

ENGIE Experience with Additive Manufacturing and Related Nuclear Applications

US NRC Workshop on Advanced Manufacturing Technologies for Nuclear Applications 7 December 2020

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ENGIE Experience with Additive Manufacturing and Related Nuclear Applications

• Additive Manufacturing @ ENGIE

• ENGIE Qualification Approach for Laser Powder Bed Fusion Process

• Implementation of qualification approach to tackle ENGIE obsolescence challenges



Additive Manufacturing @ ENGIE





ENGIE Laborelec In a nutshell

- ENGIE Laborelec is a leading expertise and research center in electrical power technology.
- Founded in 1962, the company has over 55 years experience in the power sector.
- ENGIE Laborelec is a **cooperative company** with ENGIE and independent grid operators as shareholders.
- Our competencies cover the entire electricity value chain: generation, transmission & distribution, RES, storage, usage of the energy for the industry and other end-users.
- We put a strong focus on the energy transition and the 3D's : decentralization, decarbonization and digitalization.
- We offer **specialized services**, R&D and **global solutions** in each of these domains, to companies in **all parts of the world**.







ENGIE Electrabel in a nutshell



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This webinar deals exclusively with the Laser Powder Bed Fusion process

Local fusion of successive metal powder layers using a high energy laser.





Simple facts

Production of 10mm-cube using 50µm-layer thickness requires:

- 200 meters of scanned lines !
- 200 layers !
- Fast and local welding process with high heating/cooling cycles



Additive Manufacturing as key enabler for operational excellence Launch of ENGIE AM Expertise Centre in late 2015





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Additive Manufacturing Product Quality High-Level Overview

Process Repeatability

- Consistent product quality from build job to build job
- Powder management, storage and reuse

Process Qualification

- Process parameters optimization
- Sensitivity analysis
- Transferability from coupons
 to industrial part

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Process Reproducibility

- From machine to machine (same SLM brand)
- From machine to machine (different SLM brand)

Process Stability

- Consistent product quality throughout the build height
- Consistent product quality on the entire build plate

- <u>Context</u>: State-of-the-art **nuclear design codes** and assessment procedures do not take into consideration the Additive Manufacturing Technologies
- Objectives:
 - Establish a qualification methodology for AM nuclear components to be proposed for standardization and to be communicated to nuclear design code committees
 - Develop a manufacturing plan that ensures and demonstrates process stability, repeatability and reproducibility that meet nuclear quality standards
 - Demonstrate that laser powder bed fused material performance meets qualification requirements
 - Demonstrate that in-core AM use case meets its safety-related function and operational requirements
 - Assess the operational performance of ex-core AM components regarding safety-related function and operational requirements
 - Disseminate and prepare the exploitation of results with nuclear industries and regulatory bodies in support to codification and industrialization of AM

48 months (Oct. 2020 - Sept. 2024)

- Key information:
 - Project Duration:
 - Total Budget:
 - AM machines:



3.9M€



Debris Filtering component from fuel assembly (in-core part)

retaining application) assembly (in-core part)

NUCLEAR AMRC



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Laborelec (SLM500), CEA (SLM280), VTT (SLM125) and AMRC (AM250)

ation of AM

framatome NAVAL

Gate Valve DN25

(ex-core pressure



engie



ENGIE Qualification Approach for Laser Powder Bed Fusion Process





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What can go wrong along the whole value chain ?



12

Challenges for production of high-end components and large productions runs



Ensuring process stability, quality & reproducibility over the long term for large production runs:

- Large components
- Heavily-loaded build platform

FATAM Project



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SIN

https://www.sim-flanders.be/project/fatam-icon

What can go wrong along the whole value chain ?

Ensuring process stability, quality & reproducibility over the long term for large production runs :

- Influence of powder batch
- Powder storage & recycling
- Influence of build location
- Influence of build height
- Transferability from coupons to industrial part
- From build job to build job





Material Feedstock for Laser Powder Bed Fusion Standardization & acceptance criteria



Sample Thief

Sample Divider



Particle Size Distribution by Laser Diffraction





Particle Morphology by

Scanning Electron Microscopy

2 4 6 8

Hall flow, Carney flow

and apparent density



Archimedes density testing

Metal Powder Characterization based on ASTM F3049-14

Semi-quantitative chemical analysis

by Scanning Electron Microscopy



Semi-automatized tapped density method producing compaction curve as a function of number of taps for a SLM metal powder



Automated measurements of dynamic angle of repose, providing cohesive index and flowing angles for different shearing stresses

New Metal Powder Characterization Methods



Rheometer, shear cell, wall friction

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Mechanical

Sievina

What can go wrong along the whole value chain ?

Influence of build location & build height



Large quality discrepancy for heavy-loaded platform without careful machine finetuning, even with optimal laser process parameters



Process Stability Challenge: Homogeneous properties over the platform !



Large quality discrepancy for heavy-loaded platform without careful machine fine-tuning, even with optimal laser process parameters





Impact testing 136 J vs. 16 J





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Process Stability Challenge: Homogeneous properties over the platform !

GAS



Charpy V-notch toughness values over the build platform using optimized laser process parameters

	87	70	61	66	32
	54	74	49	75	47
	79	76	69	54	61
	73	77	89	47	35
	73	33	52	60	45
76	71	85	78	49	
65	65	92	64	39	
61	82	56	35	42	
58	47	50	25	27	
40	49	33	23	24	
<u> </u>					

Charpy V-notch toughness in Joule



Process Stability over build height & Process Transferability

Full height samples

 Process Stability
 Consistent product quality throughout the build height

	107	108	104	109	108
	110	109	103	115	128
	104	111	104	135	140
	100	102	114	133	76
	113	106	87	121	55
112	111	109	112	118	
107	106	97	118	99	
111	118	112	142	85	
106	108	111	114	132	
104	102	110	116	120	



Big blocks

 Process Qualification
 Transferability from coupons to industrial part



	yield strength (MPa)	tensile strength (MPa)	elongation (%)	reduction of area (%)
average	434	571	45.8	59.9
stdev	18	26	6.5	11.1



Process Stability over build height & Process Transferability Microstructure

Before gas flow upgrade



After gas flow upgrade



After gas flow upgrade and corresponding parameter optimisation, the visible melt pools after etching seem to be less pronounced and more homogeneous in size





ENGIE Certification Project

Successful ENGIE Facility and Powder Lab Certification by Lloyd's Register on 10.09.2019

- Technological bricks:
 - Feedstock
 - Process
 - AM Material Performance
- Material certificates 3.1 & 3.2
- Proactive approach before release of future EN 13445-14

Relative Archimedes Density – Laborelec Procedure LBE04113339									
		Average	Standard	deviation	0	Comments			
Results		99,43%	0,13%		8 F	8 measurements of 15mmx15mmx15mm cubes from qualification platform			
Tensile properties	Tensile properties								
		Condition	Yield Streng 0,2%	gth Ultimate Strength	Tensile	e Elongation at break A5	Reduction of Area	Comments	
ASTM F3184-16	Min.	Solution annealed	205 MPa	515 MPa		30%	30%	In all build directions	
Results – XY build direction	n	Solution annealed	379 ± 8 MPa	614±3 M	1Pa	48 ± 2 %	60±3%	Based on 5	
Results – 45° build directio	n	1 1	382± 3 MPa	606 ± 3 N	1Pa	52 ± 2 %	63±3%	specimens for each	
Results – Z build direction			370± 7 MPa	566 ± 9 N	1Pa	57±3%	65±3%	build direction, as per ASTM E23 with	
								Ø6mm	
Hardness	Hardness								
		Condition	Measurement			Comments			
ASTM F3184-16		Not mentioned							
ASTM A240/A240M–06b Max,		Solution annealed	217 HB						
Results		Solution annealed	185 ± 8 HV0,5			16 measurements per cube on 2 cubes			
Charpy V-notch impact testing									
		Condition		Charpy Impact	Charpy Impact Energy Laters		ateral expansion		
ASTM F3184-16		Not mentioned							
Results – XY build direction		Solution annealed		122J / 130J / 132J		1,78mm / 1,82mm / 1,88mm		Based on 3	
								specimens for each	
								build direction, as	
								per ASTM E23	



ENGIE Certification Project

Our Main Goal

- Achieving ENGIE AM Facility **Qualification & Material Certification**
- Material Certificate linking Powder Batch, Machine/Process & Formed Material

• Delivery of material certificate 3.1 or 3.2 for 316L material under Lloyd's Register label

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Lloyd's Register

Additive Manufacturing Product Quality and Control Off-line / non-destructive

• Material properties determine inspectability for UT and EC

- New manufacturing technology leads to unique challenges and material properties
- Codes and regulations require inspection of critical components
- Benchmark AM material against industry-standard materials (forging and casting)



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Qualification approach to tackle ENGIE obsolescence challenges

Non-safety classified pressure retaining part installed in nuclear power station





Problem Statement Tackling obsolescence in NPP - CW-VV0592 in KCD3

- Outage Unit 3 at Doel NPP
- Voluntary test of non-safety pressure relief valves in secondary circuit
- Disassembly of the valve showed corrosion and damage
- Obsolescence status: <u>unknown</u>
 - Non-safety related
 - Body was never on stock
 - Low install base (1 location)
- Considered solutions
 - Order original body
 - Equivalent stock replacement
 - Order new equivalent model
- ► Valve appeared obsolete
- ► No equivalent model on stock
- Lead time 24 weeks (> outage deadline)
- Reverse Engineering & Metal Additive Manufacturing











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Reverse Engineering incorporating Metal Additive Manufacturing



The use of 'Additive technology' (3D printing) has been used to solve an obsolescence issue on valve PKD-D3/CW-VV0592. The valve body was recreated using a metal printing technique. While testing to ISO 17296-3 standard was not carried out, an alternative standard was used (ASTM F3303 – 18 & F3184 – 16). The WANO reviewer was not familiar with the ASTM standards, but the ISO standard may be more appropriate in this situation as it is more focussed on the testing of printed components for different situations. Thorough analysis information was available, and testing had been carried out to ascertain if the valve body would withstand the pressures required, prior to installation. This approach is seen as innovative and ground breaking in the Nuclear Industry.





Reverse Engineering incorporating Metal Additive Manufacturing Process stability, reproducibility



Reverse Engineering incorporating Metal Additive Manufacturing Process stability, reproducibility



Reverse Engineering incorporating Metal Additive Manufacturing





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ENGIE Experience with Additive Manufacturing and Related Nuclear Applications

Qualification approach to tackle ENGIE obsolescence challenges

Safety classified terminal blocks for Belgian nuclear power station





CNT Qualification & Obsolescence

Nuclear Qualification of Electrical Equipment: Qualification of 3D printed terminal blocks



ENGIE Experience with Additive Manufacturing and Related Nuclear Applications

CNT Qualification & Obsolescence

Nuclear Qualification of Electrical Equipment: Qualification of 3D printed terminal blocks

Build Preparation

Qualification by Tractebel/Laborelec (ongoing)





CNT Qualification & Obsolescence

Any Questions ?



