



More efficient and better quality plastic caps thanks to 3D printing

LOCATION: Puerto Real, Cádiz

LENGTH: 1'46"

SUMMARY: Scientists from the research group INNANOMAT at the University of Cádiz are creating plastic cap prototypes in their laboratory, using additive manufacturing, commonly known as 3D technology. It's a collaborative project between the University and Torrent Group, a Cádiz company and global leader in the manufacture of plastic caps for the olive oil industry. The researchers have developed methods of production that save material and reduce CO₂ emissions.

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A collaborative project between the Public University of Cádiz and a private company, involving the use of 3D technology, has led towards the creation of prototypes, such as these plastic caps, that save material and reduce CO₂ emissions.

Sergio I. Molina
Director of INNANOMAT Group

"It allows for quick redesigning, complex designs in short time, and greater functionality. Evidently, I don't know if it can be defined as cheap, but it's definitely very efficient for the company."

Eduardo Jiménez
Investigation, Development and
Innovation Director of Torrent
Group

"We have decided to work on value-added products and it is thanks to new knowledge that we can have this added value."

This new knowledge comes from the study carried out by the University scientists.

Sergio I. Molina
Director of INNANOMAT Group

"What we do is develop materials that will have properties that the materials currently on the market do not offer, and that way we can try to create prototypes that are closer to the final product, which is what we're hoping for."

Those prototypes are created using additive manufacturing technology, commonly known as 3D printing. It is quicker and cheaper than the traditional method of using moulds.

Eduardo Jiménez
R&D Director of Torrent
Group

"We use fewer materials and cheaper materials with lower energy costs."

The Cádiz Company Torrent Group is the global leader in the production of caps for olive oil bottles and a prominent manufacturer of caps for spirit bottles. They are investing in innovation and decided to approach the University.



Eduardo Jiménez
Investigation, Development and
Innovation Director of Torrent
Group

"Just next to the company, 12 kilometres away, we had one of the leading groups globally."

Sergio I. Molina
Director of INNANOMAT Group

"We're trying to promote additive manufacturing to improve the design and production of certain elements in the naval sector."

The scientists from the University of Cádiz are working on this too. They are developing 3D printing technology, which is already bringing in 6,000 million dollars a year globally.