

3D Printer Market in Japan: Key Research Findings 2016

◆ Research Outline

Yano Research Institute has conducted a study on the 3D printer market with the following conditions:

1. Research period: September to November, 2016
2. Research targets: 3D printer manufacturers, distributors, molding service providers, software companies, etc.
3. Research methodologies: Face-to-face interviews by the expert researchers, surveys via telephone/email, and literature research

What are 3D Printers?

3D Printers in this research indicate those devices for creating three-dimensional (3D) objects by laminating layers of resin or metals based on 3D data. There are several techniques for rapid prototyping depending on what materials are used: FDM (fused deposition modeling), inkjet, powder, and light modeling.

◆ Key Findings

■ Global Shipment Volume of 3D Printers Rose by 72.7% to Record 190 Thousand in 2015

Number of three-dimensional (3D) printers shipped in 2015 rose by 72.7% to reach 190 thousand, based on the shipment volume at manufacturers. The market has been polarized from low-end printers costing less than 600 thousand yen to industrial high-end printers priced at 600 thousand yen or more. The market has been driven by the low-end ones introduced at many sites where easy and rapid prototyping is conducted. Also, increasing numbers of printers are adopted at educational organizations.

■ Global Shipment Volume of 3D Printers to Expand to 2,150 Thousand by 2019

The performance of 3D printers has recently been evolved at an unprecedented speed. Due to such factors as improved performance, emerge of new materials, and increasing utilization at manufacturing sites, the market is promising for further expansion. The CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate) of shipment volume of 3D printers from 2013 to 2019 is expected to be 77.0%, with the shipment volume at manufacturers projected to attain 2,150 thousand by 2019.

■ 24.7% of Domestic Production Using 3D Printers Occupied by “Jigs/Tools,” 20.1% by “Parts of Finished Products,” and 16.9% by “Metal Molds”

In the questionnaire related with this research, 154 users of 3D printers were asked about what they aim to use 3D printers for “prototype making” dominated 59.1% of the entire responses, which was followed by “jigs/tools” occupying 24.7%. The next came “some parts of finished products” 20.1%, followed by “metal molds” 16.9%. It can be said that the questionnaire results have shown true manufacturing using 3D printers is, at last, about to start in Japan.

◆ Report Format

Published report: “3-D Printer Market 2016”

Issued on: November 30, 2016

Language: Japanese

Format: 228 pages in A4 format

Price: 150,000 yen (The consumption tax shall additionally be charged for the sales in Japan.)

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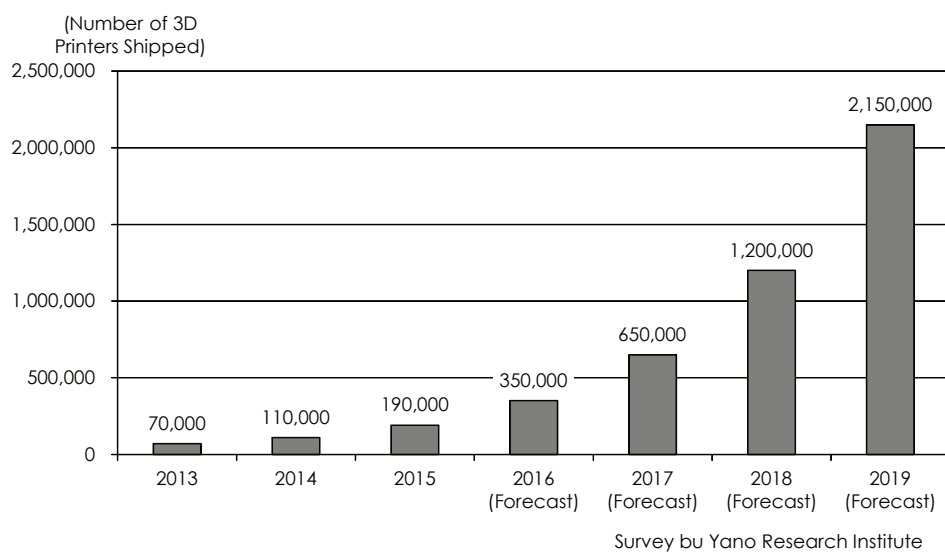
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■ Figure & Table 1: Transition and Forecast of 3D Printer Market Size

Unit: Number of 3D Printers Shipped

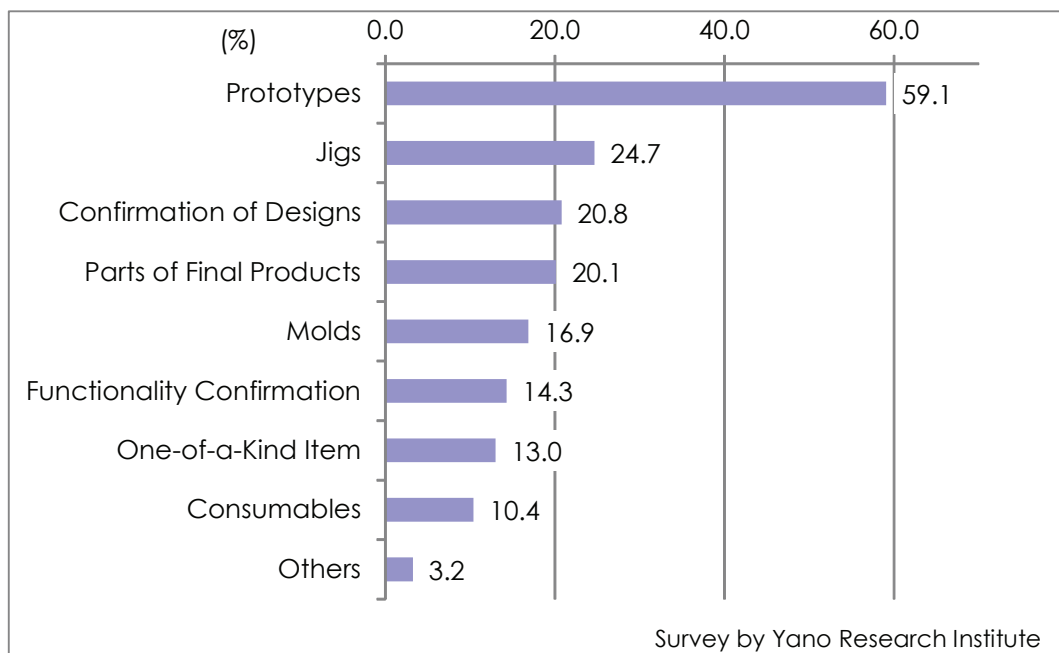
	2013	2014	2015	2016 (Forecast)	2017 (Forecast)	2018 (Forecast)	2019 (Forecast)
Global Shipment Volume	70,000	110,000	190,000	350,000	650,000	1,200,000	2,150,000
Y-o-Y	—	157.1%	172.7%	184.2%	185.7%	184.6%	179.2%
CAGR	—	57.1%	64.8%	71.0%	74.6%	76.5%	77.0%



Notes:

1. The market size is based on the shipment volume at manufacturers.
2. CAGR is the compound annual growth rate from 2013 to the year applicable.

■ **Figure 2: Applications of 3D Printers in Japan**



Notes:

3. Research Period: October, 2016; Research Target: 154 people who use 3D printers or have experienced using the printers in the past; Research Method: Questionnaire using internet monitor, multiple responses allowed.