CASE STUDY

COMPANY

ESPY & IRIS

Espy & Iris was founded by a family from Cork with a fun spirit and a simple objective; to offer high quality on trend eye wear at amazing prices. Their founder is a practicing optician therefore you can trust Espy & Iris to deliver a top quality dispensing service. Each order is carefully checked and glazed by their in house optician.

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED

Espy & Iris approached the Nimbus Research Centre curious to investigate how far 3D printing technology has progressed for producing high quality frames for wearable glasses. Primary issues to be addressed:
• A technical feedback on the characteristics of the prints.
• Cost analysis of 3D printing as a means of design and rapid prototyping
• Post-print work: tooling and re-work required
This voucher will also expose Espy & Iris staff to the relevant technology and teach them what needs to be considered to realise a high-quality 3D print.

HOW?

INNOVATIVE SOLUTION

Using various technologies which include 3D scanning, 3D modeling and 3D printing, the researchers in Nimbus were able to demonstrate and provide technical expertise on the feasibility of these technologies in the eye-wear sector. The impact on end-to-end design, rapid prototyping and production of eye-wear frames of 3D printing technology is revolutionary with increase wide-adoption and latest emerging innovations are set to change the landscape of manufacturing. Along with technical research, Nimbus have provided the client with 3D printed eye-wear frames using various technologies and methods to outline the process from 3d modeling right through to post-rework.
The company is now better informed on whether to take on in-house design and production work by investing in an industry-grade printer or to partner with existing local production and manufacturing company to assist with their proprietary eyewear designs.

Christine Brosnan
Co-Founder, Espy & Iris

We were very satisfied with the technical experience and the quality of the people working with us on this project. The findings and recommendations from this study have been very informative and have opened several possibilities for us to consider when moving this project forward. It was a pleasure to work with the Nimbus team on this successful project and we look forward to future collaborations within the MTU family. We highly recommend the Nimbus Centre to companies looking to explore technical feasibility studies.