



# Generative Design for Inventor Users

MFG500594

Alessandro Gasso  
Fusion 360 Adoption Specialist





# About the speaker

## Alessandro Gasso

Alessandro Gasso is currently employed as Fusion 360 / Generative Design Adoption Specialist within the Customer Success Organization at Autodesk, Inc. Over the past 21 years with Autodesk, Ale has worked in various roles including product support specialist for Inventor, the lead for the EMEA Inventor Product Support Team, EMEA technical lead of Inventor software, premium support specialist leading the PSS Manufacturing Team, manufacturing industry technical lead, and Enterprise Solutions leads manager. Ale was the co-author of the Being Inventive Inventor blog, and he has spoken at Autodesk University from 2012 to 2020. Before Autodesk, Ale worked for 7 years as a mechanical designer for a company in the defense industry. Ale is a native of Italy who speaks English, Italian, French, Spanish, and Portuguese, and he holds a master's degree in electromechanical engineering from the University of Naples (Napoli).



# Learning Objectives

- Understand the benefits and workflow of Generative Design
- Leverage Generative Design in Fusion 360 alongside Inventor
- Understand how to associatively connect data between Inventor and Fusion
- Post-process and validate an exported Generative Design

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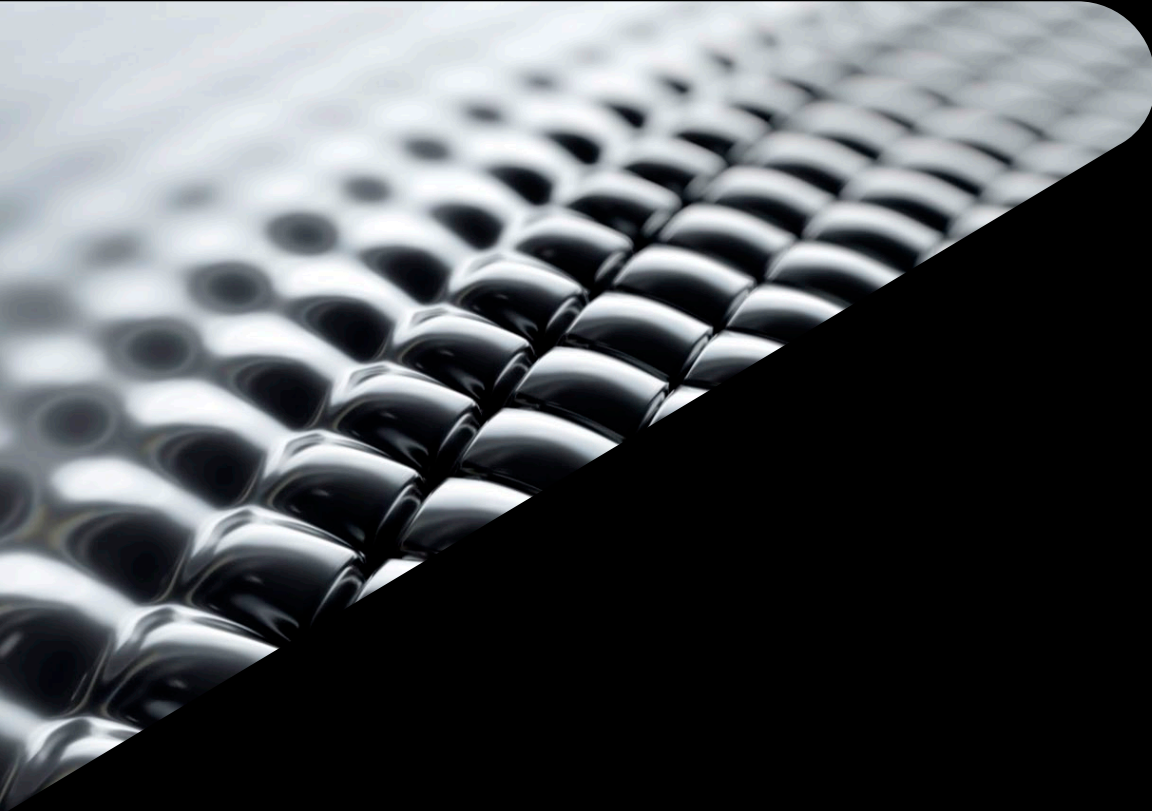
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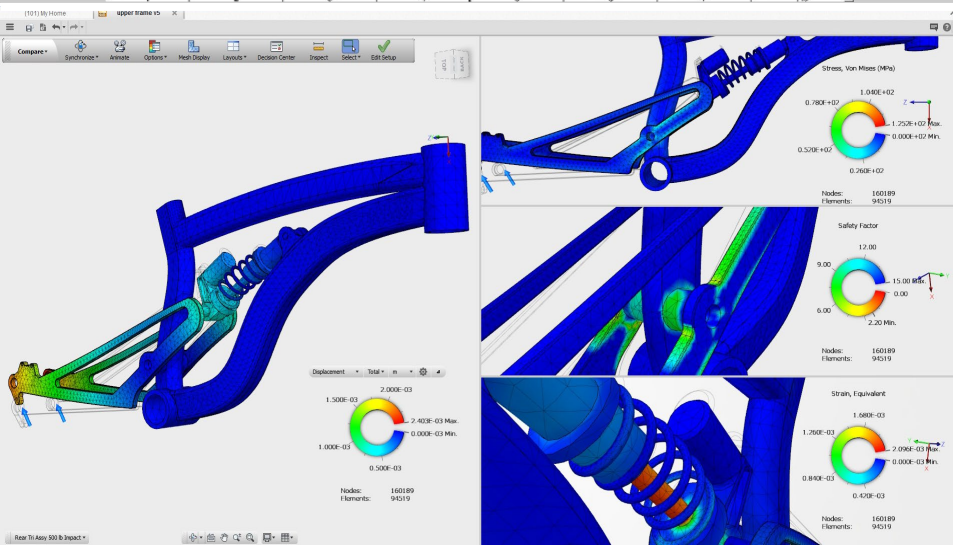
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# **Generative Design**



# What is Generative Design

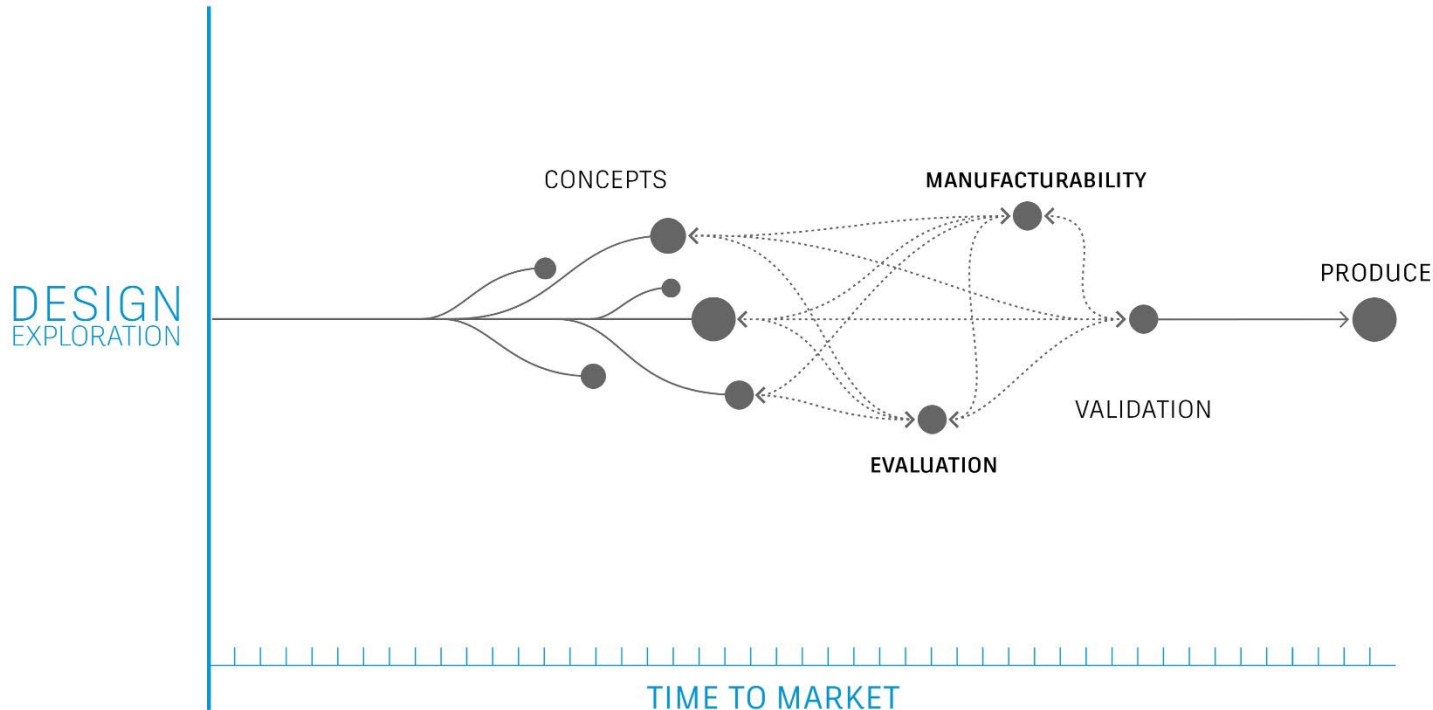
Autodesk generative design is a **Manufacturing-aware** technology.

- ✓ **Design Exploration** = 10's, 100's, 1000's of higher performing design options
- ✓ **Manufacturing Aware**
- ✓ **Multiple Materials**
- ✓ **Open Design Space exploration**
- ✓ **Multiple Production methods**
- ✓ **CAD-Ready Geometry**



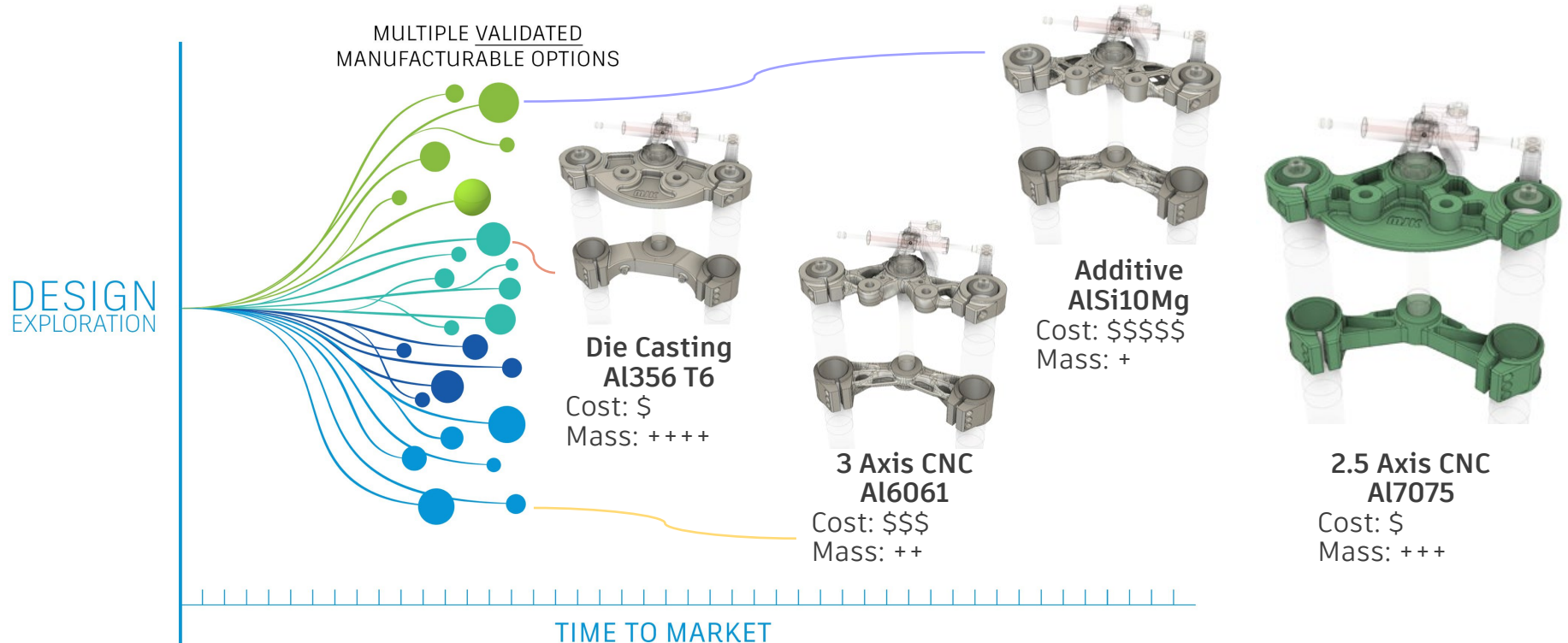
# How Generative Design help the product development process

TRADITIONAL



# How Generative Design help the product development process

## GENERATIVE DESIGN







**Generative Design &  
Additive Manufacturing**

**150 Design Options**

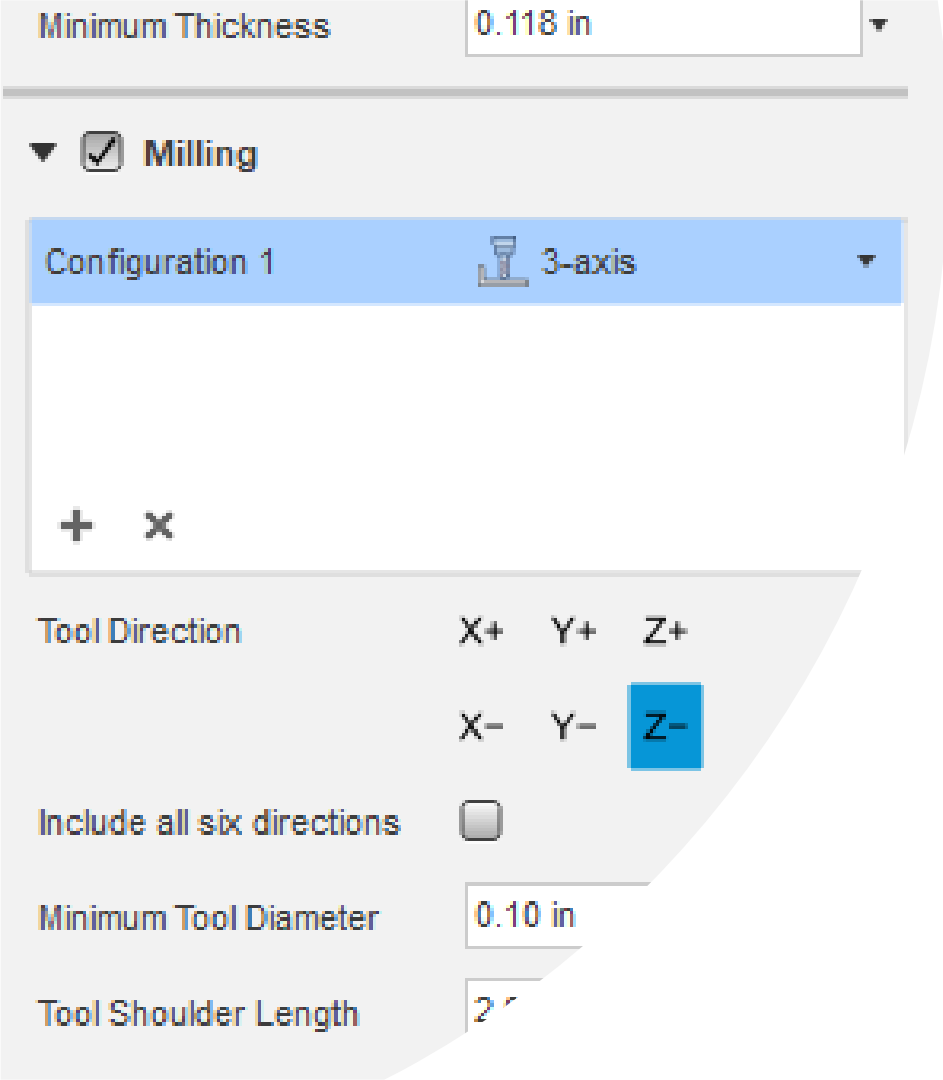
8 components into 1 part  
40% lighter  
20% stronger



**GENERAL MOTORS**





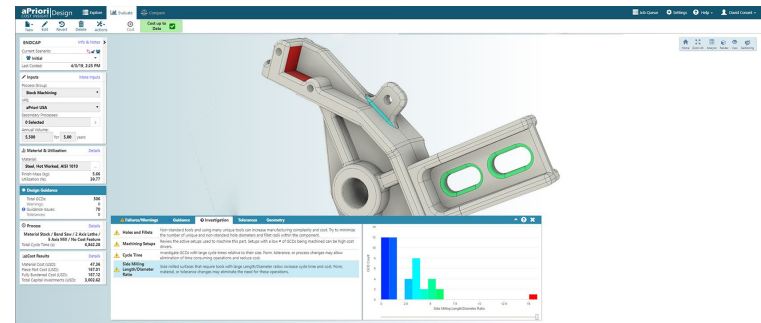
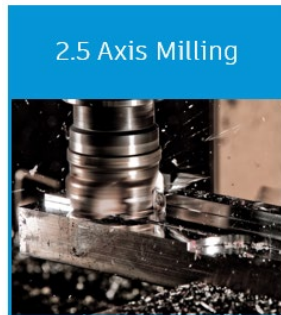
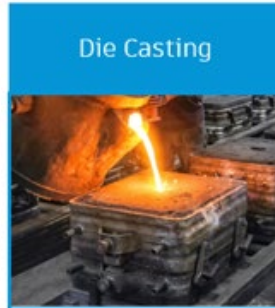


**Generative  
Design is NOT  
exclusive to  
Additive  
Manufacturing**

# Design for MFG

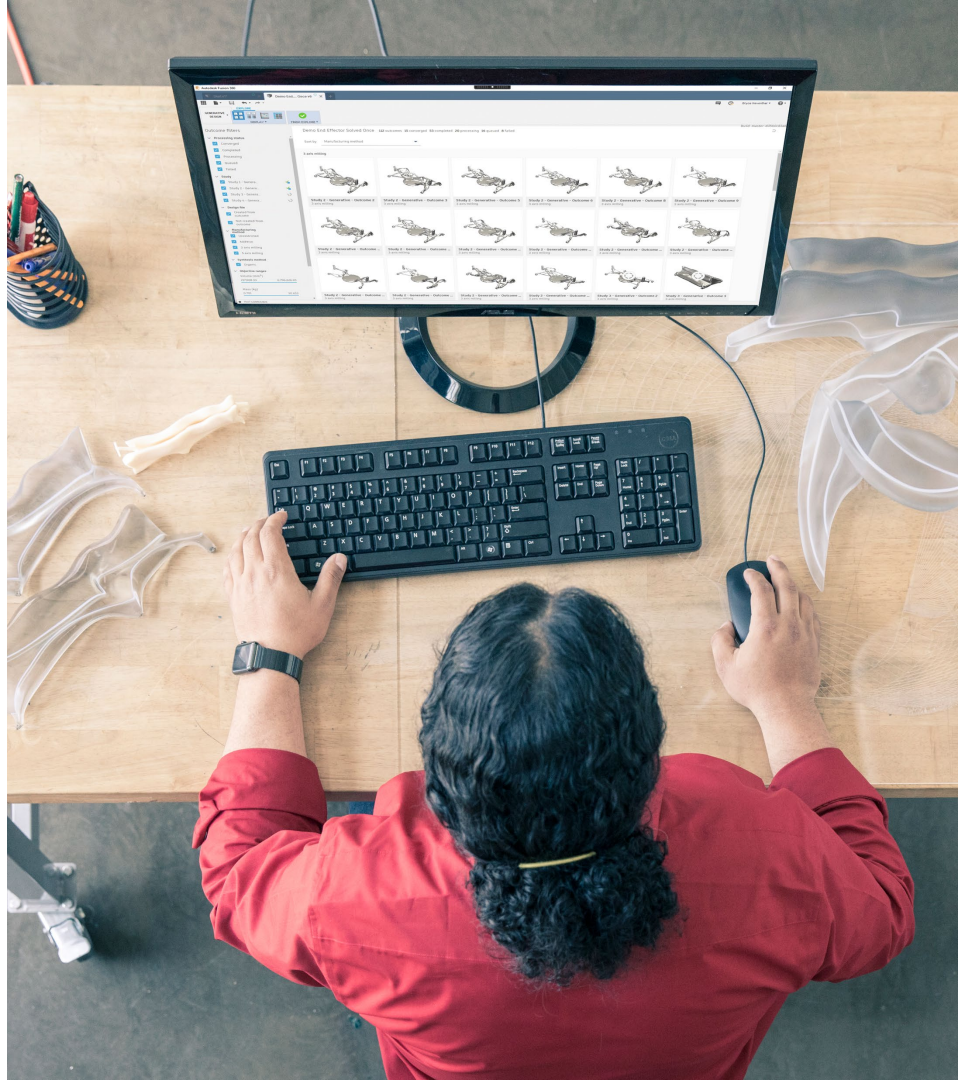
+

# Cost Analysis



# Challenges Today

- Limited time to ideate
- Increasing demand for engineering expertise
- Design and manufacturing disconnect
- Late-stage changes are cost prohibitive



# Why Generative Design?

Top benefits and outcomes customer realize



**Improve profit margins**



**Improve time to market**

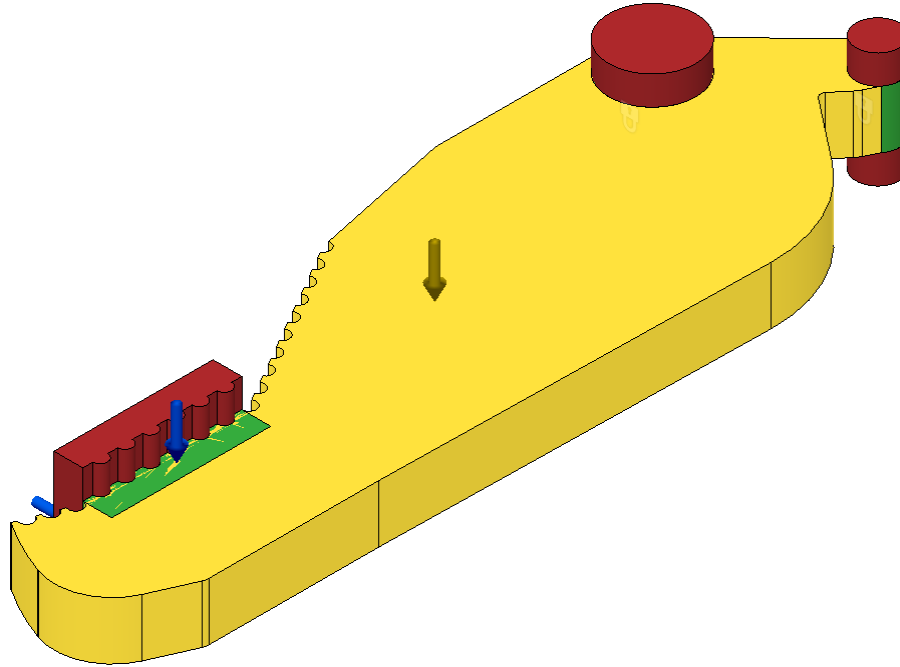


**Win more business**



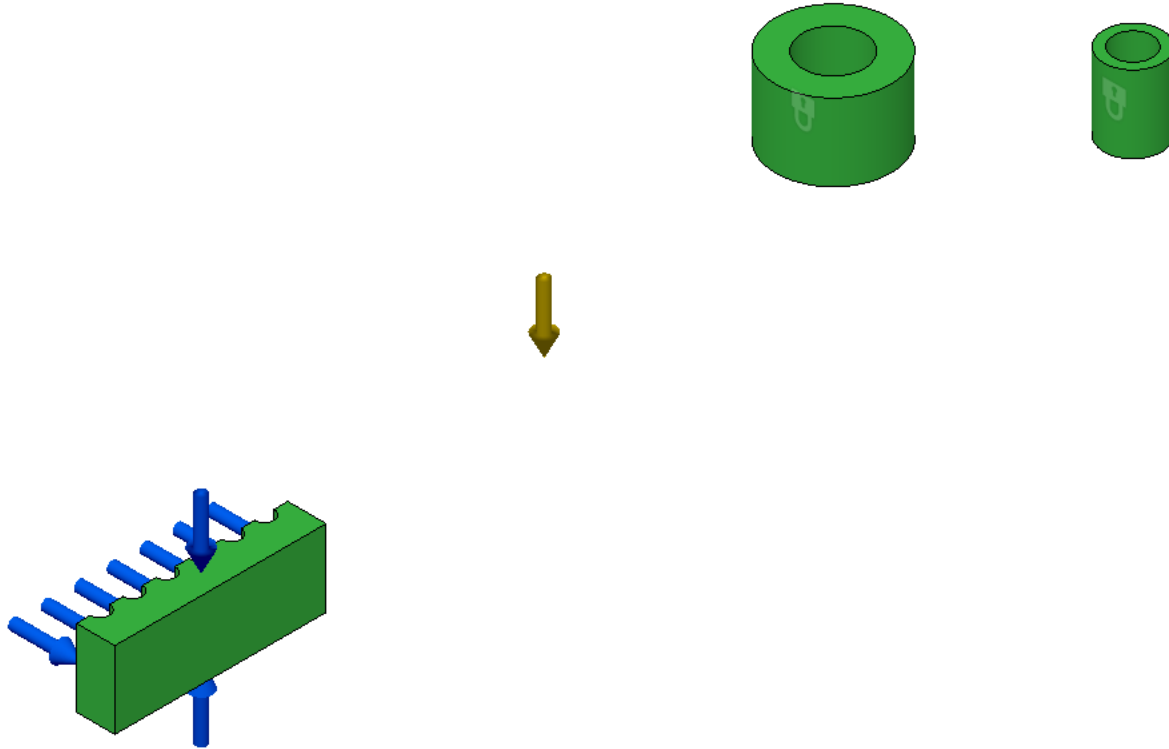
# How Generative Design works

# How Generative Design works



# Preserve Geometry

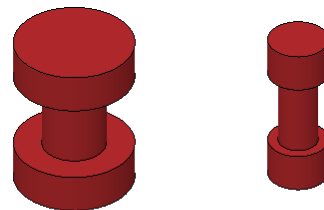
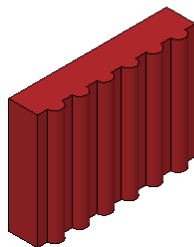
“Keep-ins”



# Obstacle Geometry

## “Keep-outs”

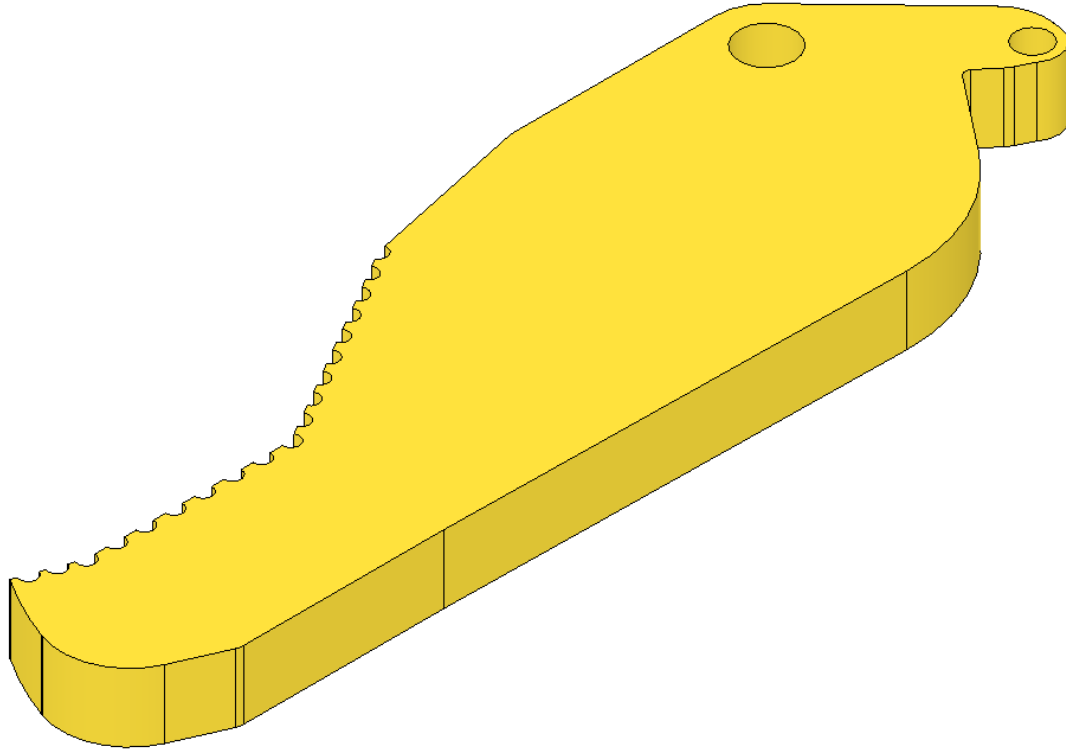
- clearances
- fastener and tool access
- motion/state
- assembly





# Starting Shape

“Optional”



# Design Conditions, Design Criteria, Materials



# Outcomes

Autodesk Fusion 360

GD V3\*

EXPLORE

GENERATIVE DESIGN

DISPLAY

EXPORT

CREATE

FINISH EXPLORE

Outcome filters

- > Processing status
- > Study
- > Visual similarity
- > Tech-Preview
- > Manufacturing method
- > Materials
- > Objective ranges

Volume (mm<sup>3</sup>)

880.15 9,956.105

Mass (kg)

0.004 0.08

Max von Mises stress (MPa)

65.983 353.011

Min factor of safety

1.429 9.35

Max displacement global (mm)

0.025 0.776

Piece part cost (USD)

0.52 160



















Fully burdened cost (USD)

0.56 165

Cost estimates powered by **aPriori**

Sort by Mass

> Recommended outcomes Compare

 Structural Compon... - Outcome 62 0.004 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 89 0.004 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 88 0.004 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 86 0.004 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 60 0.004 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 57 0.004 kg
 Structural Compon... - Outcome 61 0.004 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 58 0.004 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 91 0.004 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 64 0.004 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 63 0.004 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 87 0.004 kg
 Structural Compon... - Outcome 90 0.004 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 59 0.004 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 56 0.004 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 96 0.004 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 95 0.005 kg	 Structural Compon... - Outcome 70 0.005 kg

# Trade-off



## HUMAN DESIGNED

## 3-AXIS GENERATIVE

## 2.5-AXIS GENERATIVE

FOS

5.7

3.0

3.0

Mass

389.7g

186.7g

204.2g

Cycle Time

51 min

123min

35min

**Design  
Time**

**Options**

**HUMAN  
DESIGNED**

**3.5 Hours**

**3**

**3-AXIS  
GENERATIVE**

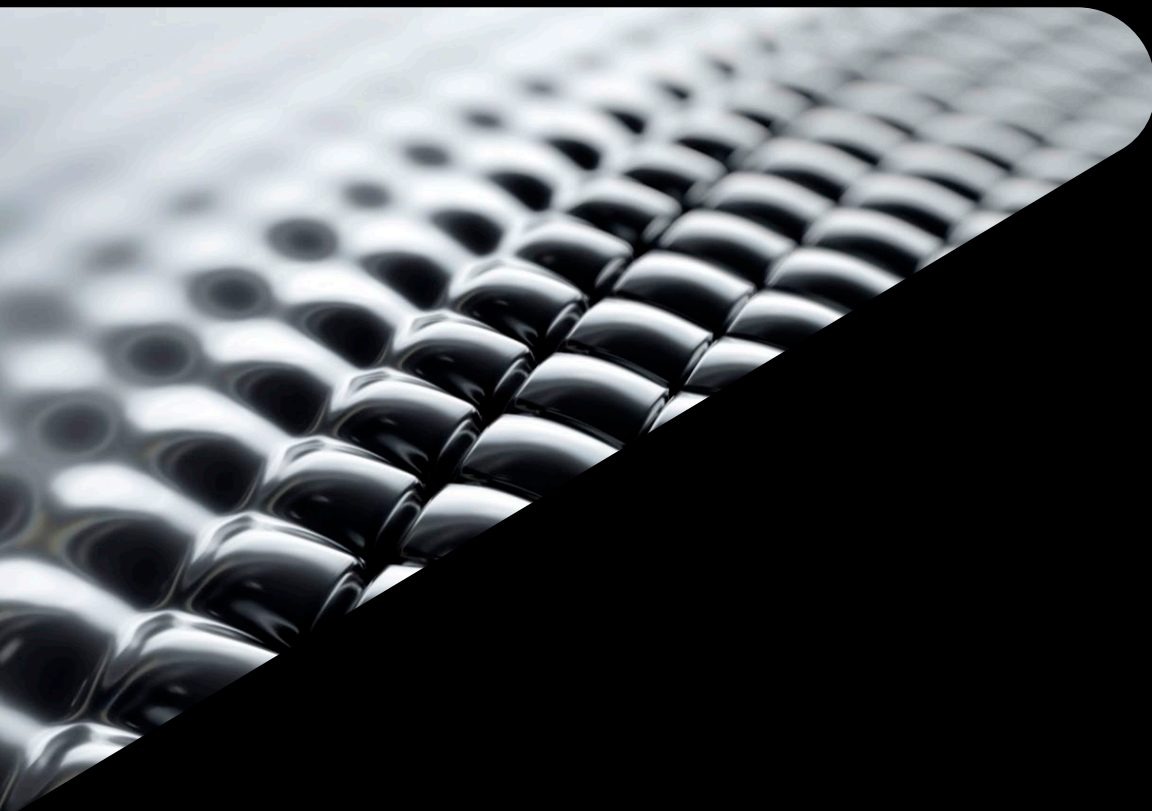
**20  
Minutes**

**100**

**2.5-AXIS  
GENERATIVE**

**20  
Minutes**

**100**



# **Topology Optimization vs Generative Design**



# Standard Topology Optimization vs Generative Design

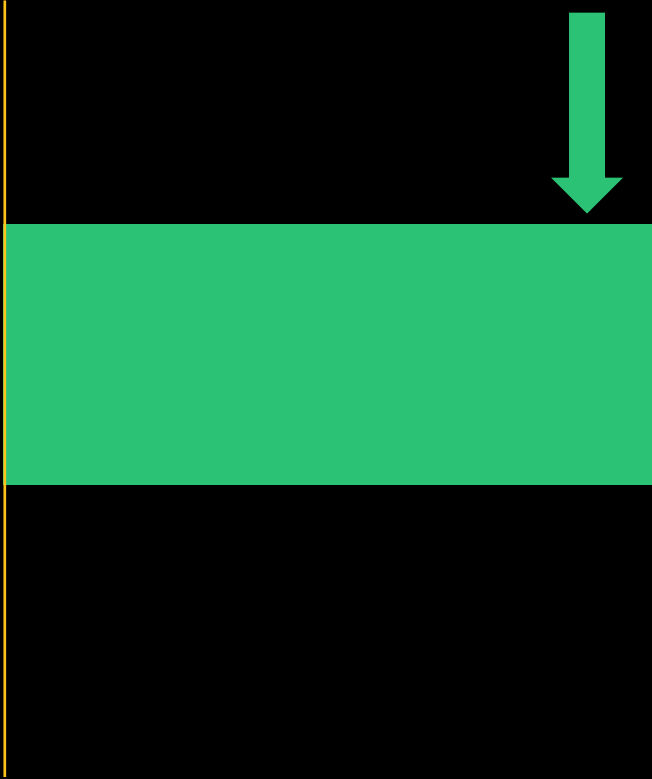
## Standard Topology Optimization

- **SIMP Method**  
(Solid Isotropic Microstructure with Penalization)
- Using the FEA (finite element method) engine, we define which voxel is necessary for a certain load
- In this method, it is possible to obtain only one solution for a given condition

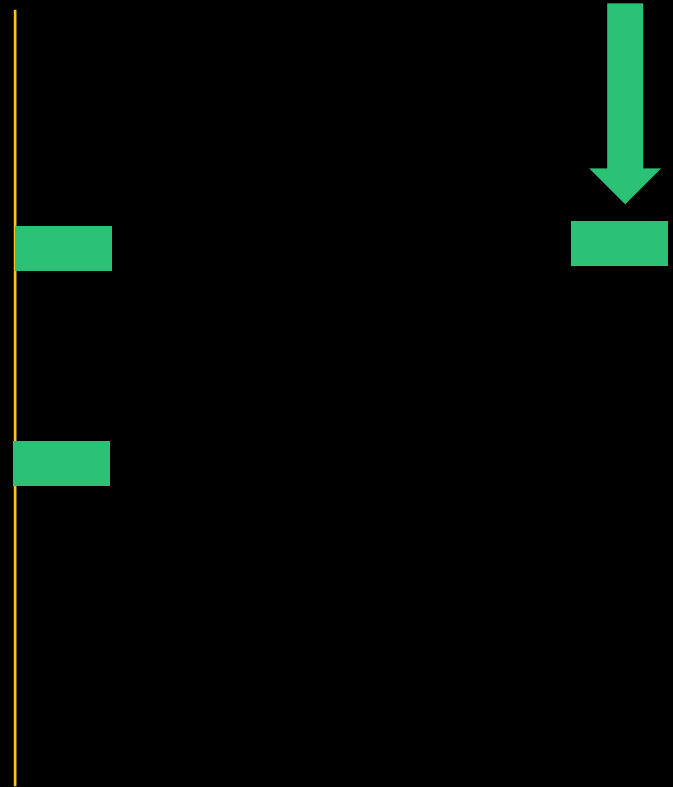
## Generative Design

- **Level Set Method**
- Define the minimum distortion parameter by repeatedly calculating the solver by moving the surface boundary of the part in the direction perpendicular to the load path
- It is possible to request multiple proposals
- Gray zone is excluded and results are clean
- It can output with Solid, Mesh, T-Spline

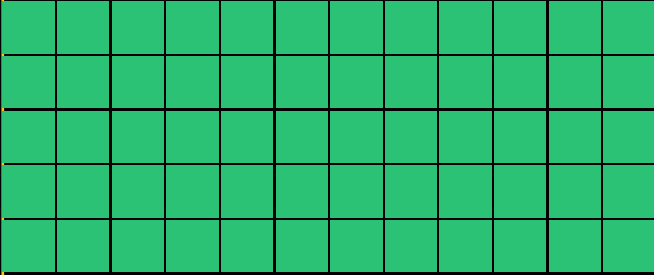
## SIMP method



## Level set method

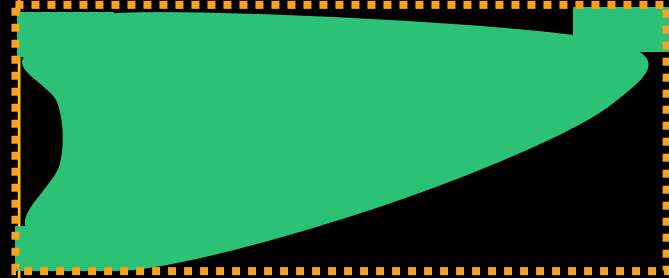


## SIMP method



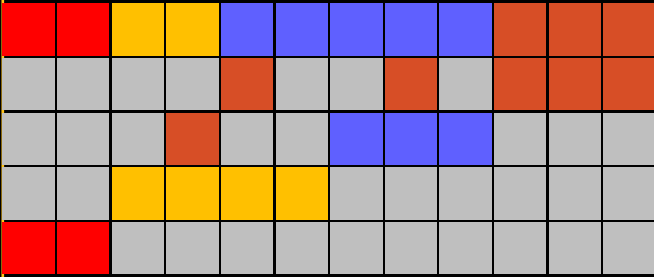
**Divide Solid Volume to Blocks**

## Level set method



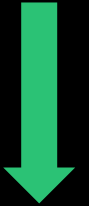
**While repeatedly calculating one chunk, it gradually transform**

## SIMP method



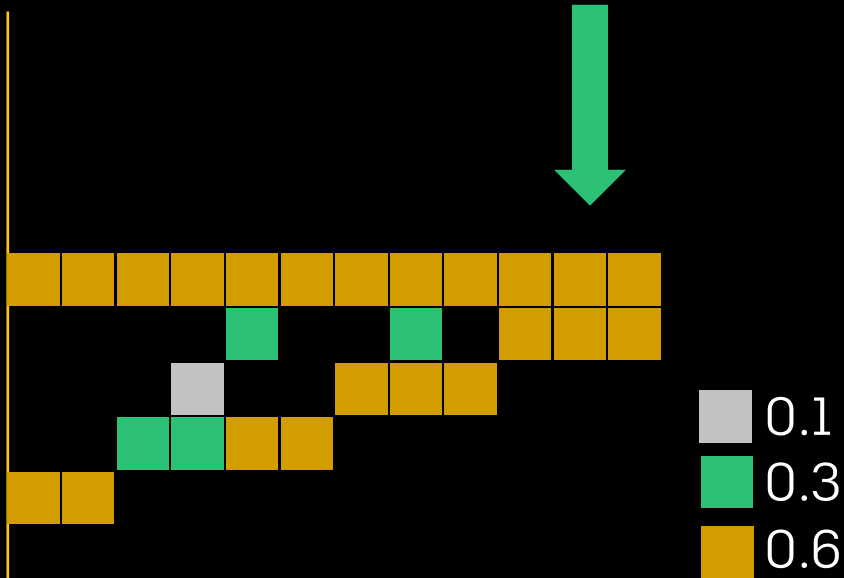
Based on how much stress is applied to each block, it removes ones not under any stress

## Level set method



It repeatedly calculate and remove parts that do not apply force

## SIMP method



It is required to set threshold between 0 to 1. Based on the value, it is possible to end up having a gray zone.

## Level set method



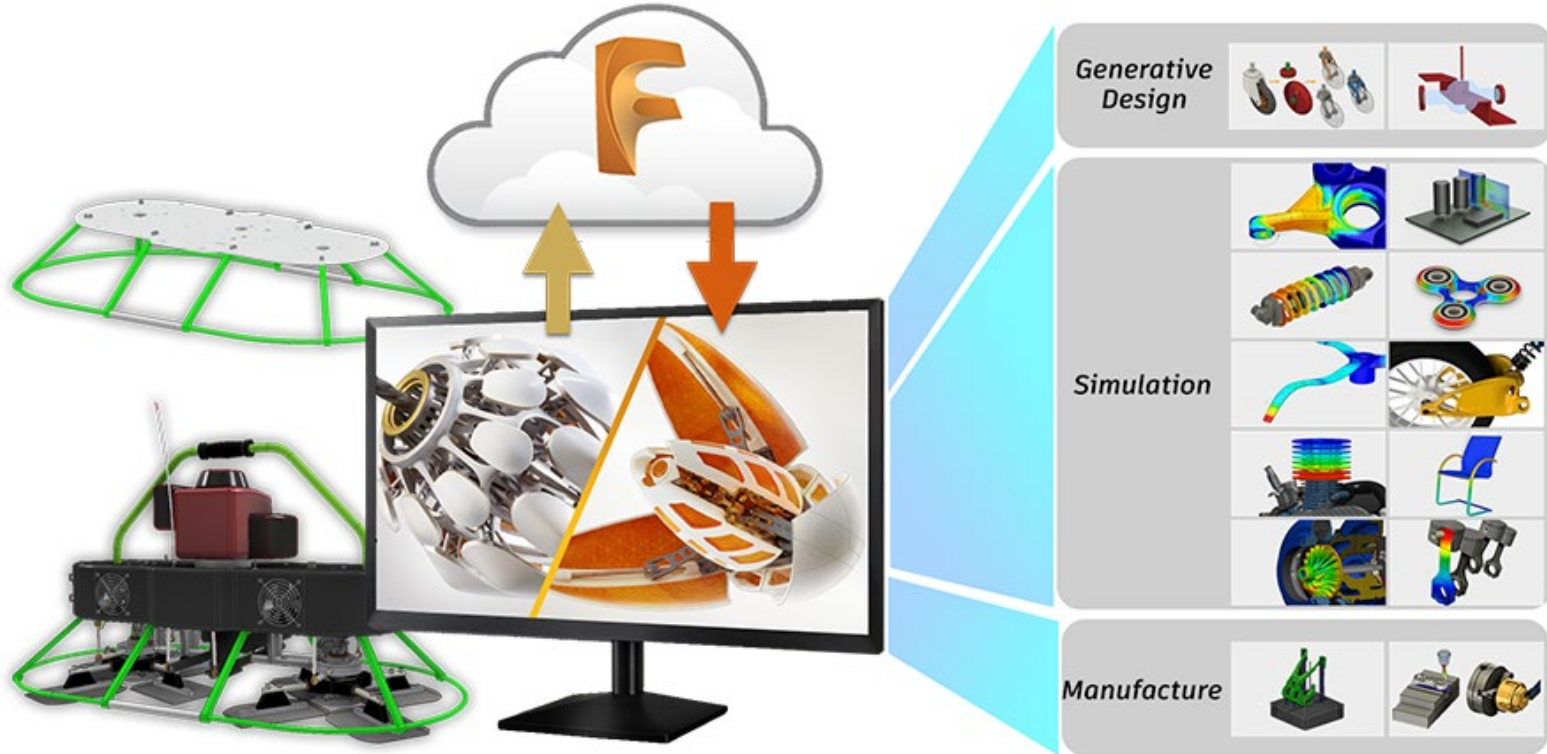
Since it is mono-form from the beginning, it is difficult to make a break



# Inventor and Generative Design

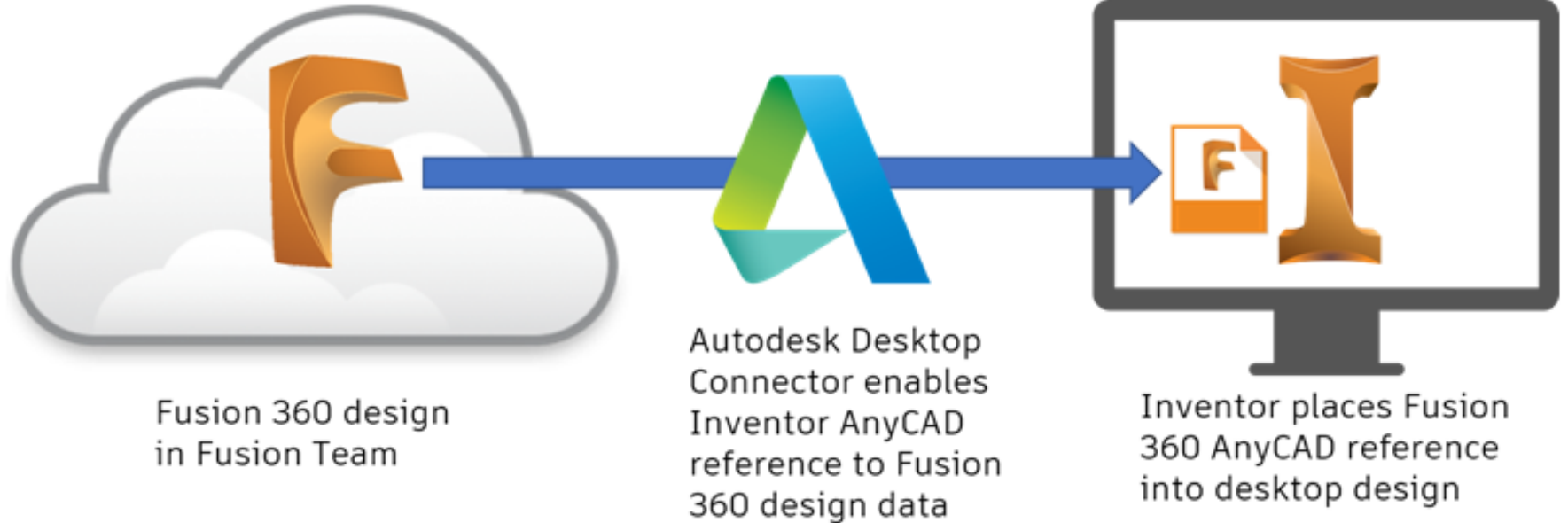
# From Inventor to Fusion 360

Send to Fusion 360 - Setup - Generate – Explore - Validate



# From Fusion 360 to Inventor

## Desktop Connector







# Live Demo

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