

## Solvay sponsors Additive Manufacturing Cup – a 3D printing challenge for complex shapes made from KetaSpire® PEEK filaments

**Brussels, Belgium, Nov. 30, 2017** – Solvay, a leading global supplier of specialty polymers, has invited university students from around the world to compete in its *Additive Manufacturing Cup* by 3D printing complex shapes using the company's KetaSpire® polyetheretherketone (PEEK) filaments. PEEK is considered one of the highest performing thermoplastic polymers – and one of the most difficult to 3D print. Registration closed at the end of October with over thirty teams from thirteen countries enrolled.

*“3D printing is a remarkable manufacturing technology that is developing quickly,”* said Brian Alexander, Additive Manufacturing Manager for Solvay's Specialty Polymers global business unit. *“It can deliver fully functional prototypes as well as cost-efficient single to small volume applications much faster than traditional manufacturing. However, printing with the world's best performing polymers remains a challenge. Solvay's Additive Manufacturing Cup is to demonstrate that the time has come for this to change.”*

Solvay's growing 3D printing capabilities build on the group's global leadership in high performance, light-weighting solutions for metal replacement, such as in transport, where they help reduce the weight of cars and planes and therefore CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Solvay's 3D printable material solutions will help expand the application space for 3D printed parts, offering more design freedom and increasing material efficiency. By involving students who are passionate about game-changing technologies, Solvay seeks to harness their imagination and creativeness to help disrupt existing know-how and drive additive manufacturing to the next level. While universities provide the printing equipment, Solvay will supply PEEK filaments and assist the teams with essential material data for 3D printing.

Solvay's KetaSpire® PEEK offers an excellent combination of mechanical and chemical resistance even at continuous-use temperatures of up to 240°C. It inherently possesses excellent insulation and electrical resistance properties as well as low moisture and flame retardancy. Leveraging these outstanding properties for 3D printing opens up incredible opportunities for tomorrow's light-weighting applications.

The final parts printed by each student team will be evaluated on their mechanical stability and aesthetic qualities by an international panel of Solvay polymer, design and additive manufacturing specialists. Winners will be announced on March 22, 2018, and receive first, second and third prizes of ten, five and three thousand euros respectively to be used for academic, entrepreneurial or societal purposes.

For further details see [www.solvayamcup.com](http://www.solvayamcup.com)

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### Solvay

Solvay is a multi-specialty chemical company, committed to developing chemistry that addresses key societal challenges. Solvay innovates and partners with customers in diverse global end markets. Its products and solutions are used in planes, cars, smart and medical devices, batteries, in mineral and oil extraction, among many other applications promoting sustainability. Its light weighting materials enhance cleaner mobility, its formulations optimize the use of resources and its performance chemicals improve air and water quality. Solvay is headquartered in Brussels with around 27,000 employees in 58 countries. Net sales were € 10.9 billion in 2016, with 90% from activities where Solvay ranks among the world's top 3 leaders. Solvay SA ([SOLB.BE](https://www.solb.be)) is listed on Euronext Brussels and Paris (Bloomberg: [SOLB.BB](https://www.solb.be) - Reuters: [SOLB.BR](https://www.solb.be)) and in the United States its shares ([SOLVY](https://www.solb.be)) are traded through a level-1 ADR program.

### Solvay Specialty Polymers

Solvay Specialty Polymers manufactures over 1500 products across 35 brands of high-performance polymers – fluoropolymers, fluoroelastomers, fluorinated fluids, semi-aromatic polyamides, sulfone polymers, ultra-high performance aromatic polymers, and high-barrier polymers – for use in Aerospace, Alternative Energy, Automotive, Healthcare, Membranes, Oil and Gas, Packaging, Plumbing, Semiconductors, Wire & Cable, and other industries. Learn more at [www.solvayspecialtypolymers.com](http://www.solvayspecialtypolymers.com).

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ADDITIVE  
MANUFACTURING  
CUP

Solvay has called on the world's best university students to participate in a contest for creating complex 3D shapes using the company's high-performance KetaSpire® PEEK polymer filaments. Final winners will be announced in March 2018.

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