



Supporting Army Readiness through a robust digital additive manufacturing supply chain

The AMNOW program was launched in 2019 with a mission to establish and demonstrate a robust capable digital manufacturing supply chain to support Army readiness. Executing that mission required elevating the capabilities of the supply chain; elevating additive manufacturing (AM) processes as a reliable technology; visualizing the supply chain back to the Army; and capturing production data as a contract deliverable.

As the program progressed, many suppliers have been engaged to make that mission a success.

An educational curriculum, equipment, and support service provider, Vista AST is one of those suppliers. With a team comprised of 10 individuals, Vista AST designs and manufactures fused-filament desktop 3D printers and related technologies specifically for education and workforce development use. They have developed a proprietary software application that creates a virtual collaborative learning environment, allowing remote operation of digitally controlled equipment and real-time technical support. (www.vistaast.com).

Combining Vista AST's AM technology offering with experienced support services made them well suited as an early supplier partner for AMNOW. Additionally, Vista AST's affiliated company, AST2, is a certified 8a contractor providing services exclusively to the U.S. Government.

Vista AST has been part of the AMNOW program since March 2020. During that time, they have contributed to the first AMNOW Demonstration Project which fully implemented the digital thread.

Because of their participation, Vista AST has realized several key benefits.

1. Expanding Connections

AMNOW provided Vista AST with the opportunity to establish new relations with a testing and research facility. This expanded supplier network provides Vista AST increased flexibility to meet customer needs going forward.

2. Elevating Material Capabilities

Vista AST broadened and optimized its material capabilities with an additional polymer that had not previously been used prior to involvement in AMNOW. This also led to increased capability regarding the reporting of raw material specifications.

3. Accelerated Process Improvements

Participation in the AMNOW program has improved Vista's print quality processes. This includes elevated understanding of material characteristics with quality control standards for future commercial clients and projects.

"Through participating in the program, we were able to have a deeper understanding of part/coupon requirements as well as validating our INVENT3D printers with the LIMS edge device."

- Bill Scott
Vista AST,
Director of Operations

Vista AST

Learn more about VISTA AST at www.vistaast.com

Learn more about AMNOW at myamnow.com

Learn more about NCDMM at www.ncdmm.org