

## Z Corp.'s ZPrinter® 650 Targets 3-D Applications

High-end addition bolsters build size and color capabilities, while ushering in ease-of-use functionality

By Beth Stackpole, contributing editor, design tools

Looking to take a leap forward in multi-color 3-D printing, Z Corp. (<http://design-news.hotims.com/22339-535>) unveiled the ZPrinter® 650, designed to satisfy the demanding requirements of engineering users while incorporating ease-of-use functionality that makes printing capabilities accessible to a wider audience.

The ZPrinter® 650's 10 x 15 x 8-inch build size allows groups to print very large, high-resolution, multicolor models in a single piece or produce smaller, multiple models simultaneously, according to David Tedder, product manager for the ZPrinter® 650.

In addition, the printer employs full-spectrum 24-bit color and, for the first time, adds a dedicated black print head to the standard cyan, magenta, yellow and clear colors. The goal is to deliver a

more consistent and rich color palette from part to part, Tedder says. Competing 3-D printers typically print only in monochrome on one of five colored materials, one color at a time, which adds significant time to a multicolor print job. The ZPrinter® 650's 600 x 540 dpi resolution also ensures models are produced with great attention to detail and accuracy.

Having the ability to leverage color when printing assemblies can be a boon to MCAD users, Tedder says. "If you have an assembly with 150 different parts, you can color all screws white, for example, and castings blue," he says. "In that sense, every piece in the assembly is a different color so when you hand the document around the room, it's easier to communicate and you have a better sense of what it costs to assemble."



Z Corp.'s ZPrinter® 650 aims to set the bar for build size, quality and color.

The printer's ability to quickly create models is another key differentiator. The ZPrinter® 650 is five to 10 times faster than previous units, Tedder says, enabling model production in hours, not days.

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