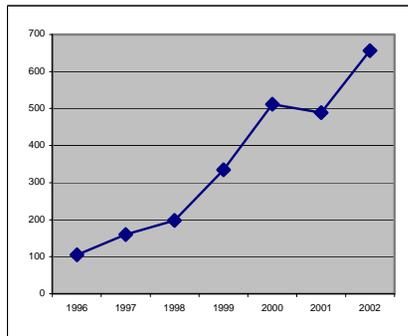


Will 2003 be the year for 3D printers? As the rapid prototyping industry develops and matures, it will undergo a dramatic increase in the application of the technology for early concept models and finished manufactured parts.

As shown in the following graph (showing annual sales), the rise of 3D printers, most commonly used for concept modelling, has begun.

Source: Wohlers Report 2003, an Annual Worldwide Progress Report on the Rapid Prototyping, Tooling, and Manufacturing State of the Industry.



But where is it heading?

How long will it take for 3D printers to reach their full potential?

To hear the answer on this, and many other questions regarding the future and application of rapid prototyping, come and hear leading international consultant and keynote speaker Terry Wohlers speak at RAPDASA 03.

Rapid Prototyping and Manufacturing's future, according to Wohlers:

The Rapid Prototyping Industry is on the cusp of monumental change. Advances in technology, materials, and operations will combine with new applications and processes to transform the RP industry. As these development unfold, there will be widespread change in design and manufacturing.

Change is inevitable, but few things change overnight. Over the next few decades, a design and manufacturing revolution will have taken hold that should change forever the way that design and manufacturing are done.

Indications are that it will sweep across industries as diverse as biomedicine and aerospace, where each will have their own specialised technologies.

The new manufacturing and design era is coming, and perhaps historians will document it as the digital industrial age! [Wohlers]

Message from the RAPDASA organising committee:

“Rapid Prototyping is continuously developing in South Africa. It is an enabling and powerful strategic technology, applied in a very diverse range of applications.

On the educational and research and development fronts, RP is also receiving more attention in conscious development programs led by academia and science councils, and backed by central government.

The Rapid Product Development Association of South Africa (RAPDASA) has evolved into a body representing important academic and industrial organisations. RAPDASA strives to bring the RP industry together in a collaborative network.”

RAPDASA 2003 will focus on the automotive industry, with presentations from national experts in the field of Rapid Prototyping & Manufacturing.

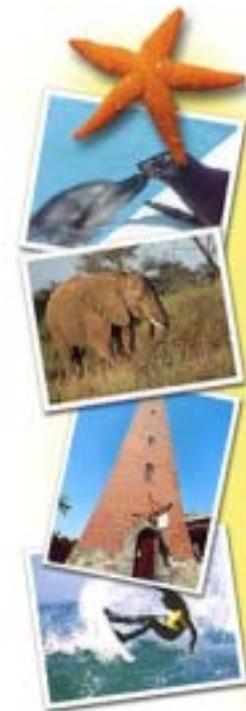


Port Elizabeth: The Bay of Nelson Mandela Bay is the gateway to the Eastern Cape, and is the perfect complement to the Garden Route, Frontier Hinterland and the Sunshine Coast.

The friendly city offers a variety of attractions, recreational, cultural and entertainment, such as theatres, museums, flea markets, The Boardwalk Casino and Entertainment Centre, restaurants, game reserves and much more.

One famous game reserve is The Addo Elephant National Park, it was originally proclaimed in 1931 to support and save the last vestiges of Eastern Cape Elephant and Cape Buffalo from extinction, it is now home to almost 300 elephants, providing wildlife enthusiasts and nature lovers with exciting and memorable wildlife experiences.

For comprehensive information for the tourist, such as places of interest, city maps and brochures, the Tourism Information Office, Donkin Reserve, Port Elizabeth at:
Tel: +27 (0) 41 585 8884
Fax: +27 (0) 41 585 2564



RAPDASA '03

Port Elizabeth
5 – 6 November 2003

The
Rapid Product
Development Association
of South Africa
(RAPDASA) proudly
announces its 4th annual
international conference on
Rapid Product
Development

Presented jointly by
PE Technikon,
the
Technikon Free State,
and the CSIR.

Endorsed by **GARPA (Global
Alliance of Rapid Prototyping
Associations)**

<http://www.tofs.ac.za>

Who should attend :

The Organising Committee on behalf of RAPDASA invites participants from among the international communities of product development and academia, national R&D and educational institutions, product designers, toolmakers and manufacturers, technical directors and managers from industry involved in design and manufacturing of products and components.

Submissions

Authors are invited to submit 200-300 word abstracts by fax or e-mail in English to the Secretariat including full names, contact details, and topic area by no later than 15 September 2003. Details will be forwarded to authors.

Registration Fees

The registration fee of R 2000 (US\$ 250) is payable by 15 October 2003, and includes full conference participation, proceedings, lunches, refreshments and bus transfer between different venues, cocktail reception and conference dinner, as well as free membership of RAPDASA for one year. After 15 October 2003 the registration fee will be R 2250 (US\$ 300). RAPDASA members are enjoying 10 % discount. A special educational discount of 60 % is granted to full-time postgraduate students

Important Dates

Submission of abstracts – 15 September '03
Abstract acceptance notification – 30 September 2003
Submission of camera ready papers – 15 October 2003

Registration Deadline – 15 October 2003

Venue

PE Technikon, located in Port Elizabeth, in the Eastern Cape, and central to the Garden Route.

Management Workshop

The conference will be preceded by a management workshop to be held at 16:00, 4 November:

The workshop, lead by International Consultant, Terry Wohlers, will focus on RP related management decisions. The fee for attending the workshops is R500.

Organising Committee

Dr DJ de Beer,
Dr D Hattingh,
Dr WB du Preez

Conference Secretariat

Jenny van Rensburg
Elma Viljoen
Lucinda Lindsay

Programme Committee:

DJ de Beer, WB du Preez, D Dimitrov, B Bond, H Bowles, D Leeson, D Hattingh, P Bezuidenhout

Website:

www.tof.ac.za/tofs/events/rapdasa/index.asp

Registration Form

Forward to:

Fax: +27 51 448 9379

Email: rapdasa@tofs.ac.za

Title:.....
First Name:.....
Last Name:.....
Institution:.....
Postal Address:.....
Code:.....
Country:.....
Phone:.....
Fax:.....
Mobile:.....
Email:.....
Specific Dietary Requirements
.....

Registration Fees:

Before 15 October 2003:

R2000 / \$ 250 US

After 15 October 2003:

R 2250 / \$ 300 US

(please tick in box)

Workshop:

R 500.00

**Payment by Bank Transfer to
the Following Account:**

RAPDASA 2003

Account Number: 012694002

**Bank: Standard Bank, Menlo
Park**

Branch Number:012345