



Getting Started with Additive Manufacturing: Real-World Insights and Expert Advice

An ADAMC Success Story

The Workshop

The “Getting Started in Additive Manufacturing” webinar, co-hosted by the ADAMC and industry experts, provided manufacturers with practical insights into how AM can revolutionize their operations. The event was designed to answer industries’ crucial questions: How can AM help businesses solve problems and increase revenue? Featuring real-world examples from companies on their AM journey and guidance from leading experts, the workshop served as a comprehensive guide for those looking to integrate AM into their manufacturing processes. The workshop showcased diverse applications of AM, from reducing part complexity to transforming entire industries, underscoring its potential to drive innovation and growth in manufacturing.



It was eye-opening to see the different types of 3D printing I didn't even know existed and to learn how other companies are implementing them



Should AM vs. Could AM?

A panel discussion addressed questions around how to determine if AM should and could be used for a particular part or process. While almost anything can be made through AM, it's essential to assess whether it is the best and most cost-effective solution. Considerations included time savings, long-lead items, and the complexity of parts.



Presentations



Getting Started with AM

Tommy Dupuy, SME for Additive Manufacturing, at **U.S. Army DEVCOM AvMC**, offered a roadmap for companies new to AM. He provided advice on selecting equipment, networking with other organizations, and choosing between low-cost and industrial-grade options, depending on business needs.

Austal USA's Journey

Shawn Wilber, Advanced Ship Building Manager, shared how **Austal USA** began its AM journey with simple parts, demonstrating a one-month return on investment (ROI). His story highlighted a practical, step-by-step approach to successfully adopting AM.



Design Considerations

Nina Bullock, MEng Additive Manufacturing and Architectural Designer, from **Calhoun Community College** emphasized the importance of design in AM. She advised on reducing assembly complexity, using design rule tables, and optimizing part orientation to enhance strength and reduce weight.

Humtown Products' Transformation

Brandon Lamoncha, Director of Additive Manufacturing / VP, recounted how **Humtown Products** grew from a traditional pattern shop into a global leader in 3D-printed sand cores and molds. He shared the trials and errors faced along the way, emphasizing the significant time savings AM can offer over conventional methods.



I appreciated seeing the real-world impact of AM in different industries and understanding how these technologies could be applied in our own workflows



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