



# Composite-Based Additive Manufacturing (CBAM) Technology

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# CBAM Technology Process Overview

## STEP 1 PRINTING PROCESS



A roll of long-fiber carbon or fiberglass substrate is loaded into the printer.

Using inkjet technology, the pattern of each layer of the final part is printed onto the fiber substrate.



Polymer powder is uniformly applied to the fiber substrate, the powder adheres only to the printed image.

Excess powder is removed, revealing the printed layer in the desired pattern, the process repeats for all the layers.



## STEP 2 HEAT AND PRESS



Sheets are stacked then heated to the melting point of the polymer material and compressed to consolidate the part to the designed height.

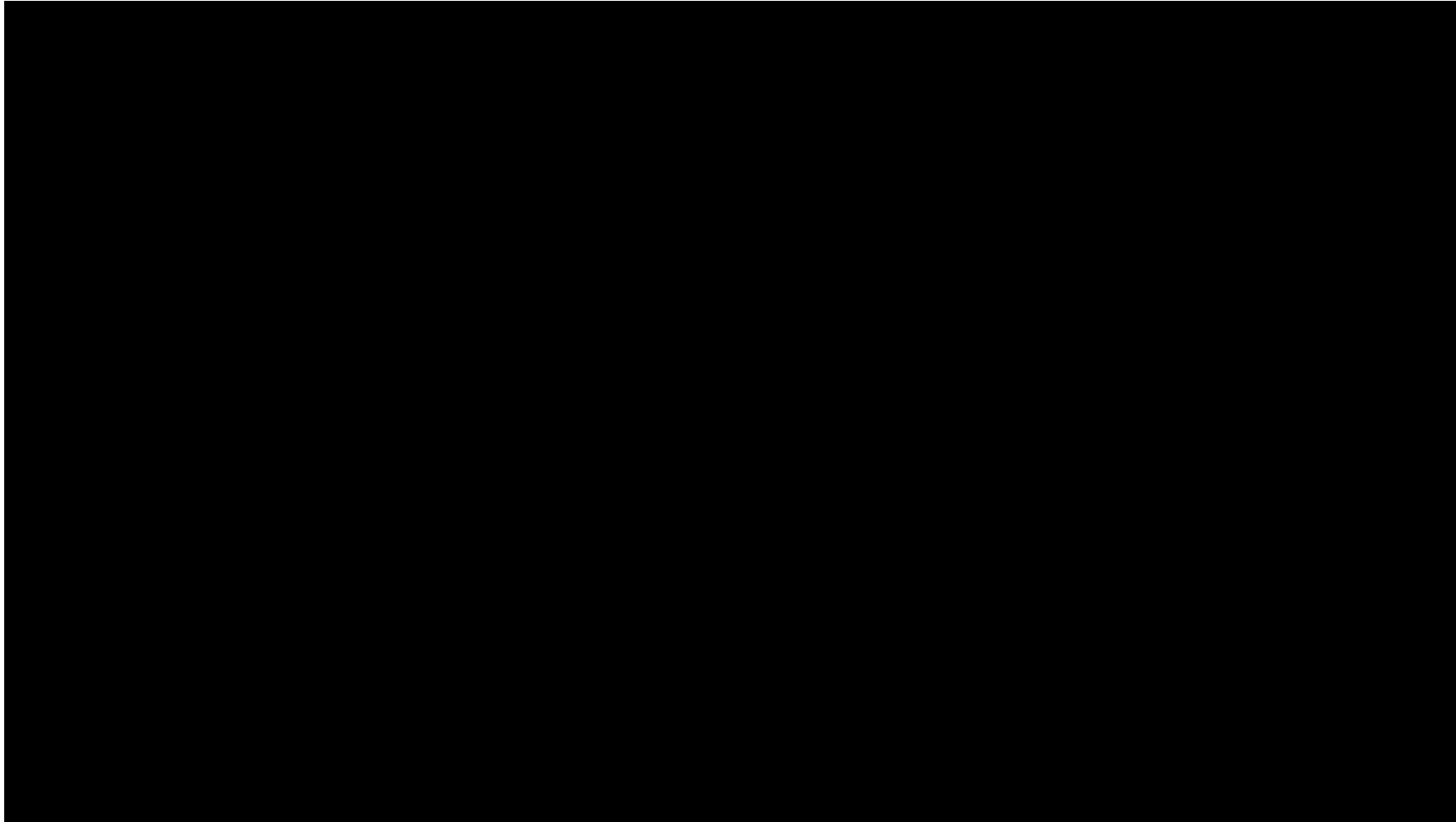
## STEP 3 MATERIAL REMOVAL



Automated media blasting removes unbound fibers to reveal final parts.



# CBAM 25 process video



See video: [www.impossible-objects.com](http://www.impossible-objects.com)

# CBAM Materials

## Room temperature deposition

CBAM nonwoven composite veils and materials are typically composed of:

- Engineered fibers (>12.5mm lengths)
- Random fiber orientations
- Bound together with an organic polymer binder

### TYPES OF FIBER

- Carbon fiber
- Fiberglass
- Unidirectional - Future



## Powder Matrix

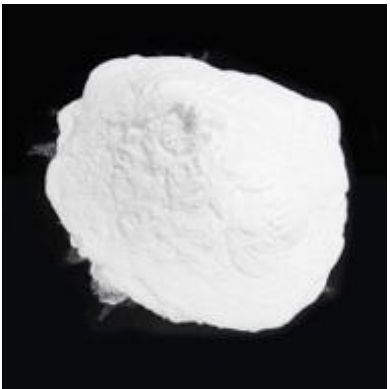
CBAM Polymer Matrix:

**PEEK**  
(high heat and chemical resistance)

**PA12**  
(Good abrasion resistance, toughness)

**Upcycled PA12**  
(Low cost, sustainable)

**Thermoset Epoxy**  
(Strong, stiff, dimensional stable and impact resistant)



# In-situ process control for build repeatability

- CBAM 25 in-situ controls to ensure printed images match the intended design and verify the order, completeness, and integrity of pages in the output stack.
- Enhanced process control of printing and sheet powder loading
- Automatic purging and reprinting of defective sheets
- Minimal production scrap
- Fast build part build recovery in event of power outages



The vision system checks printed images to match the intended design



A high-resolution image capture for real-time sheet sequence verification of order, completeness, and integrity of stacks

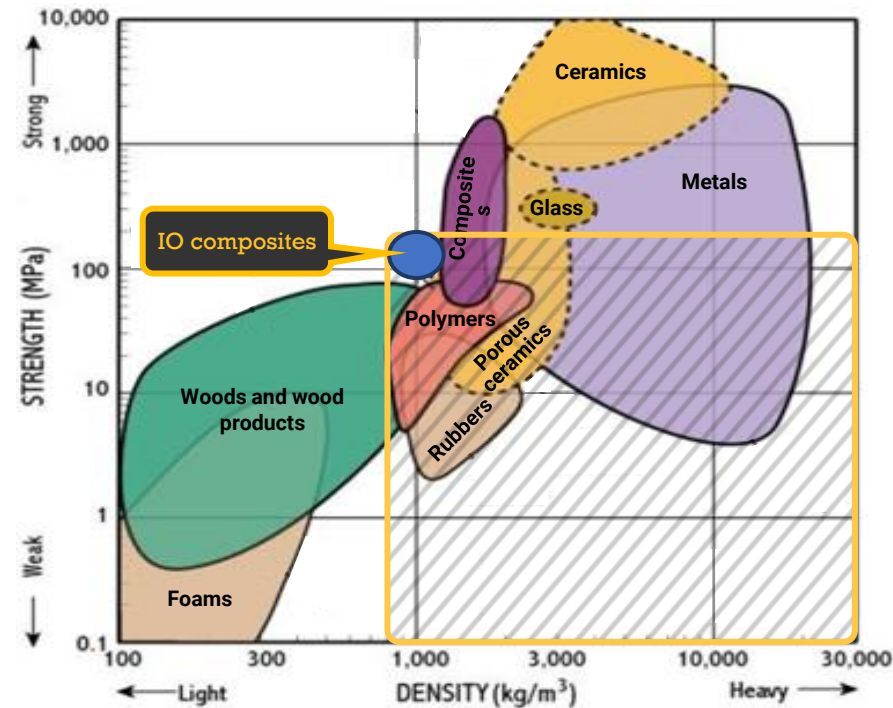
# Current CBAM Properties using non-woven composite

## Similar Strength-to-Weight as 6061 Aluminum

### Material Density

**Aluminum**  
2.7 g/cm<sup>3</sup>

**Carbon Fiber/PEEK**  
1.3 g/cm<sup>3</sup>



Carbon  
fiber/PEEK  
Materials in this  
region can be  
replaced by IO  
composites

Ashby material chart



# Technology Use Cases

## Industrial

Electronic Manufacturing tooling



## Automotive

End use part validation



## Defense

Spare parts



## Aerospace

Unmanned Air vehicle components



## Academia

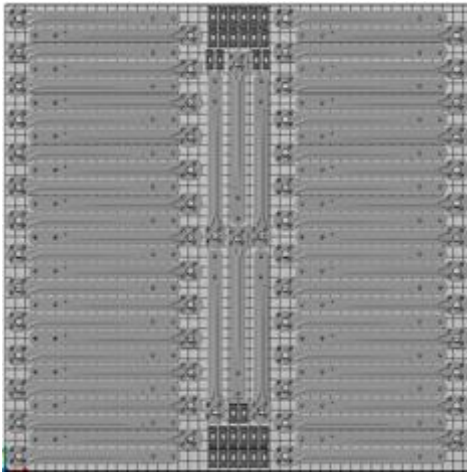
Material and Application Research



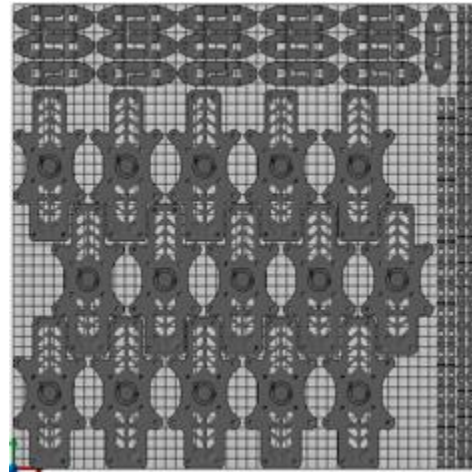
# Success Case - Mass Production: one Drone per minute



12,000 units per month  
Cost is \$50 for part kits



Top view build layout



Bottom view build layout

- **Scale that changes conflicts:** With over 430,000 UASs per year from a single CBAM 25, millions of UASs are possible with just a few machines
- **Additive means innovation:** Innovation is free with AM and mass-produced UAVs can literally be upgraded within hours (vs. months or years)
- **Innovation means impact:** When end users can drive innovation in days, end products provide exactly what's needed where it's needed



# Success Cases - Drone systems and parts



# Success Cases – Industrial Tooling

## Fabrication Tooling

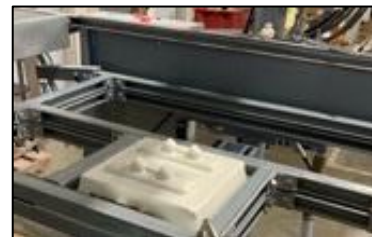
- High strength properties
- Low thermal CTE expansion
- Future for welding fixtures
- Future for tube forming dies



Injection Molding



Hydroforming



Thermoforming



Autoclave Composite

## Electronic Tooling

- High temperature >260°C resistance
- Extreme chemical resistance



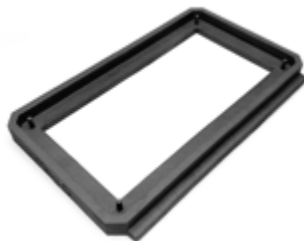
Wave solder



Reflow

## Fixtures

- Excellent surface finish
- Close dimensional tolerances

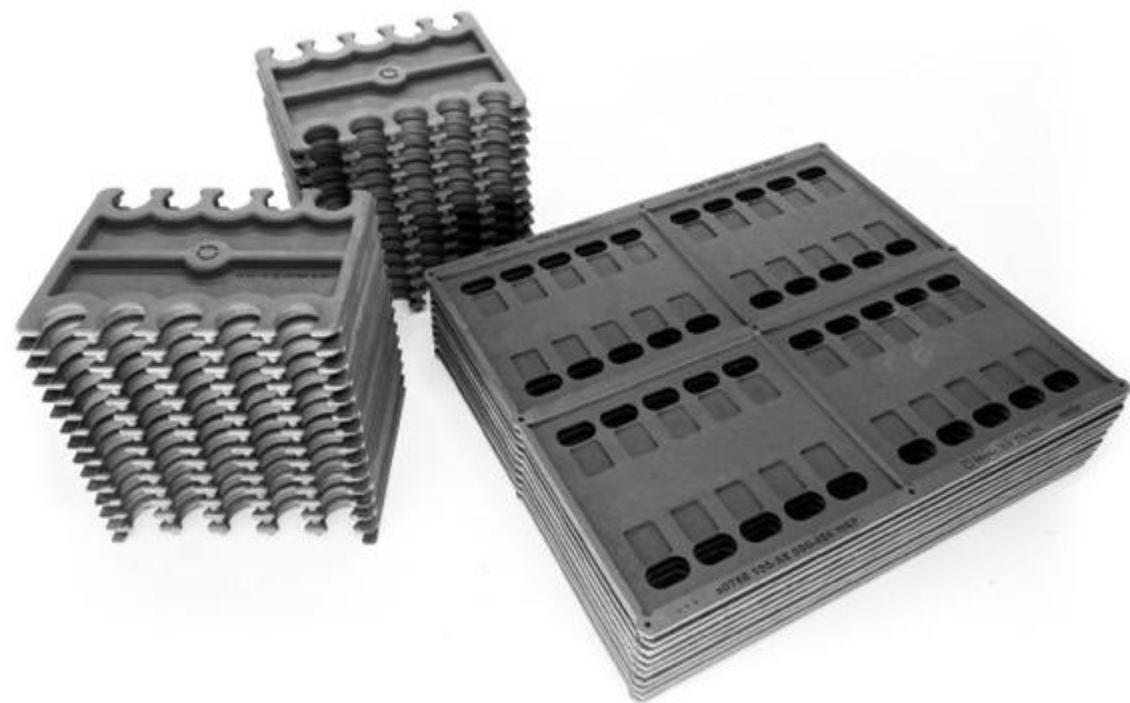


Heat sink



Automated holding

# Success Case – Electronic tooling



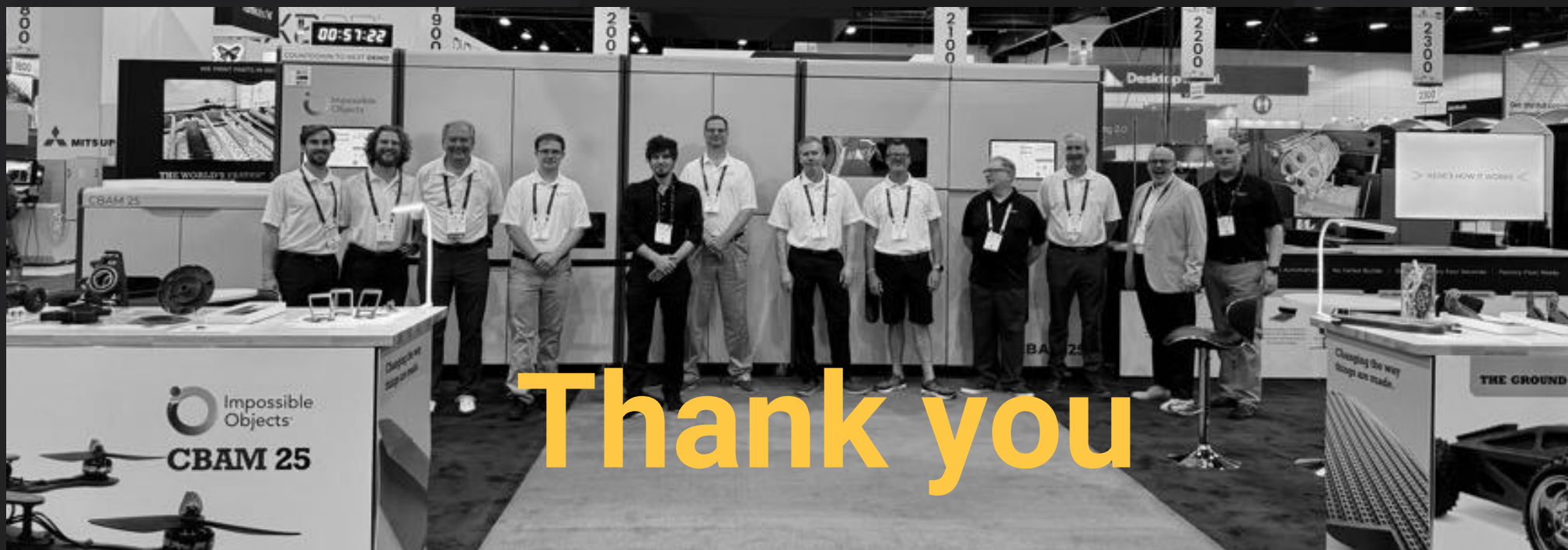
25 Carriers, 100 Top Pallets, and 90 Hold Downs



	Traditional CNC	Impossible Objects CBAM	Impact
Material	Fiberglass	Carbon Fiber PEEK	Better Heat Properties
Typical Cost	\$10,000	\$7,500	25% Cheaper
Turnaround Time	5+ Weeks	2 Weeks	50% Faster







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# CBAM-25 Work Cell



CBAM-25



AUTOMATED  
HEATED PRESS



AUTOMATED  
REMOVAL STATION

TECHNOLOGY	Composite Based Additive Manufacturing (CBAM)
MAX BUILD VOLUME	18 X 17.7 X 4 inches (457 x 449 x 101 mm)
PRODUCTION SPEED	11,800cm <sup>3</sup> per hour 16 Layers per minute
POST PROCESSING	Heating, Pressing & Auto/ Manual Support Removal
SUPPORT	No support material No restriction on build angles
COMPOSITE MATERIALS	Carbon Fiber or Fiberglass with Nylon-12 or PEEK matrix
LAYER THICKNESS	50-60 Micron
POLYMER POWDER(S)	PEEK and Nylon 12
PRINTER DIMENSIONS	24' x 7.5' x 5.5' Feet
POWER REQUIREMENTS	208/3 Phase 50 Amp
OPERATING TEMP	70° / 50% Relative humidity
PRINT RESOLUTION (x,y)	1200 x 1200 dpi
PRINT ACCURACY	0.005 Inches (125 Microns)