Services and Prices – Engineering Support, 3D Printing and Laser Cutting

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Multi-Engineering Platform for living systems (MEP CENTURI) – Aix-Marseille University
Contact: engineering@centuri-livingsystems.org

Engineering time

Our engineers can work directly on your project, in **any field covered by our platform**, not only 3D printing and laser cutting. This time can be booked on its own, or added to another service when your project needs more than the standard work included in our prices.

	MEP members (annual fee)	Public institutions	Companies
Engineer time	Covered by annual fee	€25.28/h	€25.28/h

Prices excluding VAT. VAT (20%) applies to external customers.

We estimate the time needed in our quotation, so **you know the price before you confirm.**

Example: 3 hours of engineering work for a public institution: 3 × €25.28 = €75.84.

3D printing prices

	MEP members (annual fee)	Public institutions	Companies
Filament printing	Materials only	€0.25/g	€0.40/g
Resin printing	Materials only	€0.70/mL	€1.00/mL
Minimum per order	None	€100	€100

Prices excluding VAT. VAT (20%) applies to external customers.

Annual subscription

Print regularly? Buy a prepaid pack and draw from it with each order.

	Public institutions	Companies
Filament pack – 500 g	€110	€180
Resin pack – 500 mL	€315	€450

Prices excluding VAT. VAT (20%) applies to external customers.

- Each order is deducted from your balance by weight (filament) or volume (resin), with **no minimum per order**.
- The subscription is valid for **one year** from the date of purchase.
- At the end of that year, the subscription **ends and must be renewed**. Any unused balance is not carried over.
- If an order exceeds your remaining balance, the difference is billed at the standard rate.

How is the price calculated?

It's simple: you pay by weight (filament) or by volume (resin).

The price includes **everything**:

- file preparation,
- material, in any colour,
- printing time,
- basic finishing (support removal, plus washing and curing for resin).

MEP members: engineer time is covered by your annual MEP fee, so you only pay for the materials used, with no minimum per order.

The weight or volume is calculated by our software before printing, supports included. **You know the price before you confirm.**

Example: a 50 g filament part, public institution rate:

- **with a subscription**, 50 g is deducted from your 500 g balance;
- **without a subscription**, 50 × €0.25 = €12.50, so the €100 minimum applies.

Filament or resin?

- **Filament**: strong, functional parts, prototypes, enclosures, brackets. Affordable, many colours.
- **Resin**: highly detailed, smooth parts, small precise pieces, models.

Not sure? Just ask us for advice.

Laser cutting and engraving (CO2 laser, 60 W)

	MEP members (annual fee)	Public institutions	Companies
Cutting, material included	Covered by annual fee	€2.00/min	€2.50/min
Cutting, your own material	Covered by annual fee	€1.00/min	€1.50/min
Minimum per order	None	€100	€100

Prices excluding VAT. VAT (20%) applies to external customers.

- **Material included:** we cut your parts from PMMA (acrylic) from our stock, 1.5 to 6 mm thick.

- **Your own material:** you supply the sheets, and we check that the material is accepted (see the list below).

How is the price calculated?

It's simple: you pay by the minute of cutting. Our software calculates the cutting time before we start, from the total length of the lines to cut or engrave and the cutting speed of the material. **You know the price before you confirm.**

The cutting time. The base rate (€1.00/min or €1.50/min) covers file preparation, the engineer's time (€25.28/h, about €0.42/min) and the running costs of the machine (maintenance, laser tube and optics wear, fume extraction).

The thicker the material, the slower the cut. For example, **6 mm PMMA is cut at 4 mm/s**, which is 24 cm of cut per minute, so 1 metre of cut outline takes about **4 min 10 s**. Thinner sheets cut faster, so the same outline takes less time.

The material. With material included, €1.00/min is added to the base rate. **Materials we can cut or engrave:** wood, plywood and MDF (up to about 6 mm), acrylic/PMMA (up to 6 mm), cardboard and paper, leather, fabric, felt, cork. **Not accepted:** PVC and vinyl (toxic fumes), polycarbonate, ABS, fibreglass, carbon fibre, bare metals.

Additional costs and pricing tool

All our prices are calculated with **TaPla** (*outil de TArification des prestations des PLAteformes technologiques*), the pricing tool of Aix-Marseille Université's technology platforms: tapla.univ-amu.fr.

Starting from the price excluding VAT (*prix HT*), the following can also apply:

- **indirect costs**, calculated as a percentage of the price,
- **management fees**,
- **an adjustment amount**.

Any of these costs are shown in your quotation, so **you know the full price before you confirm.**

On quotation

Some requests are priced separately:

- special materials (nylon, polycarbonate, carbon fibre, biocompatible, dental or ceramic resins…),
- advanced finishing (sanding, painting…),
- large batches or urgent orders.

How to order

1. Contact us.
2. We reply with the price, including any additional costs (or the amount deducted from your balance), and lead time.
3. Once you confirm, we make your part.