

## **Evaluating and Vetting AM Technology for Implementation**



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## Preliminary Evaluation for AM Technologies

### Why AM?

- Out of production or long lead time
- Opportunity for improved Performance
- Reduce number of individual components

## Things to Consider

- Performance Requirements
  - Material properties
  - Operating environment
- Form/Fit/Function Replacement
- Improved Performance Needed
- Redesign Required
- Accuracy
  - Net-shape
  - Near-net-shape
- Material Availability
  - Same material
  - Different material
  - Need to develop a new material
  - Post processing HIPing, machining, heat treating



## Preliminary Evaluation for AM Technologies

- Size
  - Equipment available
  - Post processing
- Cost
  - Material
  - Labor
  - Equipment
  - Number of components
  - Post processing
  - Development needed
  - Compare to existing process
- Schedule
  - Time required to produce components
  - Meet need-by date
- Summary of Evaluation
  - Cost
  - Performance
  - Schedule



### **Selection of AM Technologies**

#### ARL/PSU Approach

- Select Best Process from AM Tool Box
  - Powder Bed Fusion
  - Directed Energy Deposition (DED)
    - Laser Powder
    - Laser Wire
    - Hybrid Additive-Subtractive
  - Wire Arc Additive Manufacturing (WAAM)
  - Cold Spray Hybrid Additive-Subtractive
  - SPEE3D Cold Spray
  - ExOne Binder Jet
  - Polymeric Systems
  - nScrypt Plastic/Ceramic
- Post Processing
  - HIP
  - Machining
  - Heat Treating
  - Abrasive Flow Machining
- Inspection



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## **AM Implementation**

- Implementation Path and Requirements
  - Typically differ by
  - Component
  - Process
  - Application
  - Service/Sponsor
- Goal is to have an acceptance specification/requirements
  - Branch of Service (NAVAIR, NAVSEA, Army Aviation, Army Ground Vehicles, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard
  - DoD
  - OSD Cold Spray Cross-Service Working Group
  - Understand how each service approves Cold Spray repairs
  - Working to get a uniform specification
  - Template for more universal approval of AM and other technologies



## **Metal AM Challenges**

- Cost → Qualify the process from only a few parts
- Production time → Maintaining consistent processing conditions
- Lack of understanding on the important production variables
- Powder reuse
- Keeping track of all the processing steps from the design to the finished part
- Assuring consistent mechanical properties
  - Processing conditions
  - Raw material characteristics
- Defects
  - How can we find them?
  - Which ones are critical?
  - Do we need to conduct NDE (X-ray CT) on everything?
- Anisotropy → Correct or maintain consistently



## Goal → Certified structural components

Certification of additive manufacturing (AM) of Ti-6Al-4V components for critical applications requires a protocol for ensuring process reliability

# Ensuring process reliability → Concept for process qualification

- Captures requirements through the design, manufacturing, and quality assurance stages
- Reinforced by rapidly developing technologies
- May be supported by existing standards



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## Requirements for producing critical metallic components by AM

## Design

Design that meets product requirements

- Designer awareness
- Design guidelines
- Design allowable properties
- Testing requirements

## Manufacturing

Define the manufacturing process that will meet design requirements

- Acceptance criteria
- Inspection requirements
- Continuous quality assessment
- Continuous process improvement

## Quality

Assurance that the manufacturing process meets all requirements of the product design

- Material qualification
- Manufacturing process definition
- Manufacturing procedural qualification
- Manufacturing
  procedural specification
- Process monitoring
- Process documentation
- Testing plan



#### **Concept for qualification of AM**

#### processes





- Navy has instituted Uniform Industrial Process Instruction (UIPI) 6320-901: Cold Spray, Processes and Quality Control of
- UIPI provides inspection and test framework for Cold Spray repairs in depot operations for non-structural repairs
- Issued via Navy Technical Warrant Holder review/approval cycle
- Repair know-how captured in Qualified Spray Procedures (QSPs)
- ARL/PSU developed a NAVSEA approved training program to help qualify operators and educate engineers
- Working to expand process to Intermediate Maintenance Facilities (IMFs), Ship Repair Facilities (SRFs), Regional Maintenance Centers (RMCs) and Private Shipyards
- Model for other processes



## **Evaluating and Vetting AM Technology for Implementation**

- Case-by-Case Basis
- DoD working toward a more uniform process
- Additional Work
- Material performance data
- Feed stock
- Inspection processes
- Process monitoring
- Select correct process for the application