

Lighweight materials for future cars

Fero Simančík

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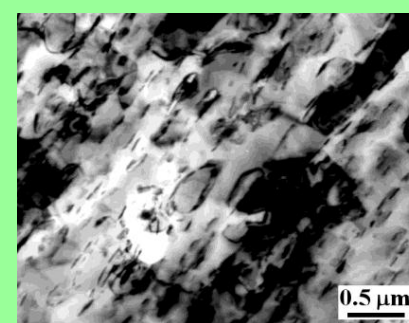
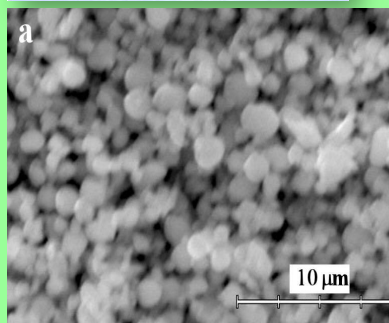
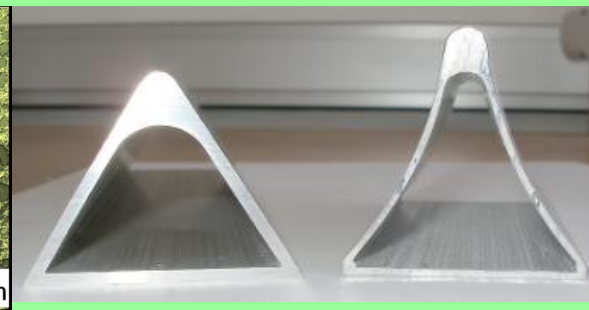
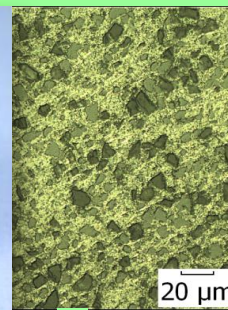
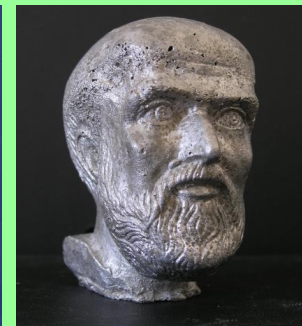
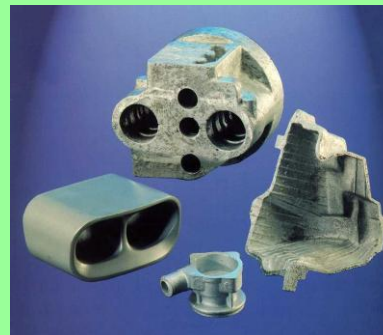
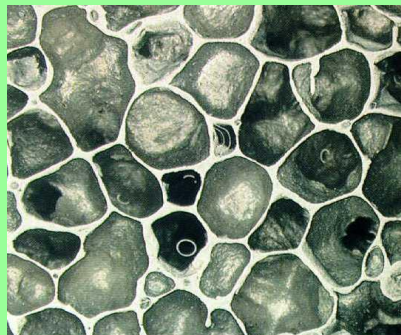
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Ján Spišák

Technical University Košice

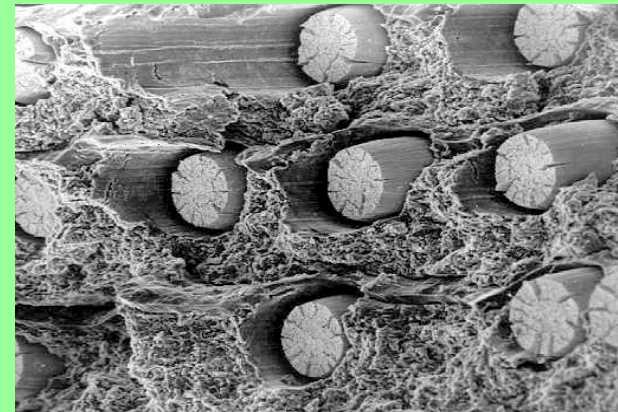
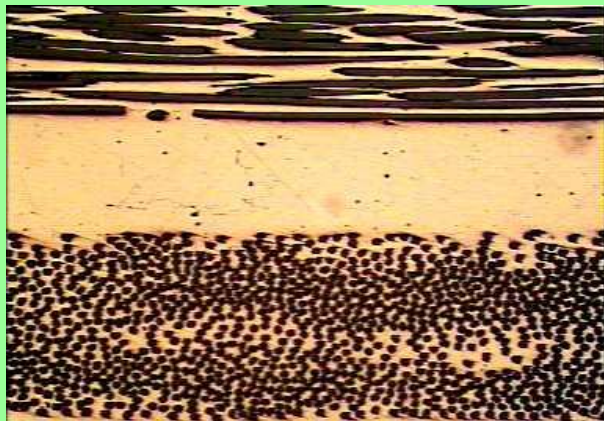
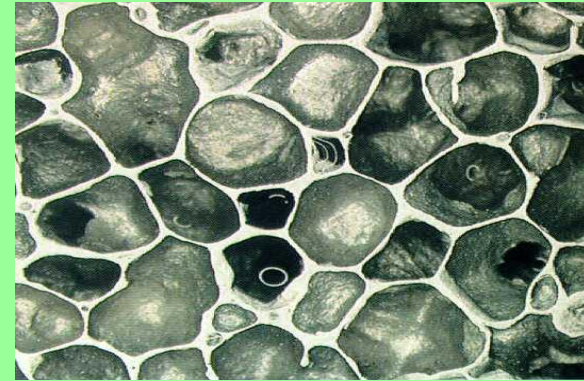


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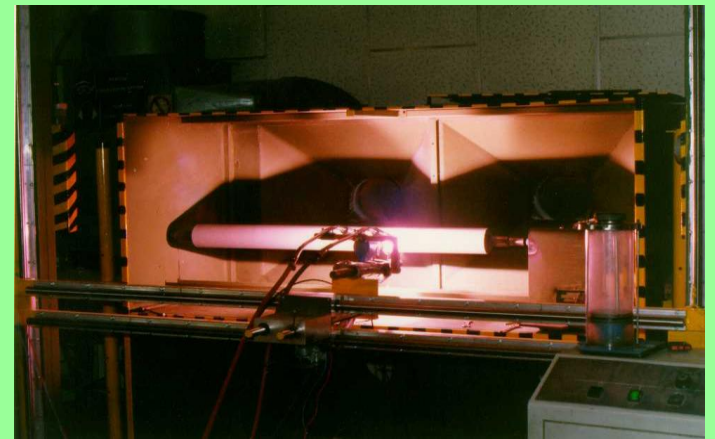
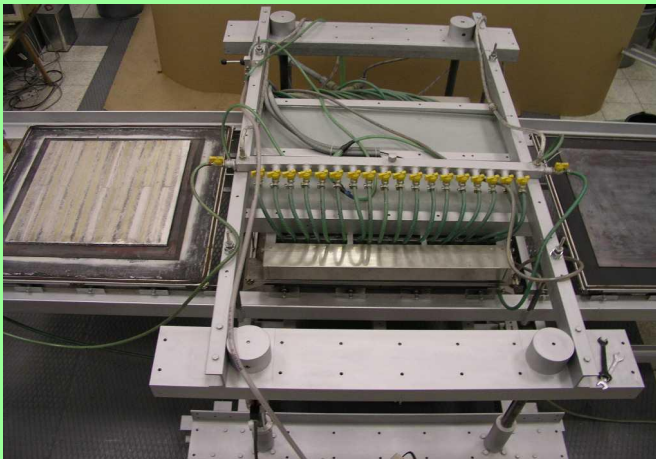
Development of advanced materials

- Metal matrix composites
- FGM
- Metallic foams
- Intermetallics
- Nanostructured bulk metals
- Ultrahard coatings



Development of modern technologies

- Gas pressure infiltration
- Plasma spraying
- Foaming of metals
- Advanced solidification processes
- Rapid prototyping
- Powder metallurgy
- PVD, CVD

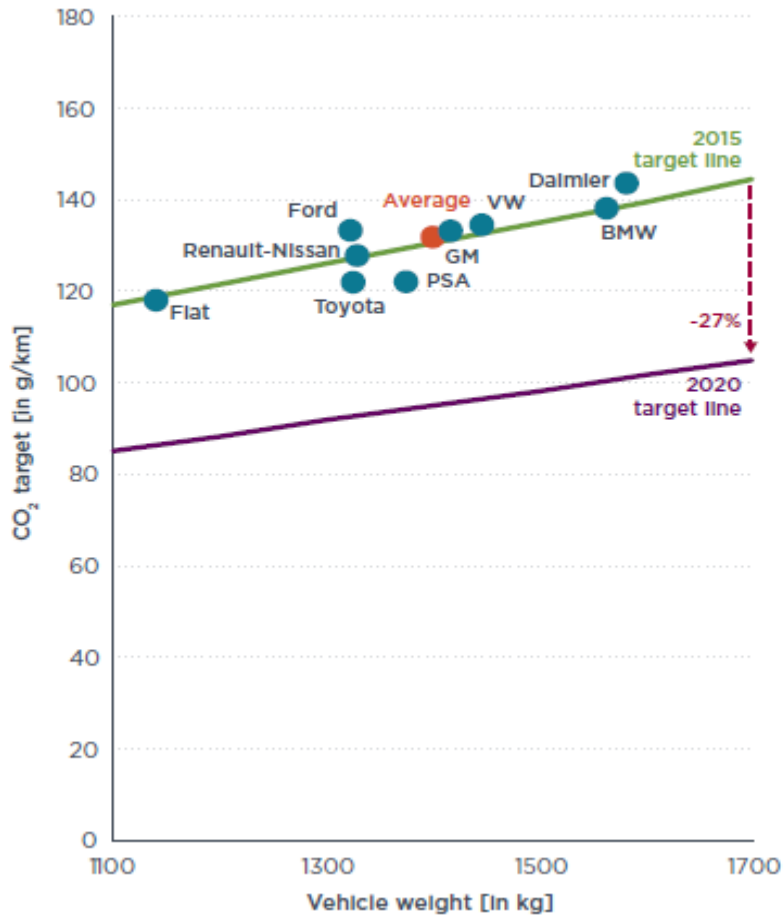


CO2 limits for cars – strong motivation for lightweight construction

EC directive: 2015 - 130 g CO2 / km

2020 - 95 g CO2 / km

PASSENGER CARS



ICCT policy update. January 2014

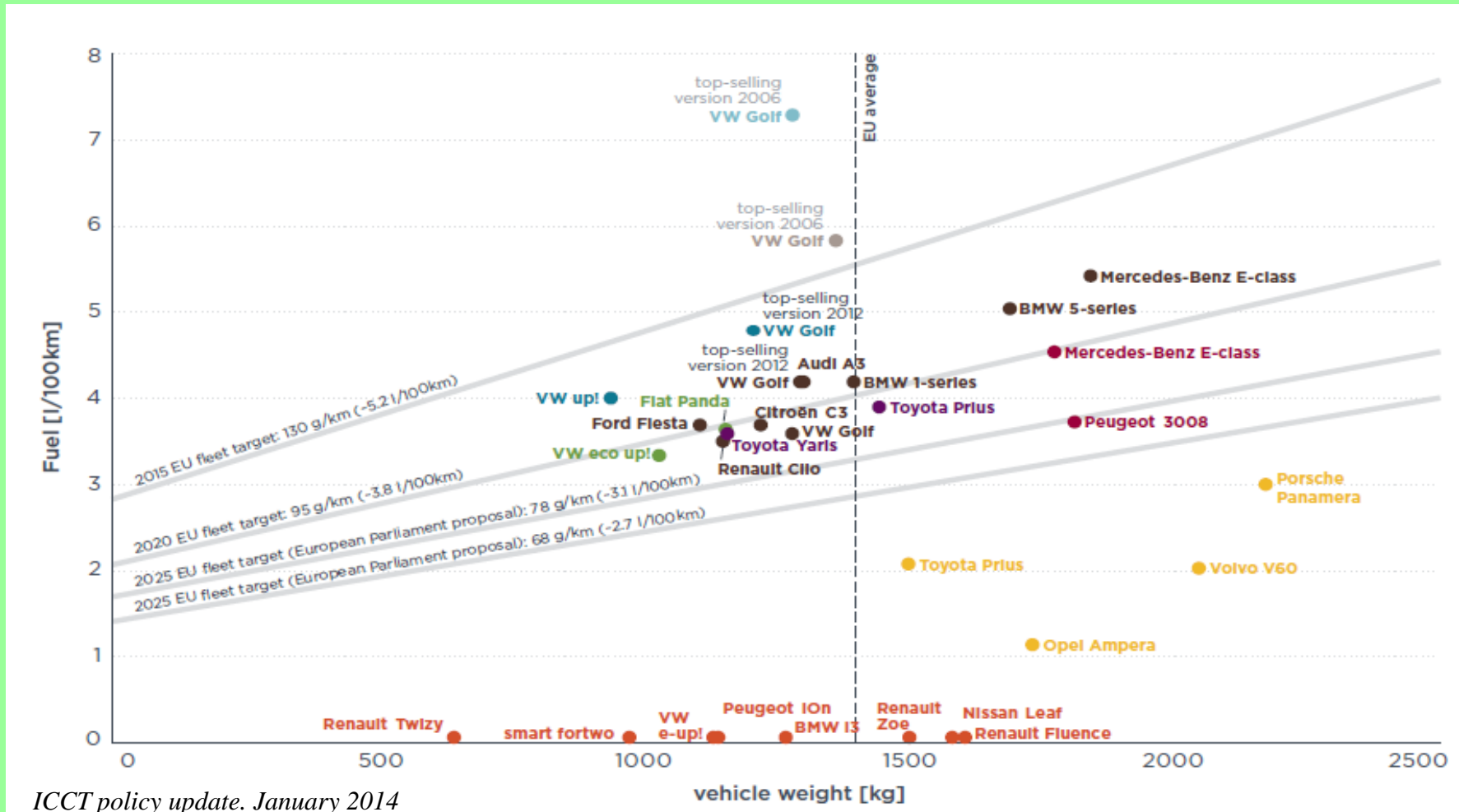
Ranking by average CO2/km emissions 2020

Rank	OEM	2010	2015	2020
1	Toyota	130	113	97
2	Daimler	126	117	99
3	PSA	132	119	100
4	Ford	137	121	100
5	GM	140	125	100
6	Renault	136	118	100
7	VW	143	125	101
8	Suzuki	137	118	103
9	Honda	147	127	104
10	Hyundai	139	125	105
11	Mazda	150	130	105
12	BMW	148	129	107
13	Nissan	148	126	107
14	Daimler	163	131	108

Tim Lawrence *Developing vehicles to meet carbon emissions reduction targets - PA Knowledge Limited 2015*

Penalty for exceeding limit 2020: 95 eur/ per 1 g CO2 per sold car

Possibilities for car manufacturers to reduce CO2

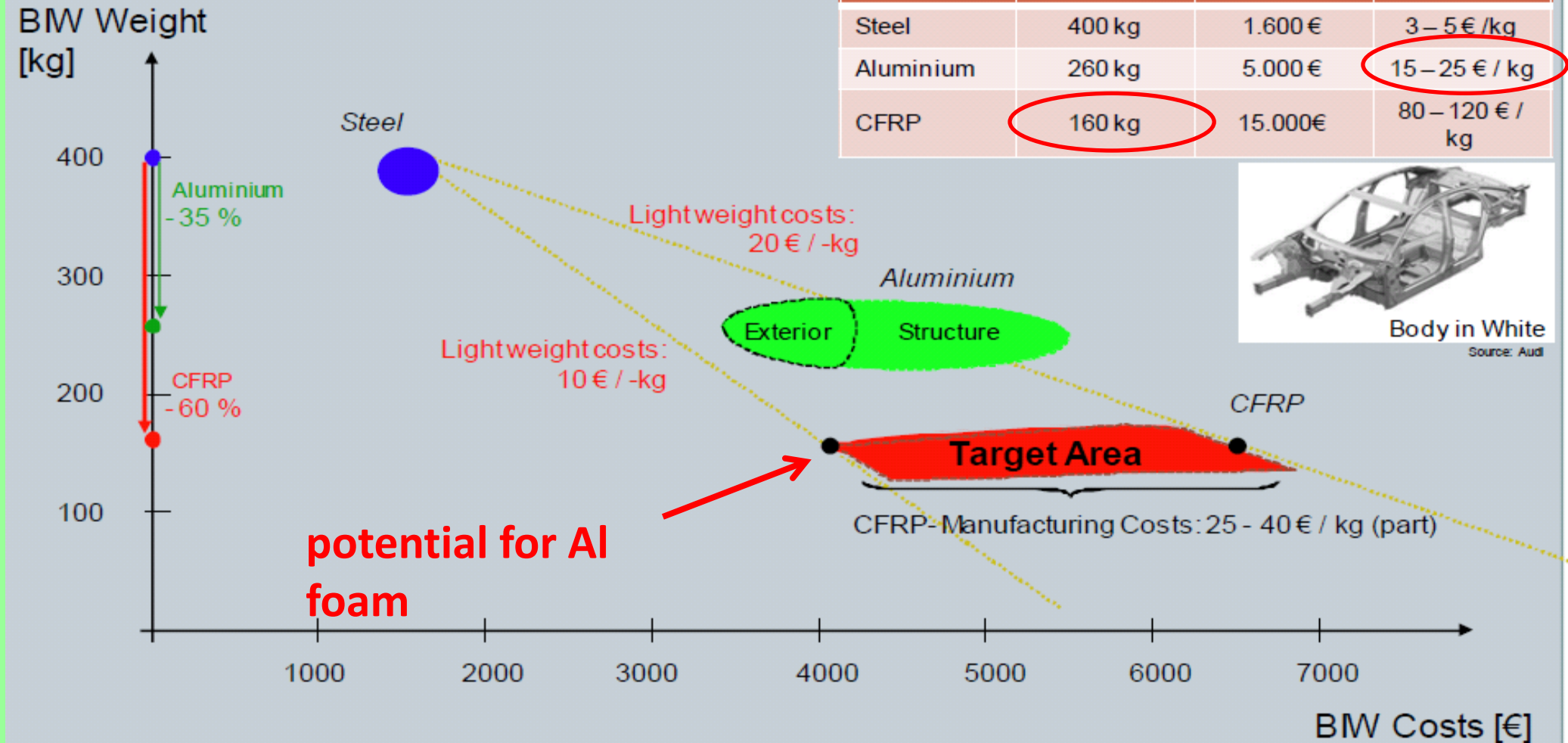
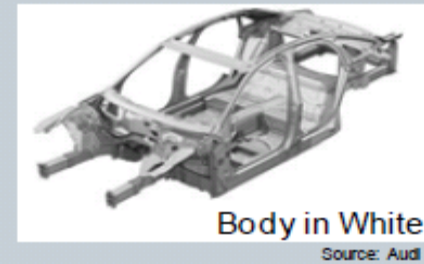


- Change car fleet portfolio towards smaller cars
- Increase powertrain efficiency
- Reduce car weight (reduction of 100kg ~ 0.3 l fuel reduction /100 km & 7g CO2/km)

100 kg weight reduction ~ 665 euro penalty savings

Materials for lightweight construction

Material	Weight	Costs	Specific costs
Steel	400 kg	1.600 €	3 – 5 € / kg
Aluminium	260 kg	5.000 €	15 – 25 € / kg
CFRP	160 kg	15.000 €	80 – 120 € / kg

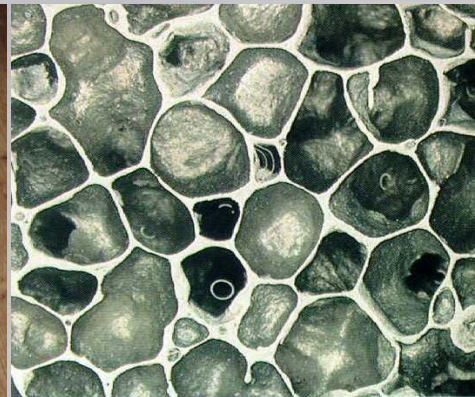
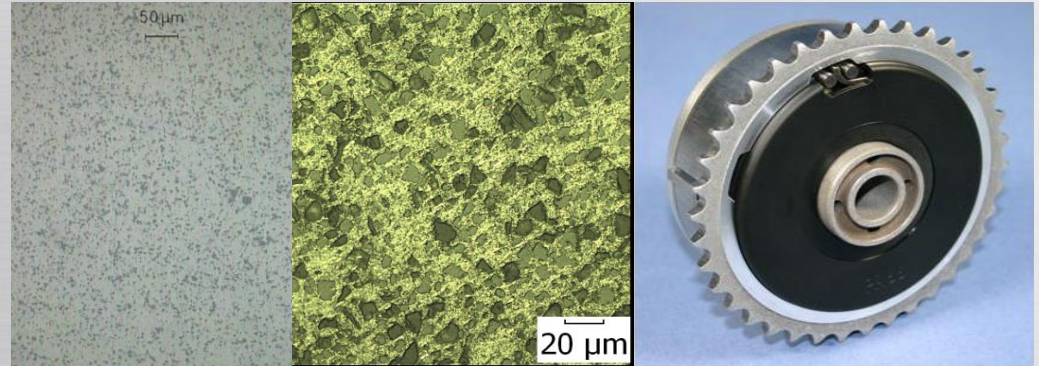


Courtesy Prof. Dr. Robert Bjekovic

Aluminium development for future lightweight construction

Composites:

net shape processes
wear resistance, high stiffness,
structural and dimensional stability

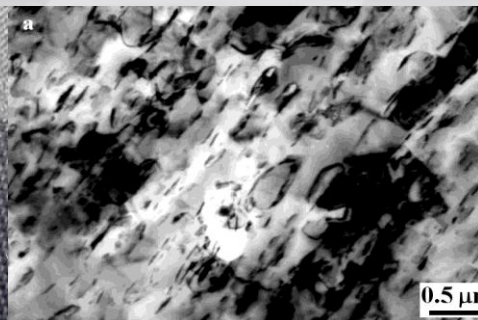


Novel structures:
(foams, hybride parts)

Lightweight, stiffness
crash performance,
NHV performance

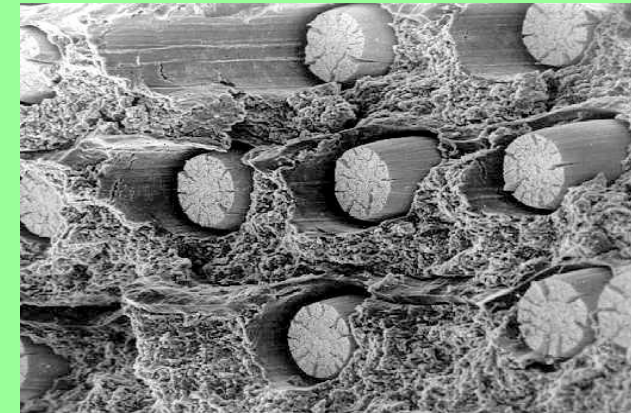
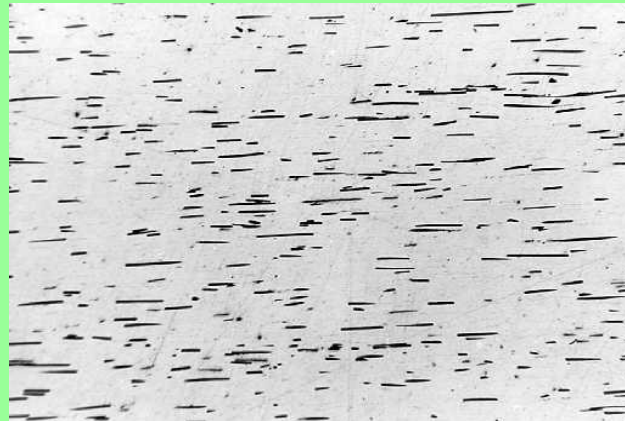
Nanostructured complex
alloys,

High strength and
thermal stability at HT



Advantages of composites:

- ✓ new classes of materials with unique combination of properties
- ✓ increased stiffness for given weight
- ✓ Control of physical properties possible (thermal conductivity, thermal expansion, magnetic properties)
- ✓ higher reliability (toughness) if compare to structural ceramics
- ✓ Better temperature resistance and stiffness if compared to metals
- ✓ improved damping, EMS, etc.



Powder techniques – aluminium composites



**Technology developed
at industrial scale**

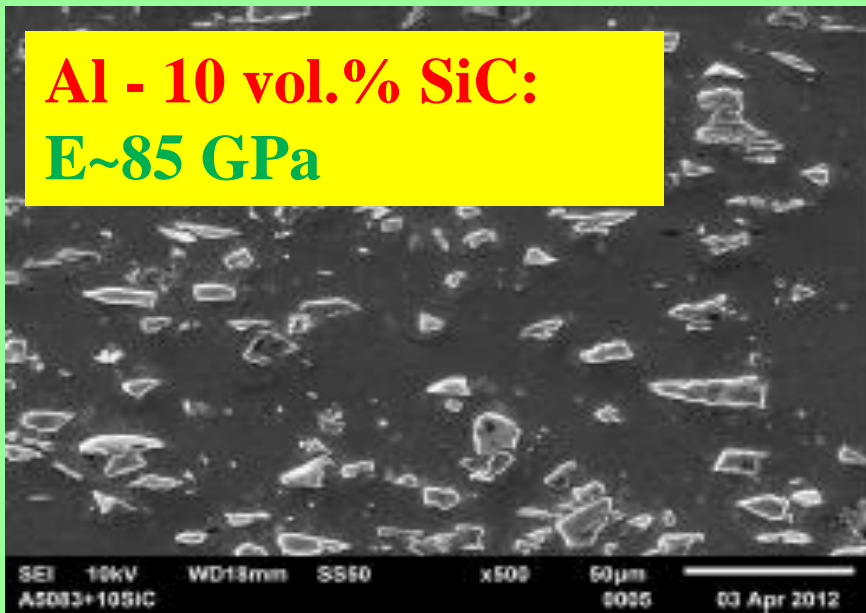
sapa:
Shaping the future



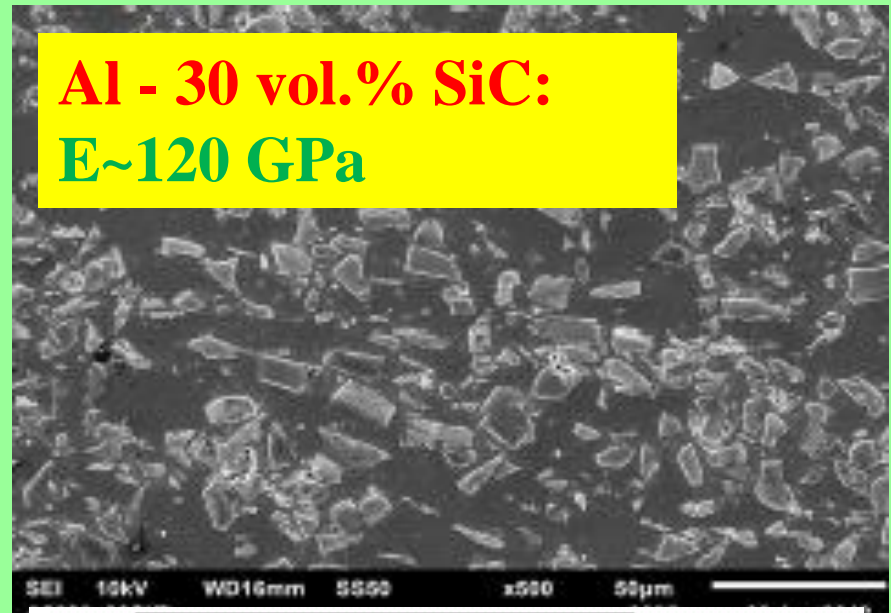
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Young's modulus of extruded MMCs [GPa]

**Al - 10 vol.% SiC:
E~85 GPa**



**Al - 30 vol.% SiC:
E~120 GPa**



**Al - 10 vol.% SiC:
E~160 GPa**

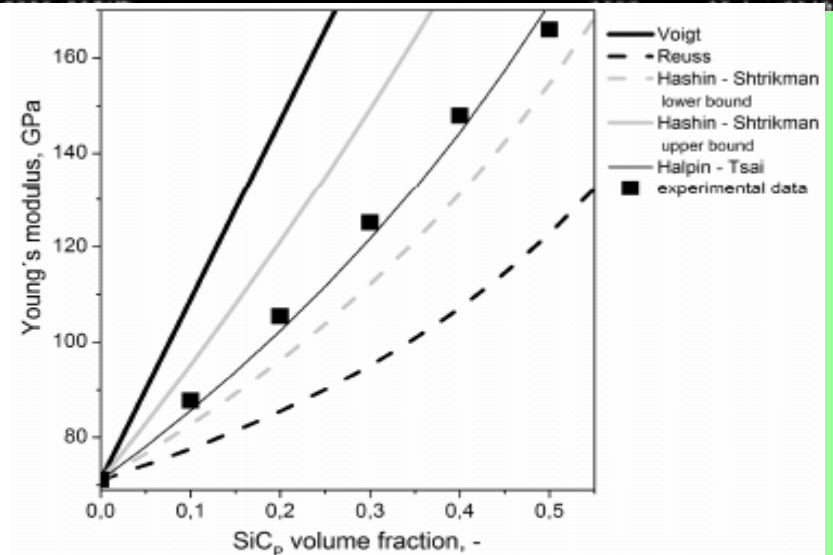
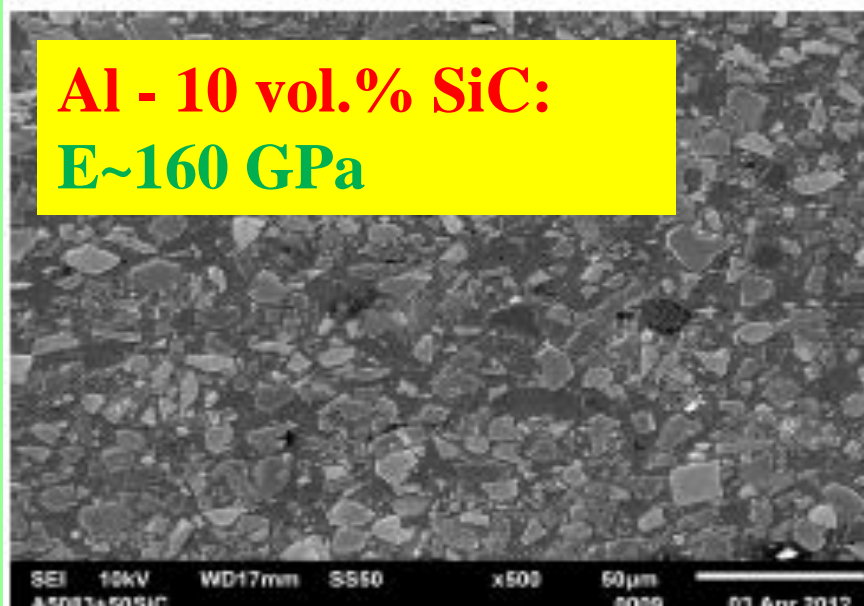
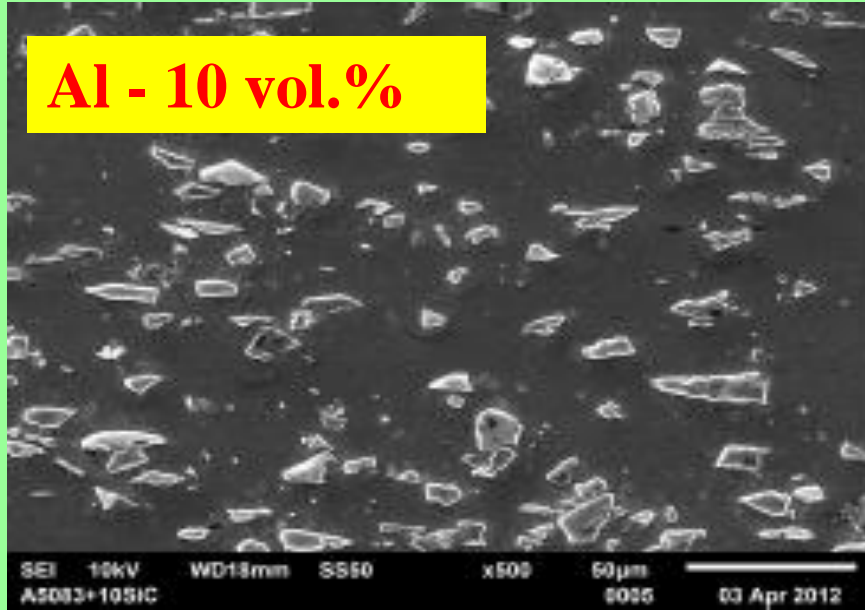


Fig. 2. Theoretical models for prediction of Young's modulus for particulate Al/SiC composites and experimental data.

Mechanical properties of extruded MMCs

Al - 10 vol.%



Al - 50 vol.%
SiC

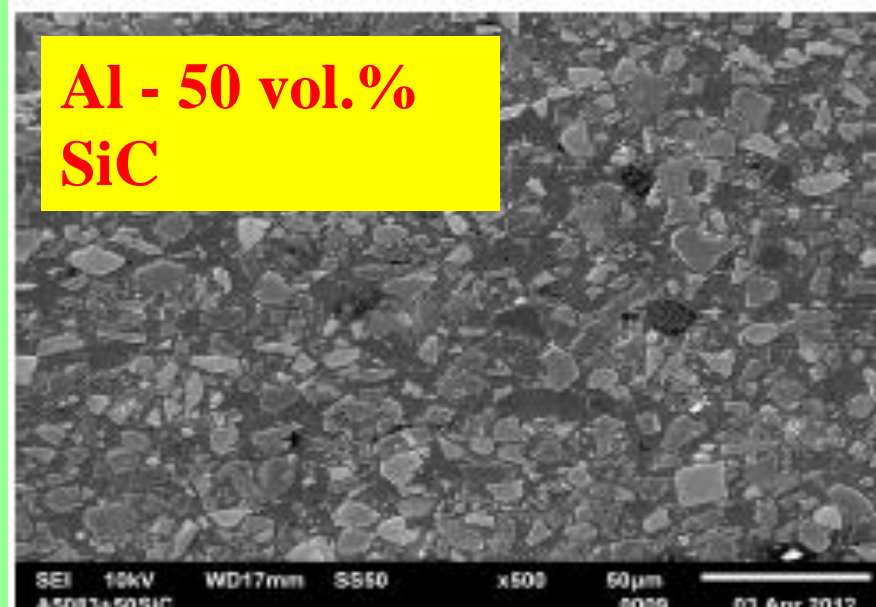


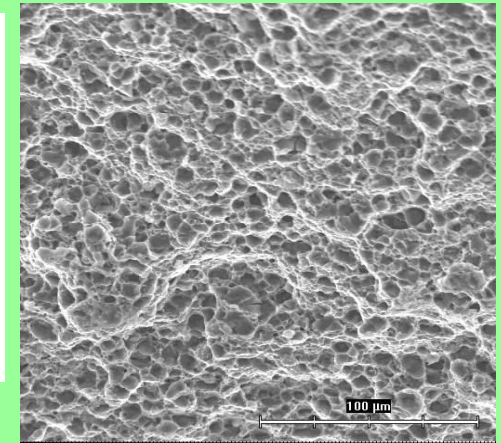
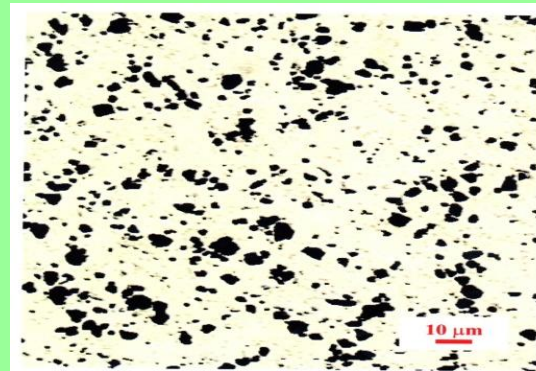
Table 1 The porosity and ultimate tensile strength (UTS), yield strength (YS) and elongation (A) of A5083/SiC_p composites.

	Volume fraction of SiC particles					
	0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
Porosity (%)	0.14±0.02	0.03±0.01	0.24±0.03	0.16±0.02	0.44±0.03	0.49±0.04
UTS (MPa)	399±3.4	400±2.8	404±4.1	438±4.7	446±5.8	–
YS (MPa)	258±5.8	294±21	332±11	340±15.3	371±7.6	–
A (%)	15±4.9	6±0.2	3±0.9	2±0.3	1±0.1	–

Materials developed at industrial scale

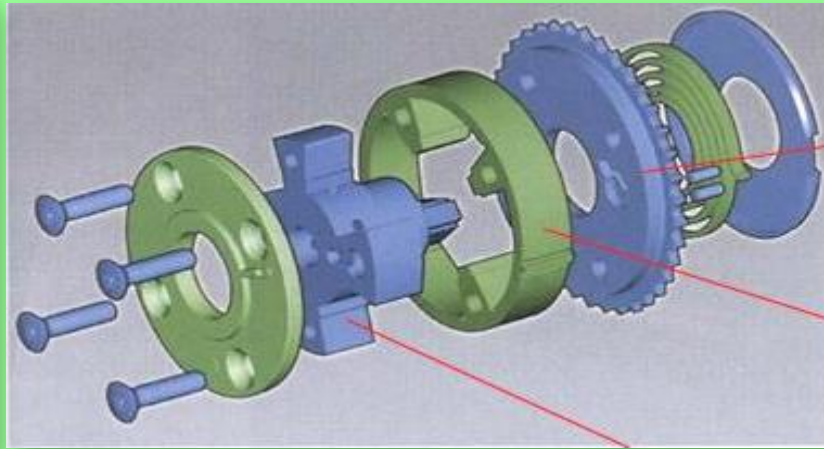
Al 6061 alloy- 20vol.% SiC_p composites

- ▶ Young's modulus: ~100 GPa
- ▶ Strength comparable to 6061 alloy
- ▶ Density 2,6 g/ccm
- ▶ excellent wear resistance
- ▶ controllable CTE ~16-18 ppm/K
- ▶ Good dimensional stability

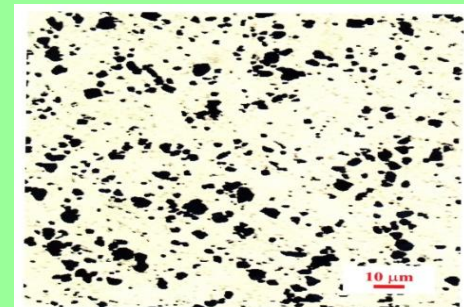
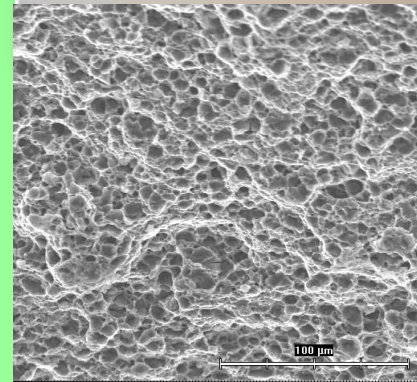
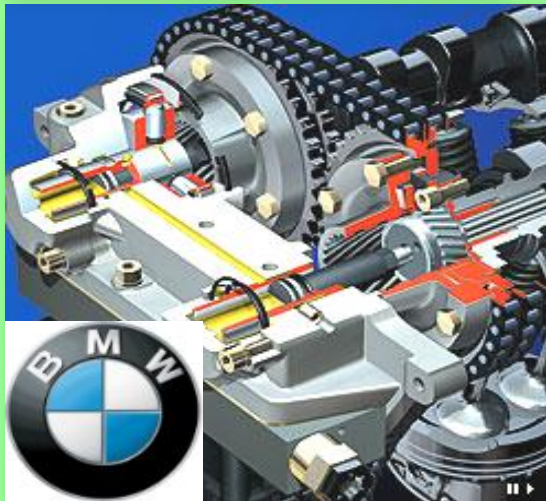


potential for radical weight reduction

Powder techniques – aluminium composites



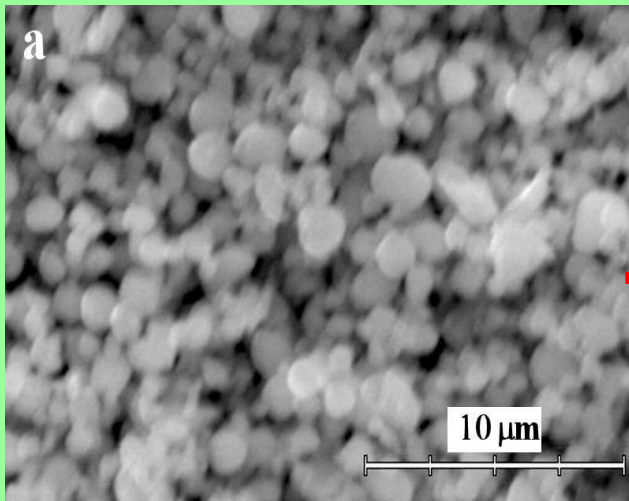
Joint development of:
Slovak Academy of sciences,
SAPA Profily, Žiar nad Hronom (SK)
Alulight GmbH, Ranshofen (A)
SHW GmbH, Wasseraalfingen (D)



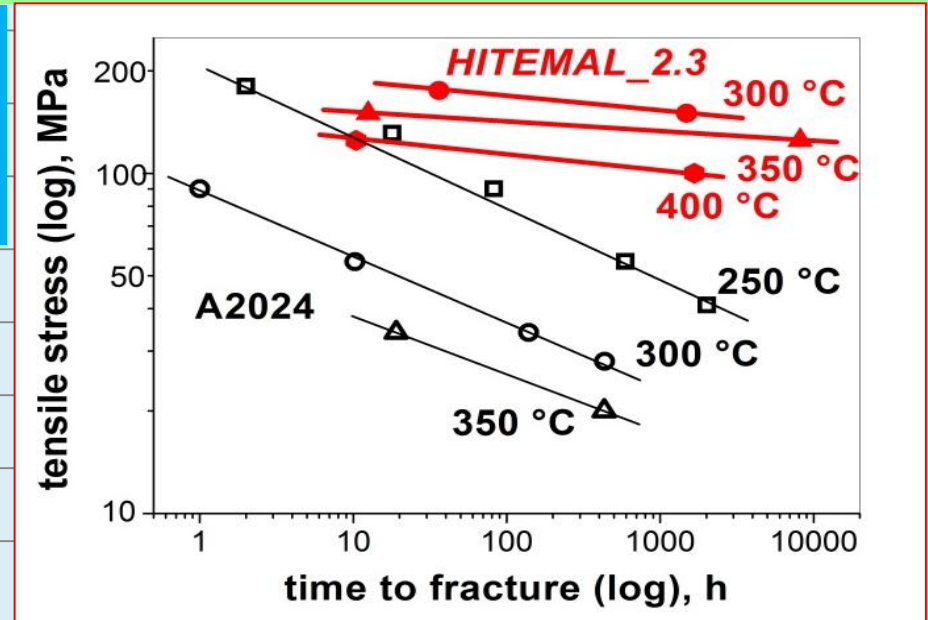
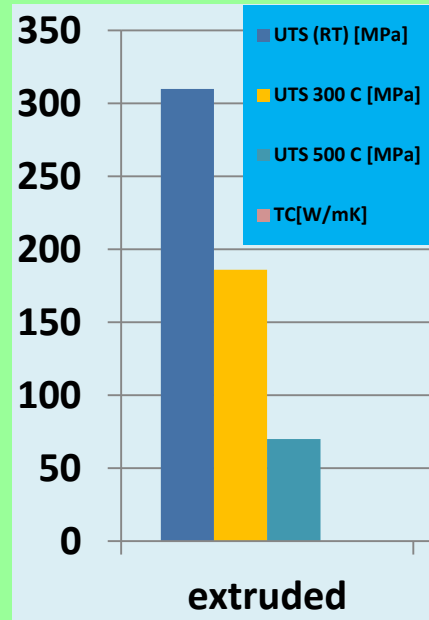
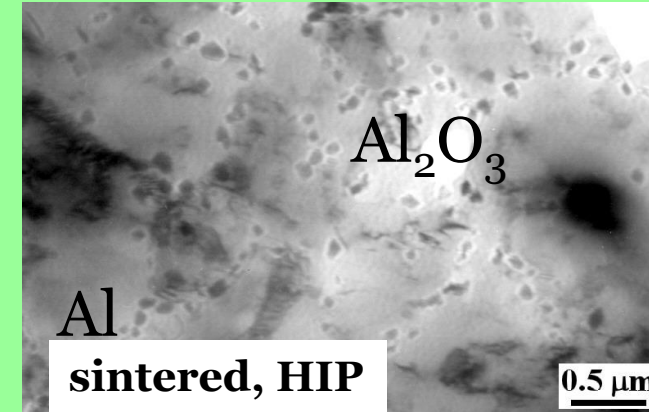
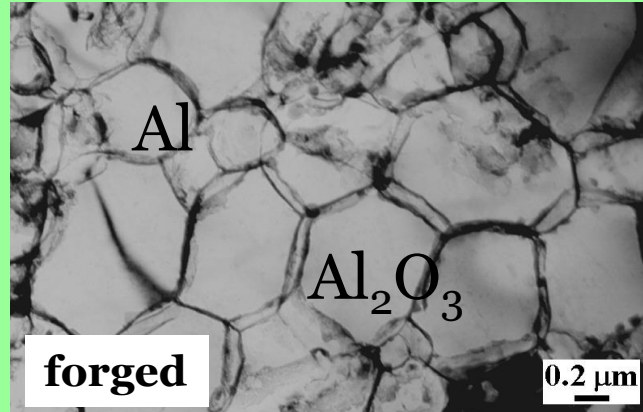
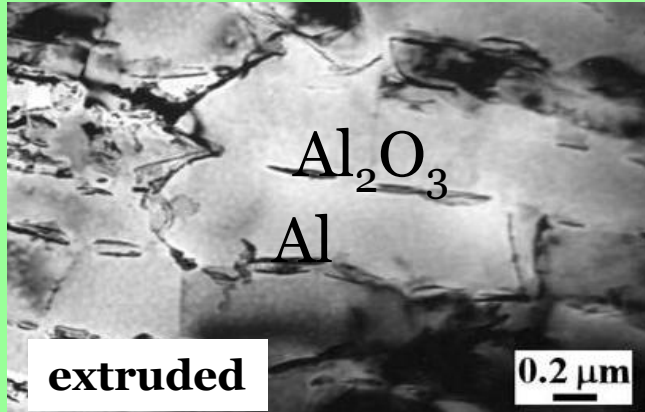
Camshaft phaser stator ring
• engine BMW, 900.000 pcs/year

Research on bulk Al nanomaterials

- lightweight structural applications (Al based)
- enhanced strength at $\uparrow T$ (up to 400°C)
- without ductility, toughness, creep and fatigue deterioration
- technologically feasible
- production expenses



HITEMAL high temperature aluminium stabilized with nano Al_2O_3

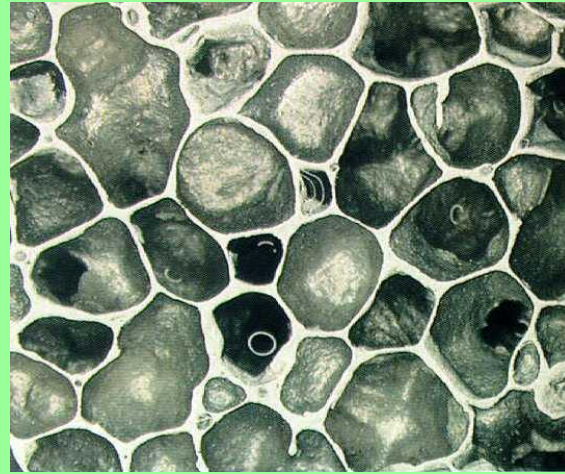


Car body as cast Al monocoque fiction or realistic dream?





Aluminium foam



- ✓ Low weight ($0.3 - 0.9 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$)
- ✓ High stiffness
- ✓ Crash absorption capability
- ✓ sound absorption
- ✓ Low heat capacity
- ✓ Excellent thermal & electric conductivity
- ✓ Vibration damping
- ✓ Electromagnetic shielding

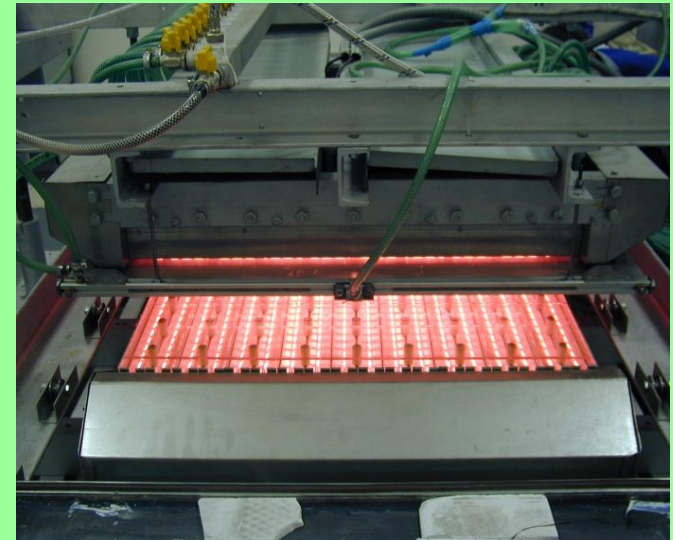
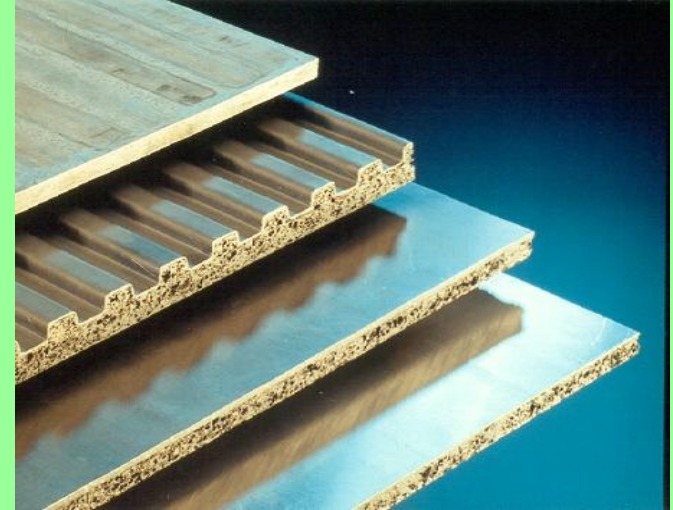
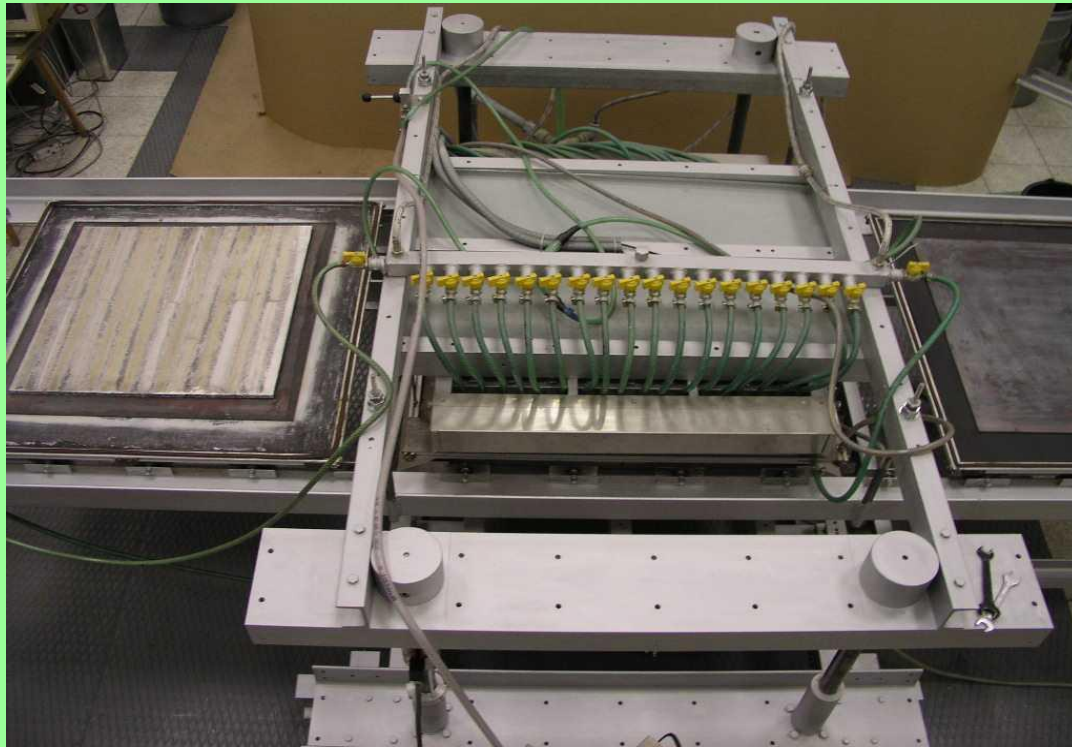
Joint development of Slovak Academy of Sciences and Alulight GmbH, Ranshofen (A)



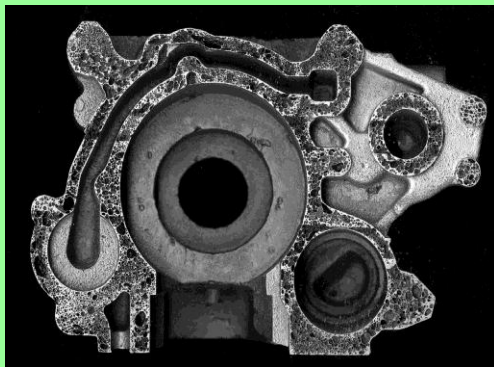
PM manufacturing of aluminium foam



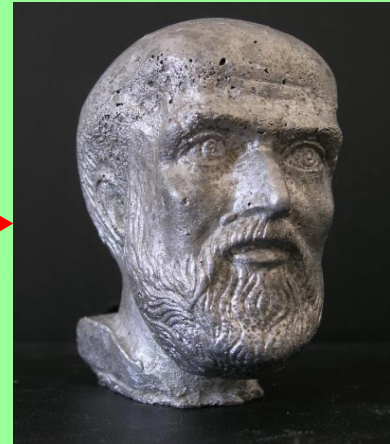
Manufacturing of panels and sandwiches from aluminium foam



Manufacturing of complex shape parts from Al foam



Rapid prototyping, 3D printing technology



Aristoteles



3D scan



3D print



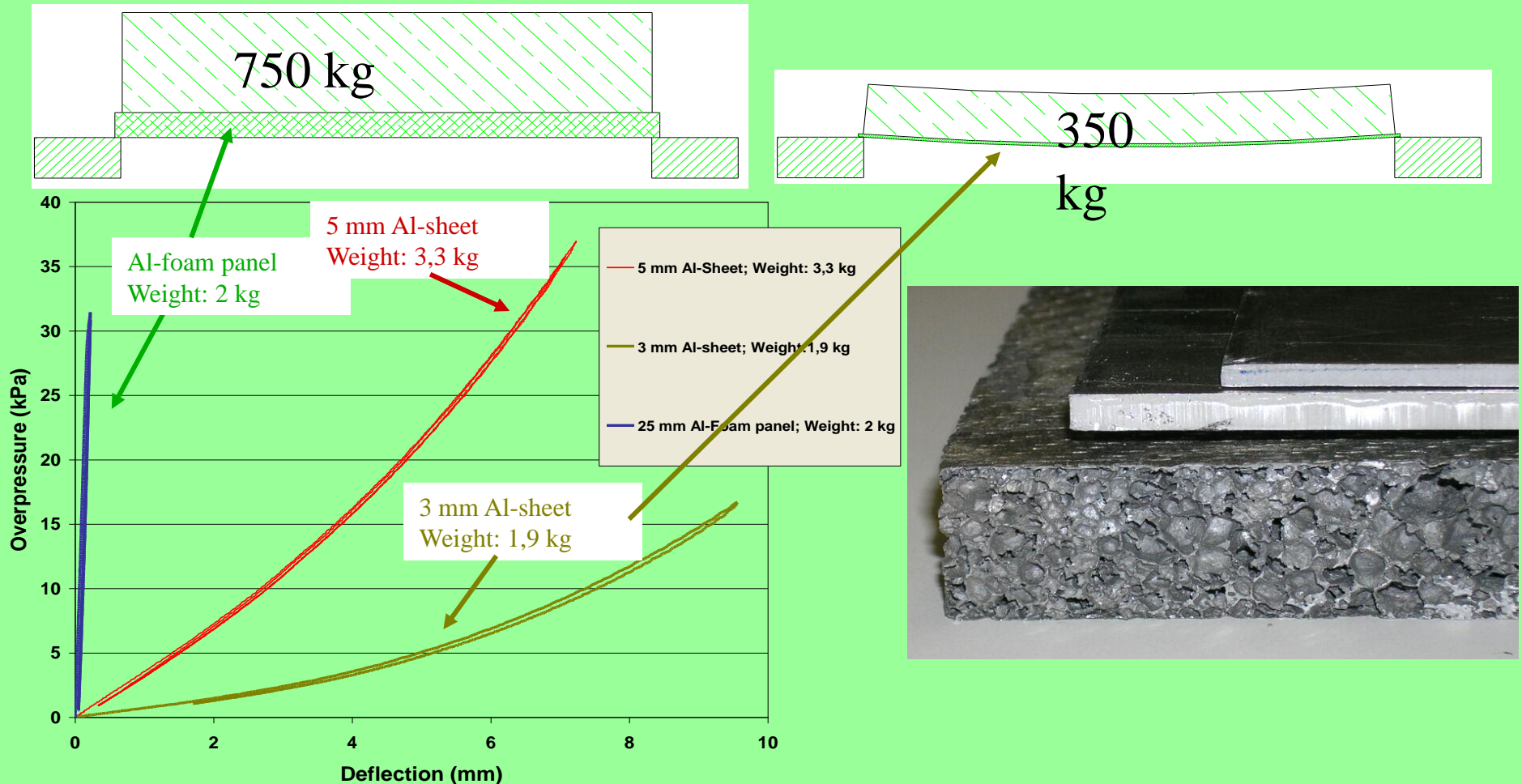
Vacuum casting wax



**Vacuum / pressure casting
- metal**



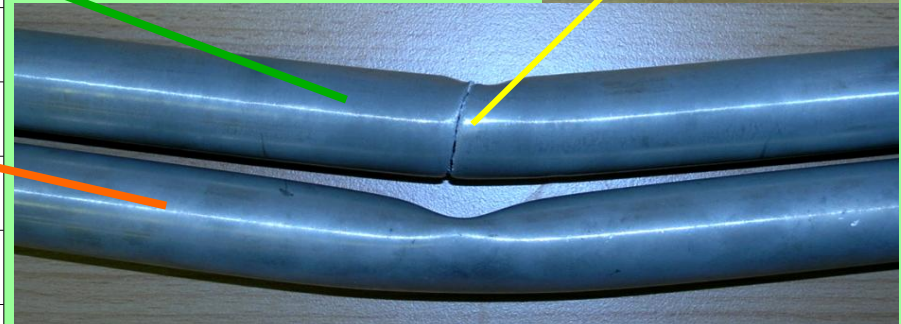
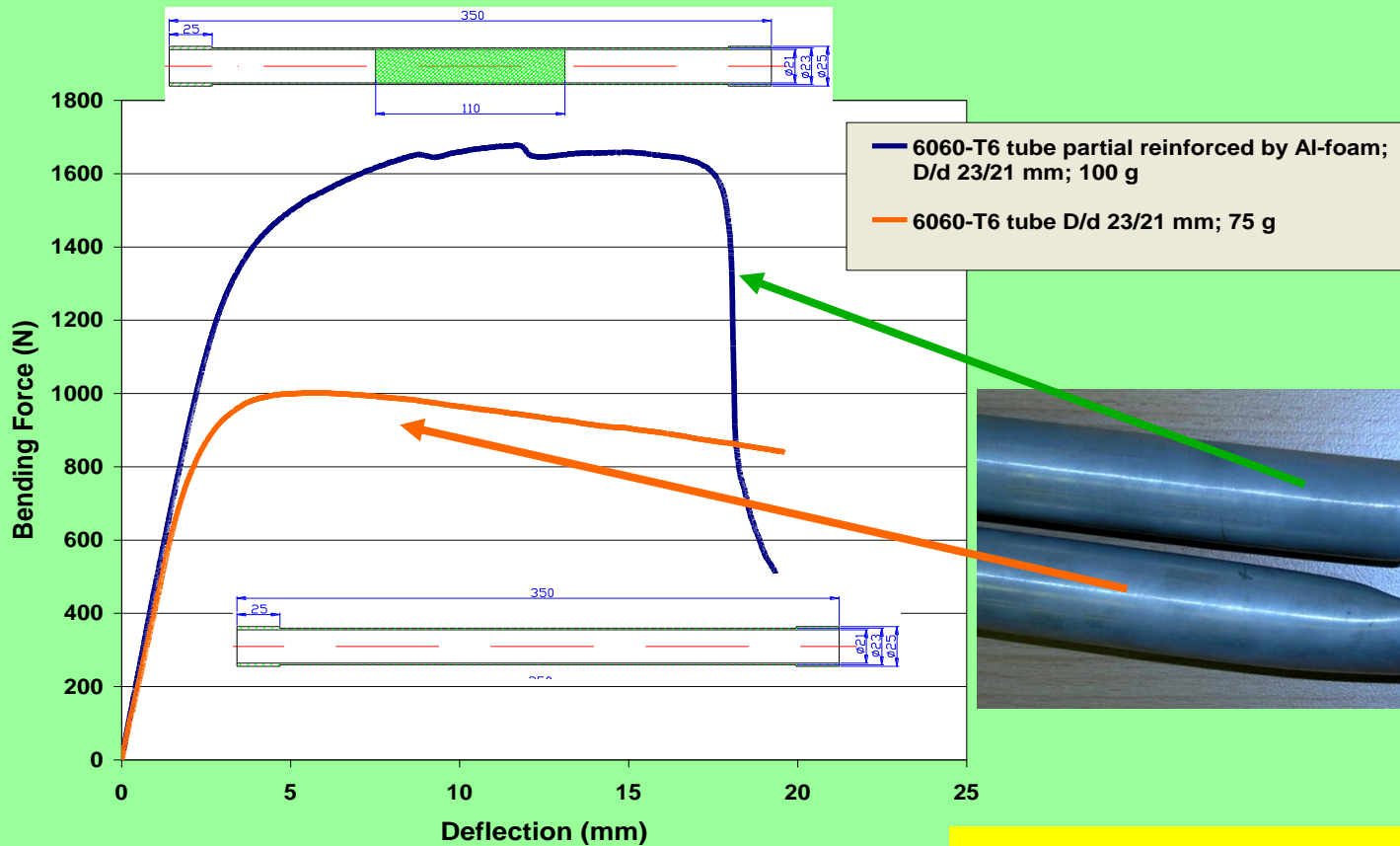
Al foam: high stiffness at low weight



Better stiffness – similar weight

Reinforcing of hollow profiles

Heat treatment after foaming process will restore mechanical properties

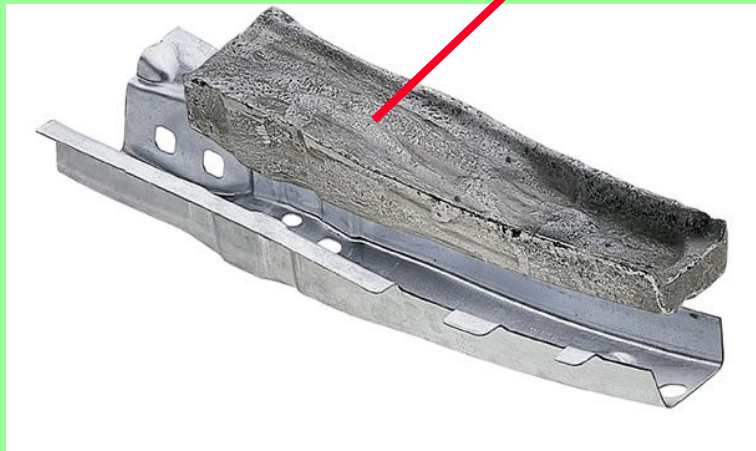
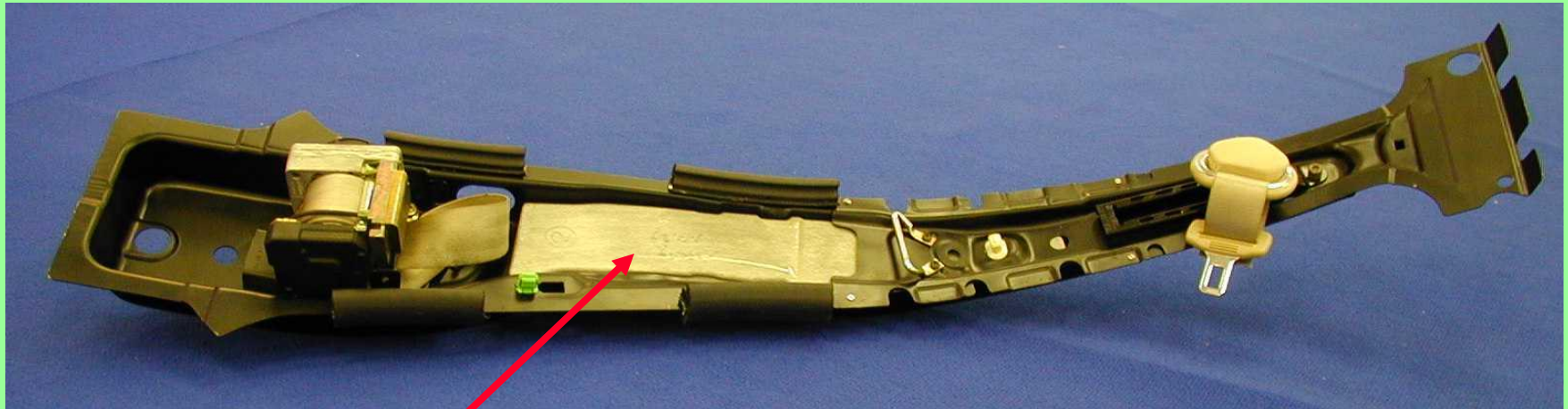


weight increase - 25%
bending strength increase - 60%



Typical Al foam prototypes

stiffener in welded component



Foam insert in car body B-column

Improved stiffness & crash performance

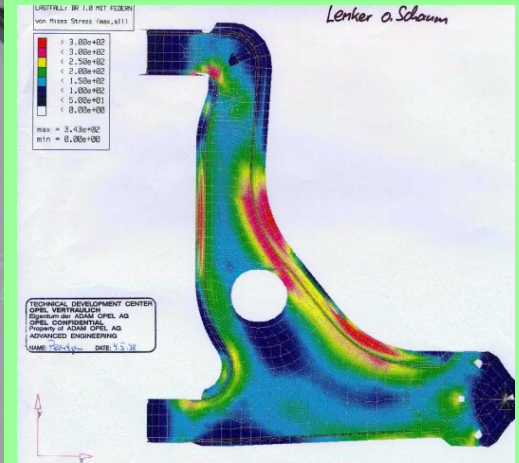
Courtesy of Alulight



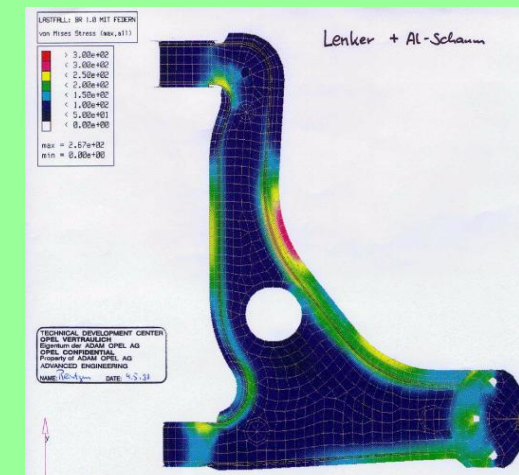
Typical Al foam prototypes stiffener in welded suspension part



without foam stiffener



with foam stiffener



Results:

almost **5 times higher** endurance limit

no need to change standard welding and forming technology

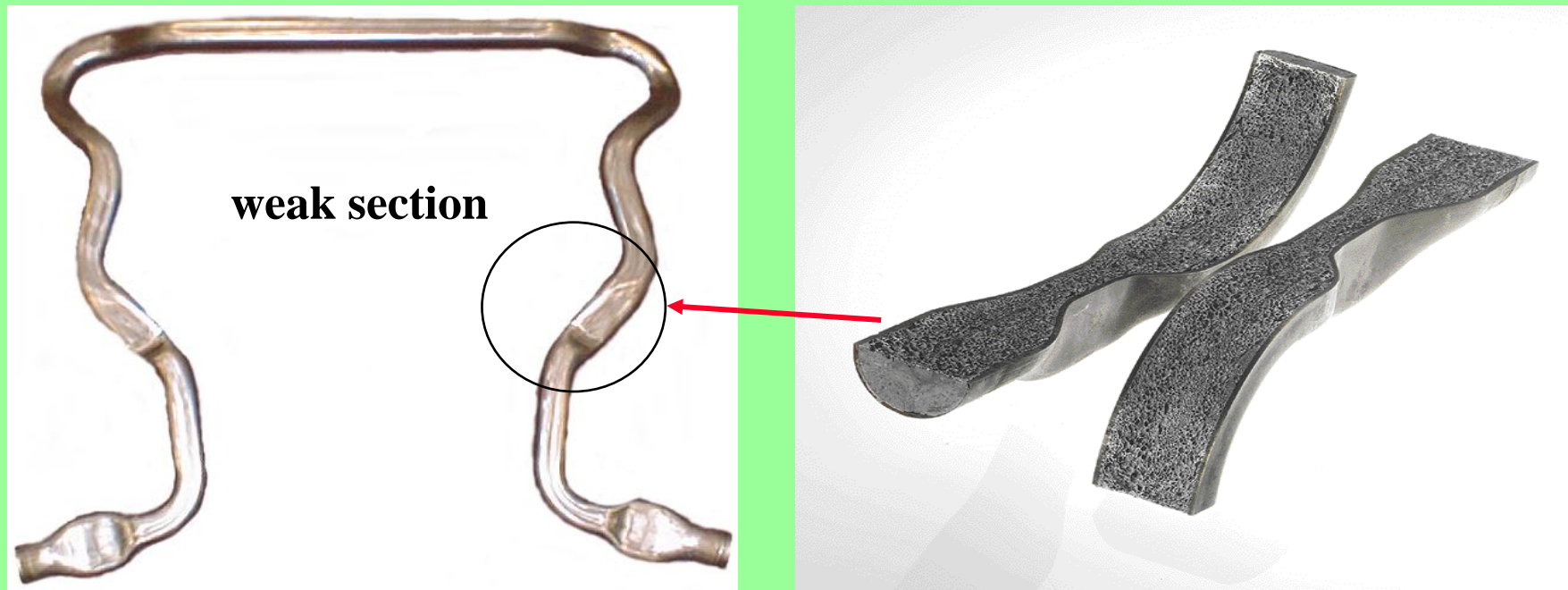


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Courtesy of Alulight

Typical Al foam prototypes

stiffening of hydroformed motor carrier



increased stiffness
capability to absorb deformation energy
damping properties

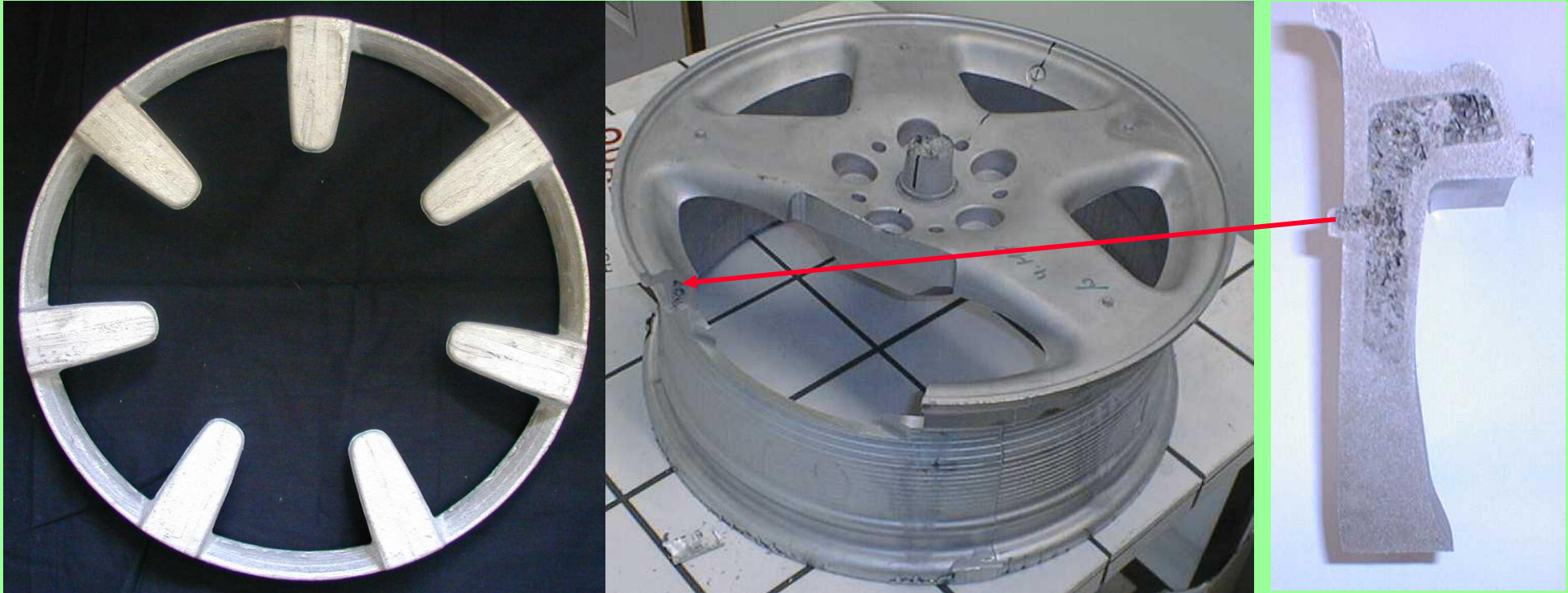
Courtesy of Alulight

possible **reduction** of the thickness of profile wall & pressing forces



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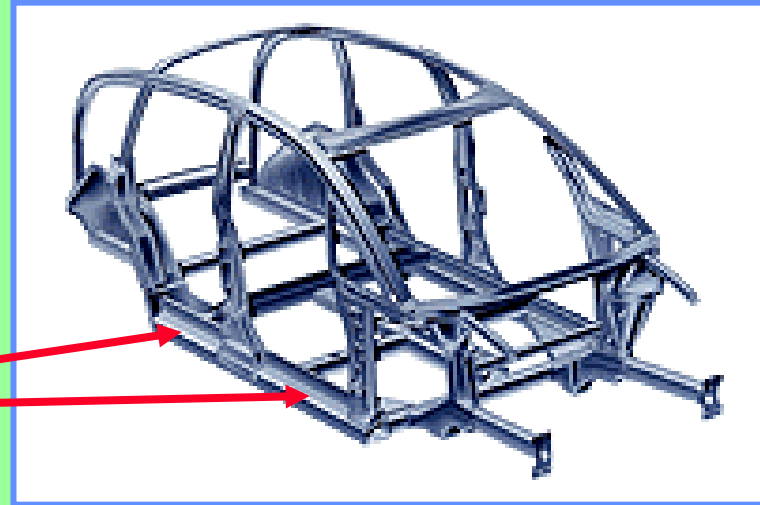
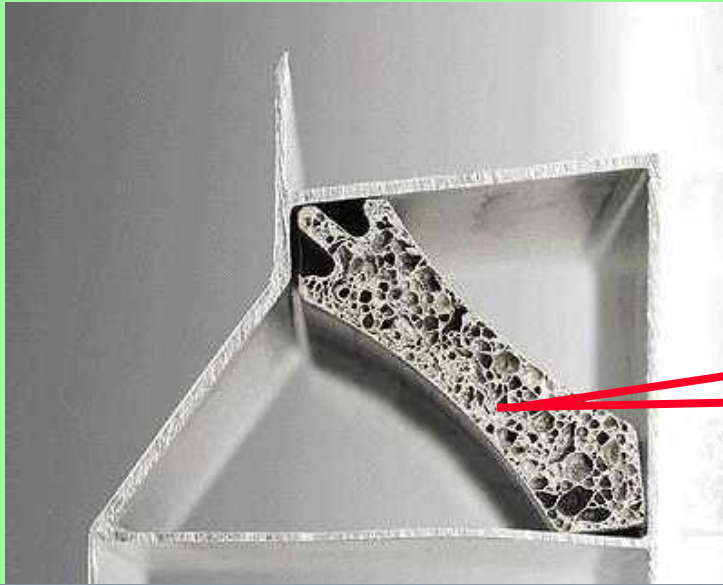
Typical Al foam prototypes foam cored castings



✓ saving of ca. 2 kg weight per wheel

Courtesy of Alulight

Success cases

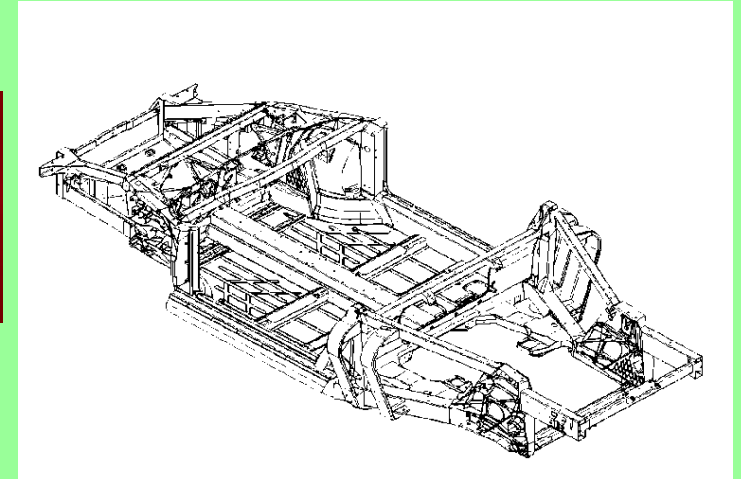
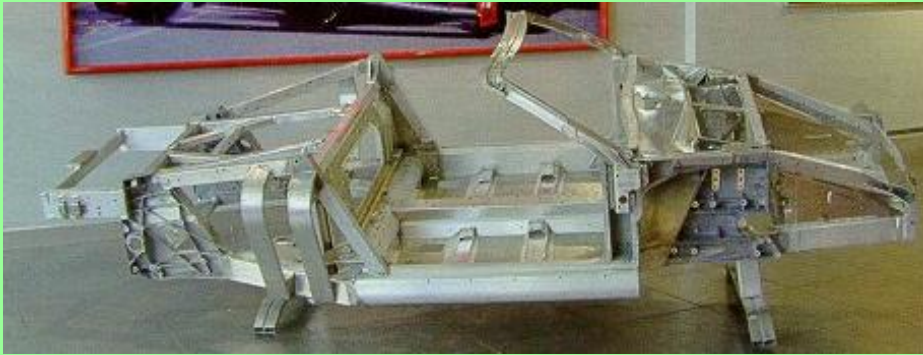


Stiffener of side rail Audi A12:

- ✓ start of serial production 2001 at Neuman Alufoam GmbH, Marktl (A)
- ✓ developed by Slovak Academy of Sciences

first attempt for serial application of Al foam in automotive

Success cases



Stiffener of side rail Ferrari Modena 360:

- ✓ **6.000 pcs/year**
- ✓ **developed by Slovak Academy of Sciences**
- ✓ **Produced by Alulight GmbH, Ranshofen (A)**

worldwide first serial application of Al foam in automotive



Success cases – aluminium foam



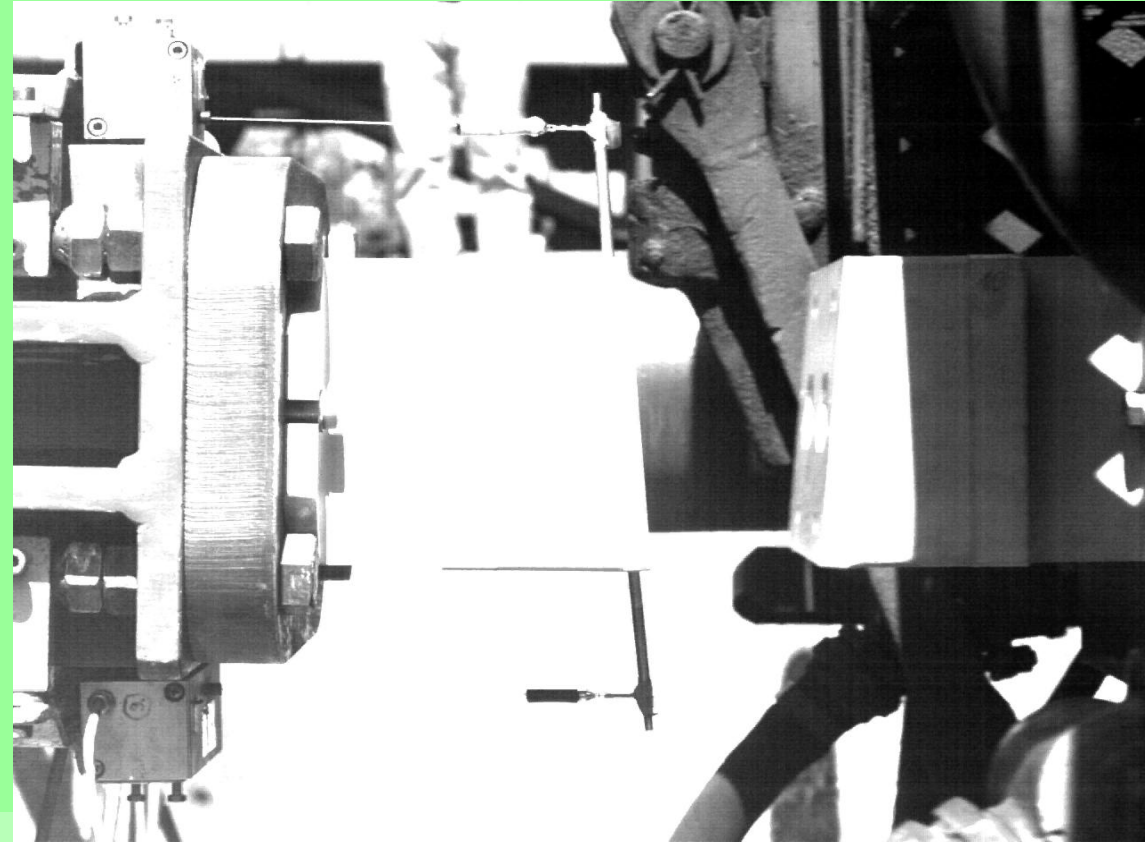
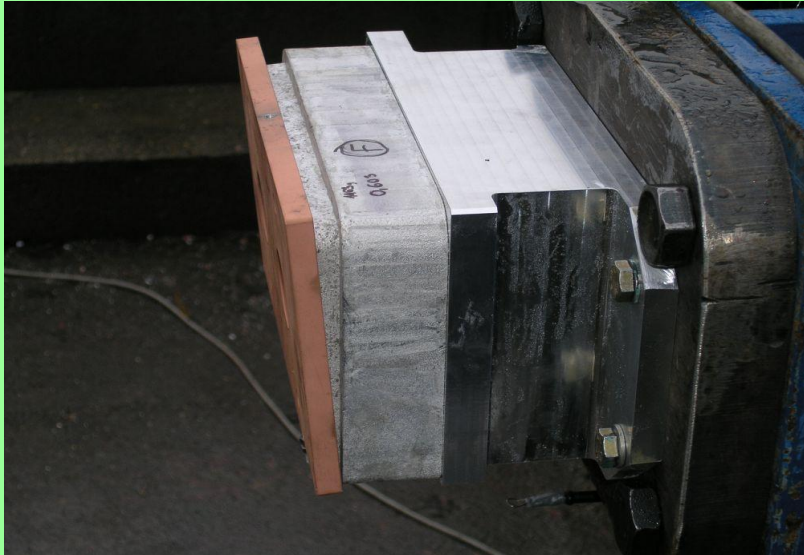
Crash box Audi Q7:

- ✓ 120.000 pcs/year
- ✓ developed by Slovak Academy of Sciences
- ✓ produced by Alulight GmbH, Ranshofen (A)

worldwide largest serial application of Al foam in automotive

Success cases

Crash box for railway carriage



- ✓ **1000 pcs/year**
- ✓ **developed and produced by Slovak Academy of Sciences**
- ✓ **Assembled by Gleich GmbH (D)**



Case of study - engine carrier

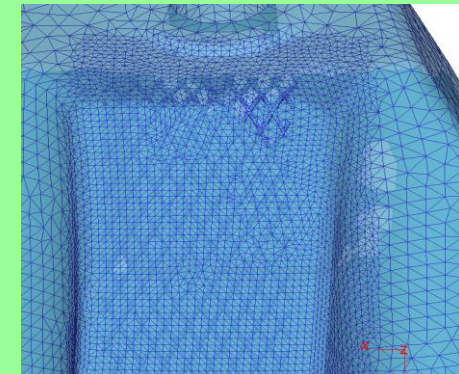
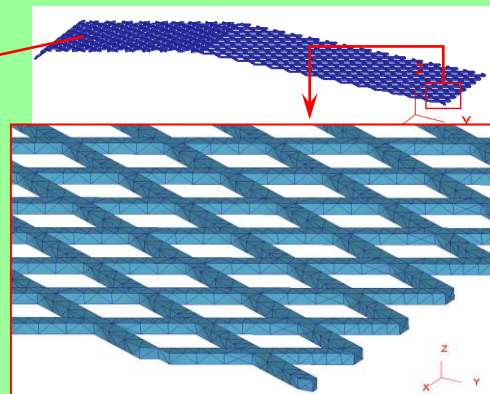
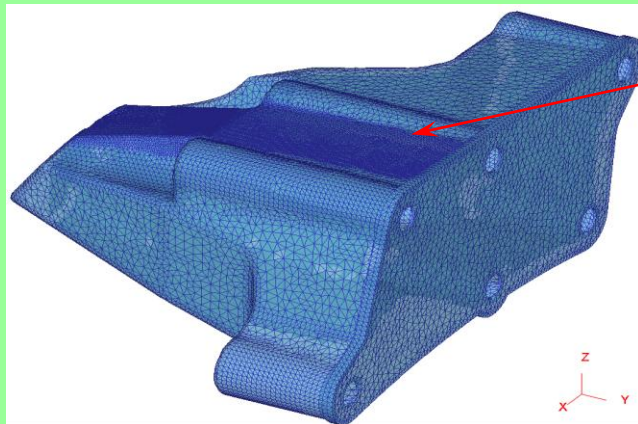
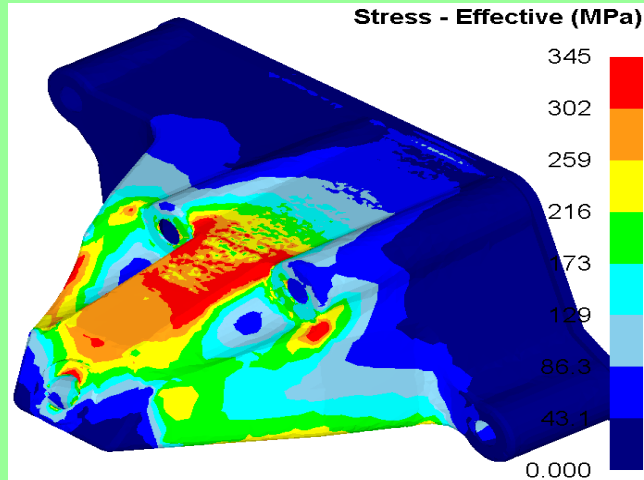
Al foam redesign

Requirements:

- Same density as original HPDC part
- Better NHV performance
- Fulfill loading requirements incl. fatigue
- Same or lower manufacturing costs
- No changes in outer shape

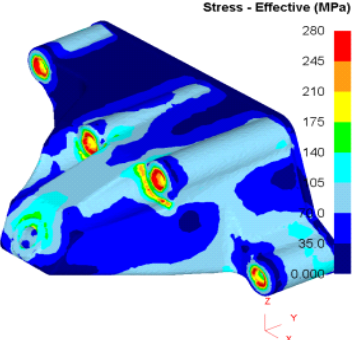
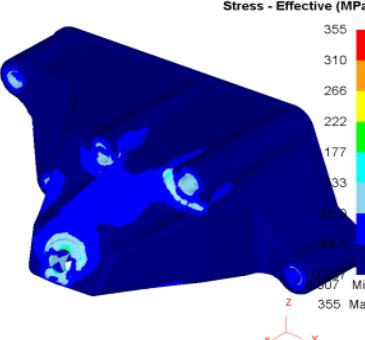
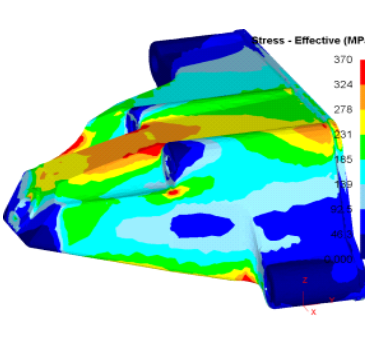
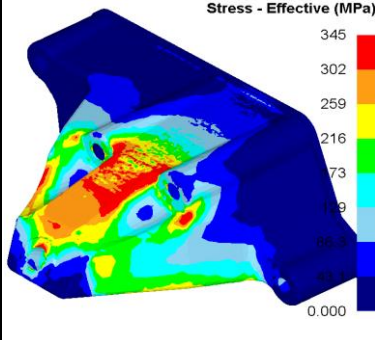
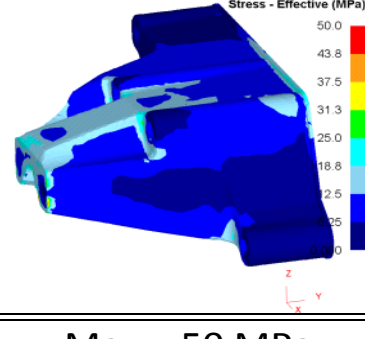
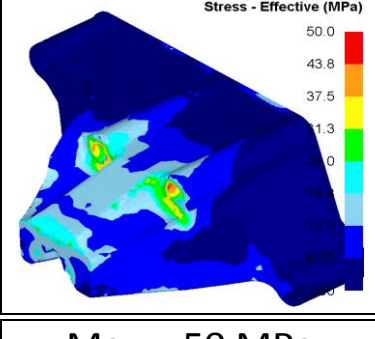
Suggestions:

- Monolytic full foam solution
- Bulk aluminium parts needs to be integrated
- Stress concentrators need to be reinforced
- Continuous surface skin ~1 mm



Case of study - engine carrier

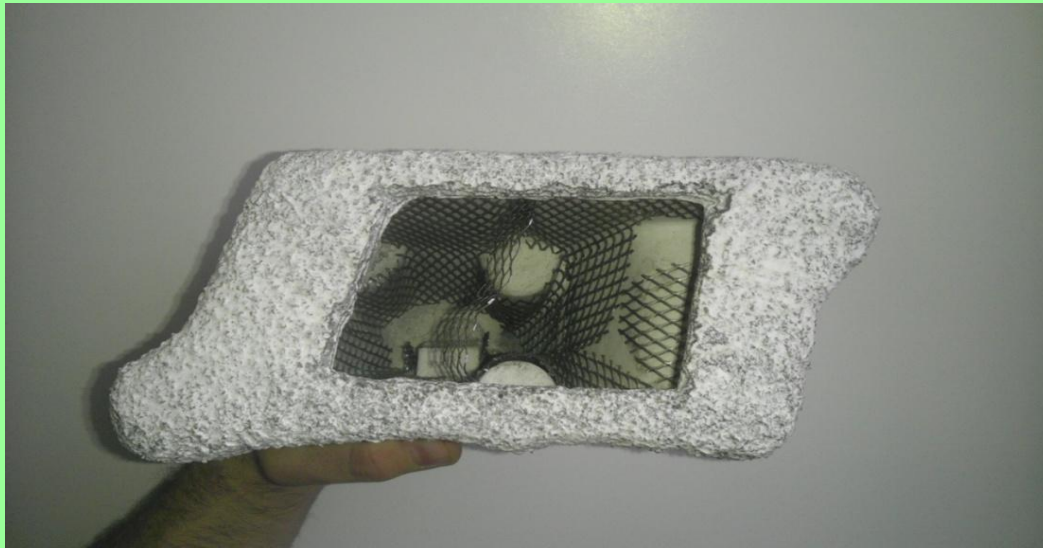
Al foam redesign

Bracket LH 3M300	<i>Current design</i>	<i>Full foam porosity 81,2 %</i>	<i>Bulk Al shell 1 mm + foam porosity 81,2 %</i>	<i>Bulk Al shell 1 mm + foam porosity 81,2 % + reinforcing mesh</i>
Weight	1050 g	595 g	788g (shell 243 g + foam 545g)	803 g (foam 547g + shell 256g + perforated sheet 5g)
Max. Stress distribution (outside view) [MPa]	 <p>Max = 291 MPa</p>	 <p>Max = 355 MPa</p>	 <p>Max = 400 MPa</p>	 <p>Max = 345 MPa</p>
Max stress in the foam			 <p>Max = 50 MPa</p>	 <p>Max = 50 MPa</p>



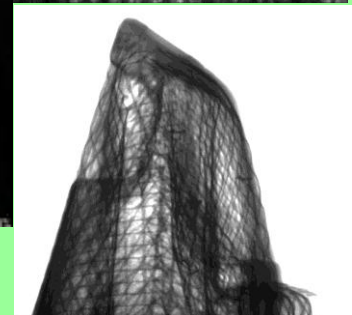
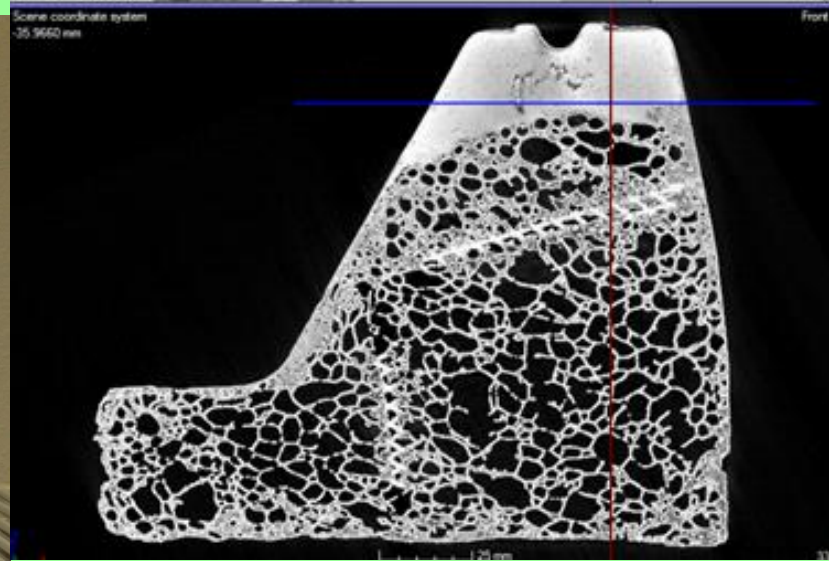
Case of study - engine carrier

Al foam redesign



Case of study - engine carrier

Al foam redesign

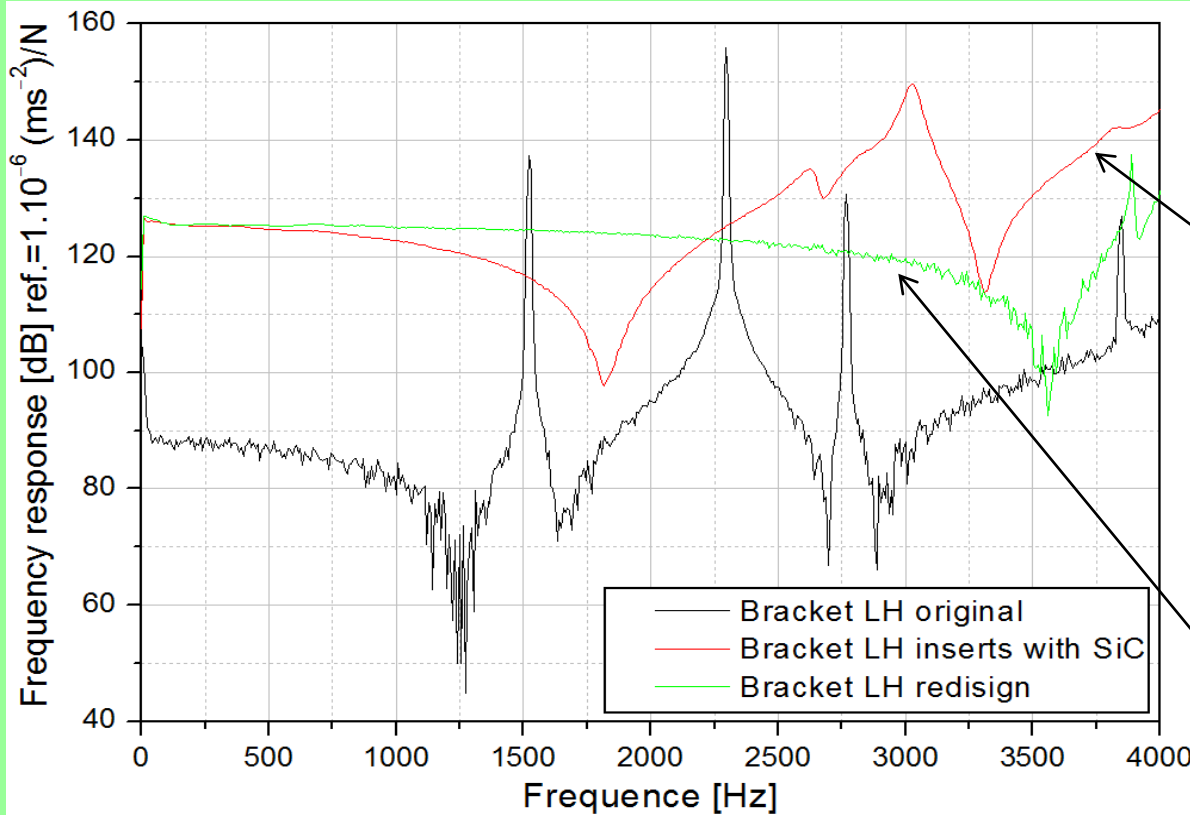


Case of study - engine carrier

Al foam redesign



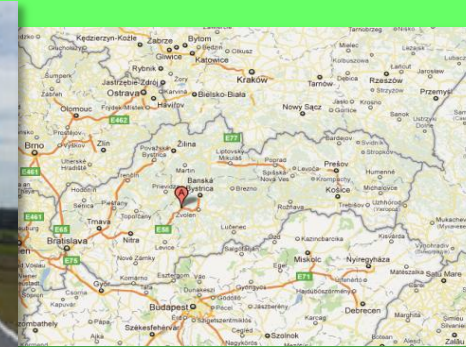
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slovak academy of sciences



Bracket type	Figure	Weight [kg]	Δ NVH [dB]	Δ NVH [%]
Current		1,072	Ref.	Ref.
IMSAS		1,404	13	30%↑
IMSAS Redesign		1,040	16	37%↑

Competence Center for Light Metals and Composites

Žiar nad Hronom



Support implementation of R&D activities in the industry:

- solution of daily problems with quality, scrap, pollution
- accessible R&D infrastructure for industry
- mutual R&D labs between academia and industry
- knowledge transfer, workshops, education

Infrastructural projects funded from ERDF (app. 14 MEURO)



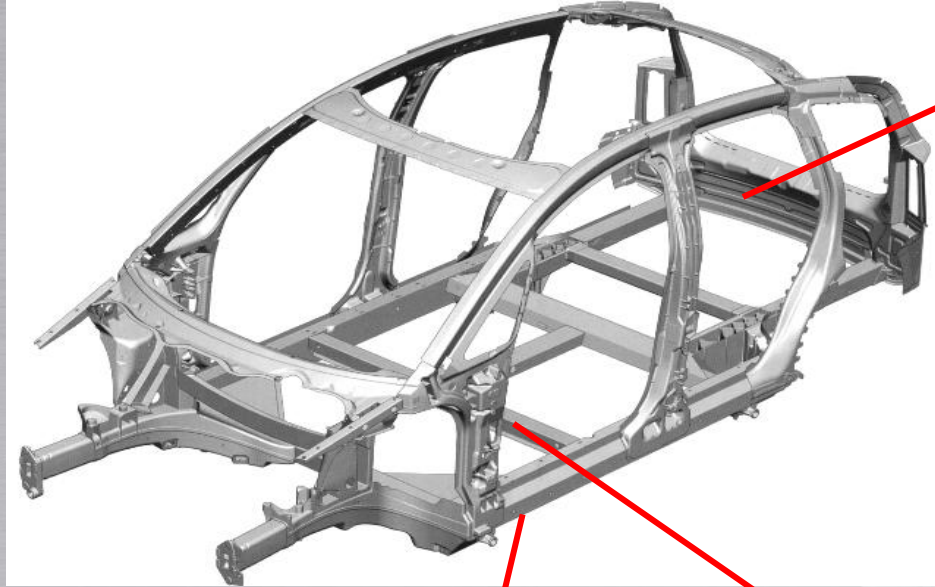
Competence Center for Light Metals and Composites

- **Lightweight construction using modern materials and technologies developed for light metals (Al, Mg)**
- **Design of structural parts incl. rapid prototyping**
- **Modelling and simulation of properties**
- **Stress analysis, incl. thermal stresses**
- **Design and optimization of process parameters for forming, casting and surface treatment processes**
- **Structure analysis**
- **Testing of properties**
- **Evaluation of shape and dimensional accuracy**
- **Optimization of heat treatment**
- **Consultancy and expertise on the transfer of scientific knowledge into industrial practice**
- **Presentation of results, education of students**



Infrastructural projects funded from ERDF (app. 14 MEURO)

**Potential developing suppliers for lightweight
construction in automotive**



Slovak TIER 1 supplier
Stamping parts
Assembly
Welding
Machinery



extruded profiles
Al, Mg, composites



Foundry HPDC, LPDC, GC
Powertrain, chassis, body
Al, composites, hybrid
castings



Thank you for your attention

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