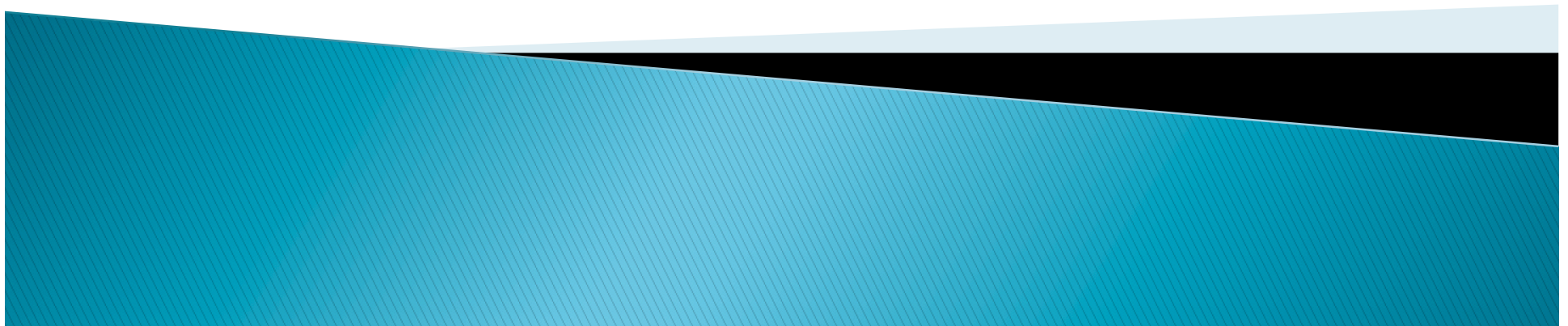




# **Lessons Learned**

## ***On the road to converting metal to plastic***

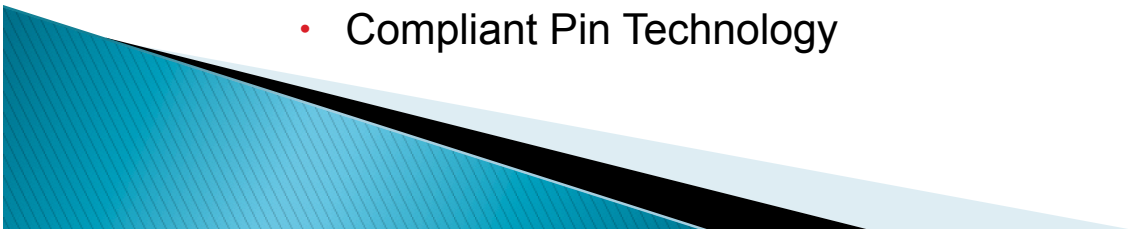
Michael Kole  
Pinnacle Sales, LLC





# Scope

- Marketing & Sales Agency
  - Sales Representation
  - Marketing Plans
  - Product Development
  - Business Coaching & Training
- Specializing in engineered components such as;
  - Fuel pumps & systems
    - Turbine, Gerotor, and Screw Pump technology
  - Water & Oil pumps
  - Electronic Throttle Body
    - Housings & Complex Covers
  - ABS Brake Systems
  - Electronic Control Units
    - Housings & Connectors
  - Compliant Pin Technology



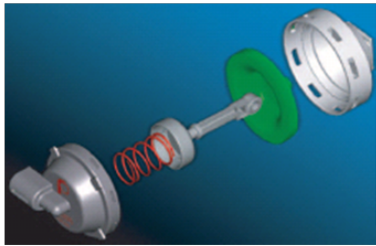


# Principals

- ▶ Helvoet Rubber & Plastics
  - Belgium, Holland, India
  - Thermoplastic, Thermoset, and Rubber Precision Parts
  - [www.helvoet.com](http://www.helvoet.com)
- ▶ Microplastics Inc.
  - St. Charles (Chicago), Illinois
  - Precision insert molding
  - Compliant Pin
  - [www.microplasticsinc.com](http://www.microplasticsinc.com)
- ▶ Leistritz
  - Nuremberg, Germany
  - Screw Pump Technology
  - [www.leistritz.com](http://www.leistritz.com)
- ▶ iNMAR
  - Detroit Area
  - Advanced Product Development Firm
    - From Napkin to the Assembly Line



# Helvoet



Vacuum Actuators



Electronic Throttle Body's  
and Air Control Valves



Fuel Pump Chambers



Vacuum Connectors  
Custom Check Valves



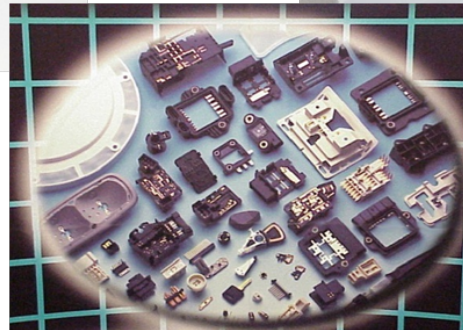
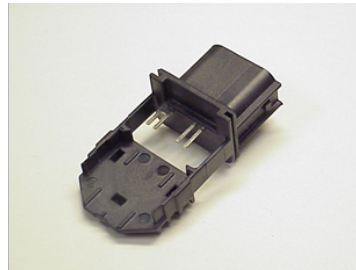
Thermostat Housings



Hydraulic Solenoid Housings



# Microplastics



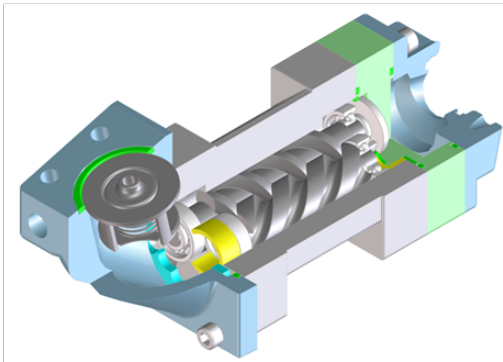
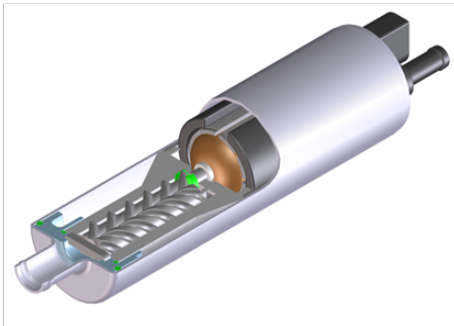
## Precision Insert Molding

- ETC Covers
- Sensors
- Filters
- Compliant Pin

## Complex Products

- Lead frame development
- Cure in place gaskets
- Product development
- Automated Assembly

# Leistritz

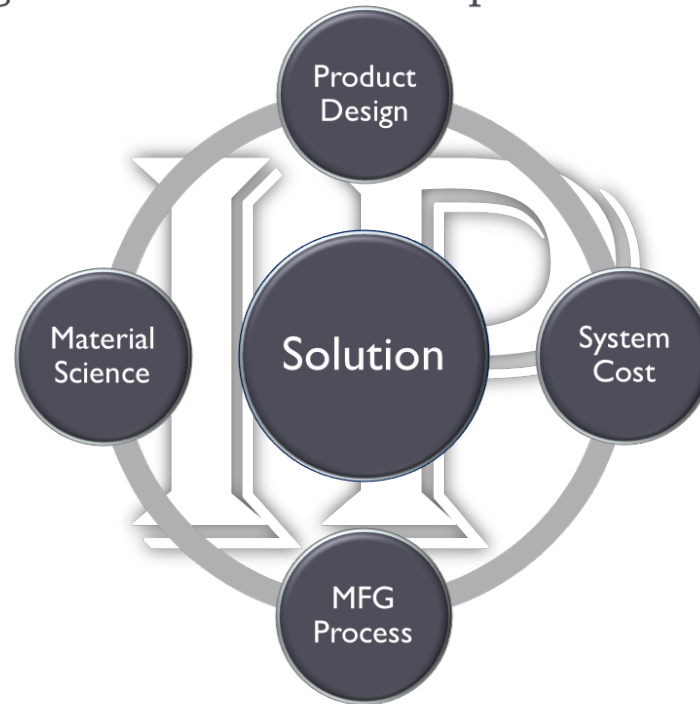


- High Efficiency pumping chambers for
  - Diesel Pumps
  - Gasoline Systems
  - SCR Systems
  - Precision Dosing
  - Metering Systems
- Efficiency
  - >60% for Screw Pump Technology
    - Compare to 20-24% for Turbine & Gerotor

# iNMAR

## Integrated Product Development Process

- ▶ Product Design
- ▶ Material Science Development
- ▶ Manufacturing Process Selection and Development
- ▶ System Cost Monitoring
- ▶ Intellectual Property Generation

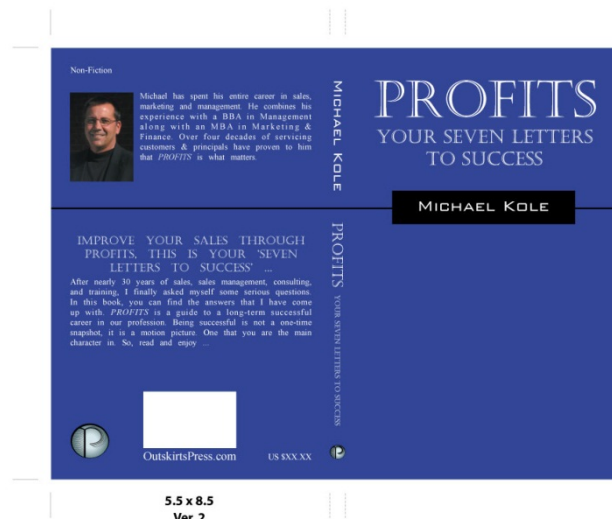


**The fastest route to new product development failure is to focus on one critical area at a time**

# Coaching & Training

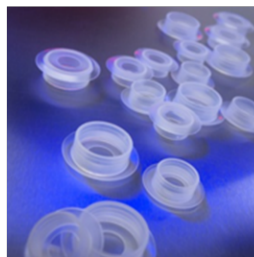
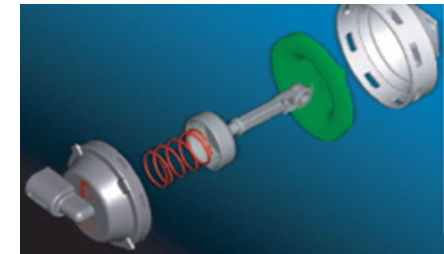


## Building Credibility



# Product Focus

- ▶ **Powertrain Components**
  - Composite Throttle Body
  - Fuel Systems
  - Vacuum & Turbo Actuators
  - Vacuum Systems, Custom Housings & Connectors







# History of Composites

- ▶ Introduced in 1990's, mainly thermoplastic materials; PEI, PPA, PPS, PBT
  - Mechanical Throttle Bodies
- ▶ Electronic Throttle Body proliferation began
  - Thermoplastic materials could not meet the dimensional challenges
    - Roundness, True Position
- ▶ Early 2000's - BMCI Thermoset material chosen
  - Best in class material for;
    - Cost, Dimensional stability, weight reduction & application feasibility
- ▶ BMCI/Tetradur introduction of a **"0" Shrink Material**






# Preferred Materials

- ▶ BMCI / Tetratur
  - L4220-776
- ▶ Key Elements
  - Post Shrinkage 0%
  - Flex Modulus 12 MPa
  - CLTE (comparable to Al)
  - Water Absorption (very low)

All leading to high dimensional stability for process & life of product


**tetra-DUR**  
 Kunststoff-Produktion GmbH

Det. 23.01.2004

Formular-Nr.

Seite 1

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

# TETRATUR L 4220 - 776

### Description:

Glass fibre reinforced polyester-(UP)-molding compound (BMC). >UP-(MD59+GF20)<  
 Low Profile formulation with very dark but not homogeneous color.  
 Especially suitable for parts with low tolerances.

### Processing:

Especially suitable for injection molding.  
 Preferred mold temperature: > 140°C.  
 Shelf life: 3 month at max.20°C

### Properties:

Density	ISO1183	g/cm3	2,0
Shrinkage	ISO 2577	%	ca. -0,02 (elongation)
Post shrinkage	ISO 2577	%	none
Flexural strength	ISO 178	MPa	110
Flexural modulus	ISO 178	MPa	12.000
Impact strength	ISO 179	kJ/m <sup>2</sup>	35
Notched impact strength	ISO 179	kJ/m <sup>2</sup>	35
Compressive strength	ISO 604	MPa	150
Tensile strength	ISO 527	MPa	40
Thermal expansion	VDE 0304/T.1	10 <sup>-6</sup> K <sup>-1</sup>	ca. 18
HDT - A	ISO 75	°C	> 250
Inflammability	UL subject 94	class	HB
Water absorption	ISO 62	mg (1d)	< 40
Surface resistivity	IEC 60093	Ω	10 <sup>12</sup>
Vdume resistivity	IEC 60093	Ω cm	10 <sup>14</sup>
Dissipation factor	IEC 60250		< 0,05
Dielectric constant	IEC 60250		ca. 4,5
Electric strength (1mm)	IEC 60243	kV/mm	20 - 30
Tracking resistance	IEC 60112	CTI	600
Glass transition temperature	DMA	°C	185
Tensile rupture strain	ISO 527	%	0,3
Poison's ratio	ISO 527		0,3
Outer fiber strain	ISO 178	%	1,2



# Programs & Partners



Continental



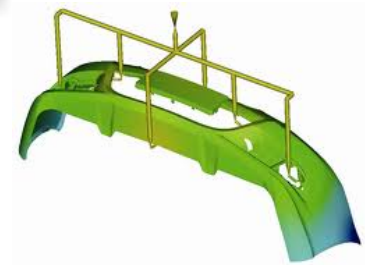
BOSCH





# Initial challenges

- ▶ ETC's were originally designed for aluminum, not plastic
  - Tolerance, Application Requirements, Durability
- ▶ Unable to predict the material flow
  - Knit lines, proper gating, hot spots
  - Unable to identify internal porosity
- ▶ Questions on mounting (torque, inserts, creep)
- ▶ High Level of Scrap
- ▶ Unacceptable cycle time







# Improvement Teams

Material  
Development



Design teams  
with OEM's  
and Tier 1's



Tool design &  
development with  
strategic suppliers



Created process  
team to tackle  
manufacturing  
issues



Automation &  
Assembly  
Consultants and  
external support







## Helvoet specific projects for improvement


- ▶ Partnered with BMCI to develop an improved material
  - Higher flow & more consistency batch to batch – PREDICTABILITY
  - Developed with the support of BMC & Corex Software highly accurate Mold Flow Analysis
- ▶ Combined efforts with our Tier 1 customers to develop and understand design rules for;
  - Application requirements, molding parameters, strength and assembly issues
  - Answered questions about what the application needs, not what aluminum can do
- ▶ Developed a strategic supply base for tool design & development
  - Created exclusive cooling, cleaning, and vacuum systems
  - Implemented cold runner design
  - Initiated aggressive PM and developed special coatings to extend tool life
- ▶ Formed internal team to define a robust molding & manufacturing process
  - Reduction of cycle time by over 40%, elimination of handling damages, placement of pressure sensors, and closed loop processing reduced scrap by 80%
  - Developed extensive math models and improved predictability leading to high capability
- ▶ Working with outside specialists for automation,
  - Designed and implemented; automated system to reduce burr and surface porosity
  - Critical leak testing procedures
  - Qualified vendors for fastening and developed specifications for mounting



# Preferred Materials

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  - L4220-776
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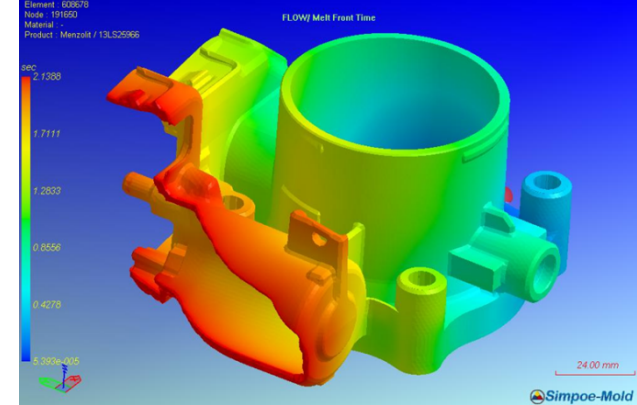
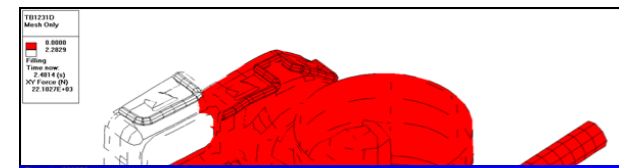
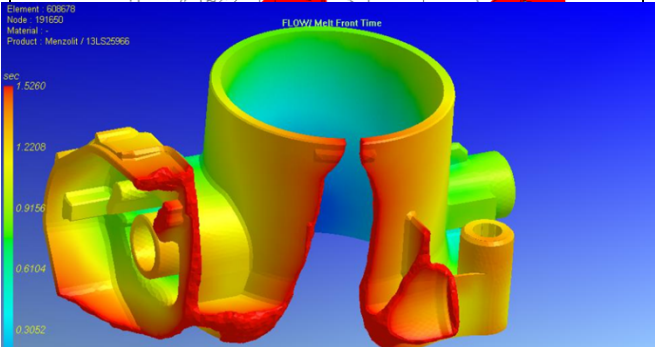
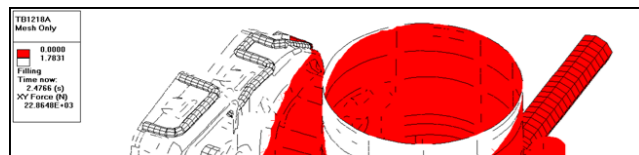
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Glass transition temperature	DMA	°C	185
Tensile rupture strain	ISO 527	%	0,3
Poison's ratio	ISO 527		0,3
Outer fiber strain	ISO 178	%	1,2



# Using technology for predictability

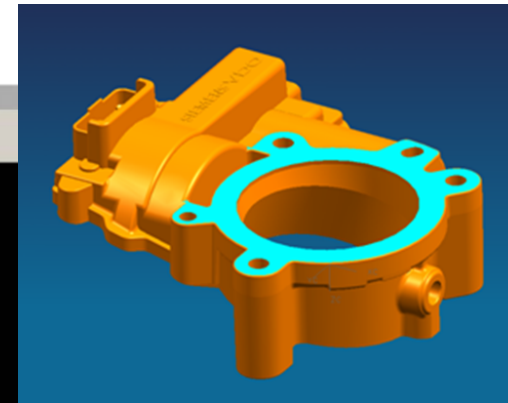
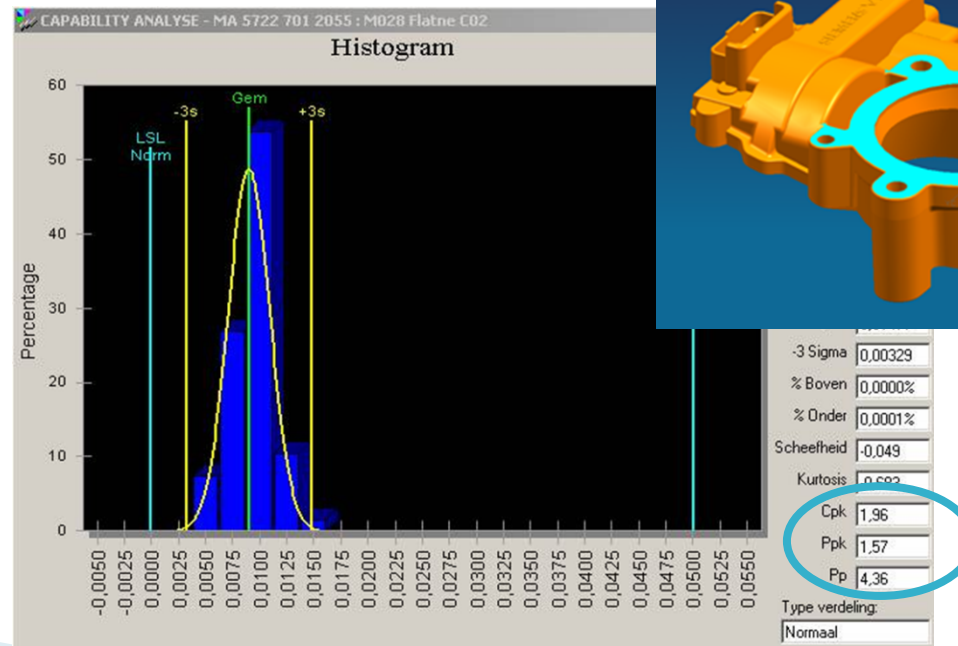
## 2004 - 2011





# Predictability leads to higher accuracy ....

- Flatness: 25  $\mu\text{m}$ 's (+/- 3 Sigmas)

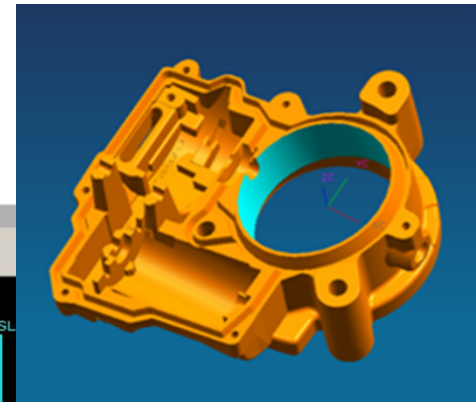
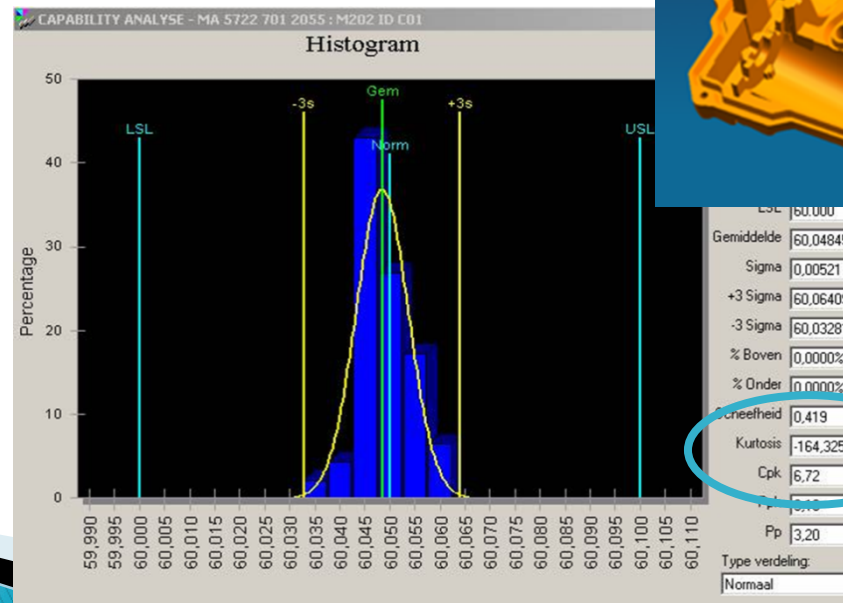






# Predictability leads to higher accuracy ....

- ▶ Bore Diameter: 60.05
  - 1.67 Cpk = +/- 0.030

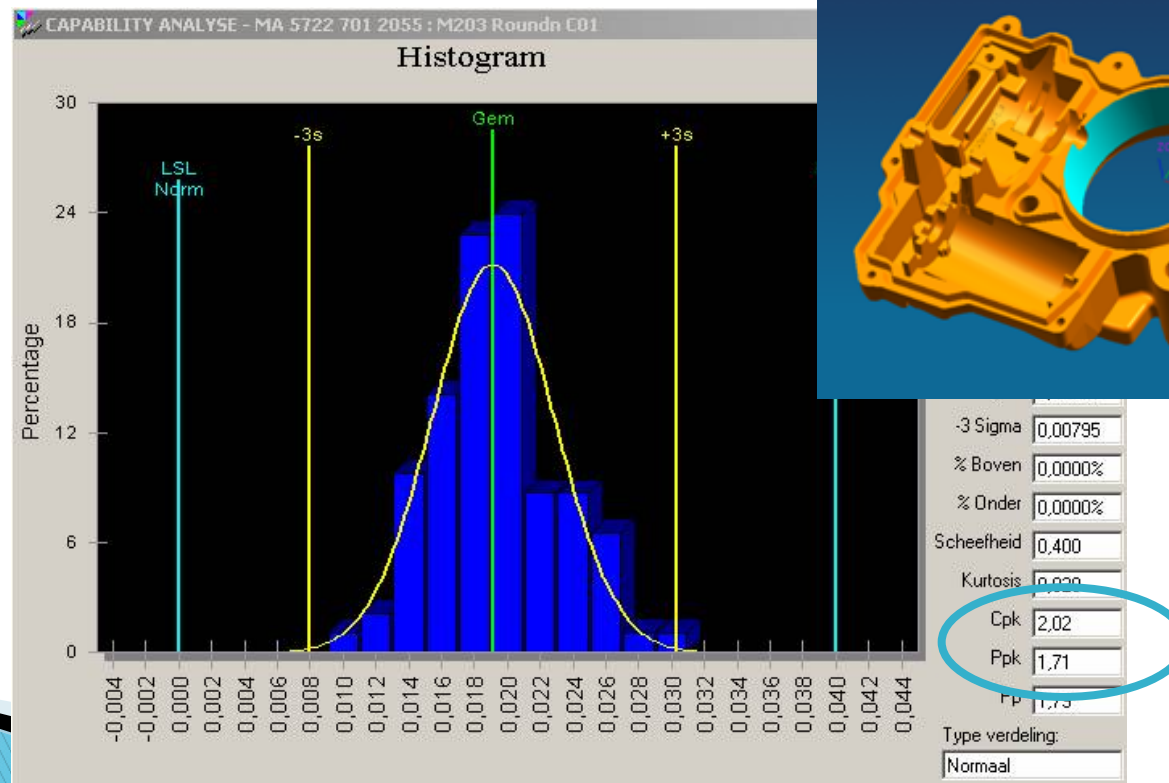






# Predictability leads to higher accuracy ....

- ▶ Roundness: 30  $\mu\text{m}$ 's





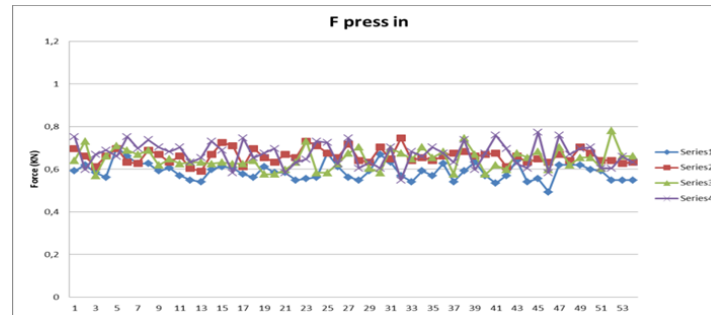
## Collaboration with OEM's and Tiers produced application requirements, leading to guidelines ...

- ▶ Max torque on mounting holes
  - > 20Nm
- ▶ Unequal wall thickness is okay
  - Allows for strengthening areas
    - Mounting bosses for example to eliminate compression limiters
    - Transitions from 3mm to 9mm
- ▶ Tg 190° C
- ▶ Design with tolerances in mind
  - Bore diameters < 84mm
    - +/- 3 Sigma; 35µm's
  - Roundness
    - +/- 3 Sigma; 30µm's
- ▶ Flatness for mounting & sealing surfaces
  - 25µm's

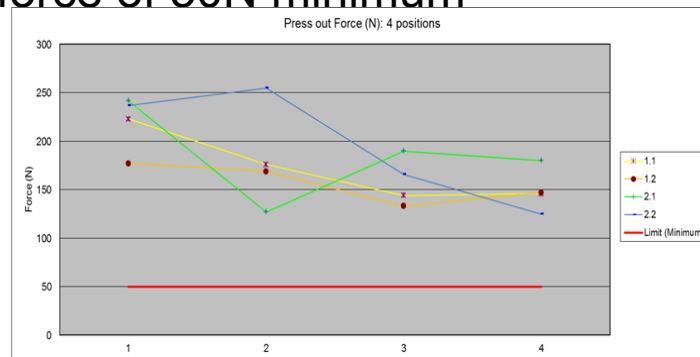


# Guidelines...

- ▶ If compression limiters are not designed out of the housing ...
  - Use crush ribs with a press in force of 400N–900N



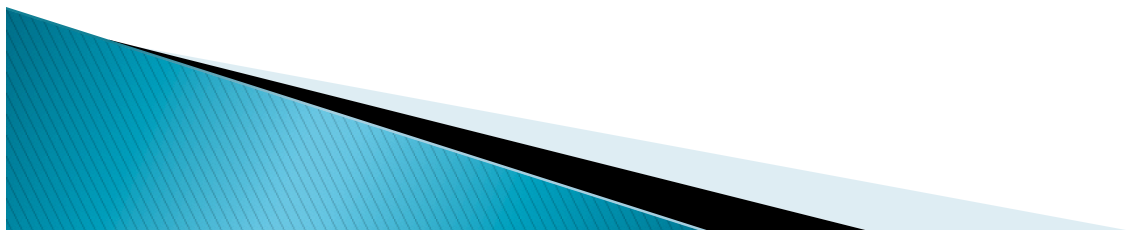
- Press out force of 50N minimum





## Guidelines *(attachments)*

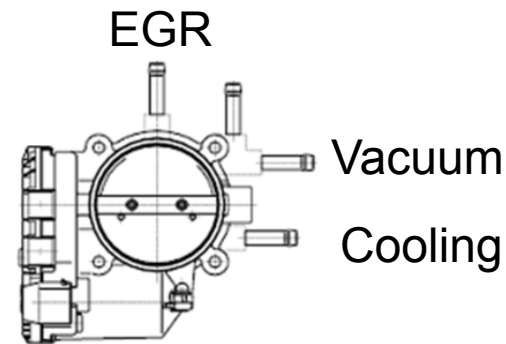
- ▶ Ejot self tapping screw in BMC
  - Design rules:
    - Hole diameter =  $0,8 \times d1$
    - Tread length =  $2 \times d1$
  - Experience of our BMC supplier: Ejot Delta PT 4mm
    - Optimal inner diameter:  $0,83 \times d1 = 3,32 \text{ mm}$
    - Recommended length:  $3 \times d1 = 12 \text{ mm}$
    - Max Torque:
      - $5,5\text{Nm} \pm 0,7 \text{ Nm}$  needed to tap the thread
    - Max Clamping force:  $3,1\text{KN}$





# Advantages of Composite Housings

- ▶ **Weight Savings**
  - 15-25% Compared to Aluminum
  - Lower Vibration Stress on the Manifold
- ▶ **Function integration & increased design freedom**
- ▶ **Crash Performance:**
  - Energy absorption in crash testing
  - Engine design – OK for Above Beltline Locations
- ▶ **Noise reduction**
  - Lower vibration = less noise
  - Less stress on manifold, cost can be reduced in this area





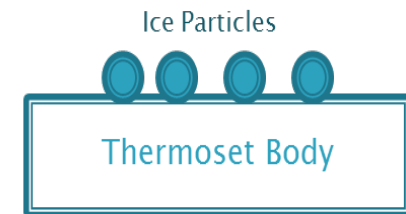


# Advantages of Composite Housings

- ▶ No Icing issues
  - Lower CLTE
  - No Water Heating Necessary
  - Lower system costs
  - Simplification of control system, downsize of electric motor
  - No ice break system required in controller
- ▶ Chemical resistance
- ▶ Shorter process flow in comparison to alum
- ▶ Longer tool life
  - Significant improvement ratio of tooling investment over tool life
- ▶ Price reduction,
  - Up to 25% savings compared to aluminum



- Difficult to remove without using ice breaking in system
- Slow melting point due to high temp transmission of Al



- Very easy to break away
- Fast melting point due to low temp transmission of plastic





# Continuous Improvement

Item	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Future
Cycle Time								
Tool life								
Bore Tolerance								
Roundness								
Scrap								
Price	€ 3.90							€ 1.99

Dimensions in Millimeters  
Based on Thermoset Housing ~ 250 grams



# Summary

- ▶ Composite throttle bodies have proven themselves as a robust solution
  - Over 10 Million housing parts installed
- ▶ Financial advantages can be significant
  - Component costs lower than aluminum
  - Systems costs lower
  - Roadmap to further savings is defined
- ▶ Regardless of intended assembly location, Helvoet can offer localization opportunities
- ▶ It took 30-years to get aluminum housings to today's precision
  - The evolution of the composite throttle body has caught up in less than 7 years!





# Offer ...

Interested companies please contact ...

**Pinnacle Sales, LLC**

418 Main Street, Suite 6

(734) 516-0221

[mkole@pinnaclesales-llc.com](mailto:mkole@pinnaclesales-llc.com)

