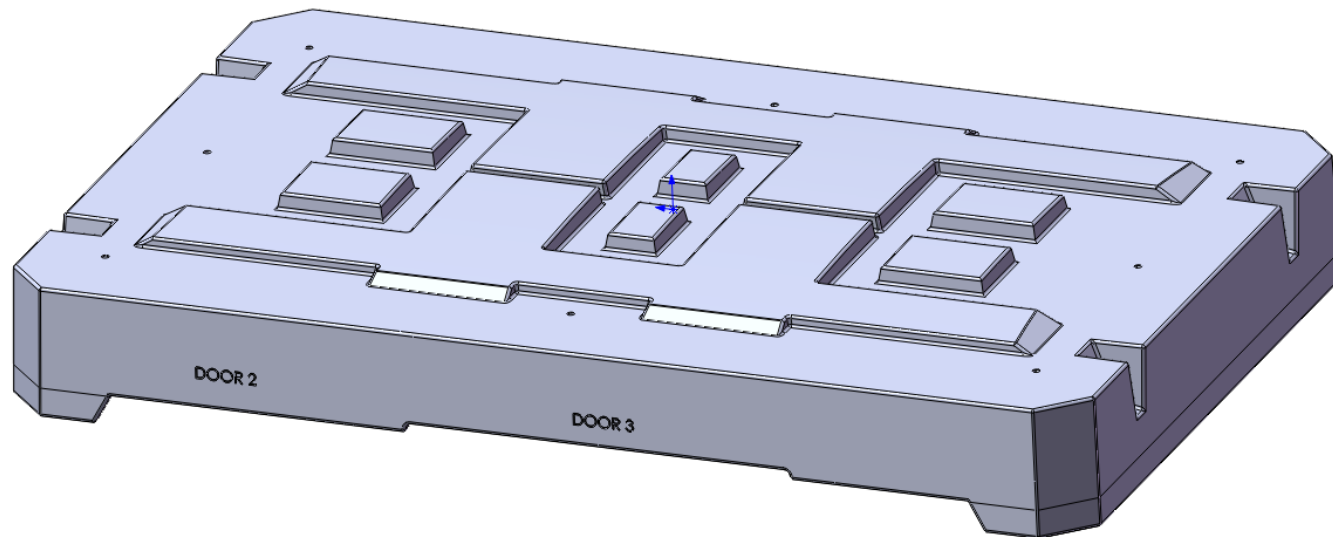
# Dimension SST1200 3D Printer

- Purchased in 2009
- Micro Extrusion
- ABS monofilament (build material)
- MAH-modified ABS monofilament (Soluble support)
- 10" by 10" by 11" build envelope
- Material costs are about \$4.50 per cubic inch, less if hollow or sparse parts are made



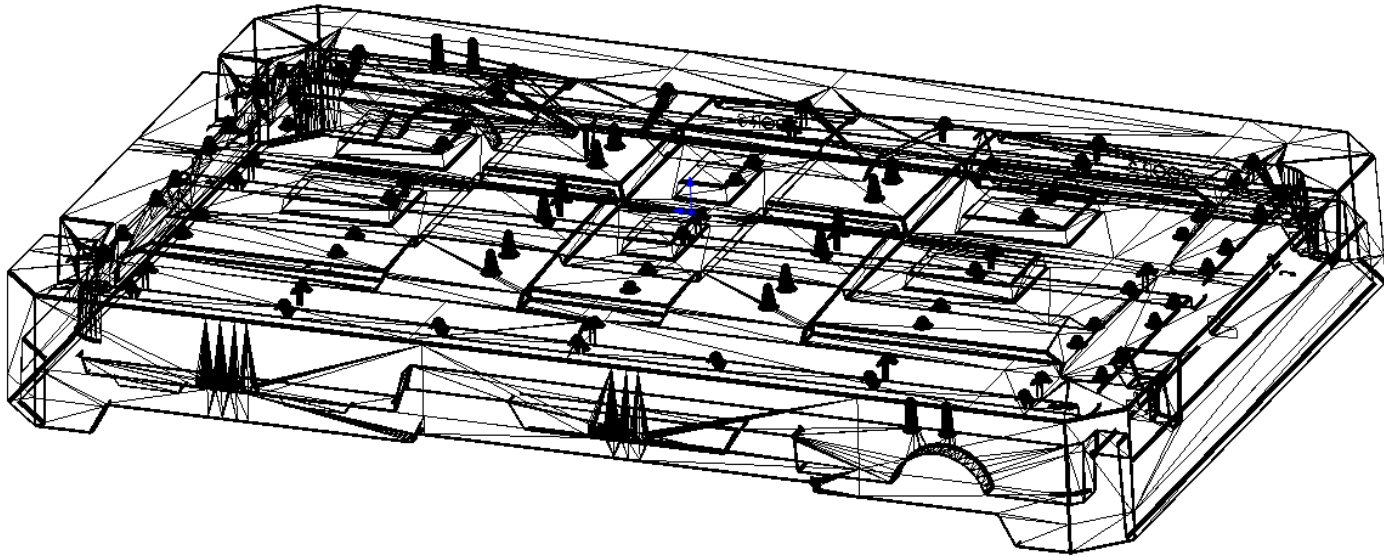
# Typical Build Sequence:

## 1. Part design in Solidworks™



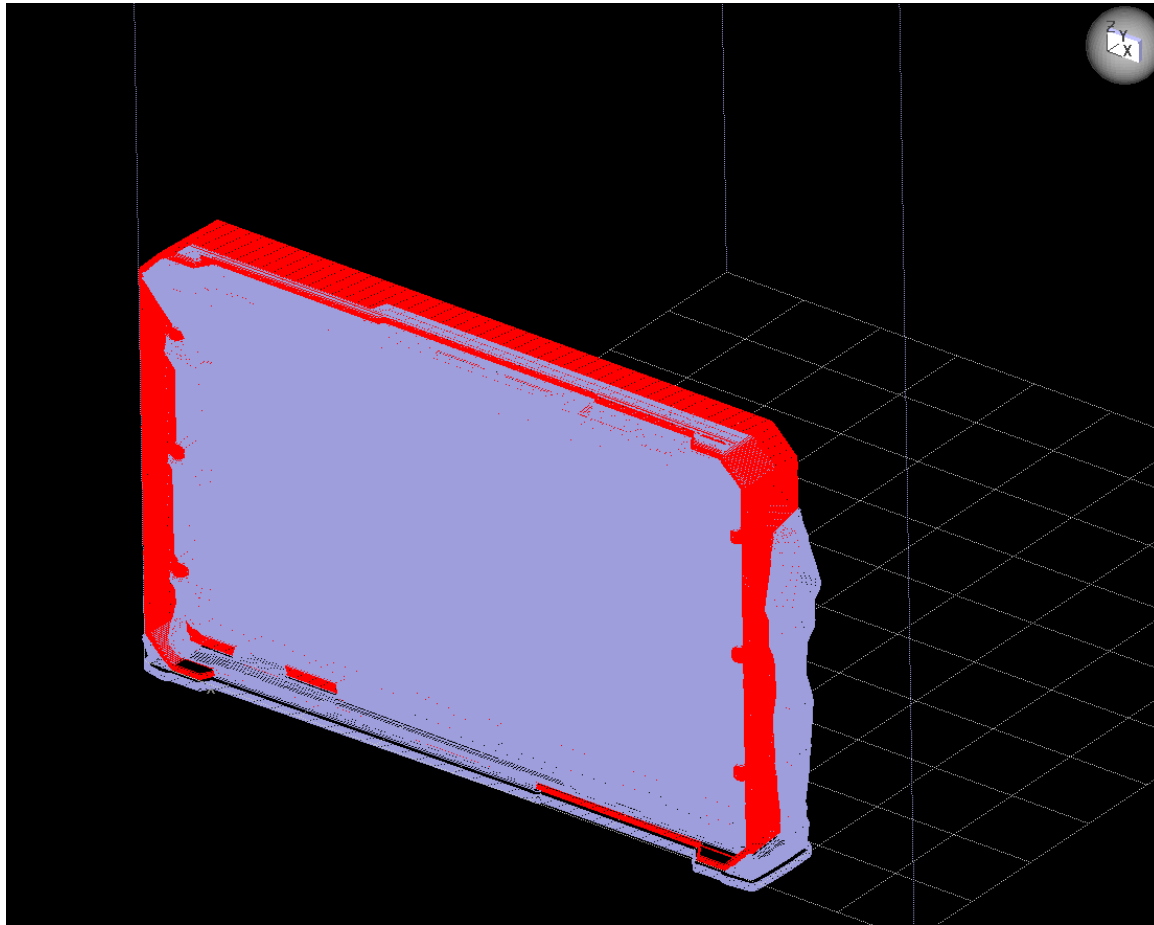
# Typical Build Sequence:

2. Part saved in STL (stereo lithography) format



# Typical Build Sequence:

3. Tool paths, layout, material use and build times are calculated



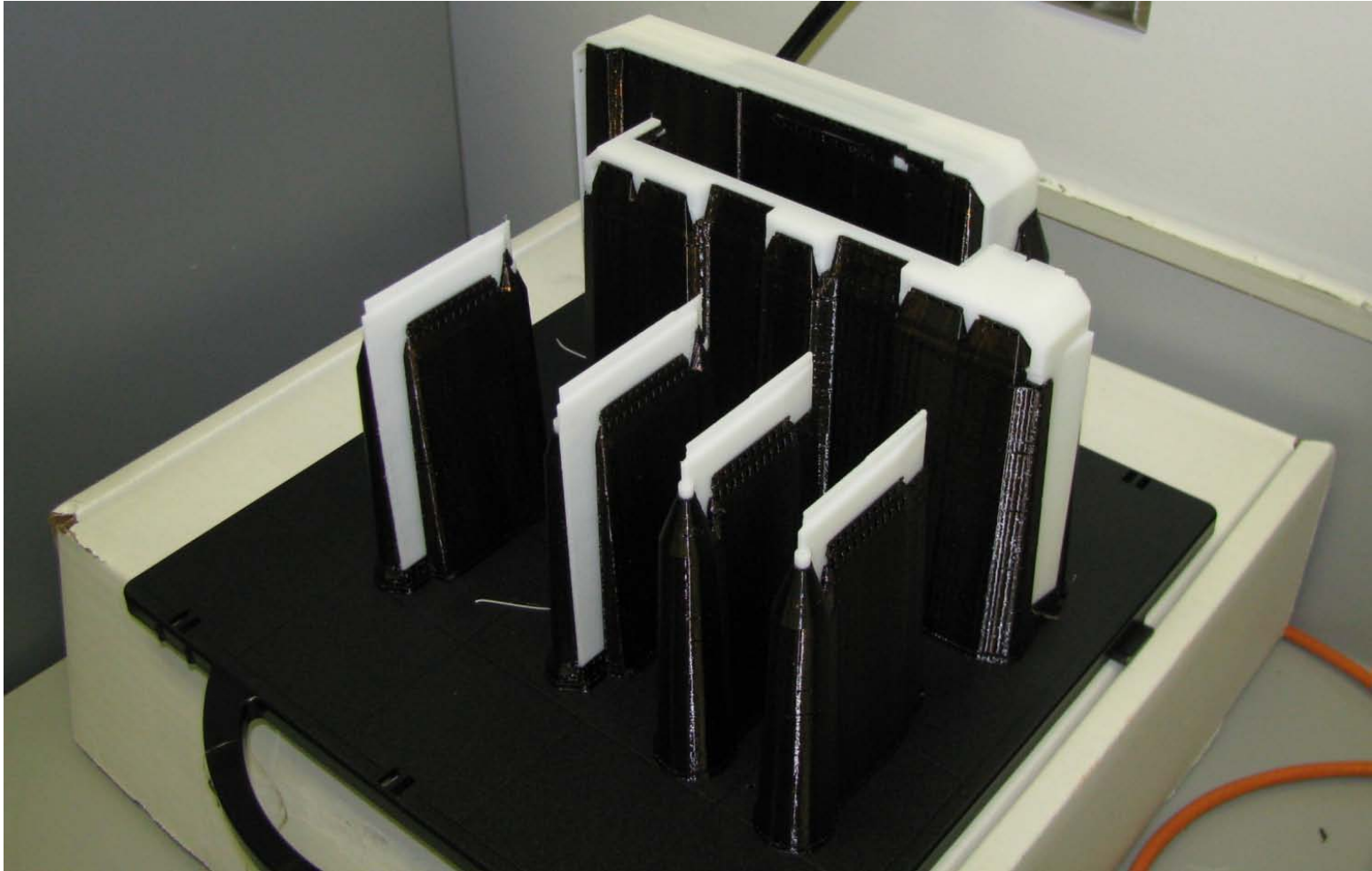
# Typical Build Sequence:

4. Parts printed on a removable platform (model material is white, support material is brown)



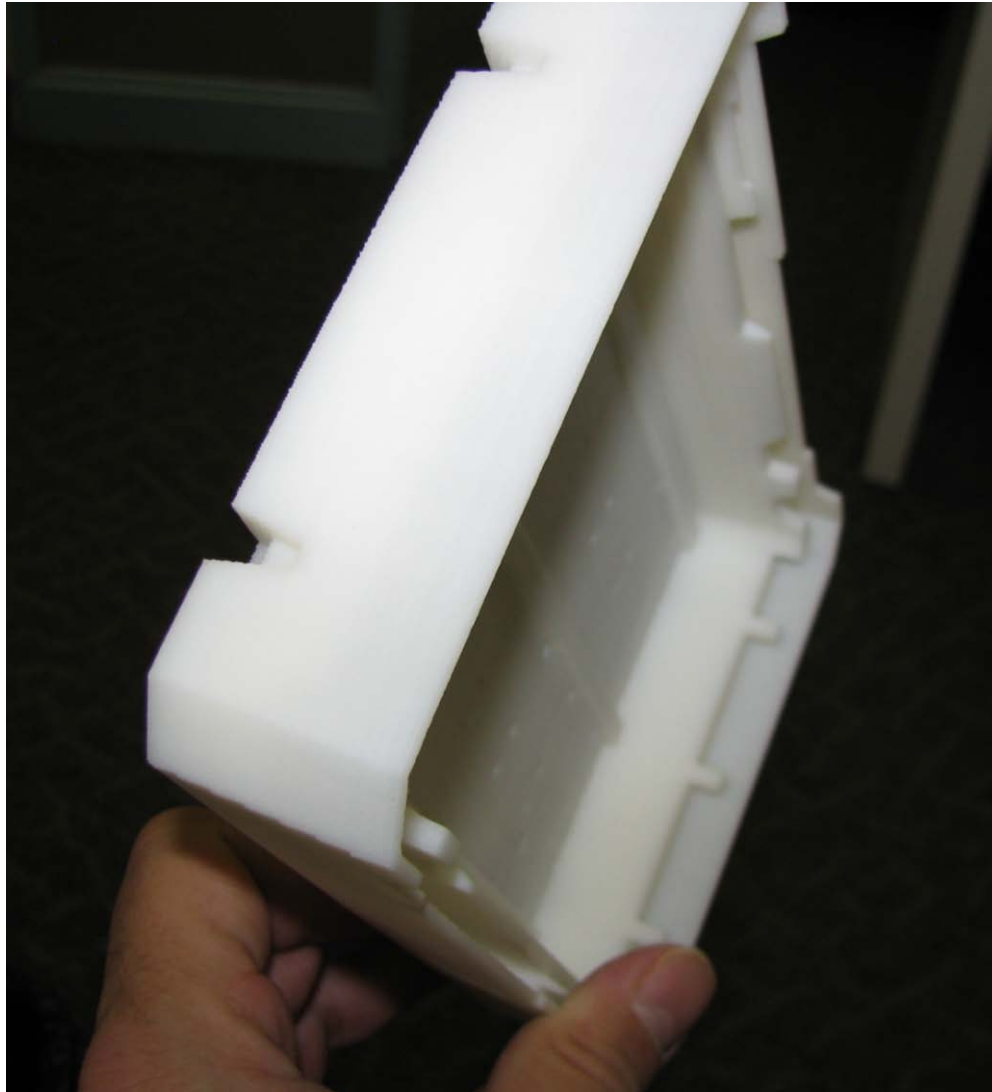
# Typical Build Sequence:

5. Parts are removed for cleaning of support material



# Typical Build Sequence:

5. After washing, parts are ready for paint and assembly



# Case Study 1.

## COSMO Collapsible Container

- Moving and storage container
- Collapsible, lockable
- Designed in 2008-09



# COSMO Model

## A. Scaling considerations, designing the model

- Bolt holes were scaled up to allow small rods to be used at hinge points
- All other dimensions were accurate to scale
- 1:12 Scale decided



# COSMO Model :

## B. Build Time and Costs

Build Summary-COSMO Model, 1:12 Scale				
Part	No. needed	Build Time	Material	Mtl. Cost
		total, hr.	total, cu. In.	total, \$
Roof	1	22.5	18.6	\$101
Base	1	19	17.8	\$97
Door 2	2	4.2	5.6	\$31
Door 3	2	4.2	5.6	\$31
U Scissors	2	12.2	8	\$44
L Scissors	2	11	8	\$44
Corner	2	15.2	7.8	\$43
	<b>Total</b>	<b>88.3</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>\$389</b>

# COSMO Model

## C: Result and Uses



# COSMO Model

## C: Result and Uses (Cont.)

- Used in assembly process design (forklift, etc.)
- Internal proof of concept sales tool
- Tolerancing discussions
- External sales demonstration models
- Resulted in commercial military and civilian sales
- Design errors were found and corrected prior to cutting metal

# Case Study 2:

## Dumpster Mate

(photo courtesy of Dumpster mate LLC)



# Dumpster-Mate Model

## A. Scaling considerations, designing the model

- Assembly holes were sized for stock thin aluminum anchor poles.
- All other dimensions were accurate to scale
- 1:12 Scale selected



# Dumpster Mate Model

## B: Build Time and Costs

Build Summary-Dumpster Mate Model, 1:12 Scale				
Part	No. needed	Build Time	Material	Mtl. Cost
		total, hr.	total, cu. In.	total, \$
Main panel	8	89.6	51.2	\$279
Corner	4	46.8	25.2	\$137
Swing doors	2	13	5.4	\$29
Inserts	8	11.2	16.8	\$92
Access door	1	11.2	6.1	\$33
	<b>Total</b>	<b>171.8</b>	<b>104.7</b>	<b>\$571</b>

# Dumpster Mate Model

## C: Result and Uses



# Dumpster Mate Model

## C: Result and Uses (Cont.)

- Used as proof of concept and for design acceptance
- Used to help in tooling estimates, and manufacturing planning (arm usage, machine selection)
- Used to pre plan assembly process
- Resulted in hand off to inventor and commercial sales

# Summary

- 3D Printing has been a useful tool for NOVA
- Used for
  - One off lab items
  - Proof of concept models
  - Tolerancing and fitment aids
  - Design acceptance
  - Assembly and manufacturing planning
  - Sales tools

thank you

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