



GKN AEROSPACE

# AM Overview

## FAA-EASA AM Workshop 2024

MAKING THINGS FLY

## Requested Talking Points – Production Approval Holder

Please share the status of your past and present additive manufacturing (AM) programs.

- Customer/Sectors
- Aviation experience?

Please share the status of your additive capabilities:

- Machines/materials
- Other capability(ies)
- Lessons Learned

Does your company have experience with metallic AM in a production environment? If so, please share.

What does your company need from FAA/EASA concerning guidance documents?

What does your company need from FAA/EASA concerning helpful R&D (e.g. is there a roadmap that says when things need to be ready to support product cert?)

# GKN Aerospace in Numbers



**£3.35<sub>bn</sub>**  
SALES in 2023



**31**  
MANUFACTURING  
LOCATIONS



**16,000**  
PEOPLE



**4** GLOBAL  
TECHNOLOGY  
CENTRES



**12**  
COUNTRIES

ON BOARD 

**100,000**  
FLIGHTS A DAY



# Our Global Footprint

GKN Aerospace is the world's leading tier one aerospace supplier of systems and components



**12 Countries > 31 Sites > One Global Team**



# Our leading technology is shaping the future of flight....



Today

Tomorrow

And beyond...

## 4 world-class Global Technical Centres creating a network of innovation

- > Trollhättan, Sweden
- > Bristol, UK
- > Dallas, US
- > Hoogeveen, The Netherlands



Develop Technology  
knowledge for exploitation



Industrialise Sustainable  
Technology



Increase  
Collaboration



Provide Technical  
Capability



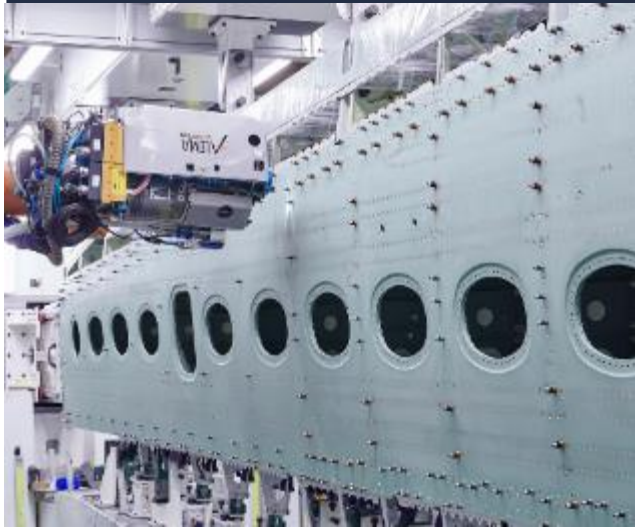
Showcase GKN  
Aerospace  
capabilities



Create an  
Ecosystem hub

# A Focused Business with Three Core Markets

## CIVIL AIRFRAME 42%



Tier 1 expertise across fuselage, empennage and wing. Lightweight composite and metallic structures, electrical distribution systems, transparencies, components.

## ENGINES 36%



Super Tier 1 capability across structural engineered components, parts repair, commercial and aftermarket contracts. OEM capability for RM12 engine.

## DEFENCE AIRFRAME 22%



Full SSA structure in place to support positions on leading US and European Defence platforms

> All percentages relate to total company sales at end 2023



# Global AM Footprint

## Customer Focus by Location

- > USA – defence aerospace customers (DED)
- > Sweden – aero engines customers (DED, LPBF)
- > UK – defence, civil and aero engines customers (DED, PBF and polymer)

## GKN Aerospace Installed Metal AM Capacity

- > 7 DEDw development cells
- > 3 DEDw cells in production
- > 2 DEDp cells in production
- > 6 LPBF development machines
- > 2 LPBF production machines

## Future Capability

- > DEDw cell expected to come into production over the next 4 months
- > DEDw/p cell in El Cajon
- > Additional SLM NXG XII LPBF

## Powder Bed

EOS M290  
LPBF (4 off)  
– 2015



Renishaw  
quad laser  
LPBF - 2021



SLM NXG  
XII LPBF -  
2024



## DED

AMD cell –  
2021  
(upgrade  
from the first  
LW/DED  
cell 19  
years ago)



2 DEDp production  
cells



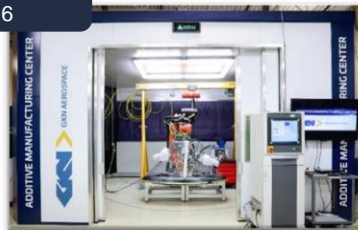
3 DEDw Production  
Cells:  
- Trent XWB ICC  
- Vulcan 2.1 Nozzle  
- PW1500 FCMR

LWC -  
DEDw  
2017

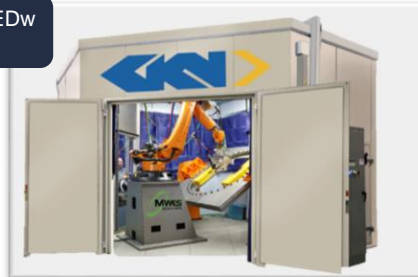


Additional DEDw  
production cell being  
added for FCMR  
Q4 2024

Cell 1 DEDw  
- 2016



Cell 2 DEDw  
- 2018



USA  
GTC, Fort Worth TX

Cell 3 DEDw –  
2023  
5.3x2.2m build  
area



United Kingdom  
GTC, Bristol

Cell 1 DEDw –  
2021



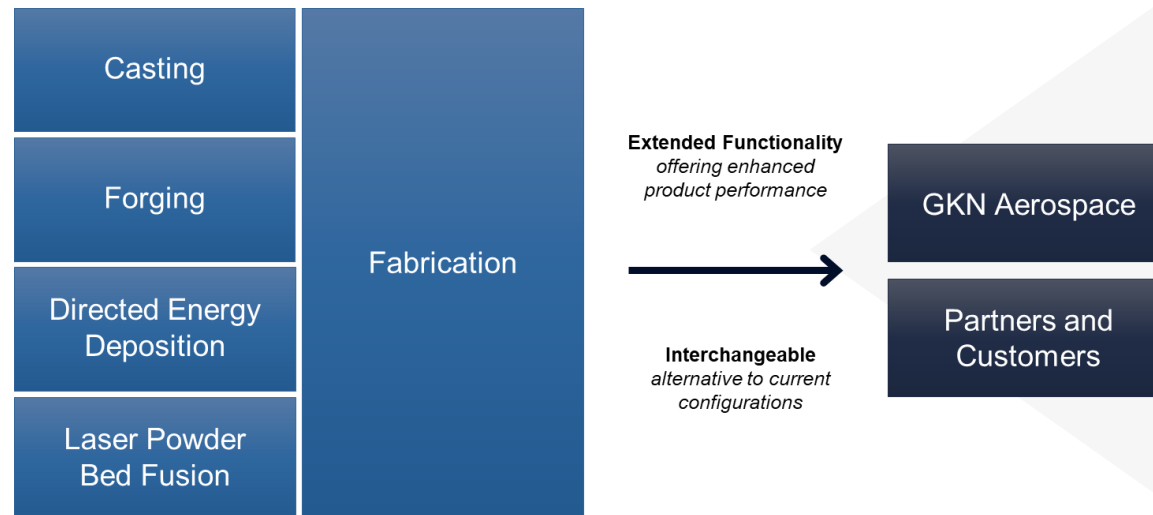
Sweden  
Trollhattan



# Material Solutions

## Dedicated division within GKN Engines with focus on Additive Manufacturing

- > Material Solutions' mission is to reduce material and energy use in production and to offer more lightweight and functional aerospace components to reduce emissions in use
- > The division is leveraging on GKN's expertise in fabrication of large engine structures from castings and forgings, adding DED and LPBF to the toolbox of manufacturing processes

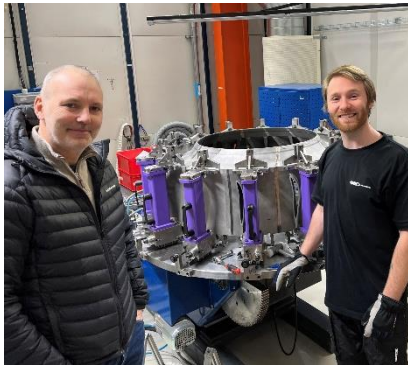




# Material Solutions

## Industrialization

- > A new low rate production workshop of 4500m2 will be fully operational in 2025
  - Multiple DEDw and LPBF cells
  - Post processing operations (e.g. heat treatment, welding and inspection)
- > Through the acquisition of Permanova Lasersystem, GKN aims at accelerating industrialization of large scale DED manufacturing



# DED Capability

**Three teams developing large scale additive capability to address customer requirements in Engines (Sweden), Defence (USA) and Civil (UK)**

- > DEDw and DEDp fabrications in production for engine applications
- > Targeting civil Aerostructures with OEMs
- > Large 2m+ Aerostructures in development with defence OEMs

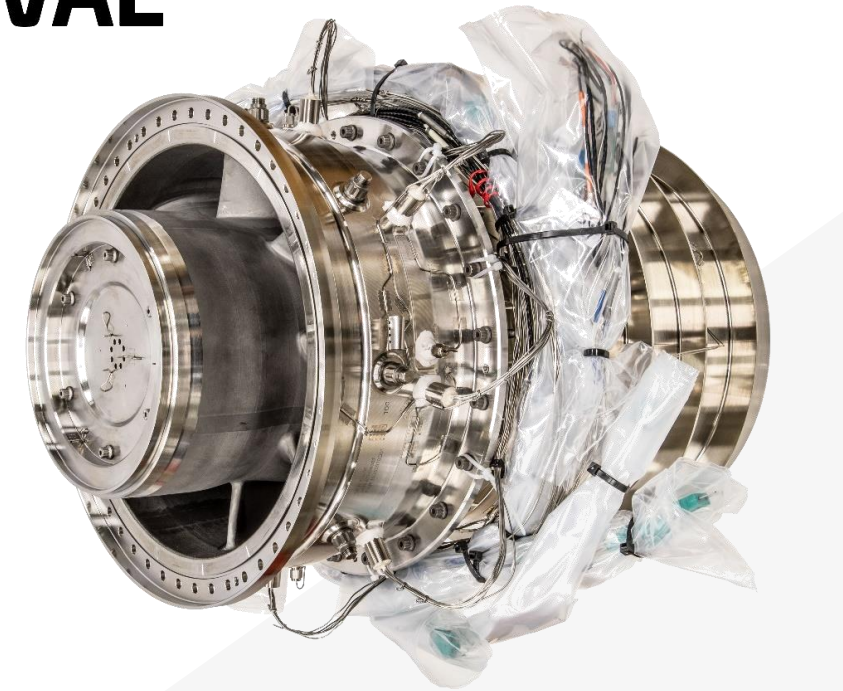


## PBF Capability

### Solely focused on aerospace applications

- > Various machines (EOS, Renishaw, SLM)
- > Primarily focused on Ti and Ni alloys
- > Complex demonstrators
  - Leverage benefits of AM, push the technology
- > Initial production of low criticality components
  - Demonstrate robustness and repeatability of the process
- > Previous production experience from aero-defence

# EMVAL





# What is needed from FAA/EASA?

**Although challenging, the guidance available is largely well suited.**

Industrial documents very helpful (AIA, NADCAP, SAE, FAA/EASA Memos)

- > Clarity on expected Means of Compliance to Federal Regulations could be beneficial
  - Level of material testing required for certification, and guidance on production testing expectations
- > Continued collaboration from key organizations in forms such as this to gain alignment across the industry

***For GKN, key to success is close collaboration with our customers (TCH) and efficient flow-down of expectations from regulatory bodies***

# Thank you

## **Matthew Harding**

*Principal Research Engineer – Additive Manufacturing*

GKN Aerospace

matthew.harding@gknaerospace.com