

Model Demand Increase at Architectural Modeller Due to New Material from Z Corp.

November 2009

Using a combination of Z Corporation's new zp150 build material and its ZPrinter 450 multicolour 3D printer, Miami-based service bureau the Realization Group (www.realizationgroup.com) is helping meet demand from architects and developers for 3D printed models with whiter whites, richer colours and improved mechanical strength.

"Purer whites are especially important for architects, who traditionally prefer white models early in the design process so they can consider design, massing and space without the distraction of colour," explained Rafael Tapanes, founder of the multidimensional architectural visualisation firm. "Although earlier-generation bone white models are acceptable, customers have long been asking for pure white."

Architecture is a key sector for Realization Group, which helps clients breathe life into abstract concepts. Finely detailed physical massing models are created rapidly and cost effectively using its recently installed ZPrinter 450 multi-colour, twin-head 3D printer.


 Search

"Speed is the key," he stated. "I can take an order for a model today and deliver it to the customer tomorrow. We can accept formats for printing that include STL, VRML, PLY, 3DS and ZPR files. Cost is another big factor — I can make models for one-quarter the cost of stereolithography or laser-cutting."

Economy is assured because models as large as 203 x 254 x 203 mm can be built at a speed of 23 mm per hour, while automation features include: automated set-up and self-monitoring; automated powder loading; automated powder recycling and removal; snap-in binder cartridges and intuitive control panel.

The combined effect is that Realization Group can now offer customers two or three printed models for what used to be the price of one. Demand is understandably escalating from architects.

Word is also spreading among developers, although in contrast to the pure whites sought by architects, developers prefer multicolour models so they can fully grasp the concept behind a proposal and begin selling it while it's still in development. Tapanes says the improved colour saturation in zp150 build material is giving developers brighter colours across the spectrum.

With 604 jets operating from two print heads, the ZPrinter 450 maximises the colour potential of zp150 build material on this printer platform, offering printed resolution of 300 x 450 dpi.

Model strength is yet another improvement: "I no longer have to advise clients how to handle their models," Tapanes said. "If I cure a zp150 model with ZBond, it's virtually indestructible and has an ultra smooth finish."

Availability zp150 is available through Z Corporation's worldwide reseller network. It is compatible with the ZPrinter 450 and ZPrinter 650 colour 3D printers.

Company: **Z Corporation**
 Telephone: **+ 1 781 852 5005**
 Fax: **+ 1 781 852 5100**
 Email: **klach@zcorp.com**
 Web: **www.zcorp.com**
[View Company's Locator Entry](#)
 Category: **[Materials Suppliers Section > Photopolymers / Resins](#)**



