

ACEO® introduces Open Print Lab

3D printing with silicones can now be experienced first-hand, guided by experts at the ACEO® Campus in Burghausen, Germany.

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Three years ago, the ACEO® team from WACKER developed a system solution for 3D printing with silicones, combining both high precision and freedom in design. To extend their service portfolio, ACEO® recently opened their Open Print Lab in Burghausen, where customers can experience 3D printing with silicones first-hand.

Unique drop-on-demand technology for high precision and freedom in design

ACEO®'s technology is a milestone in additive manufacturing. An expert team at WACKER developed a system solution for many applications and individual needs, which had its world premiere at K2016. ACEO® Silicones are the first elastomer – thus the first real elastic material – which can be 3D printed. These silicones keep their outstanding properties such as temperature and radiation resistance, biocompatibility, a broad color range or variation of hardness throughout the 3D printing process.

To ensure best results with this material, ACEO® developed both hardware and software for their unique technology. In their automated web shop – a world's first for silicone elastomers – customers can register, upload their designs, get a quote, and have their 3D printed parts shipped worldwide.

Understanding 3D printing with silicones with first-hand experience

Introducing a new technology takes more than its development. "Information and education across industries are key to understanding the variety of opportunities and applications offered by the ACEO® technology." says Dr. Bernd Pachaly, Head of Project 3D Printing at WACKER SILICONES. "We want customers to understand how our solution matches their needs. There is no better way than learning by first-hand experience. This is why we created our Open Print Lab."

Located at the ACEO® Campus in Burghausen, Germany, the Open Print Lab offers tailor-made programs to small groups of up to 4 people. After registration, customers and the ACEO® team define date, expectations and goals of the workshop. Participants will go through individual trainings, consisting of theoretical and printing sessions from additive manufacturing basics to advanced design.

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Request a session

Register up to four participants for a tailor-made Open Print Lab training at the ACEO® Campus in Burghausen at <https://www.aceo3d.com/open-print-lab/registration/>

Watch the Open Print Lab video

A video introducing ACEO® and the Open Print Lab is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x66yrACVXGE>

About ACEO®

ACEO® is a registered trademark of Wacker Chemie AG. WACKER is a globally active chemical company with some 13,450 employees and annual sales of around €4,6 billion (2016). WACKER has a global network of 23 production sites, 19 technical competence centers and 49 sales offices.

ACEO® Technology

The ACEO® technology is based on a "drop-on-demand" principle. The print head deposits single silicone voxels on a building platform, which flow together smoothly, forming a homogeneous surface. After printing a layer, the curing is activated with UV light, thus building a three-dimensional object layer by layer. In order to create complex structures, overhangs and cavities, a support material is printed during the same process. At the end of the printing process, the silicone form is removed from the printer and the environmentally safe support material is easily and quickly rinsed out with water. Subsequently, the part is post-cured at elevated temperature to achieve the final mechanical properties, a standard process for silicone elastomers.

ACEO® Web Shop: <https://www.aceo3d.com/shop/>

Further information

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