

FLOSSY TREATS

InnovateUs Case Study

Introduction

Flossy Treats is a family-owned business from Ballymena who specialise in catering for everyone's sweet need, from the young to the old. They are based in Galgorm and have a wedding room, shop and a party room. They cater for a variety of events such as Weddings, Birthdays, Christenings, Communions, Engagements, Hen/Stag parties, Graduations, Formals, Corporate events, and Fundays. Flossy Treats stock Handmade vintage Candy Carts, Chocolate Fountains, Candy floss & Popcorn machines, Popcorn carts, Wedding favours, Sweet trees, and Party bags.

Challenge

Flossy treats needed to develop a process for producing custom design chocolates. The process involved developing the chocolate design in 3D CAD, producing a 3D print of the design and then using a vacuum former to produce a mould using food safe plastic sheets for the chocolate to be poured into. Developing this product would help them meet increased demand as a customer had already placed a substantial monthly order for a custom-moulded chocolate.

Solution

Flossy Treats approached the college to engage in an InnovateUs project, funded by the DfE. Having already purchased a vacuum moulding machine, Flossy treats needed upskilling in both, how to define the parameters for the mould and how to use a 3D printer in order to create custom moulds for their clients. These skills were delivered within the following categories

- 3D CAD training - Solid Edge
- Explore 3D printer technologies and their operation
- 3D printer training
- Vacuum forming technology & refinement of current process



Result

Flossy Treats have developed a new process for producing customised chocolate products for their customers. This is already increasing the amount of business that they are doing and increasing the number of high value commercial customers they serve.