Lightweight Technologies Showcase



Simulation D Williams, 20 July 2011



investing Advantage West Midlands in your future European Regional Development Fund European Union



Research areas



Research partnerships



Lead Support Interest













FLC Prediction

• Business need

- Introduction of new materials requires an extensive knowledge of their behaviour
- Forming Limit Curves (FLCs) describe material failure, for a particular gauge, under different major and minor strain conditions
- The FLC is used to predict the formability of the material in question
- An accurate FLC is an essential element in the toolbox of feasibility simulations and part / tool buy-off
- Benefits
 - Greater confidence in the assessment of advanced materials
 - Opportunities for greater styling freedom and operational efficiency
 - Reduced time to assess feasibility of new materials
- Applications
 - Skin panels and structural components that form Major Stamping Operations





investing in **your** future

European Union





Surface defect prediction

• Business need

- Prediction of cosmetic defects in stamped sheet metal parts is typically based on experience
- Goal: Accurate prediction of the occurrence and perceived severity of a defect based on objective criteria to extend existing feasibility processes
- Improved understanding of the causes of these conditions and steps that have to be taken to resolve them
- Benefits
 - Early identification of potential problems and early implementation of solutions
 - Increased confidence in decision-making during part feasibility & prioritisation of areas requiring re-work
 - Reduced cost and time associated with re-work
- Applications
 - All cosmetic stamped panels with potential to apply to non-stamped parts / trim items



Springback prediction

Business need

- New high strength steel & aluminium alloys are subject to much higher levels of springback than conventional deep drawing steels
- Increases tooling buy-off whilst acceptable dimensional integrity of components is achieved
- Work has established a validated FE method to accurately predict springback
- Benefits
 - Reduce time / cost to physically prove-out press tools through optimised component design and process planning
 - Reduced material requirement
 - Facilitate tailored, and potentially tighter tolerances, on pressed parts leading to better dimensional accuracy of assemblies

Applications

– Skin panels & structural parts that form Major Stamping Operations (MSO) content





www.advantagewm.co.uk

LTS 2011 Solutions



Dimensional Management

• Business need

- Conventional Dimensional Variation Analyses (DVA) assume parts are manufactured to nominal dimensions with variation normally distributed
- How can a more accurate representation of part & assembly geometry can be achieved?
- Stampings simulation provides more realistic geometry, reflecting tooling changes required to produce a feasible part, allowing improved prediction of where assembly conditions are likely

• Benefits

- Improve accuracy of prediction for assemblies using stamped sheet metal parts
- Contribute to improvement of perceived quality
- Reduce unplanned work and cost associated with rectification of cosmetic or functional issues attributed to dimensional variation

Applications

Parts & assemblies where stampings simulation data is available





Product complexity

Business need

- Complexity and variety management is concerned with 3 interlinked issues:
 - 1. Ensuring that a business has the correct breadth of product mix, providing appropriate revenue and profit streams
 - 2. Ensuring that the design of product families is in line with these product mix requirements in the most cost effective way
 - 3. Ensuring that the manufacturing and supply chain processes are capable of managing the ensuing complexity

Benefits

- Improved range of features available for customers
- Simpler product designs, appropriate for levels of customer choice
- Supply chain effectiveness improvements leading to Improved PROFITABILITY

• Applications

- Any product or commodity that has:
 - 1. High levels of variety, in particular where feature content can be specified by the customer
 - 2. Low levels of customer off-take
 - 3. High levels of inventory and/or sequencing costs
 - 4. High variances of manufacturing content



High Speed Deformation

Business need

- Improved prediction of the performance of joints in automotive body-in-white (BIW) structures gives greater confidence in the design before physical parts & assemblies are produced
- Goal: to improve the fidelity of CAE models of Resistance Spot Weld & Self Pierce Rivet joints in typical substrates and for common joint configurations / material stacks
- Benefits
 - Greater confidence allows efficiencies in application of virtual testing to product development
 - Greater confidence at design freeze supports reduced time, cost & risk in the NPI process
 - Improved understanding of joint failure allows efficient use of joints and potentially weight savings within the BIW
- Applications
 - Resistance Spot welds steel body structures
 - Self Pierce Rivets aluminium / mixed material body structures







Final thoughts...

- Collaboration is the key success factor
- Partners in PVLT share
 - Common goals / objectives
 - Flexibility of approach
 - Positive attitude
 - Willingness to support each other
- Stronger relationships as a result of the work
- Successful technical delivery
- Research meeting business needs





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Premium Vehicle Lightweight Technologies CoE Simulation team

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