

ADDFAB

3Dmetals**fab**ricated

3D Metal Printing

“The challenges it creates for NDT in Aerospace”

Introduction

- AddFab
- Additive Manufacturing
- Powder Bed Fusion
- Possibilities
 - Design
 - Material
- Challenges
 - Design
 - Material
- Future



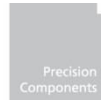
Source: KMWE

AddFab

ADDFAB offers **engineering** and **3D metal printing services** and **supports** its customers in the technical and commercial trade-off between the **unique 3D printing feasibilities** and the established machining technologies.

- **Current Partners**

- KMWE
- NTS Group
- Machinefabriek De Valk



- **Origin**

- Started as AddLab in 2013 as a 3 year project
- In 2016 KMWE, NTS & De Valk agreed to continue for at least another 3 years under the new name AddFab

- **Location**

- Eindhoven, Strijp-T

AddFab

AddFab

AM
assessment

Design &
engineering

Material &
process selection

Prototyping &
process
optimisation

Parts
manufacturing

Post
processing

Parts supply &
Distribution

Partners

3D Design & Engineering:

- Design for Additive Manufacturing
- Redesign
- Digitization/scanning
- Topology optimization
- Technology consulting
- ...

AddFab: Shared lab facility:

- Demand pooling
- Materials research
- Prototyping
- Process optimization
- Building strategy development
- Quality testing
- ...

Post processing & Supply (through partners):

- Production
- Assembly
- Supply
- Distributed printing
- ...

AddFab

- **Equipment**

- SLM Solutions SLM280HL
 - Stainless Steel 316L
- 3D Systems ProX300
 - Titanium Ti-6Al-4V Grade 23 ELI
- Shot Peening
- Oven for Heat Treatment
- Phenom World
 - Electron Beam Microscope
- Microscope
- GOM 3D Scanner
 - Reverse Engineering
 - Analyzing products



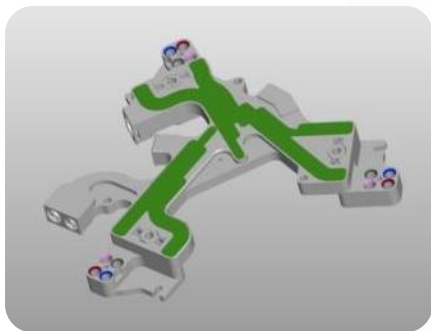
- **Knowledge**

- Team of Engineers with a combined knowledge concerning 3D metal printing of over 20 years

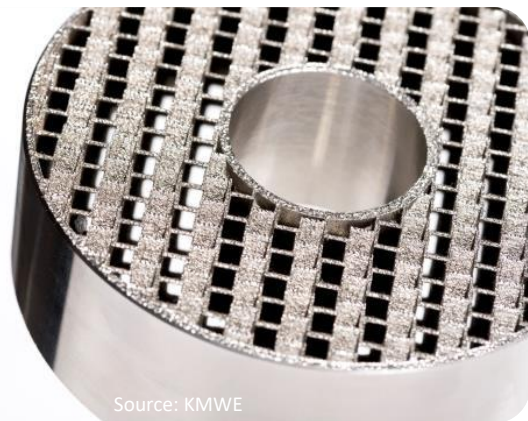
AddFab

- **Markets**

- Semicon
- Aerospace
- (Petro)chemical, oil & gas
- Machine Building
- Printing
- Medical
- Awards



Source: KMWE



Source: KMWE

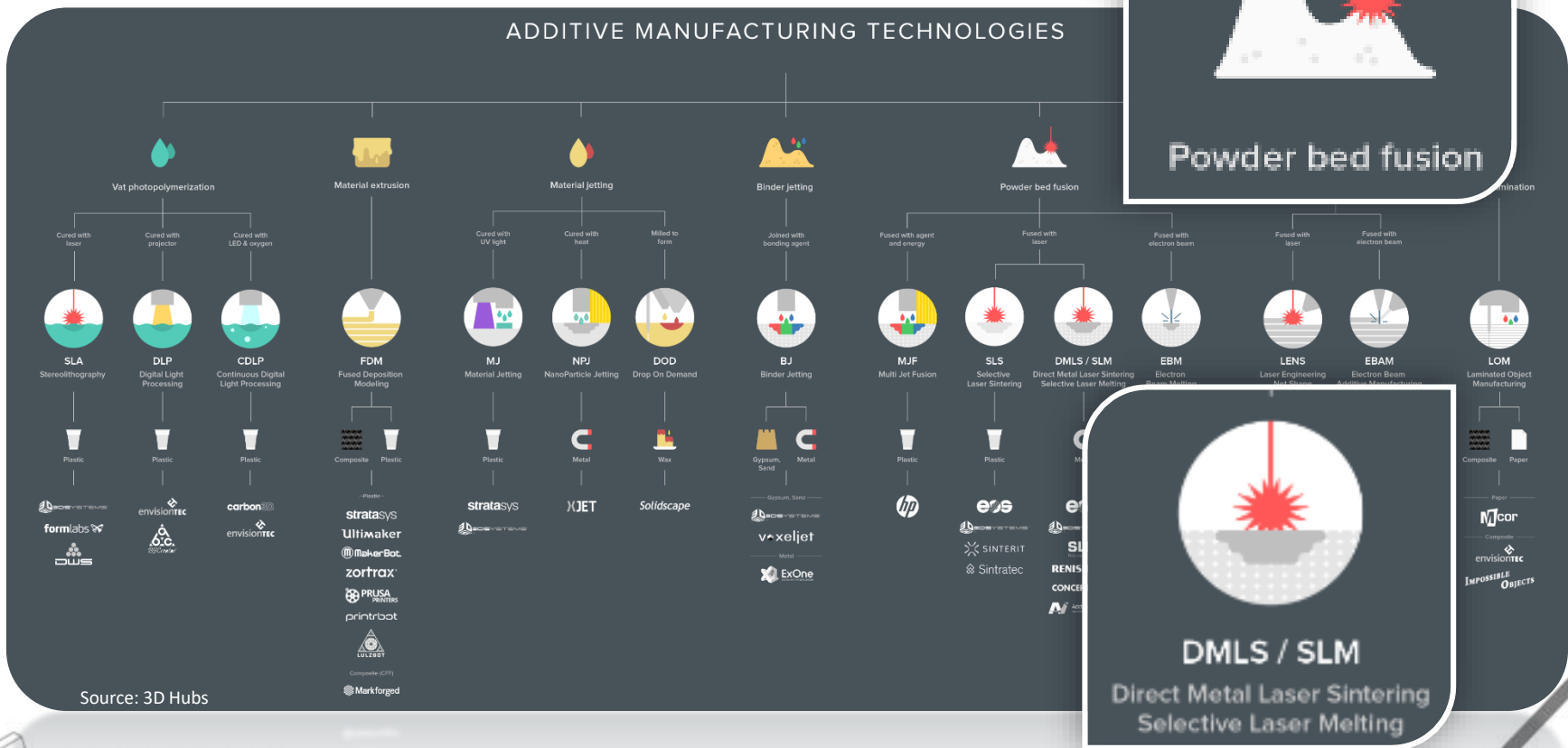


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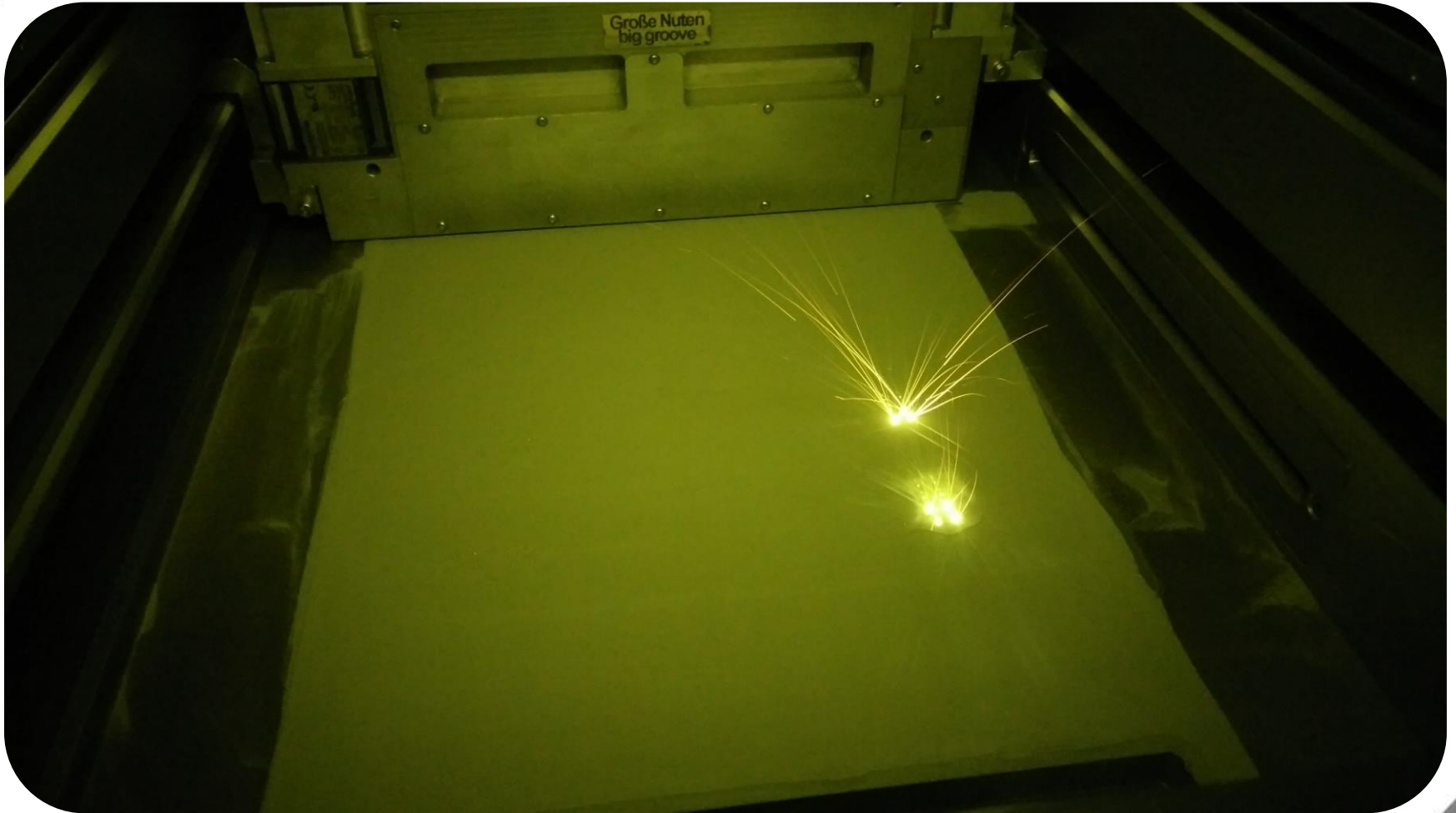


Additive Manufacturing

- Additive instead of subtractive
- Powder Bed Fusion & Selective Laser Melting



Additive Manufacturing



Source: KMWE

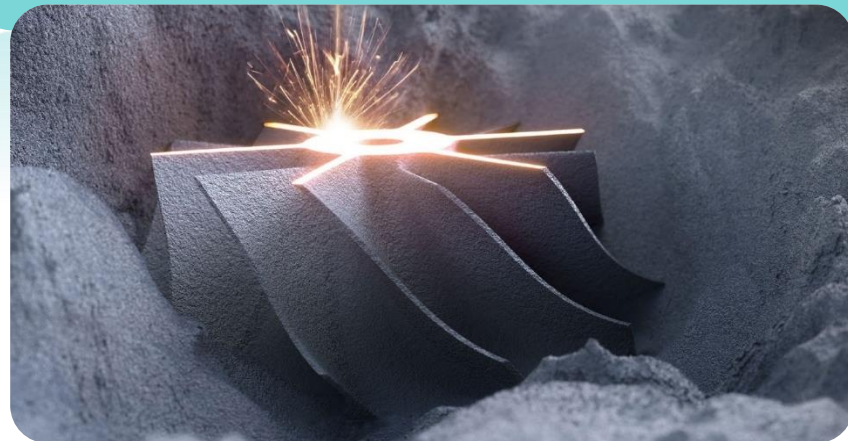
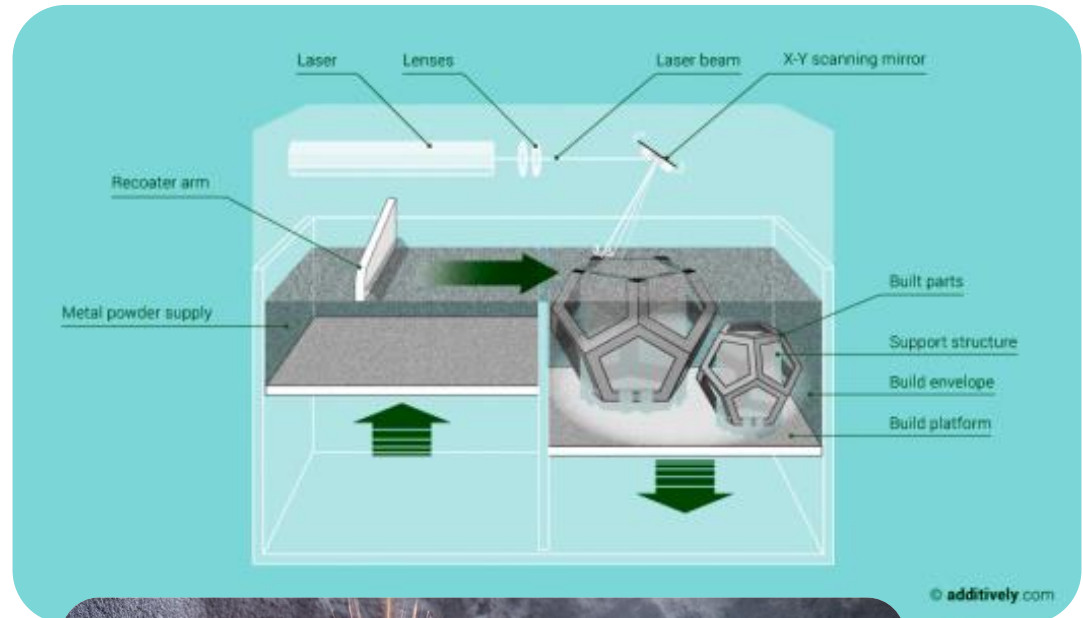
Powder Bed Fusion

- **Building Chamber**
 - Closed system
 - Inert environment
 - Less than 0,05% oxygen
 - High power laser
- **Building plate**
 - Same material as powder
 - Provides strength and surface area for dissipation of heat
- **Metal Powder**
 - Particle size between 0 and 60 μ m
 - Virgin and recycled powder
- **Models**
 - 3D Engineered models in .stl file format
 - Virtually placed on a building plate
 - Sliced to create 2D images for the laser



Powder Bed Fusion

- **Recoater**
 - Places a layer of fine powder on the building plate
 - ± 30 to $50\mu\text{m}$ thick
- **Laser**
 - Uses a set of mirrors to locally melt the powder
 - Laser beam is $\pm 80\mu\text{m}$ in diameter
- **Platform**
 - Building plate is lowered according to set layer thickness
- **Repetitive process**
 - The process repeats itself, until all the layers are completed

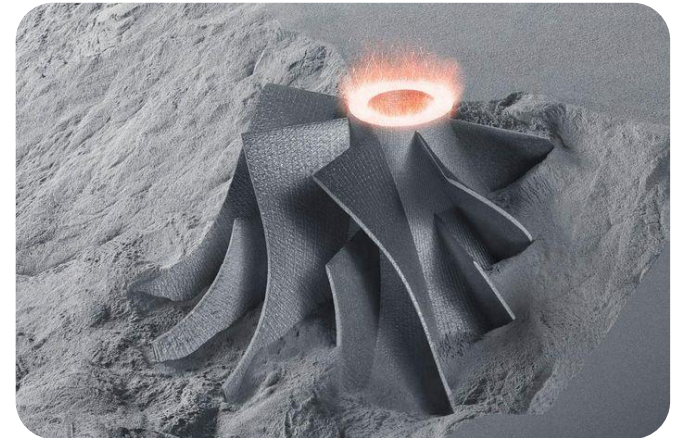


Source: Trumpf

AddFab Confidential

Powder Bed Fusion

- **Removing powder**
 - After the machine is finished the products are buried within powder
- **Building plate**
 - Required for the dissipation of heat, products are attached to a building plate
- **Heat Treatment**
 - Relieve products from stress build up during production
- **Post-production**
 - Removing of support
 - Machining



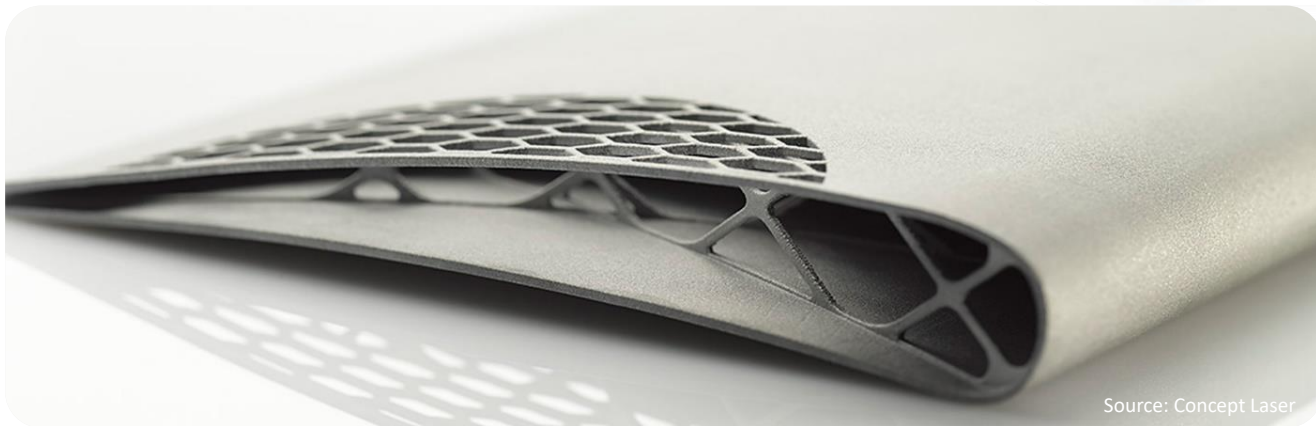
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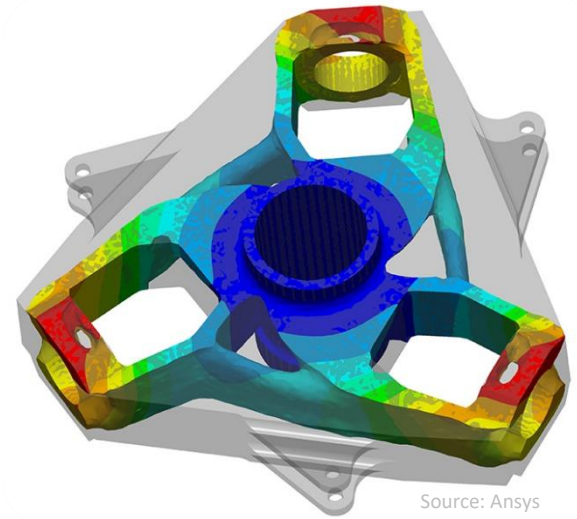
Possibilities - Design

- **Complex shapes**
 - No longer restriction by tooling options
- **Internal structures**
 - Channels for coolant or acting as heat exchangers
 - Fuel nozzles
- **Product Behavior**
 - With different structural design, one element could be stiff and strong, while another can provide damping (or any other feature) within 1 component



Possibilities - Design

- **Weight Reduction**
 - Optimization with Topology
 - Cost-effective
- **Combining parts**
 - Reduce amount of parts in system
 - Save assembly time
- **Combining Features**
 - Flow & Filtering

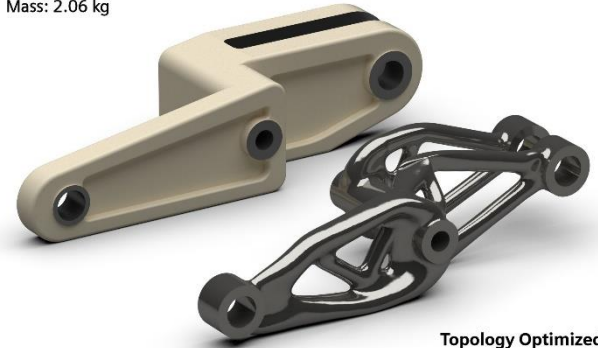


Possibilities - Examples

- Fuel Nozzle
- Brackets & Hinges
- Blades
- ...



Original Part
Volume: 263,346 cubic mm
Mass: 2.06 kg

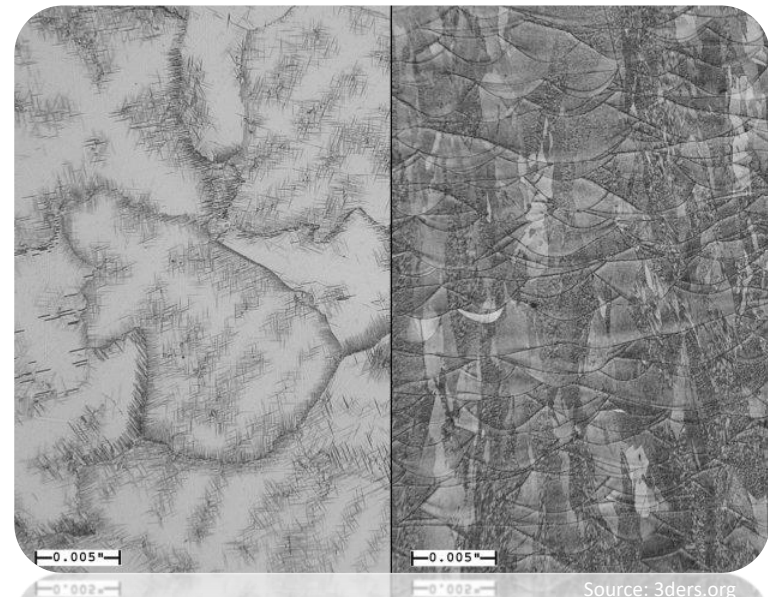
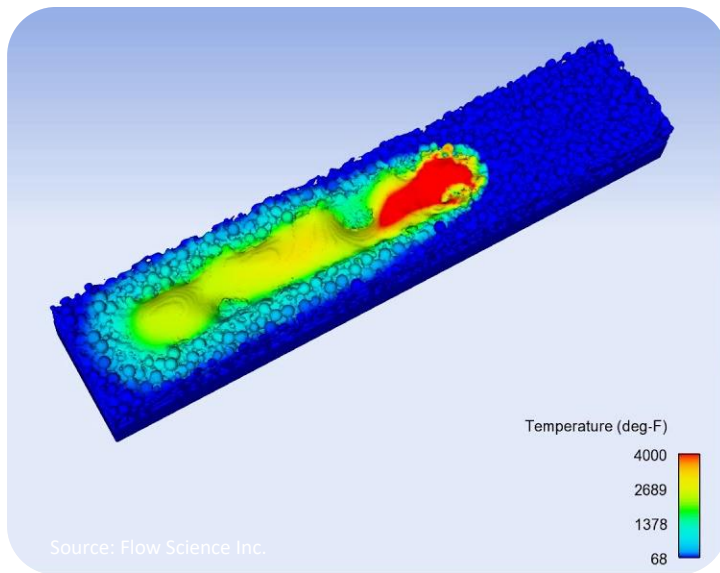


Topology Optimized Part
Volume: 97,884 cubic mm
Mass: 0.766 kg



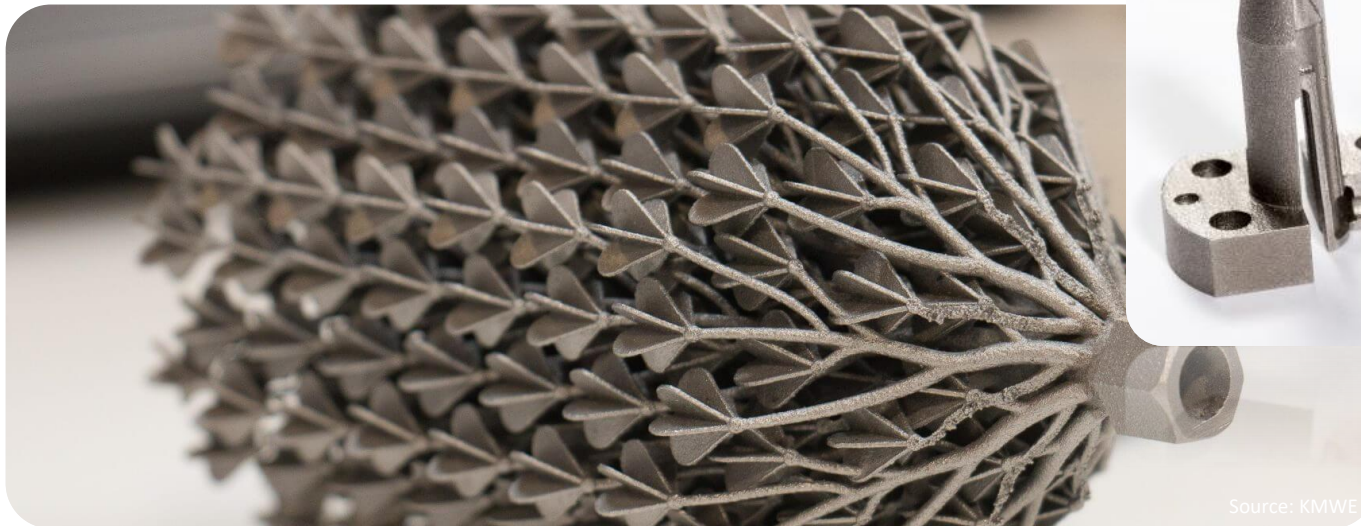
Possibilities - Material

- **Unique microstructure**
 - Fast cooling rate during solidification
 - Tunable with scanning parameters
- **Unique alloys**
 - Possibility to develop high performance materials specifically for additive manufacturing
 - Capable of tailoring the mechanical properties



Challenges NDT - Design

- **Lower visibility**
 - More complex designed parts with a increase in internal structures that are not visible to the viewing eye
- **More 'flowable' products**
 - Increased design freedom and the increased use of software solutions like Topology Optimization will create more 'flowing' designs



Challenges NDT - Design

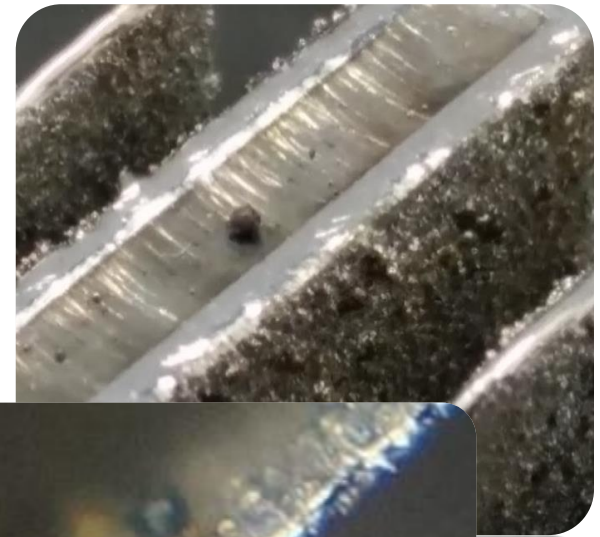
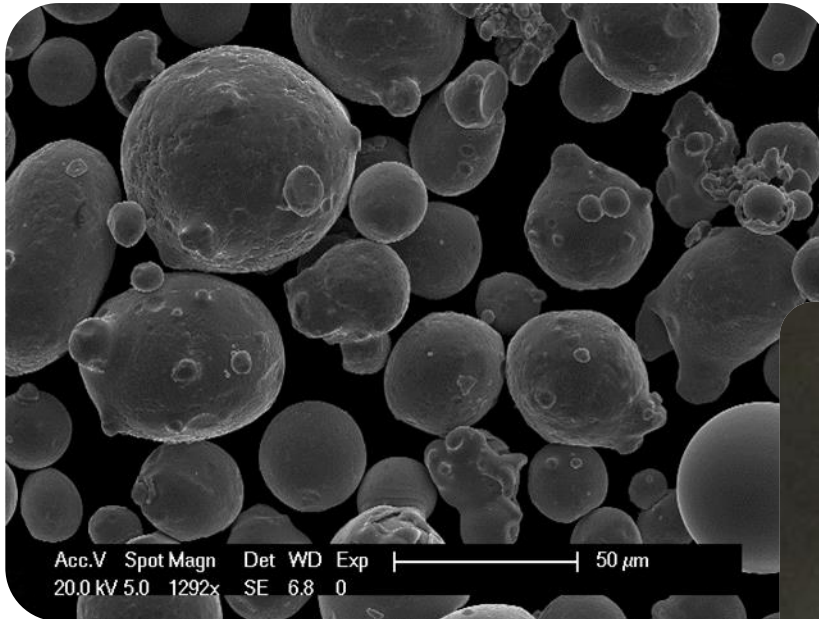
- **Internal Channels**
 - Complex internal channels which wrap around each other to redirect gas or liquid
 - Channels are not necessarily round, but can be shaped as is required by its function
- **Combination of functions & parts**
 - Combining functions and/or parts results in the requirement of multiple different testing techniques on a single component
 - Component reduction



Challenges NDT - Material

- **Unique products**

- Every product is unique due to the powder and changing conditions inside the build chamber
- Meltpool behavior is tunable, but not 100% repetitive
- Risk of contamination by gas or particles



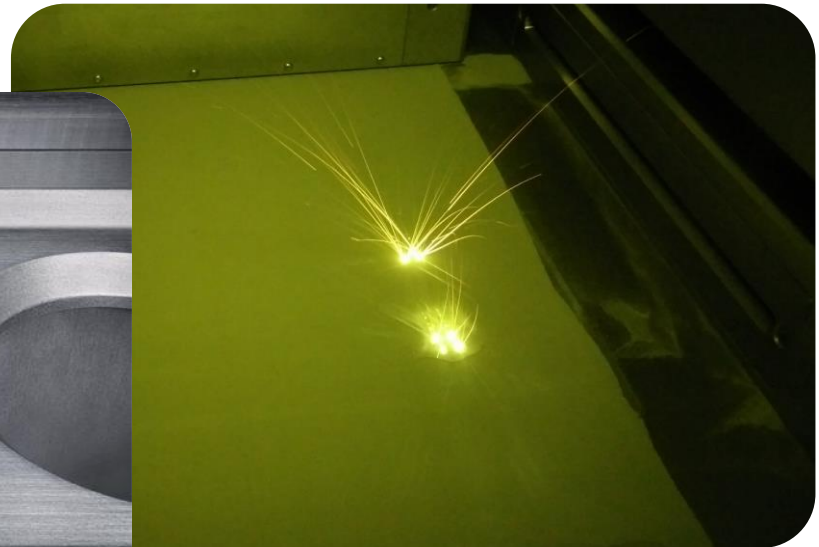
Challenges NDT - Material

- **Different material characteristics**

- The mechanical properties of the material can be altered and is not homogenous across every single component despite them being produced simultaneously
- Laser parameters can be altered which results in a non-homogenous material and less predictable weight and balance



Source: Trumpf

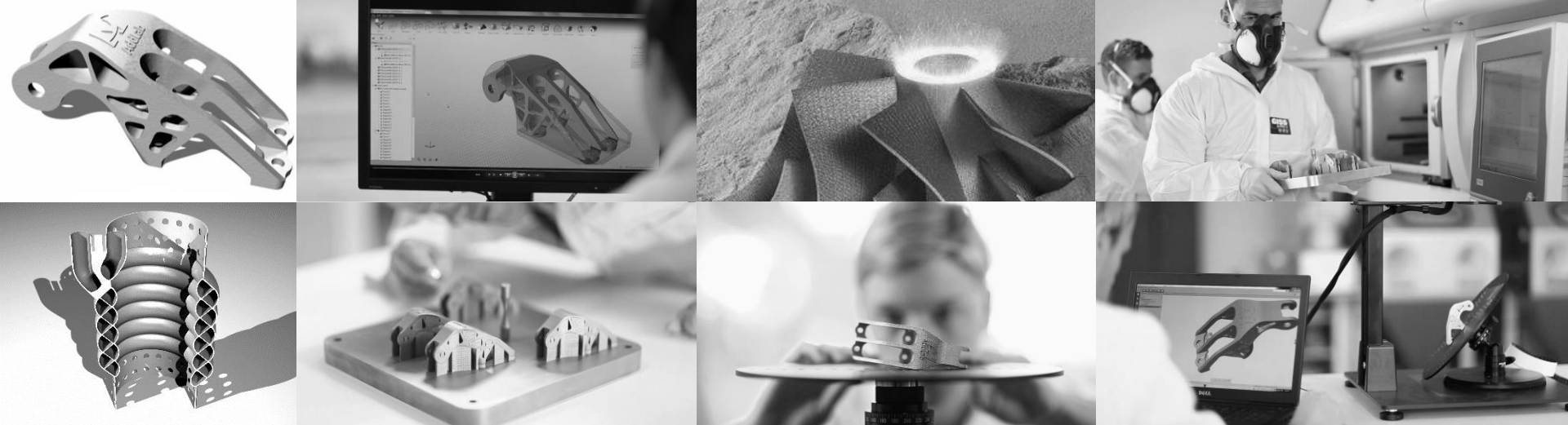


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Future

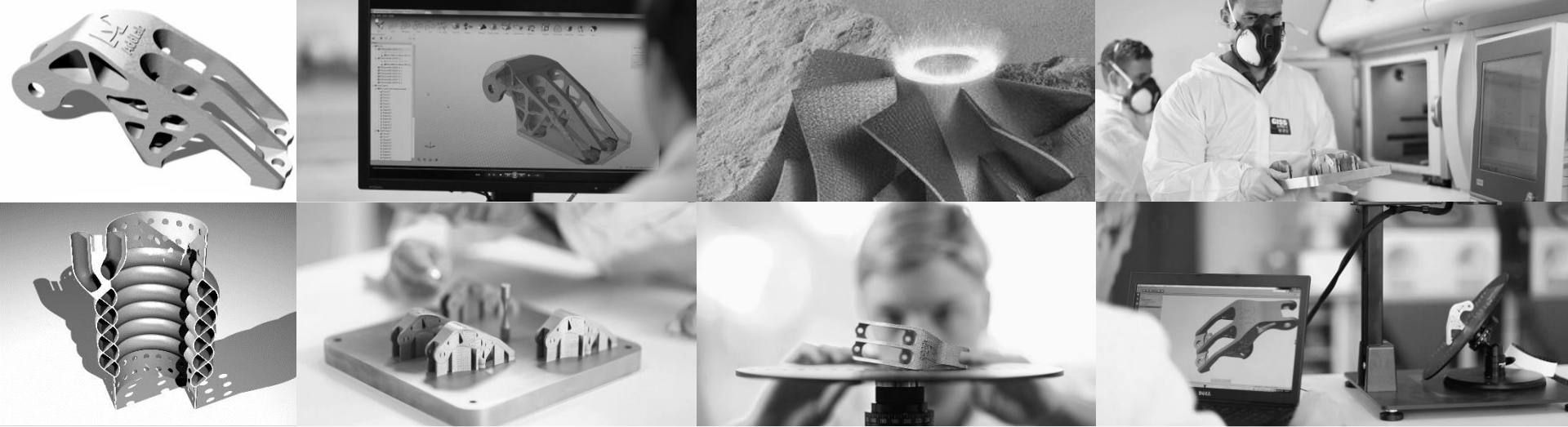
- **Increase in knowledge**
 - Better understanding the behavior of production
 - Increased knowledge concerning melt behavior materials
- **Machine size**
 - Multi-laser machines already in the market
 - Demand for bigger components in the market justifies larger machines
- **Complexity**
 - Combining several parts in to a single component
 - Topology and other optimization methods
- **Material developments**
 - Mechanical characteristics optimized for use in a specific product
 - Specially engineered alloys for use in the Aerospace industry

‘Additive Manufacturing brings an already challenging world even more opportunities!’



Thank you for your attention!





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