



**AACHEN CENTER  
FOR ADDITIVE  
MANUFACTURING**



## **Discover3DPrinting**

### Basic AM Seminar

Gustavo Melo; Lukas Bauch | 19. - 22. November 2024

**formnext**

# The ACAM Offers Services in the Areas of Consulting, Engineering, Research and Education with a Focus on the Additive Manufacturing Industry



## Your presenter



*Gustavo Melo*

- Senior Consultant for ACAM Aachen Center for Additive Manufacturing GmbH
- Research Group Manager at the Digital Additive Production Chair (DAP) of RWTH Aachen University

## Community

### BUSINESS Member



### PROFESSIONAL Member



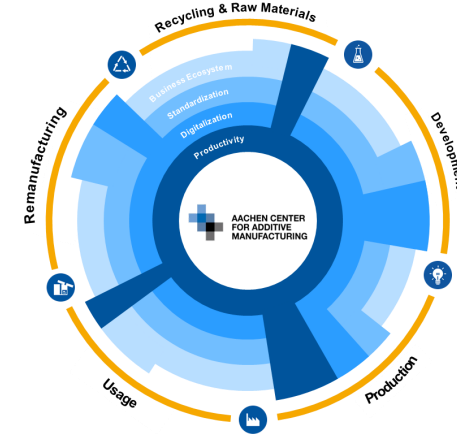
### BASIC Member



### COOPERATION Member



## Perspective and focus



## Key figures

- One-stop-shop for additive manufacturing covering the entire process chain
- Pooling of resources of RWTH Aachen Campus and facilitating industry's access to the Additive Manufacturing expertise of leading scientific and research institutions
- Over 100 researchers engaged in topics around the AM product life cycle and industry structure
- Delivery of approx. 40 industry project in consulting, engineering and research

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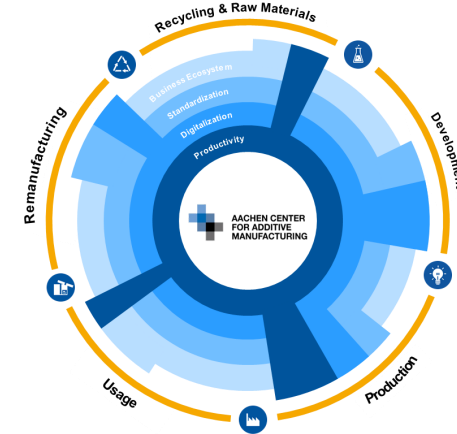
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## Perspective and focus



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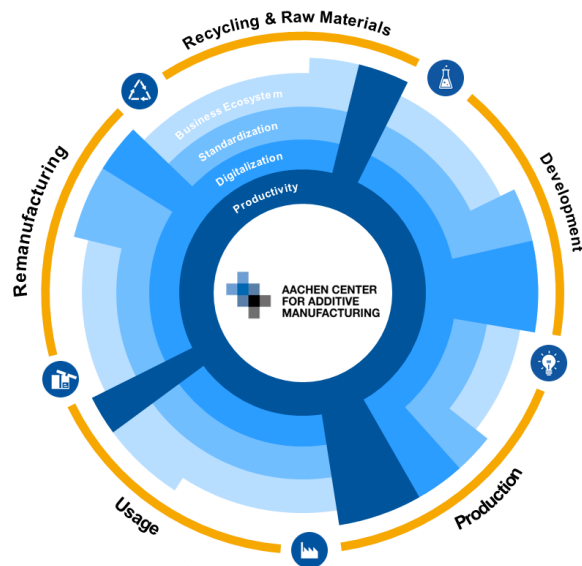
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# ACAM Aachen Center for Additive Manufacturing

## Critical mass of people and know-how

### Think Tank for the Additive Manufacturing Industry

Creating opportunities by leading-edge **R&D**, professional **training and education**, and agile **engineering** and **consulting** services



-  Dedicating **3,000 m²** lab space to AM research
-  Connecting **100+ researchers** in the field of AM

### Leading-Edge Research in Additive Manufacturing





# Heritage

## The Cradle of Metal AM



**The cradle of  
metal AM**

1995

**First Hybrid  
Machine Tool**



Image Source: DAP RWTH Aachen University, Fraunhofer ILT, Campus GmbH

Aachen Center for Additive Manufacturing | RWTH Aachen Campus

1997

**Basic Patent  
for SLM**



2001

**First Tool  
Insert**



2008

**First Implant**



2015

**Foundation  
of ACAM**



**The world's most vivid  
and multifaceted AM  
ecosystem**

# Basic AM Seminar – Content



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1	Introduction to Additive Manufacturing (AM)	6
2	Overview of AM Technologies	12
3	AM Application Examples	26
4	Considerations for Successful Adaption of AM	37
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# Introduction to AM

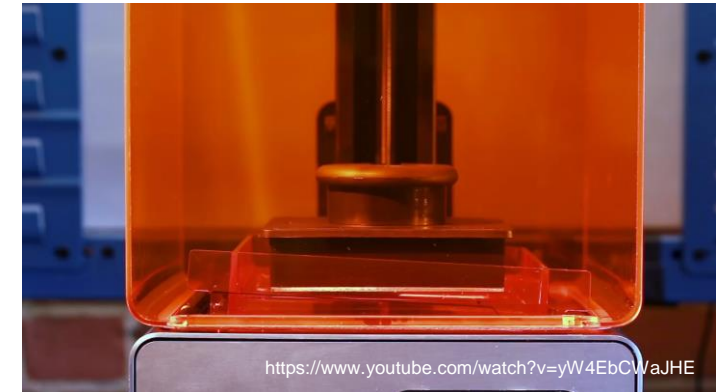
## Additive Manufacturing – Definition



### Definition (ASTM 52900)

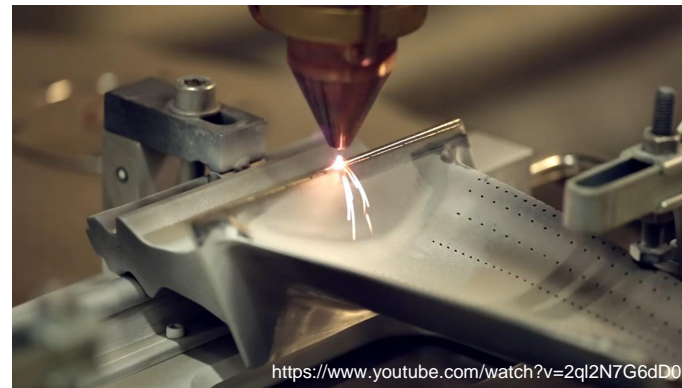
*“Additive Manufacturing (AM) is defined as the process that*

- ***produces components from 3D model data***
- ***by joining material usually layer by layer,***
- *as opposed to subtractive and formative manufacturing methods.”*



### Definition (VDI 3405)

*“Manufacturing process in which the **workpiece is built up in successive layers or units.**”*

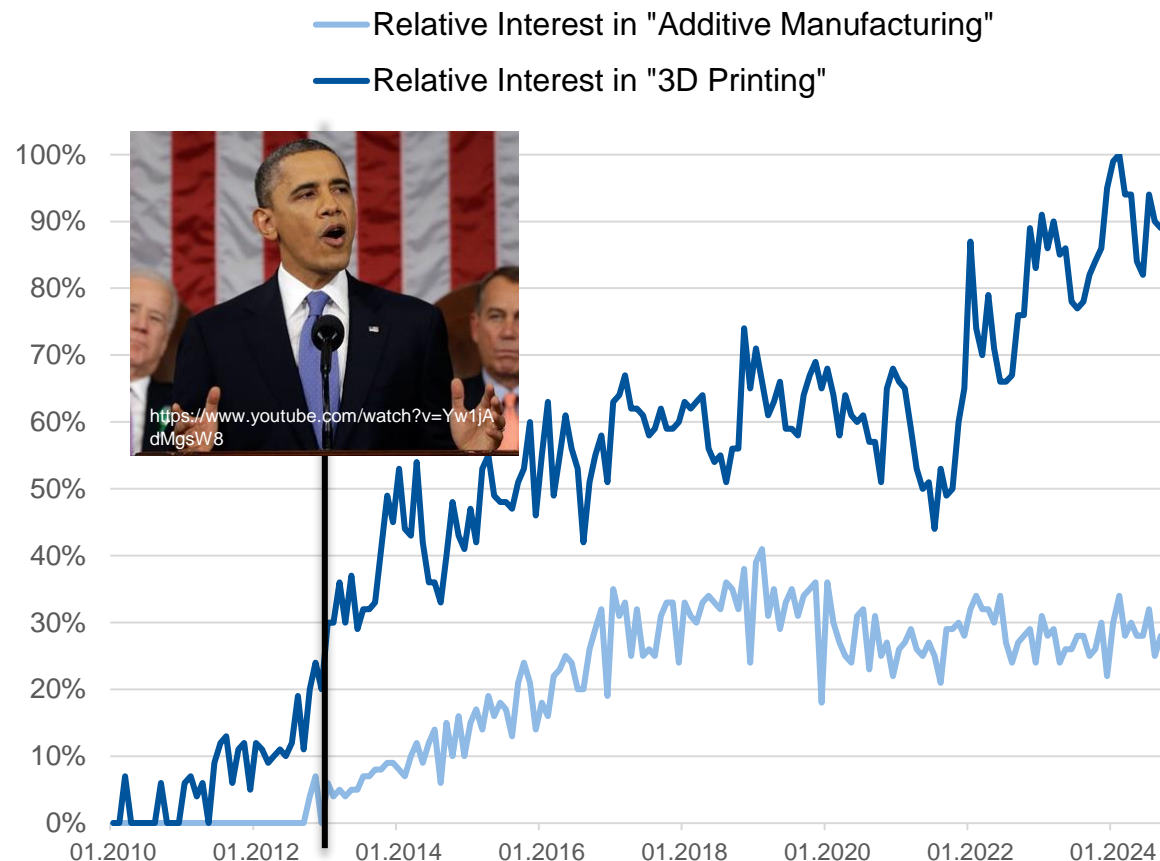


# Introduction to AM

## Hype or Manufacturing Revolution? - Global Interest on AM According to Google Trends



### Global relative interest (Google Trends)



- **Overall positive trend** of relative interest in AM and 3D printing in online search platforms
- **Lower interest in AM compared to 3D printing** because **AM is the more scientific term**
- **Strong increase** of the search term **3D printing**

**“3D Printing has the potential to revolutionize the way we make almost everything”**

Barack Obama, State of the Union,  
Feb 2013

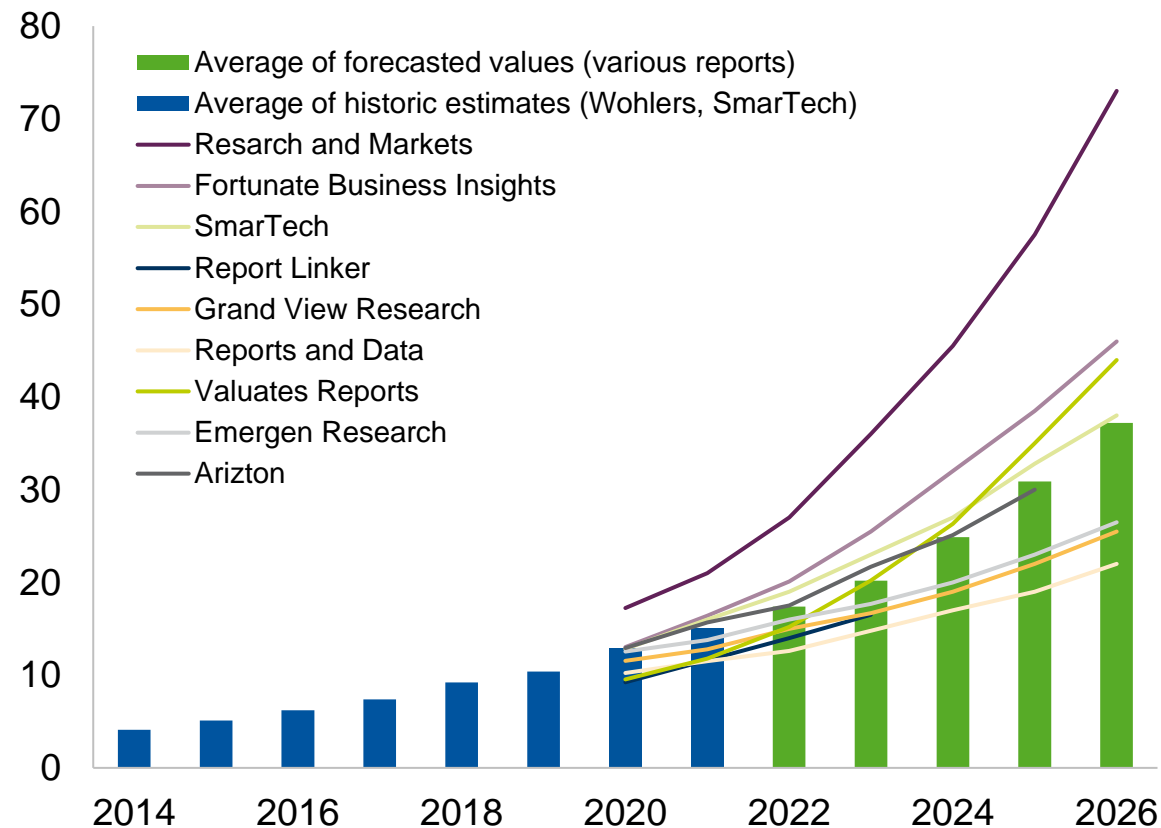


# Introduction to AM

## Positive Historic and Future Development of the AM Market



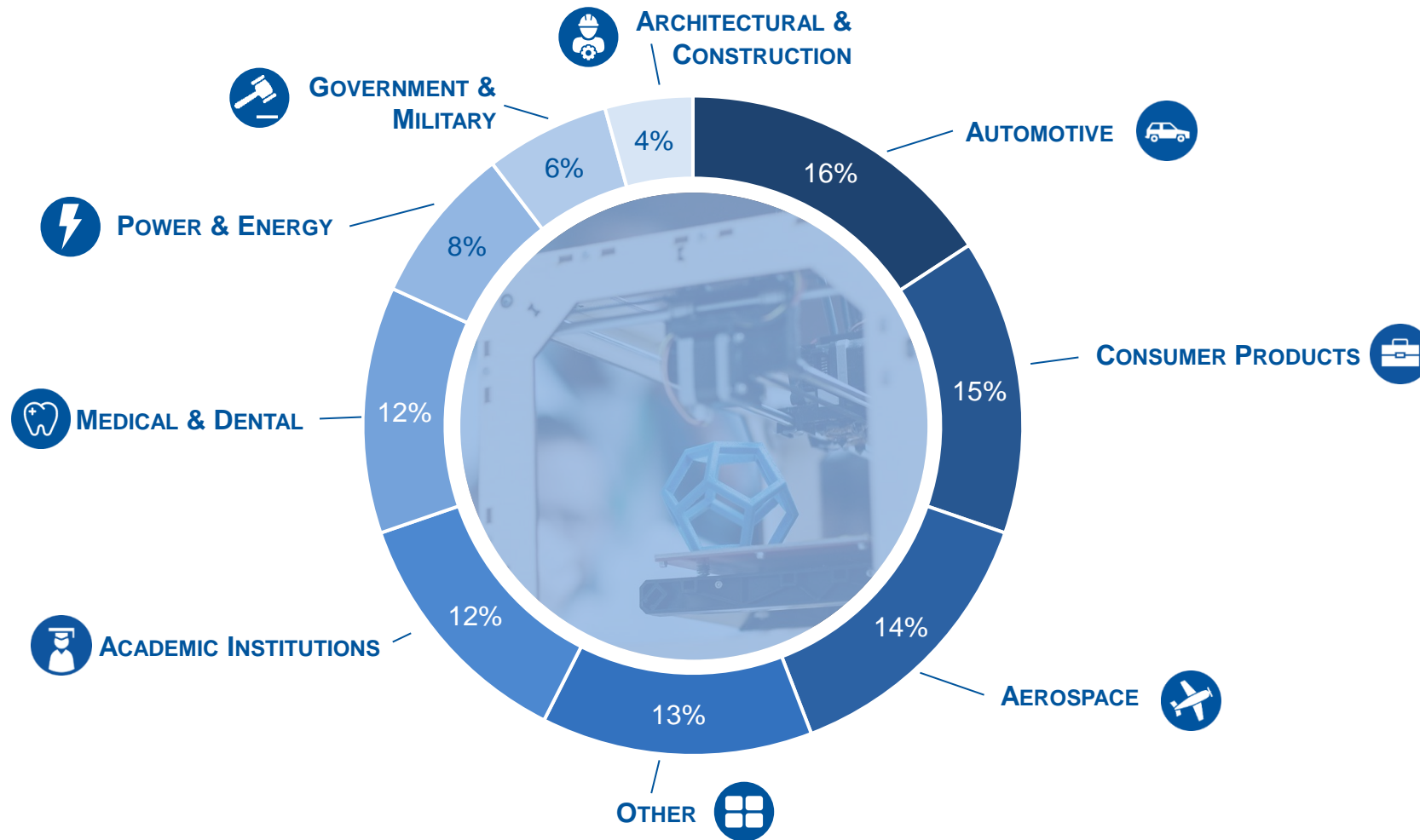
**Total AM market size according to different market reports [\$ billion]**



- **Overall positive** forecasted and historic growth rates in all reports
- **Diverging positive forecasts** indicate a **developing** volatile and uncertain market
- **Included revenue (primary market):**
  - AM systems
  - Software
  - Materials
  - Services

# Introduction to AM

## Market Overview



Source: Wohlers Report 2023

# Introduction to AM

## AM Benefits and Barriers



### + AM Benefits

- **Design freedom:** Complex features, lightweight, monolithic
- **Flexible design** iterations and engineering changes
- **Integration of functions**
- Economic **small quantities** and **individualization**
- **Short time** and efficiency **idea to product**
- **Short supply chain**
- **Insourcing:** Appealing for staff in industrialized countries & high degree of automation
- **Sustainability** by material reduction or efficiency in performance

### - AM Barriers

- **Long printing times**
- Almost **no economies of scale**
- **Low surface quality** as-built
- **Large geometrical tolerances** as-built
- **Requires “Additive Mindset”** and **skills**
- **Complex quality assurance** and **certification**
- **Health and security** measures required

**AM benefits and barriers are not generic – consideration of use case, AM technology and process chain mandatory**

# Basic AM Seminar – Content

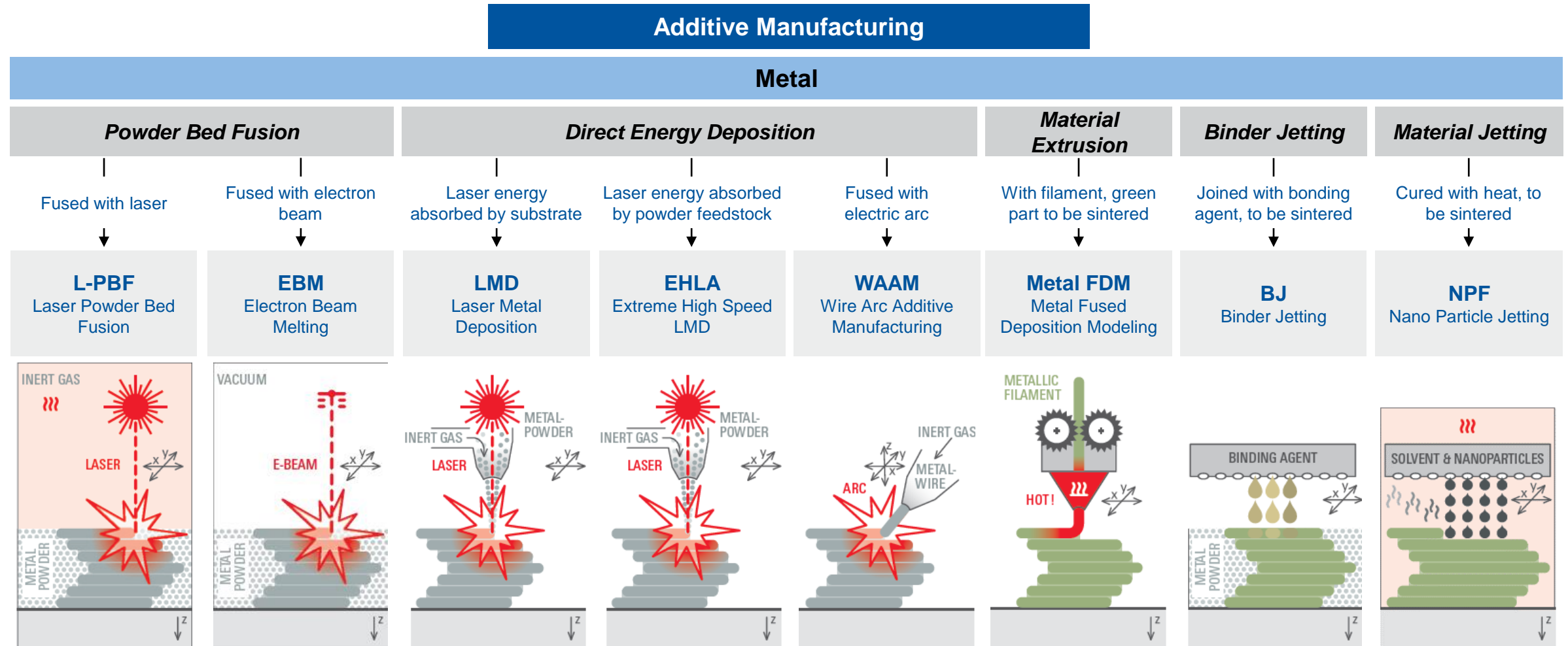


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# AM Technology Overview

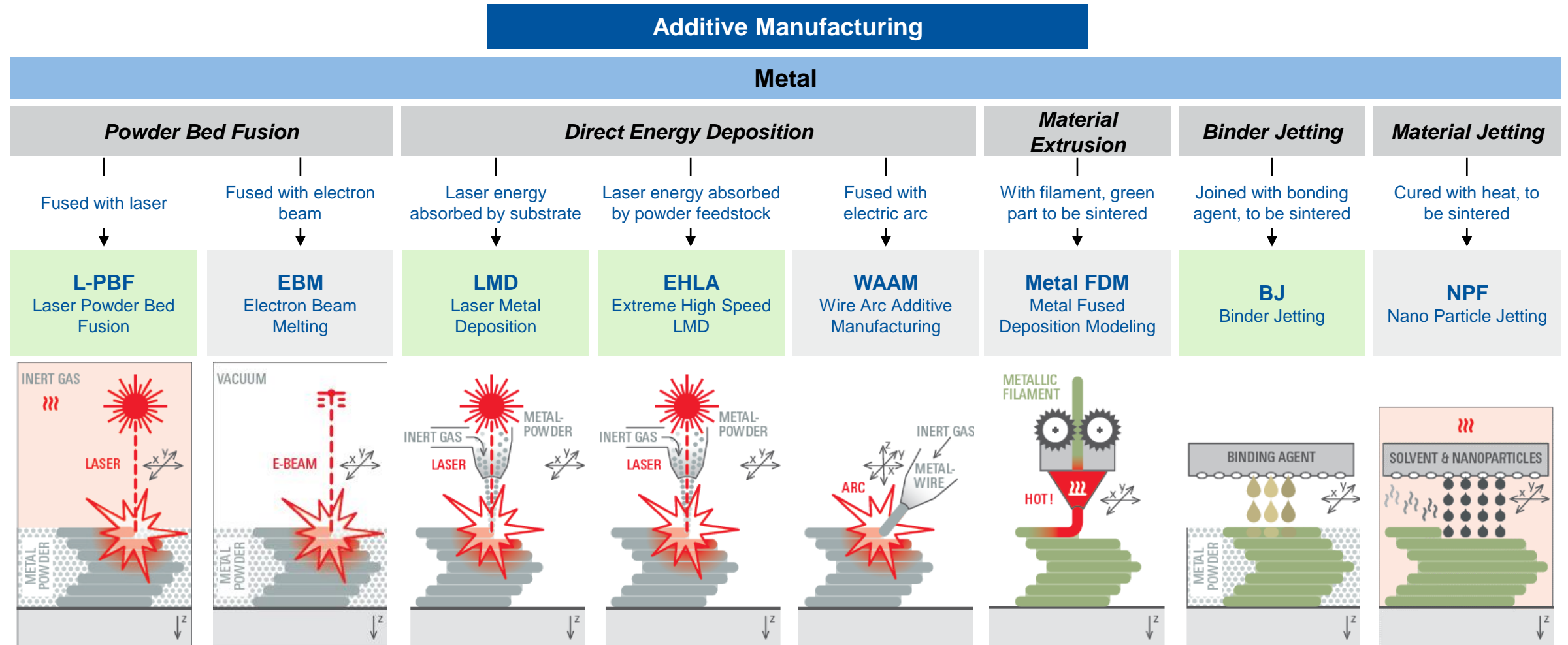
## Segmentation of Established Metal AM Technologies



Source: Derived from Formnext AM Field Guide Compact and DIN EN ISO/ASTM Terminology

# AM Technology Overview

## Segmentation of Established Metal AM Technologies



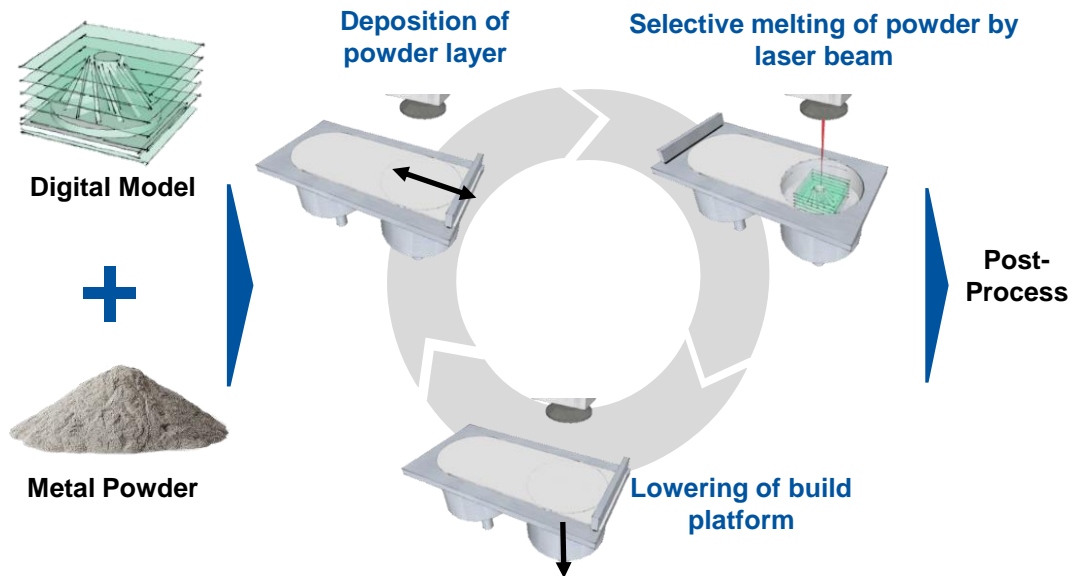
Source: Derived from Formnext AM Field Guide Compact and DIN EN ISO/ASTM Terminology

# AM Technologies

## Laser Powder Bed Fusion of Metal (LPBF)



### Process Principle



### Process in Action



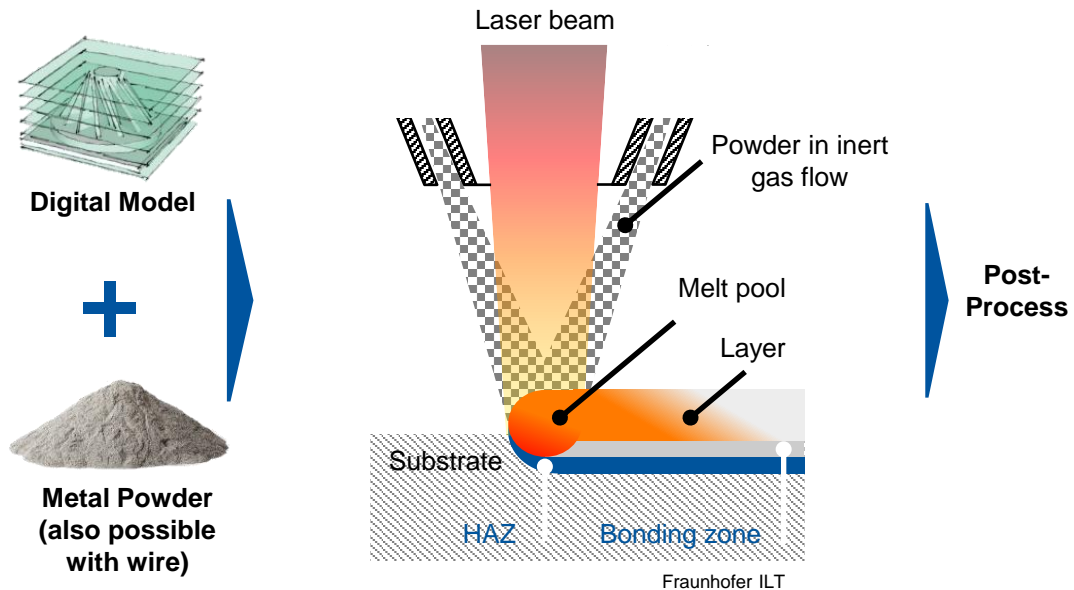
- Selective melting of metal powder layer-by-layer with one or more lasers
- Requires support structures for overhangs
- General suitability for weldable materials, comparably many alloys are qualified (e.g., steels, Ni base alloys, CoCr, copper and alloys, Ti and alloys, Al alloys, refractory metals, Mg alloys, HEA)

# AM Technologies

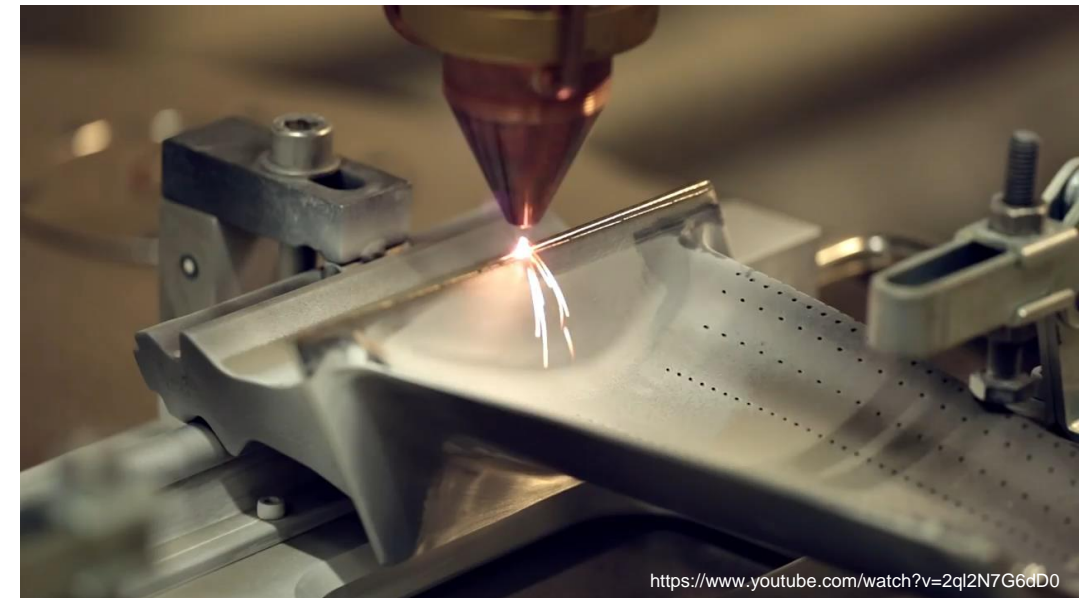
## Laser Metal Deposition (LMD)



### Process Principle



### Process in Action



- Used for additive manufacturing, additive coating and repair (deposition on existing geometry)
- Powder is transported by an inert gas flow
- Energy for melting the metal powder is mainly deposited in the substrate, not directly in the powder
- General suitability for weldable materials, different materials qualified (e.g., steels, Ni-base alloys, Al alloys)

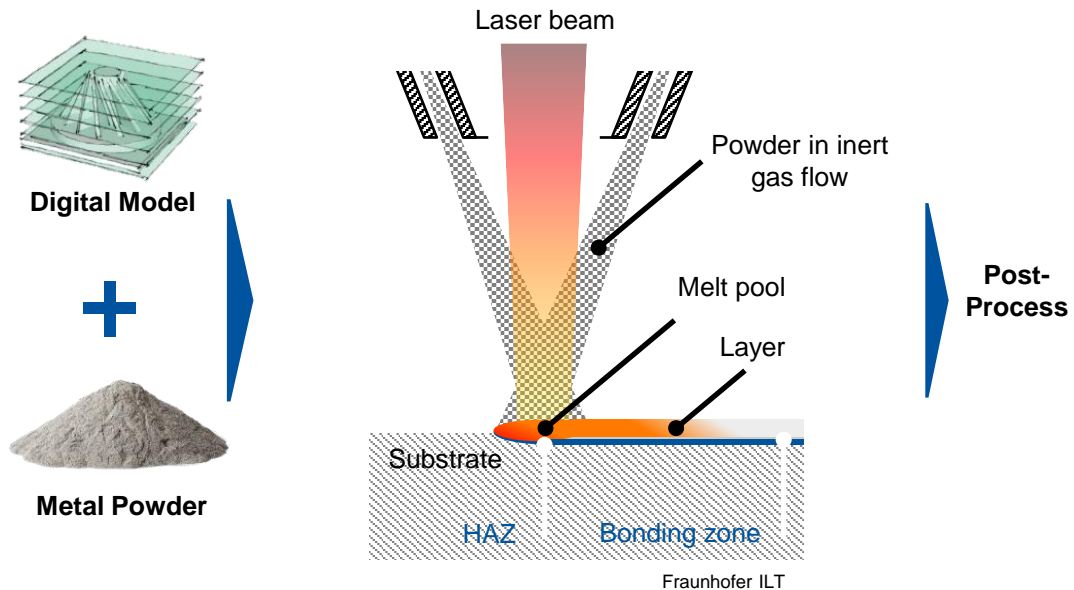


# AM Technologies

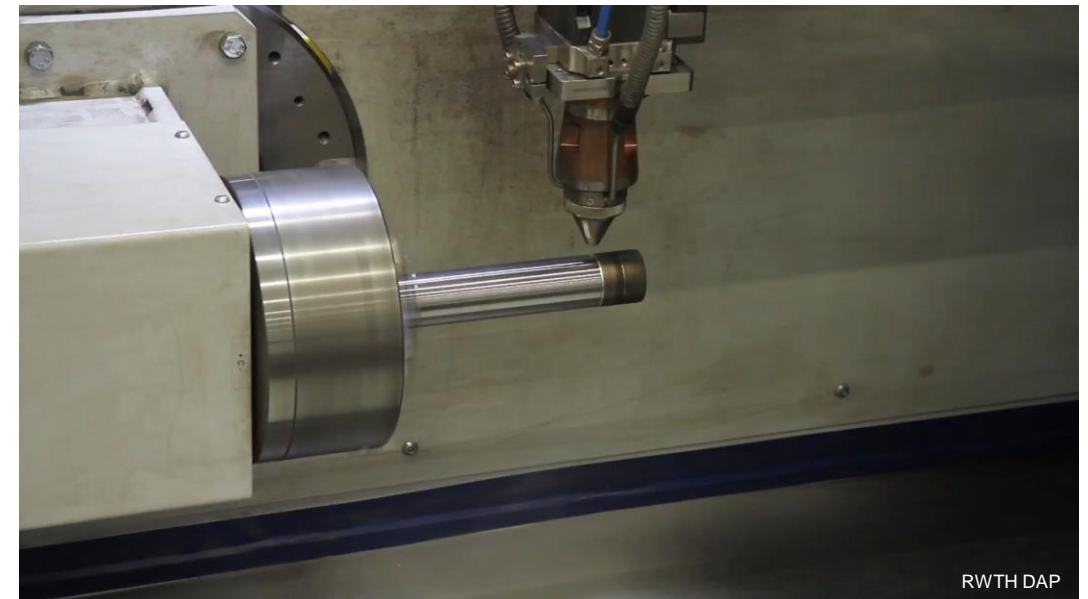
## Extreme High Speed Laser Metal Deposition (EHLA)



### Process Principle



### Process in Action



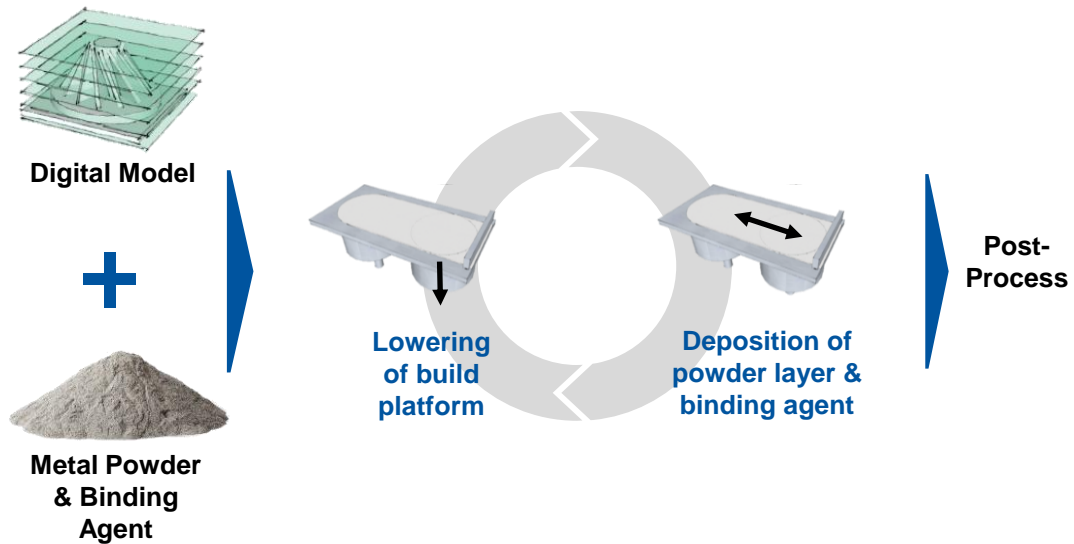
- Application of homogenous coatings on rotationally symmetrical parts with higher process speed than LMD
- Powder is transported by inert gas flow
- Energy is mainly deposited in the metal powder and not the substrate
- EHLA for AM of 3D parts is an emerging technology

# AM Technologies

## Binder Jetting (BJ)



### Process Principle



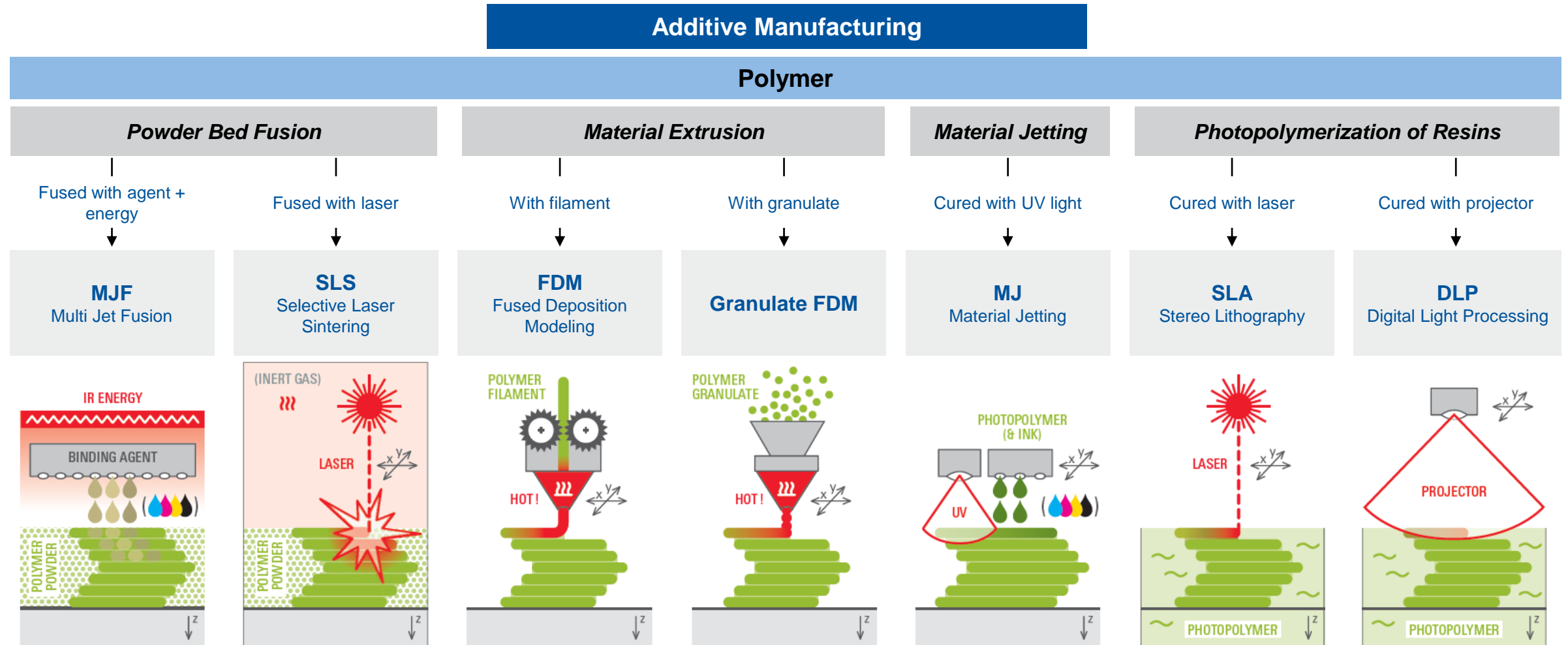
### Process in Action



- Production of complex geometries by selective deposition of binder agent on metal powder layer by layer
- As-built part is in green state and requires further processing steps for functionality (e.g., curing, depowdering, sintering)
- Compared to LPBF lower technological maturity and less materials qualified, but potential of higher productivity

# AM Technology Overview

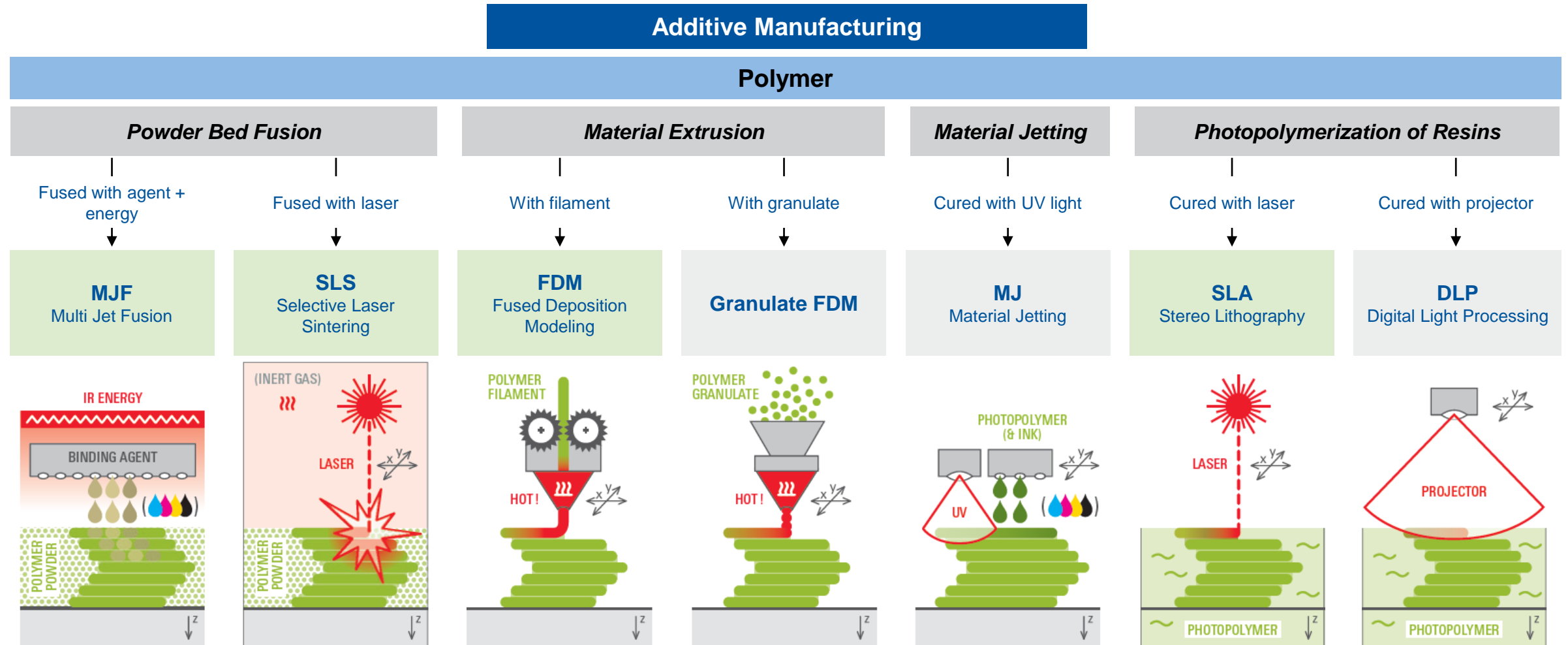
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Source: Derived from Formnext AM Field Guide Compact and DIN EN ISO/ASTM Terminology

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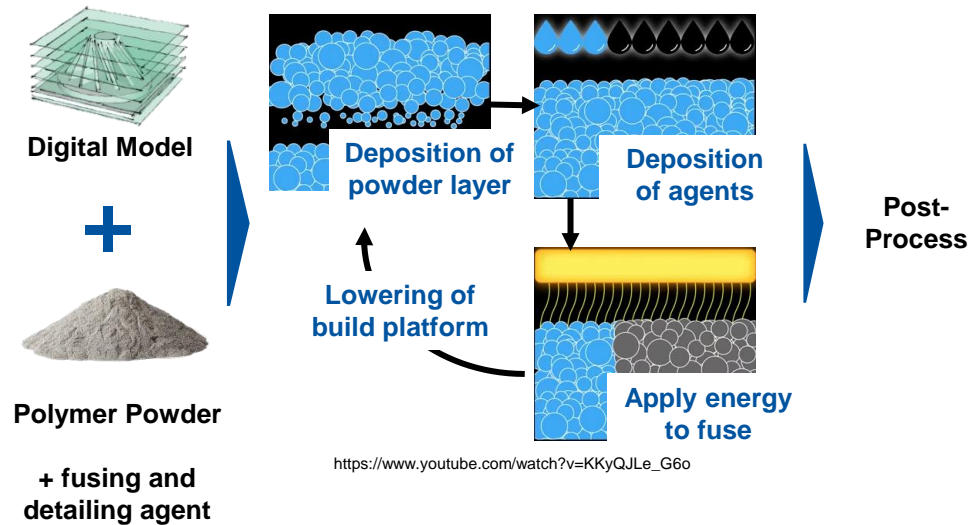


# AM Technologies

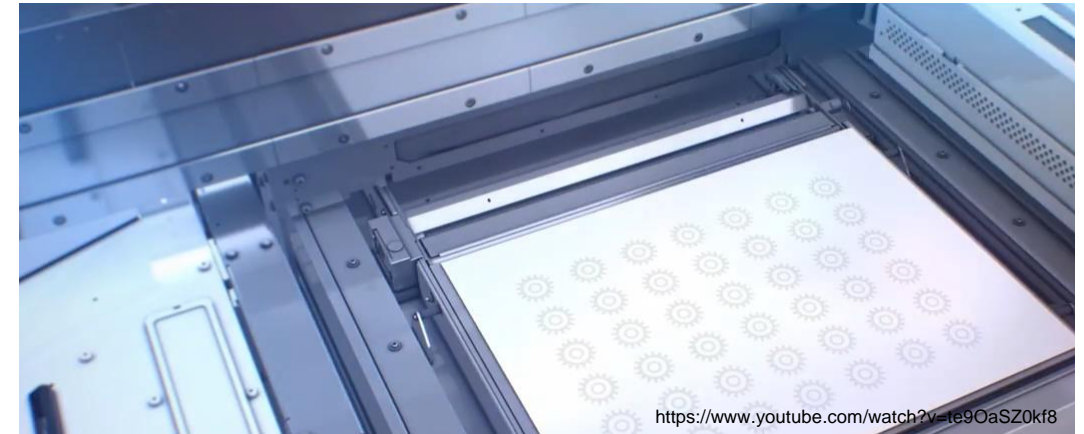
## Multi Jet Fusion (MJF)



### Process Principle



### Process in Action



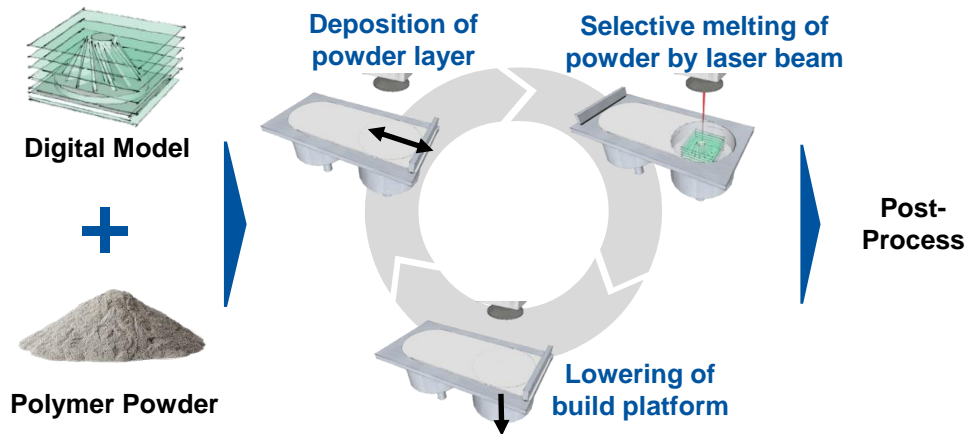
- Layer-by-layer application of material applied to powder in build chamber
- Introduction of liquid binder by inkjet print heads to bond powder particles together
- Energy input (curing) through UV lamps

# AM Technologies

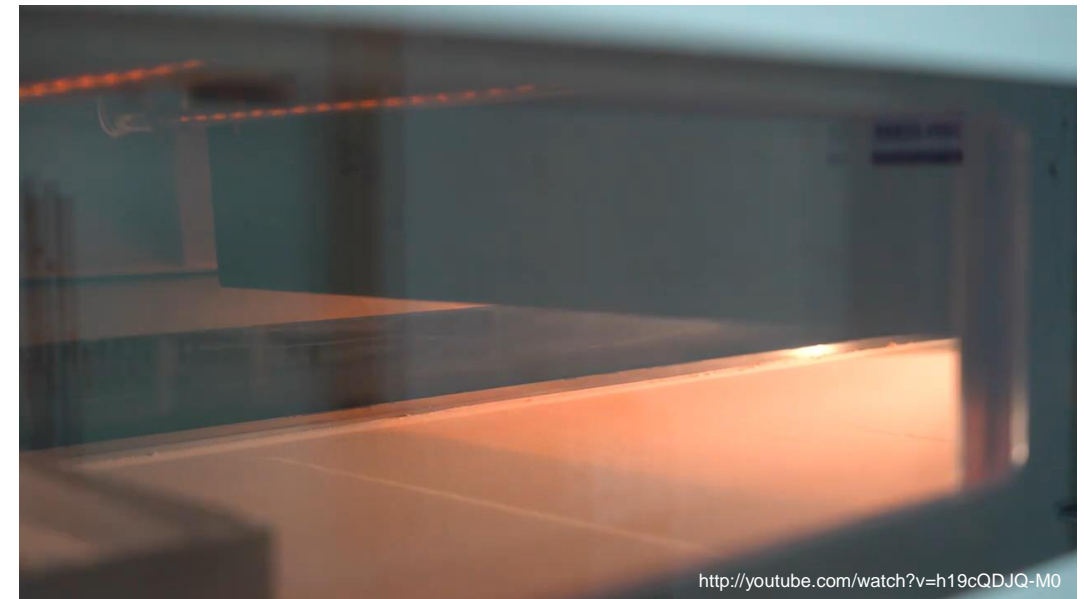
## Selective Laser Sintering (SLS)



### Process Principle



### Process in Action



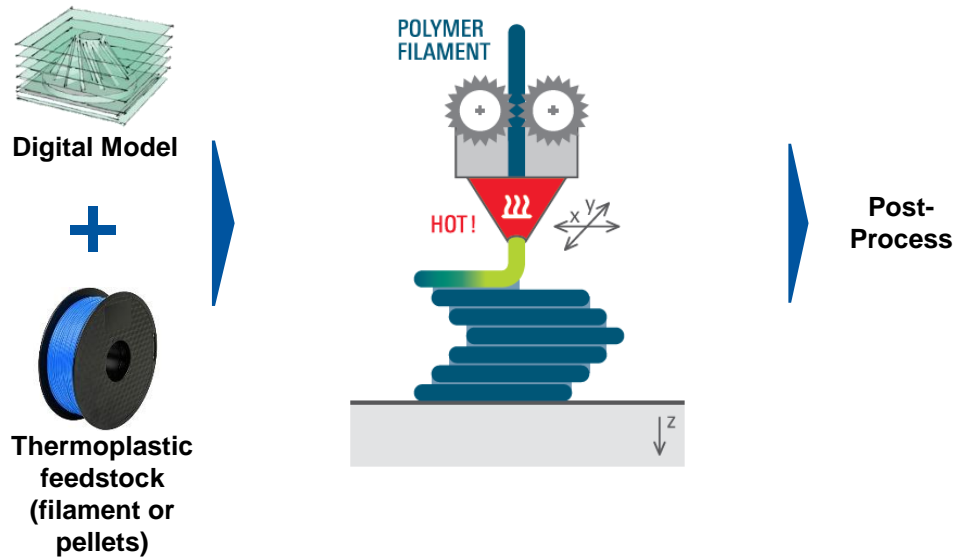
- Production of complex geometries by selective melting of polymer powder with one or more lasers
- As-built parts are usually white (polymer color)
- Many different materials available (e.g., PA11, PA12, TPU, PEEK, TPE, PP)

# AM Technologies

## Fused Deposition Modeling (FDM)



### Process Principle



### Process in Action



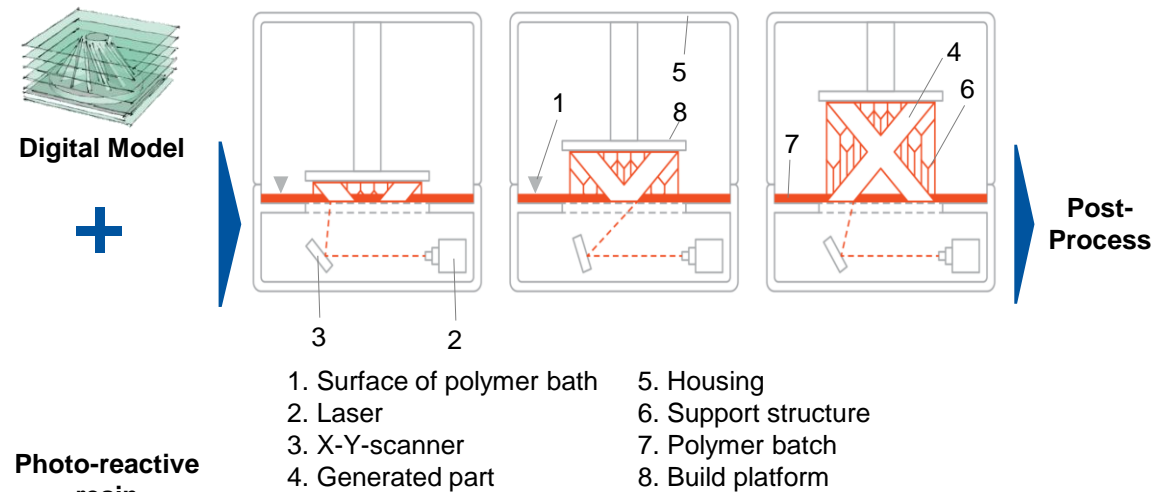
- Thermoplastic feedstock is molten and extruded through a hot nozzle
- Support structures are required for overhangs
- Use in industry, but also huge open source and DIY community
- Many materials available (e.g, PLA, ABS, PP, PA, PC, TPE, TPC, TPU, PEEK, PEKK, PPSU, PEI)

# AM Technologies

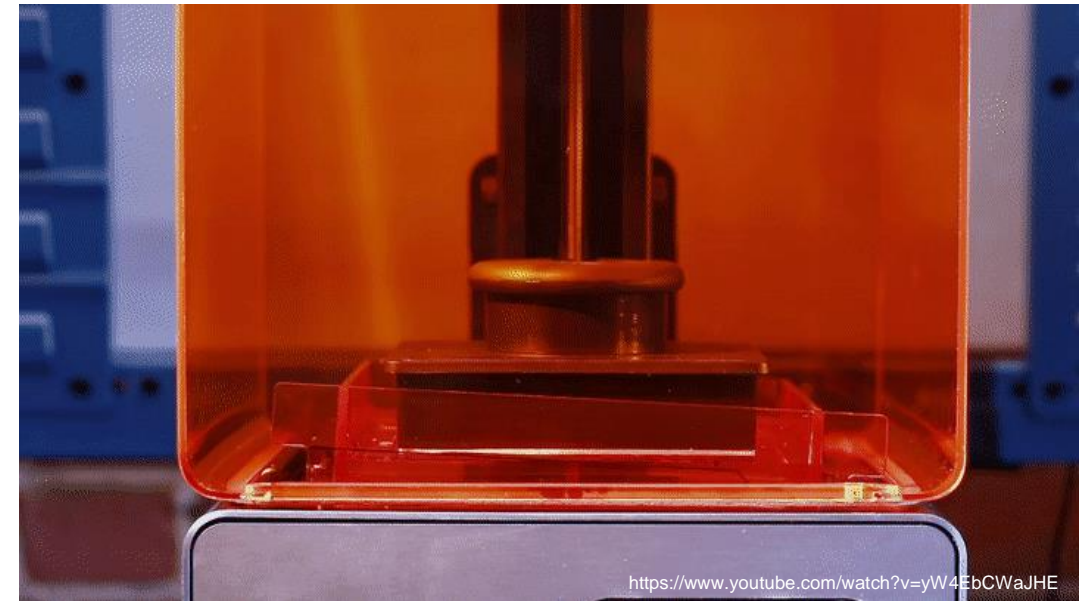
## Stereolithography (SLA)



### Process Principle



### Process in Action

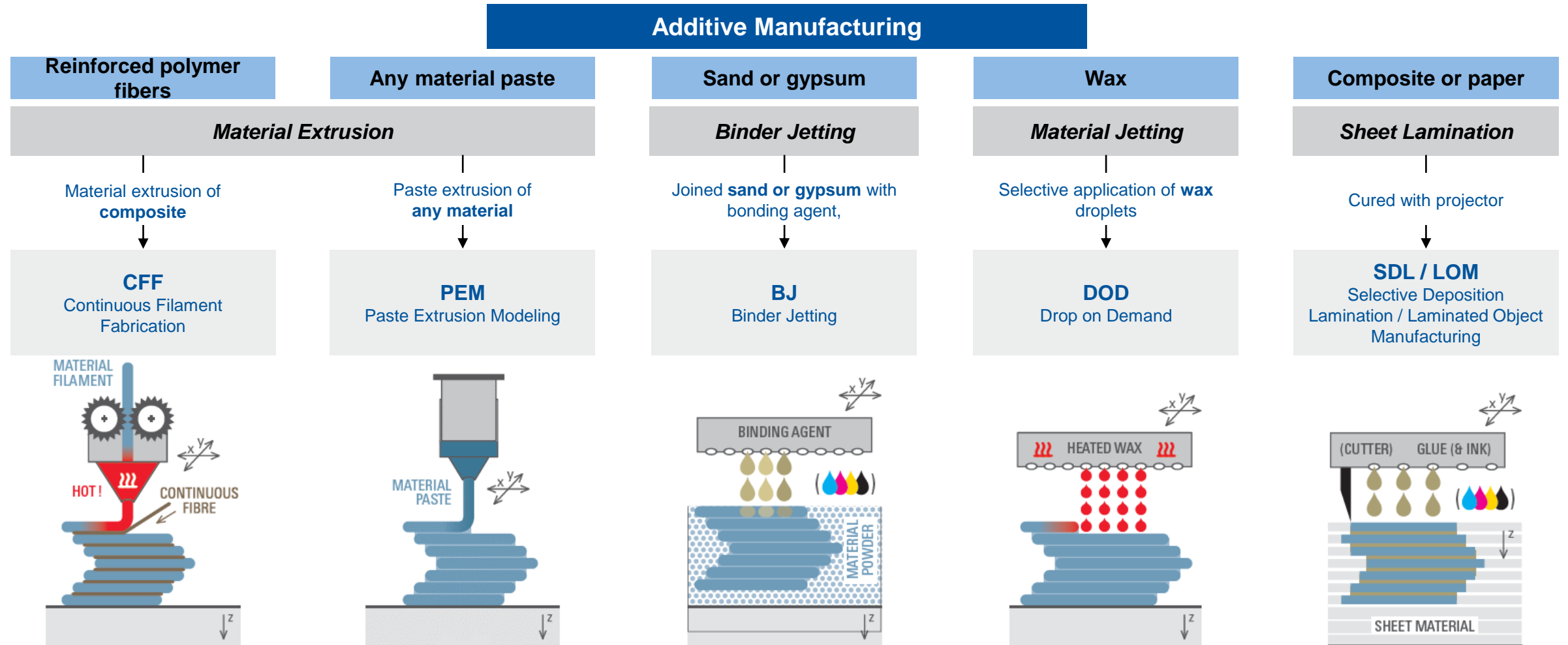


- Polymerization of photo-reactive resin by selective scanning with a UV laser beam (usually through transparent container from below)
- Requires support structures for overhangs
- Wide range of photo-reactive resins with different optical, thermal and mechanical properties



# AM Technology Overview

## Segmentation of Other AM Technologies



Source: Derived from Formnext AM Field Guide Compact and DIN EN ISO/ASTM Terminology

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# AM Application Examples

## Jigs & Fixtures - Assembly and Manufacturing Aids Using FDM



### Characteristics

- Frame for measuring gaps in assembly e.g. between body and the door of a vehicle
- Aids for manual positioning of badges
- Welding fixture
- AM technology: FDM (large format)



### Utilized AM Benefits

- Lightweight design and materials
- Part consolidation to avoid assembly steps
- Economic small quantities
- Short time and efficiency from idea to product (e.g., 8-10 weeks to 2-3 days for seal gap frame)
- Flexible design iterations & engineering changes



Source: <https://bigrep.com/ebooks/ford-upscaling-their-in-house-tooling-with-bigrep-3d-printers/>

# AM Application Examples

## Tooling - Molding Tools and Tool-inserts Using LPBF



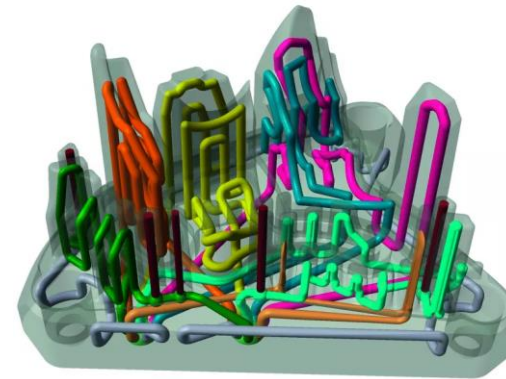
### Characteristics

- Internal cooling channels enable faster cooling to reduce cycle times and improve quality
- Impossible to produce with conventional manufacturing
- AM technology: LPBF

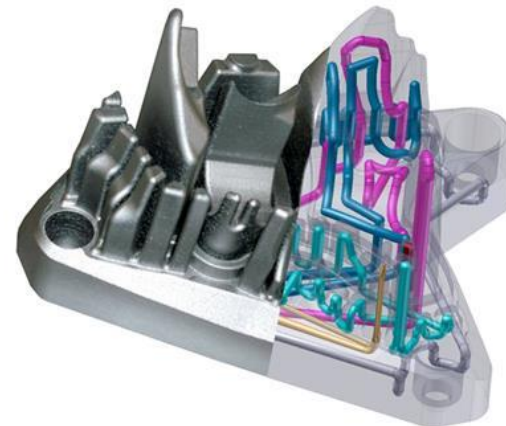


### Utilized AM Benefits

- Integration of functions
- Economic small quantities
- Short time and efficiency from idea to product
- Economic and ecologic sustainability through performance improvement in use



<https://www.plastverarbeiter.de/werkzeug-e-formen/werkzeugfertigung-2-0.html>



<https://www.renishaw.com/en/industrial-applications-of-renishaw-metal-additive-manufacturing-technology--15256>



- Cooling phase: -11%
- Tool life: +80% (compared to conventional)

<https://www.voestalpine.com/>



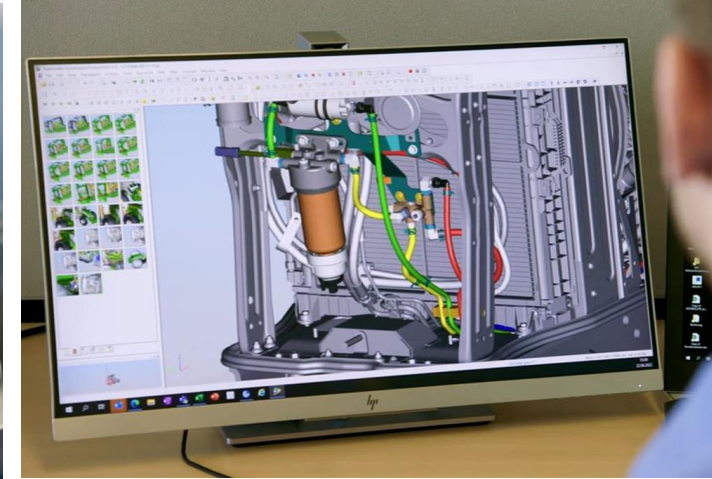
# AM Application Examples

## Series Part – Fuel Valves for Tractors Using Binder Jetting



### Characteristics

- Series production, more than 4000 produced
- Fuel valves for tractors
- AM technology: HP Metal Binder Jetting



### Utilized AM Benefits

- Design freedom for rounder and smoother internal channels
- Design freedom to reduce the component size
- 50% less expensive





# AM Application Examples

## Series Part – Filters for Circuit Brakers Using Binder Jetting



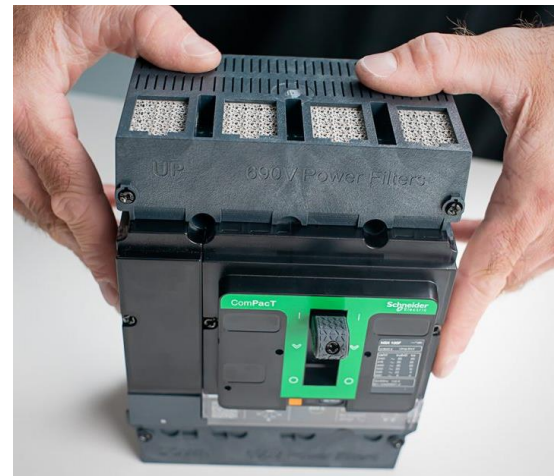
### Characteristics

- Series production with 1300 parts a month produced
- Filters for electric circuits to capture ionized particles and reduce exhaust
- AM technology: HP Metal Binder Jetting



### Utilized AM Benefits

- Design freedom for features like lattice structures
- Design freedom to reduce the component size



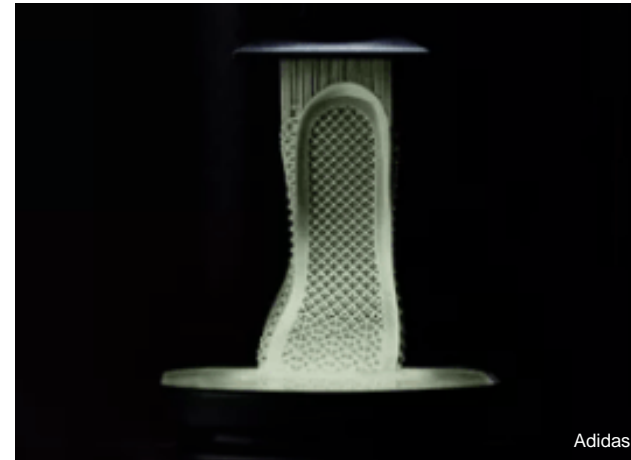
# AM Application Examples

## Series Part – Shoe Soles Using DLP



### Characteristics

- AM lattice structure shoe sole
- Partnership of Adidas and Carbon
- AM technology: DLP / CLIP



### Utilized AM Benefits

- Functional integration: Address needs of athletes for movement and cushioning
- Design freedom: Freedom to manufacture lattice structure according to digital optimization



Source: <https://www.carbon3d.com/news/press-releases/adidas-unveils-industrys-first-application-of-digital-light-synthesis-with-futurecraft-4d>

# AM Application Examples

## Series Part – Fuel Nozzle for Jet Engines Using LPBF



### Characteristics

- Aerospace industry predestined for AM: Weight reduction and functional integration
- More than 100.000 fuel nozzle tips made with AM
- AM technologies: LPBF
- Application type: Series part



### Utilized AM Benefits

- Monolithic design: 20 conventionally manufactured parts with need for assembly reduced to 1 AM part
- Complex lightweight design: 25% weight reduction
- Decrease of production cost and lead times



Source: <https://blog.geaerospace.com/manufacturing/manufacturing-milestone-30000-additive-fuel-nozzles/>



# AM Application Examples

## Series Part - Roof Mount Bracket Using LPBF



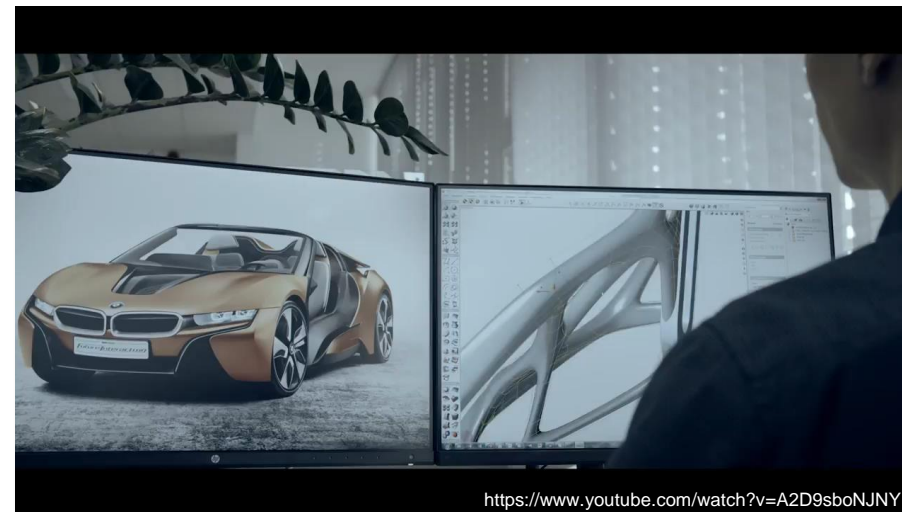
### Characteristics

- Stiff part that holds the convertible roof of the BMW i8 roadster
- Small series end-use part
- AM Technology: Laser Powder Bed Fusion
- Material: Aluminum alloy (AlSi10Mg)



### Utilized AM Benefits

- Algorithmic design (topology optimization)
- Flexible design iterations
- Lightweight design and material (44% weight reduction)
- Economic and ecologic sustainability through material efficiency



# AM Application Examples

## Series Part - Coating of Brake Disks Using EHLA



### Characteristics

- Additive coating of brake disks
- Up to 90 % reduction in brake disc-related particulate emissions
- Corrosion-free, also in recuperation mode
- Longer usage time with only low additional cost for coating



[www.wecodur.de/portfolio/anwendungen](http://www.wecodur.de/portfolio/anwendungen)

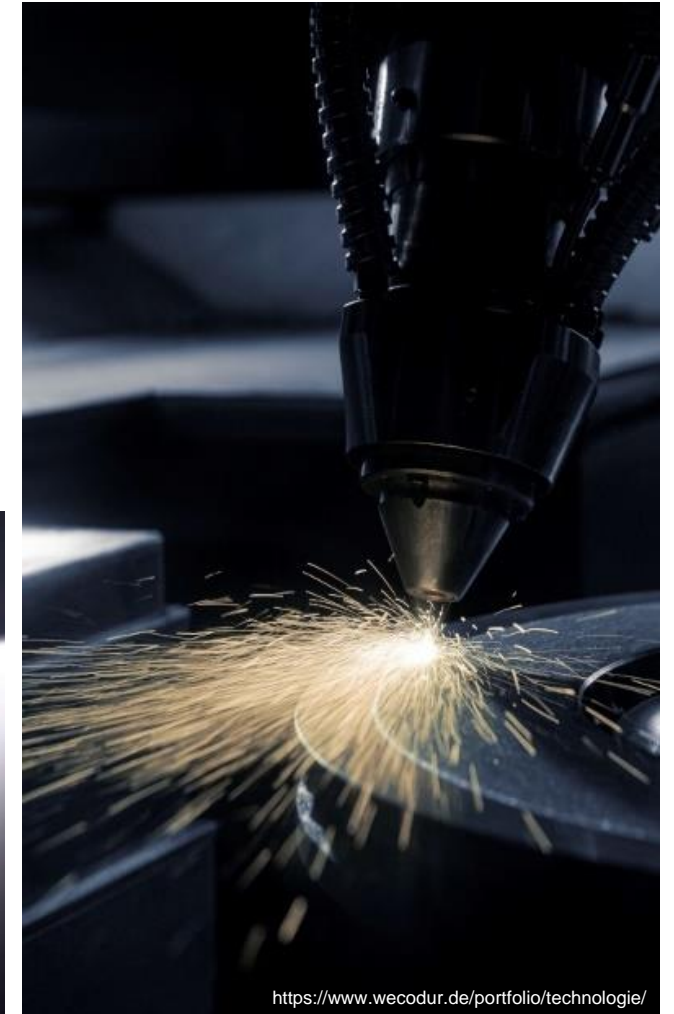


### Utilized AM Benefits

- Economic and ecologic sustainability through performance improvement in use
- Economic and ecologic sustainability through material efficiency
- Integration of functions



<https://dap-aachen.de/project/ehla>



<https://www.wecodur.de/portfolio/technologie/>



# AM Application Examples

## Repair - Turbine Blade Using LMD



### Characteristics

- Repair a chipped turbine blade
- Scan the damaged part and compare with undamaged CAD data
- Material: Nickel Alloy
- AM Technology: DED-LB/M



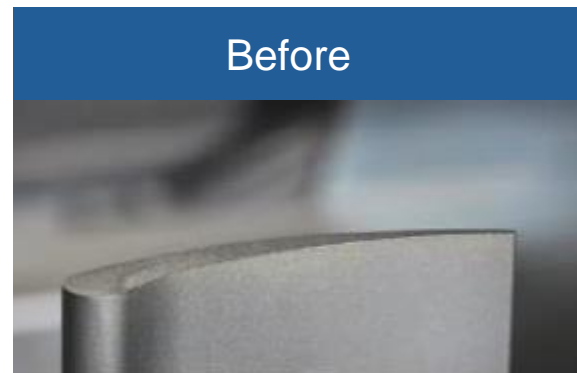
### Utilized AM Benefits

- Agile repair process
- Easily adaptable to different parts
- No need to produce new part
- Time and cost effective



Turbine Blade

Before



Processing Chipped Part

After



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# Considerations for Successful Adaption of AM Benefits Through an “Additive Mindset”



## Comparing Apples with Oranges...



**Successful AM adaption** requires **consideration of AM differences**. Without change of expectations, AM turns out as a poor substitute for established processes.

Source: Effectory, TCT

Aachen Center for Additive Manufacturing | RWTH Aachen Campus

## ...Additive Manufacturing is different



**Different cost structure:** High upfront investment costs and high material prices, but no part specific tool cost



**Financial return** and **technological feasibility** must be considered in **identification of parts with positive business case**



Enables **new business models** such as mass customization or digital warehousing



**Products and required expertise** along the product life cycle are different (e.g. Design for Additive Manufacturing)



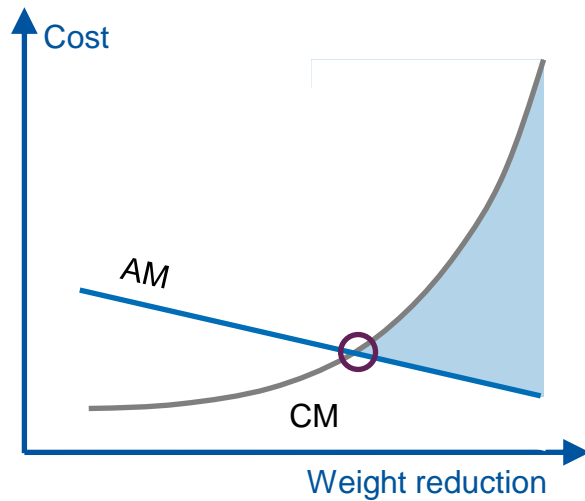
Some AM technologies require complex **health & security measures**

# Considerations for Successful Adaption of AM

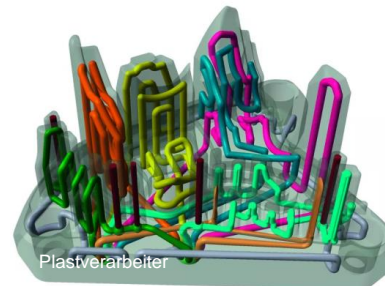
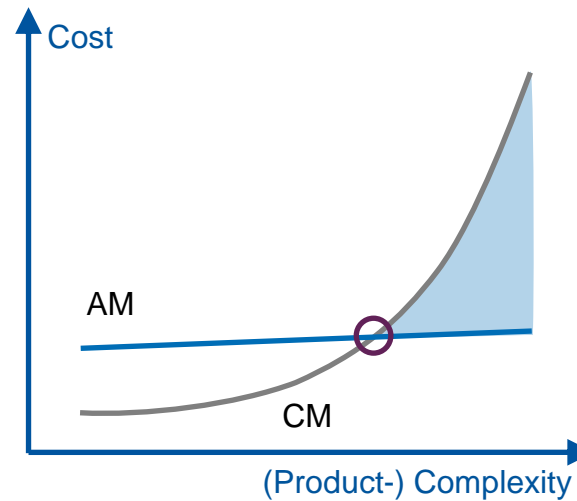
## Different Cost Structure of Conventional Manufacturing (CM) and AM



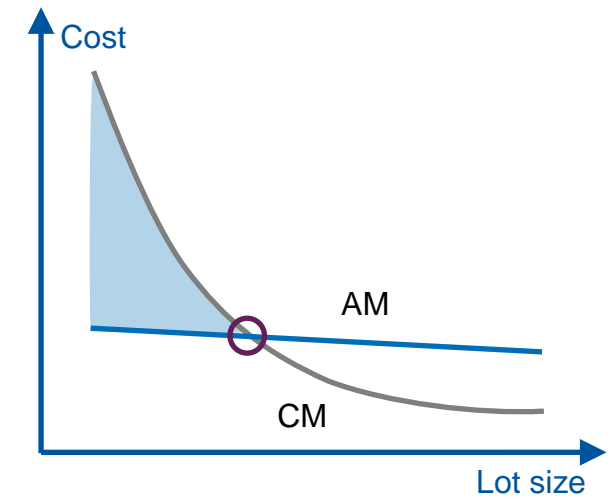
Weight reduction means cost reduction



Complexity (almost) for free



Individualization (almost) for free

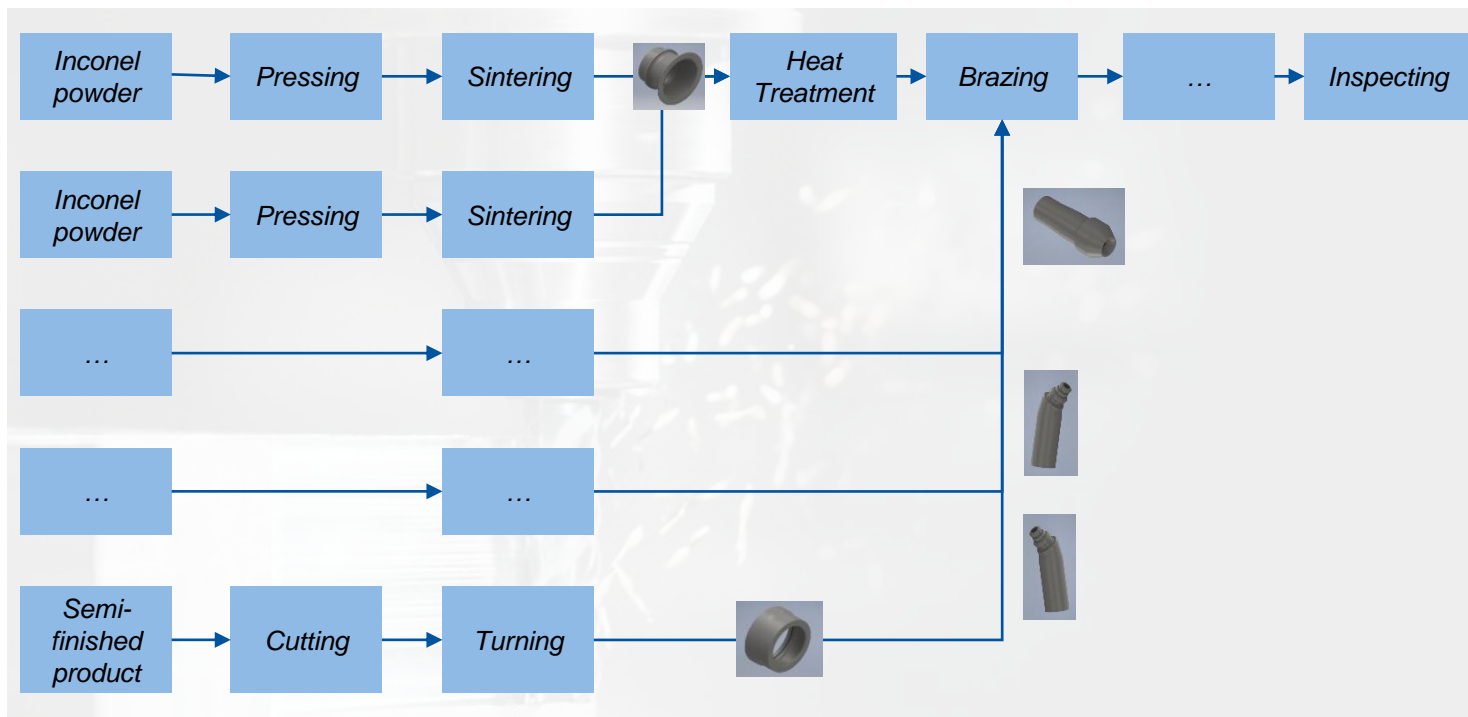


# Considerations for Successful Adaption of AM

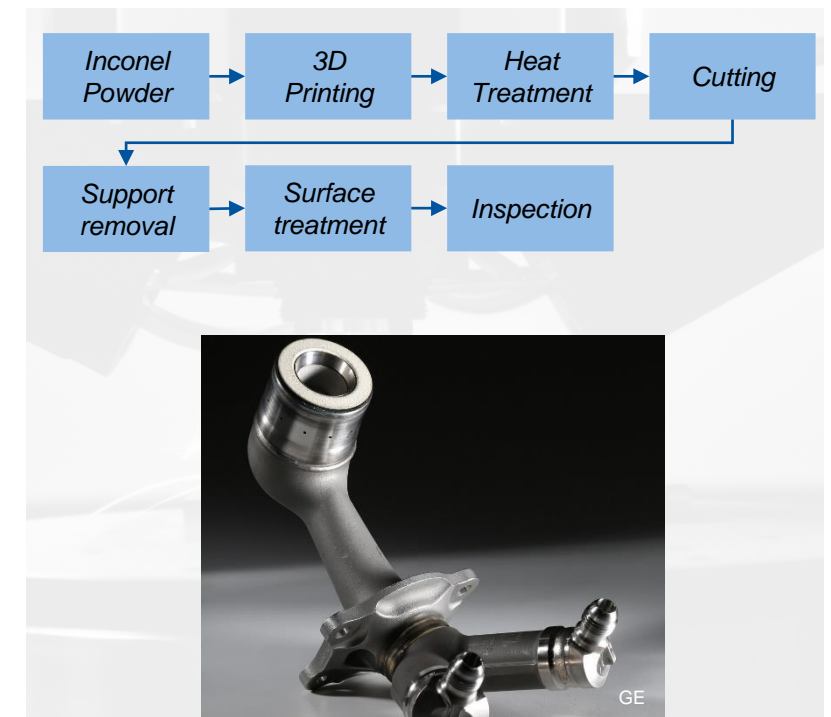
## Different Process Chains Result in Different Manufacturing Cost Structure



### Conventional process chain



### Additive process chain



Additive Manufacturing allows to transfer process chain complexity to part design (e.g. through part consolidation)



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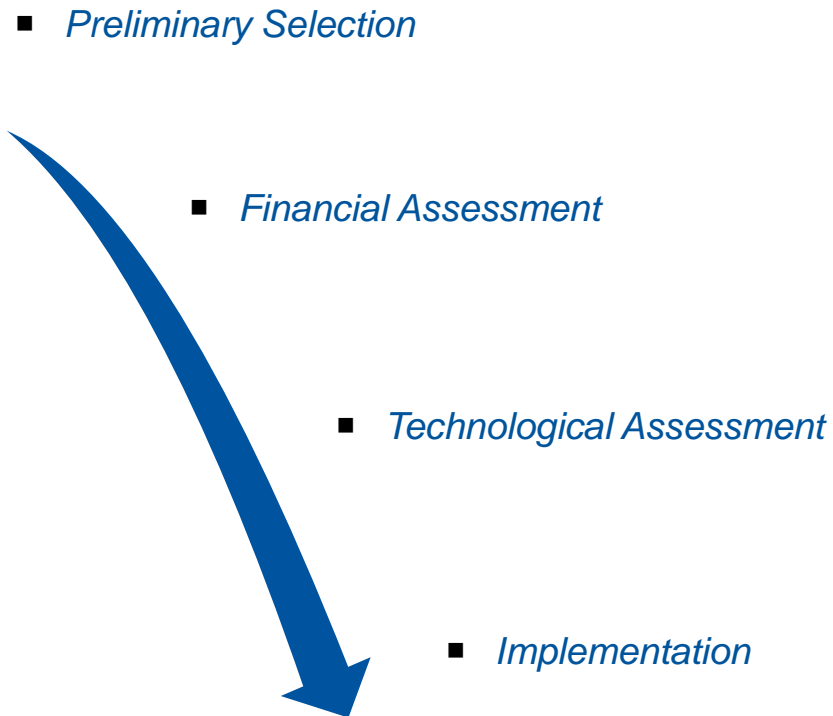
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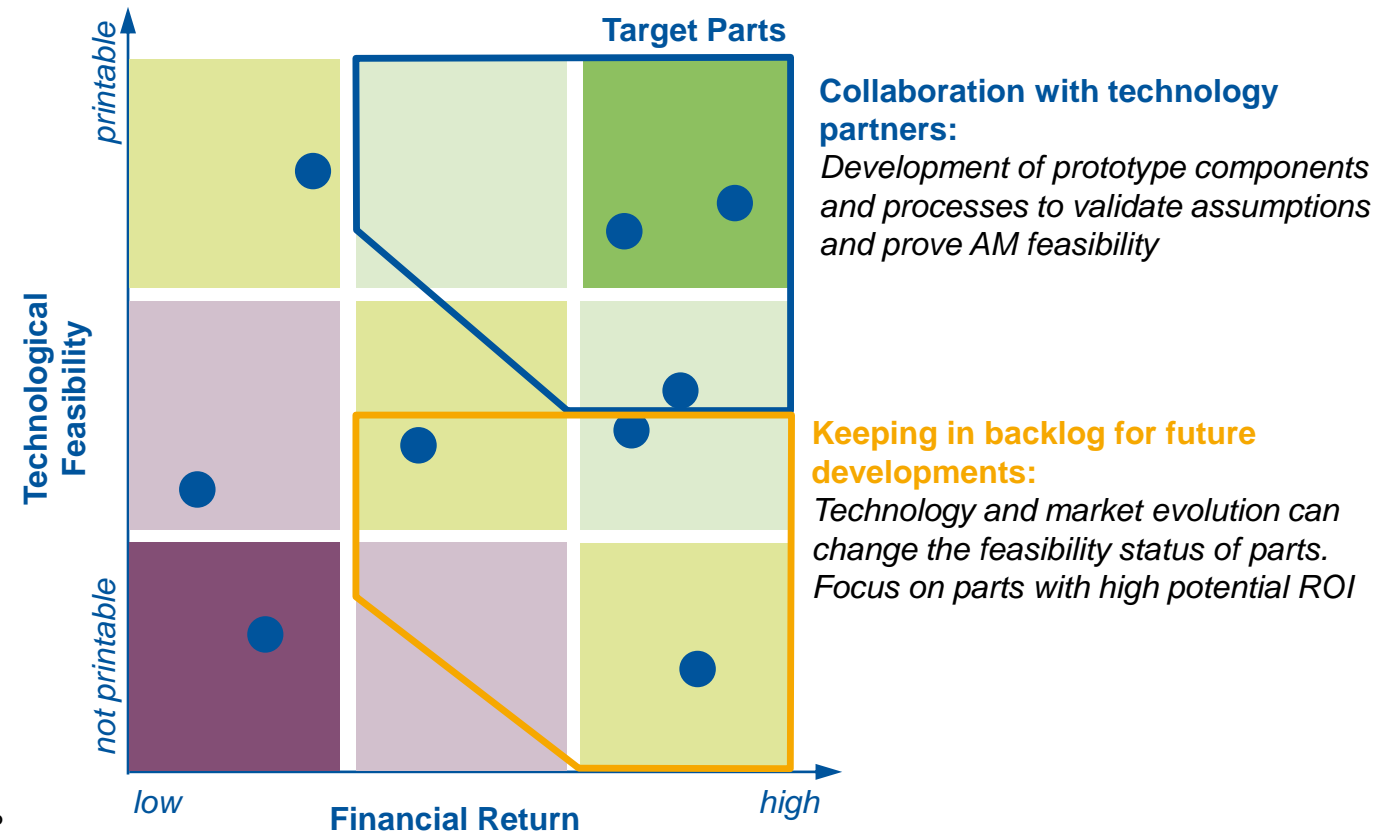
## Part Identification



### Part identification process



### Mapping of possible candidates to find target parts for implementation



Source: ACAM Webinar “Software or Expert? Part Identification for Additive” with RWTH DAP

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Enables **new business models** such as mass customization or digital warehousing



**Products** and **required expertise** along the product life cycle are different (e.g. Design for Additive Manufacturing)



Some AM technologies require complex **health & security measures**

# Considerations for Successful Adaption of AM Business Models Based on AM



## + AM Benefits

- **Design freedom:** Complex features, lightweight, monolithic
- **Flexible design** iterations and engineering changes
- **Integration of functions**
- Economic **small quantities** and **individualization**
- **Short time** and efficiency **idea to product**
- **Short supply chain**
- **Insourcing:** Appealing for staff in industrialized countries & high degree of automation
- **Sustainability** by material reduction or efficiency in performance



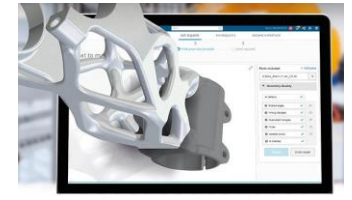
## Enabled business models for AM users (not a conclusive)



*Digital spare part warehouse*



*Service provider*



*Online marketplace*



*Mass customization*



*Co-Production*

...



# Considerations for Successful Adaption of AM Online Marketplace with Instant Quoting for On Demand Manufacturing

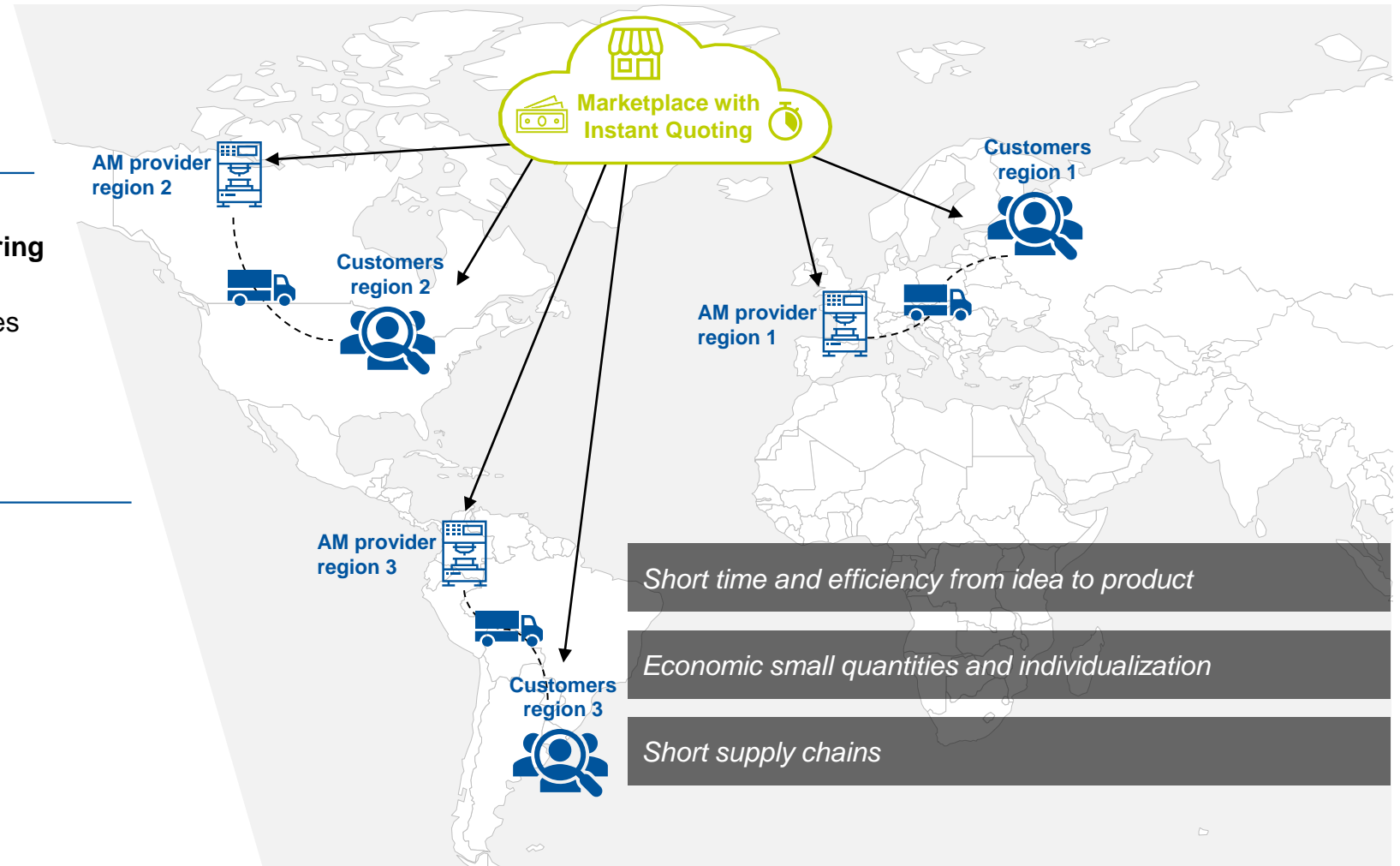


## Online marketplace for AM

- Integration of manufacturing providers
- Platform for customers to **compare manufacturing services** of different providers
- **Instant quoting tool** with cost and delivery dates based on CAD upload by customer
- Automated design check of uploaded models

## Exemplary AM marketplaces

- Protiq
- Xometry
- Hubs
- Jellypipe
- HP Digital Manufacturing Network
- ...





# Considerations for Successful Adaption of AM Benefits Through an “Additive Mindset”



## Comparing Apples with Oranges...



**Successful AM adaption** requires **consideration of AM differences**. Without change of expectations, AM turns out as a poor substitute for established processes.

Source: Effectory, TCT

Aachen Center for Additive Manufacturing | RWTH Aachen Campus

## ...Additive Manufacturing is different



**Different cost structure:** High upfront investment costs and high material prices, but no part shape specific tool cost



**Financial return** and **technological feasibility** must be considered in **identification of parts with positive business case**



Enables **new business models** such as mass customization or digital warehousing



**Products and required expertise** along the product life cycle are different (e.g. Design for Additive Manufacturing)



Some AM technologies require complex **health & security measures**

# Considerations for Successful Adaption of AM

## Algorithmic Design for Additive Manufacturing – Generative Design



How?



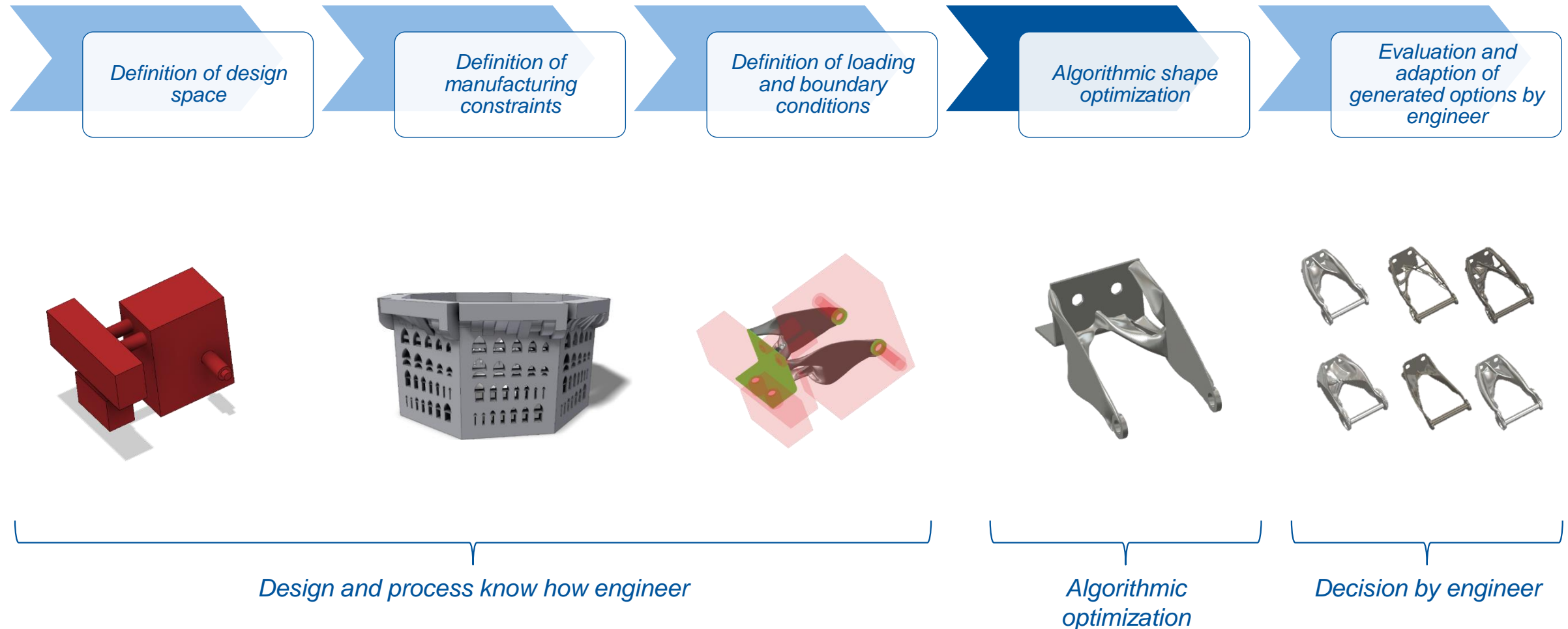
*Conventional design*



*Additive design*

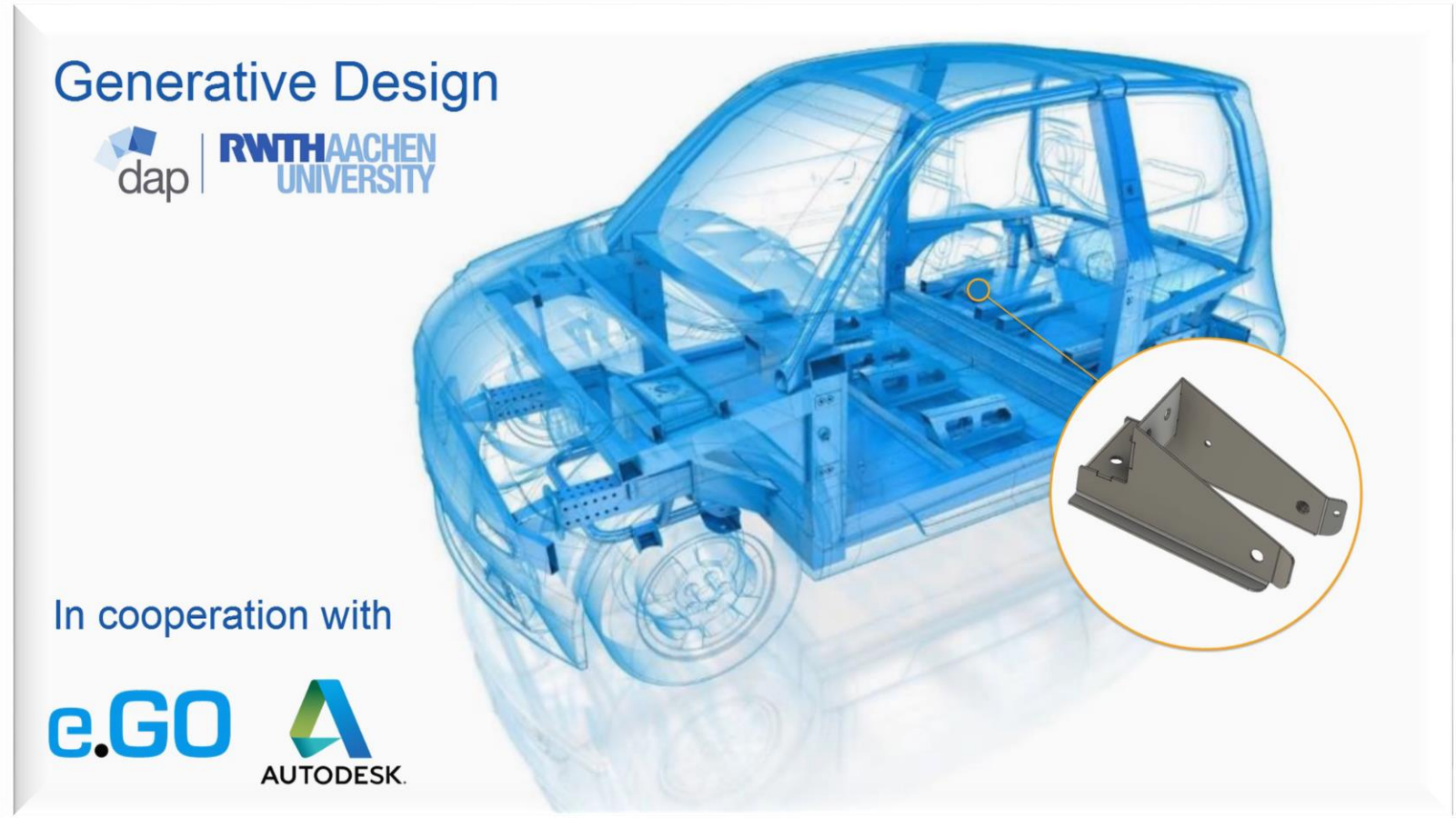
# Considerations for Successful Adaption of AM

## Algorithmic Design for Additive Manufacturing – Generative Design



# Considerations for Successful Adaption of AM

## Algorithmic Design for Additive Manufacturing – Generative Design



# Considerations for Successful Adaption of AM

## Algorithmic Design for Additive Manufacturing – Busbar Design Configurator



### Boundary conditions

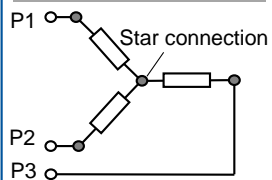
#### E-MACHINE SIMULATION



#### STATOR & WIRE PARAMETERS

	A	B
1 Innendurchmesser Statornut (außenf. Hammerkopf)		274
2 Nuttisolations		0,207
3 Luftspalt zw. NKN		0,05
4 Drahthöhe		2,43
5 Drahtbreite		4,45
6 Einbauspalt		0,1
7 Anzahl Lagen		12

#### CIRCUIT DIAGRAM



#### WINDING SCHEME

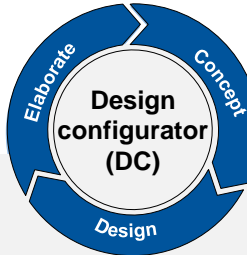


#### ELECTRO MAGN. CONSTR.

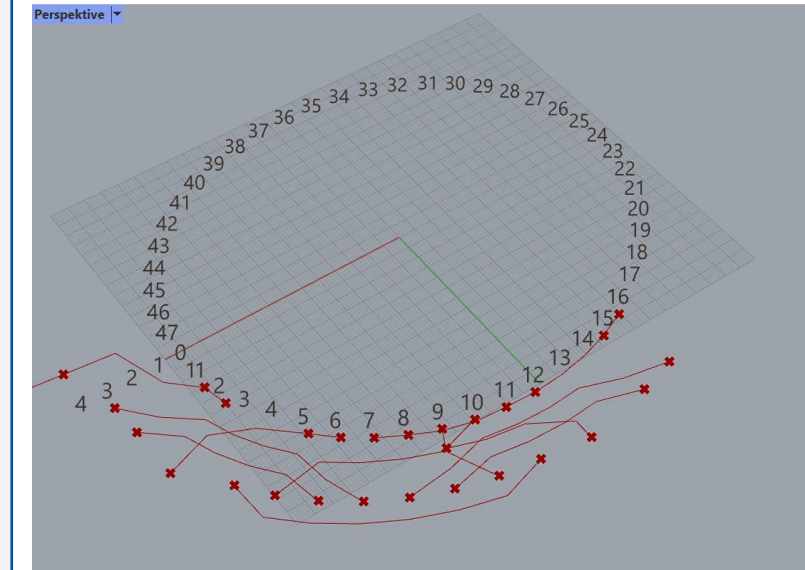
$$R_{el}(T) = \frac{l}{A} * \rho(T_0)(1 + \alpha(T - T_0))$$

#### AM DESIGN RESTR.

VDI 3405

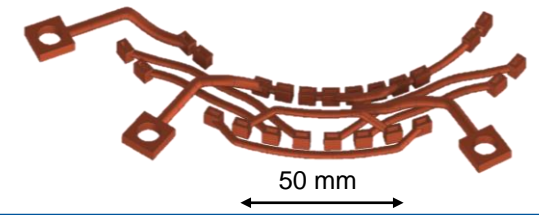


OPTIMIZATION:  
→ SHORTEST PATH ALGORITHM

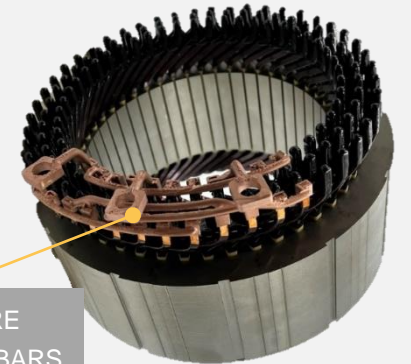


### CAD model

#### AUTOMOTIVE BUSBAR



PRINTED PURE  
COPPER BUSBARS





# Considerations for Successful Adaption of AM Benefits Through an “Additive Mindset”



## Comparing Apples with Oranges...



**Successful AM adaption** requires **consideration of AM differences**. Without change of expectations, AM turns out as a poor substitute for established processes.

Source: Effectory, TCT

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## ...Additive Manufacturing is different



**Different cost structure:** High upfront investment costs and high material prices, but not driven by economies of scale



**Financial return** and **technological feasibility** must be considered in **identification of parts with positive business case**



Enables **new business models** such as mass customization or digital warehousing



**Products** and **required expertise** along the product life cycle are different (e.g. Design for Additive Manufacturing)



Some AM technologies require complex **health & security measures**

# Considerations for Successful Adaption of AM

## Health & Safety Risks and Measures for Prevention



### ⊖ Risks of Metal Powder



**GHS05:**  
Corrosive



**GHS01:**  
Explosive



**GHS02:**  
Flammable



**GHS03:**  
Oxidizing



**GHS06:**  
Toxic



**GHS07:**  
Harmful



**GHS08:**  
Health hazards



**GHS09:**  
Environmental  
hazards



### + Health & Safety Measures

#### Standard PPE

- Protective gloves
- Work protective clothing
- Respirator mask
- Tight-closing safety goggles
- Anti-static work shoes



#### Extended PPE

- Heat-protective gloves
- Flameproof clothing
- Full respiratory mask
- Protective shield
- ESD wristband



**Prevention of health hazards requires implementation of specific safety measures**

# Basic AM Seminar – Content



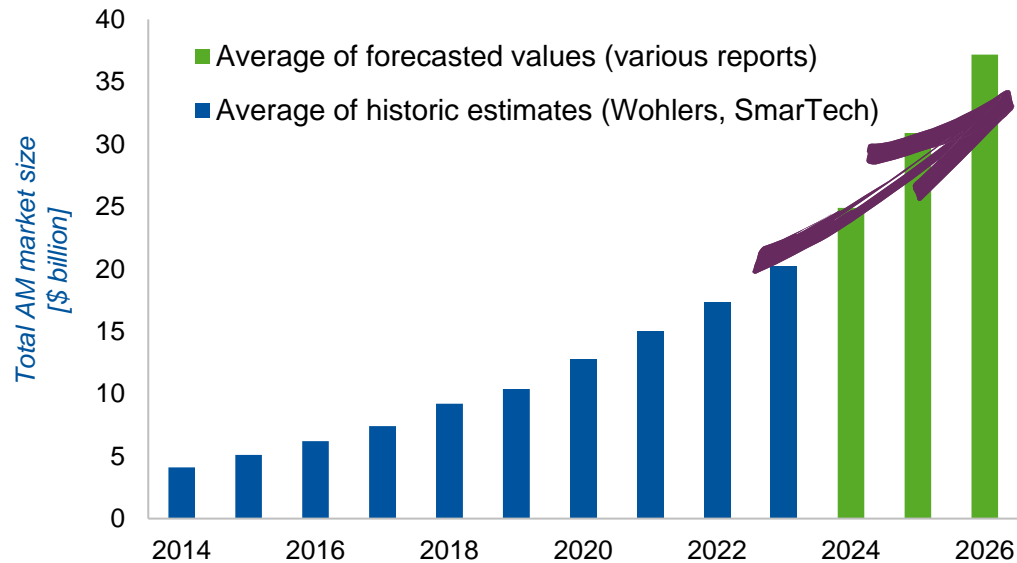
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# Future Perspective of AM

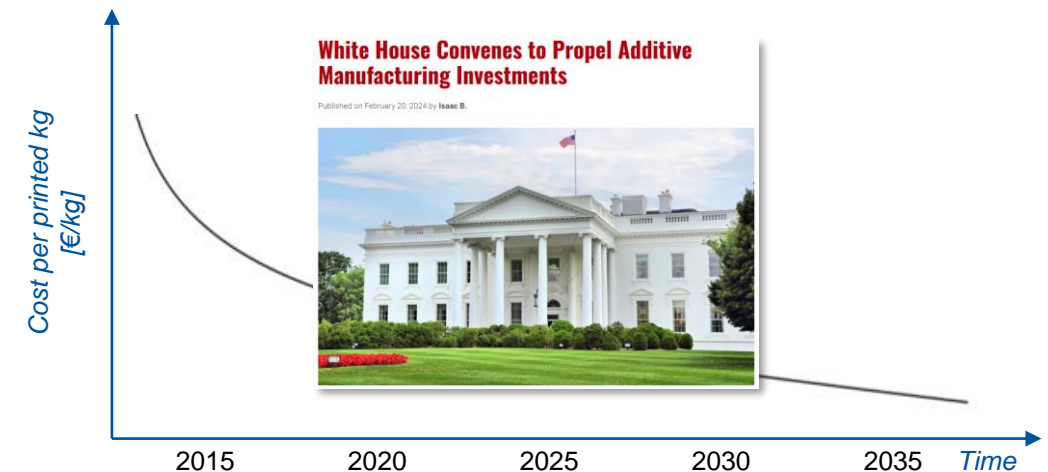
## What Does the Future Hold for Additive Manufacturing?



### Expected market development



### Prognosis of cost development



- Increase of machine productivity
- Decrease of material prices
- Higher degree of automation
- Increase of AM specific standards

Continuous growth is predicted for the AM market and there is still high public funding. However, we see market consolidation and pressure on companies to become economic, which are signs of an increasing market maturity.

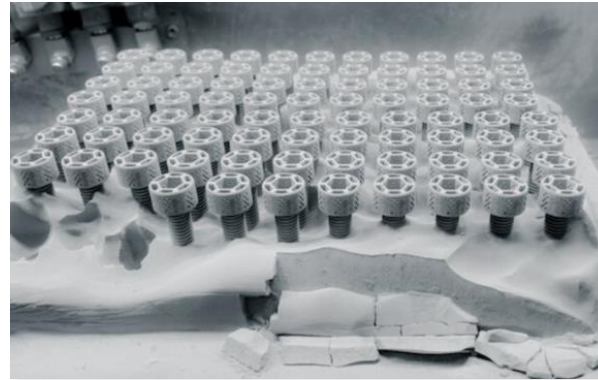
# Future Perspective of AM

## Emerging AM Technologies – Metal Binder Jetting for Mass Production



### Expectations in productivity

- More parts per build job due to 3D nesting compared to 2D nesting with LPBF
- Higher productivity
- No support structures printing and removal required



Two Volkswagen employees check the quality of 3D printed structural parts at the Wolfsburg center (photo credit: Volkswagen)



### Barriers for realization

- Additional process steps: Debinding & Sintering (sintering shrinkage compensation)
- Limited part size
- Manual effort for removal of green parts from powder cake, no automation
- Comparably low technology maturity compared to LPBF

### Volkswagen and binder jetting, a winning duo?



**Metal AM on an industrial scale: GKN Additive draws on decades of sintering expertise to commercialise Binder Jetting**



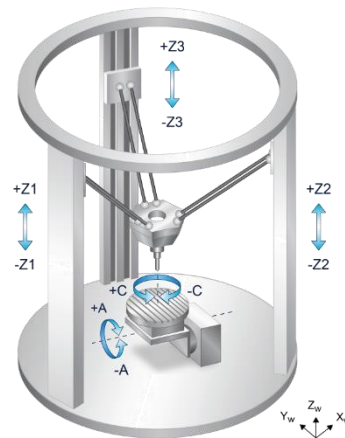
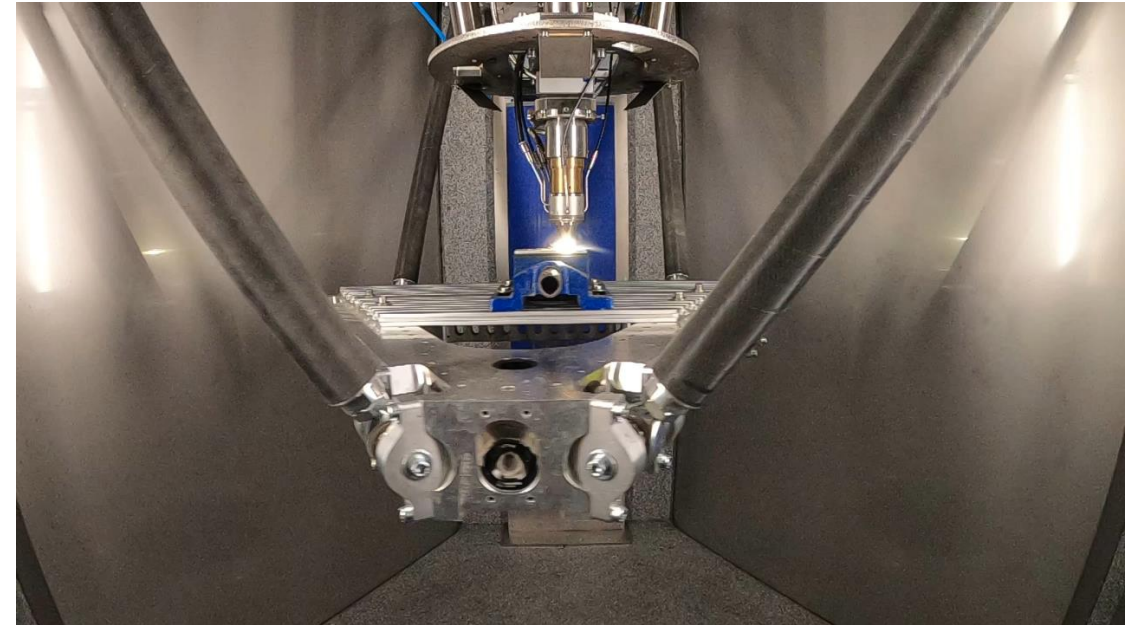
# Future Perspective of AM

## Emerging AM Technologies – EHLA for Non-Rotational Symmetric Parts



### Characteristics of the Ponticon 3D EHLA Process

- Additive coating and manufacturing of components
- Non-rotationally symmetric components possible
- Complex surfaces can be coated locally
- Wide variety of materials
- Develop and process new types of alloys



Tripod Kinematics

# Basic AM Seminar – Content

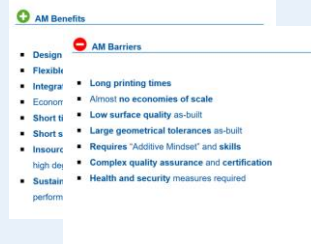
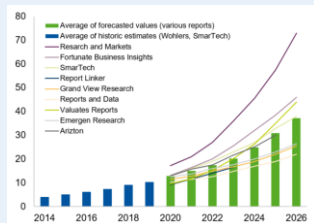


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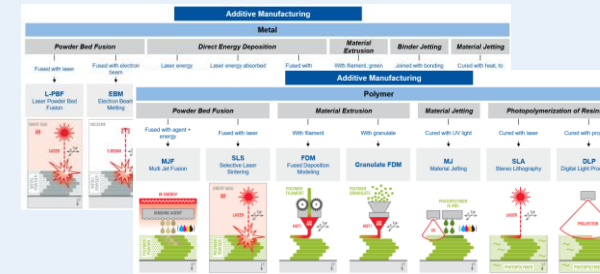
# Basic AM Seminar Summary



## Introduction to Additive Manufacturing



## Overview of AM Technologies



- High variety of established and emerging AM technologies
- Varying technology readiness
- Technology-specific characteristics, advantages and disadvantages
- Material choice according to application

## Future Perspective

- Expected continuous market growth
- Cost decrease due to increased technology readiness level, productivity and industrialization
- Technological and economical challenges are addressed through industry and R&D

## Successful Adaption of AM

**Successful AM adaption** requires **consideration of AM differences**. Without change of expectations, AM turns out as a poor substitute for established processes.



## AM Application Examples

- Various applications along the product lifecycle
- Differentiation in rapid prototyping, rapid tooling and AM of end use parts
- Taking advantage of different AM benefits according to application



**Get in touch!**



**Gustavo Melo**  
Senior Consultant

ACAM Aachen Center for Additive Manufacturing GmbH  
Campus-Boulevard 30  
52074 Aachen

Email [g.melo@acam-aachen.de](mailto:g.melo@acam-aachen.de)

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of Europe's most vivid AM and engineering  
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**Get in touch!**



**Lukas Bauch**

Senior Consultant

ACAM Aachen Center for Additive Manufacturing GmbH  
Campus-Boulevard 30  
52074 Aachen

Email [l.bauch@acam-aachen.de](mailto:l.bauch@acam-aachen.de)

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# ACAM Aachen Center for Additive Manufacturing GmbH



☆ REMEMBER

### Address

ACAM Aachen Center for Additive Manufacturing GmbH  
Campus-Boulevard 30  
52074 Aachen  
Germany  
Telephone **+49 241 94261020**  
Fax +49 241 89068688

Contact

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