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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Paramount Industries, Inc. Acquires EOSINT P 800 Laser Sintering System

The P 800 will increase Paramount's additive manufacturing capacity to support the growing demand for direct part manufacturing and <u>high temperature laser sintering</u> composite parts.

LANGHORNE, PA (PRWEB) February 8, 2012 – Paramount Industries, Inc., a world-class rapid product development, <u>rapid manufacturing</u> and rapid deployment company, today announced the acquisition of an EOSINT P 800, a new <u>high temperature laser sintering</u> technology capable of processing engineered polymers like polyaryl ether ketone (PAEK) and polyether ether ketone (PEEK).

"High temperature laser sintering is a 3D printing process that is growing in popularity for making strong plastic production parts," said Paramount CEO Jim Williams. "As early adopters, our goal is to integrate this technology across all industries so manufacturers can benefit from the unique advantages additive manufacturing technologies can offer. While it is true that aerospace, defense, energy, medical and transportation are natural consumers, there are many more industries that will benefit from this processing and material technology."



An increasing number of government agencies and manufacturers are sourcing <u>laser sintering</u> for direct part production. In contrast to traditional manufacturing methods, laser sintering can deliver plastic parts with highly complex geometries with impressive strength-to-weight ratios. In many cases, hundreds of parts can be directly manufactured from 3D CAD digital models long before tooling is available and in certain applications eliminating tooling costs altogether. As original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) continue to make system enhancements and service providers develop new processing techniques for biocompatible and high temp <u>laser sintering</u> materials, Paramount anticipates that demand will continue to rise.

The EOSINT P 800 can process temperatures up to 385°C (725°F) which enables the laser sintering process of engineered polymers like PAEK. "The P 800's elevated processing temperatures and range of high performance engineered polymers are critical components necessary for the growth of this industry and complementary to our ongoing laser sintering R&D effort and direct part manufacturing operations," said Williams.

Laser sintering offers the highest levels of manufacturing flexibility for end-use parts. PAEKs offer the highest levels of performance among polymers. Since 2008 Paramount Industries has led the development of the <u>high temperature laser sintering</u> process. The company qualified the process through an extensive U.S. Air Force Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) R&D effort integrating laser sintering technology and materials science into a robust manufacturing solution package to deliver complex parts for military weapon systems. Paramount is successfully moving into SBIR Phase III, transitioning this high temperature laser sintering process to production with unfilled PAEKs and carbon-fiber-reinforced PAEKs.

The laser sintering PAEKs offer temperature resistance, processing stability, mechanical performance, resistance to hydrolysis, and flame retardant characteristics that make them ideal candidates for aerospace applications. The carbon-fiber-reinforced PAEKs offer additional electrostatic dissipative characteristics and higher tensile modulus. These new materials combined with Paramount's advanced coatings and surface finishes broaden the material selection and design options and increases the range of applications.

For over 45 years Paramount has demonstrated a strong commitment to the early adoption of new manufacturing technologies and since the late '80s was a thought leader in the democratization of rapid technologies. In the mid '90s, Paramount was an early adopter of laser sintering metals for the manufacture of injection molds and metal sintered parts. These early efforts were foundational in helping to elevate awareness and integration of advanced <u>additive</u> manufacturing technologies.

"Much of the excitement in what we do every day as a product development and manufacturing company is to create innovative ways to integrate advanced technologies that enable our customers' rapid product deployment regardless of the industry. Paramount continues to advance the development of laser sintering materials and processing. My team is absolutely thrilled to add the EOSINT P 800 to Paramount's additive manufacturing tool box," Williams added.

About Paramount

Founded in 1966, Paramount Industries, Inc. is among the world's most experienced providers of product development services, including design engineering, additive manufacturing, <u>rapid prototyping</u>, direct digital manufacturing, rapid manufacturing, rapid tooling, urethane casting, injection molding and contract manufacturing. Paramount is AS9100C and ISO 9001:2008 certified and International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) registered. The company holds active memberships with the Additive Manufacturing Users Group (AMUG), Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI), Keystone Chapter AUVSI (founding member), Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) and ASTM International. For more news and information, visit the <u>Paramount website</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Google+</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>YouTube</u>.

About EOS

EOS GmbH Electro Optical Systems was founded in 1989 and today is a world-leading manufacturer of laser sintering systems. Laser sintering is the key technology for e-Manufacturing, the fast, flexible and cost effective production of products, patterns and tools. The technology manufactures parts for every phase of the product life cycle, directly from electronic data. Laser sintering accelerates product development and optimizes production processes. EOS completed its business year 2010/2011 with revenues of more than 90 million Euros (124.3 million US\$). For more information, visit: www.eos.info and www.youtube.com/eosgmbh.

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