

Customer Name: Rhode Island School of Design Media Center

Region: Northeast - USA

Partner: Paperless Parts

Use Occasion/Application: Service Bureau for Student Projects



Customer Summary:

The Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) is one of the pre-eminent design schools in the U.S. offering a range of disciplines including industrial design and architecture. It is located in Providence, Rhode Island. The RISD Center for Design Media Center purchased a Spectrum Z510 which was installed on April 12. The people involved in the project include Daniel Marsh, the site champion and Bonnie Blue, responsible for getting the grant money and purchasing the unit.

Reason for Purchase

The RISD Media Center was looking for a cost effective way to produce rapid prototyping models for their student body. Throughput and operating costs were large factors as well as the value of color. The RISD Media Center offers a service to graduate students, charging \$12.00/cubic inch. The students receive a quote from Daniel, pay the school cashier, give the receipt to Daniel and he builds the parts. Daniel does this as a service to the school in exchange for free parts (He is finishing his grad work this semester and will be staying on next year to teach). The \$12.00 figure came from amortizing the cost of the Spectrum over the next couple years and materials costs.

Competition:

Bonnie stated several times that she has been approached by students utilizing the 3D Printing service saying the school made the correct choice in purchasing the Spectrum. The time it takes to deliver a part is now less than a day and all involved know that this would not be possible with any other technology. Other technologies evaluated were the Dimension and the Invision from 3D Systems.

