Y Soft and Masaryk University launch project to shape 3D printing use in schools

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The initiative seeks to increase the quality of 3D educational curriculum and the instructional competencies of teachers.

Brno (Czech Republic), Dallas (USA) – 09.07.2020 – Y Soft® Corporation, the leading enterprise workflow solutions provider, announced a cooperation with Masaryk University on a grant project on 3D printing and its use in primary and secondary schools. **The project called 3D Print and Its Application at High and Grammar Schools** is realized with the financial support of **Technology Agency of the Czech Republic**. The multi-year project aims to evangelize 3D printing in the Czech Republic's educational as a method of teaching.

The project's vision is to connect the best skills of teachers and students when using the potential of 3D printing to increase the quality of classroom curriculum and to contribute to the growth and development of teacher's competencies.

"We are proud to contribute to the transformation of education in the Czech Republic. 3D printing offers substantial teaching potential currently not currently used mainly due to the lack of available and high-quality teaching materials. We want to show the possibilities that technology has in specific areas by creating new teaching aids, created by teachers for teachers," says **Václav Muchna, Co-founder and CEO of Y Soft**.

Y Soft and Masaryk University will create a methodology for applying 3D printing in schools and how to effectively include it as a teaching aid. During the first phase of the joint project, the methodology will be developed, followed by the preparation of the 3D lessons in the years 2021-2023. *"The integration of 3D technologies into education will enable the creation of completely new types of teaching aids and approaches and will further increase the availability of teaching models for pupils and students. The final output of the project will be the new methodology mentioned above and 12 publicly accessible free lessons on be3D Academy, which will be intentionally created to reflect the current needs of schools*," said **Kamil Malinka** from the Institute of Computer Science at **Masaryk University**.

YSoft be3D Academy has a range of 3D lesson plans and model recommendations for each of the STEAM subjects. These lessons cover a range of relevant topics and integrate 3D printing into the classroom with fun and challenging projects. YSoft be3D Academy is **free** to browse and use. (Registration is required to access the lesson plans.) The be3D Academy contains both free and premium lessons. The lessons allow students to imagine and create all while learning the essential concepts in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM).
The project is a unique combination of a technology leader from the commercial sector joining forces with leading university researchers to create affordable, high quality, general content for 3D printing. With a focus on supporting the learning process, the methodology and 3D lessons will add significant value in Education.

1 out of 10 engineers with 3DP knowledge

Why is the importance of introducing 3D printing in education necessary? **Martin Dosedla and Zdeněk Hodis from the Faculty of Education at Masaryk University** agree that the presence of 3D printing in everyday or work life must be taken into account. *"Starting to use 3D printing in primary schools is our priority. We would like to support the use of 3D printers not only in technical and information education, but also, for example, in biology, mathematics, geography and special pedagogy. Everywhere there is the potential to support students' interest in new technologies,* "explains Zdeněk Hodis.

Companies in all sectors are requiring 3D printing skills across a wide spectrum of industries such as architecture, manufacturing and marketing/design and this trend will grow. The need for faster product prototyping and faster delivery of goods can be a competitive advantage. Supplying workers with 3D printing skills means schools are tasked with preparing students with skills for these career areas.

The lack of technically trained people will lead to changes in research and development, with the development of “real” R&D at a high quality level. The trend of 3D printing will also lead to the creation of highly qualified jobs.

For example, in the United States today, 3D printing skills are already required for 10% of engineering positions on offer.

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About Y Soft

Y Soft develops intelligent Digital Transformation office solutions for enterprise, SMB, and Education that empower employees to be more productive and creative. Our YSoft SafeQ® workflow solutions platform enables businesses to manage, optimize and secure their print and digital processes and workflows. Our 3D print solutions are focused in the Education sector where they provide unique ease of use and safety benefits, while utilizing YSoft SafeQ software for seamless 3D print management.

Founded in 2000, the company is headquartered in Brno, Czech Republic, with offices in North and Latin America, Europe and Middle East/Africa (EMEA) and the Asia Pacific region (APAC). For more information, please visit www.ysoft.com.

About Masaryk University

Masaryk University was established by law on January 28, 1919 and was established as the second Czech university. It currently has 9 faculties, 2 university institutes and about 200 departments. It is one of the three largest employers in the South Moravian Region - it employs over 5,000 employees, more than 2,000 of whom are

teachers. The joint project involves teachers from the Faculty of Education and experts from the Institute of Computer Science.

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