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Webinar Summary

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Webinar Summary

Additive manufacturing (AM) is the industrial production term for injection molding, a mechanical process of creating three-dimensional items by depositing materials in stacks. 3D printing has been widely used to create prototypes that work, with many companies failing to harness the full power of additive manufacturing that can drive business growth.

According to Rob, President and CEO of Blue-White Industries, the 3D printing market is likely to quadruple to \$12 billion over the next decade, shifting from its current primary use of making prototypes to the most complicated manufacturing of final parts (AM Industry Summit, 2021). In his topic on Accelerating Product Development, Rob states that AM can accelerate the production process by speeding up innovation, structure, production lines, manufacturing, and actualization. Therefore, AM is extremely valuable and can mean the difference between the success or disaster and the ability to meet business objectives. Furthermore, the traditional design method is time-consuming because each iteration is passed from one person to another. Also, these designs are studied, modified, and shared with other teams in different locations, adding a significant amount of time to the manufacturing process. With 3D, printers can be located in different locations, and several iterations can be produced in a day, and they can be shared with different teams easily. Additive manufacturing can also use the same materials for prototyping and production since it is easy to gauge the effectiveness of these materials when a prototype is made.

However, designing the final product is essential to consider the 3D printer capability, the type of product being manufactured, and its use. In the topic “We’ve incorporated 3D printed parts into our existing products,” Murphey explains that the products used in high-impact areas will have to be created with a combination of alloys that can withstand such pressures. In

addition, because AM is well suited to producing complex products, it can improve existing methods like soldering and joinery for items that cannot be mass-produced using available technology, thereby automating a significant portion of the production.

One of the significant business impacts of additive manufacturing is its lessening the manufacturing footprint (AM Industry Summit, 2021). As stipulated by Murphey, this is in the topic "Benefit of the same materials in production and prototyping." For instance, parts can be manufactured in high or low volumes depending on demand. Also, Murphey explains that businesses save time and resources since prototyping costs little energy and material wastage are minimized, making the manufacturing process efficient ring of Blue-White Industries. Furthermore, additive manufacturing also embraces distributed manufacturing, where a company can create different parts from different locations using a 3D printer at a minimal cost.

Reference

AM Industry Summit. (2021, June 23). Webinar.net [Video]. webinar.net.

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