



# Cold Spray Technology for DOD Applications



**Blake Barnett for Victor Champagne,  
Director ARL Cold Spray Center US Army  
Research Laboratory**

**ATTN: RDRL-WMM-C, BLDG 4600**

**Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005-5069**

**Vic's Phone: 410-306-0822, Fax: 410-306-0829**

**Vic's Email: [victor.k.champagne.civ@mail.mil](mailto:victor.k.champagne.civ@mail.mil)**

**Blake's Phone: 410-306-2717, Fax: 410-306-0829**

**Blake's Email: [Blake.barnett.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:Blake.barnett.ctr@mail.mil)**



Multiscale modeling at the quantum mechanical, molecular dynamics, and mesoscale levels is used in the Multifunctional Materials Branch to study phenomena such as reactions of organic molecules on oxide surfaces, water diffusion in sulfonated copolymers, and morphology of the styrene-isobutylene (SIBS) copolymer.

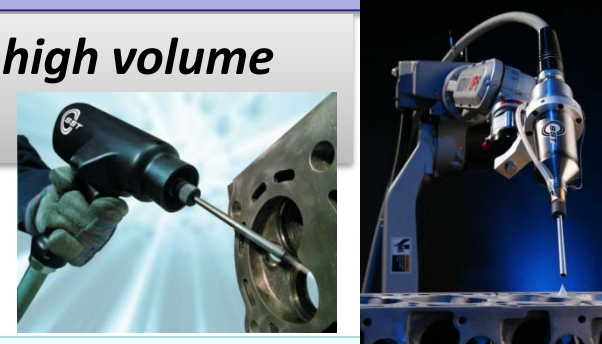


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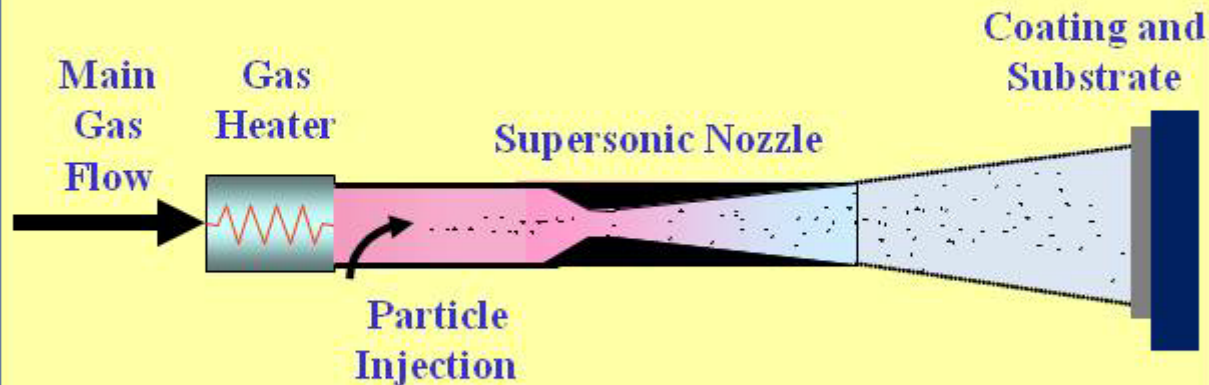
| Report Documentation Page                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                    |                                     |                                                           | Form Approved<br>OMB No. 0704-0188                  |                                 |
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➤ **Unique solid-state materials consolidation process which utilizes high velocity particles impinging upon a substrate to build up coatings and/or free-standing structures without the use of combustion fuels.**

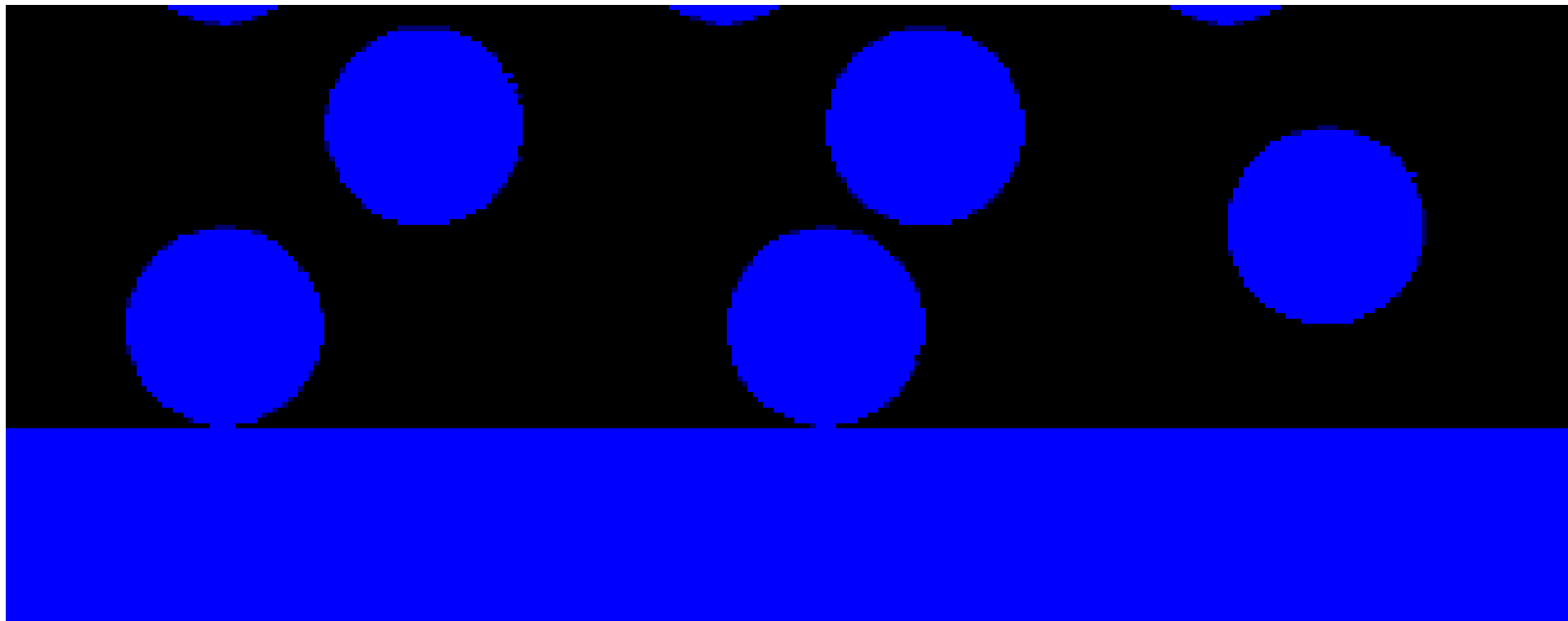
- **Stationary Robot Controlled Systems for precision and or high volume**
- **Portable Hand-held Systems for field repair and mobility**



## Cold Spray Deposition Process



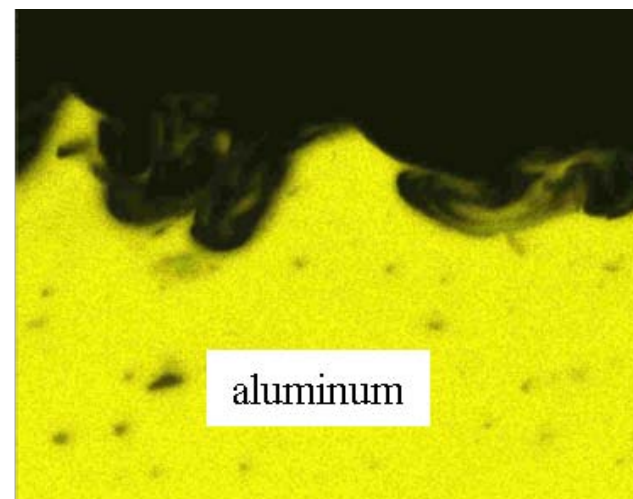
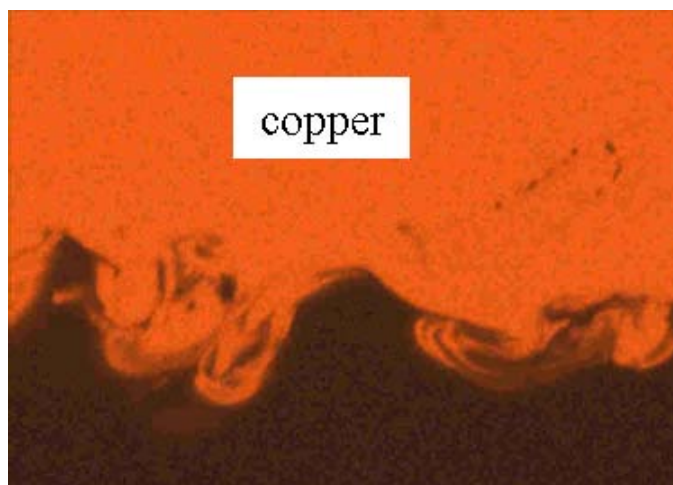
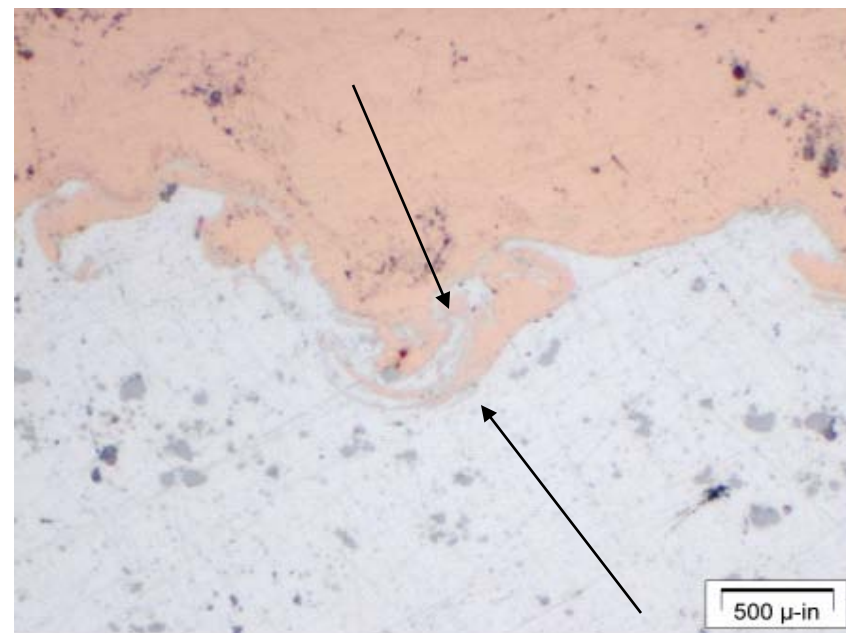
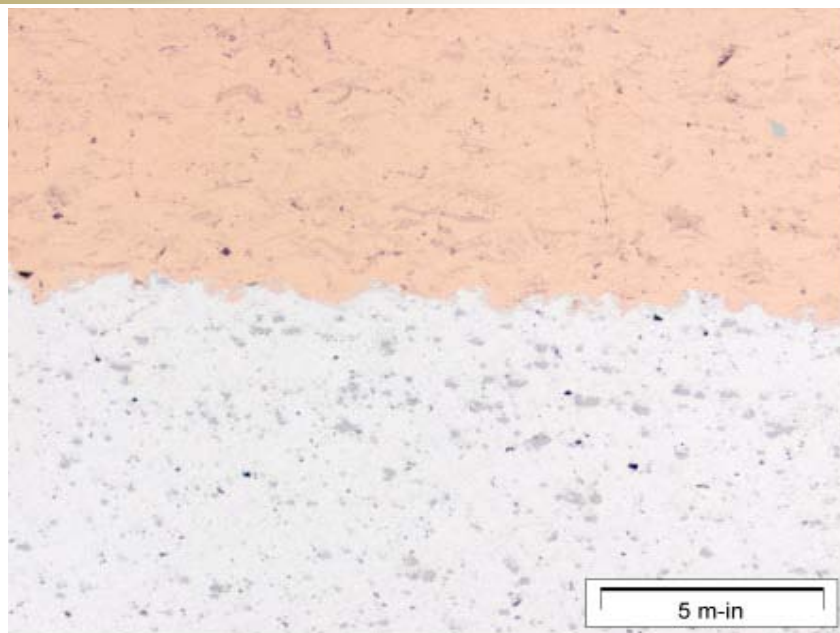
- **Feed stock typically ranges from 1 to 50  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter**
- **Gas temperature ranges from R.T. to 1,000°C and pressures from 300 - 725psi**
- **No melting of particles**
- **Negligible oxidation**
- **No decomposition or phase changes of deposited particles or substrate**



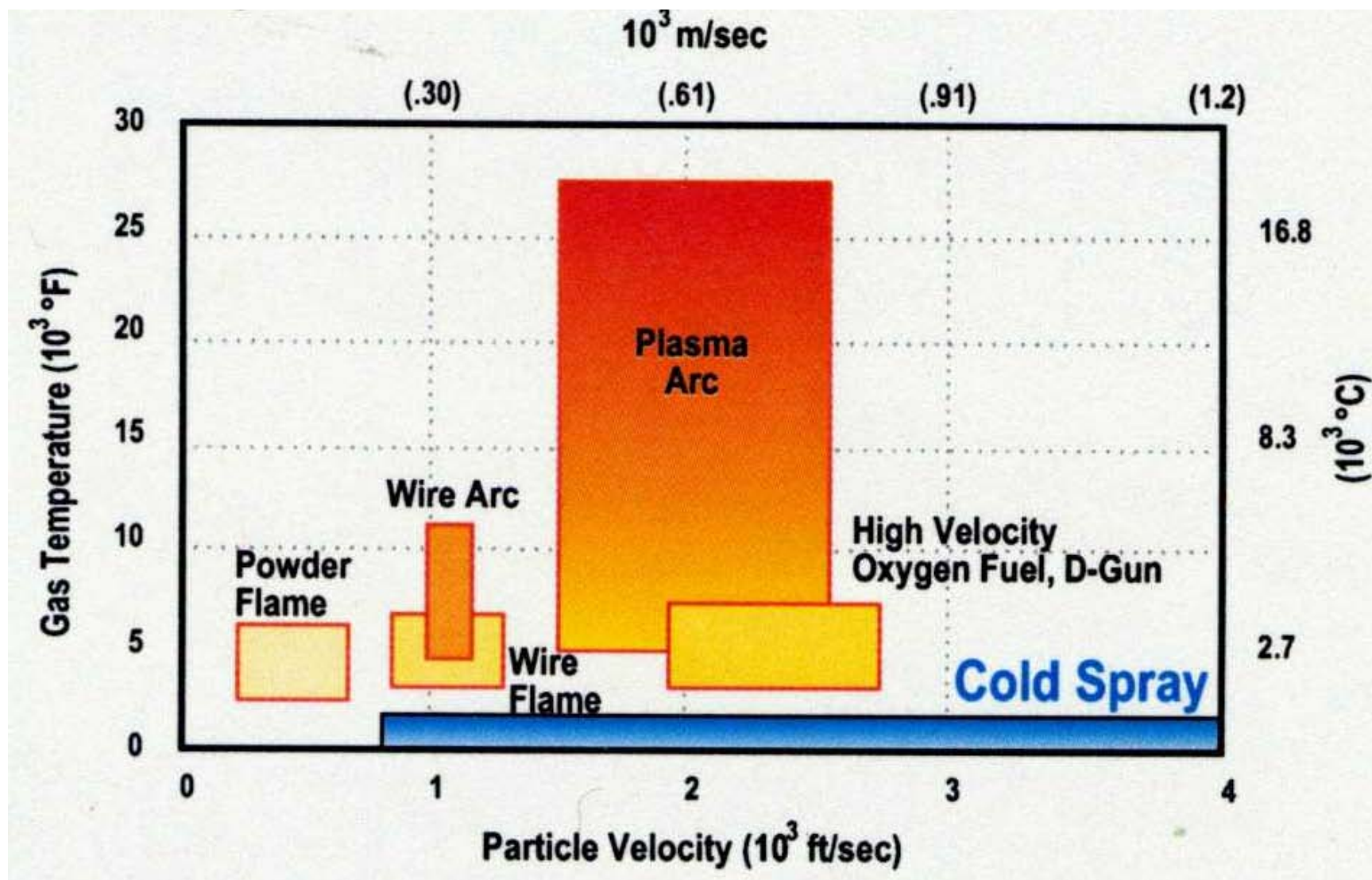
*Color changes denote temperature gradients. Higher temperatures are at splat boundaries.*

*\*from H. Assadi, [www.modares.ac.ir/eng/ha10003/CGS.htm](http://www.modares.ac.ir/eng/ha10003/CGS.htm)*

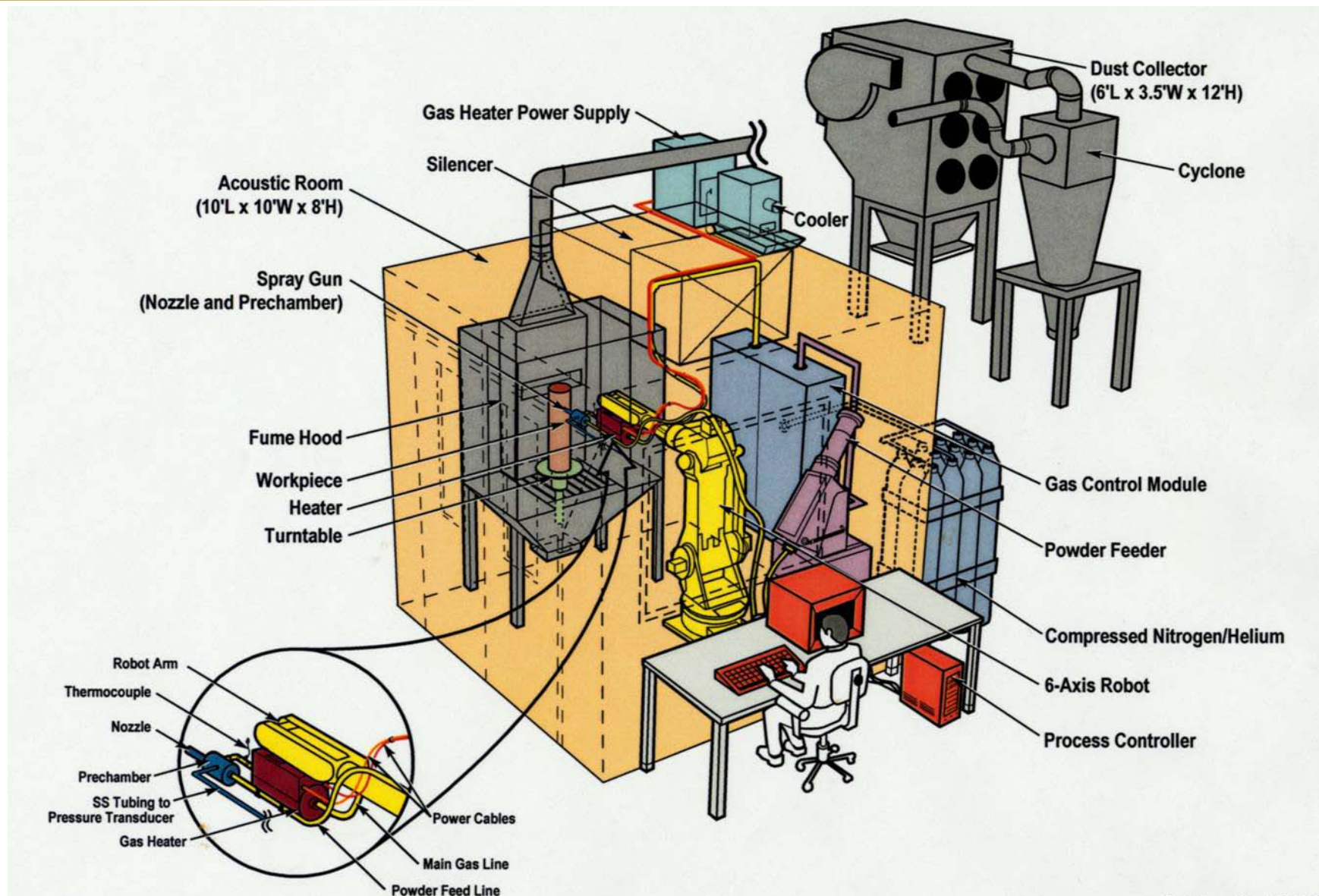
# Mechanical Mixing at Interface



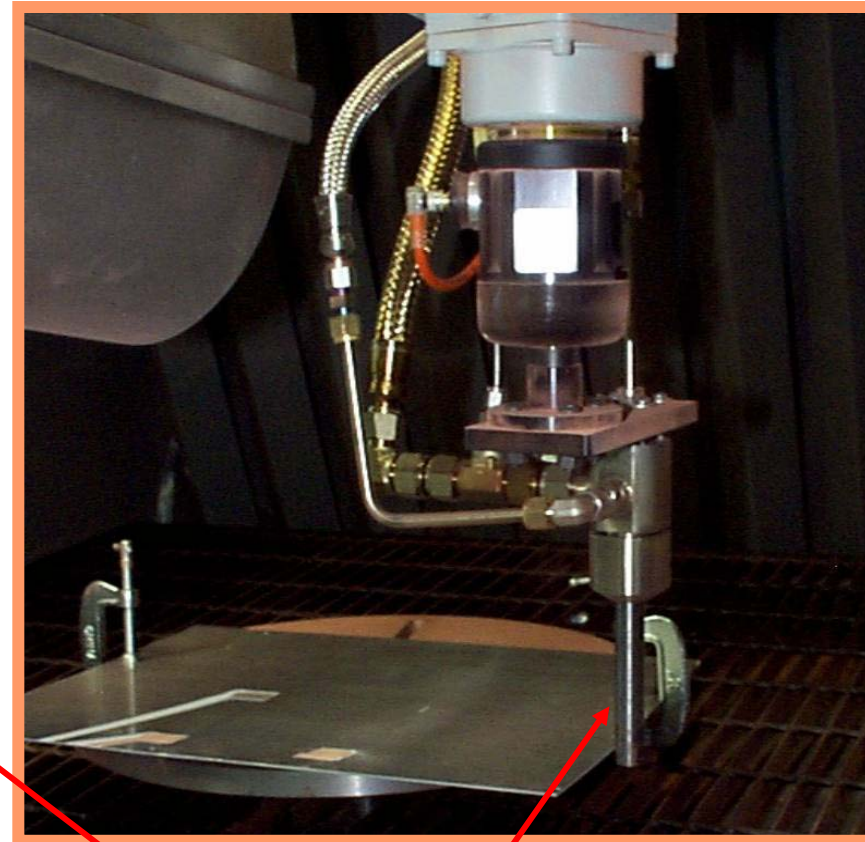
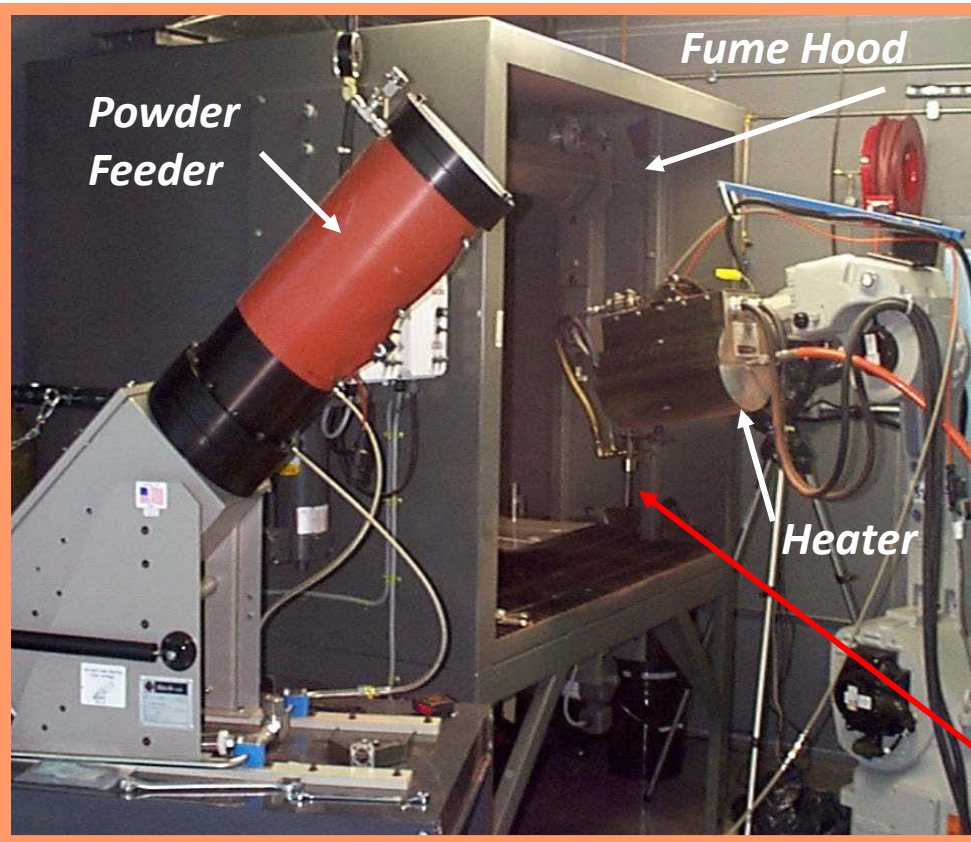
# Cold Spray vs. Thermal Spray



# Schematic of the Cold Spray Process





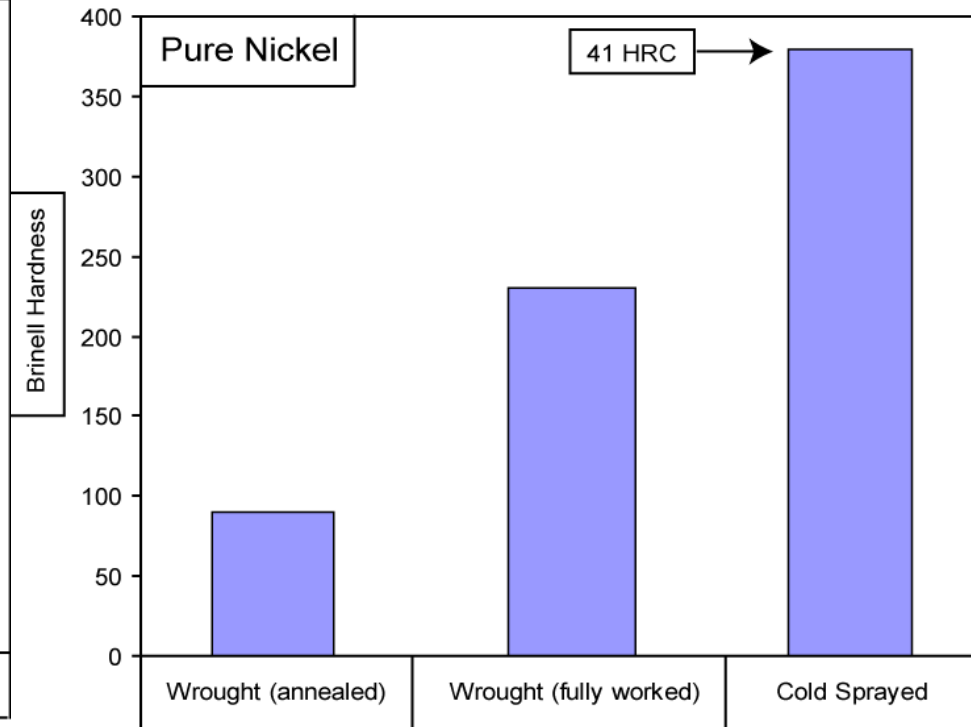
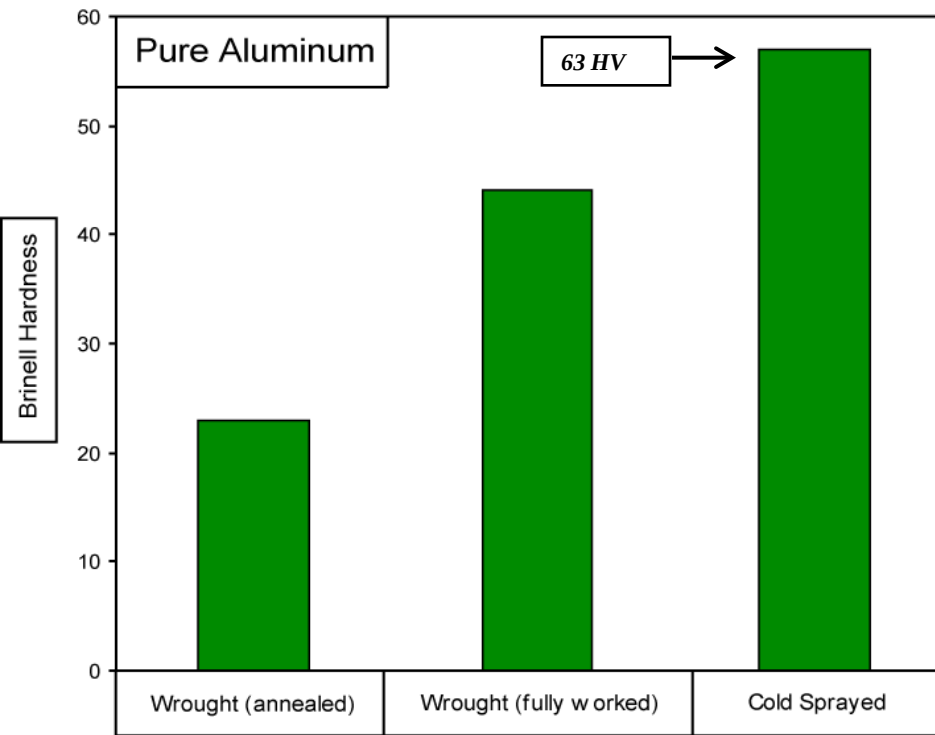


**Robotically Controlled Spray Gun**

**Spray Nozzle**

- **Low Temperature Process**
  - Particles “peen” the surface and develop compressive stresses (beneficial for fatigue)
  - Bonding mechanism similar to explosive cladding (mechanical mixing & metallurgical bond)
  - Conducive for thermally sensitive substrates (i.e. magnesium, composites)
- **Strength/Hardness**
  - High strength/hardness (often greater than comparable wrought materials)
- **Density**
  - 100% consolidation possible with many materials, equal to theoretical
  - Little to no porosity or inherent defects(i.e. oxides), good electrical/thermal conductivity
- **Wide Selection of Commercially Available Powders/Materials**
  - Metals, oxides, hydrides, polymers, nanostructured materials
- **Versatility**
  - Graded structures and coatings (lengthwise and/or through thickness)
  - Complex geometries
  - Free-form fabrication of parts
- **Ease of Production**
  - Fully automated/robotically controlled turnkey system
  - No harmful fuels or extraordinary safety equipment
  - Minimal material waste-high deposit efficiency (i.e. 80W-20Cu 94%, 6061 Al 100%)
  - Deposition rates reported up to 40 kg/hr and higher (CP Titanium)

# Cold Sprayed vs. Wrought Materials Hardness Comparison



# ARL Portable Cold Spray System



- *Cold Spray Coating Parameters Optimized at ARL for CP-Al & 6061Al*
- *FRC-East cold spray system is installed, set up and processing parts*
- *All training sessions and quality control sample production completed at FRC-East.*
- *DEMVAL successfully completed at FRE-East, June 2011*

## ***2008 Defense Standardization Program Achievement Award***

- *Presented to members of the Cold Spray Team for the development of a military process specification, "MIL-STD-3021, titled Materials Deposition, Cold Spray" (2008)*

## ***Sikorsky is proceeding with the sump repair for the H-60 platform***

- *Approval obtained for Overhaul Repair Instruction (ORI) SS8491 (2011)*

## ***Cold Spray has been approved through MAB, AED and PO-UH-60 for UH-60 Sump Repair***

- *Maintenance Engineering Order (MEO)T-7631 (2012)*

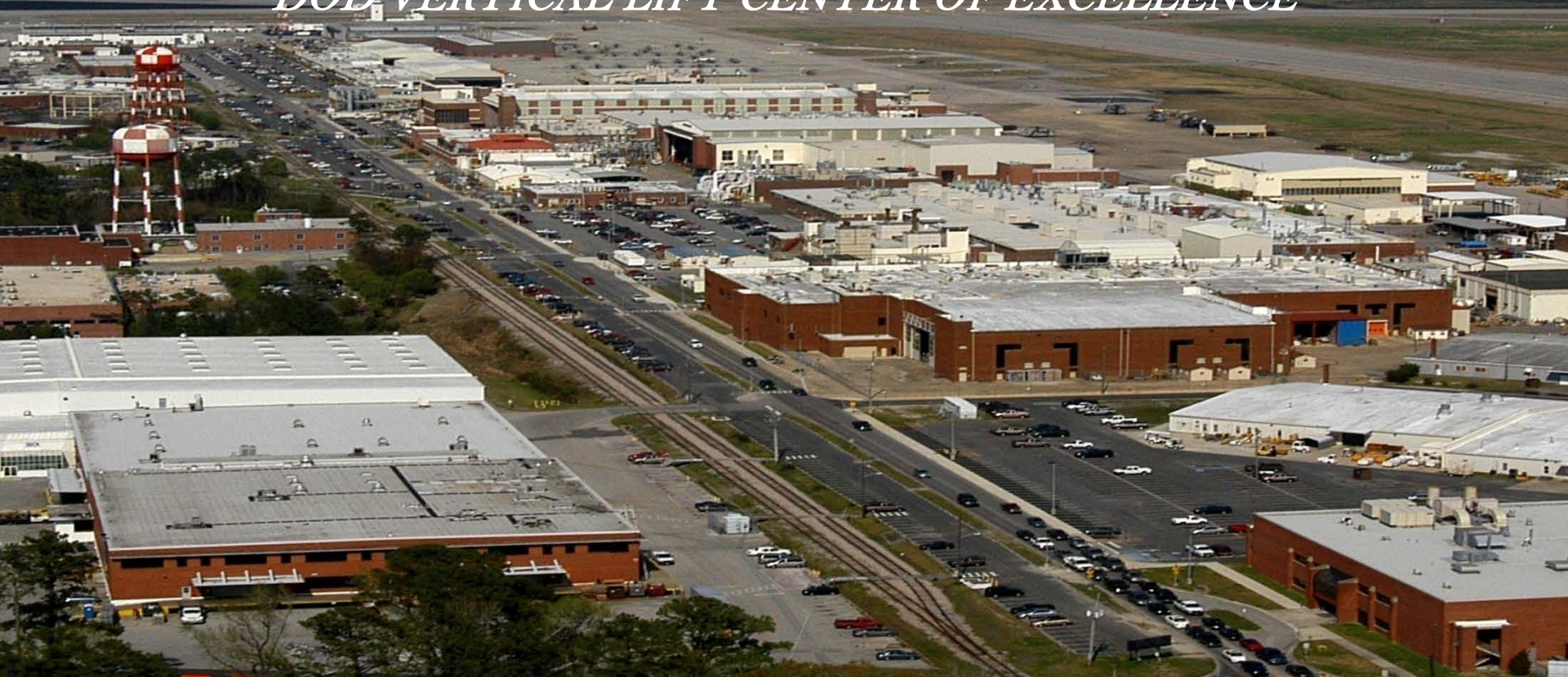


# *Transition Plan:*



## *FLEET READINESS CENTER EAST*

*DOD VERTICAL LIFT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE*



***IN SERVICE  
SUPPORT CENTER***

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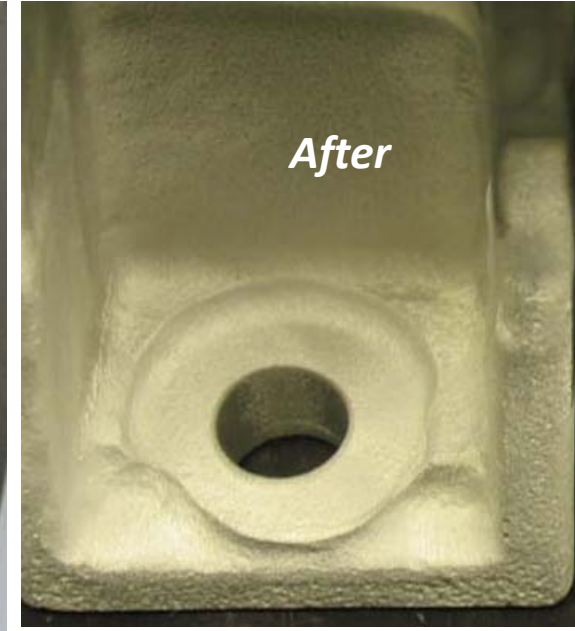
***POC: Carl Sauer  
Materials Engineer***



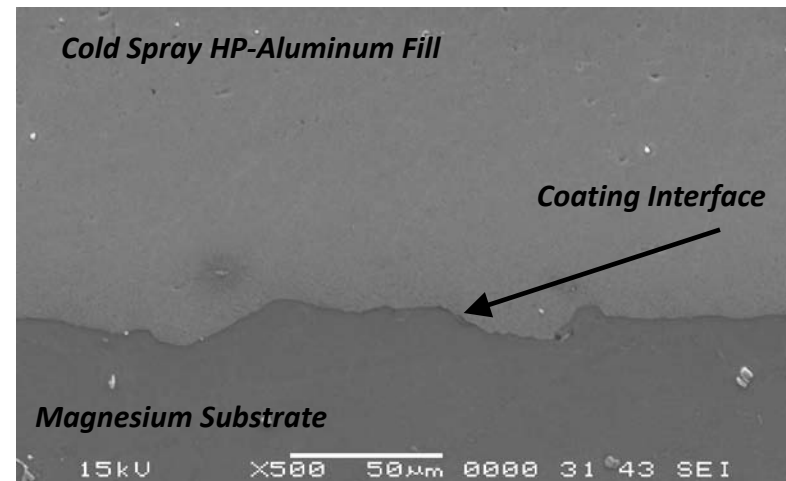
# Examples of Corrosion Damage on Fielded Parts and Subsequent to Cold Spray Repair



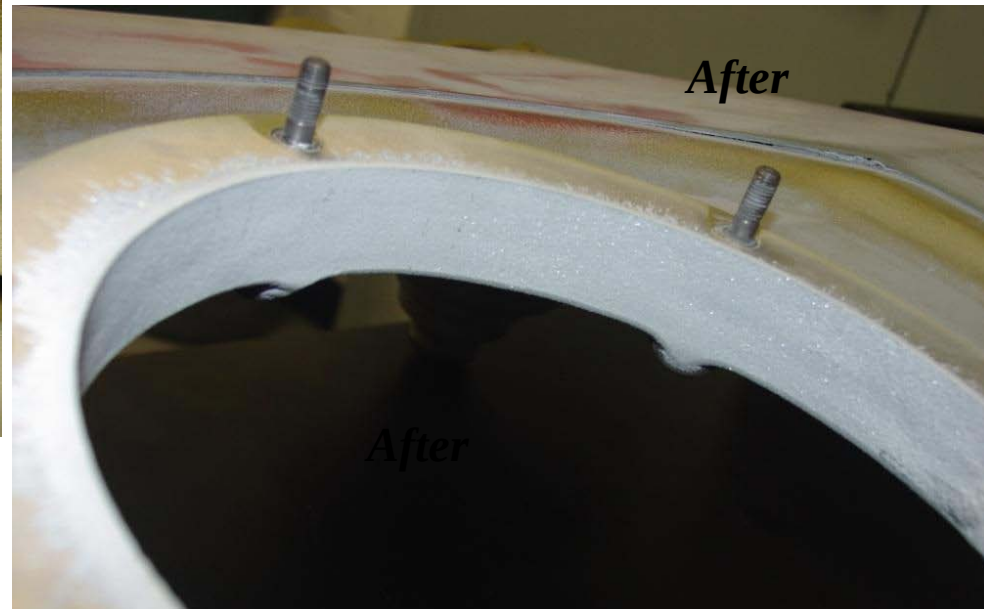
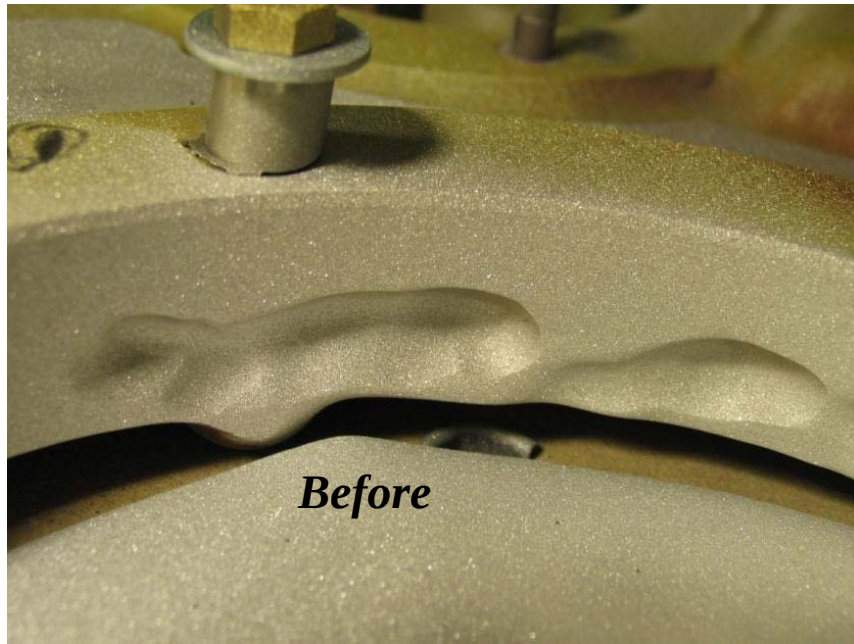
**UH-60 Main Rotor Transmission**



**Cross-section of a Cold Spray Repair**



## *Development and Implementation of Commercially Pure (CP) Aluminum and 6061 Aluminum Alloy Cold Spray Coatings for the Repair of Magnesium Helicopter Gearbox Components*



# COLD SPRAY at Tinker Air Force Base

## Candidate Engine Parts



**Candidate Parts**

- Pump Housing**
- Fan Case**
- Exhaust Case**
- Augmenter Duct Support**
- Fan Ducts**
- Bleed Valve**
- Intermediate**

**Problems**

- Cavitation**
- Wear**
- Corrosion**

**Materials**

- Ti6Al-4V**
- Inconel**
- Waspalloy**
- Aluminum**



**F-100 Engine**



**F-15 Eagle**

- *Corrosion Damage Repair and Dimensional Restoration*
- *High Conductive and Wear Resistant Coatings*
- *Production of Exotic Materials Not Capable By Conventional Ingot Metallurgy*
- *Erosion Resistant Coatings*
- *Near Net Fabrication of Components*
- *Aerospace Specialty Coatings*
- *Conformable Antennas*
- *Selective Galvanization*
- *Aircraft Skin Repair*
- *Heat Sinks and Power Modules*
- *Cladding*



**Fielded SH-60 Seahawk with Cold Spray Mg Repair Operating Since August, 2009-Australian Navy ARL/JSF/DSTO Collaboration**



**Three Fielded Blackhawk Medvac Units with Cold Spray Al Repair Operating Since August, 2009 ARL/AMCOM/Ft. Hood Collaboration**



**Fielded B-1 Bomber with Cold Spray Ti Repair Operating Since September 2009- Tinker AFB ARL/Tinker AFB/HF Webster Collaboration**



**Two Expeditionary Fighting Vehicles with Cold Spray Mg Repair Fielded and Operating Since September, 2008**

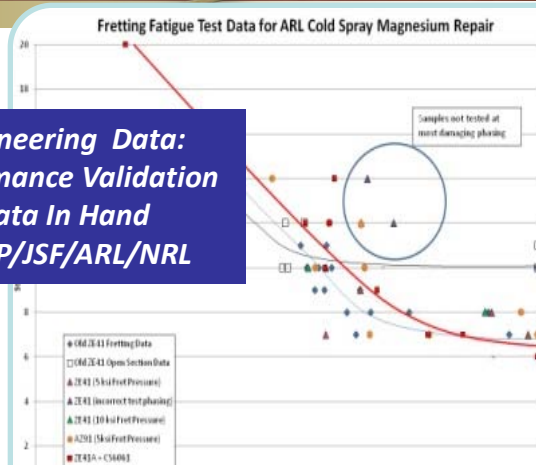


- Power Transfer Module - PTM
  - 10 Magnesium Castings
- Transmission
  - 13 Magnesium Castings

# From Prototype to Production

## OSD Mantech Program FY12-FY14

**Engineering Data:**  
Performance Validation  
Data In Hand  
ESTCP/JSF/ARL/NRL



*Integrate laboratory, coupon and prototype data to make the technology successful for production*

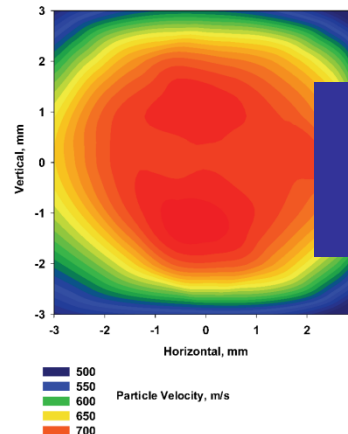
*Integrate CAD/CAM to Produce Complex Geometries, Minimize Machining and Eliminate Material Waste*



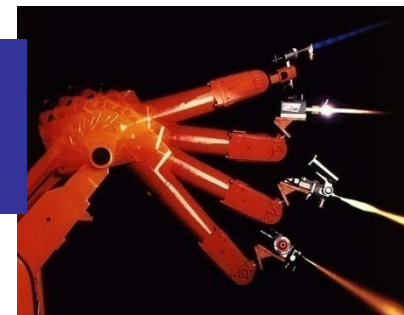
**Production Engineering: Couple with Cold Spray**  
Production Facility at Mid-America, Webster, MA



**Real-Time Process Mapping**



**In-flight particle temperature, velocity, and particle size measurement**

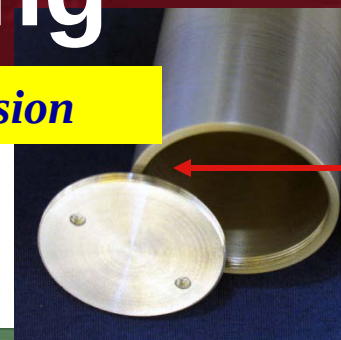
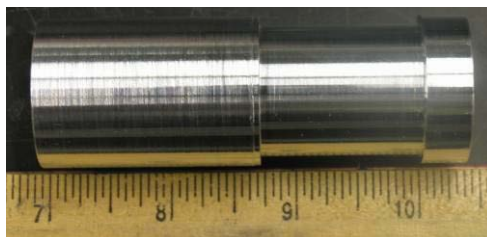


**Robotic Control for Precision and Repeatability**

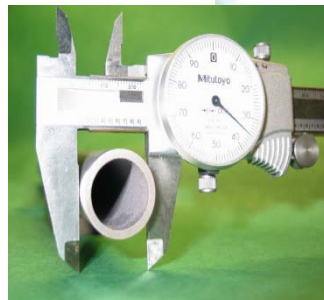
# Near Net Forming

*Current state of the art: parts require machining to final dimension*

- Cold spray is a proven technology
- Has demonstrated potential as a means of producing near-net shape complex components.
- Upgrade conventional CS systems for near-net fabrication.
- New powders and processes are required.



*fine  
machined  
heads*



*Future goals*

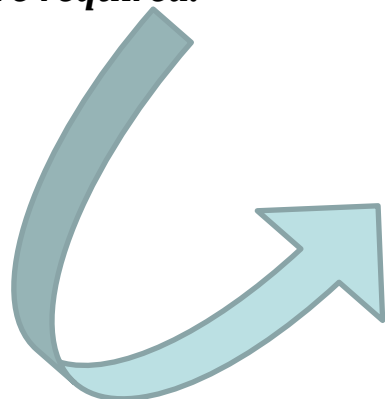
*Integrate CAD/CAM to produce complex geometries, minimize machining and eliminate material waste*

*Using CAD/CAM reproduce a shaped charge line (above) eliminating dimensional machining*

- Demonstrate production of a 6061 Al part



**CAD/CAM**



**Demonstrate and qualify cold spray aluminum alloy coatings which provide surface protection and a repair/rebuild methodology for Mg alloy components on Army and Navy helicopters and advanced fixed-wing aircraft such as the Joint Strike Fighter**

**1. Cost-effective**

**2. ESOH-acceptable technology**



**MOUNTING FEET LOCATION**



**MAIN GEARBOX**

## *Joint Test Protocol*

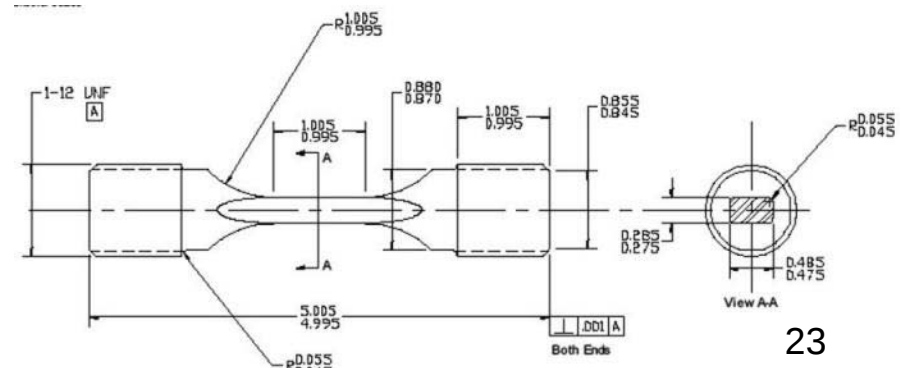
### Mechanical Tests

- Adhesion Tensile Bond Test (ASTM C633)
- XRD Residual Stress
- R.R. Moore RB Fatigue
  - surface finished 125 R<sub>A</sub>
- Fretting Fatigue – UTRC
- Impact - ASTM D5420
- Hardness
- Porosity
- Triple Lug Shear

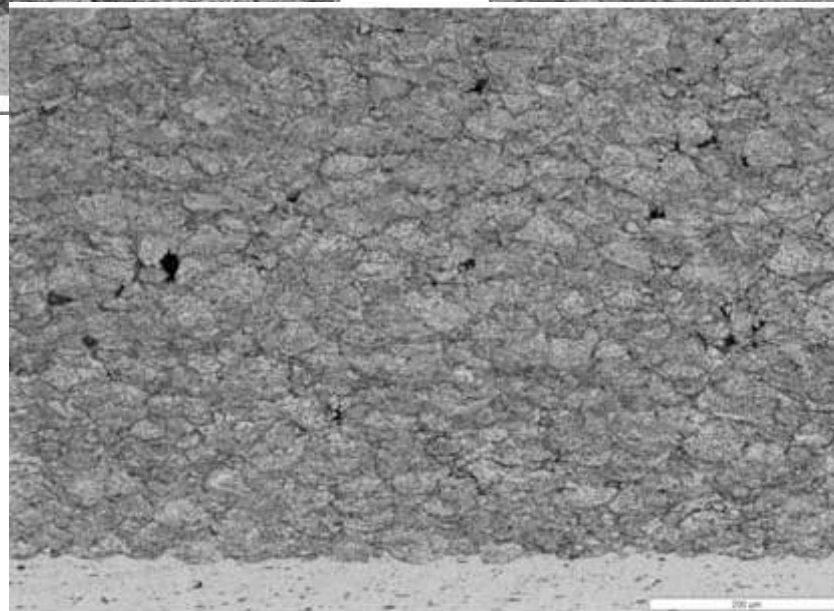
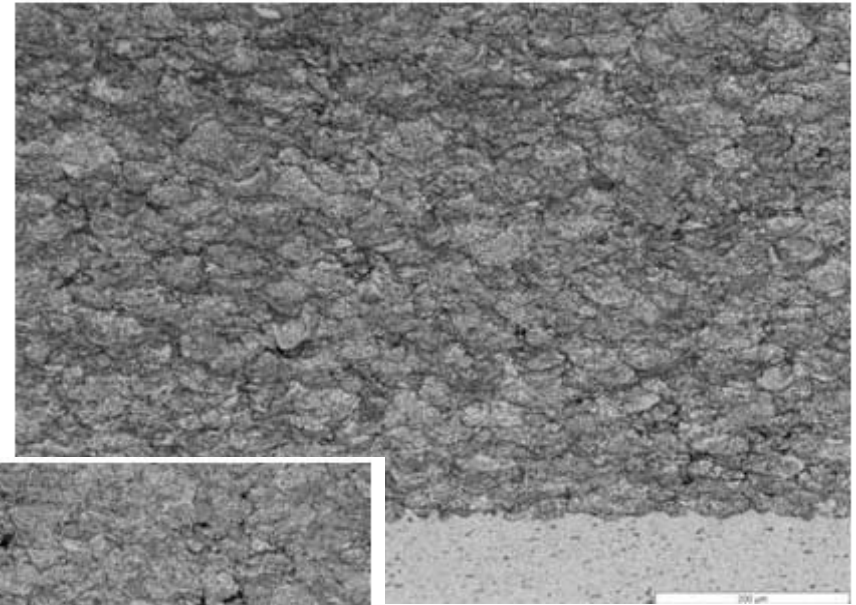
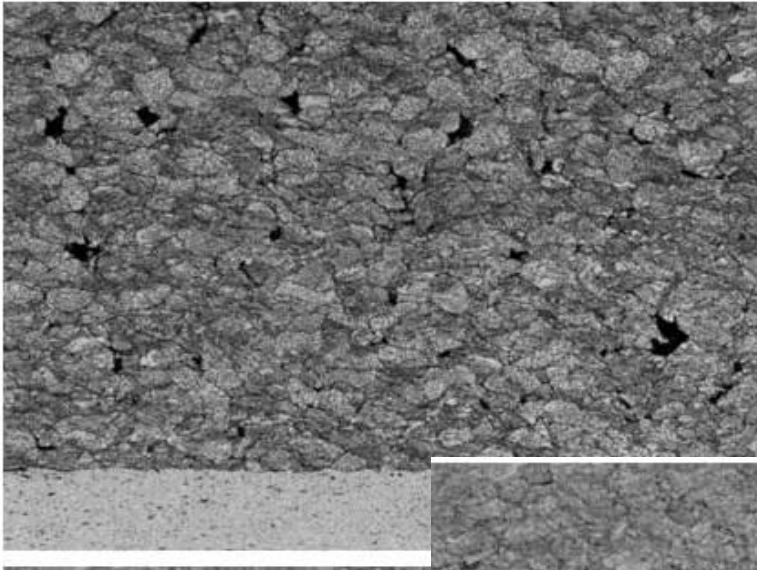
### Corrosion Tests

- *Un-scribed ASTM B117*
- *Scribed ASTM B117*
- *GM9540 Scribed*
- *Galvanic Corrosion (G71)*
- *Crevice Corrosion (G78)*
- *Beach Corrosion*
- *G85 Annex 4-SO<sub>2</sub>*

***Stack Up: RockHard, 23377, and 85285***



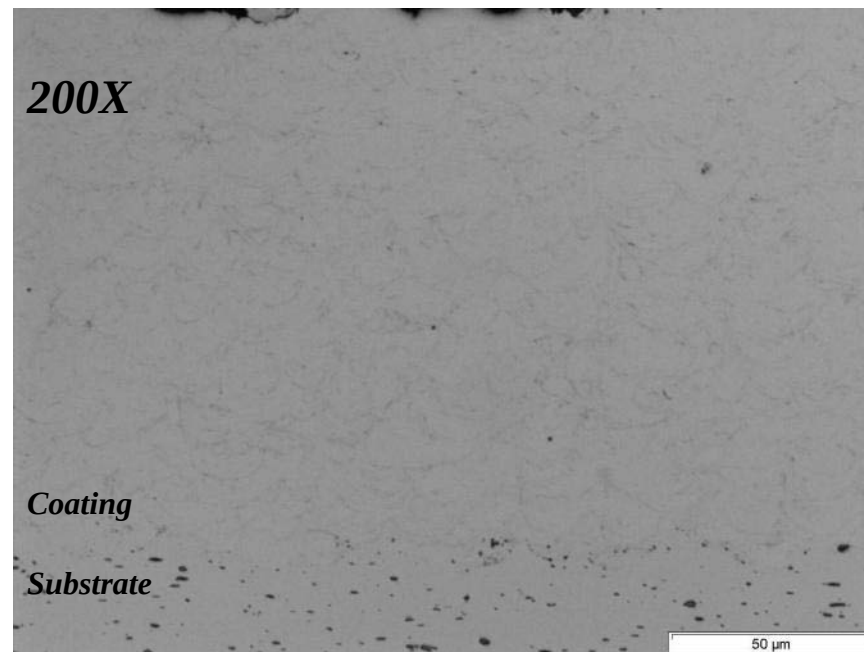
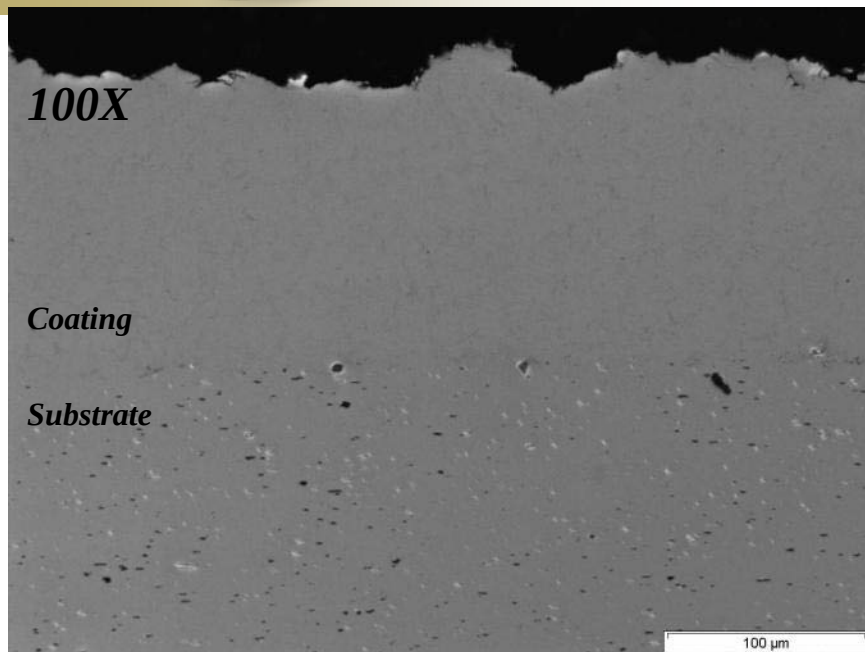
***UTRC Fretting Fatigue Specimen***



*Microstructures  
of 6061 Cold  
Spray  
Optical  
Microscopy*

*Increasing Gas Pressure*

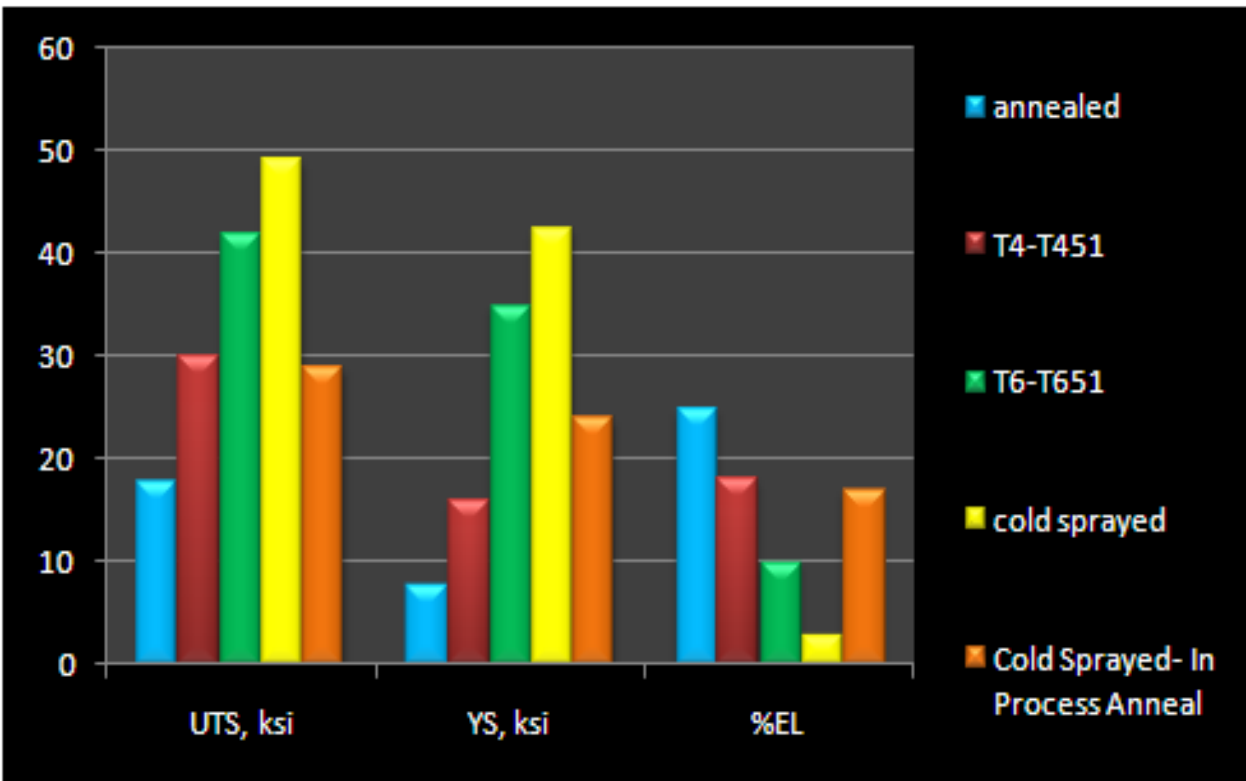




| Alloy | Condition | Aging Temp (°F) | Time (Hrs) | Solutionizing Temp (°F) | Aging after Solutionizing Temp (°F) | Time (Hrs) |
|-------|-----------|-----------------|------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| AZ91C | T5        | 335             | 16         | ---                     | ---                                 | ---        |
| AZ91C | T6        | ---             | ---        | 775                     | 335                                 | 16         |
|       |           |                 |            |                         | 420                                 | 5-6        |
| AZ92A | T5        | 500             | ---        | ---                     | ---                                 | ---        |
| AZ92A | T6        | ---             | ---        | 765                     | 425                                 | 5          |
| ZE41A | T5        | 625             | 2          | ---                     | ---                                 | ---        |

***ZE41A-T5 Substrate  
Temperature  
Recorded at  
326.1° F (163.4° C)***

## Wrought versus Cold Spray 6061



### Key

*T4, T451- Solution heat-treated and naturally aged to a substantially stable condition. Temper -T451 applies to products stress-relieved by stretching.<sup>2</sup>*

*T6, T651- Solution heat-treated and then artificially aged, Temper -T651 applies to products stress-relieved by stretching.<sup>2</sup>*

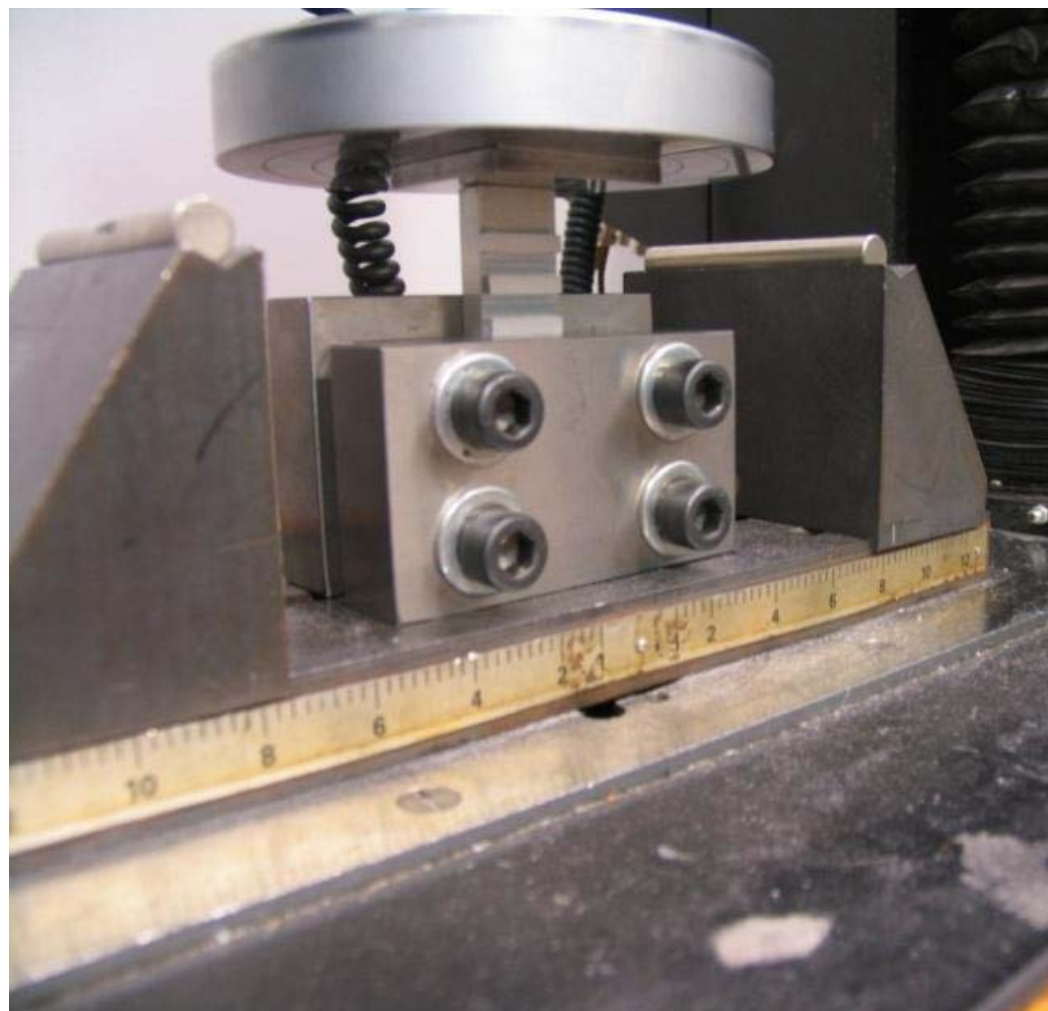
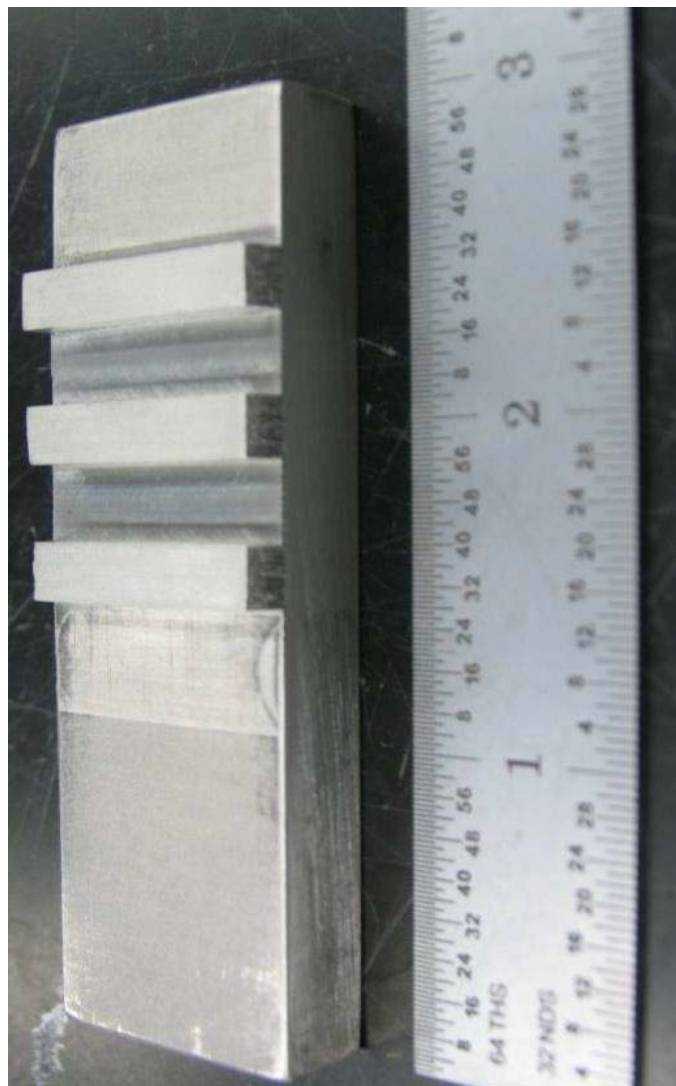
*In Process Anneal- 640°F for 10 to 12 Hours*

<sup>1</sup>Matweb

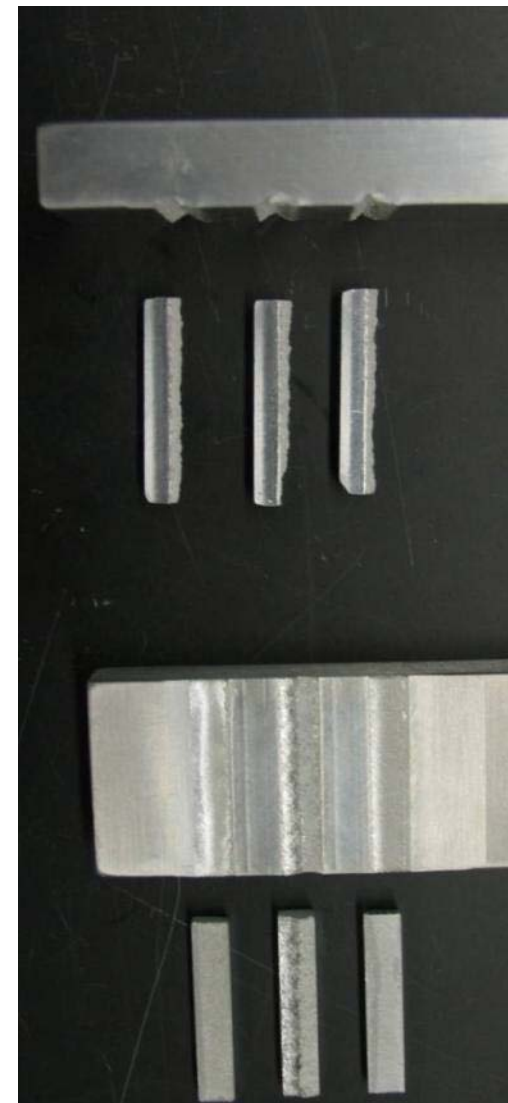
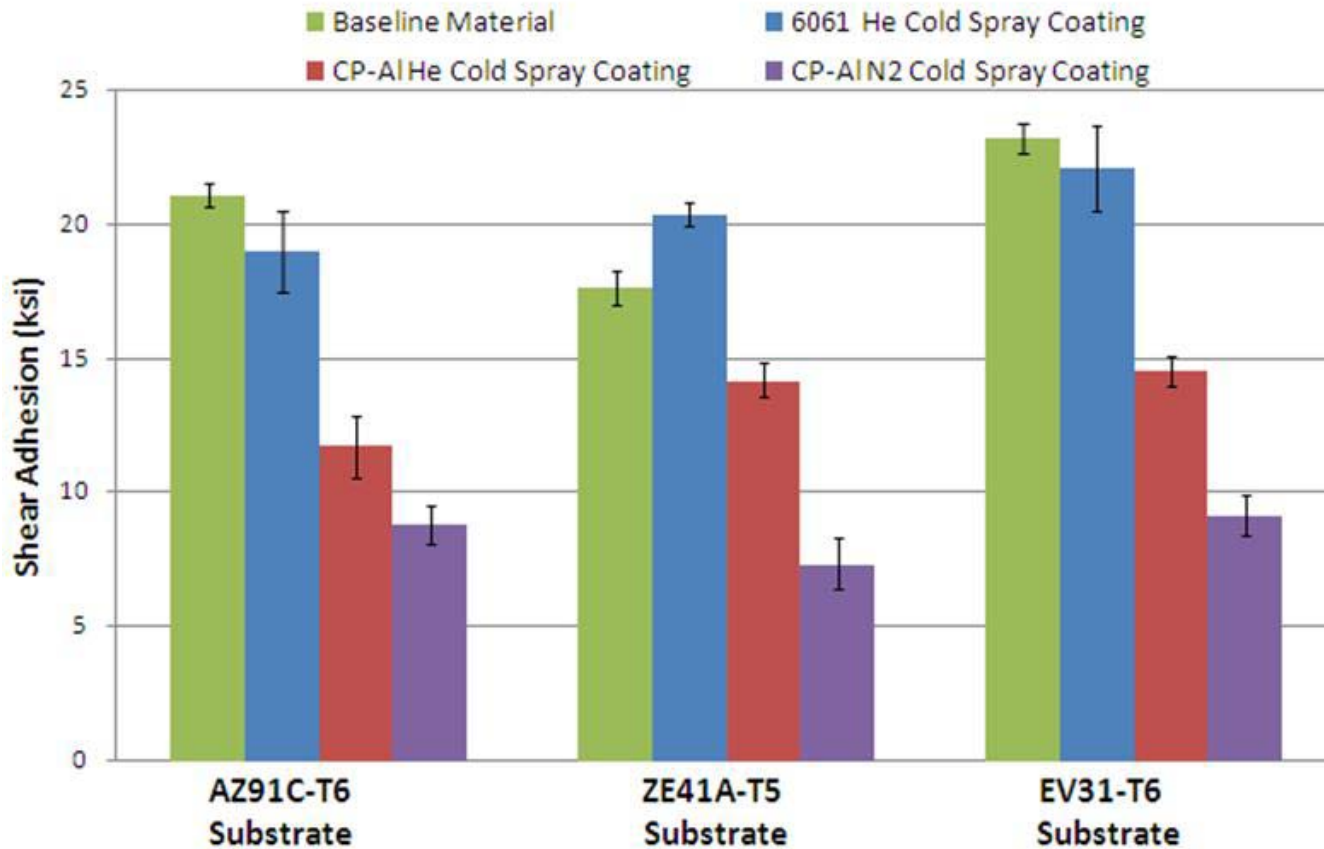
<sup>2</sup>Alcoa.com

<sup>3</sup>Microtensile Test by Aaron Nardi at UTRC of ARL Cold Spray Block

# Triple Lug Shear Test



ESTCP Triple Lug Data



6061/ZE41A-T6<sup>28</sup>

## Bond Bar Adhesion (ASTM C633)



| Substrate | Coating System       | Average Thickness (in) | Average Max Tensile Stress (PSI) | Stdev. Tensile Stress (PSI) | 95% Confidence Tensile (PSI) | Observed Failure Mechanism |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ZE41A-T5  | 6061 He              | 0.0134                 | 11052                            | 808                         | 560                          | 100% Glue                  |
|           | CP-Al He             | 0.0197                 | 12069                            | 597                         | 370                          | 100% Coating Adhesion      |
|           | CP-Al N <sub>2</sub> | 0.0228                 | 10400                            | 846                         | 677                          | 100% Coating Adhesion      |

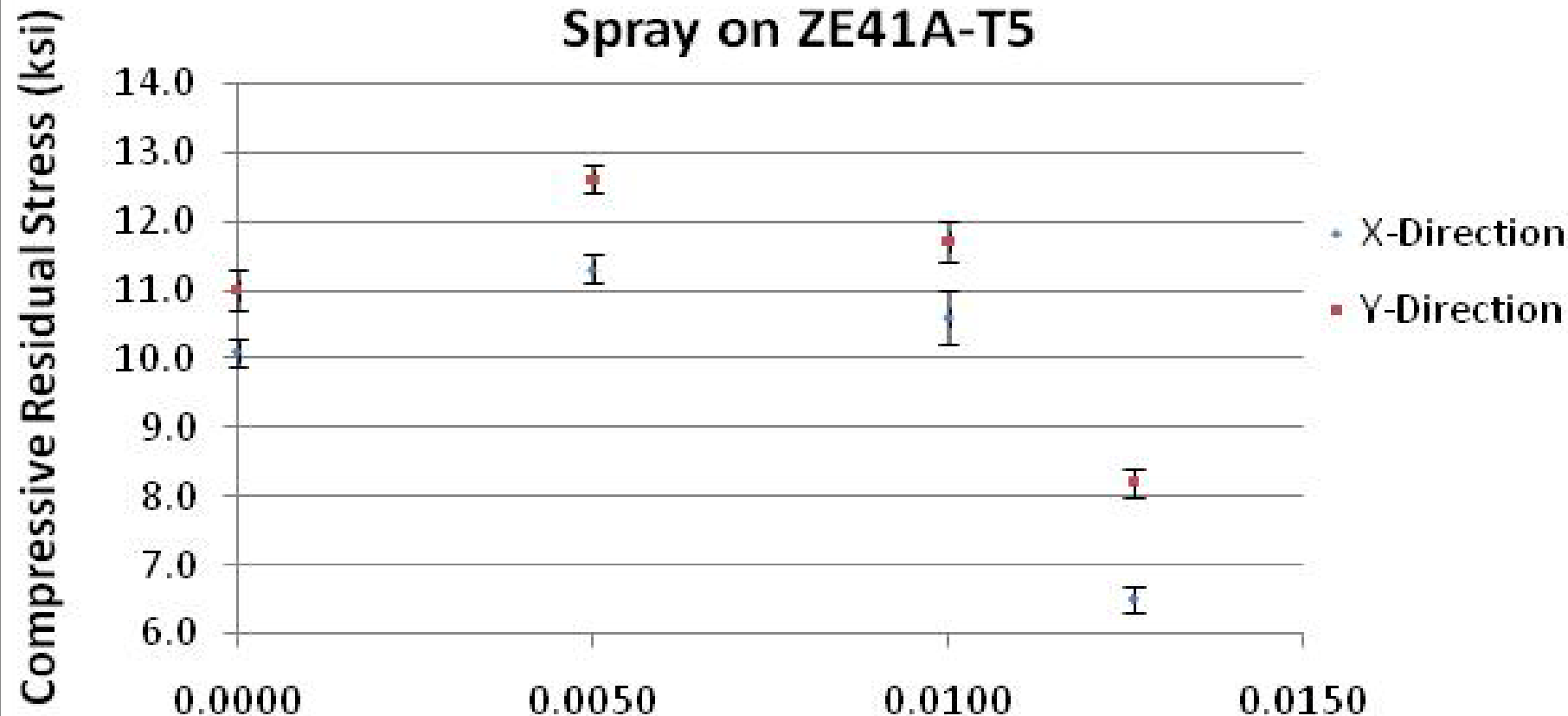
*ZE41A-T5*

*AZ91C-T6*

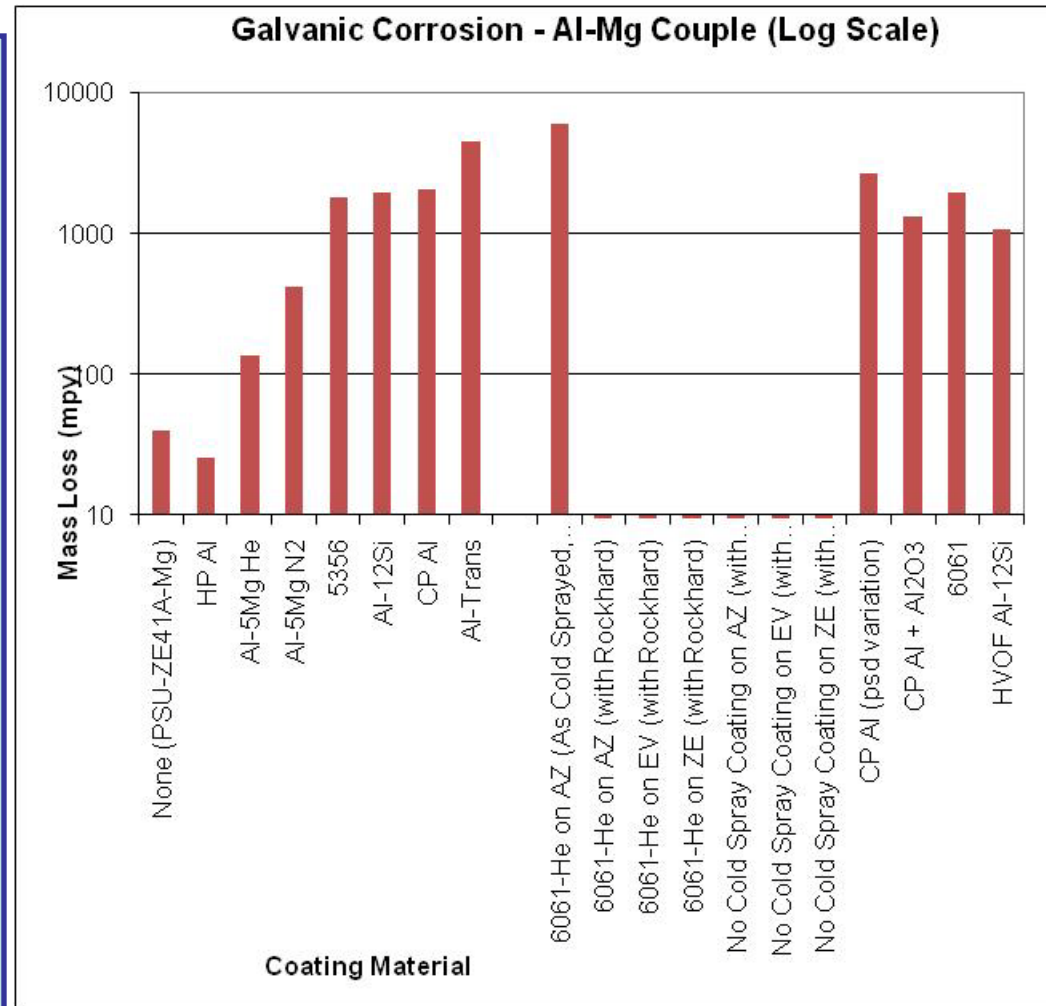
*EV31-T6*



**XRD Residual Stress Versus Depth for 6061 Cold  
Spray on ZE41A-T5**



- **Un-scribed ASTM B117**
  - **CP-Al went well (7000 hours at Army and 1000 hours at PSU)**
  - **6061 went 7000 hours at Army and will be retested at PSU due to thin spots**
- **Scribed ASTM B117**
  - **1000 hours through top coat but 24 hours through to substrate. On par with HVOF Al-12Si**
- **GM9540 Scribed- Sprayed**
- **Galvanic Corrosion (G71)**
- **Crevice Corrosion (G78)- No Crevice mechanism**
- **Beach Corrosion- Undergoing testing**



**\*vs uncoated ZE41**

**-Cd plated steel specimens are currently being fabricated for comparison**

# Sump Qualification

## *Sump Assembly Main Module-Main Gearbox Repair*



**Substrates: ZE41A  
& AZ91C  
Magnesium  
Coating Material:  
CP-Aluminum  
and/or 6061 Al**

**Total Replacement Cost Savings estimated to be *\$935,000.00/ year***

**Approved for Public Release; Distribution Unlimited**

- Victor Champagne
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