
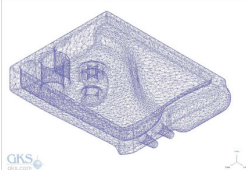
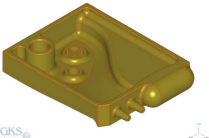
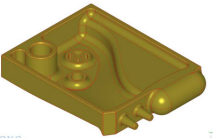
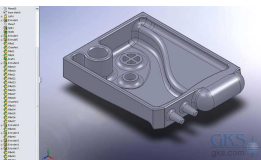
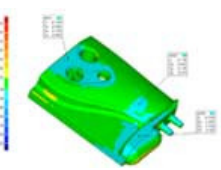


## File Formats from GKS' 5-Star 3D Scanning

There are many different types of formats you can receive from 3D Scanning. Each format provides something a bit different and is ranked based on edit ability, usability and performance to help you choose the right format for your project.

 <p><b>Raw point cloud data / ASCII (.asc) - Basic</b></p> <p><b>Characteristics:</b> a collection of millions of x, y, z coordinate points.</p> <p><b>Used For:</b> when you have your own software that can create models based on unordered point data, for the most part this type of data cannot be imported into UG, Solidworks, Pro/E, Catia, etc.</p>	 <p><b>Polygonal models (PLY and STL formats) – Bronze</b></p> <p><b>Characteristics:</b> organized point data.</p> <p><b>Used For:</b> making rapid prototype models or for carvings/engravings with fine or sharp details. The STL file can often be directly machined using special CAM software to create CNC machine code over the point mesh.</p>
 <p><b>Surface model (IGES and STEP formats) – Silver</b></p> <p><b>Characteristics:</b> a basic model that accurately matches the as-built shape of the part.</p> <p><b>Used For:</b> replication of the physical model exactly as it exists (including any manufacturing defects). This format does not contain a design history, or provide for parametric changes and is not suitable for FEA. If the part design needs to be modified, this may not be the best format for you.</p>	 <p><b>Solid/Parasolid model – Gold</b></p> <p><b>Characteristics:</b> provides a generic model without design history, often referred to as “dumb solids”. While dumb this model represents a clean, true-to-performance model of your part in which defects can be incorporated into the model or fixed.</p> <p><b>Used For:</b> allows for importing complete, watertight, solid models into any package that can accept the standard parasolid solid model format.</p>
 <p><b>Parametric Model – Platinum</b></p> <p><b>Characteristics:</b> this reverse engineering / part modeling takes place in the native CAD system and provides complete built in design history.</p> <p><b>Used For:</b> when you are looking the ultimate model type that offers the maximum amount of edit ability, usability, and performance.</p>	 <p><b>Inspection Report</b></p> <p><b>Characteristics:</b> measure and analyze the variance from CAD nominal with 3D color error mapping.</p> <p><b>Used for:</b> to determine the amount of deviation from the design model and the difference of the model to the manufactured part so you can edit the model to reflect the real part.</p>

### 5★ Star Scanning

GKS' 5-Star Process includes in-depth communication with our customers plus the advanced preparation techniques and double-checks employed by GKS engineers in gathering, processing, and modeling the scan data mean that we meet and exceed our customers' expectations for speed, quality, and usability of the model as delivered. Because, after 29 years in the business, we know "it's all about good data."