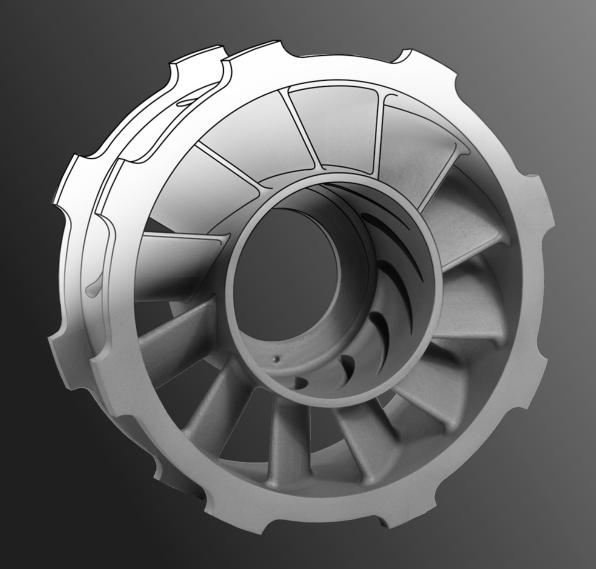


Elevating Commercial Aviation Manufacturing: Lessons from the Defense Industry

Christina J. Kurth September 18, 2024



## COMMERCIAL & EXEC AEROSPACE ADVANCED DESIGN BACKGROUND





- ✓ Bombardier Aerospace, Toronto, Ontario
- ✓ Advanced Design Department: Next Generation of Aircraft
  - o Airbus A220 (C Series)
  - Lear 85
  - Global 7500
  - Clean sheet designs
- ✓ Aircraft designs have remained largely unchanged for the past half century
- ✓ Similar engineering challenges often lead to similar solutions
- ✓ Likewise, similar manufacturing methods frequently result in comparable solutions

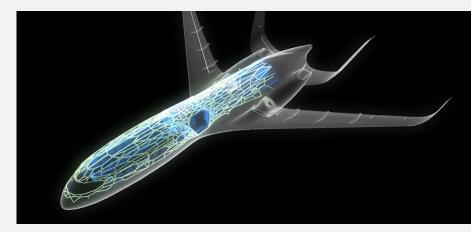


#### ADVANCED COMPONENT MANUFACTURING CRITICAL TO FUTURE GENERATION AIRCRAFT

- ✓ Unique aircraft designs continue to be limited
  - The Lear 85 never entered service, mainly due to challenges with its composite structure
  - Blended wing body design (Bombardier EcoJet, Airbus ZEROe) still remain 'paper' designs
- ✓ To meet future marketing objectives and requirements, including sustainability and competitive cost targets, the OEM industry must begin designing and manufacturing flight components with a focus on topology optimized, monolithic components
- ✓ Enabled by Advanced Manufacturing technologies such as LPBF (Laser Powder Bed Fusion)









### SINTAVIA, LLC

- ✓ World's first all-digital aerospace component manufacturer
- ✓ Leading additive technology supplier to Aerospace & Defense Lead Systems Integrators
- ✓ Founded in 2015; 106 employees (47 engineers)
- ✓ Owned 80/20 between Brian Neff and Lockheed Martin Corporation
- ✓ Three product demand drivers:
  - 1. Heat exchangers for military aircraft
  - 2. Pump/valve systems for Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program
  - 3. Propulsion components for next generation missile programs





#### OUTLINE

- 1. Vertical Integration of AM Production Capabilities
- 2. Vertical integration of AM Software Processes
- 3. Key Customer Verticals
- 4. Production Programs Supported
- 5. Commercial Aviation OEM History
- 6. Commercial Aviation Production Case Studies

- 7. Lessons Learned
- Lessons Learned Compared to Successful Defense Counterparts
- Industry Standards Benchmarks and Needs
- 10. Leverage Expertise
- 11. There is a Path Forward!



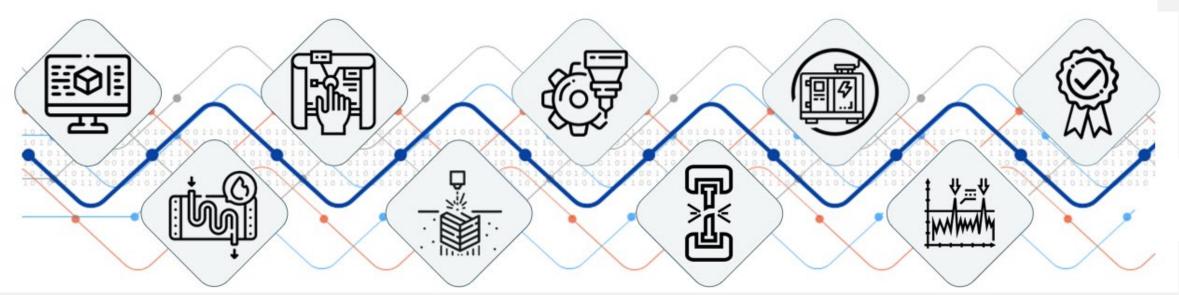
### 1. VERTICAL INTEGRATION OF AM PRODUCTION CAPABILITIES...

- $\checkmark$  We are differentiated by the vertical integration of the design, manufacturing, testing, and certification of our components
- ✓ By performing most processes in-house, we are able to rapidly iterate designs and





# 2. VERTICAL INTEGRATION OF AM SOFTWARE PROCESSES



Digital Design

FEA/CFD Simulation Digital Manufacturing Plan

Additive Manufacturing Post-Processing Metallurgical & Mechanical Testing

NDT Inspection

Performance Testing Certification & Release



















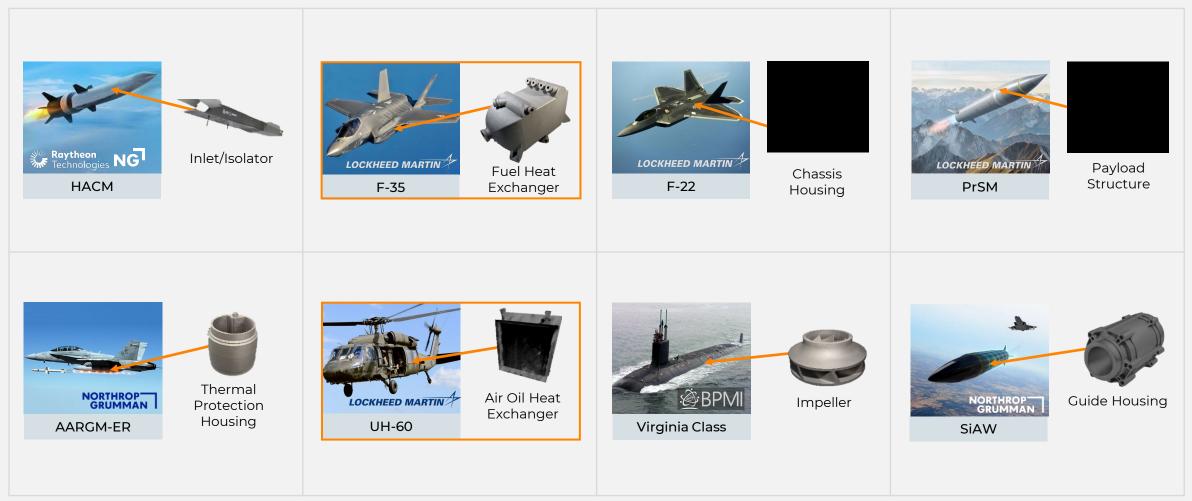








### 4. PRODUCTION PROGRAMS SUPPORTED'



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Orange box denotes engineered products. Representative parts shown.

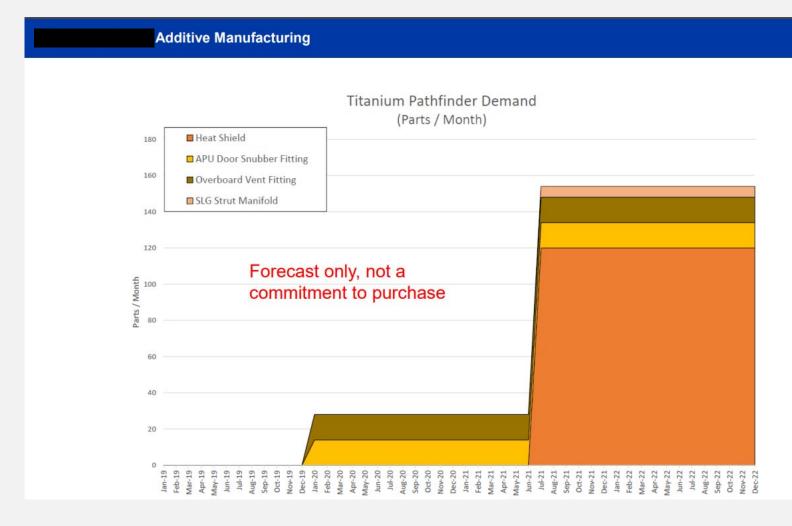


The demand is strong, and both designers and production suppliers are ready and capable - so why is commercial aviation lagging so far behind its defense counterparts?



## 5. COMMERCIAL AVIATION OEM HISTORY

- ✓ Airbus Group
  - First and last PO received in 2019
- √ Honeywell
  - o First PO pre-2018
  - o Top-ten customer in 2019-2021
  - o Top customer in 2020
  - Last PO received in 2020
- ✓ The Boeing Company
  - First PO in 2018
  - Top-ten customer in 2019-2020
  - Last PO received in 2021





## 6. COMMERCIAL AVIATION PRODUCTION CASE STUDIES

- ✓ Raytheon (Collins Rohr Aerostructures)
  - o EBM Ti64
  - o Pre-production
  - o Production PO in 2021
  - Total 120 jet cascades delivered
  - QTY 10 Dassault 6X in flight with Sintavia components
- ✓ Honeywell
  - o LPBF IN 718
  - o Pre-production
  - QTY 3 limited production components
  - o Buffer, tube, surge duct and three-way duct
  - o Two of these parts LTC on 2022

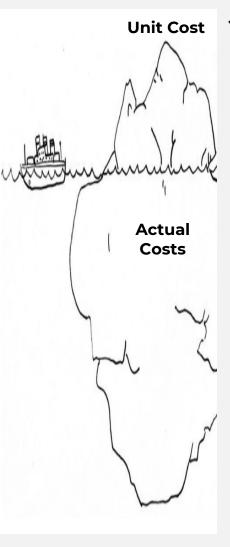








#### 7. LESSONS LEARNED



- ✓ Commercial Production Case Studies Commonalities
  - 1. **Design** Traditional components replaced like-for-like by additive manufacturing
  - 2. Business Case Competing against traditional unit prices, while designs not were bringing any added value or benefits
  - 3. Business Case Not quantifying the larger picture of weight optimized designs
    - Long-term weight savings
    - Sustainability metrics
  - **4. Business Case** Not quantifying the cost of poor quality for supply 'problem parts'
  - **5. Specifications** OEM or Tier One self-governed specifications
  - **6. Specifications** Inspections and qualifications based on methods for traditional and current processes
    - o CT, In-Situ Monitoring, etc.

## 8. LESSONS LEARNED COMPARED TO SUCCESSFUL DEFENSE APPLICATIONS

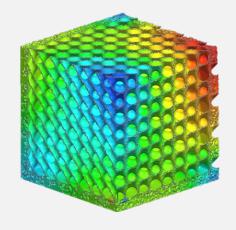
#### Commercial Aviation Business Cases Successful Defense Programs

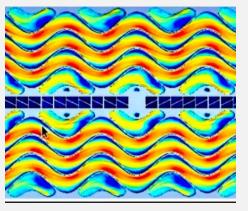
Design	<ul> <li>Traditional components replaced directly by and AM version</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Integrate value-added inner channels &amp; larger monolithic designs</li> <li>Sintavia designing from the ground up to meet PBS, Manufacturing and Testing</li> </ul>
Business Case	<ul> <li>Competing against traditional unit prices</li> <li>Not quantifying weight &amp; sustainability metrics</li> <li>Not quantifying CoPQ</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Unit Price &amp; NRE are rationalized against improved performance and shorter lead times</li> <li>CoPQ evaluated in price comparisons</li> </ul>
Specifications	<ul> <li>OEM or Tier-One self-governed specifications</li> <li>Inspections and Qualifications adding more criteria</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Some programs are still self-governed</li> <li>Many (including flight components) are using industry standards such as AWS D20.1 and NAVSEA S9074-AR-GIB-010-278</li> </ul>



#### 9. LEVERAGE EXISTING EXPERTISE

- ✓ Designing from the ground up to meet PBS (Performance Based Specs), Manufacturing and Testing has been successful
- ✓ Example: Heat Exchangers
- ✓ Sintavia has designed and developed air to fluid heat exchangers that exceed incumbent designs in weight reduction and heat transfer
- **1. Design -** Sophisticated modeling techniques and simulation allow for optimized features
- **2. Manufacturing -** Sintavia operates some of the largest metal 3D printers in North America, with boundary conditions increasing
- **3. Test** operational thermodynamic testing capabilities to ensure that its components meet customer requirements









## 10. INDUSTRY STANDARDS BENCHMARKS AND NEEDS



Machine Qualification

- ✓ Industry standards such as AWS D20.1 and NAVSEA S9074-AR-GIB-010-278 have been successful
- ✓ Machine and Procedure (Part) Qualifications fairly well understood
- ✓ Customers typically call out the key specification
  - o AWS D20.1
  - NAVSEA SPEC S9074-AR-GIB-010-278
  - WSU Common Qualification Plan Metal AM OQ Acceptance Test (Draft)

Procedure Qualification

Delta Qualification

- ✓ Customers then typically have part-specific requirements (based on part criticality, etc) in AOR (Additional Order Requirements) document
- ✓ Needs: Delta Qualifications, Communications Channels, New Aircraft Designs conducive for Advanced Manufacturing



#### 11. THERE IS A PATH FORWARD!

- ✓ It's not too late for future Aircraft such as the X-66 and ZeroE
- ✓ What will this take?
  - OEMs and Tier-One suppliers need to be increasingly open to collaborating with experts, such as Sintavia, to offer input or even design solutions from the ground up
  - Continued education for designers, supply chain and Quality Engineers
  - Communication
  - Share success stories
- ✓ By applying lessons learned from the defense sector, we can ensure the future of commercial aviation is not only safe and successful but also a source of pride







