



# Ricoh's Customer Experience Centre in the UK expands for co-creation of Metal Additive Manufacturing

A value co-creation space with customers and partners in innovative aluminum binder jetting technology

**TOKYO, October 6, 2022** – Ricoh Company, Ltd. will expand its Customer Experience Centre (CEC) in Telford, the UK, on November 7 to accelerate co-creation with customers and partners in the manufacturing industry. It will particularly benefit those considering using metal binder jetting (BJ) 3D printers for electric vehicles (EVs), electric aircraft, etc., to create new value such as improving the energy efficiency of electric components (e.g., motors and batteries).



Aluminum parts produced by metal BJ technology

This CEC, dedicated to additive manufacturing, will be established as a place for co-creation activities. Through demonstrations, Ricoh will help customers understand the capabilities of Ricoh's technology. Furthermore, Ricoh will also deepen its understanding of customers' potential pain points through activities at CEC and propose solutions that can contribute to realizing new value beyond customers' expectations by providing 3D printers and a total solution for production workflow.

Ricoh has the technology to manufacture aluminum parts using a highly productive BJ 3D printer.

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Ricoh can utilize the strength of 3D printers to manufacture aluminum parts with complex shapes that cannot be made using existing manufacturing methods, producing lightweight parts, high-performance heat exchange parts, and other components. This will help solve the problem of cooling, which has become a significant issue in the electrification of various areas. In addition to heat exchangers, 3D printers have many other possibilities. Ricoh will explore applications for aluminum BJ technology with customers.

Ricoh has positioned the "realization of a zero-carbon society" as one of its material issues. Ricoh aims to achieve zero GHG emissions throughout its entire value chain, enabling customers to develop highly energy-efficient products by using Ricoh's 3D printers, thereby contributing to the realization of a zero-carbon society.

Tokutaro Fukushima, General Manager of Additive Manufacturing Business Center, Ricoh Futures BU, Ricoh Company, Ltd., said, "There are technical issues with many products where they cannot fully perform due to heat problems or limitation of weight reduction. We are confident that Ricoh's unique aluminum BJ technology will significantly contribute to solving these issues our customers face. With the opening of the CEC, we would like to accelerate co-creation with our customers to realize additional value for customers' clients.

Furthermore, we would like to actively promote collaboration with technical partners who have unique technologies. We hope to welcome partners who support our vision to "Make a significant contribution to a zero-carbon society and lead to the realization of a wonderful future for children" through co-creation activities".

#### Location:

Ricoh UK Products Limited - The Home of Ricoh 3D Priorslee, Telford, Shropshire, United Kingdom TF2 9NS

## For further information, please contact:

AM Business Center, Ricoh Futures Business Unit, Ricoh Company, Ltd.

https://webform.ricoh.com/form/pub/e00114/technology\_ing\_en



#### **Related Information**

Ricoh Company, Ltd. and Ricoh UK Products Ltd. will exhibit the metal binder jetting technology at the <u>Formnext</u> event, held at Messe Frankfurt, Germany, from November 15 to 18, 2022.



- Exhibit Content: Metal BJ technology for manufacturing innovative aluminum parts
  - Contributes to weight reduction and improved heat exchange performance of aluminum parts by realizing shapes that cannot be produced with existing processing technologies.
  - The binder jetting method saves time and resources due to its high productivity and the ability to reuse unused materials.
  - Ricoh's industrial inkjet printhead technology, developed over many years, enables stable manufacturing of parts with complex shapes.
  - Capable of processing aluminum alloy, which is widely used as metal parts.

### **Related Links**

Metal 3D Printing Based on Binder Jetting Method

https://www.ricoh.com/technology/tech/123 metal 3d printing

Aluminum Metal Binder Jetting's website

https://rapidfab.ricoh-europe.com/technologies/metal-binder-jetting/

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Ricoh is empowering digital workplaces using innovative technologies and services that enable individuals to work smarter from anywhere.

With cultivated knowledge and organizational capabilities nurtured over its 85-year history, Ricoh is a leading provider of digital services, information management, and print and imaging solutions designed to support digital transformation and optimize business performance.

Headquartered in Tokyo, Ricoh Group has major operations throughout the world and its products and services now reach customers in approximately 200 countries and regions. In the financial year ended March 2022, Ricoh Group had worldwide sales of 1,758 billion yen (approx. 14.5 billion USD).

For further information, please visit www.ricoh.com