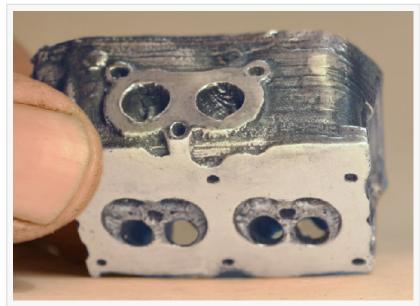


## Madison, WI Startup Solves Desktop Metal 3D Printing.

Industry leaders See simple solution as highly disruptive to the 3D Metal Printing Marketspace.

STOUGHTON, WI, UNITED STATES, April 20, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- A rapidly growing startup in central Wisconsin called <u>The Virtual Foundry</u> has patented a technology called <u>Filamet™</u> that turns any 3d Printer into a Metal 3d Printer. The solution is costeffective and scales from the desktop all the way up to applications in LSAM (Large Scale Additive Manufacturing).

Filamet<sup>™</sup> shares traits with Metal Injection Molding but has all the benefits of 3D Printing. The core concept has a history dating back to the 1970's. The



Stainless Steel small scale Engine Part

idea is simple, combine metal particles with a plastic binder to make it strong and manageable as it comes off the printer. Second, run it through a kiln to burn away the plastic and heat it to the point where the particles weld to one-another. A novel solution to a very expensive problem in the 3D printing market space.



Current metal printers weld one laser point at a time and repeat this process millions of times. By printing everything first, then sintering in batches, cost plummets and efficiency skyrockets."

Bradley Woods, CEO

Current metal 3d printer sinter one micro-laser point at a time and repeat this process hundreds of thousands of times. Separating the printing process from the sintering process has several advantages. As 3D printers improve, The Virtual Foundry's Filamet™ improves along with it. Another advantage to secondary sintering is a better grain growth within the metal part and better distribution internal stresses.

Already this year, Filamet<sup>™</sup> has been used to create the Football MVP trophy for Kent State University and the trophies

for the <u>3D Printing Industry Awards</u>. According to Bradley Woods, CEO of The Virtual Foundry, these are just high profile examples to prove our concept. "The real power comes from industrial applications of our products".

With new materials coming online monthly, and clients ranging from NASA to The Department of Energy, 2017 is likely to be a very interesting year for the ambitious startup!

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Pure Copper (cut-away to show internal structure)



This press release can be viewed online at: http://www.einpresswire.com

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