

Fiberforge

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Customer Success Story

AutoCAD® Electrical
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Autodesk® Vault Manufacturing

Autodesk software tools are at the heart of our business success. They are central in our process of developing environmentally sustainable manufacturing solutions for lightweight structures.

—David Cramer
Chief Operating Officer and
Chief Technology Officer
Fiberforge

The Autodesk Clean Tech Partner Program supports early-stage clean technology companies with design and engineering software they can use to accelerate their development of solutions to the world's most pressing environmental challenges. For more information visit autodesk.com/cleantech.

Lightweighting the world.

Fiberforge uses Autodesk® software to help create lighter, stronger products.



Fiberforge's flagship product, the RELAY Station. Image courtesy of Fiberforge.

A dozen years ago, a Snowmass, Colorado, think-tank expressed its intention to create a lightweight body for a less polluting, safer, and more efficient automobile. Its goal: to design a car that could achieve a fuel economy of 100 miles per gallon. With that vision, the Rocky Mountain Institute, under the direction of Chairman and Chief Scientist Amory Lovins, spun off a company called Fiberforge.

The core of the Fiberforge vision is "lightweighting," the practice of designing and creating a significantly lighter product that still satisfies appropriate standards for strength, performance, appearance, and safety. When it comes to cars, lightweighting is particularly attractive because a lighter car uses less fuel. The work led Fiberforge to a subsequent breakthrough in composite processing that enables high-volume, low-cost production of thermoplastic advanced composite parts not only for car bodies, but for everything from portable computers to aircraft parts.

Fiberforge is quickly becoming a leading supplier of advanced manufacturing technology and parts made from stronger, lighter materials for the automotive, medical, aerospace, defense, and consumer electronics industries, and more.

The key to Fiberforge's success is its patented RELAY® Station. By streamlining the creation of advanced composites—a single part can be produced in less than three minutes—the RELAY Station creates lighter, stronger, more resilient, and completely recyclable materials for critical components for consumer products and industrial machinery.

Using Autodesk® software, Fiberforge was able to explore numerous design alternatives for the RELAY Station. The company used AutoCAD® Electrical software to design and build the electrical controls for the RELAY Station. Part of the Autodesk solution for Digital Prototyping, AutoCAD Electrical combines AutoCAD® functionality with features specifically for electrical applications. With the convenience of a single digital model, Fiberforge significantly reduced costly and time-consuming construction of multiple physical prototypes, speeding time to market.

"Autodesk software tools are at the heart of our business success," says David Cramer, chief operating officer and chief technology officer at Fiberforge. "They are central in our process of developing environmentally sustainable manufacturing solutions for lightweight structures."

Fiberforge innovations are already helping manufacturers overcome traditional production challenges with faster, cheaper processes and techniques. From reinforced polypropylene to aerospace-grade carbon composites, Fiberforge is determined to lead the way to producing lighter, more environmentally friendly materials.

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