

Press Release



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New network for efficient parts and powder handling in additive manufacturing

Cooperation to overcome weak points in the SLM process

In order to establish Additive Manufacturing (AM) as an industrial process for serial production, it is essential to develop efficient manufacturing practices. With this goal in mind, three highly specialized, medium-sized companies from Germany are joining forces to form a network called **AM Powder Plus (AMP+)**. Assonic Dorstener Siebtechnik GmbH, Solukon Maschinenbau GmbH and ULT AG offer integrated solutions for highly automated parts and powder processing and handling in the SLM process (selective laser melting).

This includes the collection, sifting, reprocessing and drying of surplus powder in the metal PBF process with automated component removal and depowdering for clean transfer to post-processing. Unexposed powder is returned to the PBF process in a fully processable state, assuring occupational health and safety, dust explosion protection, and a clean working environment.

The AMP+ partners have come together and pooled their combined knowhow and years of experience in additive manufacturing. In practice, they have encountered blind spots in the PBF process chain (powder bed fusion) that have so far prevented industrial users from making widespread use of this new technology. These shortcomings are concentrated on a comparatively short section of the process that lies between the completion of printing and the start of post-processing.

The result is a need for inefficient manual work and unnecessarily high consumption of costly metal powders. There is also the challenge of avoiding explosion hazards and of airborne pollutants, which have negative effects both on employee safety and health, as well as on production plants and products. The new approach of AMP+ addresses all these problems.

The network is appearing for the first time at the trade show formnext from 19-22 November 2019 in Frankfurt/Germany. In hall 12.0 at stand C119 AMP+ will demonstrate its expert knowledge and long-term experience in the field of additive manufacturing.

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