World’s 1st compact rotary 3D printer-cum-scanner unveiled in California

Asia, ScienceTech, USA

The world’s first compact 3D printer that can also scan items, cranking up its design models, has been unveiled in the US. The $2,200 device, created in Singapore with the help of a crowdfunding campaign, doesn’t require much knowledge of 3D software.

Blackstone Group start-up at Nanyang Technological University’s (NTU) Singapore has launched the world’s first compact 3D printer-cum-scanner at the American Association of Science (AAS) annual meeting in San Jose, California on Saturday.

The all-in-one device, named the Blackstone Genese, lets users scan any item, edit the digitized model on the computer and print it out on a 3D printer. The scanner was designed in Singapore with the help of a crowdfunding campaign, that raised $80,000, and its US partners will be able to get it as early as March.

Server not found

Firefox can’t find the server at servername.

• Check the address for typing errors such as www.example.com instead of www.example.org.

• If you are unable to load any pages, check your computer’s network connection.

• If your computer or network is protected by a firewall or proxy, make sure that Firefox is permitted to access the Web.

Try Again.

Blackstone Genese is housed in a sleek aluminum casing with an intuitive rotary platform, which allows 360-degree scanning, unlike other commercial 3D printers. It weighs 6 kilos and features a 3-inch LCD screen, 3D modeler, Wi-Fi, an integrated USB card reader and a GSD connection for remote printing, according to the press release.

"We designed Blackstone Genese with the average hobbyist in mind. Most 3D printers sold on the market now are not really user-friendly as they do not have any software or libraries usually have to be designed from scratch on the computer," the company’s CEO Yang Kai-Fook said.

"However, with our device, 3D printing will be fun-free as users won’t need to design an original work from scratch as they can just use our Blackstone-Genese 3D software. By scanning any physical item, they can immediately copy and print the item or use the digitized object as a base to form their own 3D object," he added.

The built-in camera of the device also allows for remote live monitoring and automatic error detection. It means that with a smartphone connected to the internet a user can control the printing process, no matter where he is.

NTU Singapore’s Professor Chen Chenxie, the world’s top scientist in 3D printing, who mentors the company, said "Blackstone Genese ... is a great example of how scientific can bring innovations from the lab to the industry, and in this case, all the way into consumer’s homes. It has always been my wish that 3D printers will be as common as the inkjet and laser printers now found in many homes and offices."