Promoting prototype readability

Use Case – Using Stratasys® VeroUltra™ materials to power in-house rapid prototyping for beverage packaging.

Challenge
When creating bottle packaging, designers value quick iteration, readability and a streamlined decision-making process. However, this is not always achievable when prototyping with traditional blow-molded plastic or glass prototypes. Finding the right combination of bottle shape and labels can be an expensive, multi-step process. The process can also be more manual and more difficult to create repeatable iterations. Creating one prototype can also be a time-consuming endeavor, leaving designers little time to create additional iterations.

Solution
Using Stratasys PolyJet™ 3D printing technology and VeroUltra family of opaque color materials in-house, designers were able to visualize an entire packaging design — bottle and label — in one physical model. The technology also made sharp detailing possible on elements such barcodes, QR codes and label text, which helped with the readability of the design. The VeroUltra materials also allowed designers to achieve bright colors and smooth gradients straight from the printer.

Impact
Enabling in-house rapid prototyping reduced design iteration time tremendously, streamlining workflows. Additionally, existing renders of the package design could be exported for printing, eliminating the risk of miscommunication and improving version control.