

Technical write up on composite materials

EniT Group Germany | India | UK

INDEX FOR COMPOSITES



INTRODUCTION





INTRODUCTION







CLASSIFICATION OF COMPOSITES







TYPES OF COMPOSITES Realising Engineering

Matrix phase/Reinfor cement Phase	Metal	Ceramic	Polymer
Metal	Powder metallurgy parts – combining immiscible metals	Cermets (ceramic- metal composite)	Brake pads
Ceramic	Cermets, TiC, TiCN Cemented carbides – used in tools Fiber-reinforced metals	SiC reinforced Al2O3 Tool materials	Fiberglass
Polymer			Kevlar fibers in an epoxy matrix
Elemental (Carbon, Boron, etc.)	Fiber reinforced metals Auto parts aerospace		Rubber with carbon (tires) Boron, Carbon reinforced plastics
	MMC's	CMC's	PMC's
	Metal Matrix Composites	Ceramic Matrix Comp's.	Polymer Matrix Con

TYPES OF FIBERS AVAILABLE IN MARKET





GENERAL COMPOSITE MATERIALS AND RESINS





WHY COMPOSITES ?



- High Strength with weight Ratio
- Great Freedom of Shape
- Material can be Tailored
- Excellent Fatigue Endurance.
- Excellent Chemical Resistance
- Excellent Weather/Water
 Resistance
- Excellent RAM(Radar Absorbing materials)
- Can manufacture Structures avoiding joints.



APPLICATION OF COMPOSITES

Realising Engineering



DESIGN CONSIDERATION







Design Consideration for Carbon and Glass Fibre.

>Strength :- The Material will have limits of stress and strain that cannot be exceeded without fracture

>Stiffness:-The structure will be designed to deform a specific amount or perhaps be limited to a specific deformation without vibrating excessively or buckling.

Fatigue Life:-The Material or internal damping in composite material is high , fatigue characteristics are quite good.

>Thermal Expansion :- Should have low thermal expansion.

>Life:- The Structure might have specified life span.

Energy:-The structure might have to absorb specified amount of energy and still remain functional

Weight:- The structure might have to weigh less then a specified amount for the configuration to be a feasible design.

>Cost:- Structure might have to cost less then a specified amount .

>Manufacturing:- Should be easy to fabricate .Its not feasible to modify after manufacture

>Adhesive and Bolted joints need careful consideration

DESIGN CONSIDERATION



Life Cycle for the Composite Component.



General Composite Processing Summary



Temperature is used to

- Initiate and sustain chemical reaction in thermo set resins
- Melt thermoplastics
- Reduce viscosity

Pressure is used to

- Force the viscous resin-fiber material into a mold.
- Compact a laminate.
- Squeeze out voids

Vacuum is used to

• To help pull out trapped air or other gasses that may be produced during the chemical reaction.



Compression Molding

A "preform" or "charge", of <u>SMC</u>, BMC or sometimes prepreg fabric, is placed into mold cavity. The mold is closed and the material is compacted & cured inside by pressure and heat. Compression molding offers excellent detailing for geometric shapes ranging from pattern and relief detailing to complex curves and creative forms, to precision engineering all within a maximum curing time of 20 minutes



Resin Transfer Molding

A closed-mold pressure injection system which allows for faster gel and cure times as compared to contact molded parts. The process uses polyester matrix materials systems association with cold-molding and most reinforcement material types such as continuous strand, cloth, woven roving, long fiber and chopped strand. Also known as RESIN-INJECTION PROCESS





Sheet Molding Compound Machine

A fiber glass reinforced thermosetting compound in sheet form, usually rolled into coils interleaved with plastic film to prevent auto adhesion. Made by dispensing mixed resin, fillers, maturation agent, catalyst and mold release agent onto two moving sheets of polyethylene film. The lower one also contains chopped glass roving or glass mat



Pultrusion

Fiber bundles and slit fabrics are pulled through a wet bath of resin and formed into the rough part shape. Saturated material is extruded from a heated closed die curing while being continuously pulled through die. Process is for any extruded material and geometric shape such as roadside reflector poles and ladder rails.





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Roll Forming

The roll forming process can be used to directly produce long structural shapes in large quantities. The entering material form is rolls of variously orientated fiber-reinforced tape. The layers are consolidated and then formed into, e.g a hat-shaped stiffener. Note the presence of a stiffer layer such as boron-epoxy in surrounding layers of glass-epoxy. Such an optimally placed stiff layer dramatically increases the bending stiffness, yet is easily made, unlike any metal stiffener.

Thermo-plastic Lay-Up

Thermoplastics, like metals, soften with heating and eventually melt, hardening again with cooling. This process of crossing the softening or melting point on the temperature scale can be repeated as often as desired without any appreciable effect on the material properties in either state. Typical thermoplastics include nylon, polypropylene and ABS, and these can be reinforced, although usually only with short, chopped fibers such as glass.









Spray Lay-Up

Spray lay-up uses a hand-held spray gun which chops the fibers and than feeds it into a spray of resin aimed at the mould. The materials are left to cure under standard atmospheric conditions.

Spray lay-up can only make use of glass fibers. Polyester is primarily used as matrix.



Auto Clave Curing Process

Vacuum Baggage

Vacuum bagging is basically an extension of wet lay-up. In order to improve the consolidation of the laminate laid-up by hand or spray, pressure up to 1 atmosphere is applied. A plastic film is sealed over the laminate and onto the mould. After that the air underneath the plastic film is extracted by a vacuum pump





Picture Illustrating Combined Manufacturing Operation to Produce a Wing



COMPETITIVE THREATS



- Lengthy Product Approvals
- Life cycle performance lesser than Other materials(Steel, Concrete...)
- Recycling not Economical compared to Metals
- Disposal Cost more





SOFTWARE USED





