



Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D
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Messe Erfurt

Who has liability in the additive-manufacturing chain?
Legal forum at Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D explores the legal aspects of industrial 3D printing processes

(Erfurt, 25 April 2019). Data is the connecting element of the additive-manufacturing chain. It is created by the material manufacturers, designers, software developers, equipment manufacturers and users; it may be transferred or converted, depending on the stage in the process, and may be shared across companies. “The impact of digitalisation is not solely restricted to the technical processes. The more 3D printing is industrialised, the more it generates questions as to who is responsible and about IP rights and IT security in every phase of the process. Ensuring legal compliance within additive manufacturing is therefore becoming increasingly important. The response to the very first legal forum at last year’s Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D has shown just how great is the need for information in this area. Which is why it is retaining its own session on the conference programme this year”, explains Marco Müller-ter Jung. The partner and IT law specialist at international corporate law firm DWF is again responsible for selecting the content for this year’s forum, which will take place on 25 June 2019.

The 2019 event will take an even deeper look at processes, explains Müller-ter Jung. “We are looking at precisely where the data is being generated, where it goes, and which legal regulations play a role along the way.” The relevance of information streams for quality-related aspects of additive manufacturing, the integration of a quality assurance mechanism into the AM chain and the creation contracts that take into account quality agreements, disclosure obligations and legally relevant interactions will be discussed in talks by the University of Duisburg-Essen, voestalpine Edelstahl Deutschland and Siemens.

Who is liable for what within the additive chain and the responsibilities of designers, suppliers, system manufacturers and service providers will be discussed in a talk by the law firm DWF Germany. A further lecture by the same company will explore what is required to create evidence-quality technical documentation for AM processes that can verify procedures in full even years after production. Representatives from Krause DiMaTec and Additive Marking will discuss how manufacturing service providers and IT solution providers can create such documentation, for example to ensure clear traceability from the physical product to its digital twin.

The need for regulation regarding companies’ intellectual-property rights in the additive-manufacturing chain will be covered in a talk by TU Berlin. The presentation will predominately explore in which step of the process new rights are created, and when they infringe on existing rights.

The legal forum is one of 14 sector- and subject-specific forums on the conference programme for Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D. Three forums – Software & Processes, Plastics, and Standardization & Occupational Safety – are appearing on the agenda for the first time. Alongside these new additions, the programme will once again feature the established Automotive Industry; Aviation; Contract Additive Manufacturing; 3D Printed Electronics & Functions; Medical, Dental & Orthopaedic Technology; Tool, Mould & Jig Construction; Metal; and Design forums, a session by the Fraunhofer Additive Manufacturing Alliance and the two-day AM Science forum. Overall, over the three days of the conference, there will be more than 100 lectures presenting the latest developments, trends and findings relating to additive technologies and applications in theory and practice.



The 3D Printing Conference and the redesigned presentation spaces and networking opportunities at the exhibition will also help attendees to share their knowledge and experiences and to build and maintain their networks.

For their 16th edition, to be held from 25 to 27 June 2019, Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D are yet again expecting over 200 exhibitors from Germany and abroad, as well as more than 5,000 international trade visitors and conference delegates.

Further information: www.rapidtech-fabcon.com

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