Opportunities for 3D Printing in the Electronics Industry - 2016

Description: Although R&D facilities in the electronics industry have been using 3D printing for more than a decade, since 2015 3DP has begun to be mainstreamed for electronics applications. The author is seeing a growing interest in using 3DP for customized circuitry and sensors, and in the longer term for wide-area electronics.

In addition, there is the opportunity for 3D to become a major way of manufacturing electronic devices that are intrinsically produced in relatively low volumes -- high speed optoelectronics is a good example here. More prosaically, 3D printers are already in place customizing consumer electronics items and this turns 3DP into a valuable marketing tool in a crowded industry.

In this report the author examines the revenue potential of 3D printed electronics, examining current R&D and its commercialization potential as well as the new materials and 3D printing technologies that are being developed for this new area. The report also examines how 3D printed electronics will be used in both prototyping and direct manufacturing of antennas, interconnects, PCBs, sensors and other devices and where initial revenues will emerge.

The report also examines the product/market and manufacturing strategies of the firms that are now pursuing the 3D-printed electronics opportunity. In addition, we profile key research institutes and universities who are carrying out notable R&D in the 3D-printed electronics space.

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