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European Association of the Machine Tool Industries and related Manufacturing Technologies



CECIMO WEBINAR Additive Manufacturing: An opportunity to fill the gaps in traditional supply chains

Thursday 2nd of July, 11.00 am - 12.10 pm







Embedding AM into industrial value chains

Dr. Bernhard Mueller Fraunhofer Additive Manufacturing Alliance





Additive Manufacturing at Fraunhofer: One topic – twenty institutes – one alliance



- Engineering to invent and design new products and develop suitable process chains
- Materials to adapt new materials
- Technologies to achieve (cost-)efficient processes
- Quality to control and ensure manufacturing reproducibility and product quality
- Software and simulation to develop intelligent algorithms apply simulation efficiently











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Fraunhofer vs. Corona: Providing 3D printed face shields to first responders

- Johanniter Unfall-Hilfe (German St. John's Order) asked for 5,000 face shields for training purposes
- AM network Medical goes Additive (MGA) supported Johanniter's call for help within its initiative "3D Printing fights Corona"
- Fraunhofer AM Alliance manufactured and donated
 550+ of the 5,000 face shields
- 6 Alliance member institutes involved: EMI, IAPT, IGCV, IPA, IPT, IWU
- FFF and SLS technologies used to 3D print the face shields





»This work was supported by the Fraunhofer Internal Programs under Grant No. Anti-Corona 072-600101«









Sources: Fraunhofer EMI, Fraunhofer IPA, Fraunhofer IPT, MGA Medical, Johanniter-Unfallhilfe







Fraunhofer vs. Corona: Providing 3D printed face shields to first responders

- Fraunhofer IML re-engineered open source file for face shields to optimize it for polymer laser sintering
- Production increase from 60 to 500 face shield components in one print job
- Production of clear visors with laser
- Fraunhofer IML manufactured (in cooperation with FH Dortmund) 1500 face shields for local hospitals and doctors







Sources: Fraunhofer IML, Ruhrlandklinik Essen











Lighthouse Project Future AM: Project overview







Lighthouse Project Future AM: Project Challenges in post processing



Process chain of additive manufacturing of metal components

Post processing causes up to 70% of the overall component costs

- High percentage of manual work
 - for component removal
 - for removal of support structures
 - for mechanical post processing

Missing integration in industrial manufacturing environments and process chains





Lighthouse Project Future AM: Automated post processing



Fraunhofer Contact: Florian Lehmann





Lighthouse Project Future AM: Component identification

Motivation

- Disbanding rigid process chains requires clear allocation between component and production parameters
- Traceability in different industry sectors required or mandatory

 Clear identification protects from product piracy

Solution approach

Use of manufacturing possibilities to integrate a codification inside the component



Process Planning and codification



Reading of the code by different nondestructive measurement methods



Signal evaluation, decoding, data assignment





Lighthouse Project Future AM: Chosen identifiers and non-destructive readout methods







Fraunhofer vs. Corona: MobiMed – Development of a mobile production line for medical equipment and facilities in crisis regions

Data management

- Easy to use ordering system
- Order catalogue for common medical products
- Provision of variants

On-site production

- Process chain for plastic components
- User support by Augmented Reality (AR)
- 20ft container format for maximum versatility

Quality assurance

- Part traceability by QRcodes
- AR-supported part check
- Sterilization and packaging







Supply chain for medical equipment with high criticality

»This work was supported by the Fraunhofer Internal Programs under Grant No. Anti-Corona 179-640001«



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IDEA – Industrialization of Digital Engineering and Additive Manufacturing







IDEA – Focus of Fraunhofer IPT

Automation





Automation concepts for component handling



- Analysis of the existing processes and hardware
- Development of a holistic methodology
- Generation and simulation of automation concepts

Support structure removal



Software for removal of support structures



- Simulation of contact conditions
- Execution of physical milling investigations
- Development of material removal simulation

Process chain evaluation





Software for automated process chain evaluation



- Formal description of technologies and parameters
- Development of framework for data acquisition
- Development and implementation of decision logic

Source: Fraunhofer IPT

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POLYLINE – Integrated line application of polymer-based AM technologies







Federal Ministry of Education and Research

Description

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- Vertical and horizontal integration of AM processes in conventional lines can only be implemented to a limited extent due to the lack of standards across process chains
- Reason: AM-specific production steps ("batch process") and low level of automation of the physical handling and transport processes
- Digital data chain is not continuous, which currently leads to intransparency, error-proneness and limited monitoring

) Target

Equivalent to the IDEA project with its focus on metal-based AM, the POLYLINE project focuses on the automation and integration of laser sintering of polymers along the entire process chain

Source: Fraunhofer IML





POLYLINE – Focus of Fraunhofer IML and IGCV







Integration:

- Development of an integration concept:
 - Integration of all process steps into an optimized AM process
 - Integration of the AM process into conventional production environments

Material flow:

- Flexible linking of process steps is a prerequisite for successful automation of an AM-line
- The entire material flow is considered
 - transport of exchangeable frames, components and powder
- Implementation of concepts in cooperation with consortium partners

Digital process chain:

- Focus on digital process chain in additive order processing
- Concept for optimal production planning and control of the POLYLINE is being developed
- Concept will be tested for scalability in a simulation

Quality and technical cleanliness:

- Analysis and optimization of the areas of component cleaning and finishing
- IGCV develops cleaning process chains to close process-related gaps
- Target is to increase resource efficiency and product quality







Thank you for your attention!

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