

Before we have our face-to-face meeting in a couple weeks, I have a question. Why are NC machines, Lathes, and the other manufacturing machines you have mentioned not made [obsolete](#) by 3D printing? If not, what good are the 3D Metal Printers? In other words, what tools/machines/equipment and types of same does a 3D printer replace? Why would 3D printer owner want to buy any of old manufacturing tools? If they are being made obsolete, is it not best to get rid of obsolete equipment as soon as possible, while they still have value? Maybe someone is out there who does not see the future coming.

I remember when shaped skis came out. Having never tried them I got all excited when I began seeing perfectly good skis being sold for \$10 with bindings. They worked great. Two years earlier those same skis had been sold for \$500, \$600 with bindings. I bought a few pair. As soon as I tried shaped skis though, they went up to the rafters.

[Buggy whips](#) were a huge industry that disappeared rapidly with the invention of the automobile, and that happened way before autos were prevalent. [Technically obsolete](#), they quit making them; and there was still enough supply to meet demand.

If we buy those old machines at this time, we should get a low price; but how long until they are worthless? Like buggy whips, they may be worthless now.