



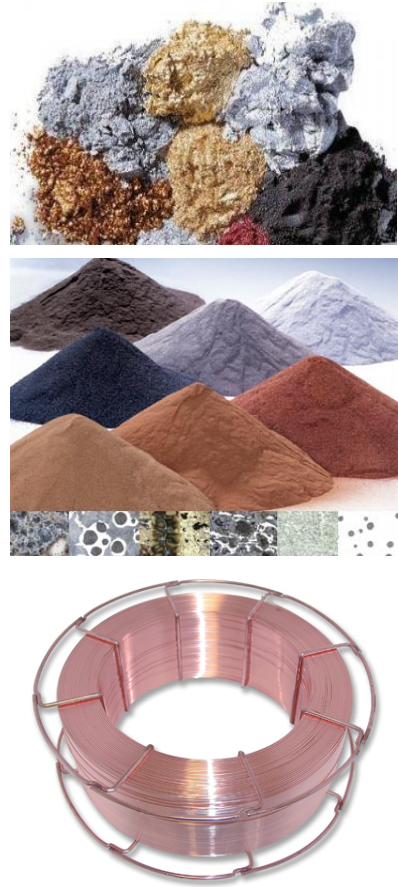
# METAL 3D-PRINTING OVERVIEW

## Introduction to Additive Manufacturing (AM)



# 3D-PRINTING

Resource



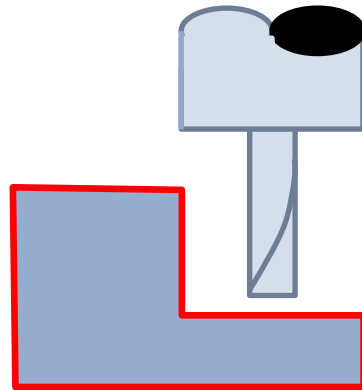
Fabrication



Finished part

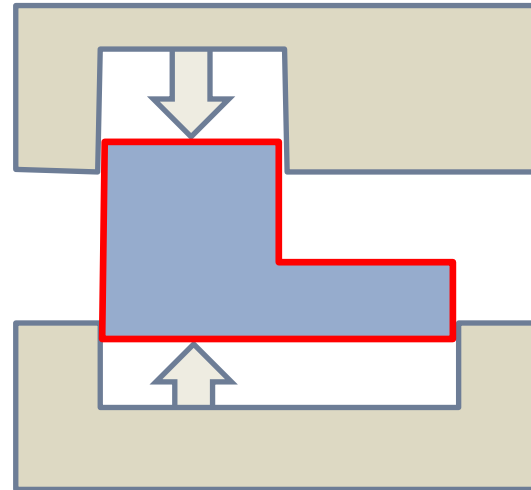


# CONVENTIONAL FABRICATION VS. AM



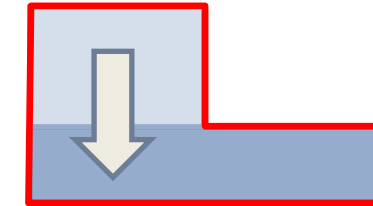
Subtractive

- milling
- drilling
- turning
- cutting
- sawing
- etc.



Formative

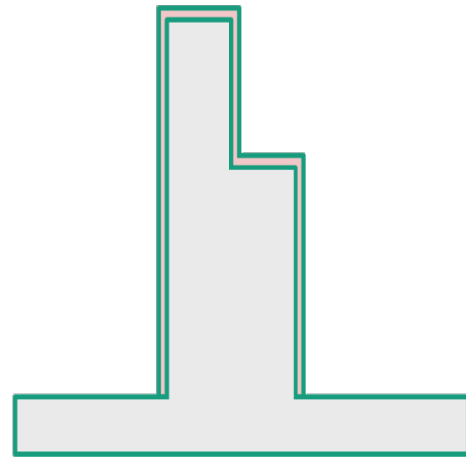
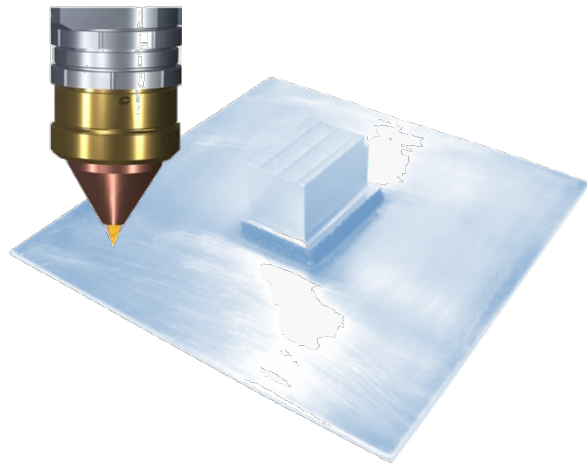
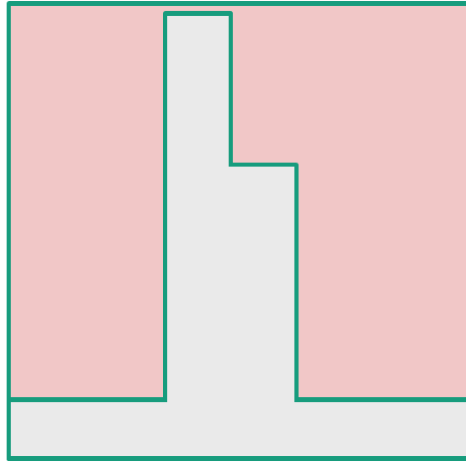
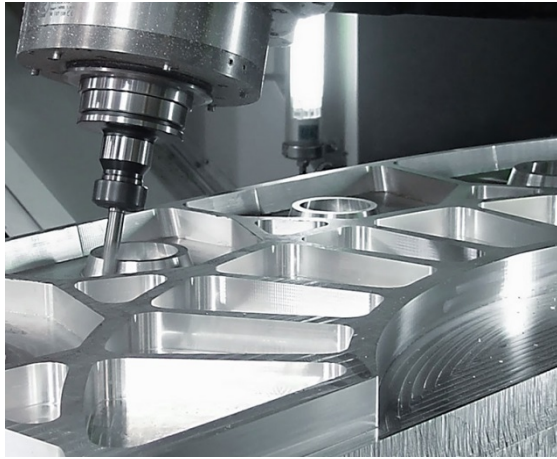
- bending
- forging
- forming
- injection molding
- etc.



Additive

- powder bed
- polymerization
- free form technologies
- etc.

# WHAT IS ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING (AM)? AKA 3D-PRINTING

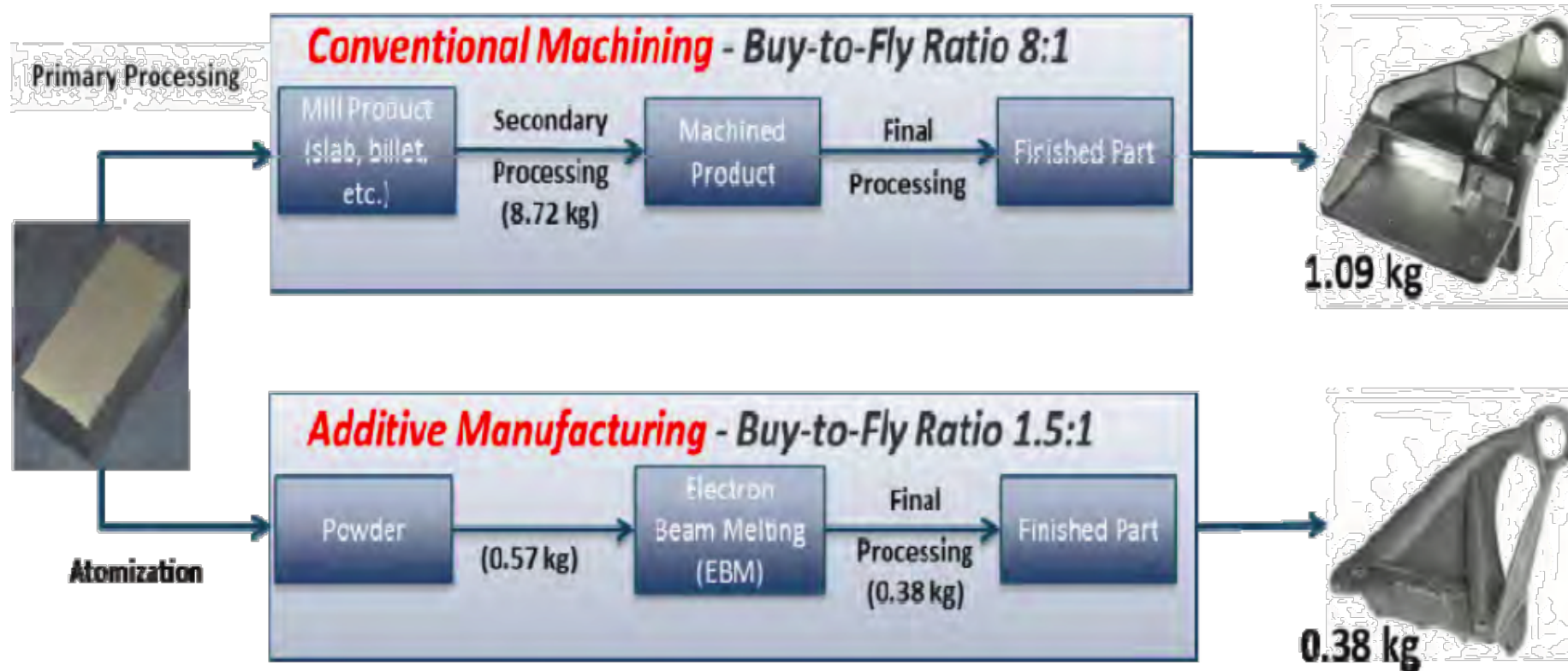


- near-net shape
- material efficiency

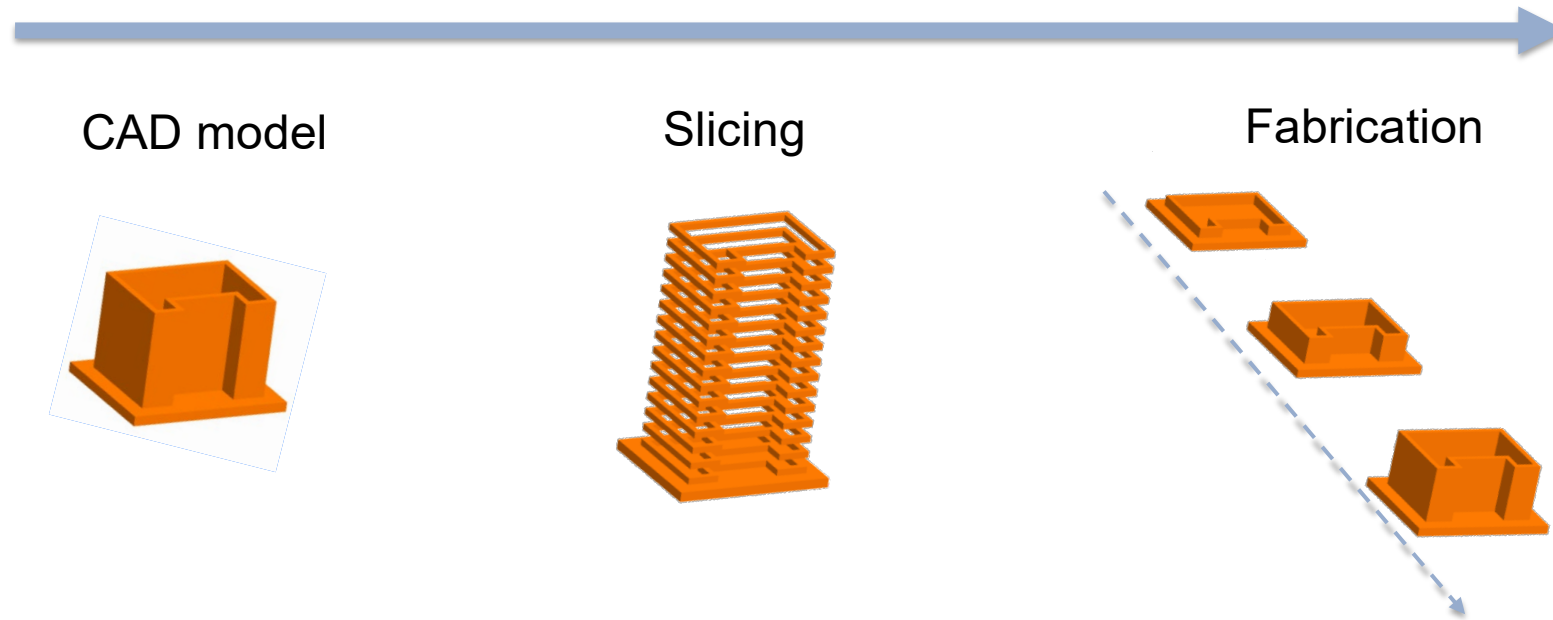




# CONVENTIONAL FABRICATION VS AM



# BASIC PROCESS CHAIN

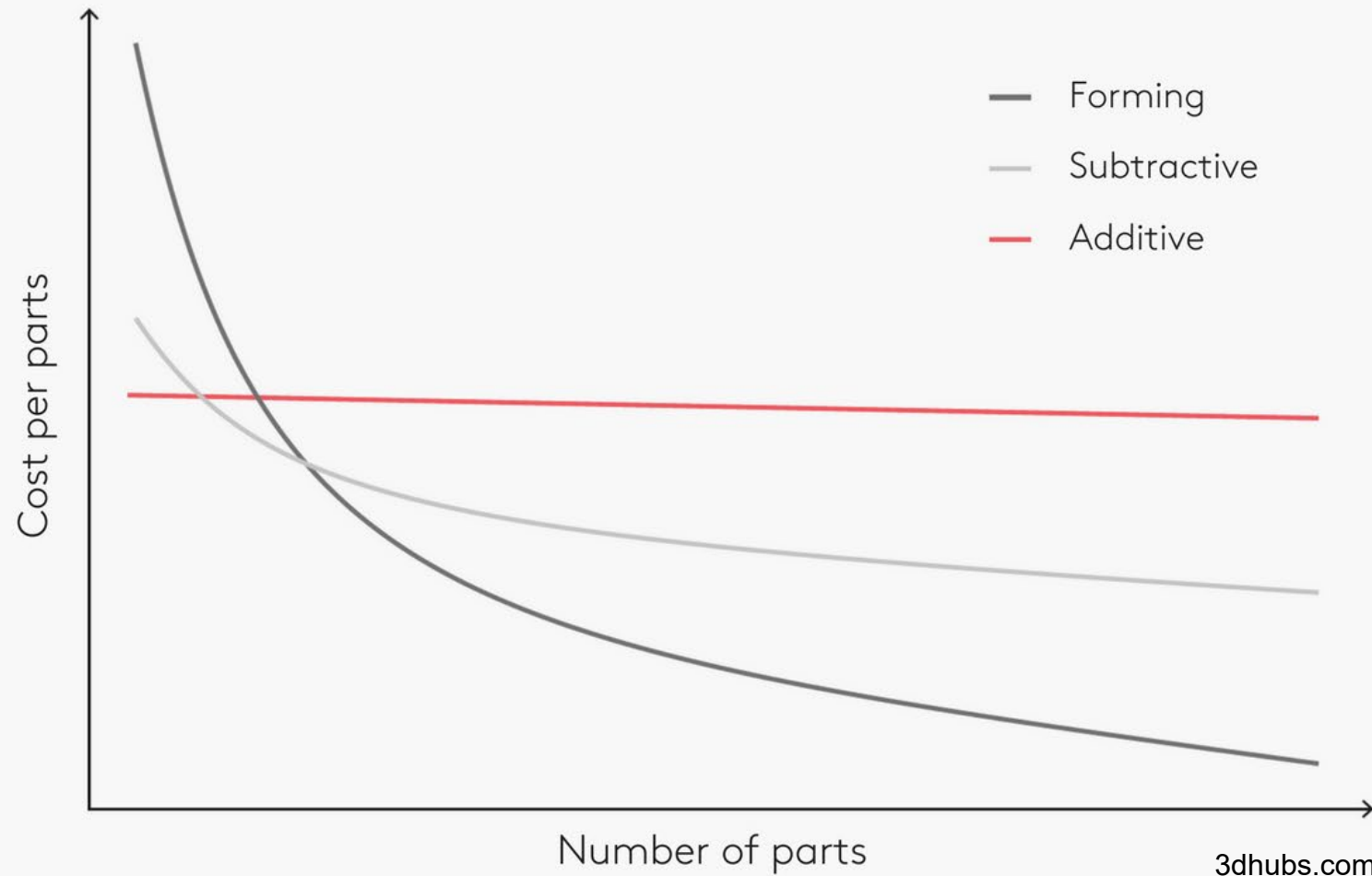


# AM VS MACHINING

- CNC machining
  - Tool access and clearances
  - Fixturing
  - Can not reach all surfaces
- AM often requires support structures to be built
  - Needs removal
- Binder jetting AM techniques require no support
  - -but more post processing



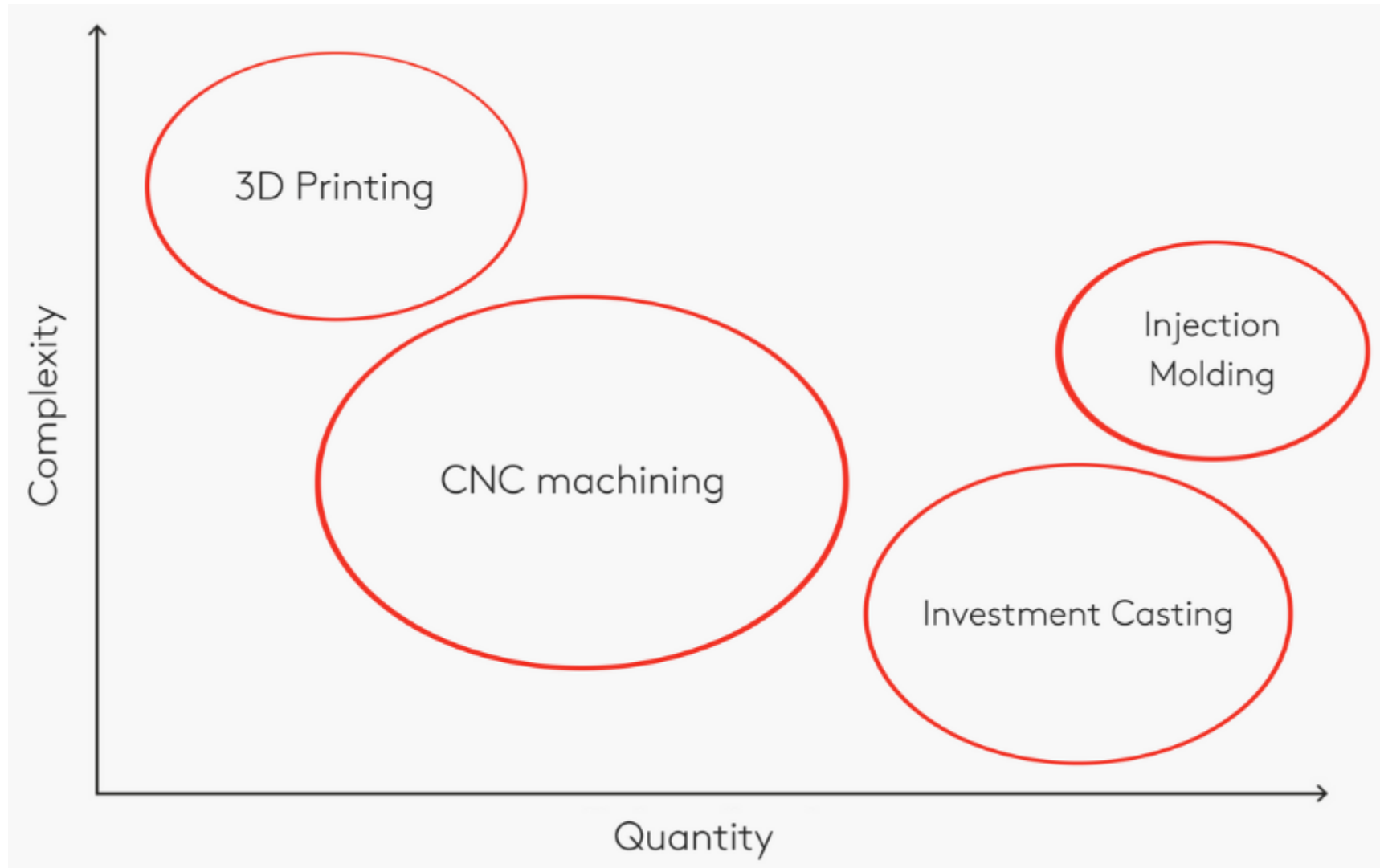
# SELECTING THE RIGHT TECHNIQUE



3dhubs.com



# SELECTING THE RIGHT TECHNIQUE



# WHEN IS AM USEFUL?

- **Multiscale structure design**
  - Advanced geometries (Structures otherwise not possible to make)
- **Topology optimization, sustainability and waste reduction**
  - Smart geometries (Saving material due to calculated force distributions)
- **Parts consolidation and inventory reduction**
  - Reduced complexity of assembling parts (fewer parts instead of many assembled), less items needed in production or storage
- **Agile manufacturing, lead time reduction and design for mass customization**
  - Reduction of the cost and leading time in producing customized parts or component improvements

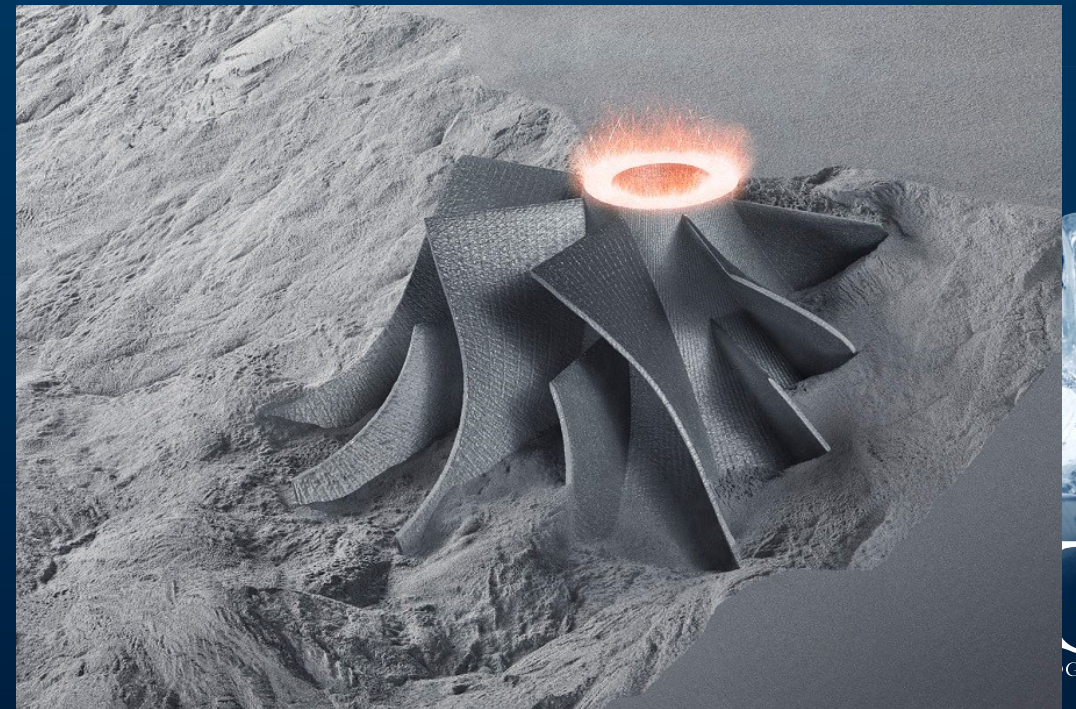
# WHEN IS AM USEFUL?

- **Distributed production**
  - Produce parts where needed instead of centralized manufacturing lines, e.g. spare parts in remote locations
- **Elimination of tooling**
  - Compared to some other techniques (e.g. casting or injection molding)



# METAL 3D-PRINTING OVERVIEW

AM processes (metals)



# AM-PROCESS CATEGORIES

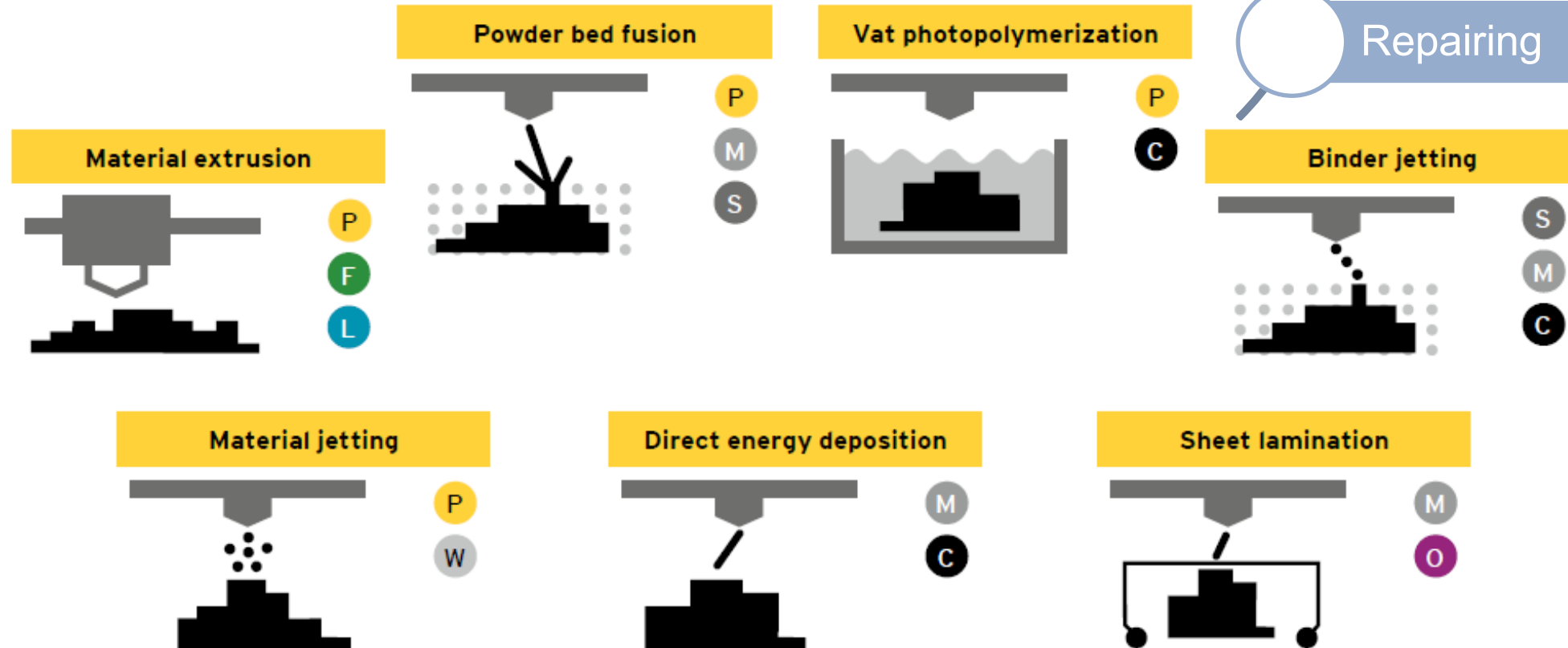
3DP sub-technologies

DED  
(freeform)

Direct Additive Manufacturing

Adding of functions

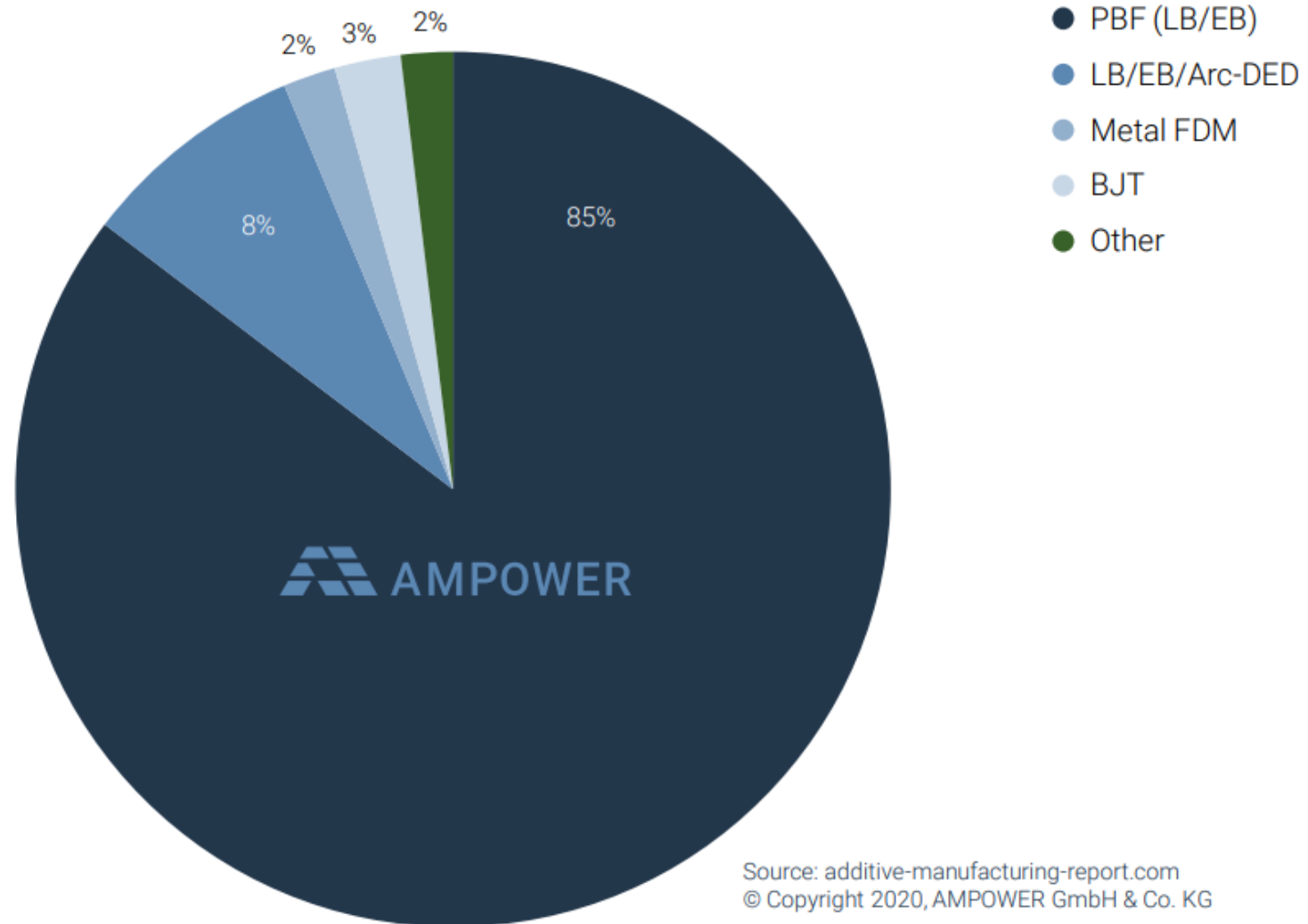
Repairing



Material key: P=Polymer, M=Metal, O=Organic material, C=Ceramic, S=Sand, L= Live cells, F=Food, W=Wax

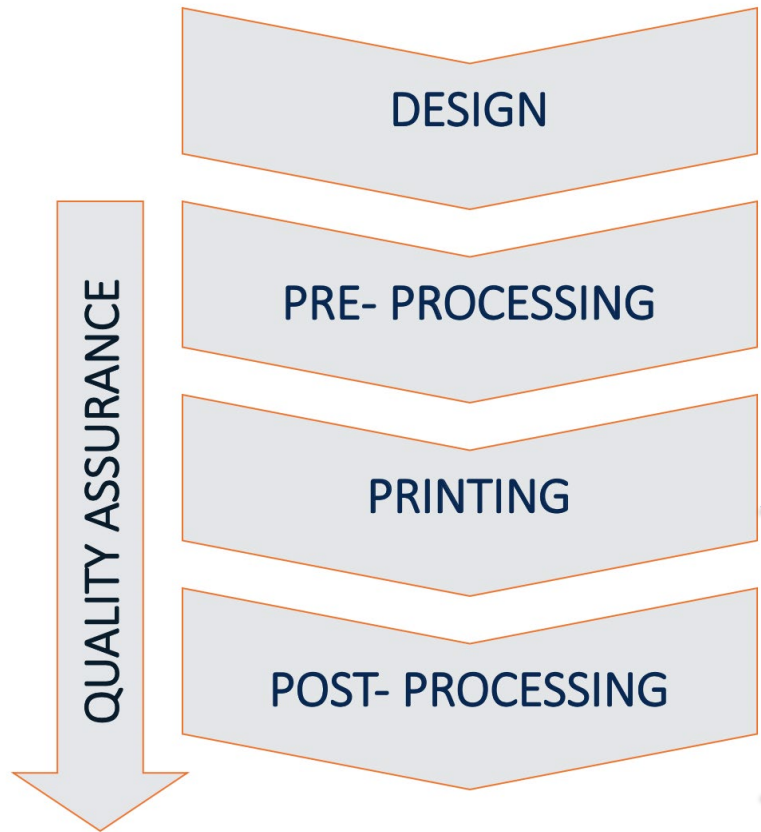


# SYSTEM SALES REVENUE BY TECHNOLOGY 2019

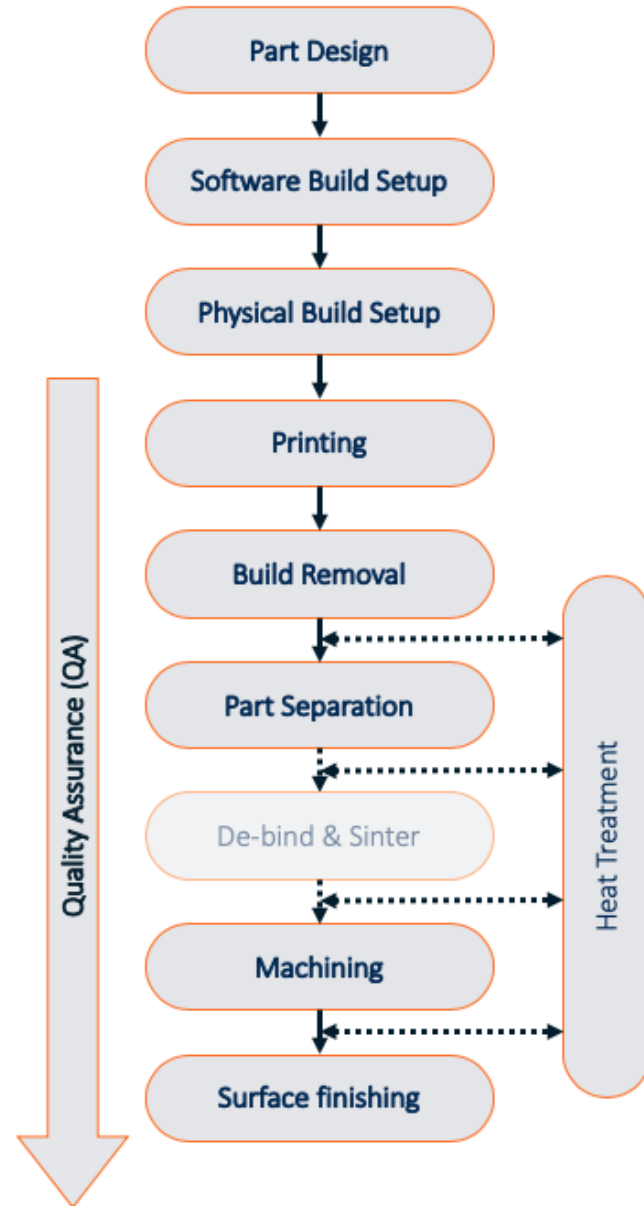


Source: additive-manufacturing-report.com  
© Copyright 2020, AMPOWER GmbH & Co. KG

# METAL



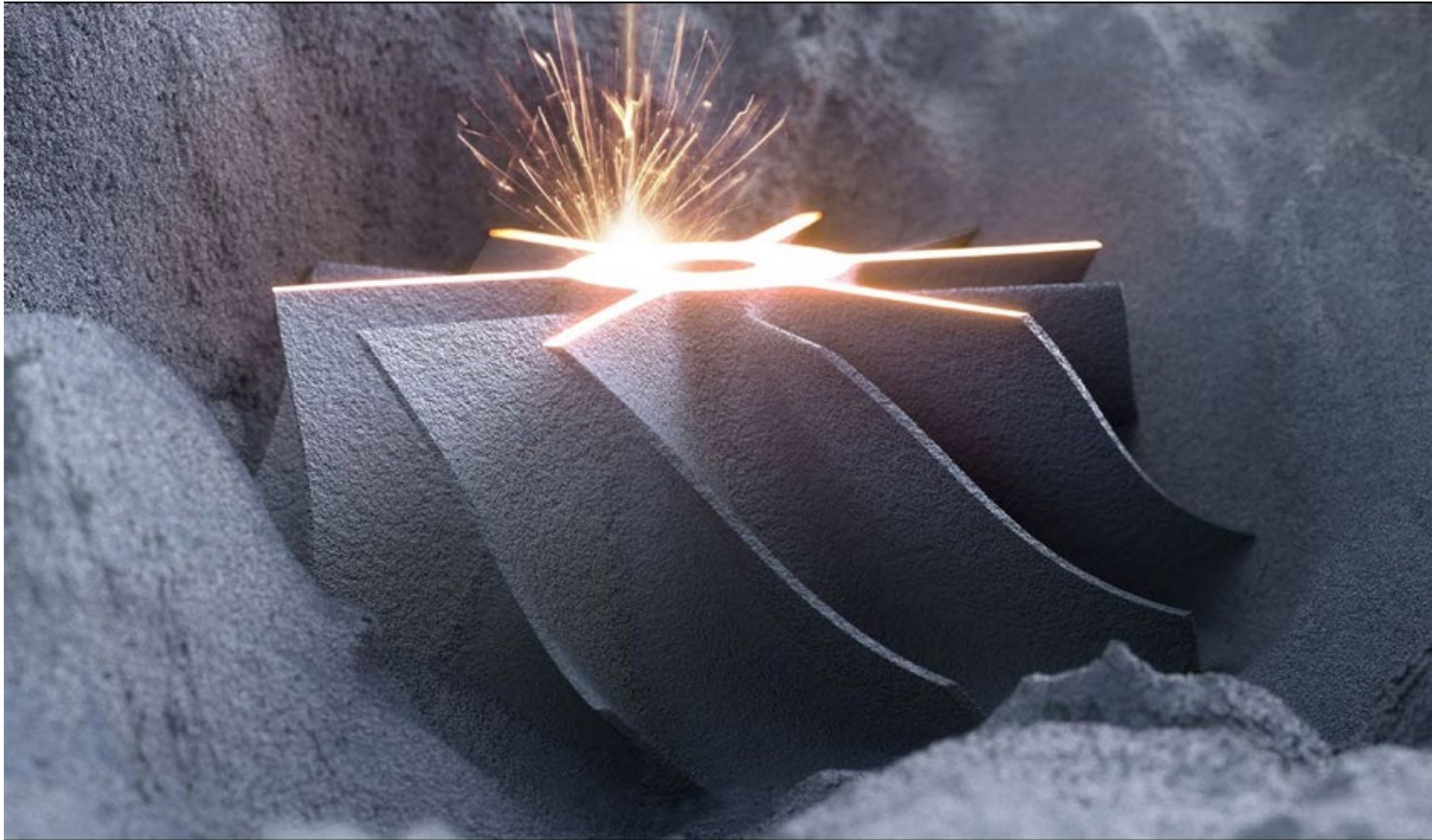
## METAL ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING WORKFLOW



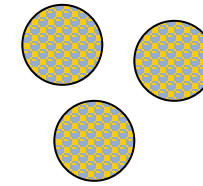
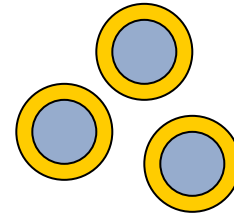
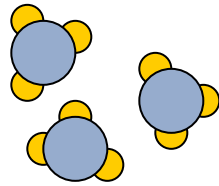
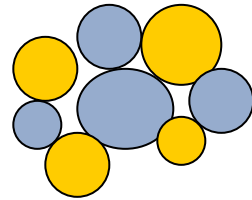
# POST PROCESSING

- **Quality Assurance (QA)**
  - Not a single in step, but instead is a set of inspections, measurements, analyses and documentation performed throughout the workflow
- **QA for metal AM is unique**
  - The repeatability of most metal AM processes cannot be taken for granted
  - Certain processes are particularly sensitive to material input and process variables which are hard to control
  - Robust QA strategy needed
    - Software
    - Hardware
    - Materials
    - Processes monitoring

# POWDER BED FUSION PROCESSES



# TYPES OF (SINTERING) POWDER



powder:

mixed

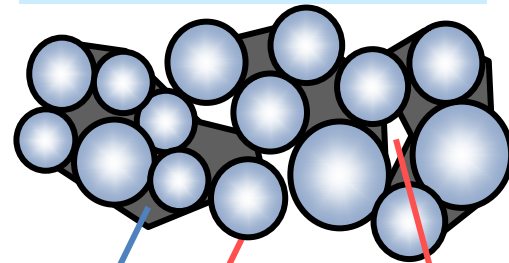
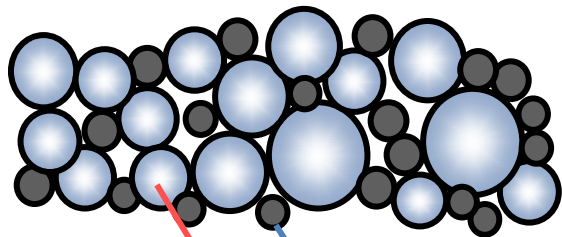
satellites

coated

alloyed

powder layer  
before sintering

powder layer  
after sintering



low-melting component

high-melting component

remaining porosity



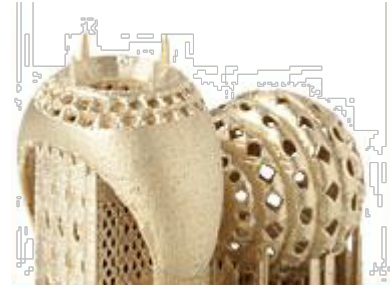
Fraunhofer  
IWS





# LASER POWDER BED FUSION (LPBF) –OFTEN ALSO CALLED SELECTIVE LASER MELTING (SLM)

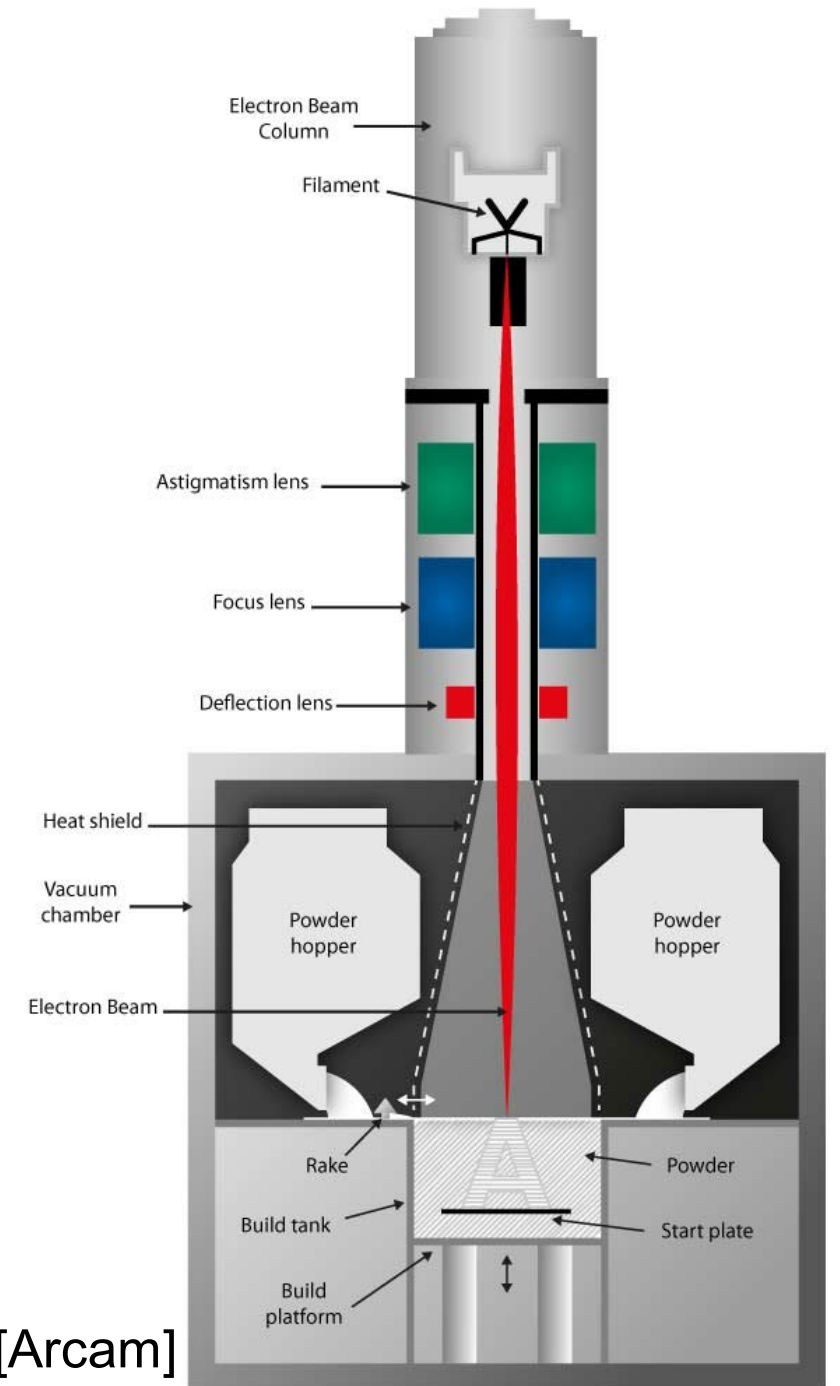
- Applications:
  - jewelry for individual demand in very short time
  - medicine, i. e. surgery, dentistry simultaneously up to 30 dental implants (core of teeth prosthesis)



# ELECTRON BEAM MELTING (EBM)



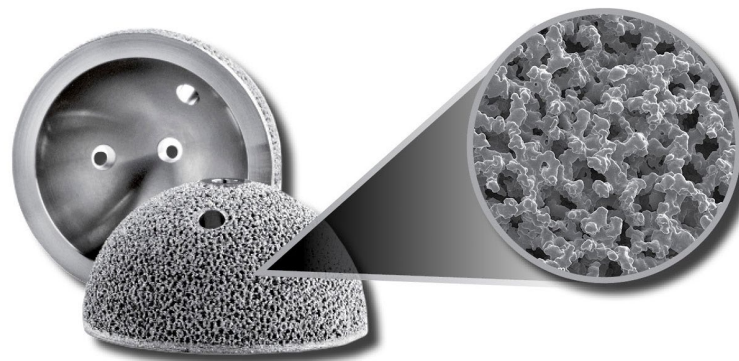
- \* Vacuum chamber
- \* Beam pre-heats powder bed before selective melting for each layer



# EBM APPLICATIONS – AEROSPACE AND ORTHOPEDIC IMPLANTS



Turbine blade  
 $\gamma$ -titanium aluminide  
Avio Aero



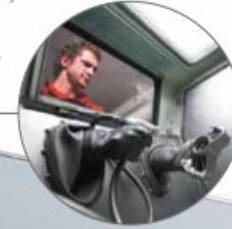


# PBF FACTORIES?

## Powder Recycling

Unmelted powder is removed from the built components by blasting and is sieved for future use.

The sieved powder is refilled into new powder containers.



## Build Preparation

An EBM operator has prepared the Arcam EBM® machine for a new build and selects a Build Project file.

The Build Project file includes the build geometry and all process settings relevant for that build.



## Build Removal

After an EBM build is completed the closed build tank is moved with a trolley directly to the powder recovery system for powder recycling.



## Powder Removal

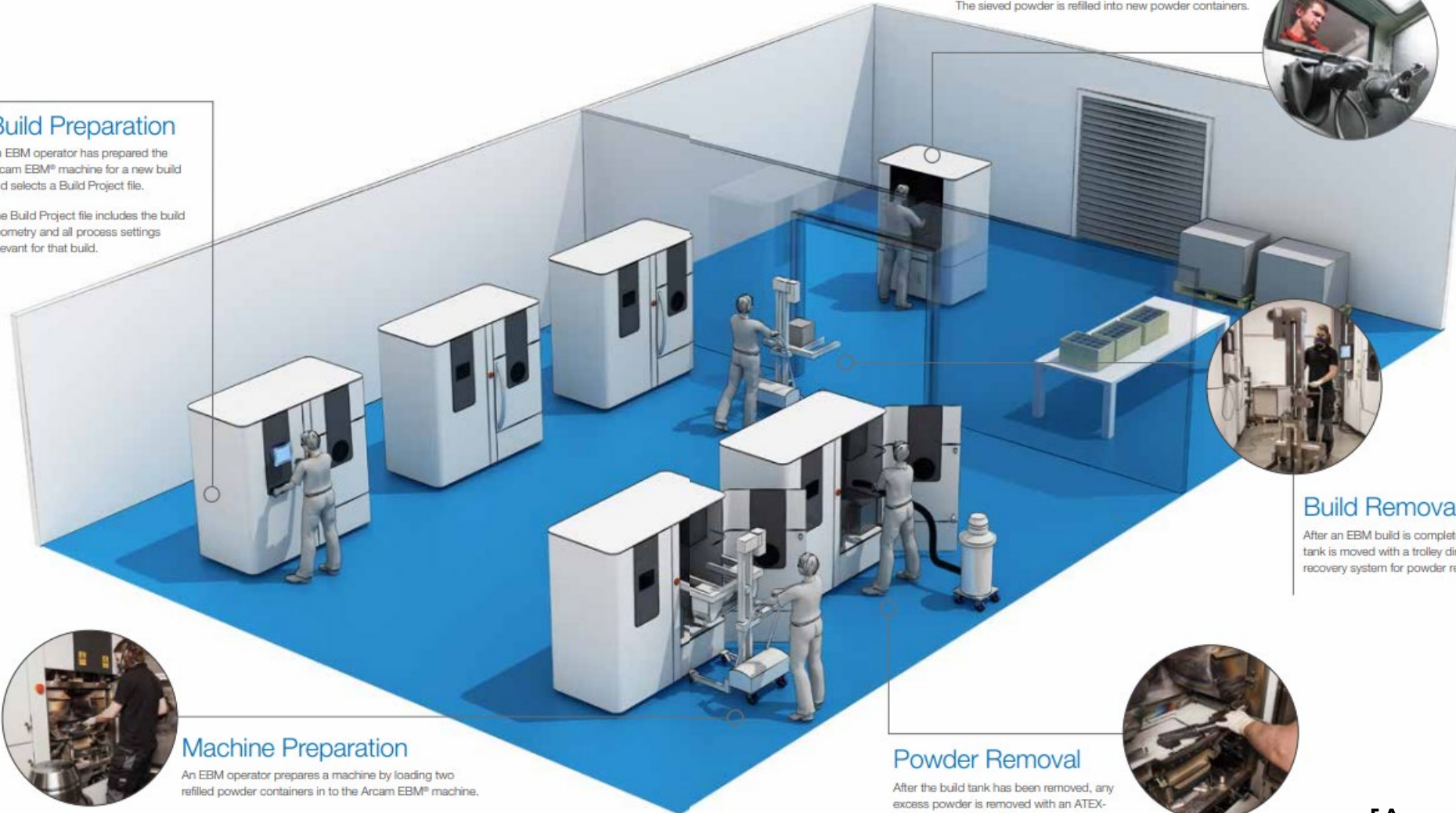
After the build tank has been removed, any excess powder is removed with an ATEX-classified vacuum cleaner.



## Machine Preparation

An EBM operator prepares a machine by loading two refilled powder containers in to the Arcam EBM® machine.

The EBM operator also positions a new build tank and a start plate for the next build.

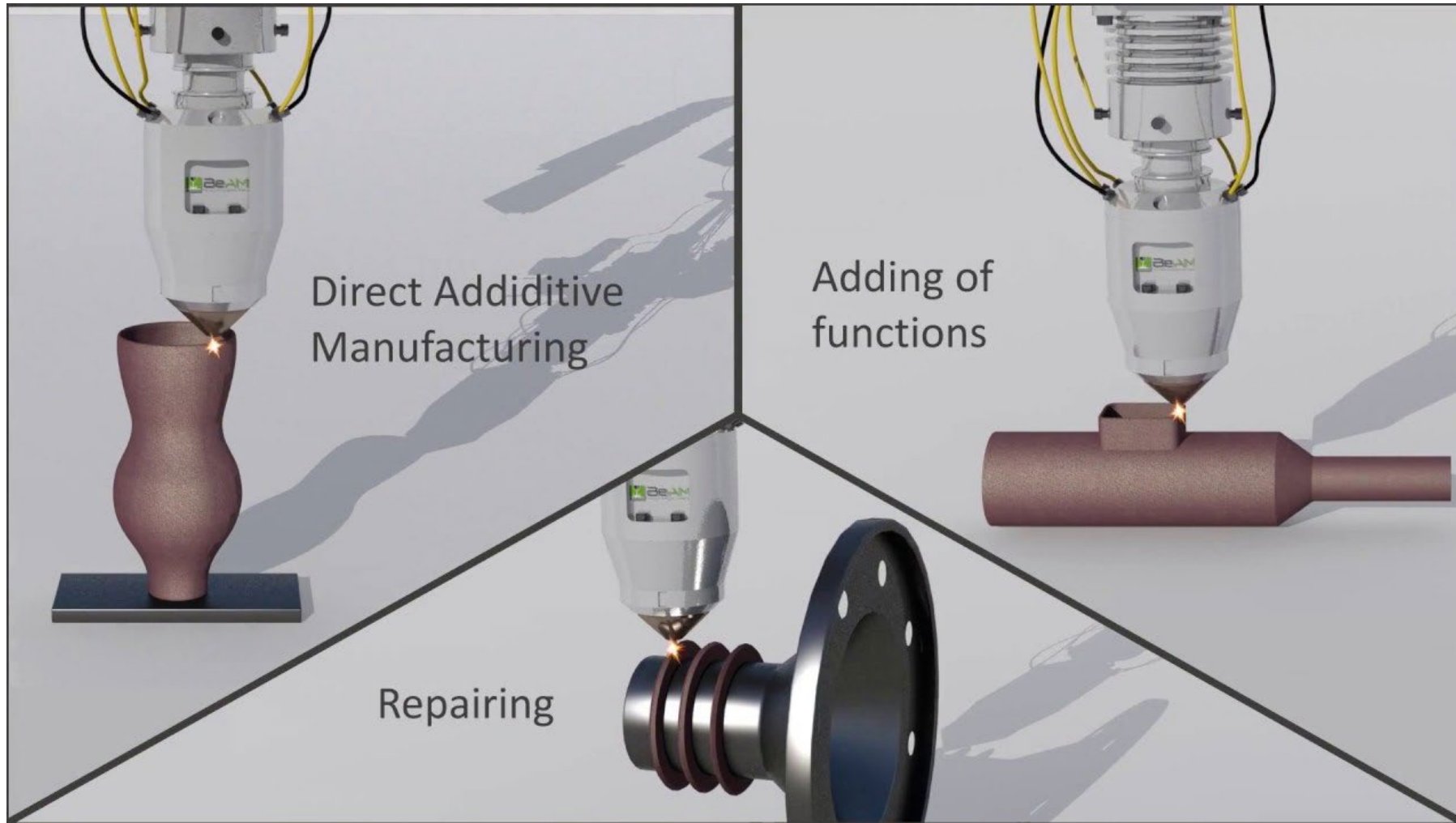


# FREEFORM TECHNOLOGIES

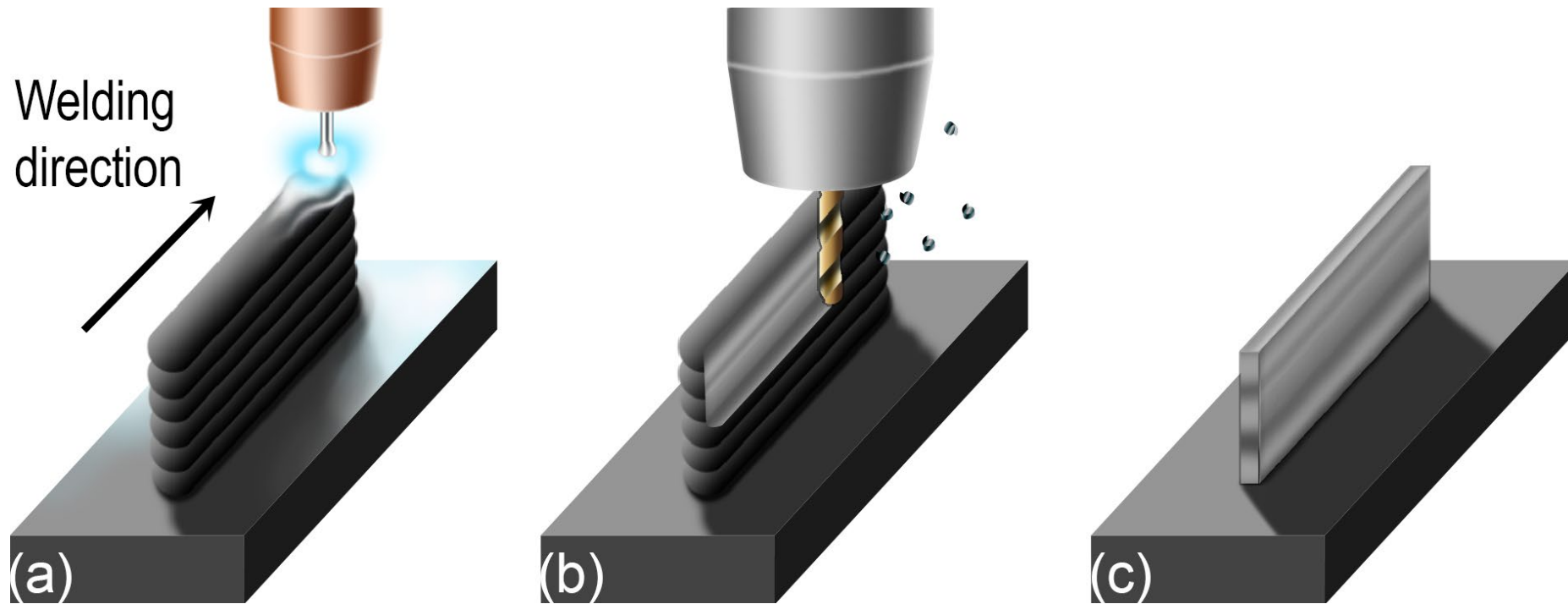




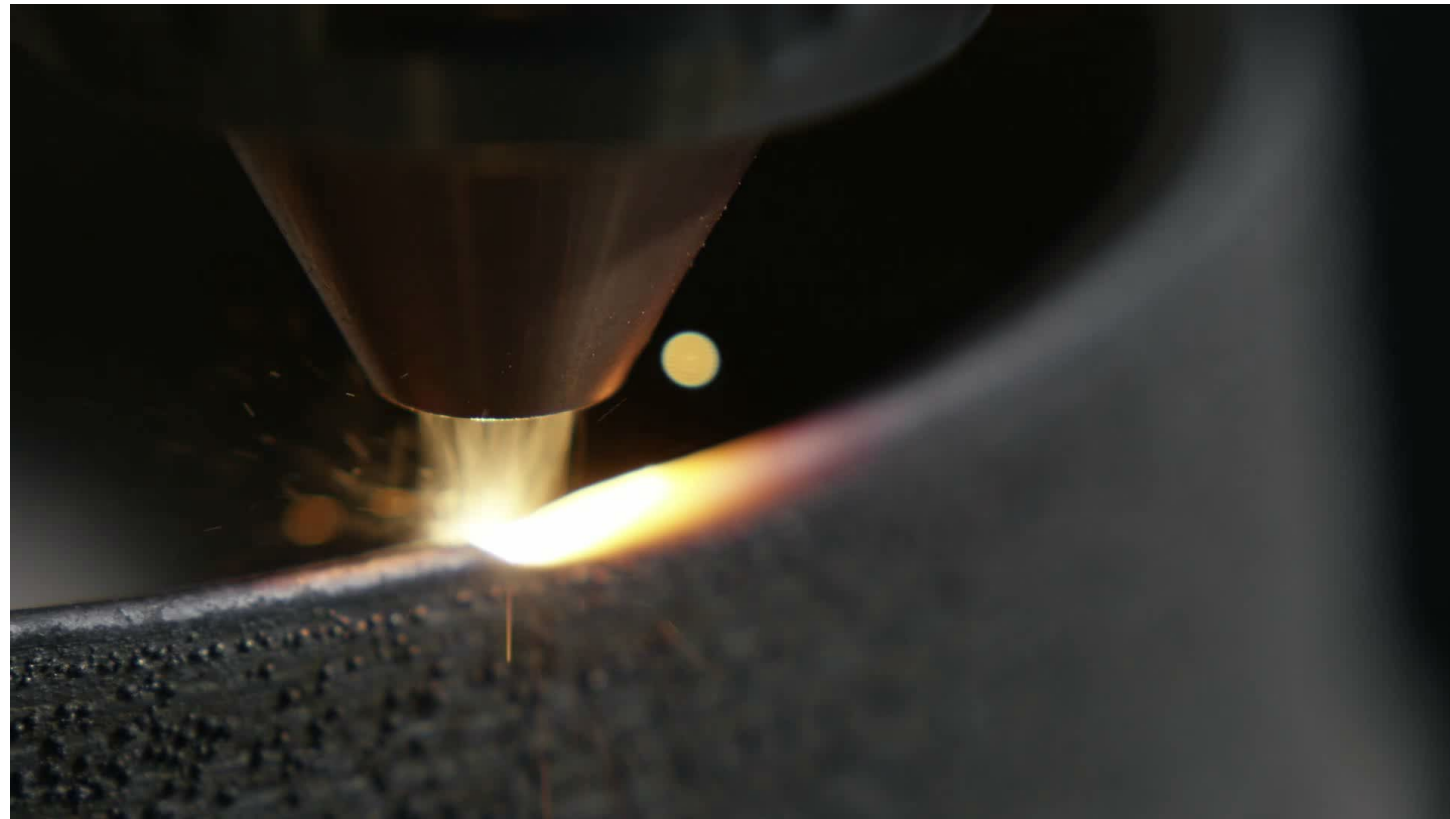
# FREEFORM MANUFACTURING ASPECTS



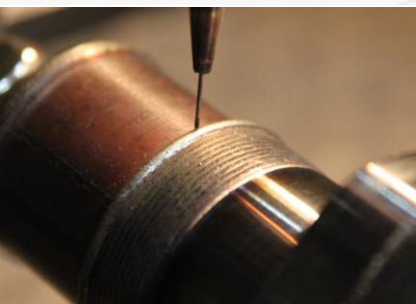
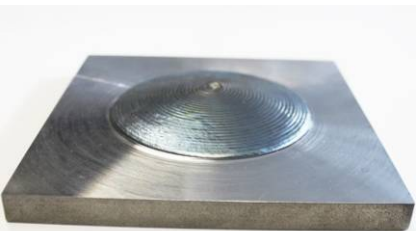
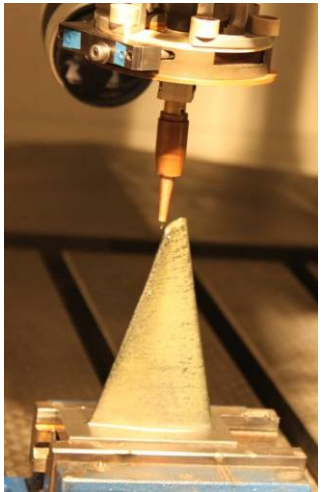
# WAAM – POST PROCESSING



# 3D HYBRID MANUFACTURING - LASER METAL DEPOSITION & HIGH-SPEED MILLING



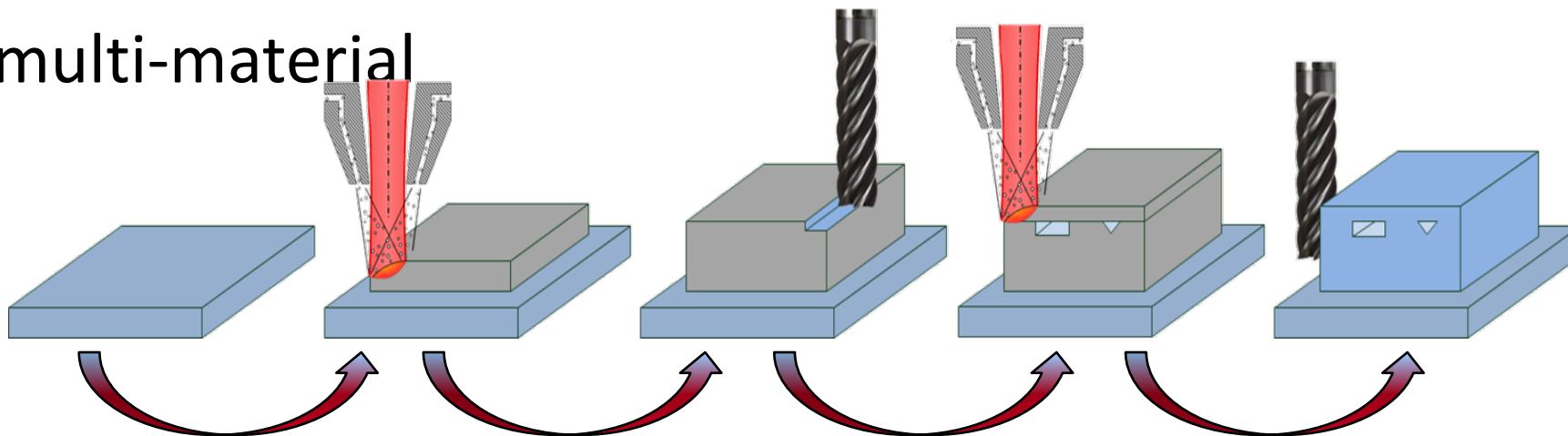
# LMWD - EXAMPLES





# 3D HYBRID MANUFACTURING - ASPECTS

- intermediate processing  
→ improved accessibility **during** processing, e. g. cooling channels
- onto **free-form** substrates, e. g. repair, redesign
- direct **net shape** fabrication of complex parts → surface finish
- one clamping, reduced chuck tools → faster and high precision
- multi-material







# GREEN BODY TECHNIQUES

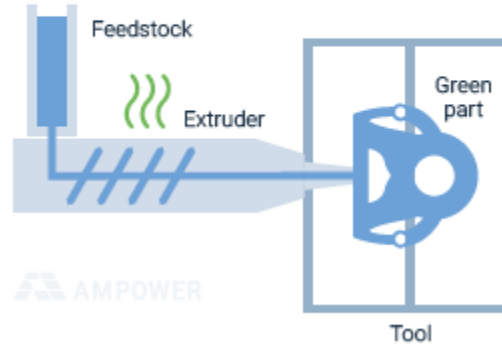
Fused deposition modeling

Binder jetting

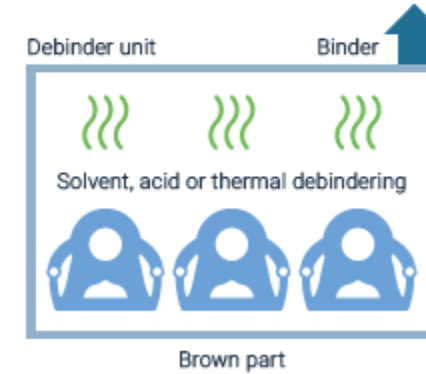


# GREEN BODY PROCESSING

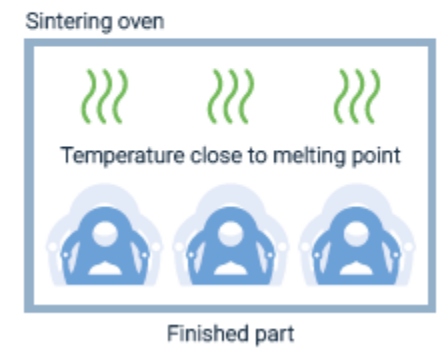
① Molding of green part



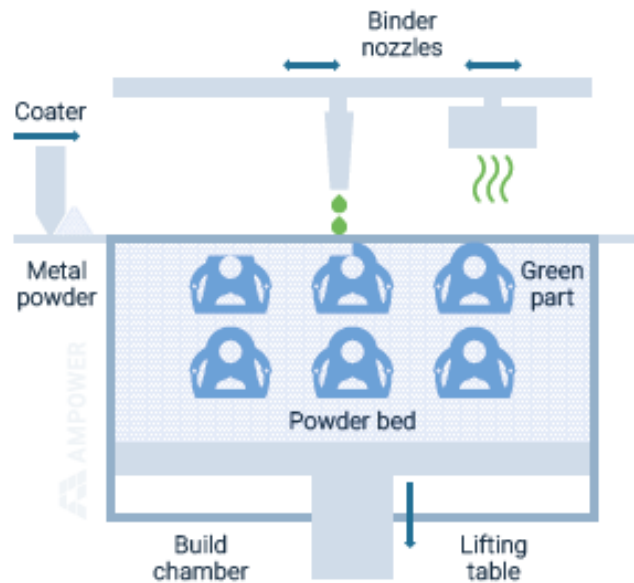
② Debinding



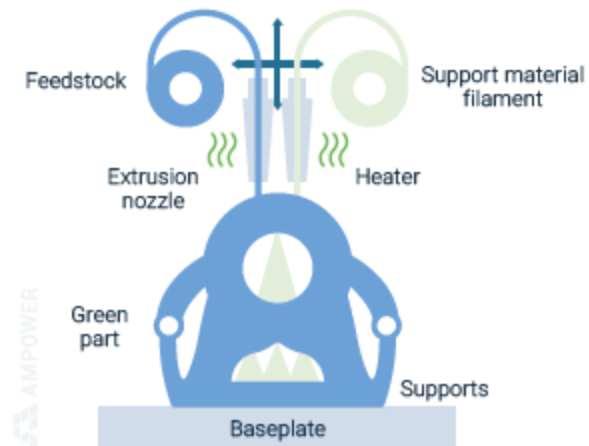
③ Sintering



## Binder jetting

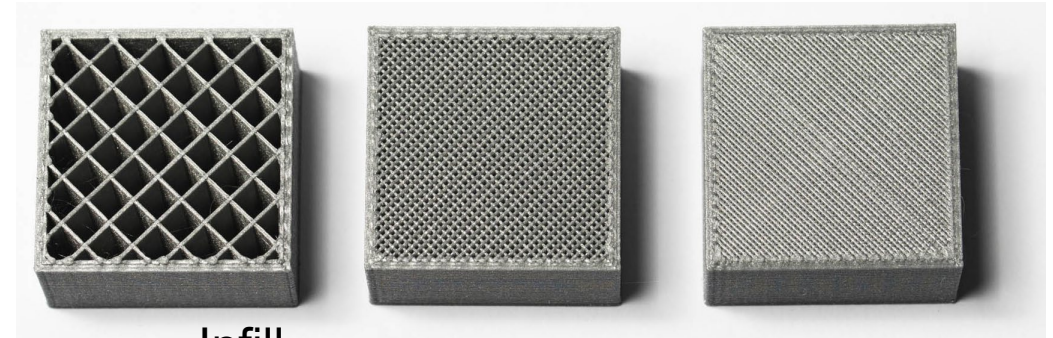


## Fused deposition modeling

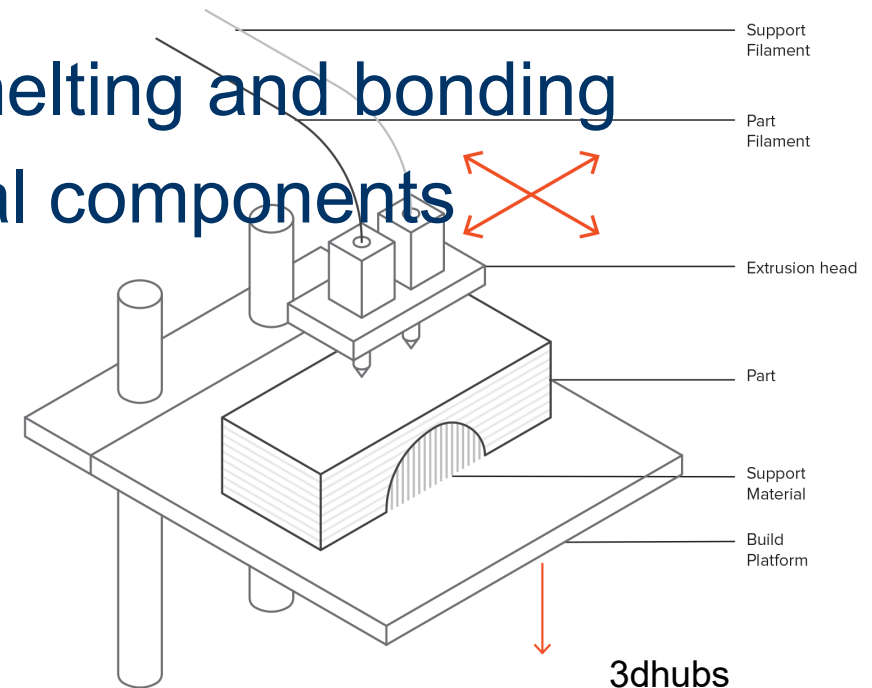
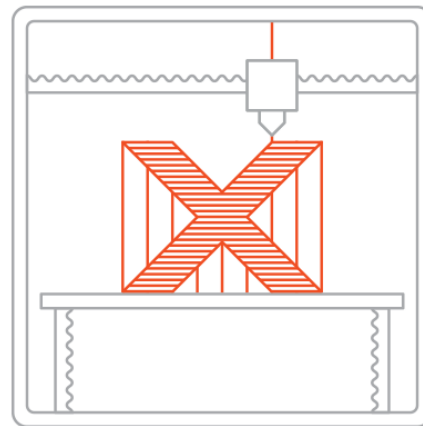
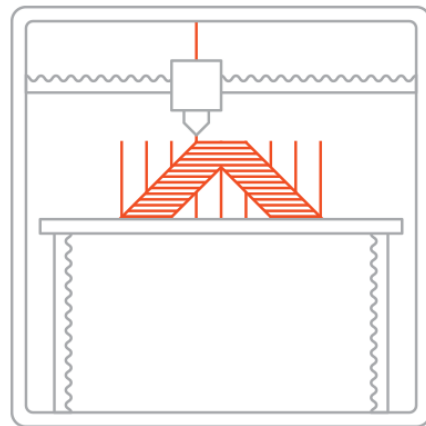
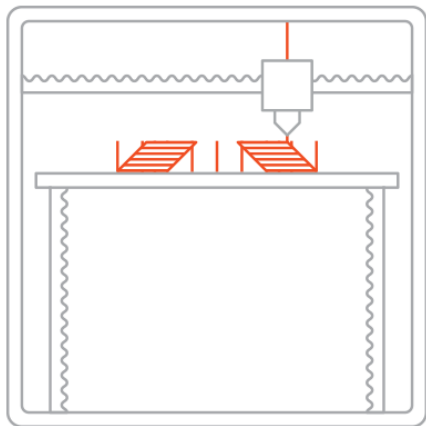


# FUSION DEPOSITION MODELING (FDM)

- Most common printer (a.k.a desktop printer)
- Low cost 3D-printing
- 50-400  $\mu\text{m}$  layer height
- High temperature and pressure ensures melting and bonding
- Mostly used for prototyping and non-critical components



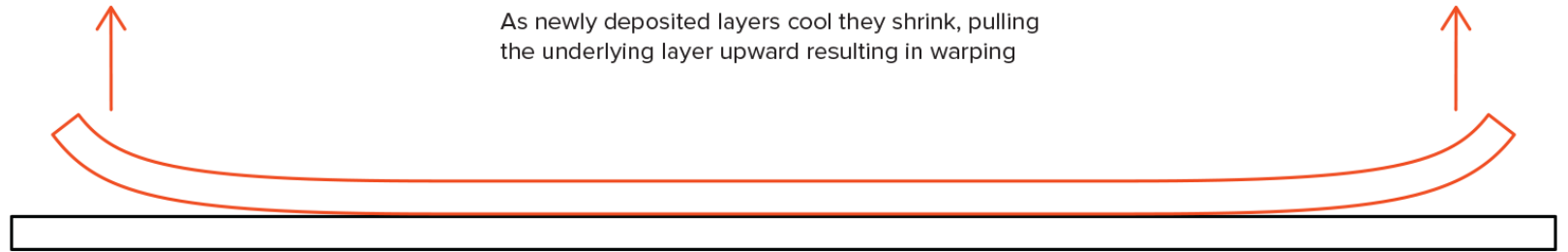
Infill



# FDM – LIMITATIONS

- **Warping**

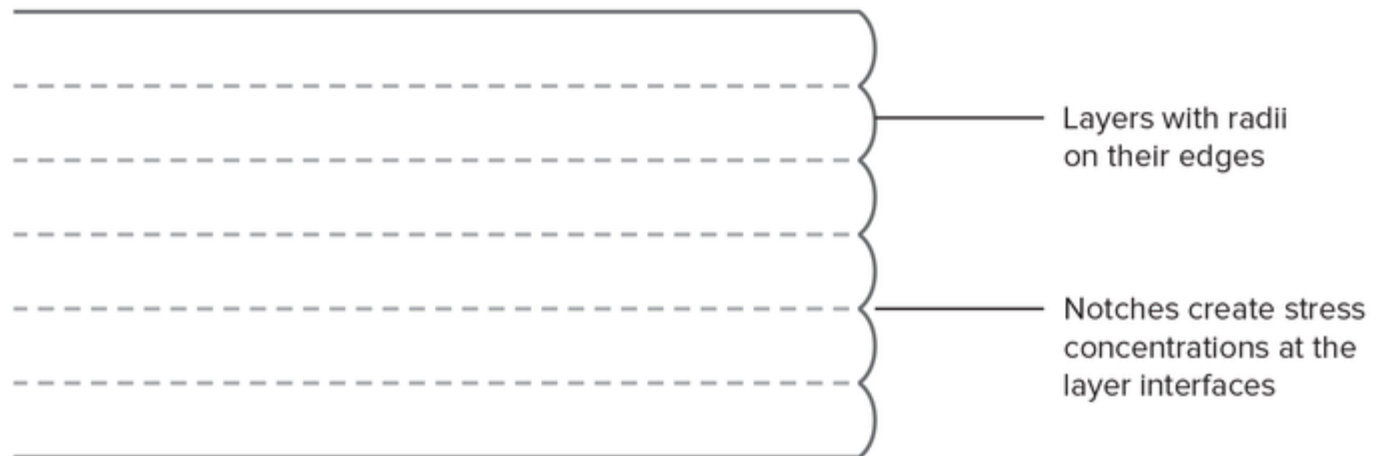
- Large flat areas
- Thin protruding features
- Sharp corners
- Material dependent, e.g. ABS



3dhubs

- **Layer adhesion**

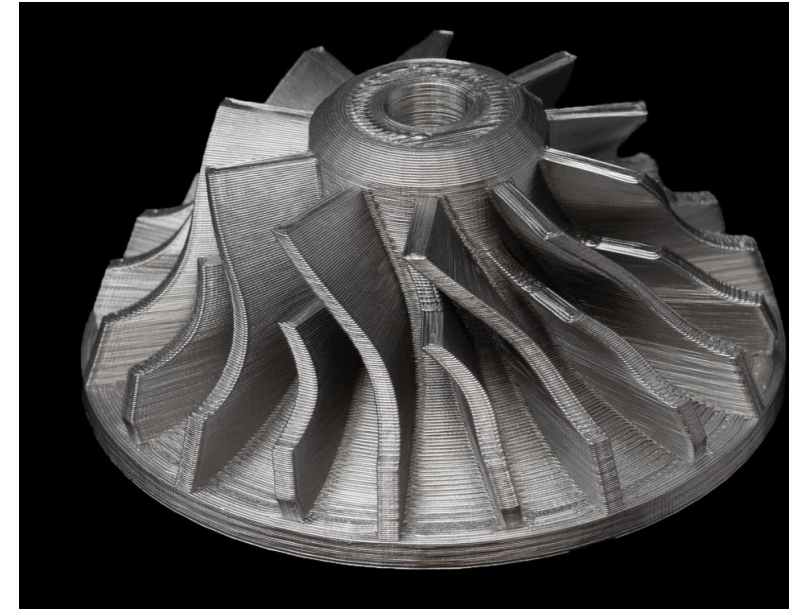
- Weak bond strength in z direction





# FDM – MARKFORGED METAL X

- Can print composites - infused materials in polymer wires
  - Carbon fibers (similar strength as traditional aluminium)
  - Kevlar
  - Glass fiber
- *Atomic Diffusion Additive Manufacturing*
  - Aluminium
  - Titanium?
  - Stainless steel?
  - Copper?



PRINTED PART

## CAMSHAFT SPROCKET

The strength and surface hardness of 17-4 PH stainless steel enables printing functional toothed parts, like this camshaft sprocket.

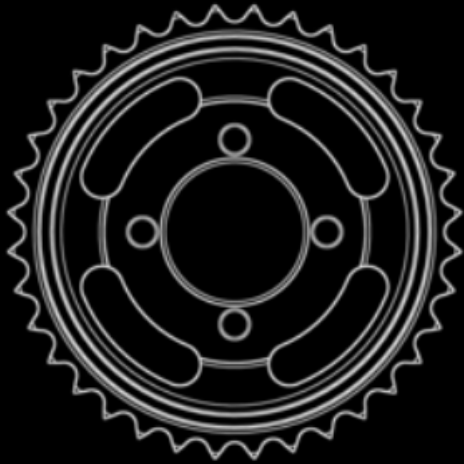
Typical Machined Cost \$279.06

Markforged Printed Cost \$12.56

**Savings 96%**



# FDM – METAL X PROCEDURE



## DESIGN

CAD your part, upload the STL, and select from a wide range of metals. The Eiger software does the rest making printing the right part easy.



## PRINT

Metal powder bound in plastic is printed a layer at a time into the shape of your part. Parts are scaled up to compensate for shrinkage during the sintering process.



## SINTER

Printed parts go through a washing stage to remove some of the binder. They are then sintered in a furnace and the metal powder fuses into solid metal.

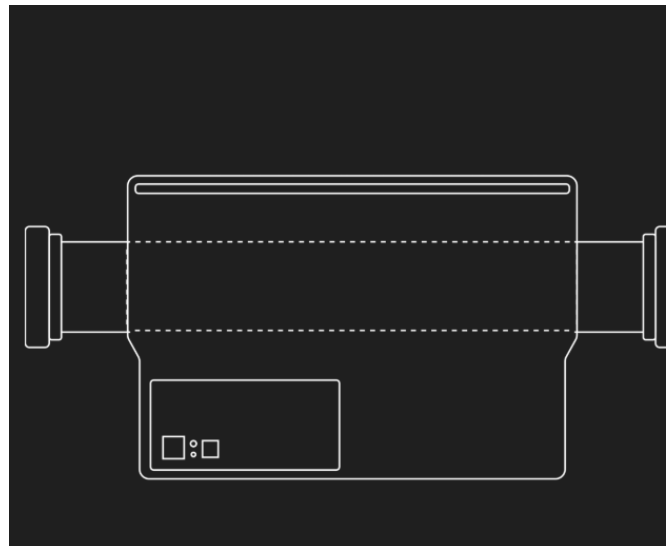
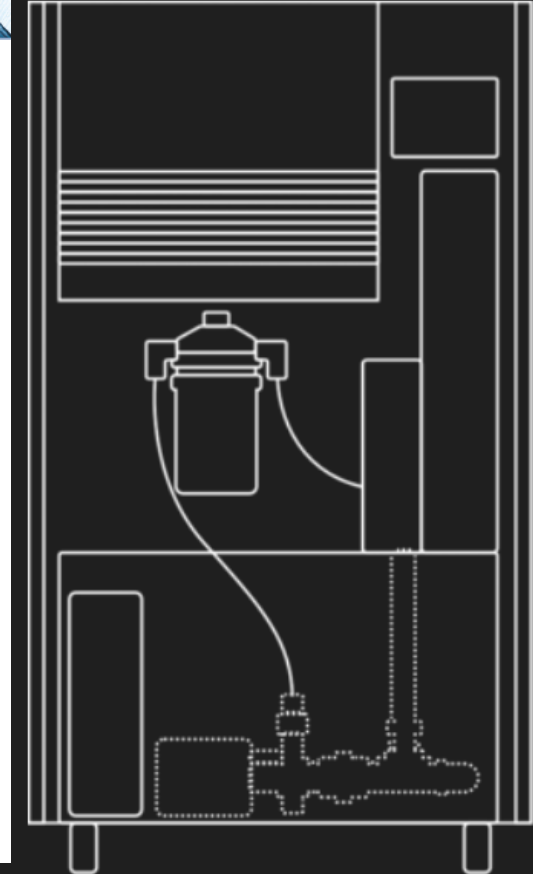


## PART

Now comprised only of pure metal, the final parts are ready for use. They can be processed and treated just like any other metal parts.

# FDM – METAL X

- Post processing required
  - Washing
    - *Green part* immersed in "specialized fluid" that removes binding material
    - Leaving part semi-porous
  - Sintering
    - Peak temperature 1300° C
- Full system cost > 130 k€
- *Not easily found info:*
  - Performance?
  - Total print cost?
  - Total time to finished part?



FURNACE

## SINTER-1

The Markforged Sinter-1 is a high performing, high value furnace—it's affordable, sizable, and reliable. Featuring 4,760 cubic cm of working volume, The Sinter-1 effortlessly converts brown (washed) parts into their near fully dense final metallic form. Built on 30 years of Metal Injection Molding (MIM) technology, it is ideal for sintering medium sized parts and small batch production.

# BINDER JETTING (BJ)

- Similar to traditional printing
- Manufacturers
  - DeskTop Metal (US)
  - Digital Metal (S)
  - ExOne (US)
  - Prodways (F)
  - HP (US?)
  - XJet
- Various applications and materials
  - Full colour prototypes
  - e.g. Plastics, ceramics
  - Sand casting and molds
  - Low-cost 3D-printing of metals

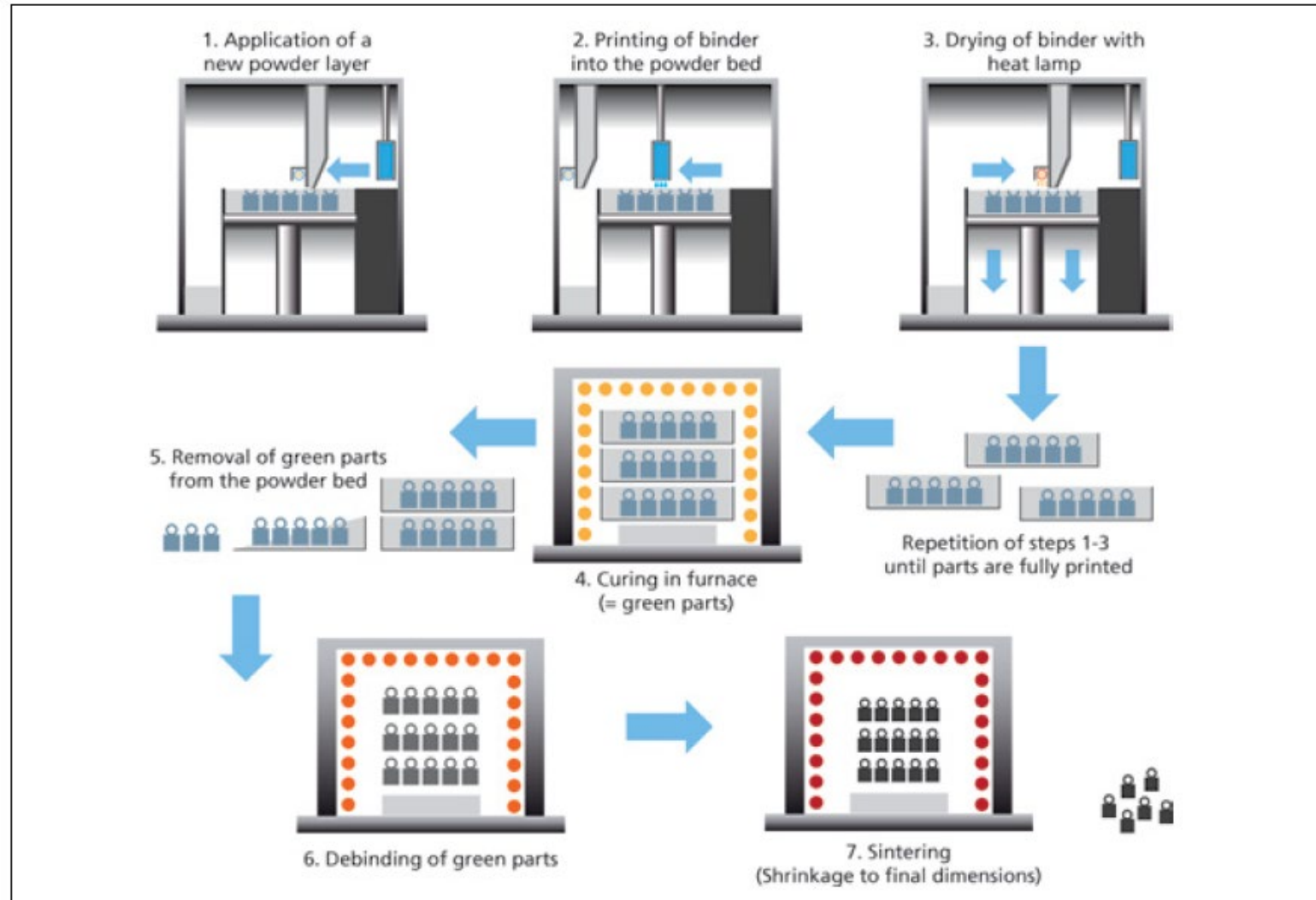


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sv17bJdVsCk>



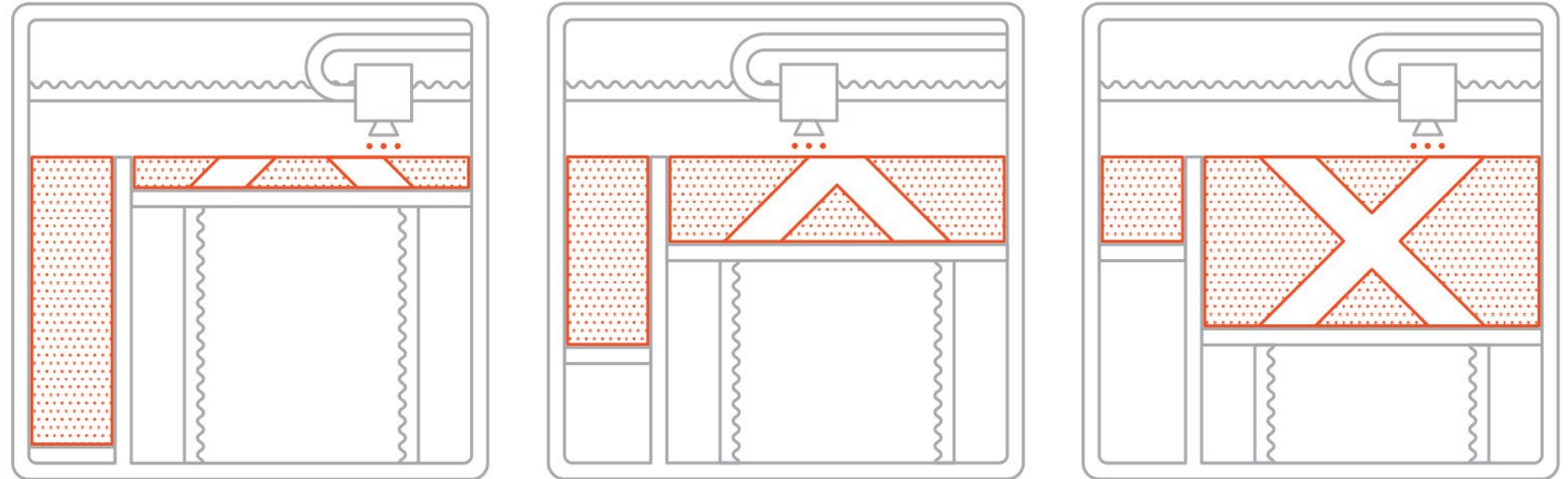
# METAL BINDER JETTING AND SINTERING

- The 3D printing process is an indirect process in two steps
- Powder is agglomerated by a binder through feeding nozzle
- Green bodies fragile, requiring curing, debinding and sintering before finished



Metal Binder Jetting process (Courtesy of Fraunhofer IFAM)

# BJ – PROCESS



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L6Rd9dilkr>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wRj44e8D-xk>

# BJ - PROCESSING

- 50-100  $\mu\text{m}$  layer height
- Deformation during post-processing (sintering)
  1. Recoating of powder bed
  2. Carriage with inkjet nozzles passes over the powder bed
    1. Binder agent (glue)
    2. Coloured binder possible
  3. Platform lowered
- After printing, part needs to be cured and afterwards cleaned
  - For metals, sintering is also necessary

# BJ – BENIFITS

- Room temperature building in air atmosphere
- Large build volumes (up to 2200x1200x600 mm)
- No support structures needed
  - Not affected by thermal effects, e.g. warping
- Entire build volume can be used
  - Suitable for low-medium batch production
- High powder re-usability
- Short lead times between builds compared to PBF systems
  
- Metal components at low price
  - Stainless steel (bronze infiltration)
  - Stainless steel (sintered)
  - Tungsten carbide (sintered) - cutting tools



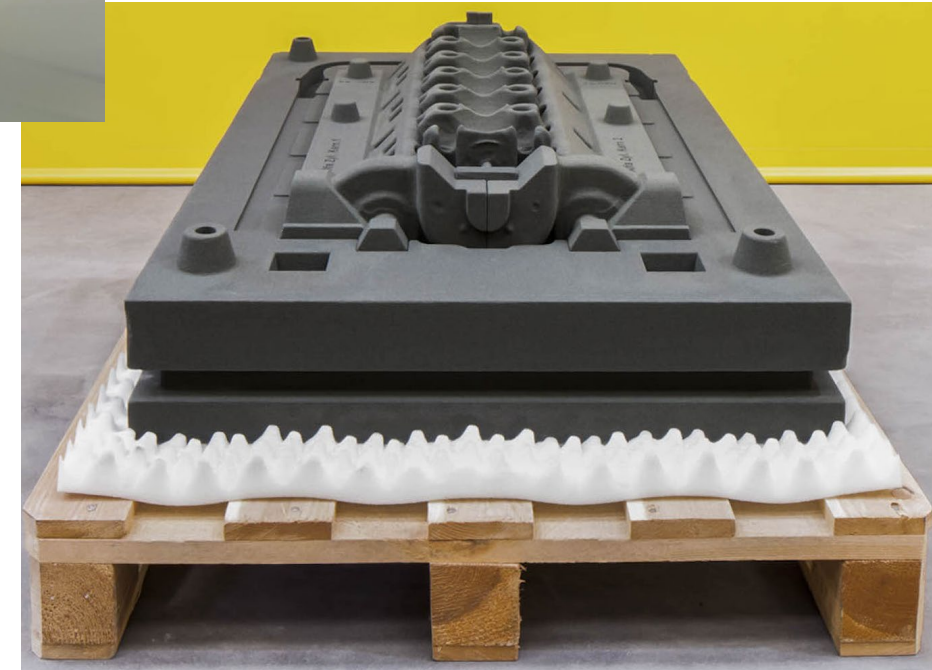


# BJ - CONSTRAINTS

- Part size limited to 50 mm (due to post processing steps)
- Accuracy and tolerances difficult to predict (geometry dependent)
- Components shrink 0.8-2% during infiltration and ~20% during sintering
- Lower mechanical properties of metal components
  - Stainless steel (bronze infiltration) - ~10% porosity
  - Stainless steel (sintered) ~3% porosity
  - Only rough details possible
    - Brittle in green state and fracturing during post processing

# APPLICATIONS

- Colour printing
  - Sandstone or PMMA powder
- Sand casting cores
- Metal printing
  - Up to 10x more economical
  - Though comparison reveals:



	MJF	SLS
Cost for one-off part	Average: \$46.28 Minimum: \$25.71	Average: \$46.45 Minimum: \$26.79
Cost per part for 30 parts	Average: \$28.75 Minimum: \$19.00	Average: \$25.85 Minimum: \$19.48
Lead time	Average: 4 days Top hub: 2.9 days	Average: 7 days Top hub: 5.2 days

Multi-part sand casting assembly used to cast an engine block. Image courtesy of [ExOne](#) LULEÅ UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

# AM PROCESS COMPARISON

Go to the AM-power web-page for more information:

<https://am-power.de/en/>

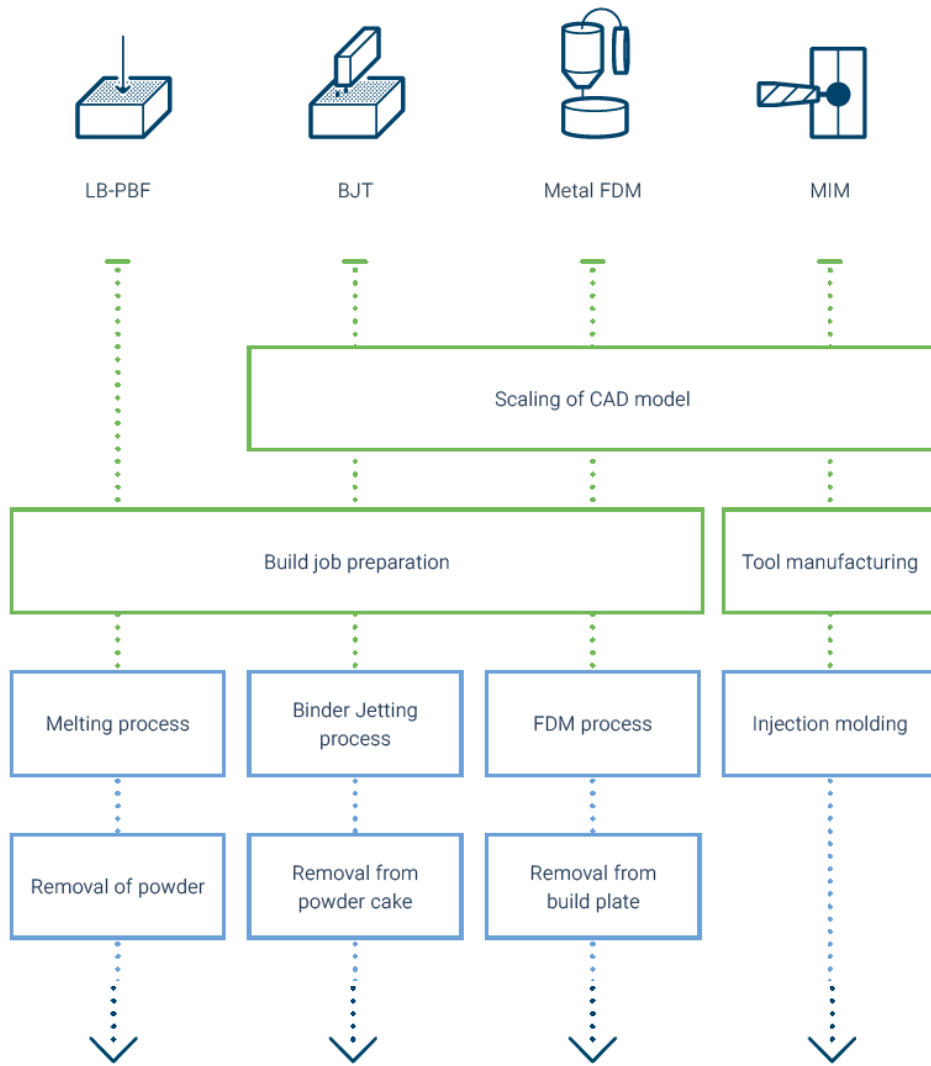
<https://additive-manufacturing-report.com/table-of-contents/>

<https://am-power.de/en/insights/insights-tools-additive-manufacturing-cost-calculator/>

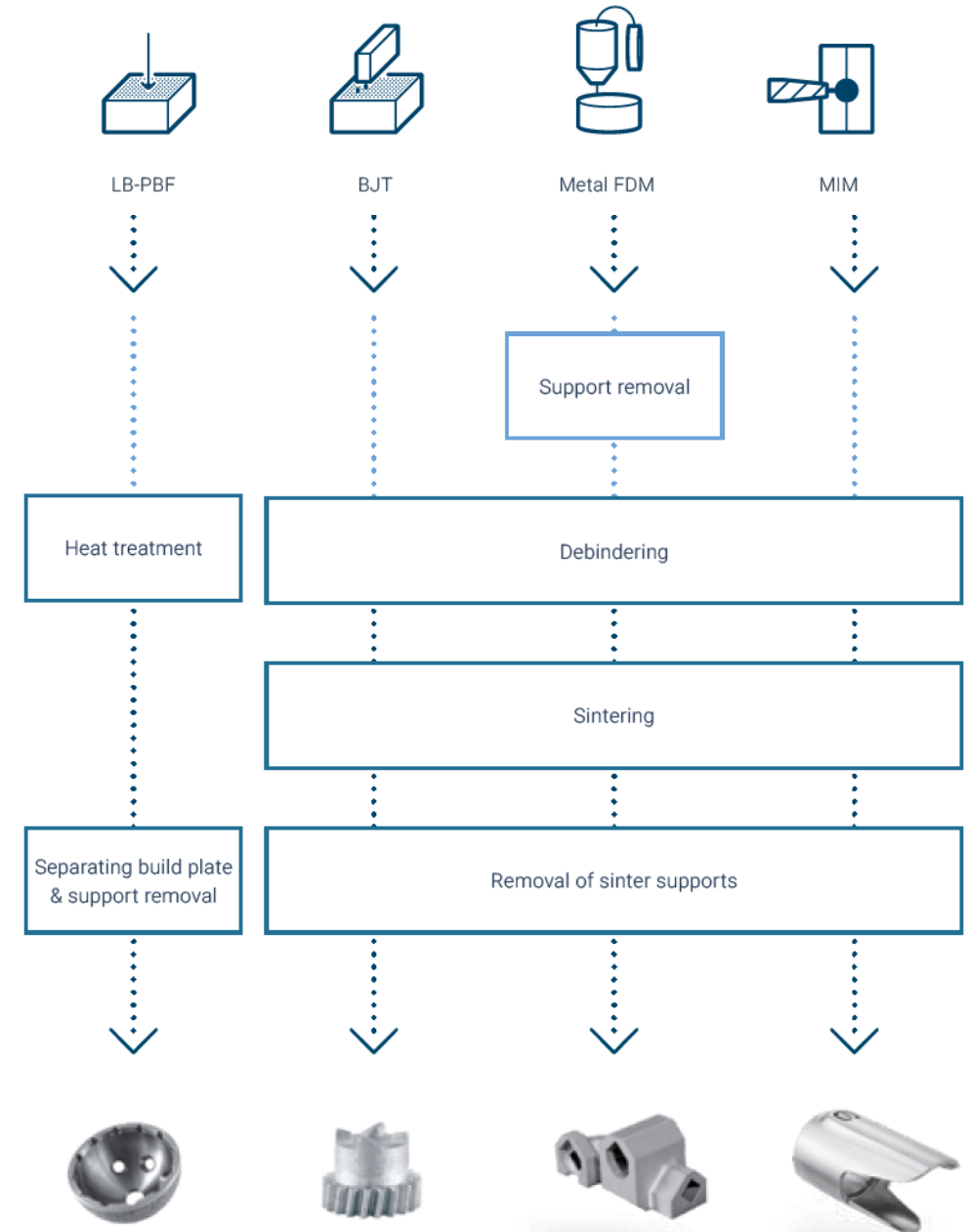


Pre process

Forming



Blank production



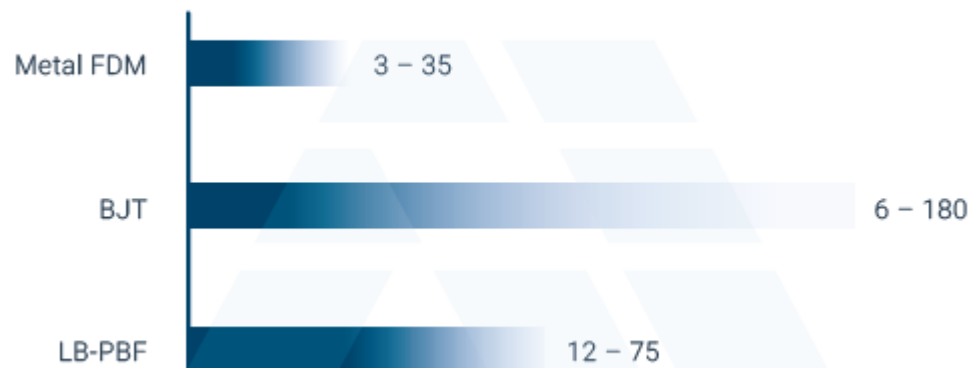


# COST AS THE GAME CHANGER

FEEDSTOCK COST PER KG FOR 316L

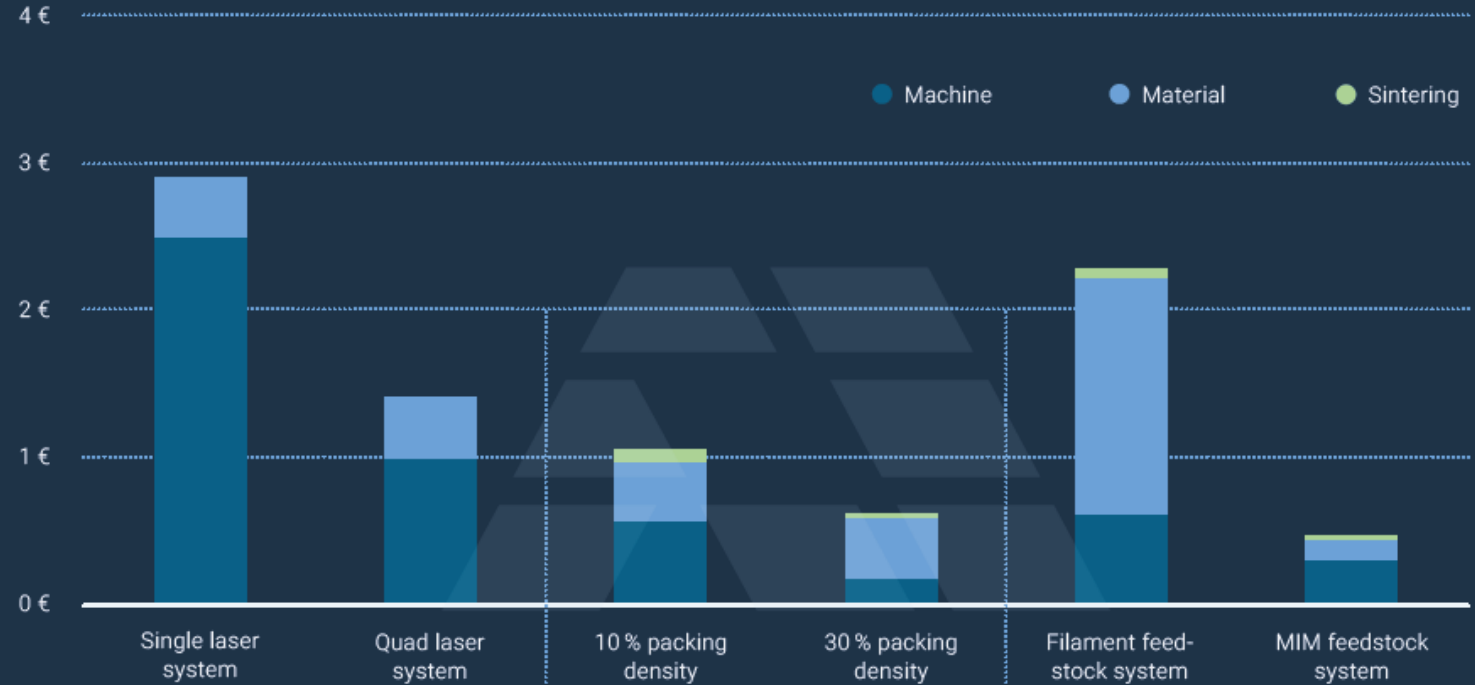


CURRENT PRODUCTION SPEED IN CM<sup>3</sup>/H





Source: AMPower

Average cost per cm<sup>3</sup>



# AVAILABLE MATERIAL TYPES

	LB-PBF	BJT	Metal FDM	MIM
				
Stainless steel	●	●	●	●
Tool steel	●	○	○	●
Super alloy	●	○	○	●
Titanium	●	●	○	●
Aluminum	●	⊙	⊙	⊙
Copper/Bronze	○	○	●	●
Carbide	○	○	●	●



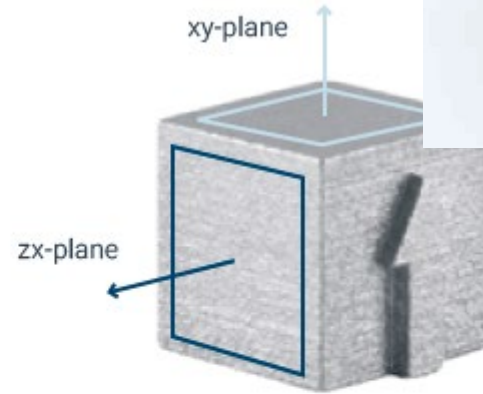
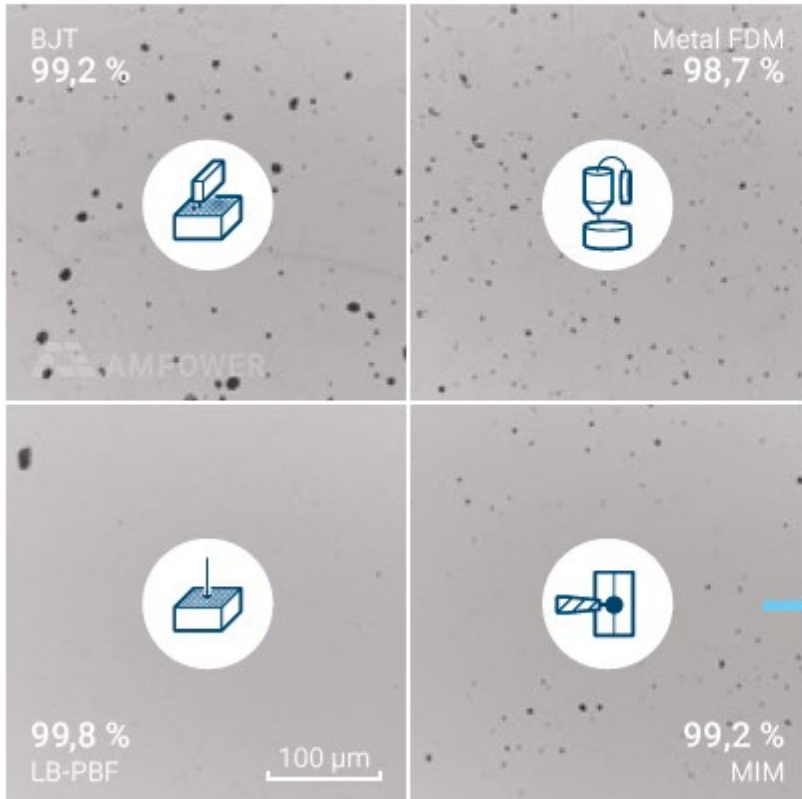
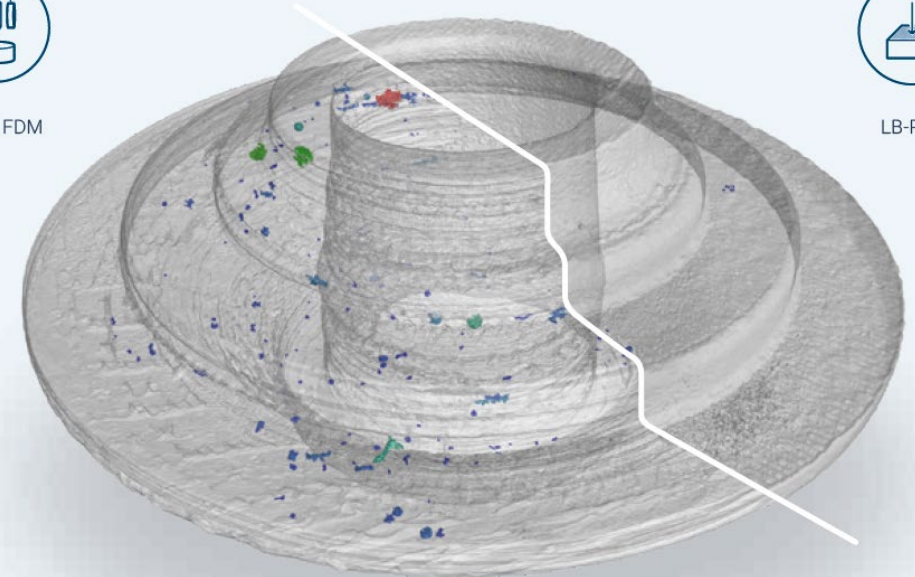
# MATERIAL DENSITY



Metal FDM



LB-PBF

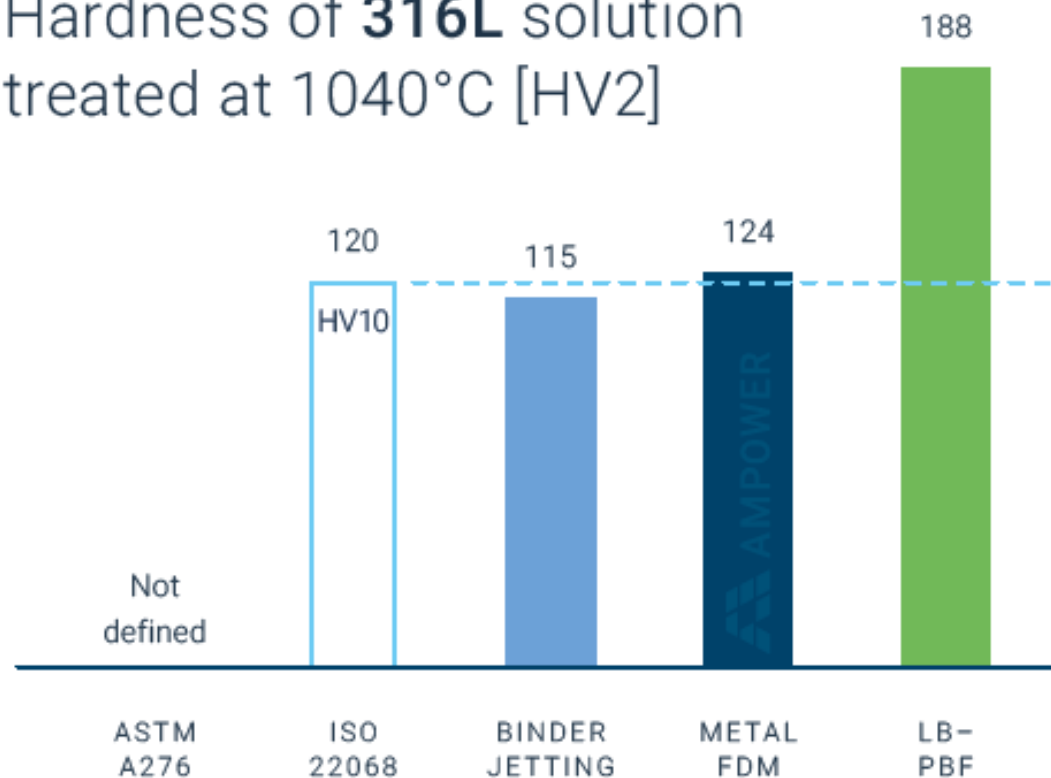


Typical density values of MIM parts range between 95 to 97 %. The examined MIM specimen exhibits exemplary high quality with density of above 99 %.

Source: AMPower

# MATERIAL PROPERTIES – TENSILE STRENGTH AND HARDNESS

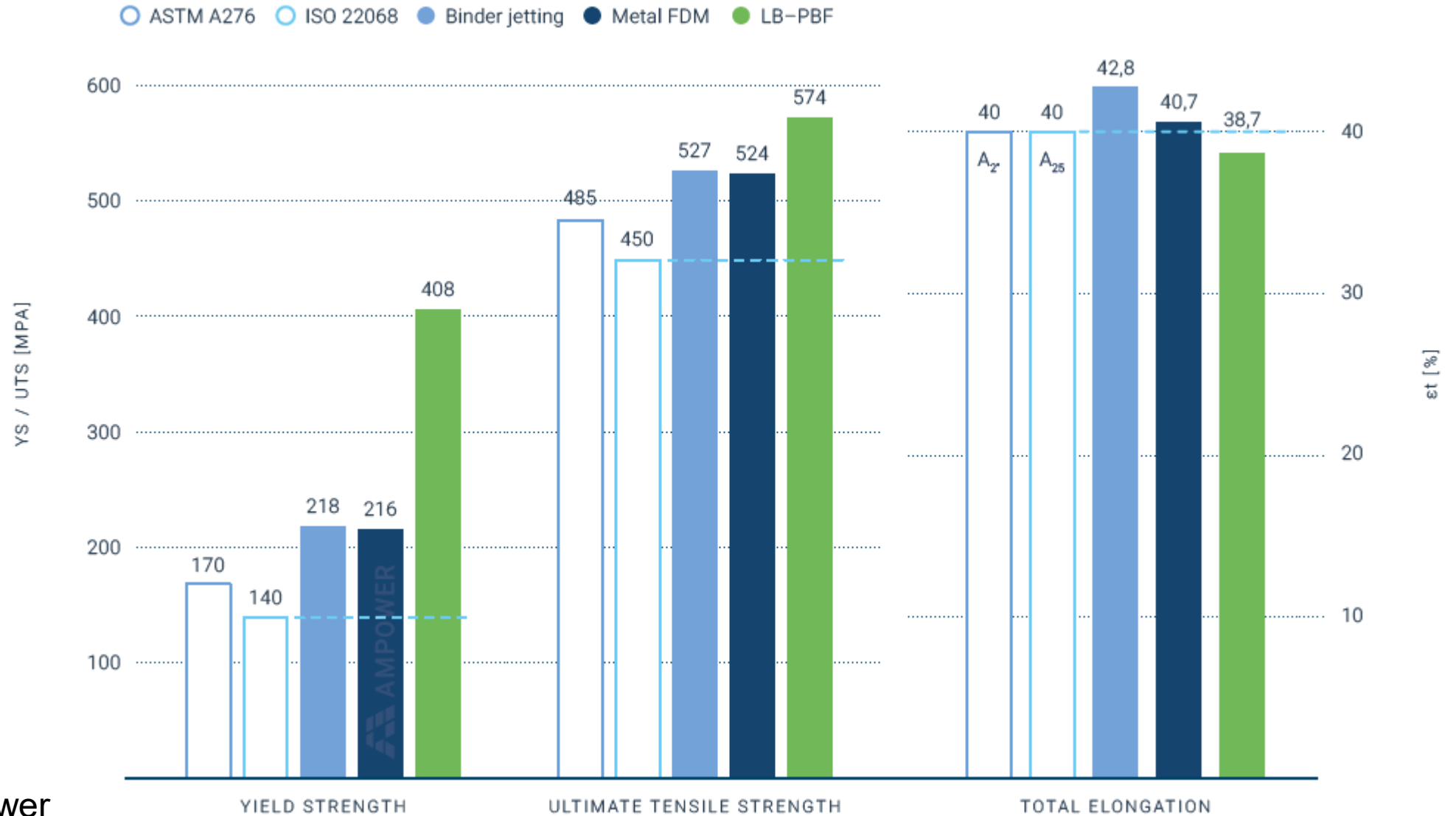
Hardness of **316L** solution treated at 1040°C [HV2]



Sinter-based AM technologies achieve hardness close to the defined requirement for MIM alloys according to ISO 22068. Decrease in hardness below the value described in the standard might be attributed to the additional solution treatment and/or accumulation of porosity.

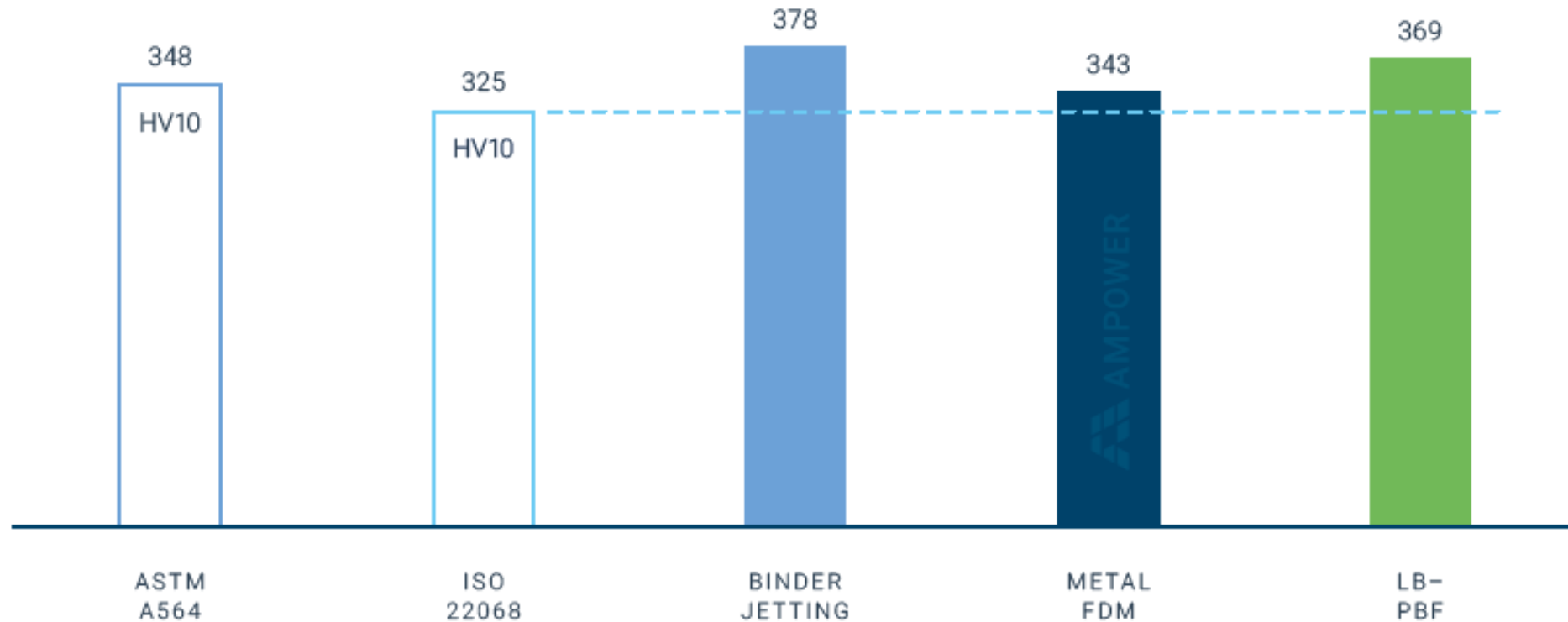


# TENSILE PROPERTIES OF 316L SOLUTION TREATED AT 1040° C

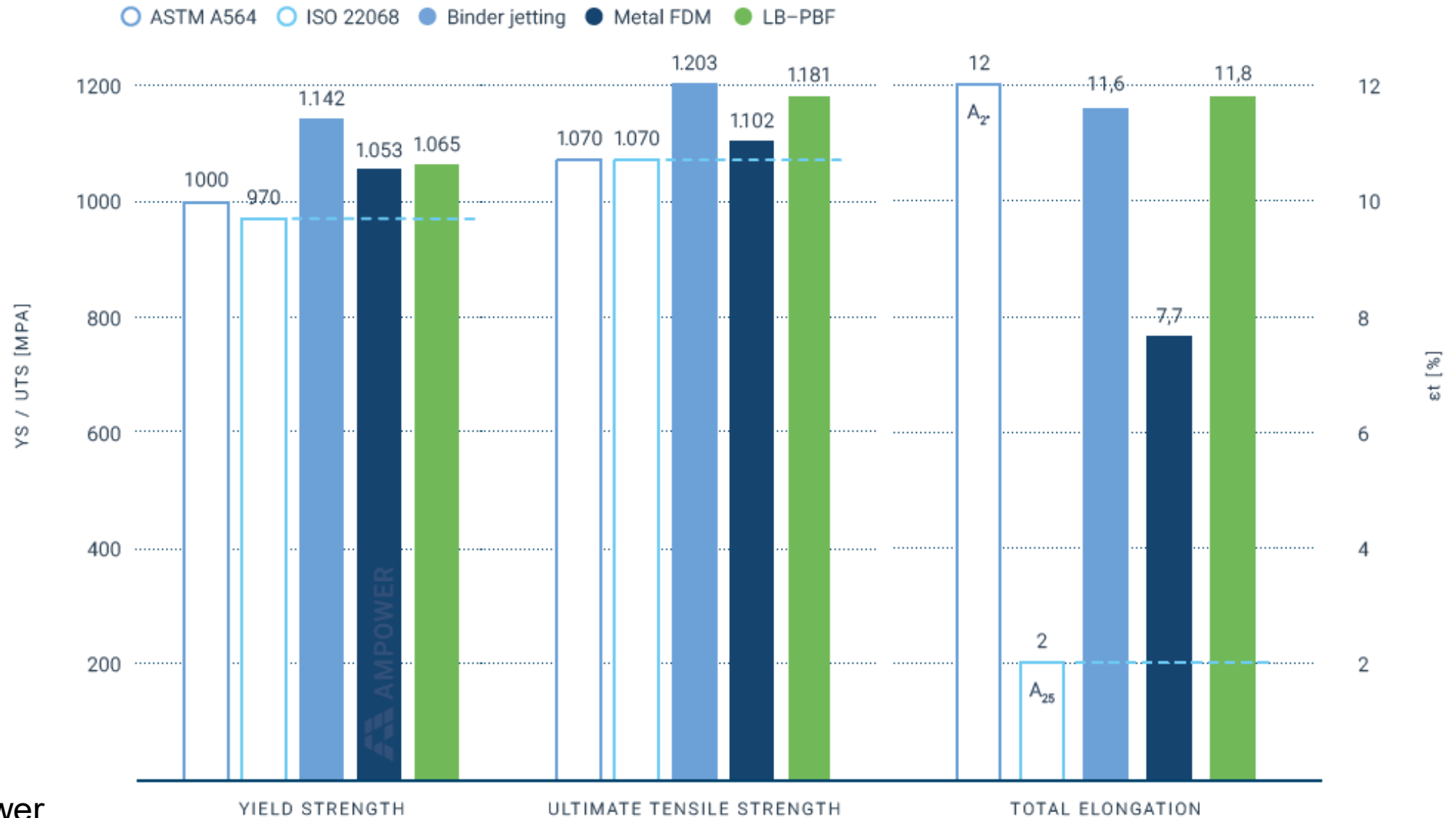


Source: AMPower

# HARDNESS OF 17-4PH HARDENED TO H1025 [HV25]

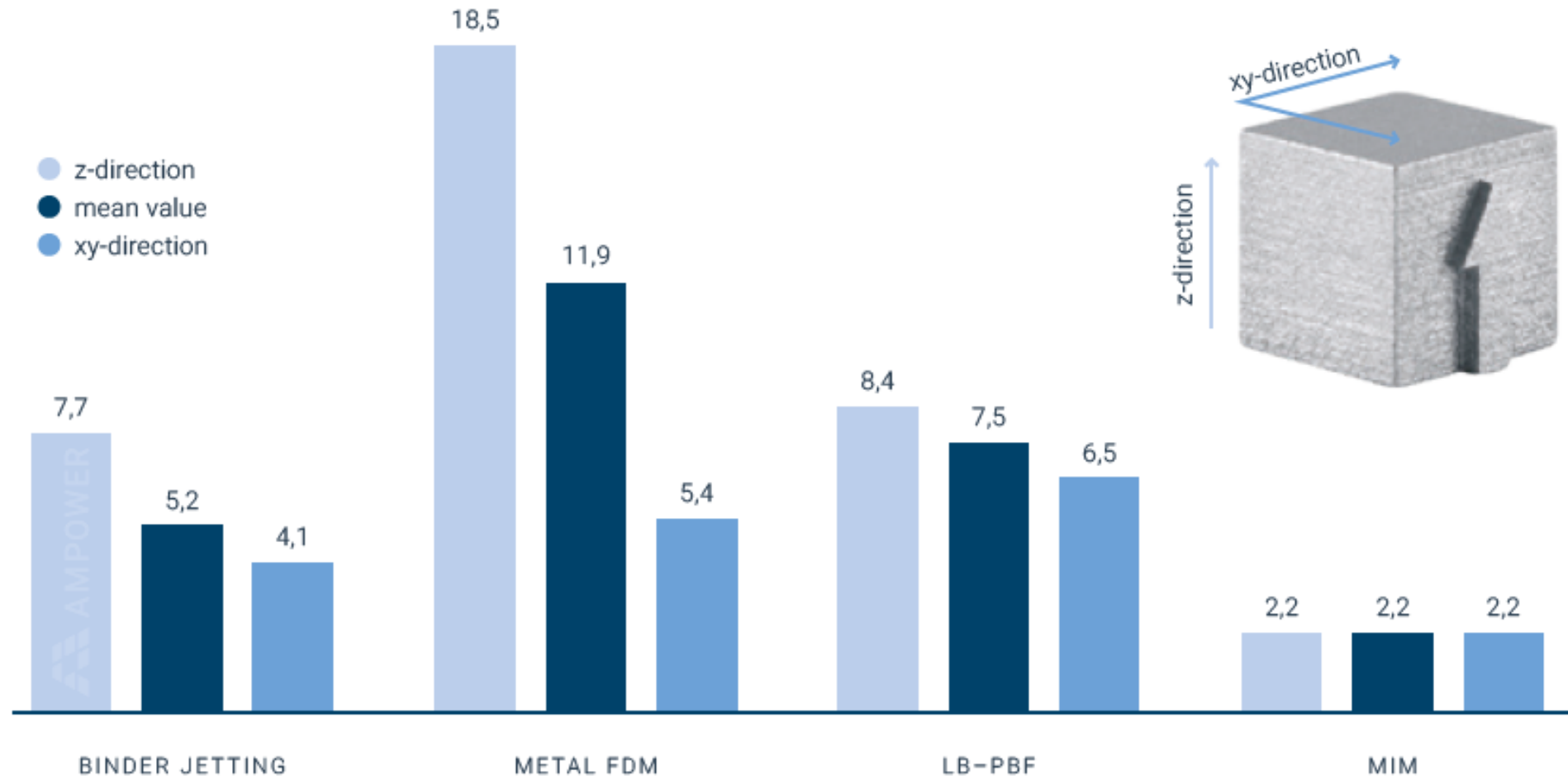


# HARDNESS OF 17-4PH HARDENED TO H1025 [HV25]



Source: AMPower

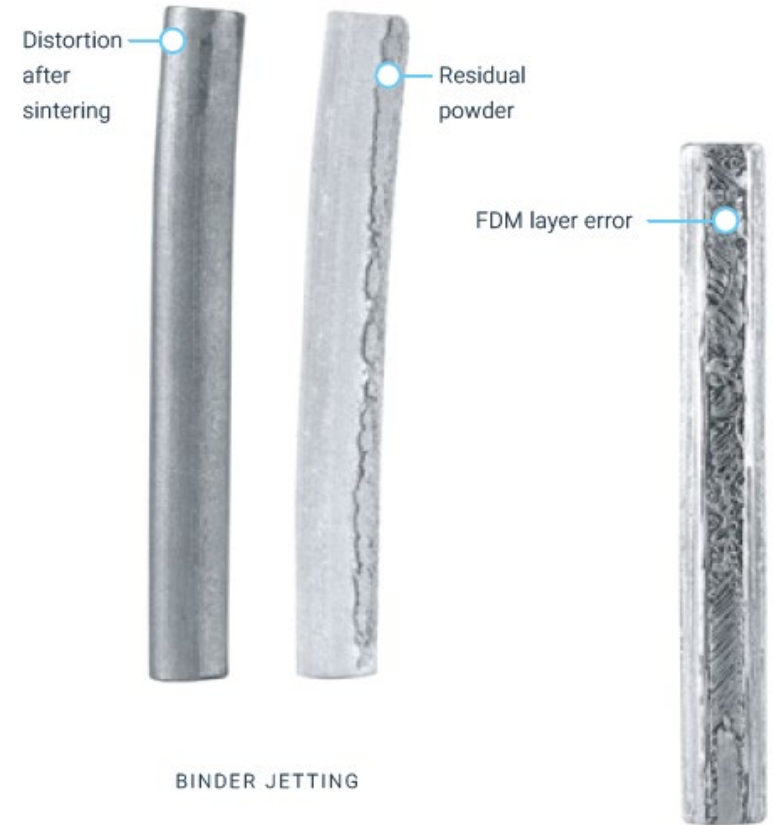
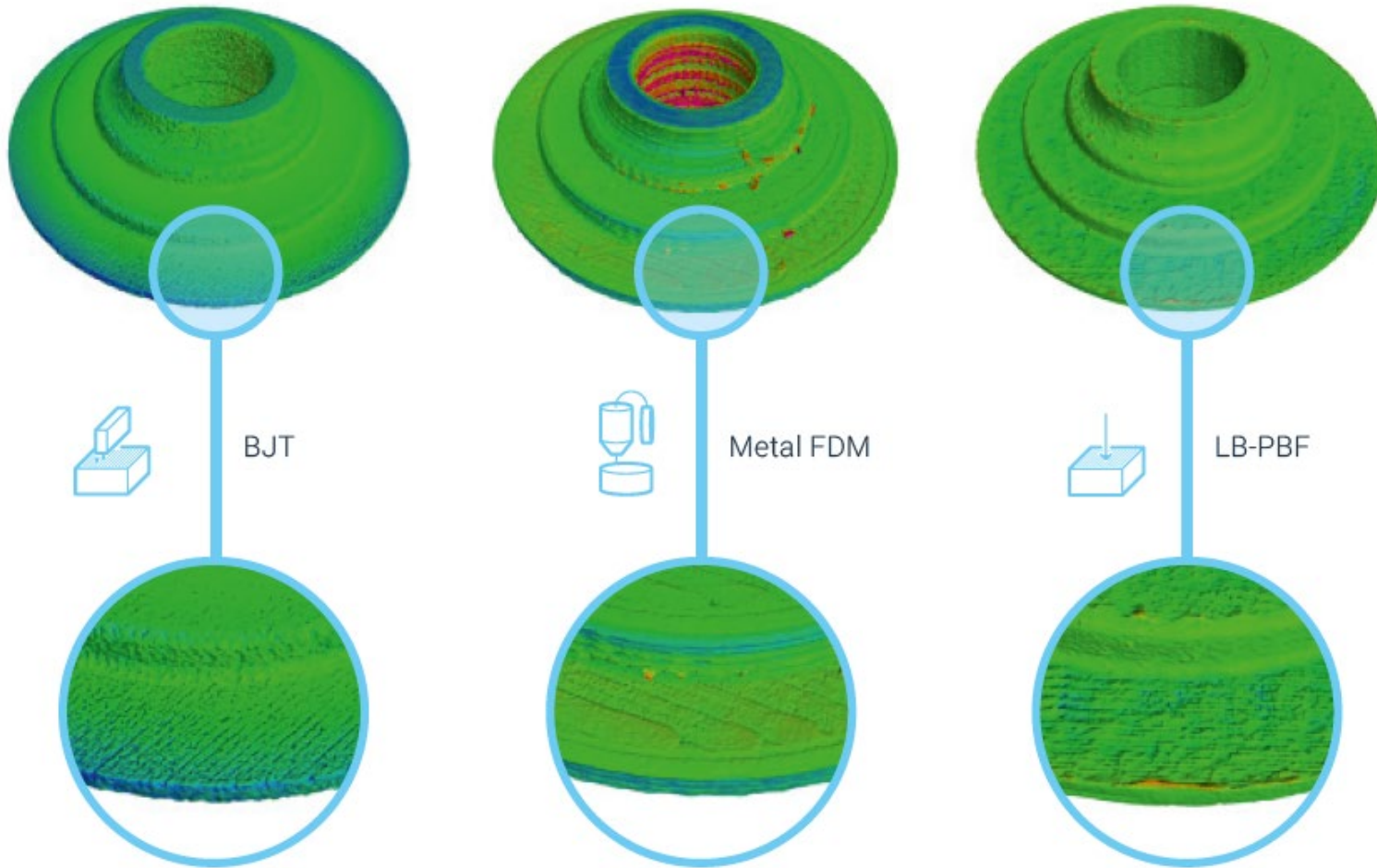
# ARITHMETIC AVERAGE ROUGHNESS $R_A$ AS BUILD IN MM



Source: AMPower










# DIMENSIONAL VARIATION



# DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR PROCESS SELECTION (DFAM FOR EACH PROCESS)

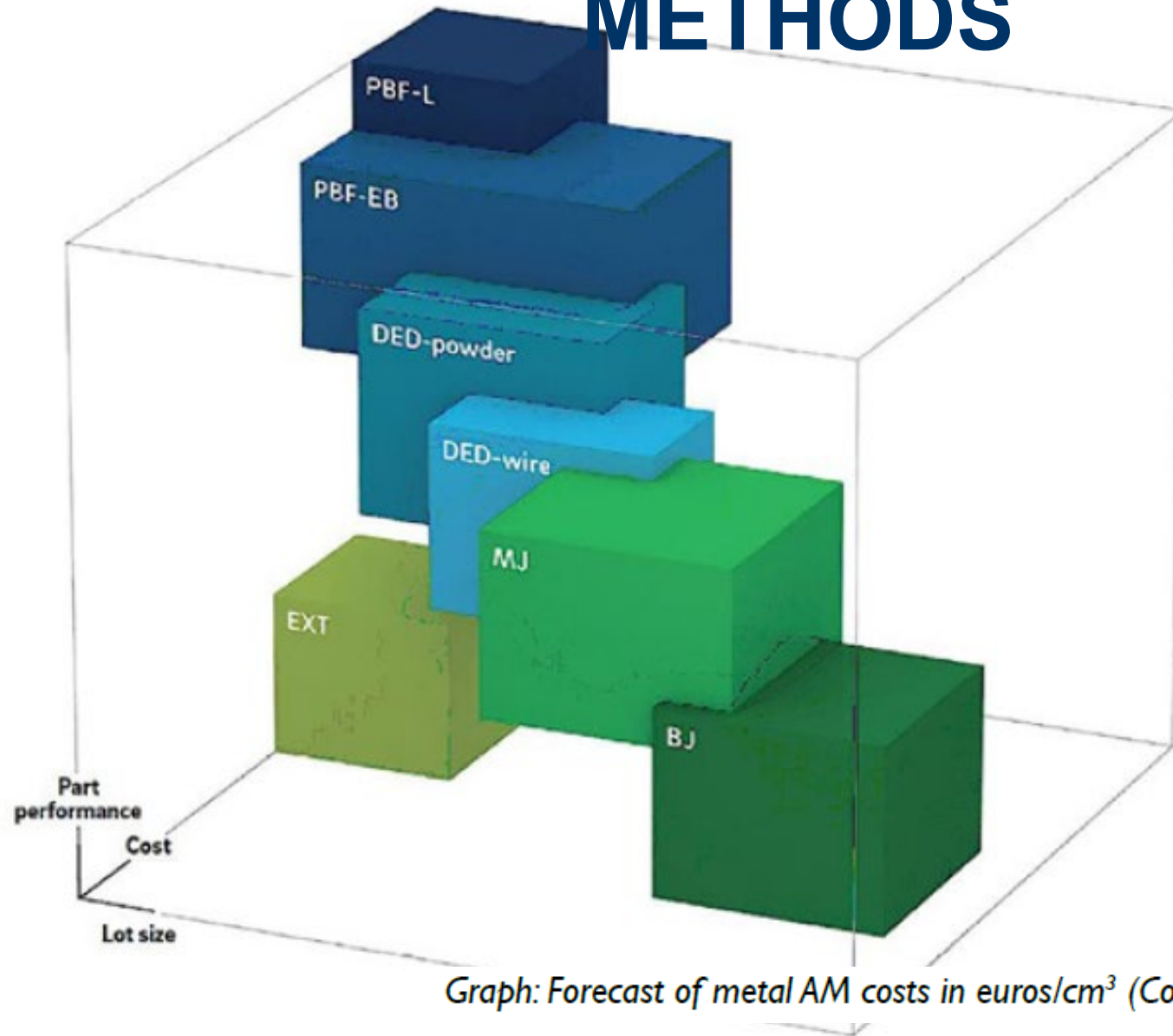
				
		BJT	METAL FDM	LB-PBF
	5-50 mm part size suited	●	●	●
	50-500 mm part size suited	○	○	●
	0,5-2 mm thickness suited	●	○	●
	3-10 mm thickness suited	●	●	●
	10-50 mm thickness suited	○	○	●
	Thickness jump possible	○	○	●
	Hollow body printable	●	●	●
	Lattice structures possible	●	○	●
	Support free design	●	○	○

				
		BJT	METAL FDM	LB-PBF
	Surface quality	●	○	●
	Part shrinkage under control	●	●	●
	Part distortion under control	○	○	○
	First time right potential	○	○	●

High ● ○ ○ ○ ○ Low

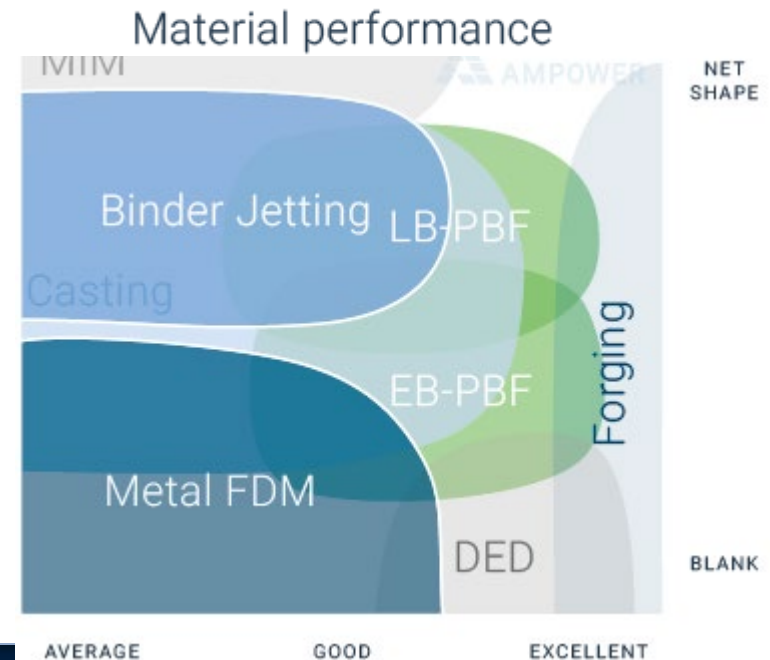
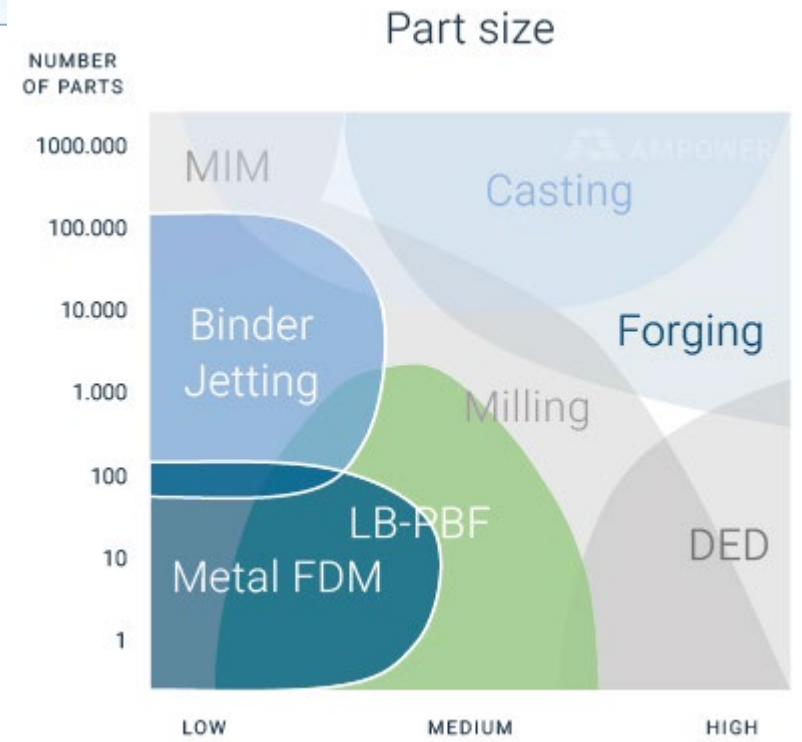
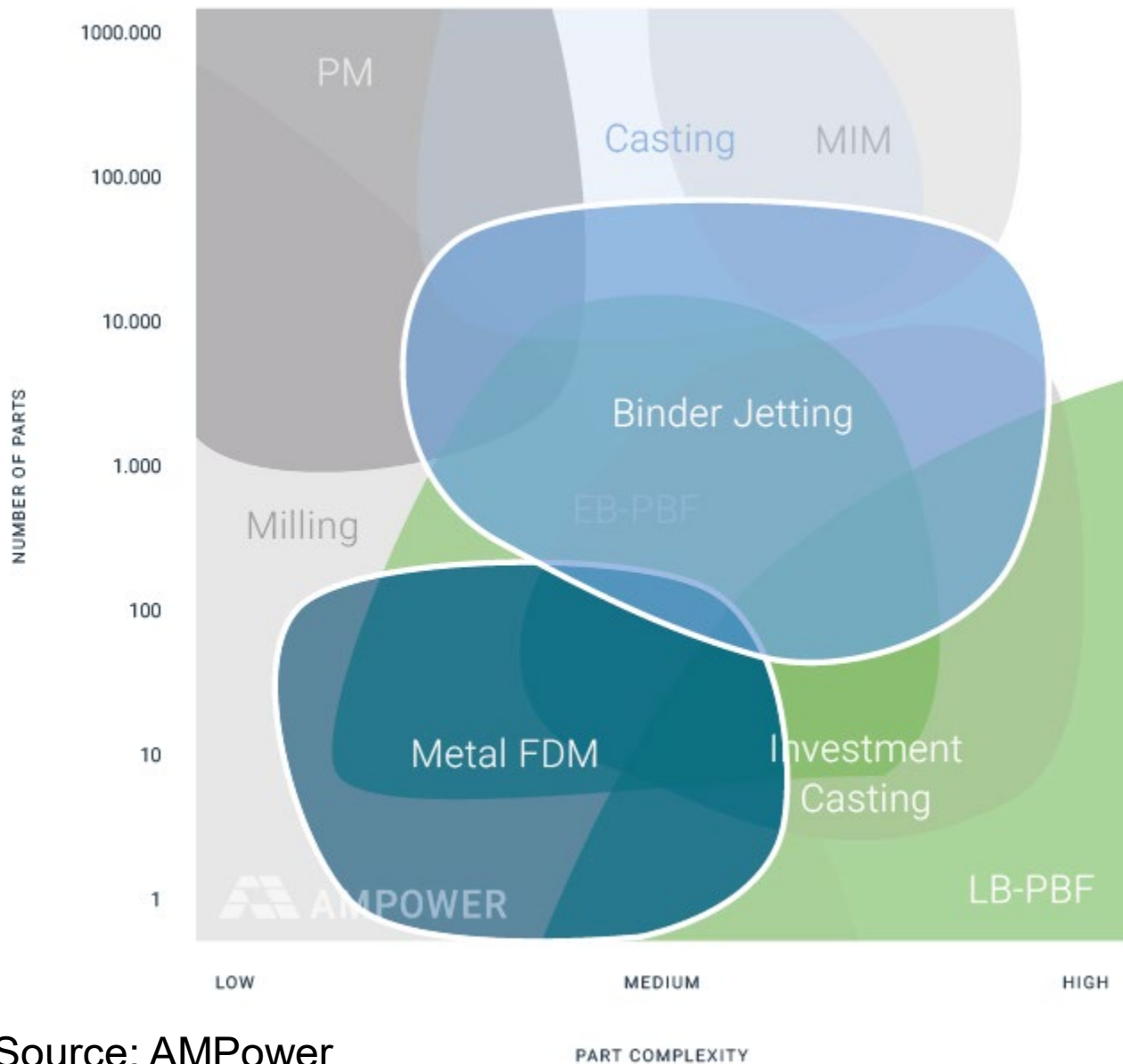
Source: AMPower

# COST/PERFORMANCE COMPARISON OF AM METHODS



Graph: Forecast of metal AM costs in euros/cm<sup>3</sup> (Courtesy of Roland Berger)

# PROCESS SELECTION MAP

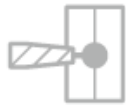




# PROCESS SELECTION IDENTIFICATION MAP



LB-PBF



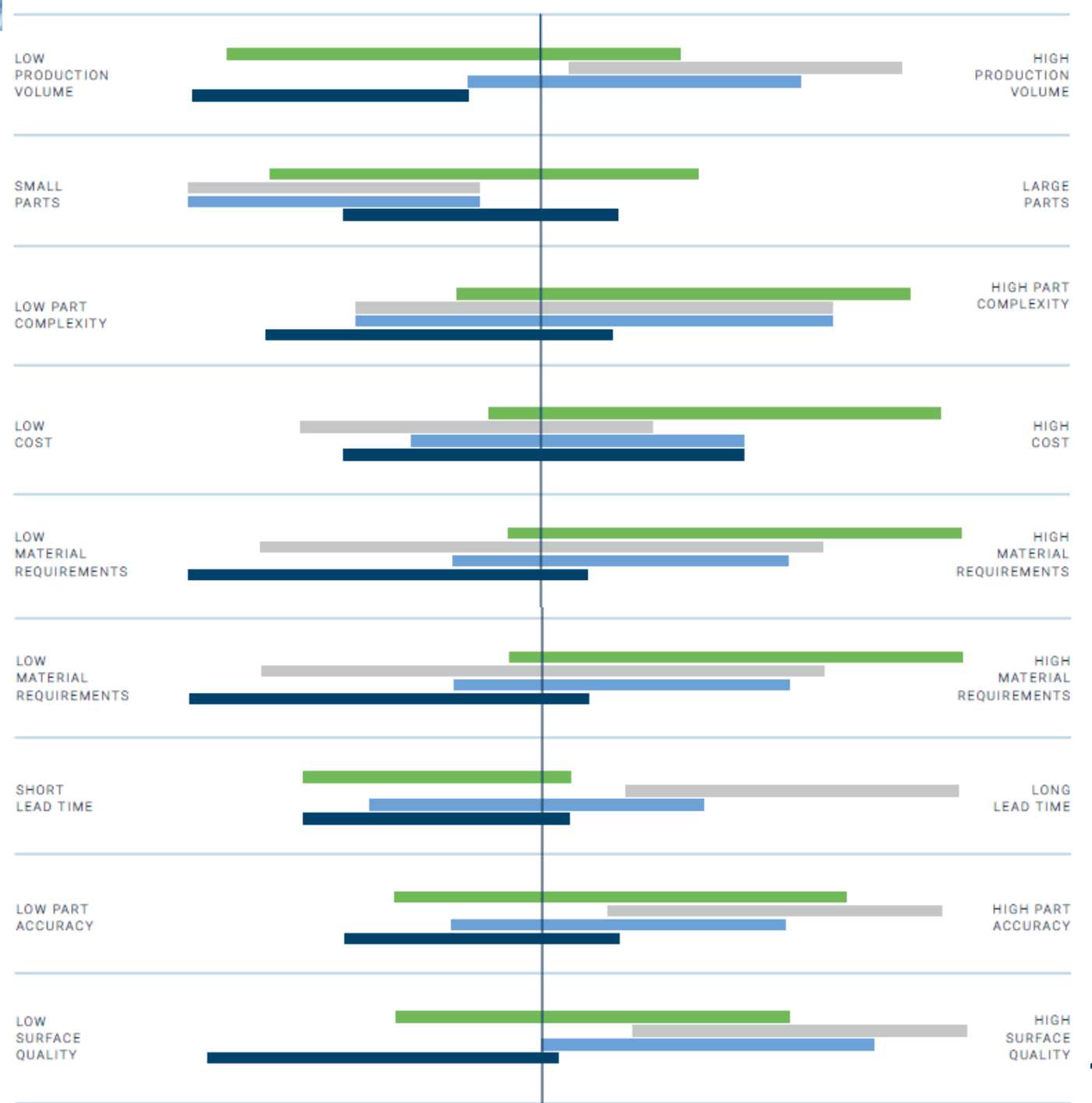
MIM



BJT



Metal FDM



A large, detailed image of an iceberg floating in the ocean, with its reflection visible in the water. The scene is rendered in shades of blue and white, creating a cold, serene atmosphere.

**THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

Questions?

