





### NATO OR&A Conference

Integrating additive manufacturing to support temporarily self-sufficient systems

### Introduction





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#### **Research topics:**

- Integration of additive manufacturing in the German Armed Forces to curb the spare parts problem.
- Integration of additive manufacturing and implementation of a recycling process for ships and boats of the German
- Additive manufacturing as an innovation driver in the military environment



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Ritter, Steffen (2020). formnext AM Field Guide compact 2020



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### Hurdles of the implementation





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### Additive manufacturing in the level system according to Hartig







- User-friendly
- Little space required for the equipment (less than 1m x 1m x 1.8m)
- Operator only needs a 2-week training course
- Low effort before process preparation and follow-up
- Due to the low complexity, widely used in the professional sector as well as in the private sector.
- Use on board possible

# Level 1



Level 1 AM







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- Complex industrial plants in the field of thermoplastics
- High-strength polymers, and polymers with special production conditions, e.g. heated build chamber
- Peripherals required for main unit e.g. washing station
- Increased training requirements for operating personnel
- Increased requirements for the installation site and ambient conditions



Use possible on board selected units where applicable



AM Level 2







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- Processes that pose an increased safety risk for the operating personnel due to the raw material, e.g. powder processes.
- High demand on peripheral equipment for pre- and post-process preparation e.g. CNC milling machine, oven, debinding station



- Considerable effort in training the operating personnel, system-specific training.
- Considerable effort in terms of space requirements and installation conditions, e.g. foundation, inert gas storage tank.







- Integrated or final certification process so that production of certified components is possible.
- Small batch production
- Increased requirements compared to Level 3 in terms of investment costs, installation site and installation conditions.
- Operators have industry-equivalent training, some of which is system-specific.









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Conclusion



- Implementation of additive manufacturing based on the presented scheme.
- Starting with Level 1 equipment.
- Step-by-step integration with evaluation between the integration steps.
- Level 2 will be deployed where the greatest benefits are anticipated and resources are available.









## Many thanks for the attention!





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