



UK Based Dental Startup Trusts EnvisionTEC to Provide the Best Dental Models

3D Printed Dental Models, based in Sunderland, UK, was founded by brothers Louis and Liam Monte in June 2018. The brothers identified a gap in the market and tailored their business model to capitalise on the growing requirement within dental for 'additive manufacturing', using 3D printers to create layered 3D models.

3D Printed Dental Models saw that although a lot of dentists, labs and orthodontists were being pushed to switch to digital techniques, many did not have facilities in house, and there were few external businesses able to support them.

Why 3D printing?

3D printing is becoming a key element in the manufacture of dental and orthodontic appliances. 3D printing provides a superior surface finish and fit compared to traditional methods. These appliances can also be manufactured faster, resulting faster patient turnaround.

3D Printed Dental Models saw that by investing in the correct 3D printers and technology it could fill the niche, and act as a third party in the production of these dental models and appliances.

Why EnvisionTEC?

With many competing 3D printer brands in the market the team had to ensure that their investment would build models with the highest accuracy, out performing those produced via traditional methods and the desktop printers being commonly used within the industry. They needed to produce models quickly and in large batches without loss of quality.



Dental models printed vertically on the Vector 3SP. The supplied software allows multiple models to be positioned for maximum yield.

3D Printed Dental Models

Industry:

Dental/Orthodontic

Machines:

Vector 3SP

Materials:

E-Model

To this aim, and being new to the 3D printing industry at the time, the brothers ensured that they had investigated all of their options before settling on the printer and technology that fitted their needs.

They first encountered EnvisionTEC at FormNext 2017 where they were impressed with the print quality. There were also a number of other SLA and DLP printers considered, including FormLabs and Carbon, but the choice ultimately came down to Carbon and EnvisionTEC branded machines.

"There were a number of areas in which we felt EnvisionTEC was superior to the competition, but the one most important to us was the quality and detail of the final product. We were also very impressed with the speed of the technology and the size of the build platform on the larger machines."

- Louis Monte, Director, 3D Printed Dental Models

After consideration the brothers settled on an EnvisionTEC Vector 3SP with E-Model Peach material. The Vector uses patented technology to ensure a superior surface quality and accuracy across a large build area. The price of the machine was very competitive compared to larger models from rivals, and allowed for the high speed production of a large number of models simultaneously.



Dental models can be printed flat on the Vector 3SP and are easily removed (below).



"We opted for EnvisionTECs Vector 3SP because of the quality of prints, its price and its size, which provides the ability to print a large number of dental models per print at high speed." - Louis Monte, Director, 3D Printed Dental Models

The business got off to an swift start, with the team experiencing huge demand for its services. So much so that it had to both move to a bigger premises and invest in a second Vector printer. The Vector 3SP printers are in constant use but have stayed reliable. The brothers and their team can rely on the printers to run jobs successfully time after time, even leaving them to run prints overnight, knowing that when they return they will be completed ready for customers.

EnvisionTEC and its partner AM3D provide the 3D Printed Dental Models team with support and are on hand when required to give advice and keep the business moving.

The Future.

Having worked closely with dentists and orthodontists across the UK, the brothers now have an even better understanding of the industry and gaps in the market. The aim is to fill these gaps and widen their manufacturing to include even more products. The investment in EnvisionTEC and its huge range of printers and dental materials ensures that they can, in the future easily move between applications and meet the needs of their customers.

"Due to the quality and accuracy of the models created on the EnvisionTEC printers, as well as the high level of service EnvisionTEC provide, I would definitely recommend them."

- Louis Monte, Director, 3D Printed Dental Models

EnvisionTEC materials and 3D Printers for Dental and Orthodontic applications

EnvisionTEC offers a full range of desktop, full-production and high-speed continuous 3D printers for dentists, orthodontics and dental labs. EnvisionTEC 3D printers deliver tight-fitting crowns and orthodontic models with a best-in-class smooth surface that results in crystal-clear thermoformed aligners.

Paired with an industry-leading materials library, featuring a variety of FDA and CE-approved materials, EnvisionTEC machines offer unmatched flexibility and a complete solution that delivers reliable, proven results.

EnvisionTEC materials

- **E-Denture** A biocompatible Class IIa material suitable for 3D-printing all types of denture bases.
- **E-Denstone** A material developed specifically for the rapid production of highly accurate, scannable dental models.
- **E-Dent 100/400** Printing materials for the production of crowns, bridges and veneers for long-term temporary use.
- **Press E-Cast** A wax-filled material for the production of partial frameworks and full anatomical crowns and bridges. Both with extreme dimensional accuracy and exceptional surface finish.
- **E-Guard** A biocompatible transparent material for the production of accurate bite splints and night quards.
- **E-Gum** Developed for use in the creation of flexible gingival masks for use in combination with 3D printed dental models.

"EnvisionTEC provides great after care and are always at the end of the phone. If there are any issues they are quickly dealt with which is really important to us as we have customers needing our product. So to have a machine out of action would really damage us."

- Louis Monte, Director, 3D Printed Dental Models
- **E-Guide Tint** A biocompatible Class I material for the production of high precision surgical drill guides for use in implant surgery.
- **E-IDB** A material allowing for the production of indirect bonding trays.
- **E-Model** A tough material that is ideal for the production of dental and orthodontic models.
- **E-Partial** A castable material developed for the creation of delicate partial frameworks with thin features and some flexibility.

> AM3D

Partners

Thanks go to UK distribution partner AM3D for their support in the making of this case study (http://am3d.co.uk/)

About EnvisionTEC

EnvisionTEC is a leading global provider of professional-grade 3D printing solutions. Founded in 2002 with its pioneering commercial DLP printing technology, EnvisionTEC now sells a range of printer configurations based on six distinct technologies that build objects from digital design files. The company's premium 3D printers serve a variety of medical, professional and industrial markets, and are valued for precision, surface quality, functionality and speed.

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