

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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March 22, 2016

Mr. Neal Orringer
Vice President
Alliances and Partnerships
3D Systems
365 Herndon Parkway
Herndon, VA 20170

Dear Mr. Orringer,

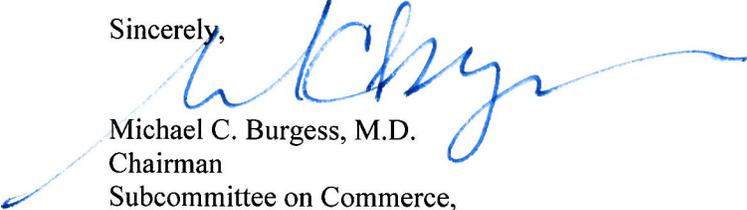
Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade on Friday, February 26, 2016, to testify at the hearing entitled "Disrupter Series: 3D Printing."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions by the close of business on Tuesday, April 5, 2016. Your responses should be mailed to Giulia Giannangeli, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to Giulia.Giannangeli@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Manufacturing, and Trade

cc: Jan Schakowsky, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade

Attachment

Attachment - Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Gregg Harper

1. Please describe 3D Systems' work in 3D printed prosthetics and fairings. What is the value proposition for using this technology for building parts, digitally tailored to a person's body contours? What other innovations in this area are enabled through 3D printing?

The Honorable Tony Cárdenas

1. America's libraries are rapidly adopting 3D printers and making them available to the public at no-or-low cost. Recent data from the American Library Association shows that 428 public library locations now offer 3D printers, up from about 250 the year before. These libraries are often the only point of access to 3D printers within their communities. How has libraries' democratization of 3D printing technology enhanced its benefit to the public?
2. How might libraries be leveraged more intensively in the future to ensure access to new technologies like 3D printing, especially in low income areas?
3. One exciting way this technology is being used is in the area of 3D bio-printing. This is when a 3D printer is used to place "bioink" in precise locations, allowing cell types to align themselves in a manner that resembles the organization of native human tissues. These 3D human tissues can then be employed in drug discovery and development, biological research, and as therapeutic implants for the treatment of damaged or degenerating tissues and organs. This truly innovative use of 3D printing represents the future of medical research and promises great breakthroughs in therapeutic applications. Innovations like this are the types of scientific advancements the Energy & Commerce Committee is trying to encourage through the bipartisan 21st Century Cures Act. We need to ensure FDA has a clear regulatory pathway and talent to encourage 3D tissue technology adoption and review when products are submitted for approval based on these cutting edge innovations in the next few years. Countries in Europe and Asia have adopted policies that foster the development and approval of innovative technologies like 3D bio-printing. In the U.S., patients and industry remain at a significant disadvantage in accessing the cell and tissue based therapies that will be a critical part of how medicine evolves in the 21st century. Mr. Orringer, we want to ensure that American patients have access to these new and cutting edge therapies. Can you describe how patients will benefit from these emerging technologies and the need for regulatory clarity for innovators and investors when developing products that promise to enhance the practice of medicine?