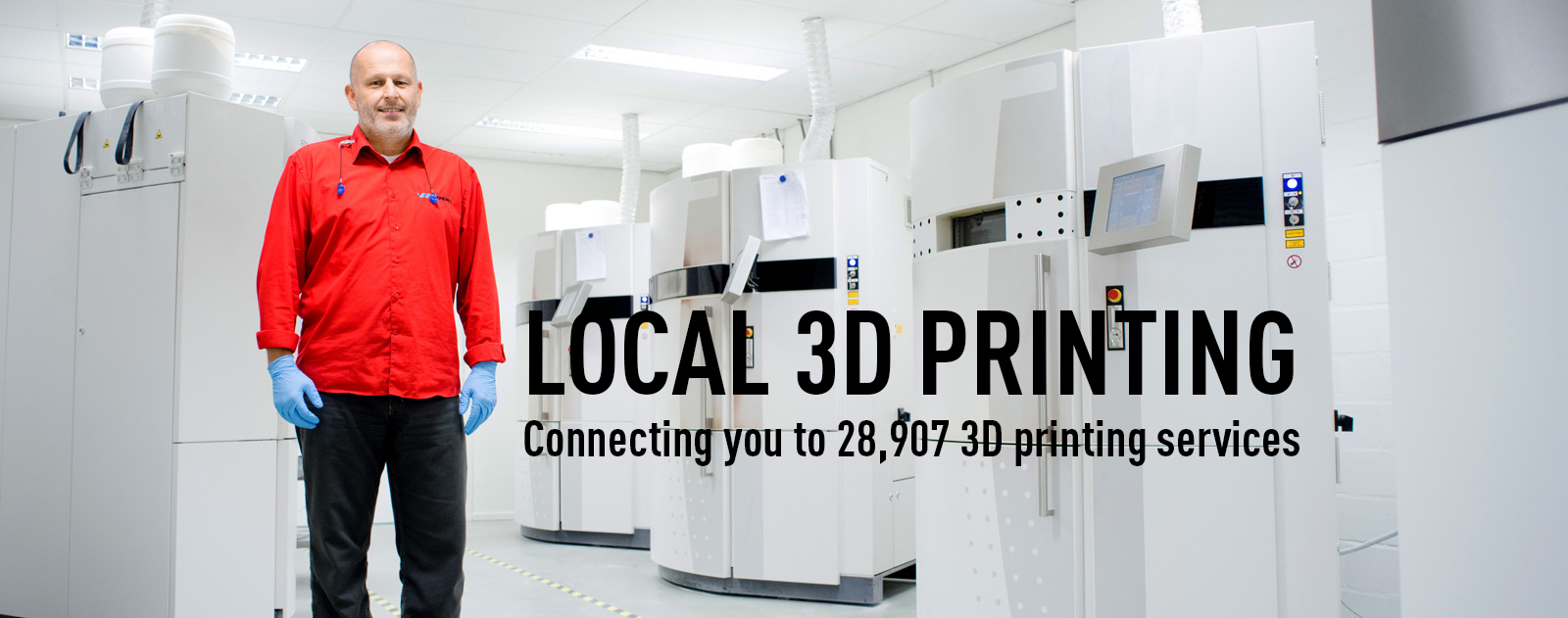
*3D HUBS, 3D HUBS, AMSTERDAM*



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| --- | --- | --- |
| *Picture source https://www.3dhubs.com/*  ***GENERAL INFORMATION*** | |  |
| **Project name** | 3D Hubs | |
| **DE type** | Production (DP) | |
| **Producer/provider** | 3D Hubs | |
| **Designer** |  | |
| **Start (year)** | 2013 | |
| **State** | choose among on-going/concluded | |
| **Project location** | Amsterdam, Netherlands (operates internationally) | |
| **Source of information** | [-](http://www.offgrid-electric.com/) | |
| **Link to videos** | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SSeGyxs4jJA | |
| **Main contact** | Bram de Zwart and Brian Garret (founders) | |
| **E-mail** | hello@3dhubs.com | |
| **Website** | https://www.3dhubs.com/ | |

***SYSTEM CHARACTERISTICS***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SYSTEM CONFIGURATION:** |  |
| **Provider/s (role)** | 3D Hubs (provides service to connect 3D printer owners to users who wants to use 3D printers)  Hubs (3D printer owners provide the use of their 3D printers) |
| **Customer/s (type)** | Users who want to use 3D printers (designers, makers, household, etc.) |
| **S.PSS CHARACTERISTICS:** |  |
| **Type of S.PSS** | Type III: Result-oriented PSS: providing final result |
| **Unit of Satisfaction** | Online access to the local 3D printing service |
| **Offered product/s (related producer/s)** | - |
| **Offered service/s** | Provides users access to nearby 3D printer owners and use their printers. It provides 3D printer owners to earn money by accessing users who want to use their printers. |
| **Ownership of the offered product/s** | 3D Printer Owners |
| **DE access payment** | Pay for use and material |
| **DE system configuration** | Decentralised |

***DESCRIPTION***

“3D Hubs is an online 3D printing service platform. It operates a network of 3D printers with over 20,000 locations in over 150 countries, providing over 1 billion people access to a 3D printer within 10 miles of their home. The company facilitates transactions between 3D printer owners (Hubs) and people that want to make 3D prints. Printer owners can join the platform to offer 3D printing services while customers can locate printer owners to get their 3D models printed nearby.” (Wikipedia)

Any user who has an appropriate 3D printer can become a hub and offer their 3D printer to others. This encourages more users to purchase 3D printers because in this way, they can subsidize the cost of the printer. So the service promotes designers, makers, house users, small businesses … to own a 3D printer to manufacture for their own use as well as provide 3D printing to other making use of the unused time of their 3D printers.

There are no membership fees for neither parties. 3D Hubs describes the payment procedure on their website as “As a Hub, you get to decide how much money you want to earn. You can set your own start-up price for a print, and charge an additional fee for each cubic centimeter of material used. The average earnings per print are €40, but we’ve seen earnings vary from €5 to €10.000 depending on the size of the object.”

The service makes the transfer of the file on the website and an integrated software calculates the material volume which is asked to be checked by the hub before accepting the order and adjust if necessary. The hub can also add extra costs such as shipping, 3D modelling, extra material etc. At the end, the users can leave a review for the hub.

***SUSTAINABLE BENEFITS***

**Environmental Benefits**

*System life optimization – since the 3D printer owners can make their printers available to others and use more potential of their printer, this will encourage the users to purchase long lasting and high quality printers. This benefits environment by enabling more manufacturing with less printers that are also used for longer times.*

*Transportation/distribution reduction – The service has a big network of 3D Hubs and connects users with the local hubs, thus reducing transportation.*

**Economic Benefits**

*Profitability/added value for companies - It provides 3D printer owners (companies and individuals) extra income.*

*Added value for customers - It help user to access local 3D printing easier, faster and cheaper*

*Partnership/cooperation - The company has formed partnerships with Uber, which allows users to have prints shipped within NYC using Uber's rush service with discounted rates.*