



Global Desktop 3D Printer Shipments more than double in Q1 2015

London, 27th July 2015 - Global shipments of Personal/Desktop 3D Printers, priced under \$5,000, rose by 24% in Q1 2015, resulting in a 114% year-on-year increase as more brands enter the market, global channels expand and successfully crowd funded efforts ship, according to data soon to be published by CONTEXT, the IT market analysis company.

“The nascent area of desktop 3D printing continues its upward momentum and continues to see entrants across a wide spectrum of industries, with offerings from legacy additive manufacturing stalwarts, to industry start-ups, to mature IT, Manufacturing and Tool companies all entering the space” says Chris Connery, VP of Global Analysis and Research at CONTEXT. “As many of these companies begin to outgrow their start-up efforts, expanding their distribution networks around the globe is a necessary next step toward expanding market presence.”

The North American market continued to lead, with 63% of all global shipments for Desktop 3D Printers going into this region during the quarter, and Western Europe was next at 20%. The top five global vendors (and brands) in the period were XYZPrinting (Da Vinci), 3D Systems (Cube/Cubify), M3D (Micro), Stratasys (MakerBot) and Ultimaker.

While market leaders XYZPrinting, 3D Systems and Ultimaker all showed good year-on-year gains, the MakerBot brand from Stratasys struggled. Global shipments in the period were bolstered, however by shipments from M3D on the back of their very successful Kickstarter campaign. This closed in 2014 and netted over \$3.4M against 10,800 pre-orders for their 3D Printer dubbed “The Micro” offered during the campaign for \$299 or less.

In the Industrial/Professional sector, market leaders Stratasys and 3D Systems both posted weaker than expected financial results in Q1 2015. On a unit-volume shipment basis, 3D Systems saw a year-on-year increase, but this was largely due to a low-priced machine, which straddles the line between Professional, Prosumer and Desktop systems and yet is classified as a professional-grade printer by 3D Systems. However Stratasys saw its sequential and yearly unit-volume shipments fall.

About CONTEXT

Headquartered in London with over 200 staff in 15 countries, CONTEXT specialises in tracking technology sales and pricing across the globe. Supported by the largest Distribution Channel Sales Database in the world, CONTEXT tracks Channel sales in most countries across EMEA where we are the official data partners with all members of the Global Technology Distribution Council (GTDC). CONTEXT reports and services enable our customers to assess their business operations in the light of actual sell out figures, and make business critical decisions based on hard data. Follow us on Twitter: @contextworld.com or visit our website: www.contextworld.com

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