Protolabs Joins MIT's Additive Manufacturing Consortium to Advance Next-Gen Manufacturing Technology

December 6, 2018

MAPLE PLAIN, Minn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Dec. 6, 2018-- Digital manufacturing company Protolabs (NYSE: PRLB) announced today that it has become a founding member of MIT's newly formed *Center for Additive and Digital Advanced Production Technologies (ADAPT)* — a consortium focused on scaling new manufacturing technology through research, education, actionable insights, and an MIT-based ecosystem that pairs industry and academia.

"We've experienced firsthand the tremendous progress that additive manufacturing has made over the past decade, and we're quickly approaching another important milestone in 3D printing's rapid ascent into industrial manufacturing space. My hope is that ADAPT will not only evolve additive manufacturing as a viable digital manufacturing solution for prototyping, but also end-use production. We are thrilled to be a founding member of ADAPT to help make that a reality," said Vicki Holt, President and CEO at Protolabs, which provides industrial 3D printing along with injection molding, sheet metal fabrication, and CNC machining services.

Joining Protolabs as founding members of ADAPT are Autodesk, General Motors, and Volkswagen, to name a few. Helming the ADAPT consortium is MIT professor John Hart, who also leads the university's Laboratory for Manufacturing and Productivity and oversees the design and manufacturing facilities in the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

"AM [additive manufacturing] — and the path toward a responsive, digital manufacturing infrastructure both within and between organizations — requires multidisciplinary expertise at the cutting edge of mechanical engineering, computer science, materials, and other fields," explained Hart. "I am thrilled to launch ADAPT to accelerate MIT's efforts toward enabling a next generation of production technologies, wherein AM is a cornerstone."

Among the initial efforts of ADAPT are seeding exploratory research projects with faculty and graduate students, and accelerating the establishment of a new, advanced additive manufacturing laboratory at MIT. ADAPT activities also complement MIT's leading AM education programs like Additive Manufacturing for Innovative Design and Production, an online certificate program offered by MITxPRO with manufacturing and engineering support from Protolabs.

For more information on ADAPT, visit adapt.mit.edu or contact the initiative's program manager Haden Quinlan at hquinlan@mit.edu or 910-690-9074.

About Protolabs
Protolabs is the world's fastest digital manufacturing source for rapid prototyping and on-demand production. The technology-enabled company produces custom parts and assemblies in as fast as 1 day with automated 3D printing, CNC machining, sheet metal fabrication, and injection molding processes. Its digital approach to manufacturing enables accelerated time to market, reduces development and production costs, and minimizes risk throughout the product life cycle. Visit protolabs.com for more information.

View source version on businesswire.com: https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20181206005112/en/

Source: Protolabs

Sarah Ekenberg
Public Relations Manager, Protolabs
763-479-7560
sarah.ekenberg@protolabs.com

Tim Nelson
Padilla for Protolabs
612-455-1789
Tim.Nelson@PadillaCo.com