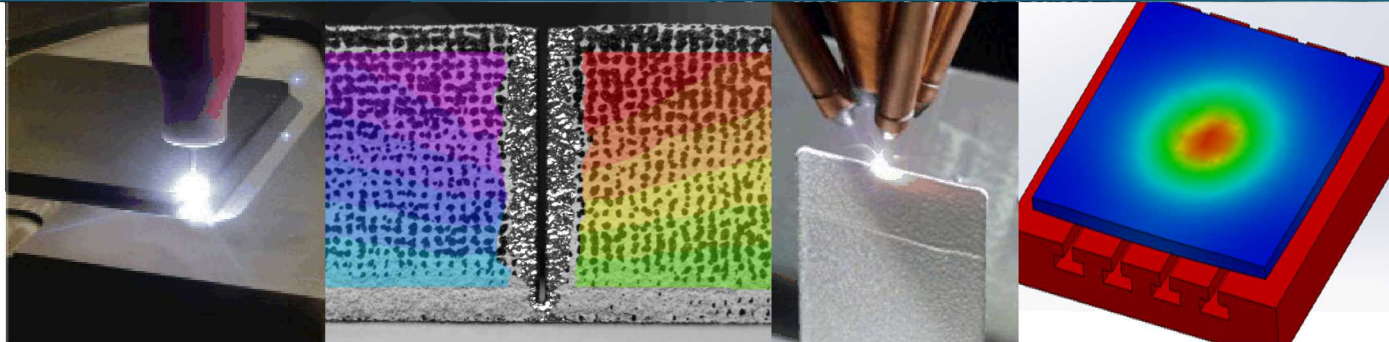


# Process Development for the In-Situ Mixing of Multi-Material Feed Stock in Additive Manufacturing



*PRESENTED BY*

Shaun Whetten

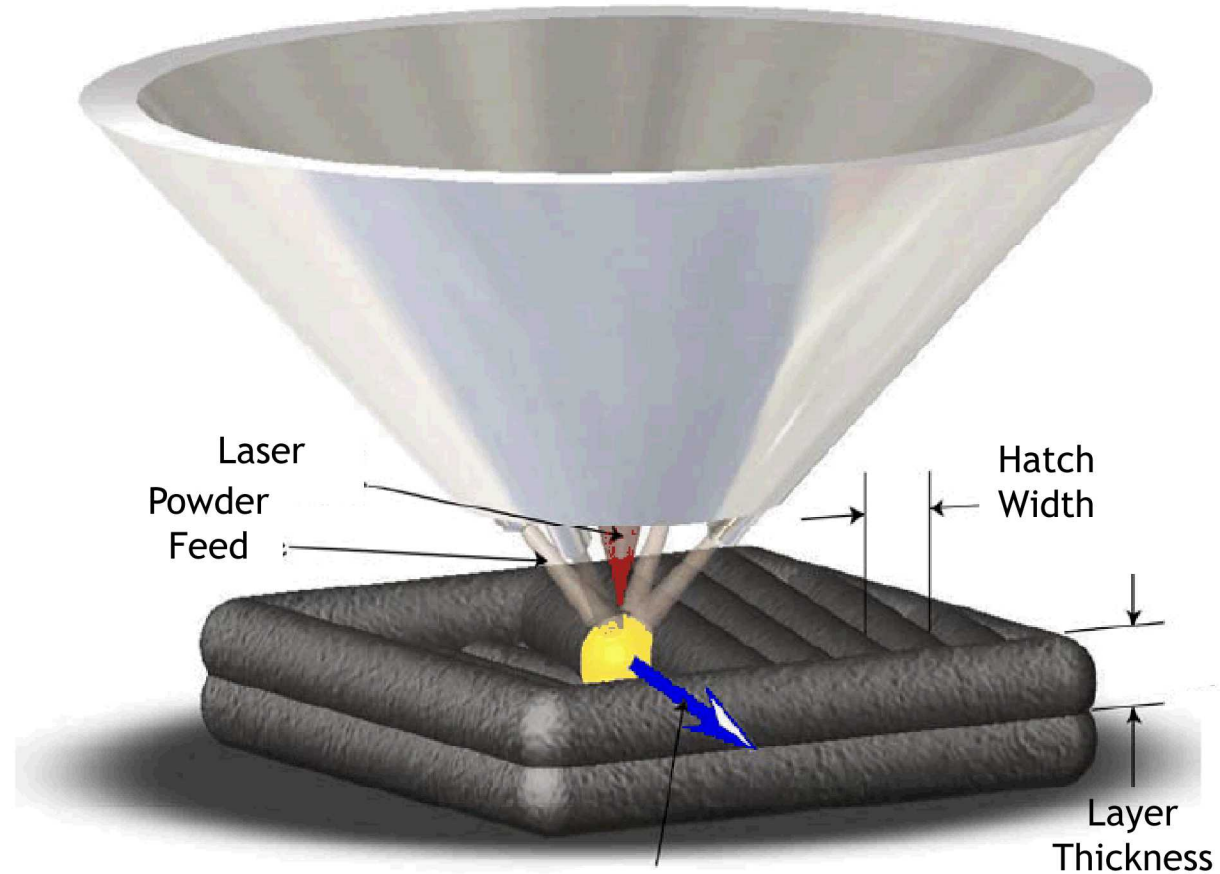
Raymond Puckett, Dylan Casey, Michael Melia, Andrew Kustas



Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

# LENS (Laser Engineered Net Shaping)

- Laser beam coaxial to print head
- Fluidized powdered metal is blown into laser melt pool
- Beads of material are formed as deposition nozzle and substrate are moved relative to each other



*Schematic of LENS 3D printer [1]*

[1]Smugeresky, J.E., *On the interface between LENS deposited stainless steel 304L repair geometry and cast or machined components.*

# Uses For Multiple Powder Feeders

Material 1   
Material 2 

Multi-Material



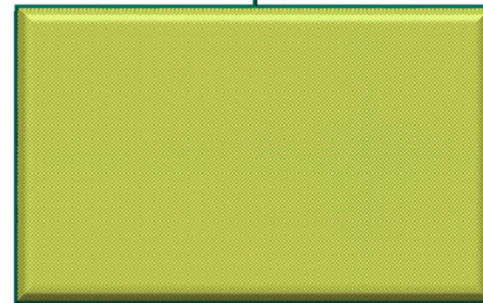
Compositional Grading



“In-Situ Alloying”



75% M1  
25% M2



50% M1  
50% M2



25% M1  
75% M2



# Advantages of LENS (DED)

- Functionally graded
- Multi material
- Size of parts
- Hybrid additive subtractive
- High deposition rate
- Repair of parts
- In-Situ Alloying



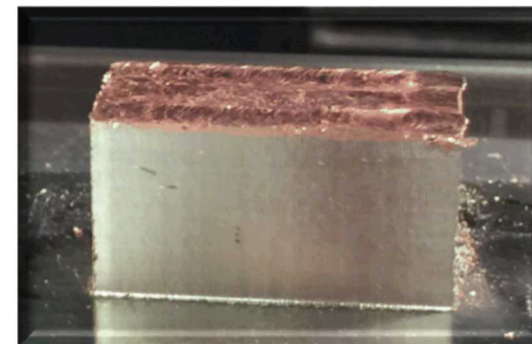
**Multi-material**  
*½ magnetic steel ½ non-magnetic  
steel*



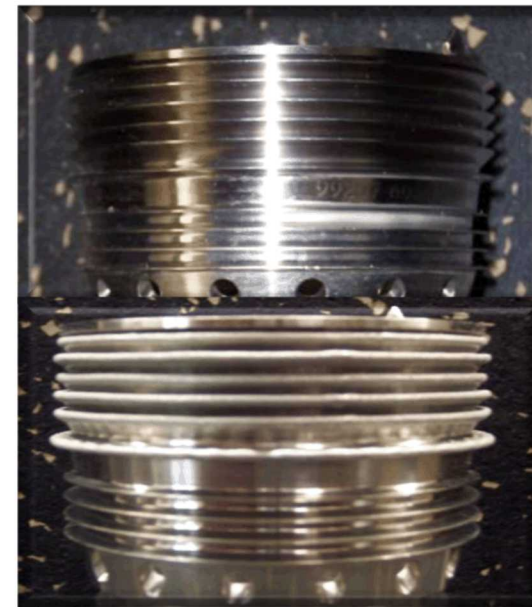
**Hybrid Additive Subtractive**  
*Ti6Al4V*



**Multi-material and Hybrid**  
*Hiperco core with SS304L Shell*



**Multi-material and Hybrid**  
*Cu Core with SS304L Shell*

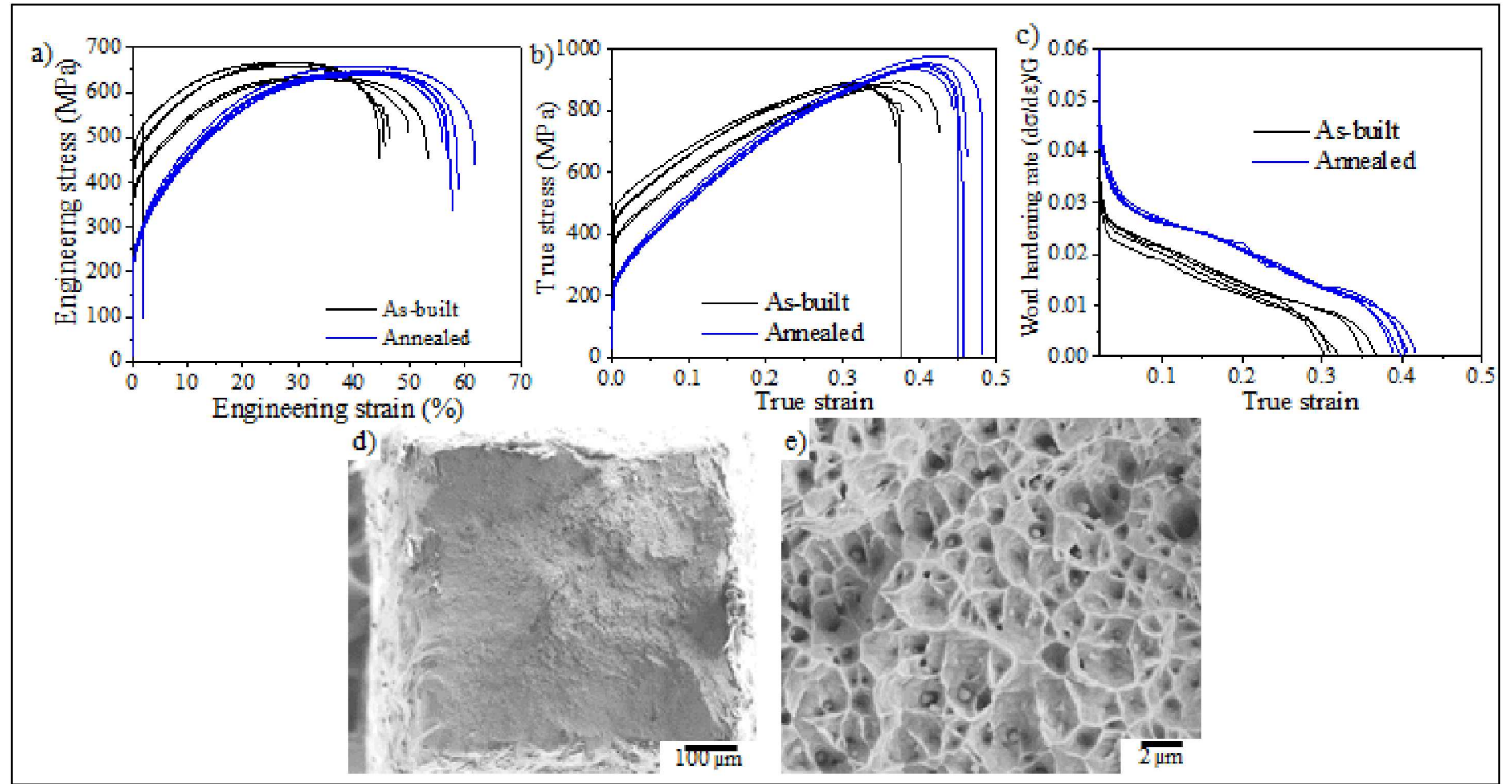


**Repair of worn parts [1]**

[1] RPM Innovations, Inc. Laser  
Deposition Technology For  
Additive Manufacturing and Repair

# High Entropy Alloys (HEAs)

- Mechanical testing of pre-alloyed HEA powder
- High strength and ductility with desirable performance shown in AM HEAs



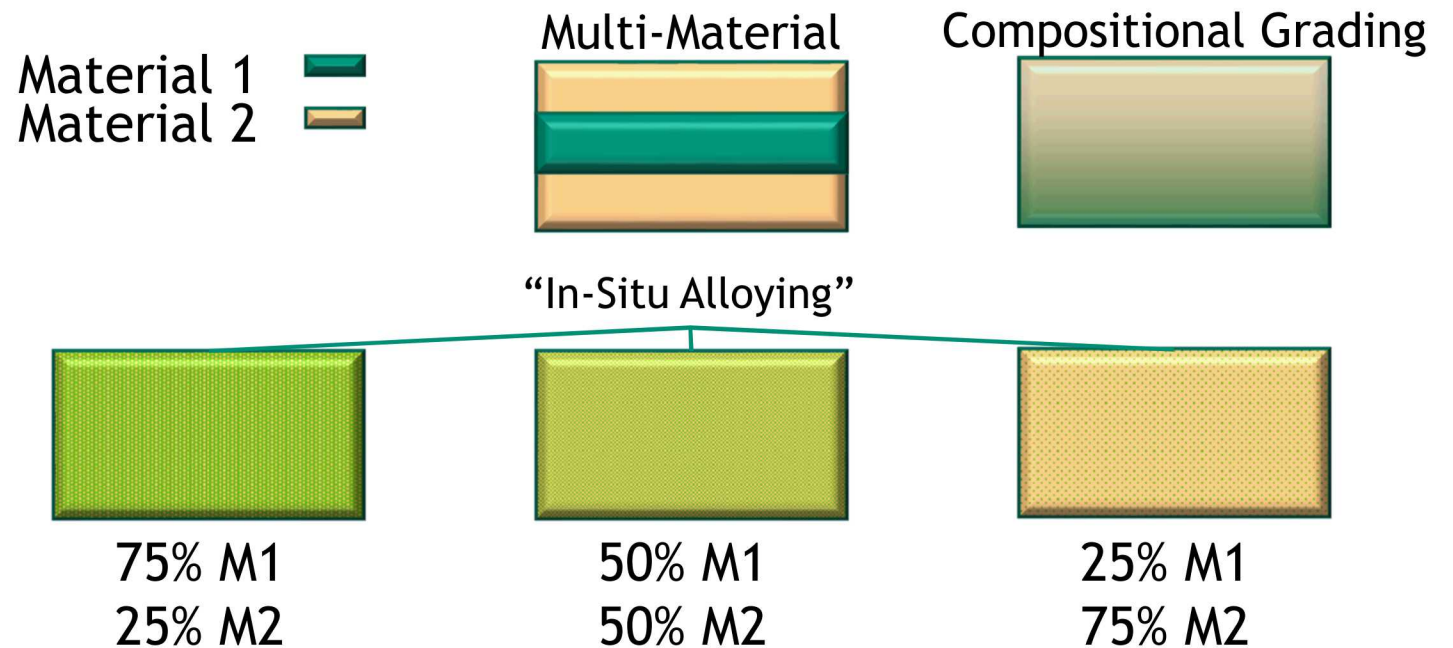
# We need more powder feeders!!

What if I didn't have to have custom powders made for every project?

What if I could put ingredients and an “alloy recipe” into the printer and push print?

What if I could change alloy composition from coupon to coupon?

What if I could change alloy composition within a coupon?





# 7 | LENS Powder Feed Upgrade

- Up to 5 component compositional grading
- Up to 5 component multi material
- In-Situ alloying of up to 5 “Ingredients”
- HEA's



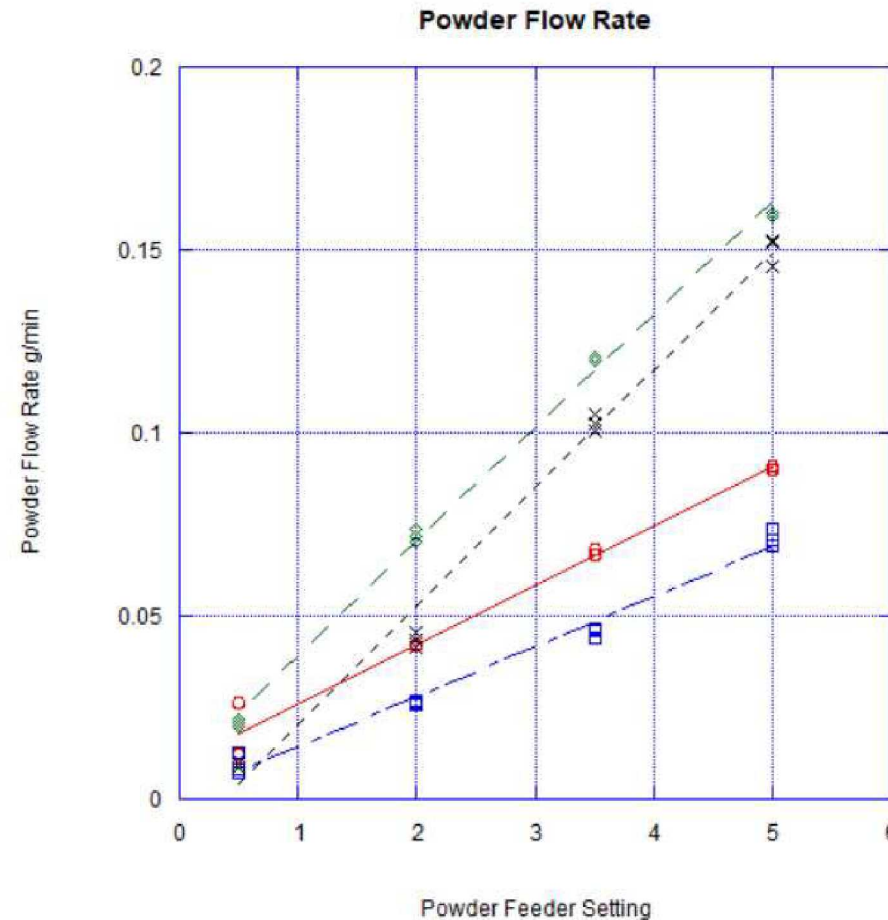
Additional new powder feeders

Original two powder feeders



# Characterizing Powder Flow Rate

- Necessary to know how much of each powder is going into the sample.
- Approach:
  - Flow powder at various feeder settings
  - Create flow curves
  - Use flow curves to calculate settings needed for desired alloy composition
  - Verify composition using metallurgical methods.



$$\text{—} y = 0.00937 + 0.016353x \quad R = 0.99243$$

$$\text{---} y = 0.00043111 + 0.013698x \quad R = 0.99277$$

$$\text{—} y = 0.0078944 + 0.031011x \quad R = 0.99821$$

$$\text{-----} y = -0.012124 + 0.032184x \quad R = 0.99466$$



# Compositionally Graded Thin Walls

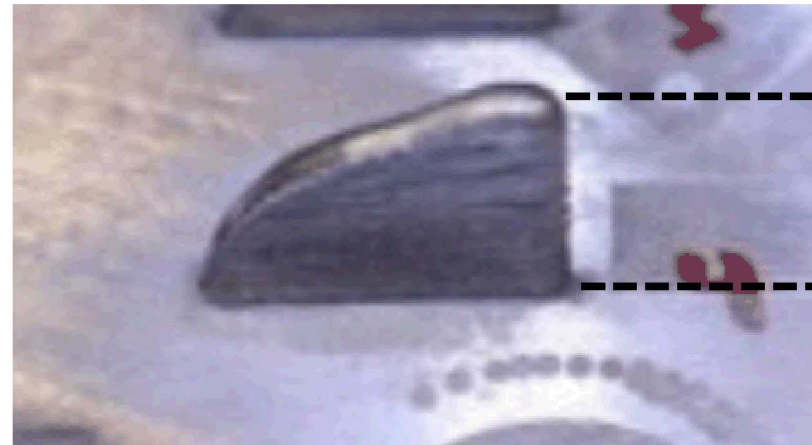
- Using functional grading to targeting high strength eutectic HEA's
- Goal: to connect experimental work with atomistic computational modeling work.



A graded composition that was brittle and fractured during processing

100% Alloy 1

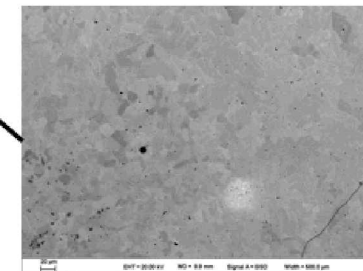
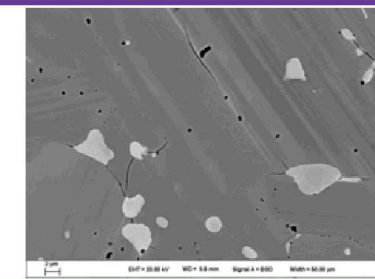
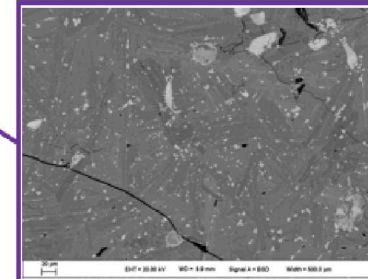
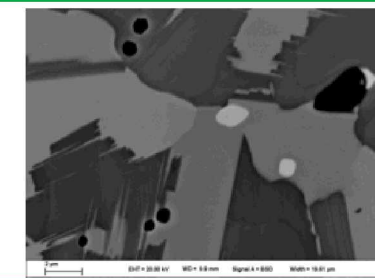
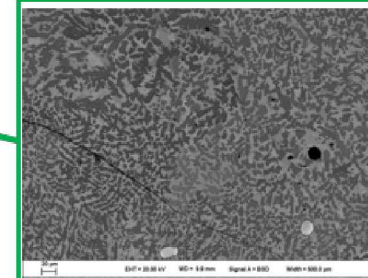
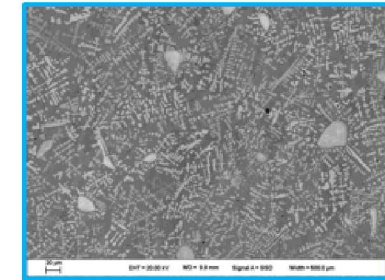
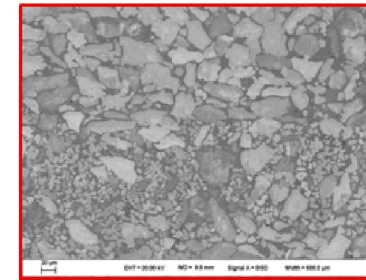
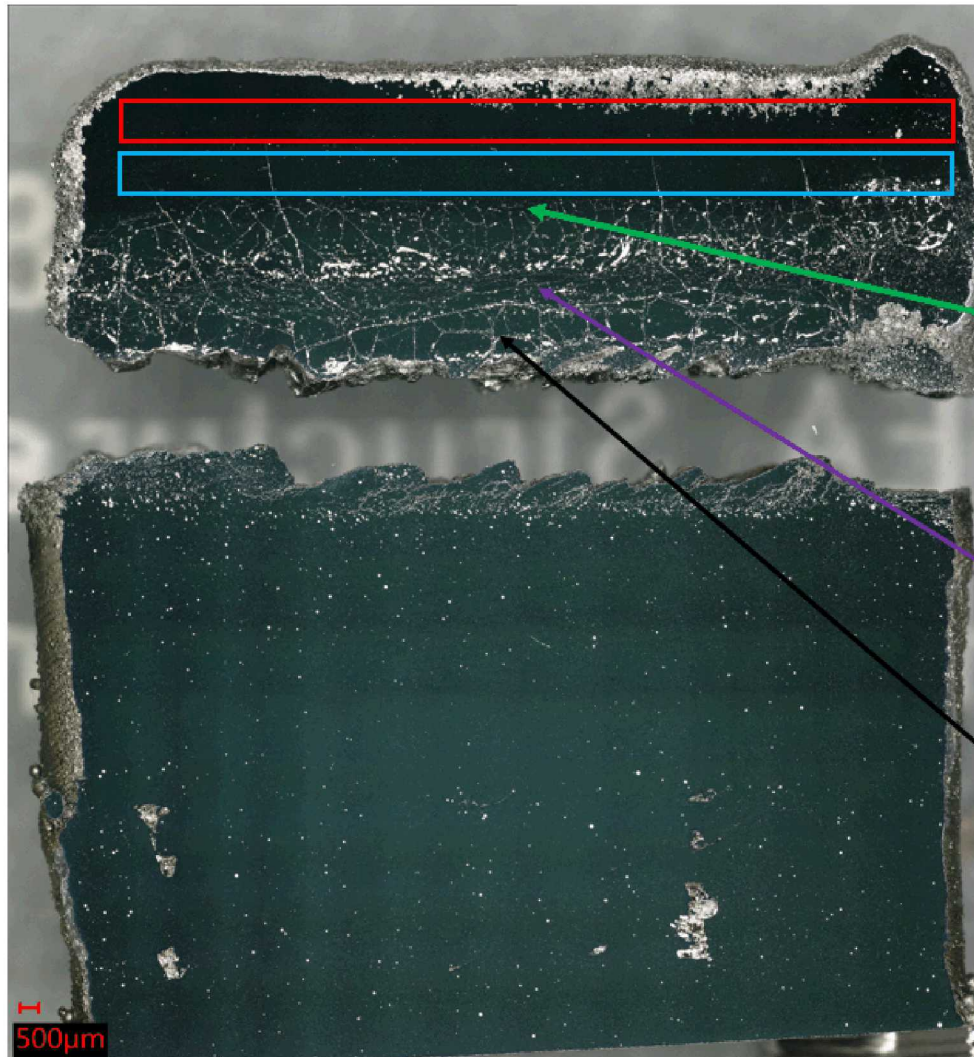
100% Alloy 2



100% Alloy 2

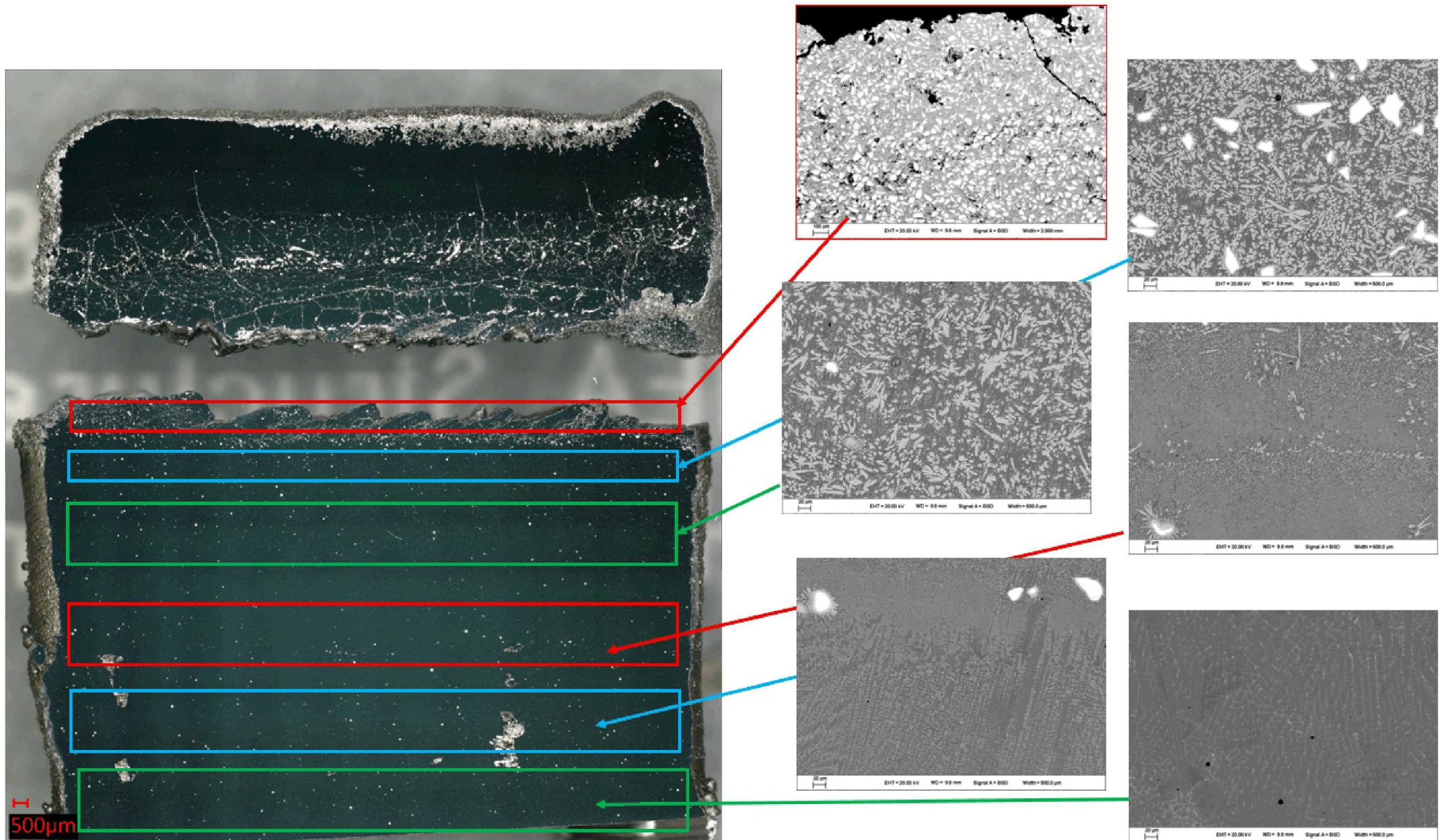
100% Alloy 1

# Compositionally Graded Thin Wall Case Study I



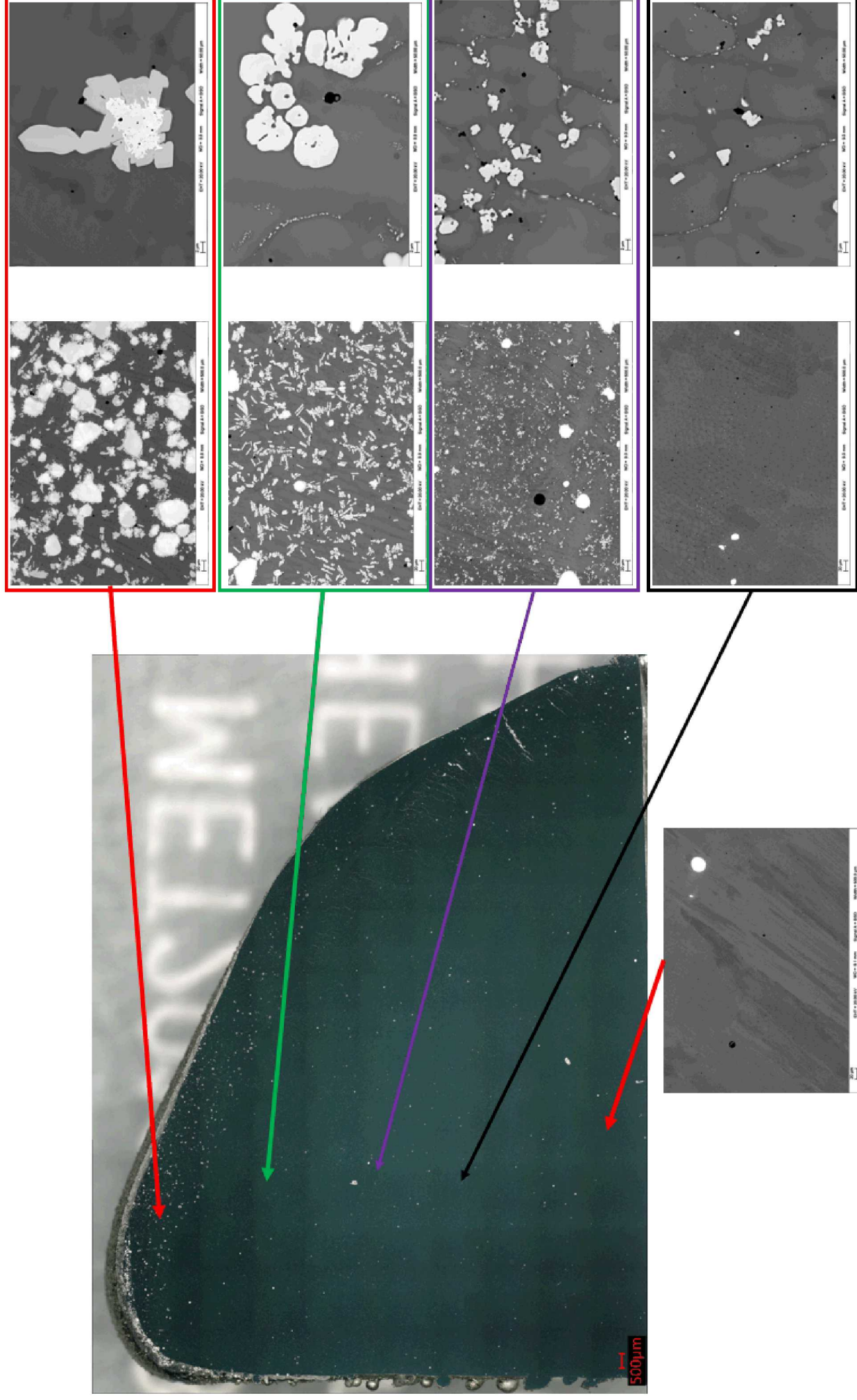


# Compositionally Graded Thin Wall Case Study I





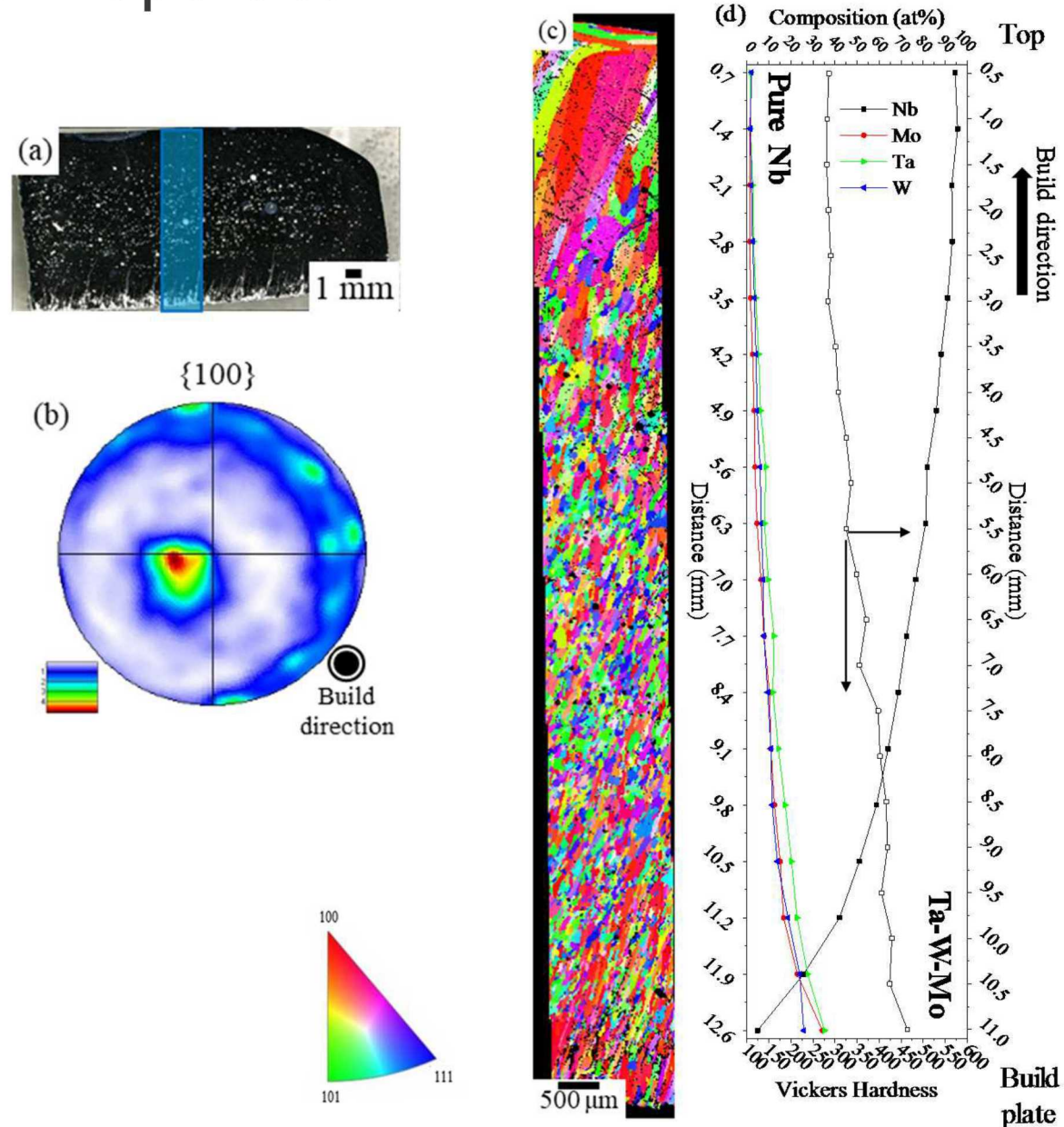
# Compositionally Graded Thin wall Case Study 2



# Composition and Various Properties

Analysis of the AM-processed  $(\text{MoTaW})_x(\text{Nb})_{1-x}$  compositionally graded part that was manufactured using LENS in-situ alloying.

- a) An optical image of the 3D printed thin wall
- b)  $\{100\}$  pole figure oriented parallel to the build direction
- c) IPF map
- d) Composition and hardness gradients along the height of the 3D printed thin wall

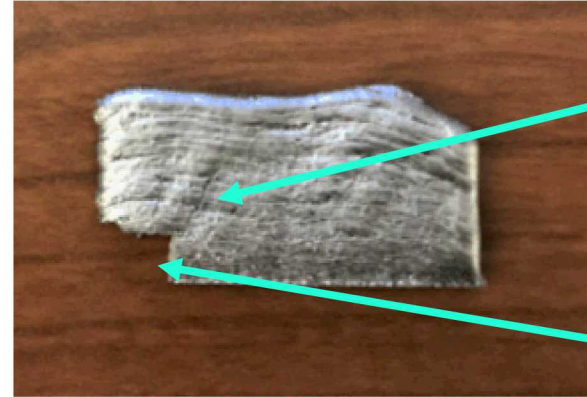




# In Situ Alloyed HEAs

- Using In Situ alloying to create High Entropy Alloys from elemental powders
  - Reduce time to make custom powders
  - Reduce cost to make custom powders
- Goal: use powder feeder settings to accurately meter desired composition of powder and then mix and alloy during printing process

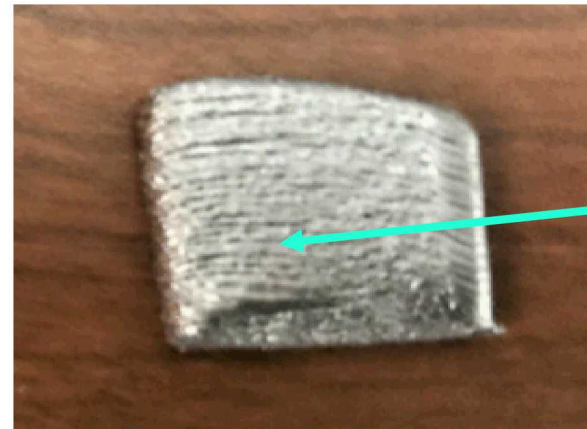
Alloy Composition #1



Brittle alloy composition with cracks from printing process

Chunk of sample that fell off during removal from substrate

Alloy Composition #2



Less brittle alloy that shows no visible signs of cracking



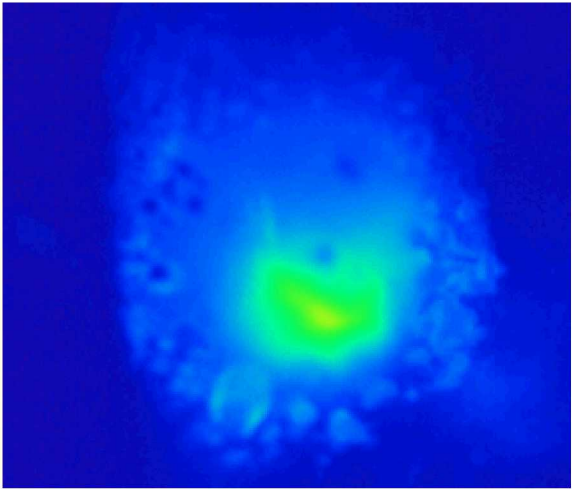


- Successfully installed a 5 hopper powder feed system on Sandia National Labs Material Sciences Center LENS printer
- Demonstrated powder control for:
  - Compositionally graded thin wall structures
  - In-Situ alloying of custom alloys from elemental powders
- More work needed to verify and tune for desired material composition.

# Questions?

## Contact Information

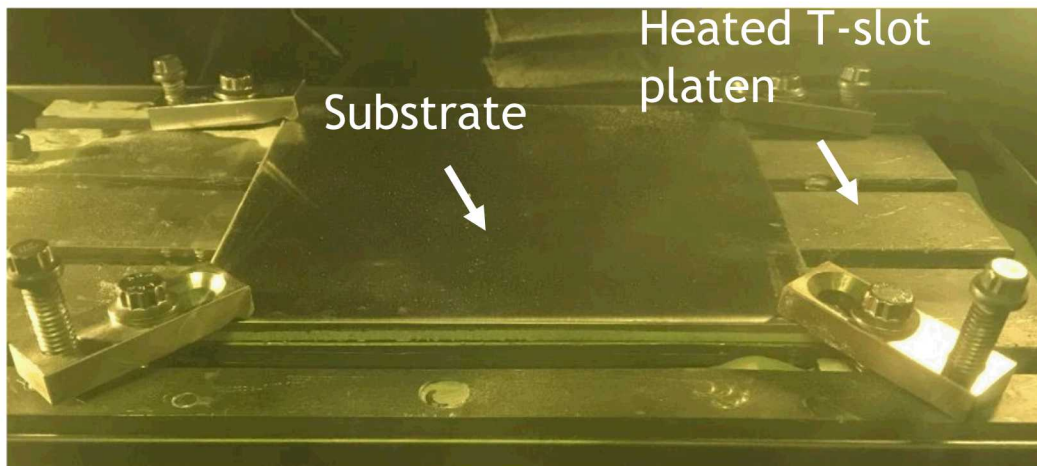
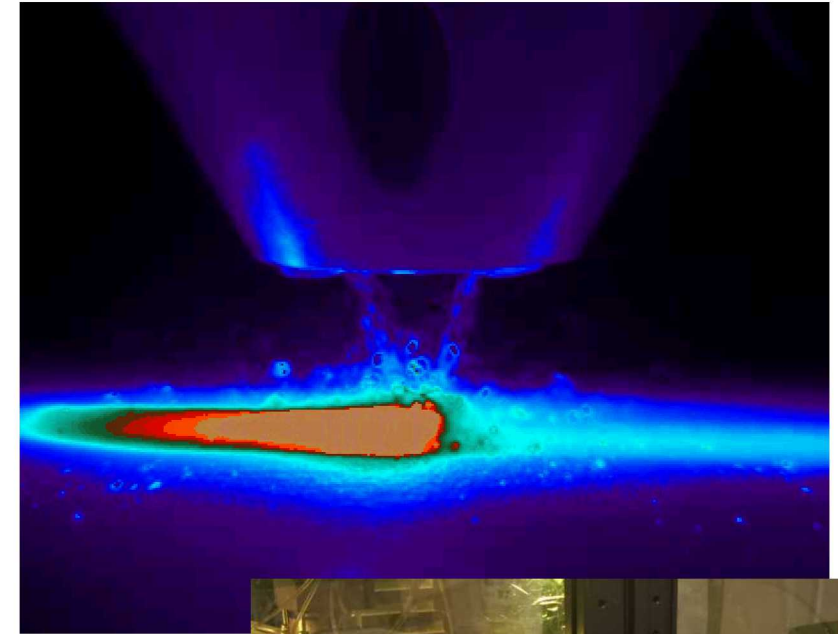
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505-362-2011



2- Color Pyrometer



Adjustable Spot Size



Heated Print Bed



Flir IR Camera