

AUTOMOTIVE

## Bentley Motors expands 3D printing capabilities

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*A 3D printing facility has proven to be useful to Bentley. Image credit: Bentley Motors*

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

British automaker Bentley Motors is further investing in its 3D printing capabilities.

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A major investment worth 3 million pounds, or \$4.1 million at current exchange, doubles 3D printing capacity at the Crewe factory. The new equipment is expected to reduce waste and save on development time.

"This latest investment is also making a significant impact with our colleagues from across the company, helping to create advanced assisted tools to drive continuous improvement throughout manufacturing processes," said Peter Bosch, **Bentley Motors** member of the board for manufacturing, in a statement.

"As we look to the future, there really is huge potential to where this advanced technology can progress, including having a greater ability to personalize parts for our customers and further enhancing the individualization programmed offered on every car."

### Expanding capabilities

A 3D printing, or additive manufacturing, facility has proven to be useful to Bentley, as the automaker produced more than 15,000 components in 2021. Some of the items related to tooling were manufacturing assisted tools, COVID-19 face shields and more.

The method was also used to create physical components for several prototype Bentleys, including full-scale powertrain models and aerodynamic wind tunnel models.



*3D applications will include low-volume manufacturing components and customer personalization. Image credit: Bentley Motors*

Future applications will include low-volume manufacturing components and customer personalization. The new expansion is paving the way for Bentley to utilize advanced technology in creating 3D printed vehicle components and better personalization for consumers' cars.

Bentley offered employees in-house training to utilize the new AM facility and to create new on-the-job tools.

The new investment also supports Bentley's Beyond100 goals.

Last year, Bentley Motors accelerated sustainable luxury by taking part in Volkswagen Group's #GoToZero campaign and focusing on its goal towards becoming carbon neutral by 2030 ([see story](#)).

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