

## **RE-cycleo: a unique 3D printed part recycling program starting from the first unit!**

***Sculpteo, leader in 3D printing, is the 1st company in the industry to recycle their clients' obsolete parts starting from the very first unit, giving them a second life and contributing to the development of a more sustainable sector***



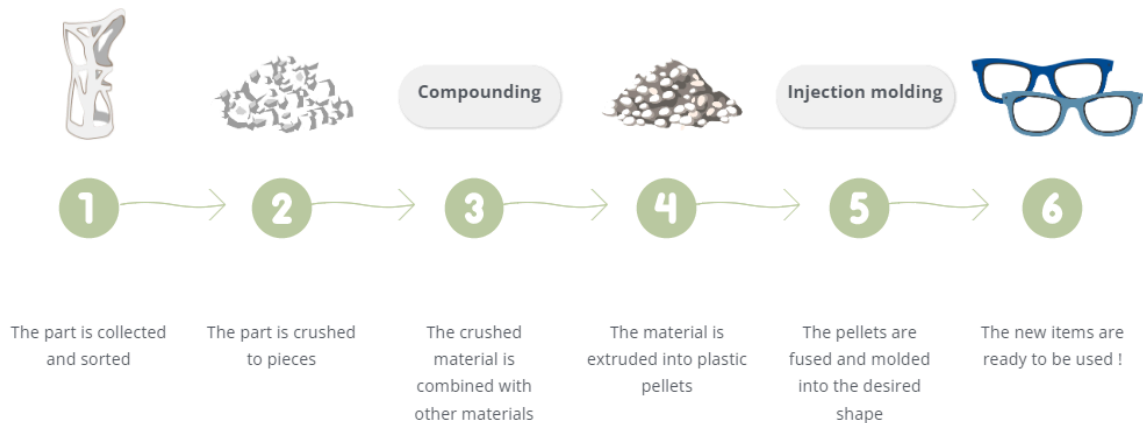
Paris, April 27th 2023 - Sculpteo, leader in 3D printing - having unveiled last November the 8th edition of the “State of 3D Printing” on the topic of 3D printing to support companies in sustainability - offers to their customers RE-cycleo, a new recycling program for parts printed with Nylon PA12 and Nylon PA11. The recycled material will be used in the plastics industry and will give a second life to the old parts that can be recycled as many times as possible. With this original initiative, Sculpteo becomes one of the first 3D printing services to offer their clients recycling services, not only for clients' parts but also for production scrap.

## Sculpteo, a commitment to more sustainable printing

As businesses move towards a better understanding of environmental issues, it has become urgent that industries like 3D printing pave the way for more sustainable solutions. Being concerned about the environmental impact of its activity, Sculpteo has worked to make the recycling of their clients' Nylon PA11 and Nylon PA12 obsolete parts possible. 3D printing presents certain advantages compared to other plastic manufacturing processes (local on-demand production, very low material loss, etc...). In this continuity, Sculpteo is expanding its line of sustainable materials like biosourced Nylon PA11. The leading company in the sector continues its research to make 3D printing even more sustainable and presents an interesting initiative through this new program.

For Alexandre d'Orsetti, CEO of Sculpteo: *"With RE-cycleo, we are inaugurating a new, more responsible way of producing, where we offer clients the possibility to upgrade their products. It has taken decades for mass industries to develop effective recycling programs with their gigantic volumes. At Sculpteo, we can offer it from the first part."*

### 3D printed polymer recycling process



*Non-binding image of a plastic part recycling process*

Concerning the recycling process, the client will have to send, in the first place, their parts to Sculpteo with a destruction authorization. Once received, the first step of this process will entail collecting and sorting the parts depending on the material (Nylon PA11 or Nylon PA12). The parts will then be placed in octabins that can contain hundreds of kilos of parts. The sorted nylon waste is then crushed into pieces. To keep the industrial secrecy and confidentiality of their clients, Sculpteo guarantees that the grinding only happens inside their factory. The crushed material is then sent to Arkema which will recycle it as part of their Virtucycle® program. The grinded material is analyzed to ensure that there is no contamination. Then comes the compounding stage where the material will be remelted, chilled, cut into pellets that will be used in other industrial applications. These pellets form the final state of the new material which can now be used. In the case of injection molding, the pellets will be melted and injected

in a mold to create a new product like car components, tennis rackets, shoes, helmets, a suitcase, etc... This will give a remarkable second life to unused parts or end-of-life parts.

This whole process uses 100% renewable energy.

### **About Sculpteo**

Sculpteo, a pioneer and specialist in digital manufacturing, offers an online 3D printing service. Sculpteo provides an online platform to securely upload 3D files and select from 75+ materials and finishing options. Professional engineers and technicians produce parts on industrial 3D printing technologies before sending them to businesses and individuals worldwide. Based in Paris and San Francisco, Sculpteo offers on-demand 3D printing and manufacturing at a large scale for start-ups, SMEs, and design studios. Sculpteo offers its professional 3D printing service alongside its expert Design Studio to help businesses integrate additive manufacturing into their product development and production systems. Sculpteo was created in 2009 by Eric Carreel and Clément Moreau and is led by Alexandre d'Orsetti, former director of Sculpteo's design studio. BASF New Business GmbH acquired it in November 2019.

For more information: [www.sculpteo.com](http://www.sculpteo.com)

### **About BASF 3D Printing Solutions**

BASF 3D Printing Solutions GmbH, headquartered in Heidelberg, Germany, is a 100% subsidiary of BASF New Business GmbH. It focuses on establishing and expanding the business under the Forward AM brand with advanced materials, system solutions, components, and services in the field of 3D printing. BASF 3D Printing Solutions is organized into startup-like structures to serve customers in the dynamic 3D printing market. It cooperates closely with the global research platforms and application technologies of various departments at BASF and research institutes, universities, startups, and industrial partners. Potential customers are primarily companies that intend to use 3D printing for industrial manufacturing. Typical industries include automotive, aerospace, and consumer goods.

For further information, please visit: [www.forward-am.com](http://www.forward-am.com)

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