

#### HOME >>> NEWS >>> SINGA PORE

# New \$30 million 3D printing research centre for NTU



Hoe Pei Shan The Straits Times Tuesday, Sep 10, 2013

SINGAPORE - The Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is building a new \$30 million research centre for additive manufacturing which will house some of the latest 3D printing machines available. When the centre opens in May next year, it will also have what is likely to be Singapore's first bioprinter which is a machine capable of producing real human tissue, layer by layer.

## THE STRAITS TIMES (http://www.straitstimes.com)

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### Here is the full statement from NTU:

#### NTU ramps up 3D printing with \$30 million research centre

New centre to host Singapore's first international 3D printing competition

Soon, life-saving body parts such as corneas, skin and heart tissue may just be a click away, thanks to the rapid advancement of 3D printing technology at Nanyang Technological University (NTU).

Singapore's research in 3D printing, also known as Additive Manufacturing, will be boosted by the establishment of a new \$30 million research centre at NTU.

The new NTU Additive Manufacturing Centre (NAMC), supported by Singapore's Economic Development Board (EDB), will have the latest 3D printing machines, such as laser-aided machines for building metal parts and objects for industry, and bioprinters which are able to print human tissues.

Additive Manufacturing includes processes that can create 3D products from computer-aided design models by adding materials in a layer-by-layer fashion, much like how current printers print ink on paper. As opposed to conventional manufacturing processes such as machining, casting and moulding, this modern fabrication process can handle complex designs and changes easily without incurring additional costs.

The 300sqm centre, will work closely with the manufacturing industry on R&D projects to develop new materials, software and processes leading to commercial applications.

#### Singapore's first 3D printing competition

As its first initiative to spark interest in 3D printing in students and the public, the centre will host Singapore's first international 3D printing competition with top prizes worth \$10,000 each.

Named the Singapore International 3D Printing Competitions 2013, it has two categories - one for wearable modern fashion and the other for designing the abacus. Although poles apart, these two categories were conceptualised to reflect the vibrant mix of cultures in Singapore, a place where East meets West.

The competition, held by the centre and NTU's School of Art, Design and Media, is now open for both local and international submissions and will close on 1 November.

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