



PROTOLABS

DIGITAL QUOTING PLATFORM

WHAT'S CHANGING FOR 3D PRINTING?

—
Enhancements to Quoting, Manufacturing Analysis, and Ordering

Our new digital manufacturing platform is an all-new experience that is more intuitive and modern than its predecessor in nearly every way. The goal? To make quoting and buying parts with us as easy as possible while further reducing the time it takes to get those parts, and ultimately, products to market.

And since change isn't always easy, we want to walk through some of the big differences and enhancements that you'll see when uploading your CAD models, requesting quotes and manufacturing analysis, and ordering parts for **3D printing**. Let's get started.





SIGN IN / SIGN UP

My Account will no longer be available with the launch of our new platform. But don't worry, you'll be able to sign in using your existing email and password. All previously placed orders will be available in **Order History** and quotes placed from 30 days prior to the new platform launching will be visible in **Project 0**. If you have uploaded or ordered previously but hadn't set up a password, you'll be asked to create one at registration. Again, all orders ever placed and all quotes placed from 30 days prior to launch of the new platform will be visible.

When you're signed into Protolabs, you'll find it's a clean and modern interface making it easy to search for parts, organize current and archived projects, and manage material information.

UPLOAD

As mentioned, in order to upload a CAD file within the new platform it's necessary to have an account at Protolabs, if you don't already have one. But what's really useful here is you can now upload multiple parts in a single step. And you can now manage uploads in groups so you can clearly distinguish various parts and their revisions—effectively giving you project management capabilities. You can even share uploads with colleagues, which is part of the **Forward Quote** functionality.

The platform gives you the opportunity to upload additional documentation in support of parts, plus you can configure parts before analysis—saving you time further down the line.

Choosing your material is straightforward, with a material guide and a simple process to select what you want. There's also the ability to select resolution and an easier way to switch between stereolithography (SLA), selective laser sintering (SLS), direct metal laser sintering (DMLS), Multi Jet Fusion, Carbon DLS, and PolyJet processes. Pricing has remained highly visible with price comparison between the resolution options. The entire interface looks and feels different, is more intuitive, and will help accelerate your complete process to order.

ACCEPTED FILE FORMATS

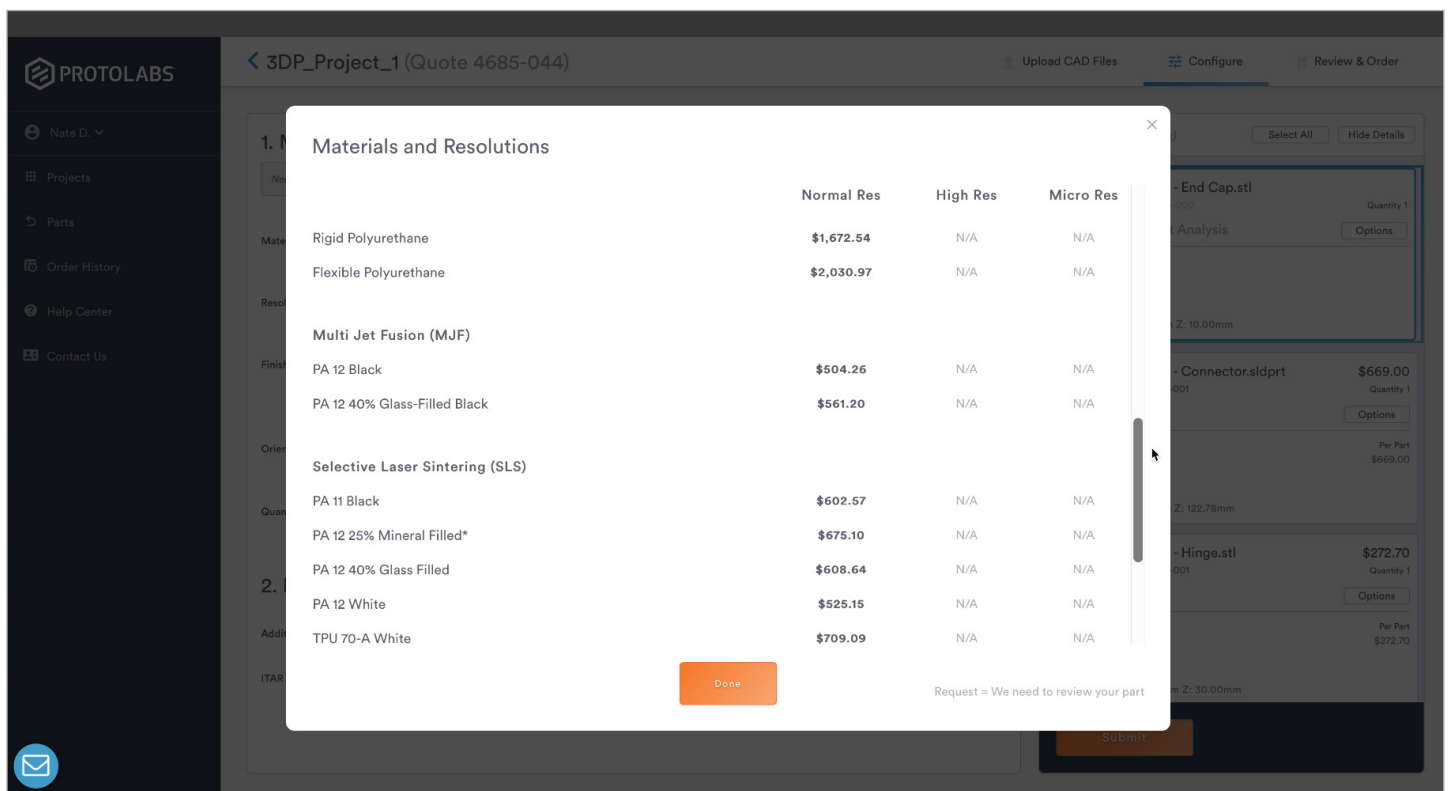
- IGES (.igs)
- STEP (.stp)
- SolidWorks (.sldprt)
- Stereolithography (.stl)



PRICING + PART CONFIGURATION

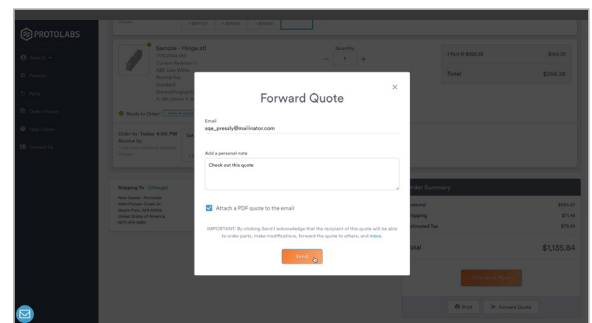
One of the largest benefits for 3D printing orders in the new system is pricing visibility—a key change here. You can now more easily view options around materials, finish, print orientation, and quantities—and you can compare process against all these factors to get individual pricing per part.

There are also a number of new elements within the quote configuration that speed up and simplify the process. For example, it's now possible to rename parts as you go through revisions to the design. You can also easily duplicate your part order should you need it in various materials. This previously had to be done on request, so this really speeds up the process. Also, if there are several part quotes in a project and one is holding up the order, it's possible to remove that part and create a separate quote with it. This helps ensure you get all parts created and shipped as quickly as possible, while making use of the batch-quote functionality.



Revision control is easy as everything is tracked and stored, so your earlier design versions are accessible. There's clarity on the design decisions, too, with the **Forward Quote** functionality allowing visibility for multiple users. Collaborators can adjust turn time, materials, finishing, and other options to see the real-time pricing impact.

What's more, an engineer can do all the technical work then pass it on to their purchasing department to complete the order.



Finally, there is support available to assist you in the technical quote configuration. This is accessible at sign in and consists of a Help Center, Tool Tips, and Live Chat.



MANUFACTURING ANALYSIS

The manufacturing analysis functionality in the new system is a more comprehensive tool, and it's more modern and easier to use. There's more transparency with your parts, and more communication so you know exactly the status of your parts.

One of the key changes is color indicators. Your parts can have many statuses as they progress through the configuration, analysis, review, and approval stages. Each of these statuses has a corresponding color code. Ultimately, the goal is to get your parts to the 'Ready to Manufacture' status, which is Green.



Ready to Order. Pricing and lead time is available for green status parts. You may checkout once all parts on a quote have reached this status. Parts will be reviewed by our design team prior to printing.



Revisions Required/Unable to Manufacture. Unfortunately, we are unable to manufacture parts with a red status. Please review the manufacturing analysis advisories to learn how you may modify your part design to match our manufacturing capabilities. Or contact us to review with our applications engineers.

The whole interface is cleaner and simpler, helping to speed up the analysis process. And if more detailed feedback is required, this can be requested in the **Special Instructions** field.

The screenshot displays the 'Manufacturing Analysis' interface. At the top, there is a header with the Proto Labs logo, the text 'Manufacturing Analysis', a 'Return to Quote' button, and the part name 'Part 3 of 3: Sample - Connector.sldprt | 3D Printing'. The main content area is split into two panels. The left panel contains a 'Need Help? Contact Us' link, a green checkmark icon, and a message: 'Well done! Your part is all set. Our analysis found we can manufacture Sample - Connector.sldprt for 3D Printing with ABS-Like White.' The right panel shows a 3D CAD model of a complex, cylindrical part with various ports and features, viewed from an isometric perspective. A scale bar indicates 50 mm. Below the model is a green checkmark icon. At the bottom, there is a navigation bar with 'Previous Part' and 'Next Part' buttons, and three small icons representing different parts in the quote, each with a green dot indicating they are ready for manufacturing.



ORDER + CHECKOUT

It's now possible to choose a delivery date through the **Receive By** calendar functionality where you see the cost increase or decrease according to when parts are needed. This is a useful time-saving tool for cost management by providing immediate pricing transparency. We'll also break down shipment cost per part order, with no hidden charges at all.

Shipping outside the United States will require the completion of an export questionnaire, but this is a simple task that our customer service team can support you with if needed.

You can include your own reference number on an order and the page won't time out so you won't lose what you've inputted. Finally, you'll be able to forward your quotes to colleagues. It means you can get multiple people to edit and confirm just prior to order.

3DP_Project_1 (Quote 8602-829) Upload CAD Files Configure Review & Order

Quote Quote Options Checkout Now

3D Printing (3 Parts) ITAR (No)

Sample - End Cap.stl
1462-6795-001
Current Revision: 1
ABS-Like White
Normal Res
Standard
Stereolithography
X: 40.00mm Y: 57.50mm Z: 10.00mm

Quantity: 1

1 Part @ \$56.00 \$56.00
Total \$56.00

Ready to Order! View Analysis Part Options...

Order by: Today 4:00 PM
Receive by:
* may incur additional shipping charges

Sat, Sep 12	Mon, Sep 14	Tue, Sep 15	Wed, Sep 16
+ \$23.00*	+ \$23.00	+ \$21.00	

Sample - Connector.sldprt
1441-0109-001
Current Revision: 1
ABS-Like White
Normal Res
Standard
Stereolithography
X: 47.03mm Y: 111.49mm Z: 122.78mm

Quantity: 1

1 Part @ \$662.59 \$662.59
Total \$662.59

Ready to Order! View Analysis Part Options...

Order by: Today 4:00 PM

PARTS RECEIVED

The format of all identifications have changed in the new platform—they'll appear differently on the label, specifically the part ID, quotation ID, sales order ID, production ID, shipment ID, and purchase order number. Also, if you've ordered a certified vendor material, bag labelling will clearly indicate which certification(s) go with which parts.

Those are the 3D printing highlights and enhancements inside our new digital manufacturing platform. We hope you find it much easier and intuitive to quote and order parts with us.