



THE NAVIGATOR

Vol. 8 • No. 1

September 2003

Upgraded SLA Resin

Vista Technologies has converted to be an exclusive DSM Somos Resins user. We have had DSM Somos materials in some of our SLA equipment for the last 5 years. Vista just recently converted their last machine that was not using Somos material.

The material that we converted to is Somos 11120 (WaterShed). This material is being used as an everyday standard material. Vista has found many reasons to replace the existing standard resin to benefit our customers and vendors.

This all-purpose material is water resistant, stronger, and can be finished to be transparent. The water resistant properties make this resin perfect for under-the-hood applications that are done in water or for resisting warping due to high humidity environments.

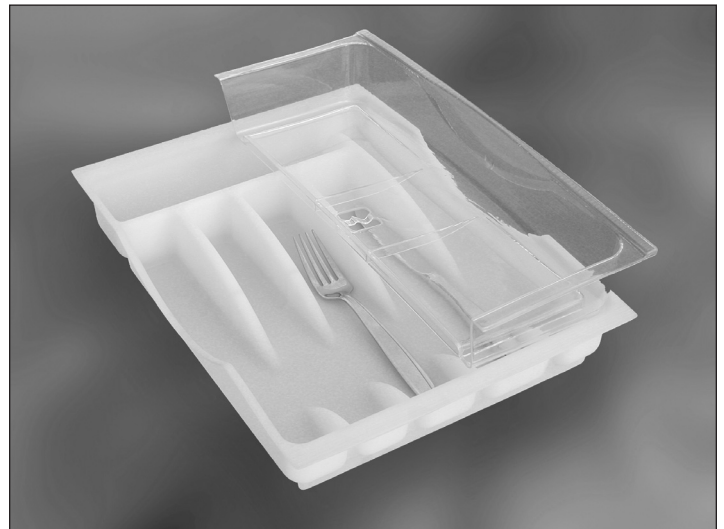
The 11120 material can be polished in a secondary application to achieve transparencies. This is an added benefit for other testing to check air or liquid flow, as well as visually seeing internal functions in assemblies.

Increased strength is where the largest improvement has occurred. The overall properties are improved along with the robustness of the material. The elongation of this material has increased to 19% compared to the 9% of the old brittle material. This feature adds forgiveness and functionality to this material.

Some of the material properties match those of ABS and PBT. These are two common plastics used in electronics, medical, automotive,

consumer, and industrial applications.

Somos 11120 will produce excellent patterns for metal and/or urethane castings. It has increased tolerance and better side-walls. The addition of the 11120 resin compliments the Somos 9120 resin that Vista already



Watershed parts can be finished frosted or transparent as seen in the above utensil drawer divider.

has for snaps and clips. With the flexible 9120 and the multi-purpose 11120 resins, Vista will remain state-of-the-art and competitive on all horizons of Rapid Prototyping.

Spec sheets of our SLA materials are posted on our website. www.vistatek.com

SLA • ACTUA
SLS • Castings
DSM Flexible &
CIBA Resins



Your full-service partner in prototyping

Bridge Tooling
Keltool
Rapid Tooling
RTV Molding

2003 Fall Trade Shows

October 1-2 AmCon Show

Minneapolis Convention Center
FREE Admission

October 29-30 MD&M

(Medical Design & Manufacturing)
Minneapolis Convention Center

Please call us for your FREE pass
to visit Vista's booth.

Breaking the Mold? Not Yet!

One of the most frequently asked questions about Rapid Tooling using aluminum inserts is "How many parts can I get?" Well, the honest truth is that we do not know. We have not exhausted the life of a tool yet. We have shot over 20,000 parts using a polysulfone material and the molds are still looking great. The life of a tool does depend on part geometry and the material used. All that considered, we have shot glass-filled nylon, polycarbonate, Ultem, and other abrasive materials with great success.

Every project is different, but Vista has been guaranteeing their tools for a minimum of 5,000 parts. Amazingly, these quantities fill a lot of niches for companies' production runs. One benefit that Vista's customers are seeing is the rerunning of the tools for low run production. How many parts can we run on your next tool?

Rapid Tooling Division Begins To Soar

Due to the continued growth in Vista's Rapid Tooling Division, Vista has acquired some new equipment to increase their capacity and to keep the lead-times as competitive as ever.

Vista installed another CNC mill that compliments their High Speed Mill that runs at 42,000 Rpm's. This allows Vista to build molds in parallel and to increase speed and capacity. With the addition of more CNC equipment, Vista can compete with technology and software and not just "Man Power". On the milling front, Vista is using cutters as small as .006" (.15mm). This allows us to achieve very challenging radii for our customers.

For up-to-date information
check out our web site

www.vistatek.com

E-mail us at:
prototype@vistatek.com

Information available includes:

- Latest publications
- Newest developments
- Upcoming trade shows and activities Vista will participate in
- Current and back copies of

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Vista also acquired a wire EDM. This will allow special features and radii to be built into the tools. With the added complexities of today's tools, these tight toleranced features are becoming a new standard.

In addition, knee mills and a lathe were added to compliment Vista's Tool Maker's hand work. These tools will assist in the precision work needed for the hand pick outs and other secondary work. Additional inspection equipment was purchased along with increasing the inventory of cutters and machined ready inserts.

With machined ready inserts and over \$80,000 in cutter inventory, Vista is dedicated to Rapid Tooling and the full demands of quality and speed. Vista is excelling in decreasing your time from purchase order to spec material prototypes!

Quick Quip

*"Change your thoughts
and you change your world."*

-MARCUS AURELIUS ANTONINUS

*"We are what we repeatedly do.
Excellence, then, is not
an act but a habit."*

-ARISTOTLE

