December 4-5, 2012 ● National Institute of Standards and Technology ● Gaithersburg, MD



Report Out December 5, 2012

Breakout Out Group: Processes and Equipment





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Desired AM Capabilities/Technologies

•Improved in-situ sensors for manufacturing processes and equipment (real-time monitoring).

 Better monitoring that enables real-time control of build environment (limit risk of contamination)

•Enhanced detection and use of materials to verify quality; validation of models/software

- \circ More sophisticated data collection via monitoring, sensors; life-cycle info
- •Database for use among AM community
 - Catalogue of built parts; ability to identify best processes based on desired parts
 Life-cycle knowledge (machines and parts)
- •IP protection, anti-piracy, anti-counterfeit, and safety/security addressed Embedded ID
- •Use of multiple materials in the same AM part; new classes of AM
 - o Improved characterization of parts and materials
- Ability to build microfeatures





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Desired AM Capabilities/Technologies

- Cost-effectiveness and standardization of production at small- and large-scale operations
- Prevalence of certified products
- Part "signatures" to allow for traceability, life-cycle data collection
- Significant presence of AM production and manufacturing in U.S.
- Predictable, reliable, repeatable, affordable output in small lots and in high-speed continuous production
- Continued emphasis on advancing the field





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Top-Voted Challenges/Priority Topics

- Sensors/controls (14 votes)
- Easy-to-use modeling and design tools (13 votes)

•Development of capability database for AM technologies (12 votes)

- Design allowables databases (10 votes)
- Non-Destructive Evaluation (NDE) techniques are not optimized for (metals) AM (9 votes)





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Cross-cutting Themes

•Discussion of sensors dominated, limited discussion on technologies themselves.

- Challenges focused on identifying high-end (industrial) issues differ from those facing consumers (polymers/plastics).
- Many ideas involved learning tools. Opportunities exist to incorporate IT. Limited IT expertise in group, so full range of opportunities may not be reflected in cards.
- Output-based vs process-based standards.





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Surprises

- •Discussion of sensors dominated
- •Modeling issues were a prevalent theme.
- Maturity of technologies was not a prominent point of discussion, despite need to address this.
- Counterfeit parts and anti-piracy concerns were raised as potential issues in the next 5 years.

