



Transformation from additive to injection molding to increase sustainability for personalized bionic arms

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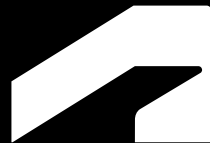
Albert Manero, PhD
Executive Director
Limbitless Solutions



Bradley Ribaric

Engineering Scholar
Junior Status
Limbitless Solutions



A close-up, low-angle shot of a metallic, bionic arm component. The component is dark and reflective, with a prominent vertical seam and a horizontal slot. It is positioned on the left side of the frame, angled towards the center.

Bionic Arms

What we do - Overview



← Receiving

Suite #100



In 2005, an estimated 1.6 million people in the US had a limb difference: 541,000 people had an upper-arm limb difference.

This value was projected to double by 2050.

*Adams et al (1999)
Ziegler-Graham et al
(2008)*



More than 32,500 children in the US have experienced a major pediatric amputation

Cignini et al (2012)



5 in 10,000 children are born with congenital limb difference

Parker et al (2010)



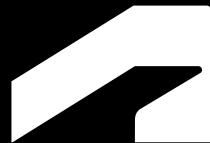
Cosmetically realistic myoelectric hands that open and close may cost \$20,000 to \$30,000 or more, while a neuroprosthetic arm may cost as much as \$100,000.

McGimpsey et al (2010)



Usage rates reported for upper limb devices are as low as 37%.

Wright et al (1995)



Bionic Kids

Who we serve

Impact for our community



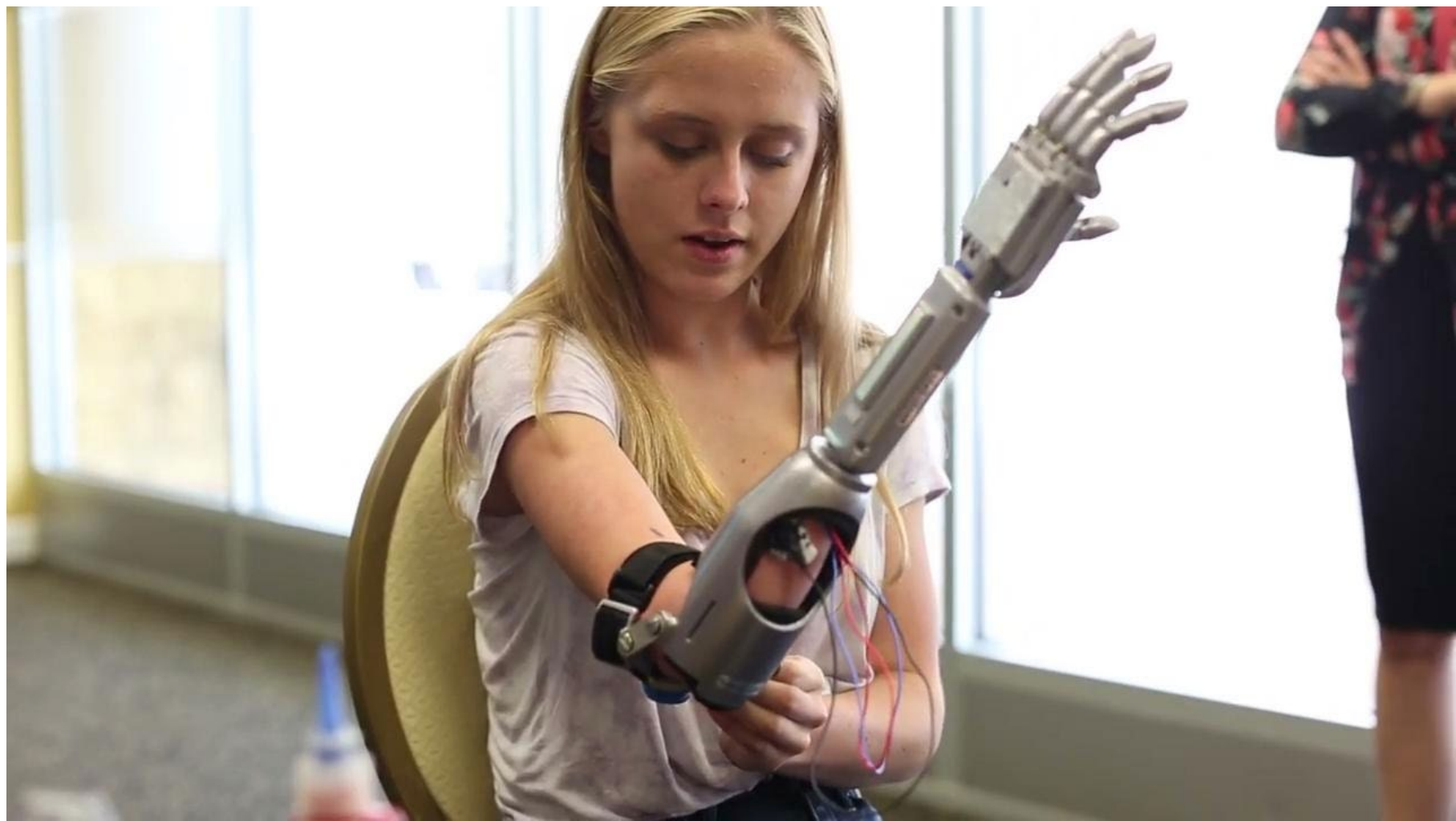
Overview

Bionic Impact

Process Flow

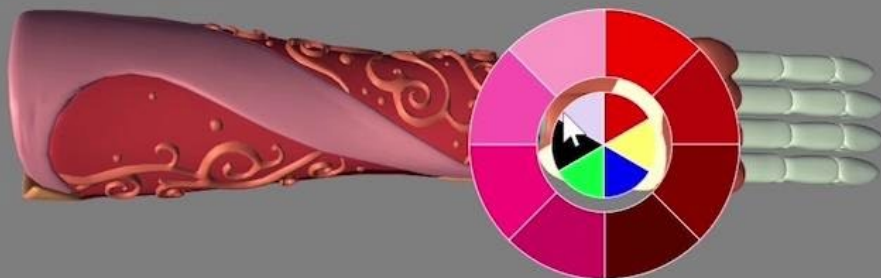
Student Experience

Next Steps



Ethereal

Ethereal represents freedom within an individual. The lighter designs seen throughout this class reflect the elements of beauty and grace, making this class the most elegant of our collection. The flourishes reflected in this class symbolize a fluid sense of direction in life and the accents that accompany them throughout the design reflect harmony in one's life.



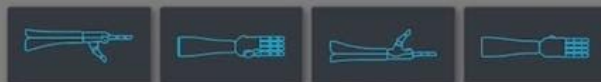
2 Choose Your Sleeve



3 Choose Your Color Palette



4 Edit Colors on Your Sleeve →

[MY DESIGNS](#)
[SAVE THIS DESIGN](#)




Overview

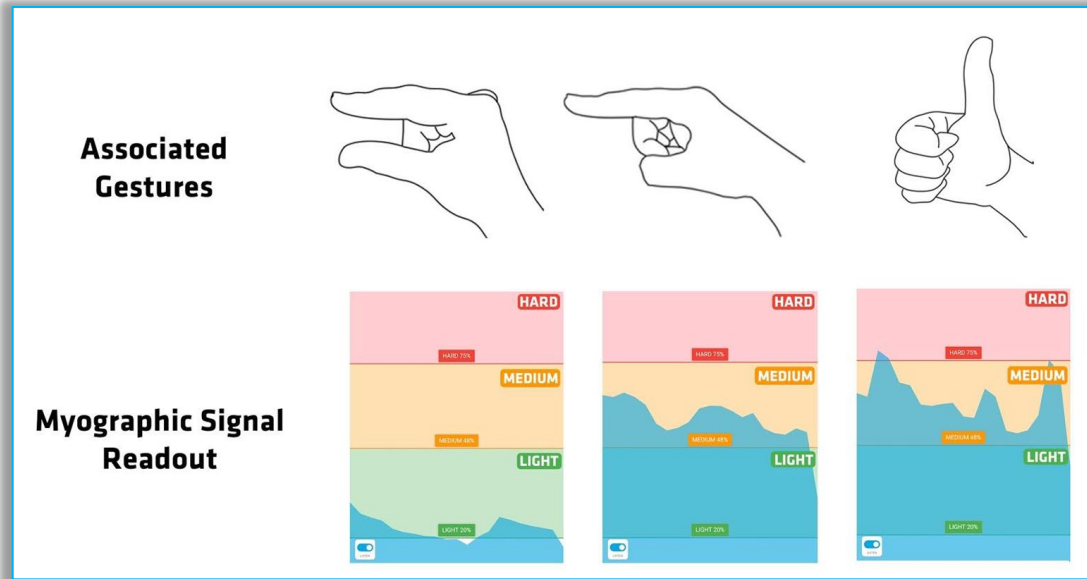
Bionic Impact

Process Flow

Student Experience

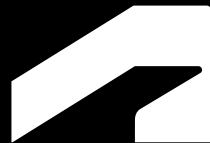
Next Steps

Electromyographic Control



Single-sensor multi-gesture controls has been prioritized for ease of use and training in pediatric patients. Magnitude and time domain inputs can be leveraged to establish multiple controls for a variety of hand gestures.

Customization of the activation states improves the human machine interface.



Additive to Molding Conversion

Design changes and new manufacturing process

Objectives

- Increase strength and robustness while decreasing weight of subcomponents to minimize maintenance and downtime
- Increase production speed and repeatability

Convert design from 3D printing optimization to injection molding



Overview

Bionic Impact

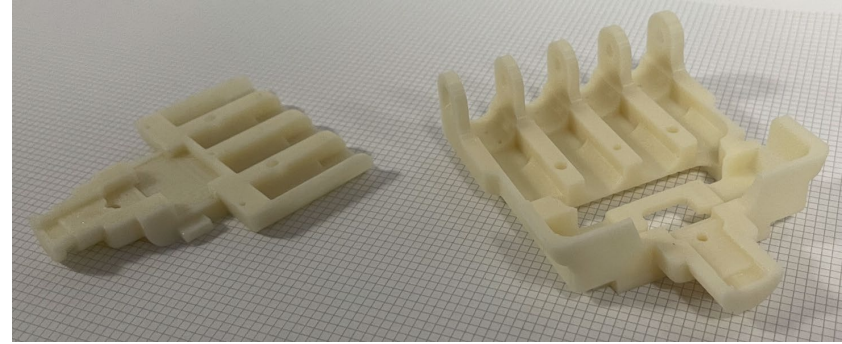
Process Flow

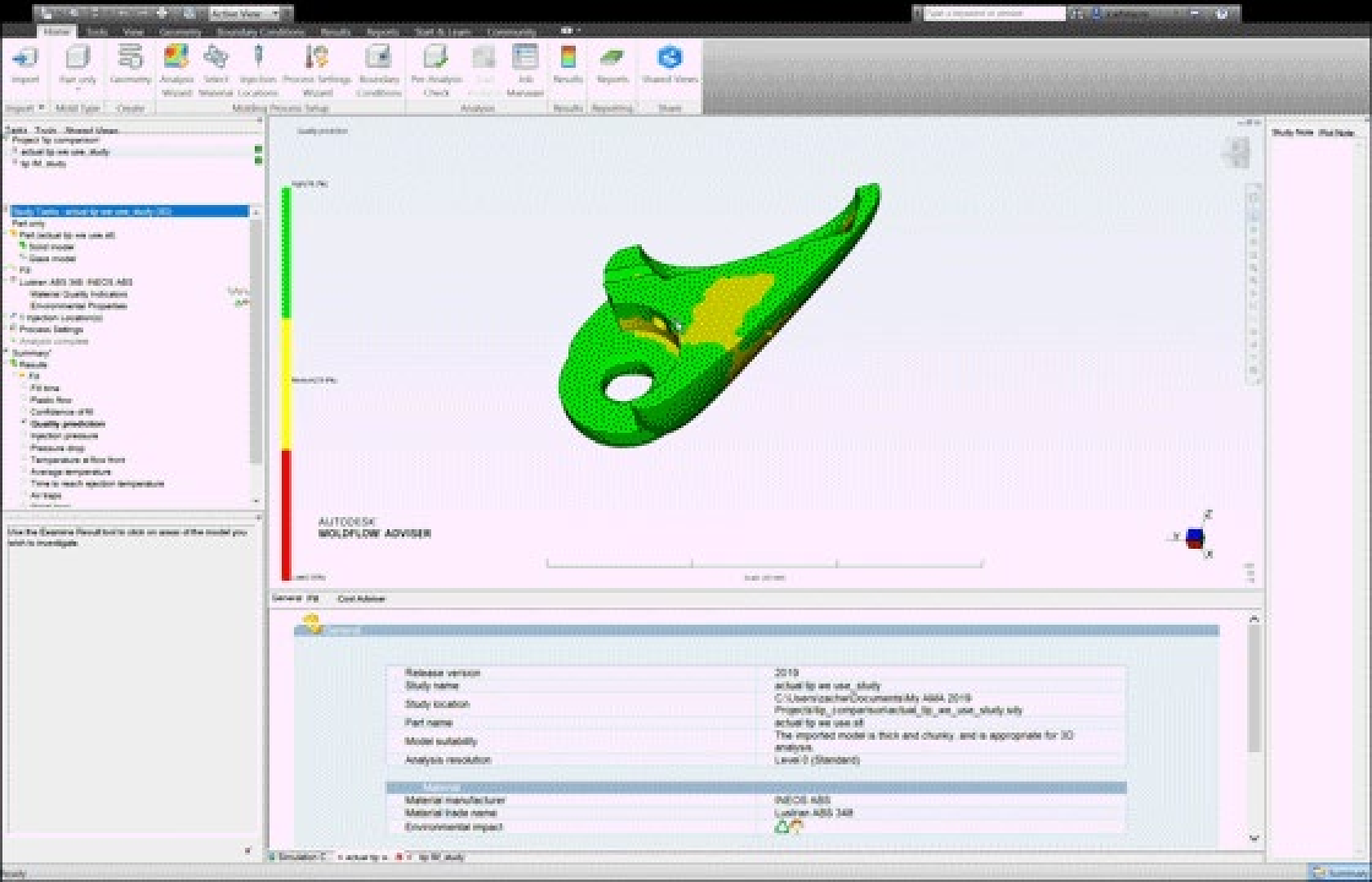
Student Experience

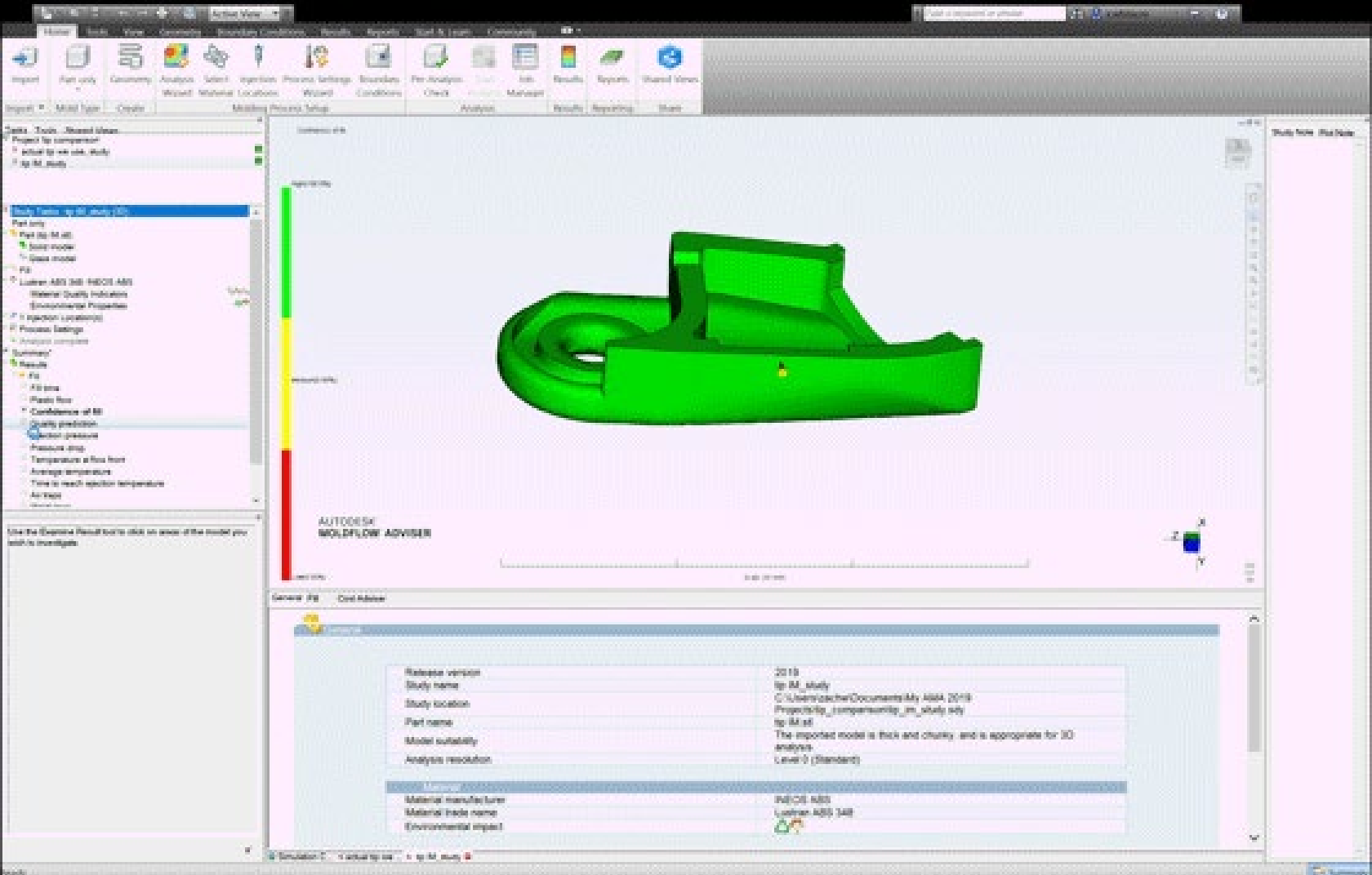
Next Steps

Challenges with Additive

- 1 Too easy to make “impossible” geometries
- 2 Difficult part analysis/ simulation (anisotropic)
- 3 Linear costs- increase scale, increase cost
- 4 Time Limiting
- 5 Limited materials









Limbitless is an Autodesk Foundation grantee and receives additional sponsorship support



Initial Concepts
3D Design, &
Electronics
Design

Design
Validation &
Simulation

Generation of
Complex
Core/Cavity &
Parting Line
Geometries

CNC Toolpaths
for Injection
Molding & 3D
Printing



Previous Setup

Tormach PCNC 440



Morgan -press G55 molding machine (modified)



New Equipment

Tormach Bandsaw



Tormach 770

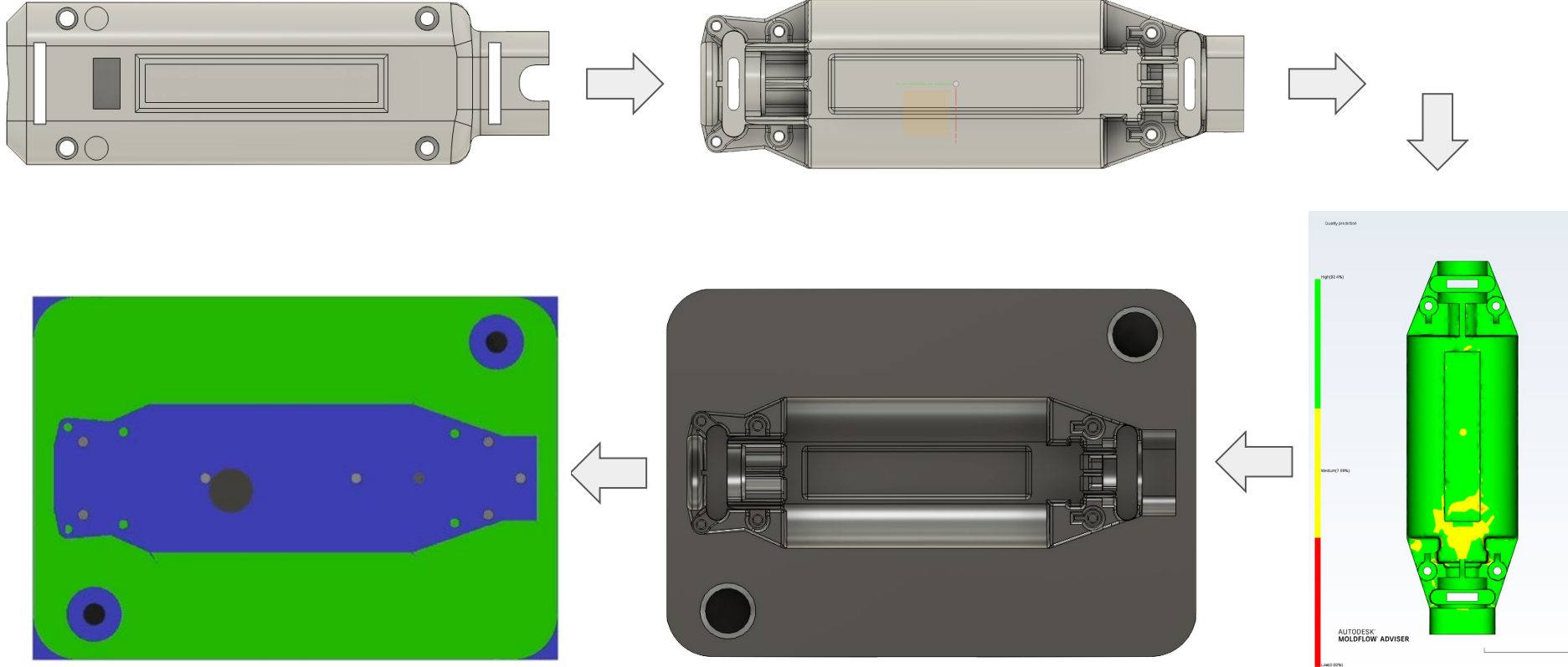


RobotDigg Injection
Molding Machine



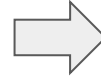
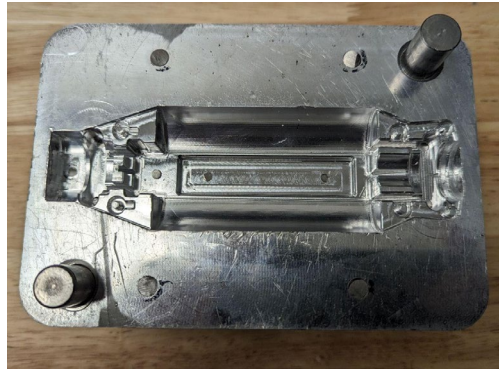
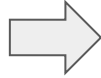
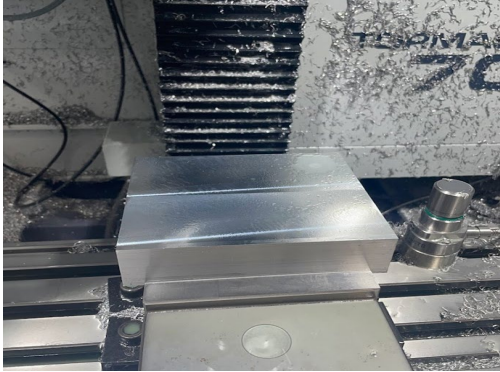
Design Process

Battery Core design for molding

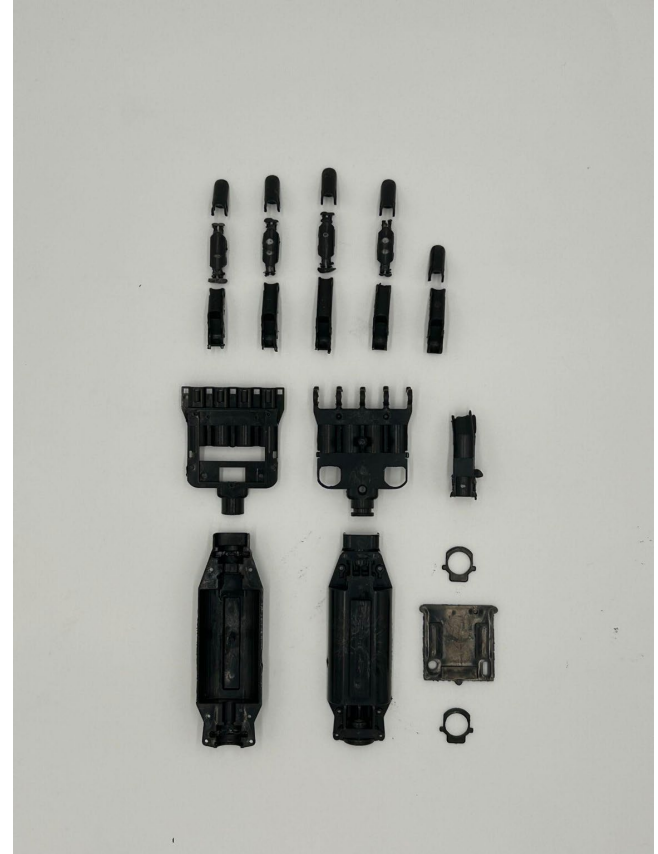


Manufacturing Process

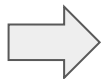
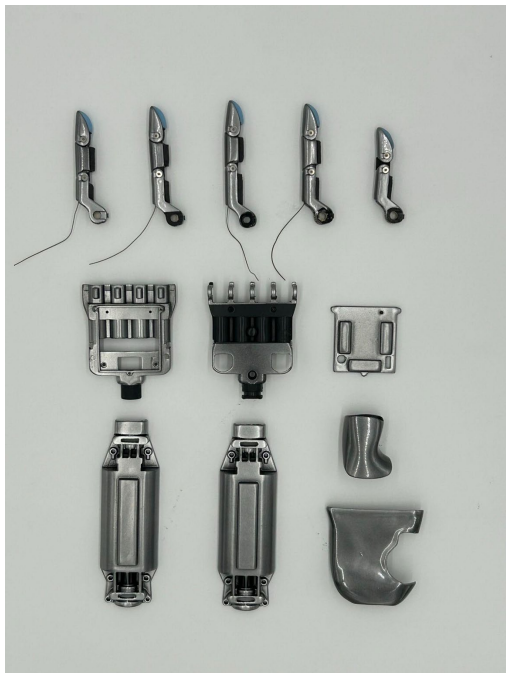
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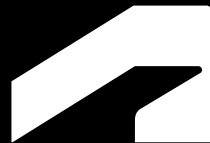


Completed Molds



Assembly



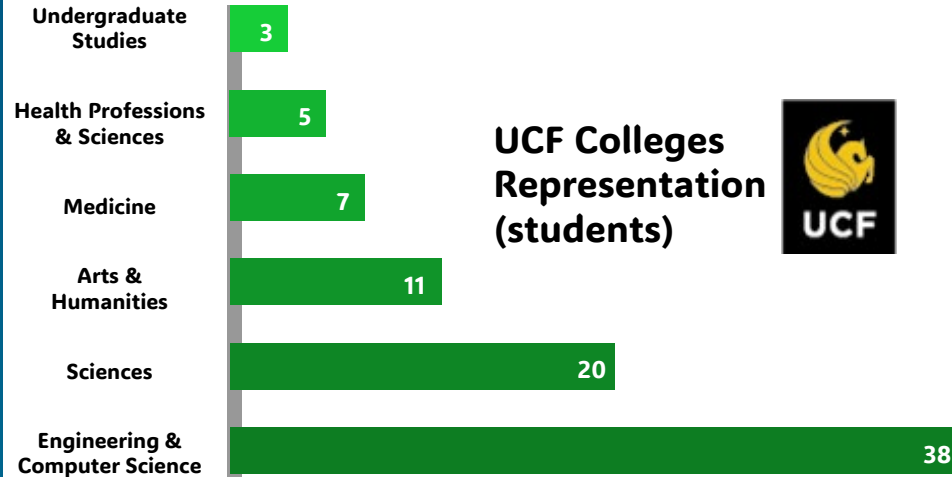


Student Experience

Providing hands-on experiences for undergraduate students to learn manufacturing



85
Total
Interns



Fiscal Year 2023 Reporting





Overview

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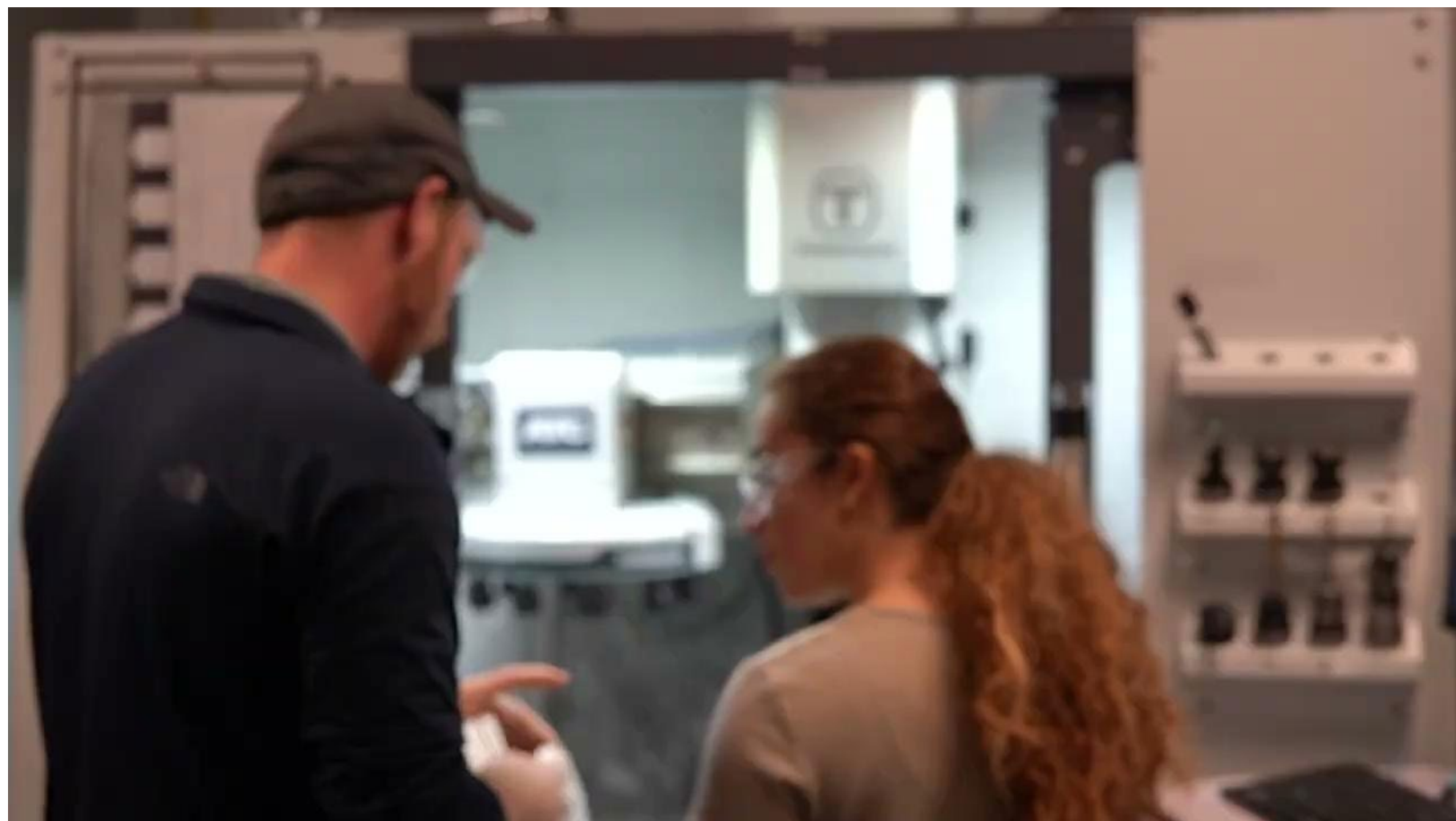
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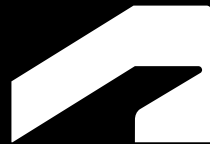
Process Flow

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Future Casting

Improving readiness and scale

Next Steps

- 1 Convert to steel molds
- 2 Add textures to parts
- 3 Finalize conversion of remaining 3D printed parts
- 4 Increase strength in weld areas
- 5 Evaluate Alternative Materials



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Bionic Impact

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Thank
you
for creating #3DHOPE



@Limbless3D

