

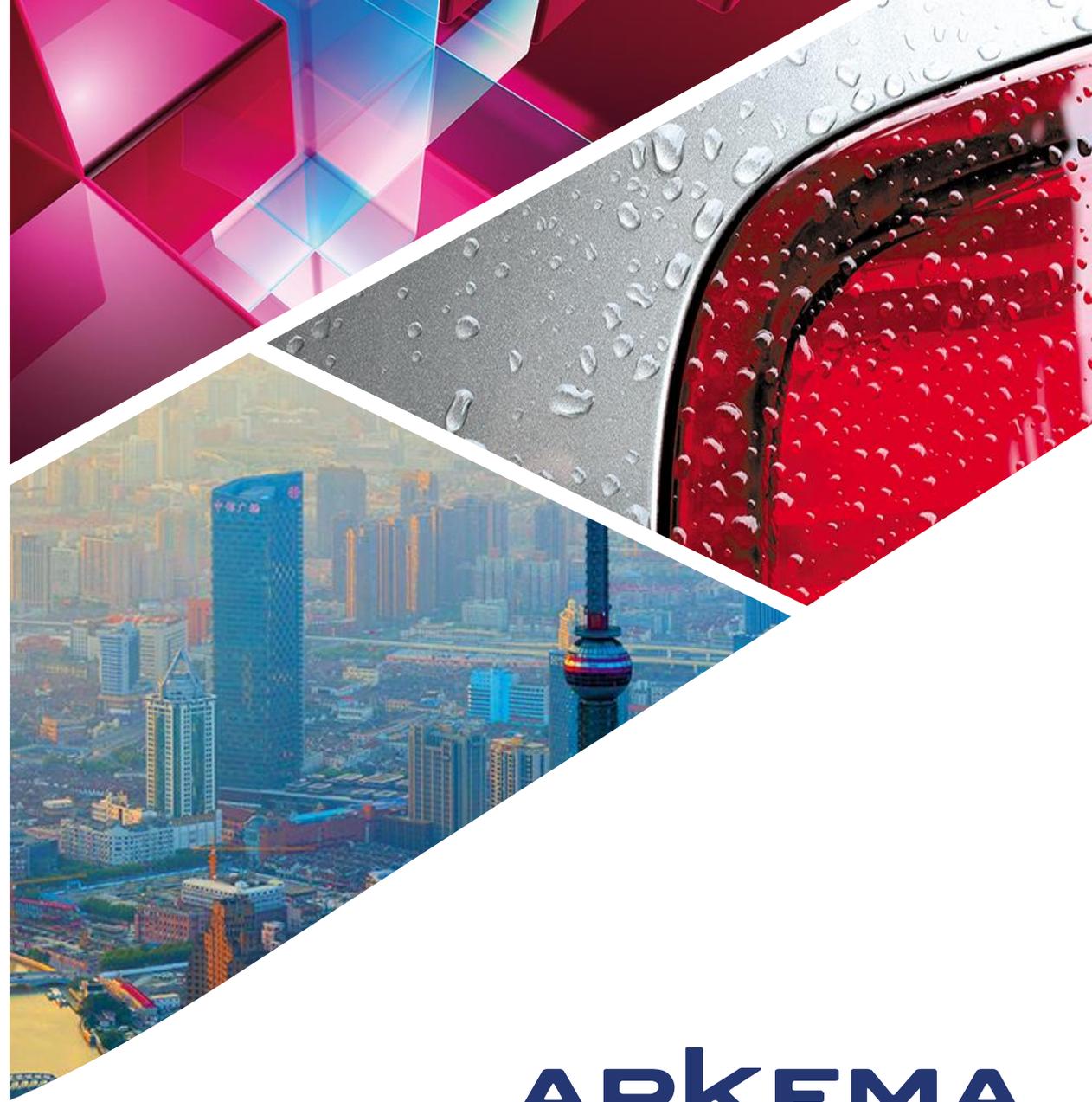


POLYMERS IN ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING

CHRISTIAN COLLETTE

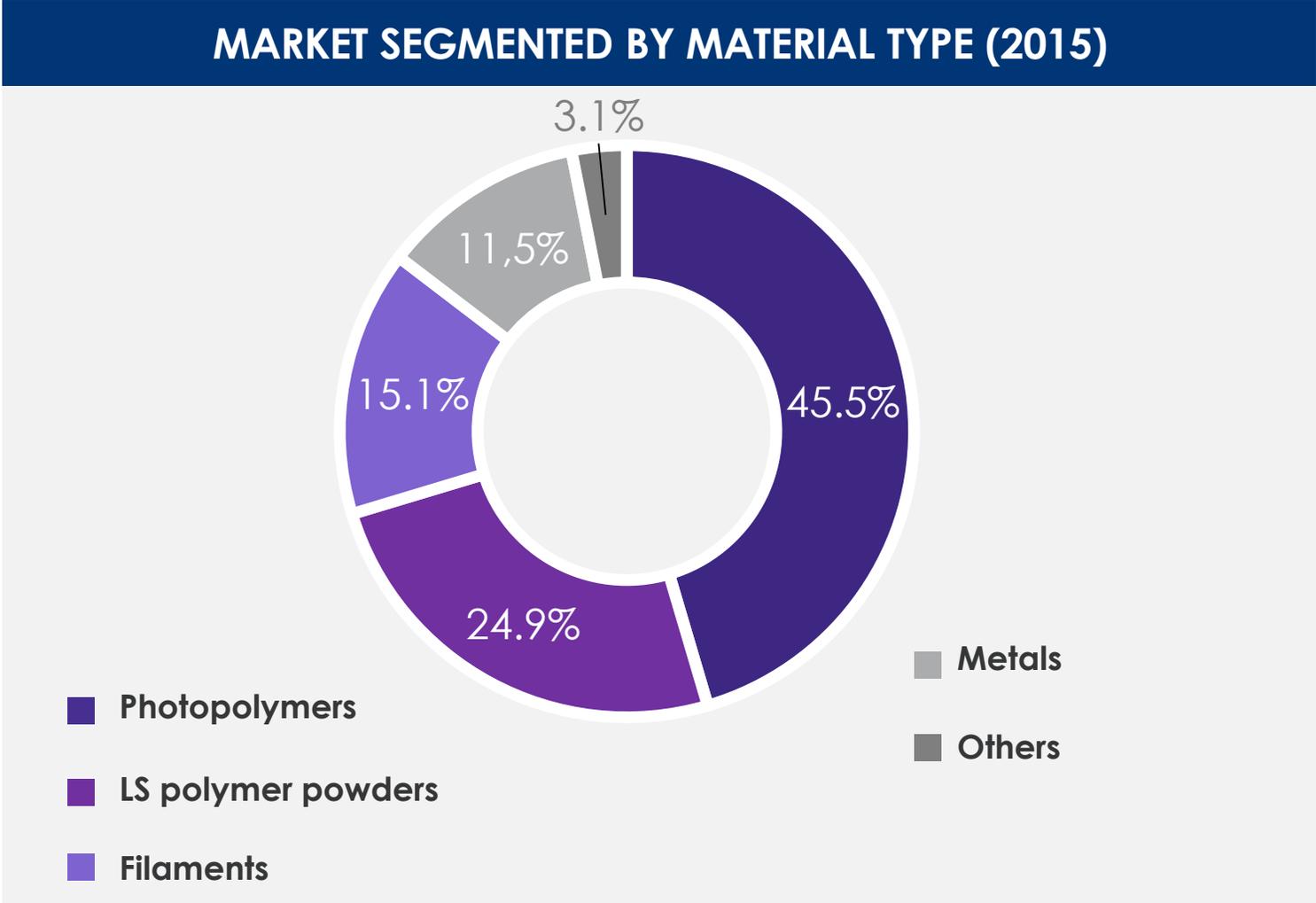
Arkema R&D
Vice-President

9 & 10 June 2016



ARKEMA
INNOVATIVE CHEMISTRY

MATERIALS IN ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING

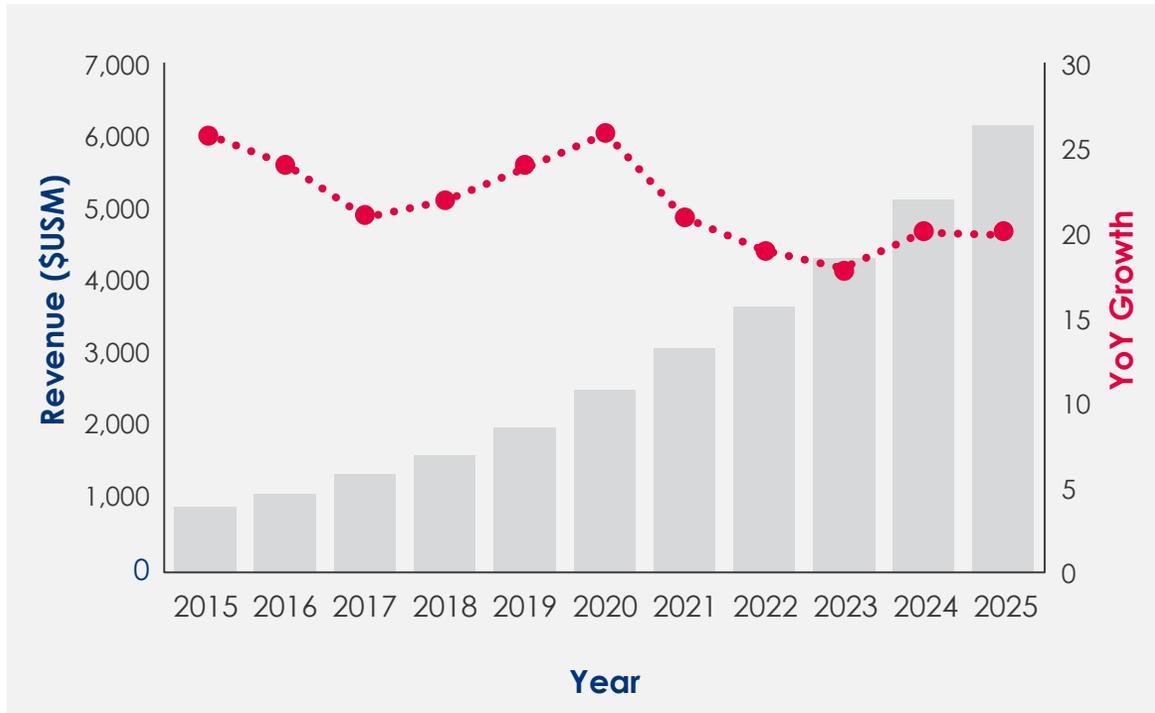


Source: Wohlers Associates, Inc

MARKET FOR POLYMER MATERIALS

Fast growing market for polymer materials

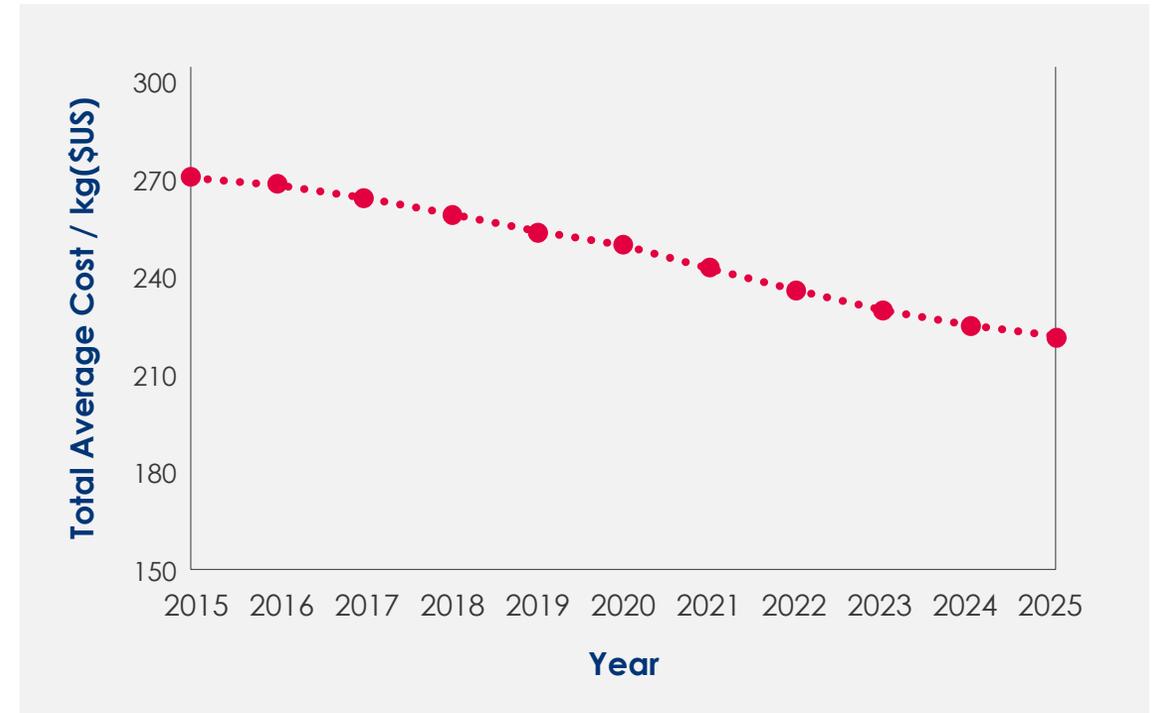
- \$150M in 2005, \$850M in 2015, \$6,200m in 2025
- Annual growth ~25%



Source: SmartechMarkets 2015

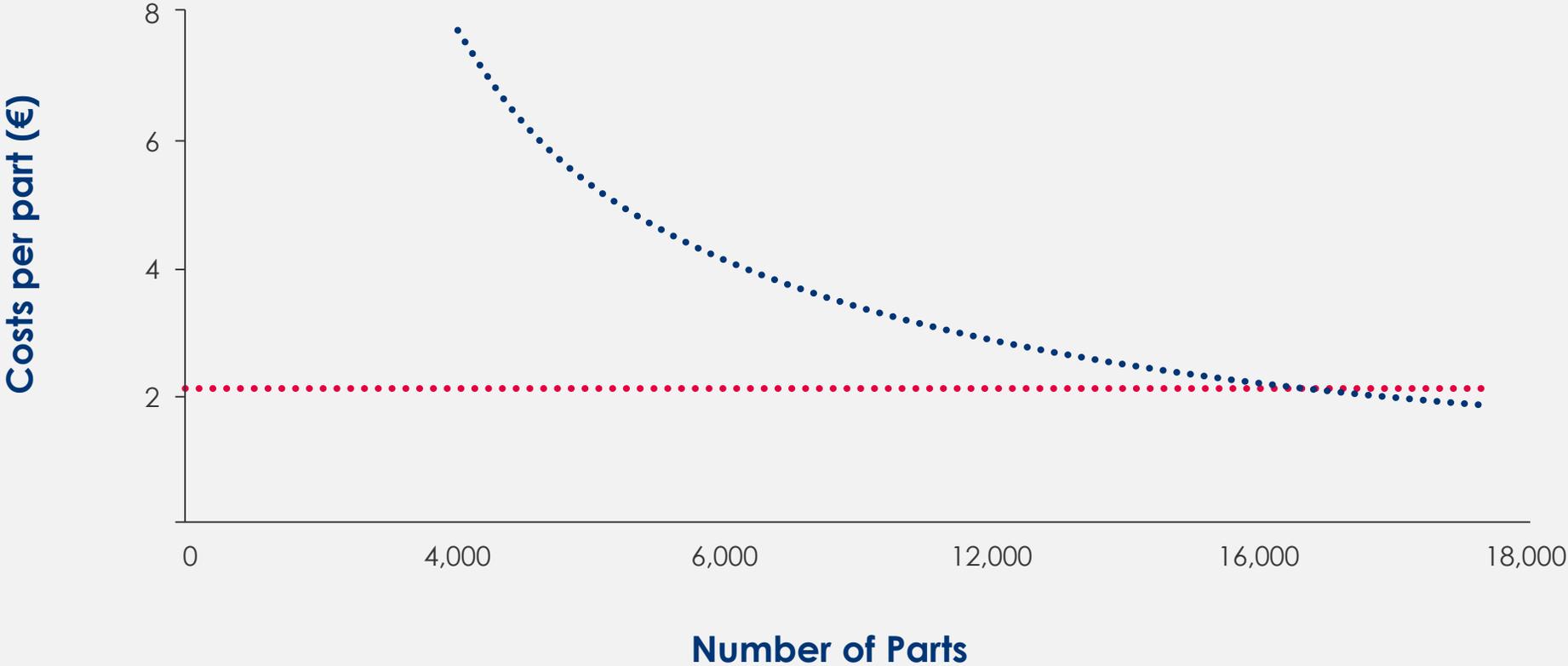
Slow decrease of the average cost of polymer materials

- From \$270/kg in 2014 to \$220/kg in 2025



INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

COST EFFECTIVE FOR SMALL SERIES



Additive
Manufacturing
Injection Molding

MAIN POLYMER FAMILIES

❖ Automotive

- (ABS, PA)

❖ Aeronautic

- (PA, PEI, PEKK, PEEK)

❖ Sport

- (PA, TPU, Photopolymers)

❖ Consumer products

- (ABS, PLA, Photopolymers)

❖ Electronic

- (Photopolymers)

❖ ...



Aircraft fitting before
and after structural shape
optimization

Source: Oxford Performance Materials

Air duct
for laminar flow

Source: EOS

MARKETS AND APPLICATIONS FOR POLYMER 3D PRINTING

INDUSTRY	CURRENT APPLICATIONS	FUTURE TARGET APPLICATIONS	3D PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES
AEROSPACE 	Non critical cabin and structural components, assembly tooling	Structural components, high volume cabin components	SLS, material extrusion
AUTOMOTIVE 	Prototypes, assembly tooling, functional test parts for concept cars	Interior components, customized parts for product differentiation	SLS, material extrusion, SLA, material jetting
CONSUMER PRODUCTS 	Models, prototypes, custom low complexity products	On-demand consumer products and end use components	SLA, material jetting, binder jetting,
MEDICAL 	Anatomical models, surgical tools and guides, implants, upper extremity prosthetics	High realism and multi material models, load bearing implants, lower extremity prosthetics	SLA, SLS, Material jetting

3D TECHNOLOGIES USING POLYMERS

MATERIAL EXTRUSION

(Fused Deposition Modeling, FDM)

- ❖ Thermoplastic polymer filaments
- ❖ Parts with good mechanical properties and durability



POWDER BED FUSION

(Selective Laser Sintering, SLS)

- ❖ Thermoplastic polymer powders
- ❖ Parts with good mechanical properties and durability



VAT PHOTOPOLYMERIZATION

(Stereolithography, SLA)

- ❖ Photocured polymers
- ❖ Good surface finishing



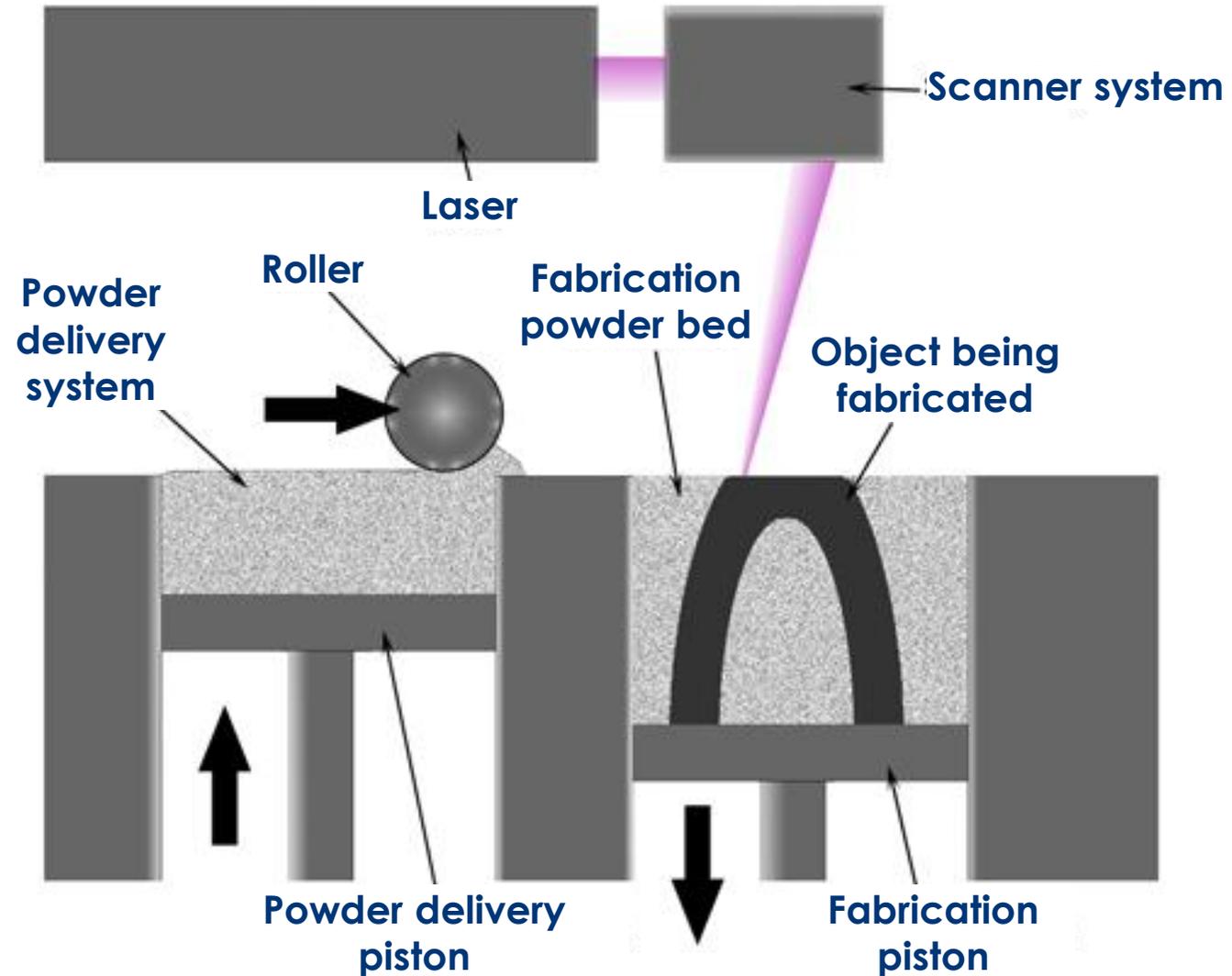
MATERIAL JETTING

(PolyJet, MultiJet)

- ❖ Photocured polymers
- ❖ Multimaterial, multicolor



LASER SINTERING WITH HIGH TEMPERATURE POLYMERS



Source: Wikipedia

PEKK- POLY(ETHER KETONE KETONE)

❖ PEKK has unique features

- More Ketone links for **higher Tg** (160°C) and **higher strength** (Tens. 110MPa, Comp. 145MPa)
- It is a copolymer, offering **control over Tm** (305, 330, 360°C) and **crystallization rates**



GRADES KEPSTAN		T/I RATION	TG	TM
8000 Series	Semi-crystalline	T/I = 80/20	Tg = 165°C	Tm = 358°C
7000 Series	Semi-crystalline	T/I = 70/30	Tg = 162°C	Tm = 332°C
6000 Series	Pseudo Amorphous	T/I = 60/40	Tg = 160°C	Tm = 305°C
PEEK	Semi-crystalline		Tg = 143°C	Tm = 343°C

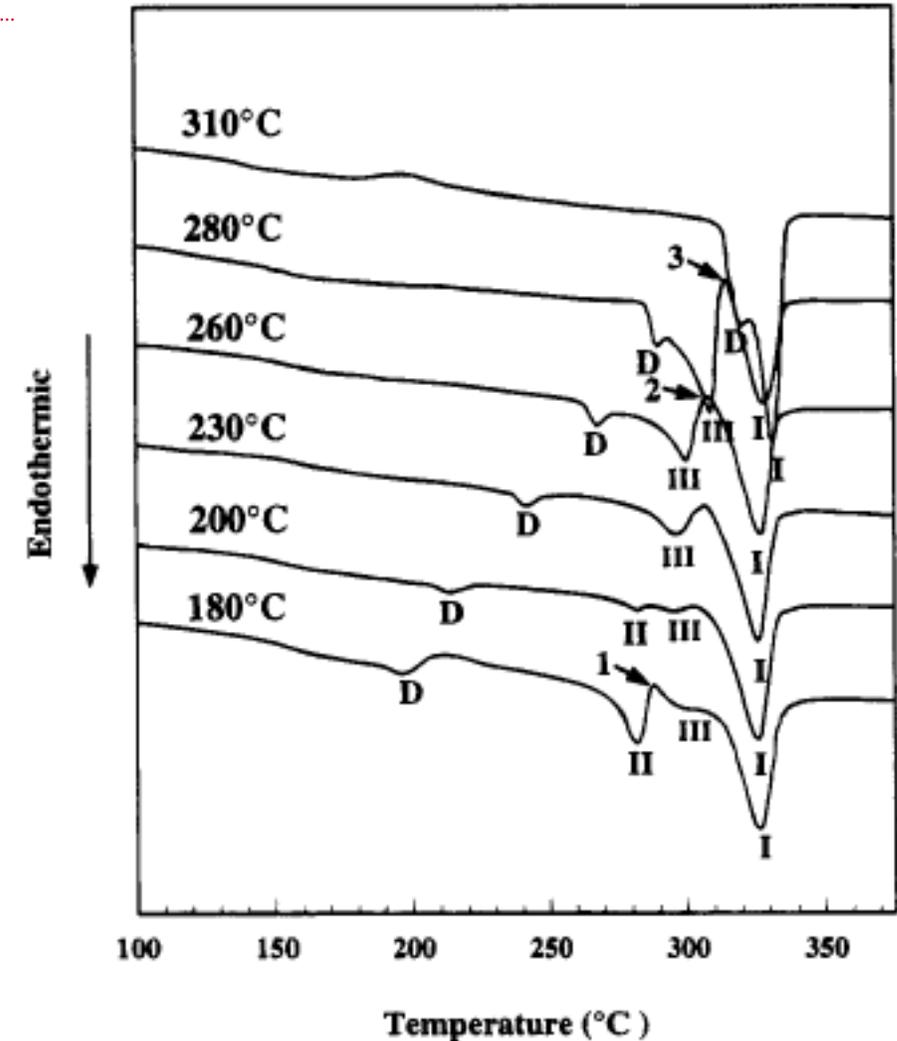
CONTROL OF CRYSTALLIZATION IS A KEY PARAMETER FOR A SUCCESSFUL SLS PROCESS

❖ PEKK offers an excellent compromise in properties

- Slow crystallization
- Moderate crystallinity (~20%)
- Excellent thermal stability combined with a moderate processing temperature (<300°C)
→excellent powder recyclability

❖ But it has a complex melting behavior

- Two crystalline forms
- Strong influence of thermal history



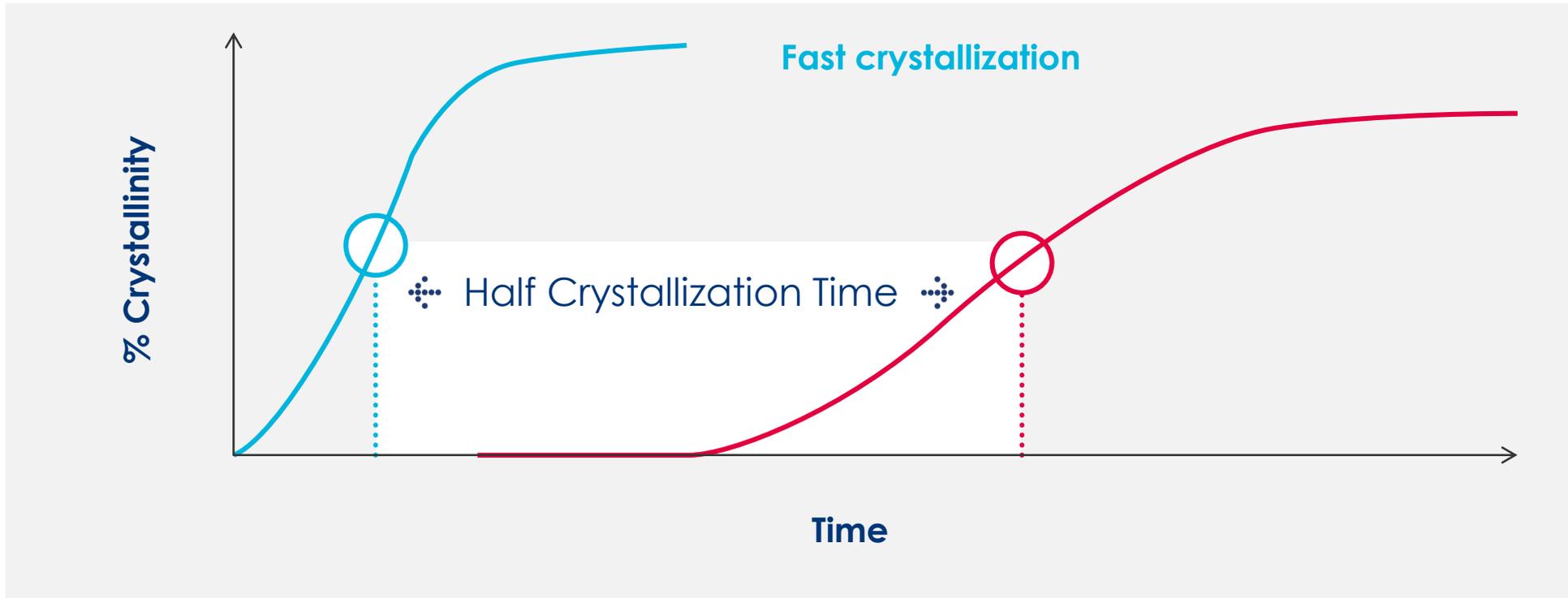
Gardner, Polymer 1992

Figure 9. Melting endotherms of PEKK(T/I) crystallized at various crystallization temperatures from the melt. All scans are at 10 °C/min.

CONTROL OF CRYSTALLIZATION IS A KEY PARAMETER FOR A SUCCESSFUL SLS PROCESS

❖ Crystallization under isothermal conditions

- Melting above T_m and crystallization at $T < T_m$

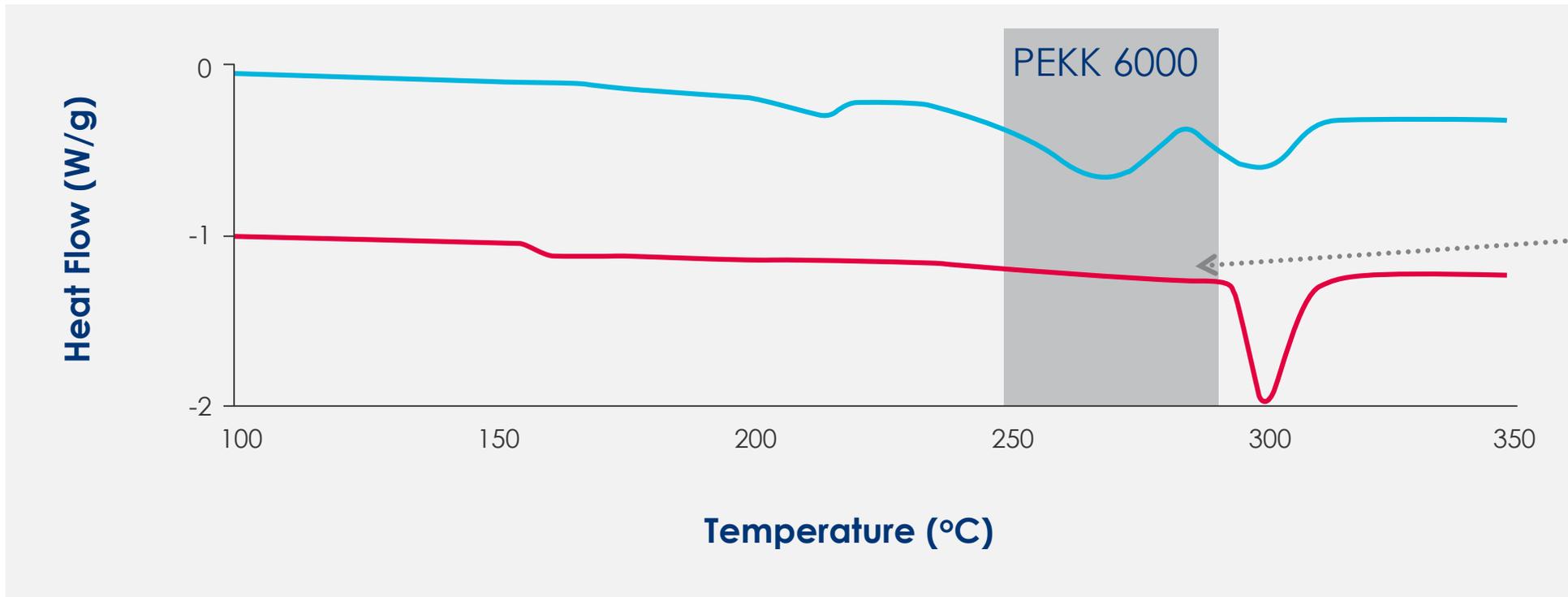


Slow crystallization

CONTROL OF CRYSTALLIZATION IS A KEY PARAMETER FOR A SUCCESSFUL SLS PROCESS

❖ A complex melting behavior controlled by adequate thermal treatment

- Two crystalline forms before thermal treatment
- Only one after thermal treatment

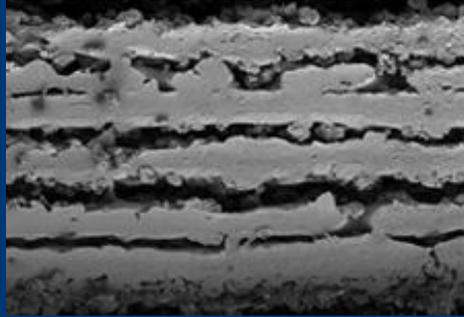


No thermal treatment

Powder bed temperature Processing window

After thermal treatment

POWDER/PROCESS OPTIMIZATION



NON OPTIMIZED POWDER

- ❖ POWDER CAKING
- ❖ LOW INTERLAYER ADHESION
- ❖ NO POWDER RECYCLABILITY



OPTIMIZED POWDER

- ❖ NO POWDER CAKING
- ❖ GOOD INTERLAYER ADHESION
- ❖ POWDER RECYCLABILITY

MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

❖ SLS vs Injection Molding (IM)

- Comparison between SLS & IM is not straightforward

❖ SLS and IM grades are not necessary identical (differences in molecular weight, stabilization, formulation)

❖ Difference in crystallization

- Absence of pressure when processing in SLS → porosity

PEKK 6000

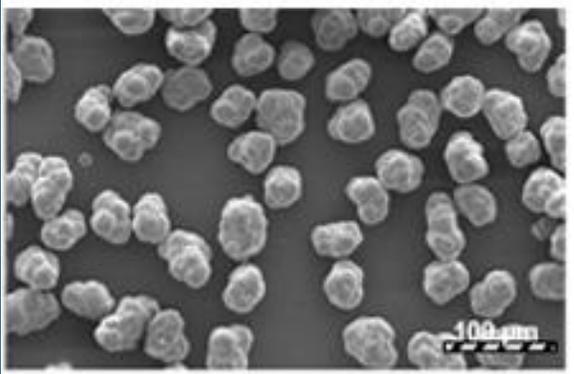
	IM*	SLS (xy)
Density	1.27	1.30
Stress @ yield	(88MPa)	95Mpa**
Strain @ break	(>60%)	2-4%
Tensile modulus	(2.9GPa)	4.0Gpa**
Flexural modulus	(3GPa)	4.2Gpa**

* Mostly amorphous due to fast cooling

** Values for z-direction are significantly lower

PARTICLE SIZE AND SURFACE SMOOTHNESS ❖ EXAMPLE OF PA12 RILSAMID®

Average particle size = 42 μm



100 μm

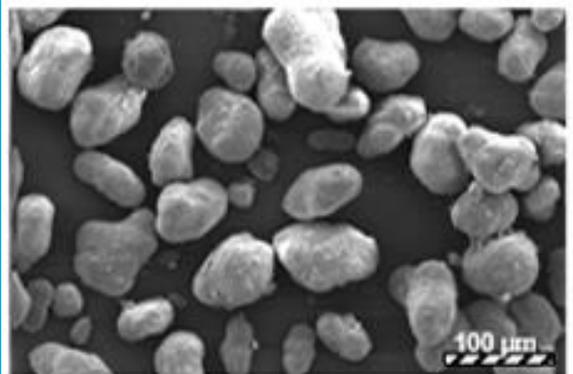
❖

This SEM image shows numerous small, roughly spherical particles with a smooth surface texture. A scale bar in the bottom right corner indicates 100 μm .

SMOOTH SURFACE



Average particle size = 56 μm

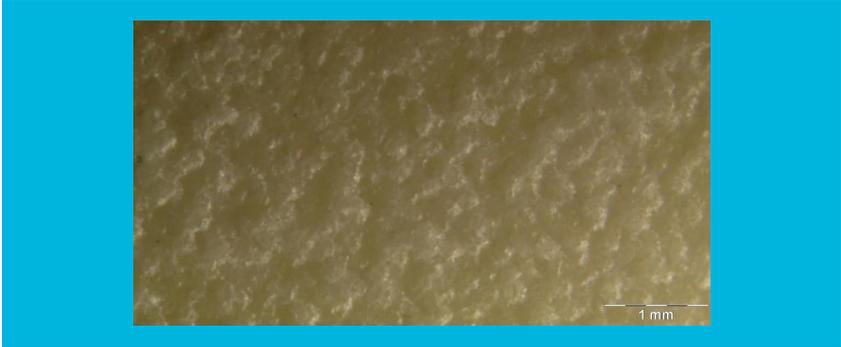


100 μm

❖

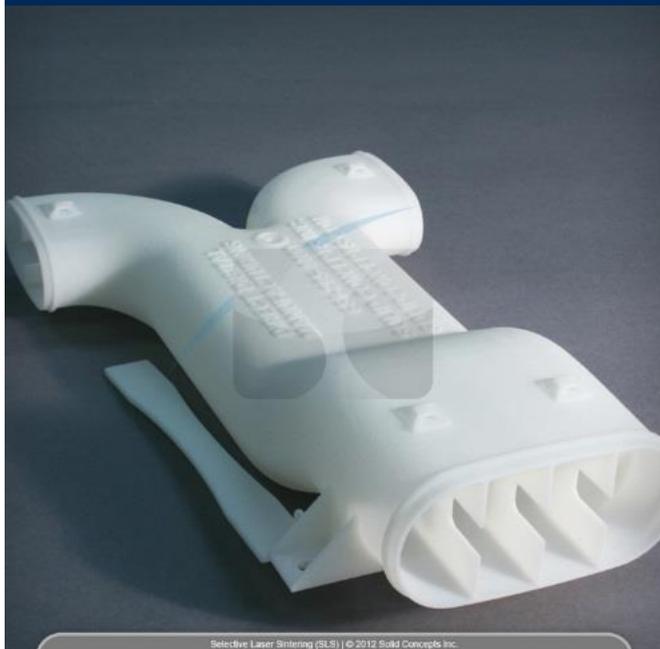
This SEM image shows larger, more irregularly shaped particles with a noticeably rough and porous surface texture. A scale bar in the bottom right corner indicates 100 μm .

ROUGH SURFACE



AERO AND AUTO APPLICATIONS

AIR DUCTS FOR AIRPLANES (PA11 AND PEKK)



BRAKE FLUID TANK IN AUTOMOTIVE



MATERIALS-PROCESS EFFICIENCY

❖ In SLS of plastics the challenge is the powder recycling

- **Typical figures are:**
 - 20% of powder present in the bed is used for the part construction
 - 50% recycled
 - 30% waste
- **The new design saves on average 10 to 25% raw material**



**Aircraft fitting before
and after structural shape
optimization**

Source: Oxford Performance Materials

- **Positive balance if the waste is < 10%**

CONCLUSIONS

1



**Fast growing
market
for polymers**

2



**Freedom
in design
which allows**

- Weight reduction
- Material savings

3



**Cost effective
for small series**

4



**For SLS
absolut need
to adjust powder
properties**