



Additive Manufacturing (R)evolution perspective: from prototype towards mass production

... from "Rapid Prototyping" to "Direct manufacturing"



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Introduction

- AM process: historical and market evolution
- AM advantages and limits
- AM TRL in different fields and application examples
- FCA AM approach/strategies
- FCA/CRF Case study
- Working team / resources and Prototypes features
- Benchmark and scouting with international collaboration
- New AM technologies development
- AM evolution impact on manufacturing plants and working force
- Final remarks

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Additive Manufacturing evolution



New filament for FFF (fused filament

fabrication) systems
BASF

Technologies, equipment and materials trend

Global AM market development (Source: Roland Berger)



Details

- Market growth between 2010 and 2014 was higher than 30% p.a.
- Future market growth expected to range between 25 and 40% depending on different sources
- Up to 2014, German manufacturers provided almost 70% of the 1,601 metal AM systems (PBF) sold worldwide

Source: Roland Berger;

Source: Additive Manufacturing -next generation Amnx, Roland Berger, April 2016

| Advantages | disadvantages |
|---|--|
| Complex and arbitrary geometry possible, overhang | Process stability |
| Shorter time from design to pilot batch | Building time depends on cross- section, higher time with respect mass production target |
| Customized production | Time consuming process and post processing required |
| Efficient production: recycling almost the entire powder material | Support structures are necessary |
| Very thin wall, lattice structure | Risk of deformation during building and cooling down (residual stress) |
| Cost profitable for small series | Raw material and process cost higher with respect mass production target |

TRL in AM

Additive Manufacturing is a step up from rapid prototyping – Series production manufacturing readiness level differs by application



Source: Roland Berger;

Additive Manufacturing (AM) – Opportunities in a digitalized production, Additive Manufacturing European Conference, Brussels, June 23rd, 2015



Applications (examples automotive field)





Stub axle, configured to optimize load and resources, manufactured by SLM. (Courtesy: Fraunhofer ILT, Aachen, Germany/Volker Lannert)

An exhaust manifold manufactured by Selective Laser Melting at FIT



In year 2015 BMW installs 500th metal AM racing car water pump wheel.

In a **race**, the high-performance powertrains run up to 70% of the time under full load.



Two Concept Laser M1 cusing systems with a central material supply container are used. The systems, from the medium performance range, have a build envelope of $250 \times 250 \times 250$ mm. The QTD insert drills are created as 10×10 or 11×11 unit solution in this build envelope. 100 to 121 drills are produced in one set-up.

Source: http://www.industrial-lasers.com/articles/print/volume-28/issue-2/features/laser-additive-manufacturing.html http://www.conceptlaserinc.com/mapal-relies-on-additive-manufacturing-for-qtd-series-insert-drills/

Applications (examples automotive field)

This concept F1 Cylinder Head is manufactured on a SLM 500 machine using AlMg10Si powder by FIT. By applying Additive Design and Manufacturing, FIT used AM technology to significantly increase the surface cooling area while achieving reduced vibration and great weight reduction of the part from 5.1 kg to 1.9 kg, equating to a 66 % weight reduction.





Case study



Mockup of a V8 engine block (proportion 1/3) produced by LAM on a Concept Laser machine. In the future, these automotive parts can be produced full scale and with significant higher build-up rates by using more powerful lasers < 1 kW. (Copyright: Fraunhofer ILT, Aachen, Germany)

> In 2016 Fully functional additively manufactured automotive cylinder block produced for Volkswagen. Built in 300 hours on a Concept Laser X 1000 R system

AM in CRF/FCA



Product development: EMEA prototypes







Missione:

Essere partner di Centro Stile per l'attività di sviluppo modelli di stile e rendering

Product development: EMEA prototypes







Missione:

Produrre componenti per muletti e prototipi al fine di testare la **soluzione ottimale** in tempi ridotti e dare al cliente prodotti sempre più **innovativi e di qualità**.

Case studies CRF/FCA

Heat extractor tool for metal casting, redesigned for conformant cooling.

CONVENTIONAL DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING



Case studies CRF/FCA

CONVENTIONAL DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING



Frame 25

ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING



Prototype manufactured on **Concept Laser** equipment



Benchmark and scouting with international collaboration

- 1. Co-funded Projects on AM technologies:
 - A. European H2020 framework:



1.

2.

- ENCOMPASS project (July 2016-June 2019):
 - Integrated Component and Process Design tool which will be a comprehensive integrated additive manufacturing (AM) process chain decision support



- OpenHybrid project (July 2016-June 2019):
 - developing a novel hybrid AM approach which will offer unrivalled flexibility, part quality and Productivity
- 3. PALMS project (July 2017-December 2019):
 - Investigate new surface coating procedure for AM component
- B. Piattaforma Piemonte:
 - 1. STAMP project (2016-2018):
 - Process evolution, application benchmark, new AM architecture investigation
- 2. International cooperation:
 - 1. Research Institutions: MTC (UK), Fraunhofer (DE), ...
 - 2. Supplier: Renishaw (UK), Concept Laser (DE), EOS (DE) ... new companies
 - 3. University: POLI Torino (IT), UNI Fisciano (IT), RWTH Aachen (DE), ...
 - 4. SW house: Altair (IT), ESI (DE), Autodesk ...

Working team / resources





Prototypes features





Centre for Additive Manufacturing for the realization of **plastic** and **metal** parts for both prototyping and small batch production.

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Additive Manufacturing Technological Evolution

How far is Additive Manufacturing from mass production? Which are weak points? What are still the open demand from the market? ... Production time, cost and quality (including part dimension, material type, post processing operation, properties homogeneity) ...

Next generation of Additive Manufacturing systems will approach an optimum in the triad of time, cost and quality



Current process with layer deposition and sintering suffers from longer manufacturing time and material properties limitation due to continuous sintering and cooling steps over the layer by layer component construction. **Breakthrough approach: contamination by different technologies and sintering process decupling from material addition process**.

Breakthrough in Metal Additive Manufacturing: AM with metal filament

New equipment based on Fused Filament Fabrication (FFF) technology evolution for metal: ADAM (Atomic diffusion additive manufacturing) is an **intersection of AM and Metal Injection Molding.**



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Breakthrough in Metal Additive Manufacturing: binder jetting technology

New binder jetting, **based on Inkjet technology** where metal powder and binder are used. Layer by layer, a **liquid binding agent** is selectively deposited by a printhead to join powder particles to form an object.

Materials are typically cured and sintered and sometimes infiltrated with another material, depending on the application. Hot isostatic pressing may be employed to achieve high densities in solid metals.

Metal powder dispenser Printhead with binder dispens





Binder Jetting is similar to traditional paper printing. The binder functions like the ink as it moves across the layers of powder, which like paper, forms the final product.

Smart factory is highly scalable and modular. Can provide a quick response to a changed production program of products.



Impact on working force

Invest on software solutions and expertise to maintain competitiveness Importance of software and skills for the further industrialization of AM to enable a fully digital value chain. In terms of expertise, digital capabilities were recognized as fundamental to accelerate the adoption of additive techniques.



CRF

Conclusion

- Market demand increase AM solution development.
- Current AM technology limitations will be overcome by continuous technology evolution:
 - New approaches with solution to reduce cost, time, and increase quality and dimension available: recent breakthrough technology, still to be validated...
- Continuous innovation and technological research in needed:
 - Impact on society with new skills: academia and industries together to form and exploit the new generations

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