

# **METAL MATRIX COMPOSITES (MMCs)**

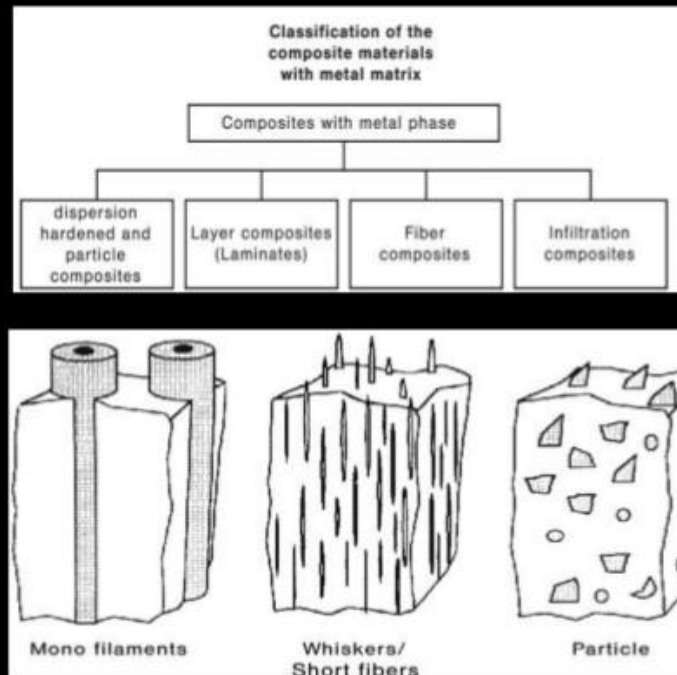
*Presented By:*

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## **INTRODUCTION**

- Conventional monolithic materials have limitations in achieving good combination of strength, stiffness, toughness and density.
- To overcome these shortcomings and to meet the ever increasing demand of modern day technology, composites are most promising materials of recent interest.
- Metal matrix composites (MMCs) possess significantly improved properties including high specific strength; specific modulus, damping capacity and good wear resistance compared to unreinforced alloys.

## CLASSIFICATION OF METAL MATRIX COMPOSITE



## METAL MATRIX COMPOSITES (MMCs)

- A metal matrix composite (MMC) is composite material with at least two constituent parts, one being a metal.
- The other material may be a different metal or another material, such as a ceramic or organic compound.
- When at least three materials are present, it is called a hybrid composite.

## COMPOSITION

- MMCs are made by dispersing a reinforcing material into a metal matrix. The reinforcement surface can be coated to prevent a chemical reaction with the matrix.
- For example, carbon fibers are commonly used in aluminum matrix to synthesize composites shown.

## MATRIX

- The matrix is the monolithic material into which the reinforcement is embedded, and is completely continuous.
- This means that there is a path through the matrix to any point in the material, unlike two materials sandwiched together.
- The matrix is usually a lighter metal such as aluminum, magnesium, or titanium, and provides a compliant support for the reinforcement.

## REINFORCEMENT

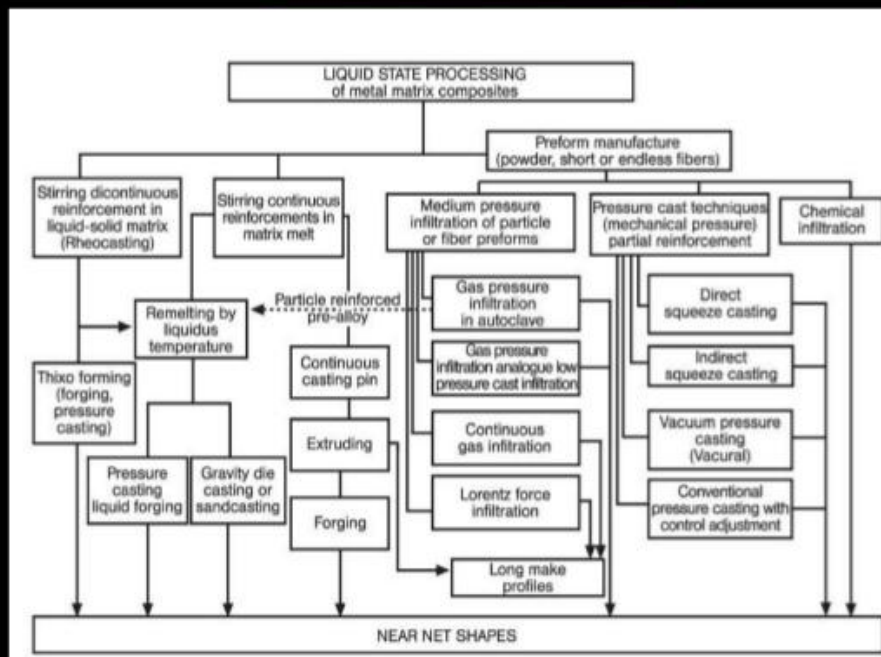
- The reinforcement material is embedded into the matrix.
- It is used to change physical properties such as wear resistance, friction coefficient, or thermal conductivity.
- The reinforcement can be either continuous, or discontinuous.

Reinforcements for metal matrix composites have a manifold demand profile, which is determined by production and processing and by the matrix system of the composite material. The following demands are generally applicable:

- Low density,
- Mechanical compatibility (a thermal expansion coefficient which is low but  
Chemical compatibility,
- Thermal stability,
- High Young's modulus,
- High compression and tensile strength,
- Good process ability,
- Economic efficiency.



# PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING OF METAL MATRIX COMPOSITES



## MECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF MMCs

- lower coefficient of thermal and electrical conductivity

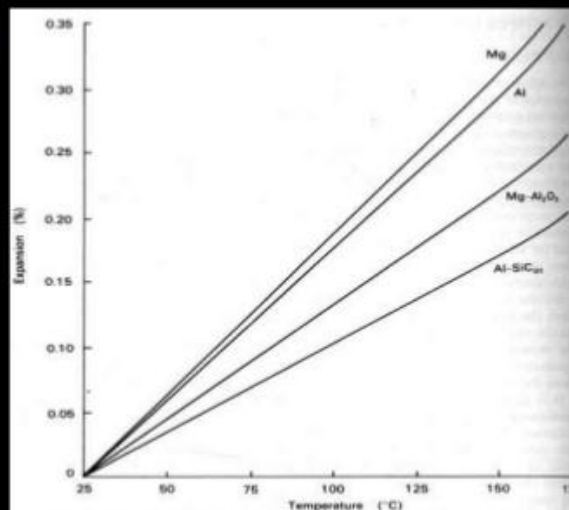
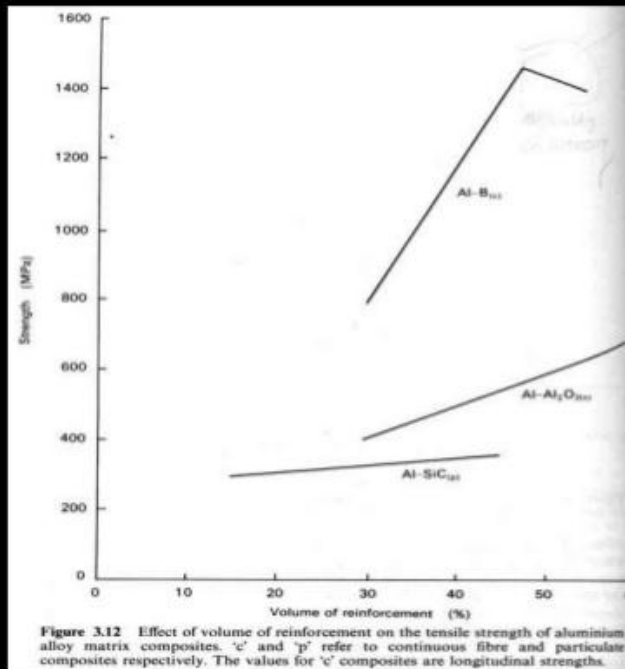
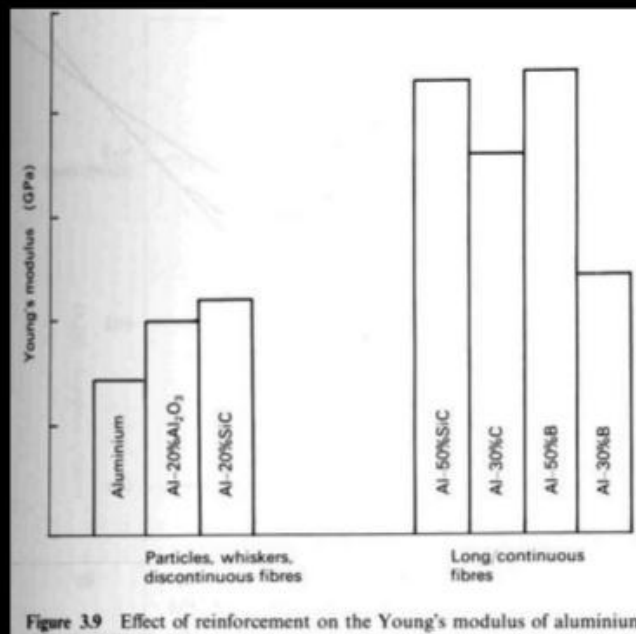


Figure 3.8 Comparison of the thermal expansion of metals and MMCs.

## STRENGTH OF MMCs



## Young's Modulus of MMCs



➤ higher thermal deformation resistance

$$= \frac{\text{thermal conductivity}}{\text{thermal expansion coefficient}}$$

➤ low fatigue resistance

➤ Reinforcement-matrix interface

Extensive interaction  
Strong  $\Rightarrow$  high strength

## APPLICATIONS OF METAL MATRIX COMPOSITES

I.	Drive shaft for people and light load motor vehicles (Fig. 1.61) [65]:
Material:	AlMg1SiCu + 20 vol. % $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ P
Processing:	extrusion from cast feed material
Development aims:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– high dynamic stability, high Young's modulus (95 GPa)</li> <li>– low density (<math>2.95 \text{ g cm}^{-3}</math>)</li> <li>– high fatigue strength (120 MPa for <math>n = 5 \times 10^7</math>, <math>R = -1</math>, RT)</li> <li>– sufficient toughness (<math>21.5 \text{ MPa m}^{1/2}</math>)</li> <li>– substitution of steels</li> </ul>
II.	Vented passenger car brake disk (Fig. 1.62) [65]:
Material:	G-AlSi12Mg + 20 vol. % $\text{SiC}_p$
Processing:	sand- or gravity die casting
Development aims:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– high wear resistance (better than conventional cast iron brake discs)</li> <li>– low heat conductivity (factor 4 higher than cast iron)</li> <li>– substitution of iron materials</li> </ul>
III.	Longitudinal bracing beam (Stringer) for planes (Fig. 1.63) [66]:
Material:	AlCu4Mg2Zr + 15 vol. % $\text{SiC}_p$
Processing:	extrusion and forging of casted feed material
Development aims:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– high dynamic stability, high Young's modulus (100 GPa)</li> <li>– low density (<math>2.8 \text{ g cm}^{-3}</math>)</li> <li>– high strength (<math>R_m = 540 \text{ MPa}</math>, <math>R_{p0.2} = 413 \text{ MPa}</math>, RT)</li> <li>– high fatigue strength (240 MPa for <math>n = 5 \times 10^7</math>, <math>R = -1</math>, RT)</li> <li>– sufficient toughness (<math>19.9 \text{ MPa m}^{1/2}</math>)</li> </ul>
IV.	Disk brake calliper for passenger cars (Fig. 1.64) [67]:
Material:	Aluminium alloy with Nextel ceramic fibre 610
Weight reduction:	55 % compared to cast iron.

## THE MOST IMPORTANT MMC SYSTEMS

- Aluminum matrix
- Continuous fibers: boron, silicon carbide, alumina, graphite
- Discontinuous fibers: alumina, alumina-silica
- Whiskers: silicon carbide
- Particulates: silicon carbide, boron carbide
- Magnesium matrix
- Continuous fibers: graphite, alumina
- Whiskers: silicon carbide
- Particulates: titanium carbide
- Copper matrix

## THE ADVANTAGES OF MMCs

- Higher temperature capability
- Fire resistance
- Higher transverse stiffness and strength
- No moisture absorption
- Higher electrical and thermal conductivities
- Better radiation resistance
- Fabric ability of whisker and particulate-reinforced MMCs with conventional metalworking equipment.



## THE DISADVANTAGES OF MMCs

- Higher cost of some material systems .
- Relatively immature technology .
- Complex fabrication methods for fiber-reinforced systems (except for casting).

## CONCLUSION

- Metal matrix composites offer sufficient promise and have reached the degree of maturity that indicates an expansion of their use. To realize their full potential however these composites deserve greater attention and support.
- The numbers of MMCs currently are in various stages of development: these are boron/aluminum, beryllium/titanium, and boron/titanium, graphite/aluminum, and super alloys reinforced with refractory metal.
- The boron/reinforced aluminum system is in most advanced stage of development and properly data for this system are sufficient for design in structural application.

# METAL MATRIX COMPOSITE



## PRESENTED BY

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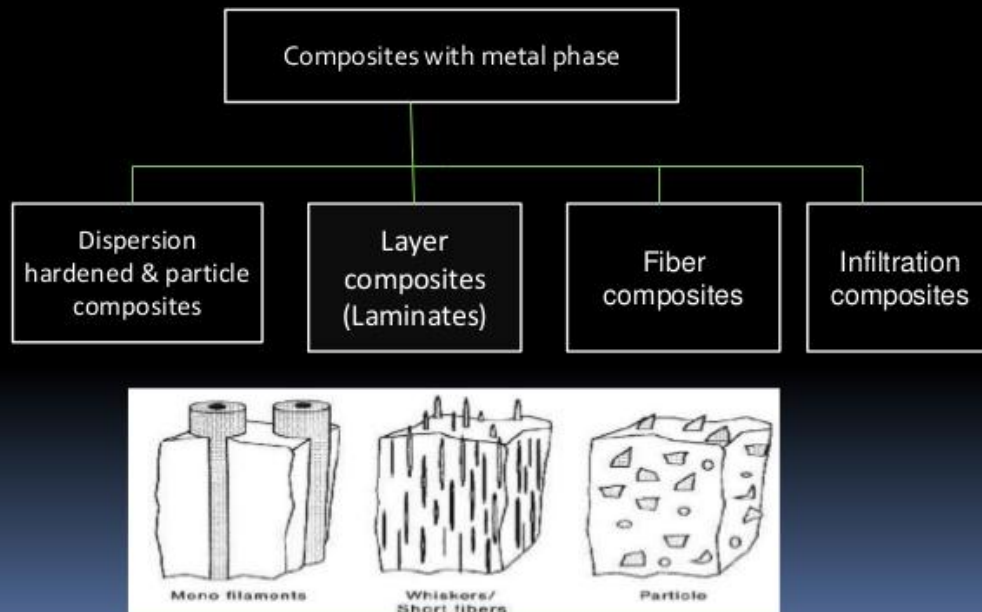
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## WHY WE USE MMC?

- High strength
- High stiffness
- Toughness
- Density
- Good wear resistance
- Damping capacity
- Specific modulus

# CLASSIFICATION OF MMC



## COMPOSITION

### FIBER

Graphite

Boron

Alumina

Silicon carbide

### MATRIX

Aluminum  
Magnesium  
Lead  
Copper

Aluminum  
Magnesium  
Titanium

Aluminum  
Lead  
Magnesium

Aluminum  
Titanium  
Super alloy (cobalt Base)

# Manufacturing and Forming Methods

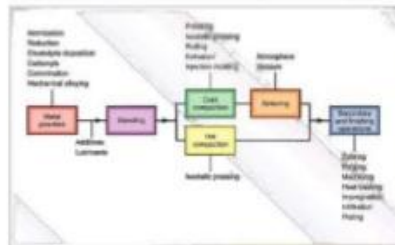
- Solid state methods
- Semi-solid state methods
- Liquid state methods
- Vapor Deposition
- In-situ fabrication technique

## Solid state methods

### 1. Powder blending and consolidation

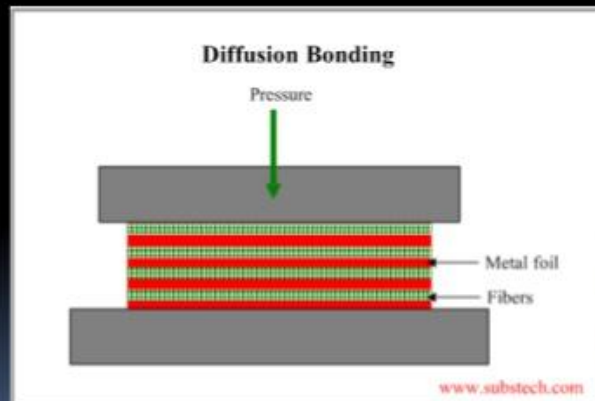
#### Powder metallurgy

- is the process of blending fine powdered materials, pressing them into a desired shape (compacted), and then heating the compressed material in a controlled atmosphere to bond the material (sintering).



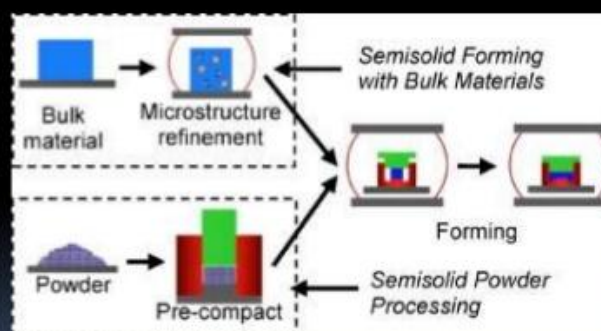
## Solid state methods

### 2. Foil diffusion bonding



## Semi-solid state methods

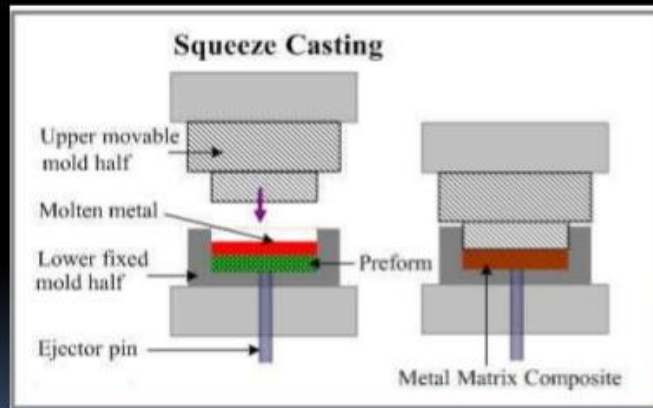
- Semi-solid powder processing





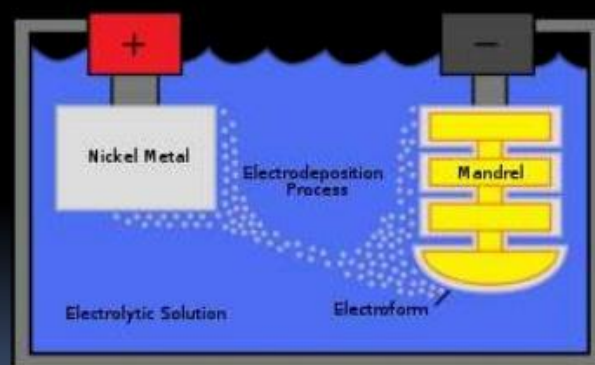
# Liquid state methods

## 1. SQUEEZE CASTINGS



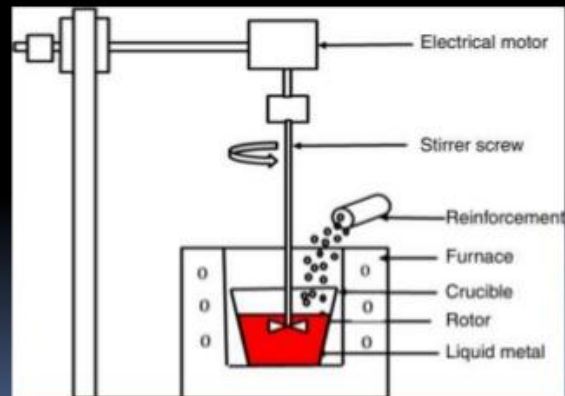
# Liquid state methods

## 2. Electroplating and electroforming



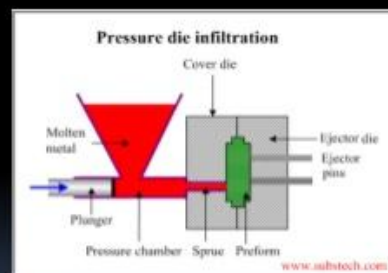
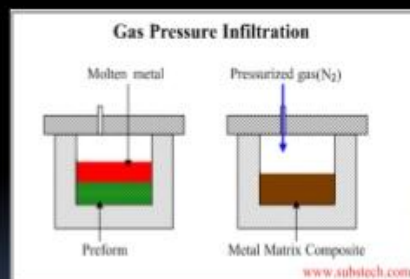
## Liquid state methods

### 3. Stir casting



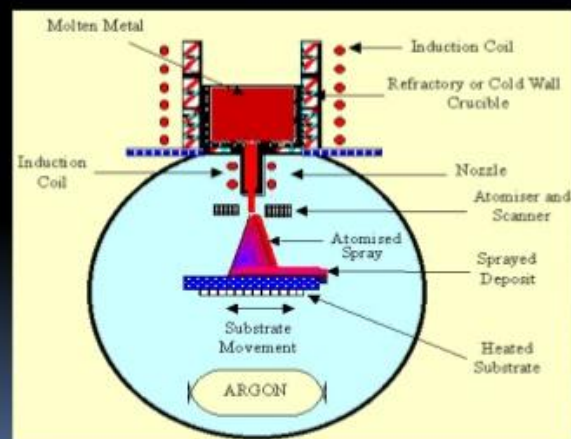
## Liquid state methods

### 4. Pressure infiltration

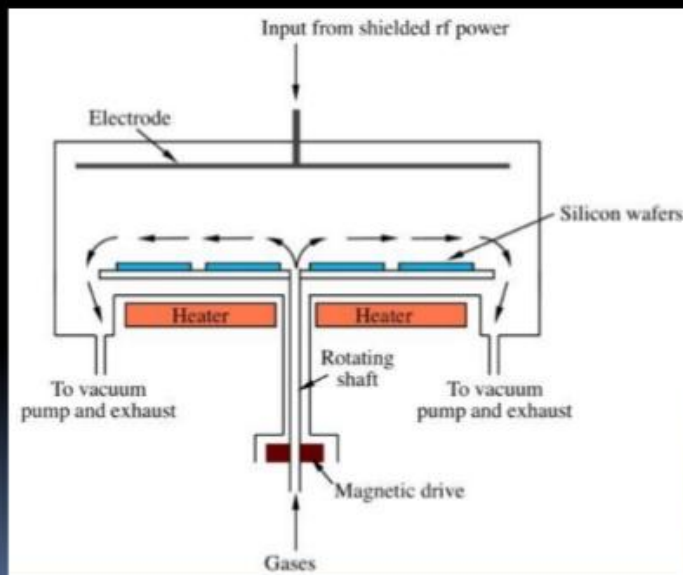


# Liquid state methods

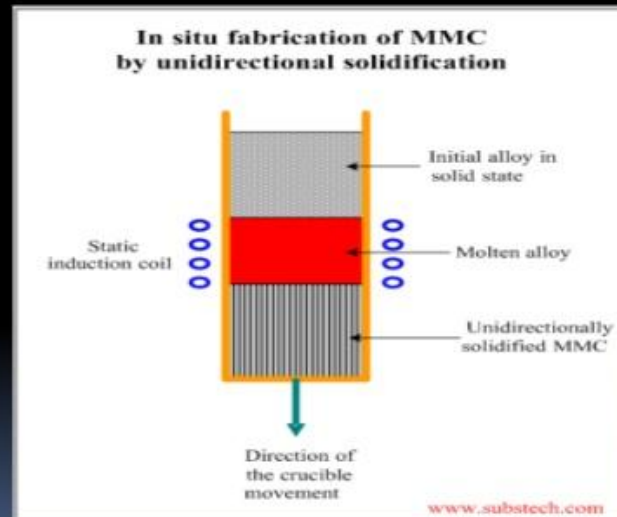
## 5. Spray deposition



## Vapor Deposition



## In-situ fabrication technique

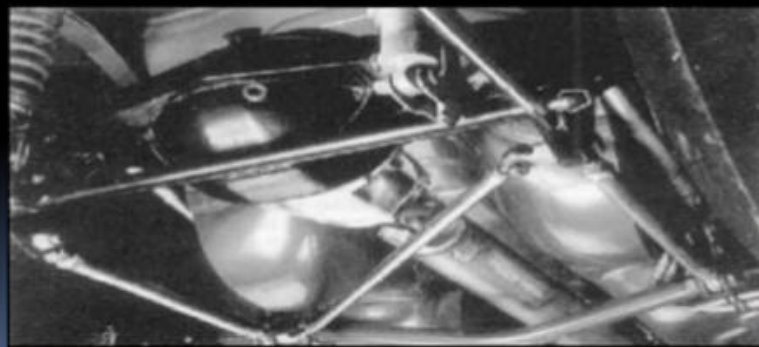


## APPLICATIONS OF MMC

- **Drive shaft**

**Material** :  $\text{AlMg1SiCu} + 20\% \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3\text{P}$

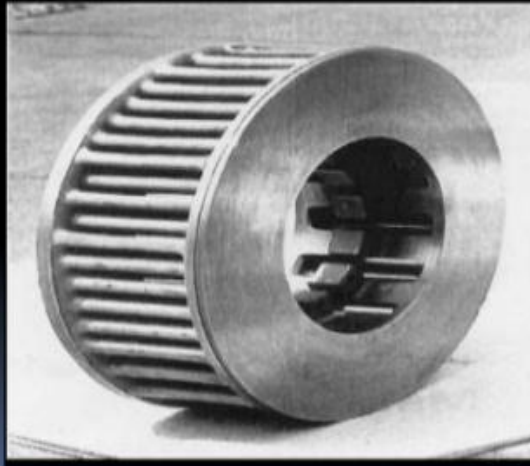
**Processing** : extrusion from cast feed material



- **Vented passenger car brake disk**

**Material** : G-AlSi12Mg + 20% vol. SiCp

**Processing** : Sand / Die casting



- **Longitudinal bracing beam for planes**

**Material** : AlCu4Mg2Zr + 15 % vol. Cp

**Processing** : extrusion or, forging of casted feed material.





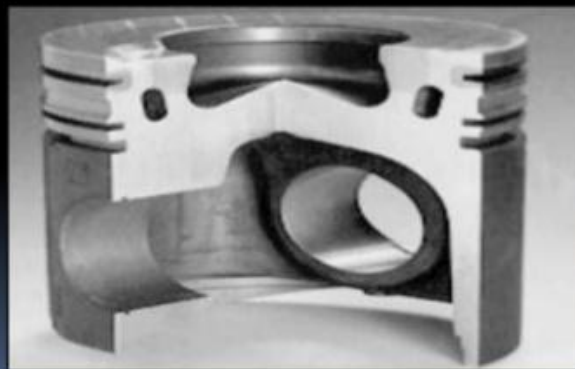
- **Disk brake calliper for passenger cars**

**Material** : Aluminum alloy with nextel ceramic fiber 610

**Weight reduction** : 55% cast iron compared



- **Partial short fibers reinforced light metal diesel pistons**



- Honda has used aluminum metal matrix composite cylinder liners in some of their engines, including the B21A1, H22A and H23A, F20C and F22C



- The F-16 Fighting Falcon uses monofilament silicon carbide fibers in a titanium matrix for a structural component of the jet's landing gear.



- Al high gain antenna wave guides/boom for the Hubble Space Telescope

