Hollow structural Al-parts in HPDC



Motivation

The passenger car's body-in-white (PC's BIW), mainly made of steel, contributes with a ratio of up to 20 % significantly to the car's curb weight offering a large weight reduction potential. The overall motivation of the project P10 (2016/01 - 2018/12) is the substitution of welded sheet components of a PC's BIW (e.g. 'torque box') by a hollow HPDC Al-structural component (SC) exhibiting an increased stiffness and function integration at a lower unit weight in comparison to the conventional steel approach. Besides the resulting decreased fuel consumption the successful integration of this type of lightweight component in the PC's BIW will lead to increased driving dynamics and performance without loss of safety.

Design Process

How to design a crash-relevant HPDC AI-SC for its cost-effective integration in PC's BIW?

 \succ Design guideline for the integration of hollow HPDC AI-SC in PC's BIW. \succ Potential of hollow HPDC AI-SC for BIW regarding function integration, weight reduction, crash behavior, and cost.





Core Production

How to adapt and simulate the HPDC process to produce complex, high quality salt cores?

 \succ Production- and material-related restrictions regarding the core's complexity. > Optimization and validation of the salt's chemical composition.

 \succ Thermo-physical properties of the focused salts.

Al-SC Production

How to adapt the HPDC process to use large salt cores and to achieve max. Al-SC quality?

- \succ Influence of the large salt core on flow and mold filling ability, microstructure, and static and dynamic mechanical properties.
- \succ Production-related restrictions regarding the casting's complexity.





Joining Technology

Which is the most suitable joining process and how is its optimal parameter setting to join complex, 'salt core-influenced', hollow, HPDC AI-SC in PC'S BIW? \succ Influence joining process on microstructure and mechanical properties. \succ Design rules to position the joint of the AI-SC and remaining steel BIW. > Maximum joining speed and quality.



New process chain for the integration of hollow, complex HPDC Alstructural components in a passenger car's body-in-white is available.

Strategic Partnership



