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Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D 25-27 June 2019 Messe Erfurt

In the air, every kilo saved counts twice
Additive series production will be the central focus of the Aviation forum on 27 June 2019
at Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D in Erfurt

(Erfurt, 09 April 2019). From the engine and fuselage to the interior fittings, 3D-printed components are increasingly finding a place in aircraft. "Additive technologies enable optimised geometries, contributing to reduced use of resources. This is of particular importance in aviation, where every kilo saved essentially counts twice – for the environment and for operation. The focus is now shifting towards further industrialisation of additive manufacturing, including downstream processing steps, and establishing reliable, seamless series production processes in the aviation industry. That's why the qualification of materials, methods and processes is a key theme running through the topics addressed in the Aviation forum at this year's Rapid. Tech specialist conference," explains Gefei Li of the Fraunhofer Research Institution for Additive Manufacturing Technologies IAPT. The scientist worked with colleagues to develop the content of the forum, which will be hosted on 27 June 2019, the third and final day of Rapid. Tech + FabCon 3.D in Erfurt.

The line-up of speakers includes experts from well-known companies and research institutions, including Aalberts Material Technology, GE Aviation, Liebherr-Aerospace, ArianeGroup, Schaeffler Technologies and the Fraunhofer Institute for Material and Beam Technology IWS. Among other topics, presentations will discuss methods for the efficient manufacture of additive components and for the industrialisation of subsequent processes, such as surface finishing. One talk will address approval criteria for the use of additively manufactured components in aviation.

Other sessions will focus on strategies for the qualification of processes and materials. This will include reports on the development of a digital data chain for process data acquisition and evaluation in laser melting. Wavelength dependence in the manufacture of ceramic materials for aerospace applications using laser technology will also be discussed, as will the qualification of a high-alloy case-hardened steel for the additive manufacturing of rolling bearings and the evaluation of its performance.

The Aviation forum is one of 14 sector-specific forums on the conference programme at Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D. Three forums – Software & Processes, Plastics, and Standardization & Occupational Safety – are appearing on the agenda for the first time. Alongside these new additions, the programme will feature the established forums on Automotive Industry; Medical, Dental & Orthopaedic Technology; Contract Additive Manufacturing; 3D Printed Electronics & Functions; Design; Tool, Mould & Jig Construction; Metal; and Law. As in previous years, a session by the Fraunhofer Additive Manufacturing Alliance and the two-day AM Science forum are further highlights on the agenda. Overall, over the three days of the conference, there will be more than 100 lectures presenting the latest developments, trends and findings relating to additive technologies and applications in theory and practice.

The 3D Printing Conference and the redesigned presentation spaces and networking opportunities in the exhibition will also help attendees to share their knowledge and experiences and to build and maintain their networks.



For their 16th edition, Rapid.Tech + FabCon 3.D are yet again expecting over 200 exhibitors from Germany and abroad, as well as more than 5,000 international trade visitors and conference delegates.

Further information: www.rapidtech-fabcon.com

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