



**Praxis-Seminar Luftfahrt,  
Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften Hamburg, DGLR, VDI  
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Airbus A380: Vertical Tailplane

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Airbus Deutschland

Director A380 Vertical Tail Plane



**AIRBUS**

# Contents

- **Introduction**
- **A380: Brief Description of the Aircraft Configuration**
- **The A380 Technology Selection Process**
- **Materials and Manufacturing Processes (M&P)**
- **The A380 Design-to-Cost Approach**
- **Demonstrators**
- **Future Technology Requirements**

# Introduction

- **A380 realizes the most ambitious program since commercial aviation started business during the 1920's.**
- **A380 is in-line with market evolution, completing the Airbus product range at the upper end.**
- **Selection of advanced and new technologies follows an evolutionary approach, backed by experience gained during**
  - **30 years of Airbus corporate history.**
- **The A380 program delivers a significant contribution to wealth of the European Community and the US in terms of direct and indirect employment, tax revenues income and industrial competitiveness for the future:**
  - ✈ **200.000 employments world-wide, of which**
    - **145.000 jobs are created in the EU**
    - **60.000 jobs are created in the US**

# A380 completes the Airbus Family

Complete fleet solutions from 100 seats to 500/600 seats

- Expansion of our offer in the freighter business from 40 to 150 tons



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# A380 Key Characteristics

## *Designed for:*

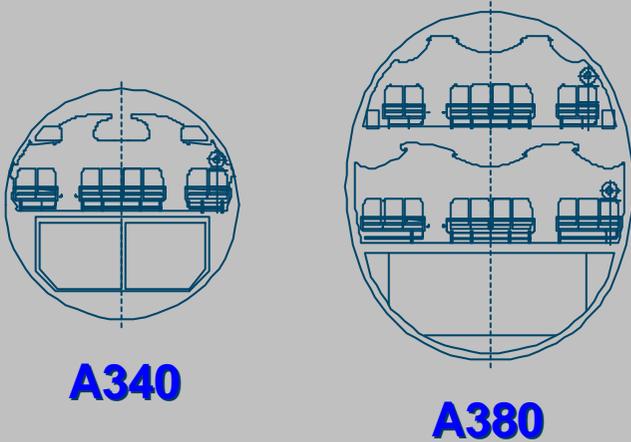
- **Cruise:** at Ma 0.85 up to 45,000 ft
- **Range:** 7900 - 8750 nm
- **Take-off and Landing:** equal or better than the 747
- **Noise:** 18 to 20 dB less than FAR 36 requirements (St.3 rules) meeting QC2/QC1 LHR (A380-800)
- **Vortex:** no larger separation at approach than the 747
- Meeting infrastructure requirements



	<b>A380-800</b>	<b>A380-800R</b>	<b>A380-900</b>
<b>Capacity</b>	555 pax	555 pax	656 pax
<b>Range</b>	7900 nm	8750 nm	7900 nm

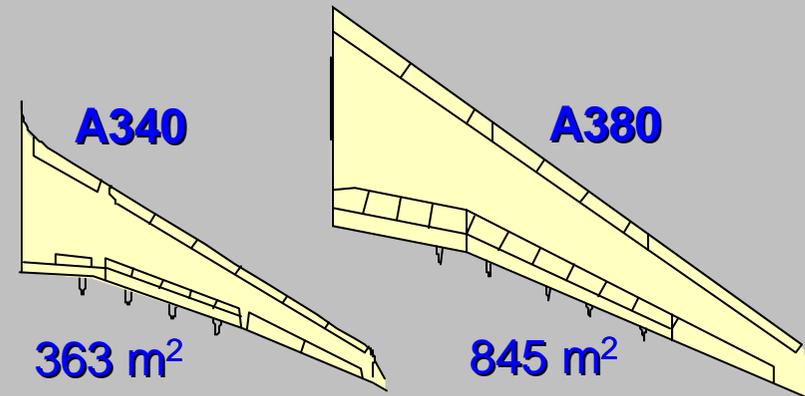
# From A340 to A380: A Big Step in Design Weights

Non-circular cross section  
Three decks



Larger dimensions of wing and tailplanes

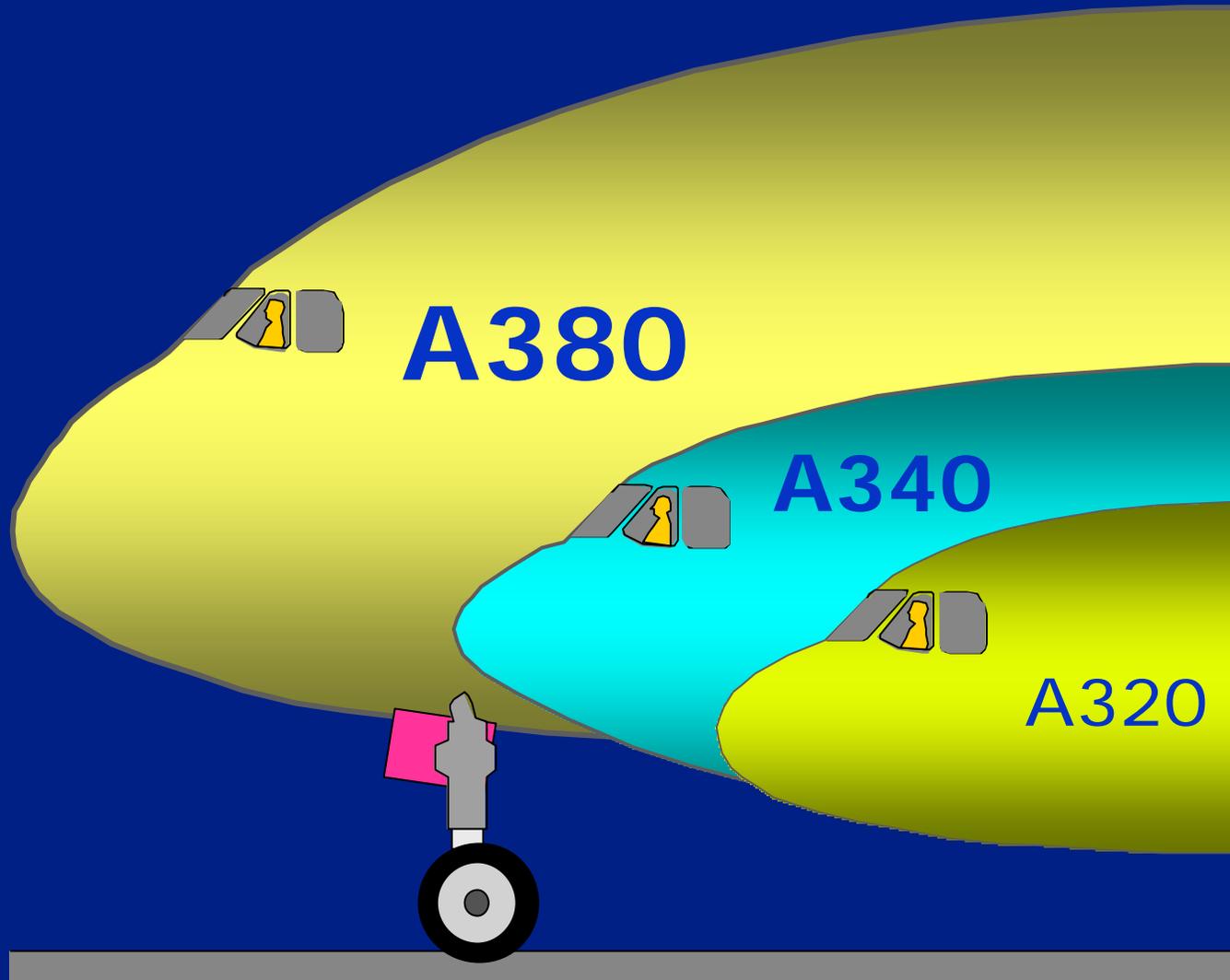
(A380 Horizontal Tail Plane = A310 wing)



Highest design weights

	<b>A340-300</b>	<b>+ %</b>	<b>A380-800</b>
Max. take-off weight	275 t	+ 104 %	560 t
Max. zero fuel weight	180 t	+ 100 %	361 t
Max. landing weight	190 t	+ 103 %	386 t
Operator's weight empty	130 t	+ 114 %	278 t

# The A380: A big Step in Size



# Setting New Standards on all 3 Decks



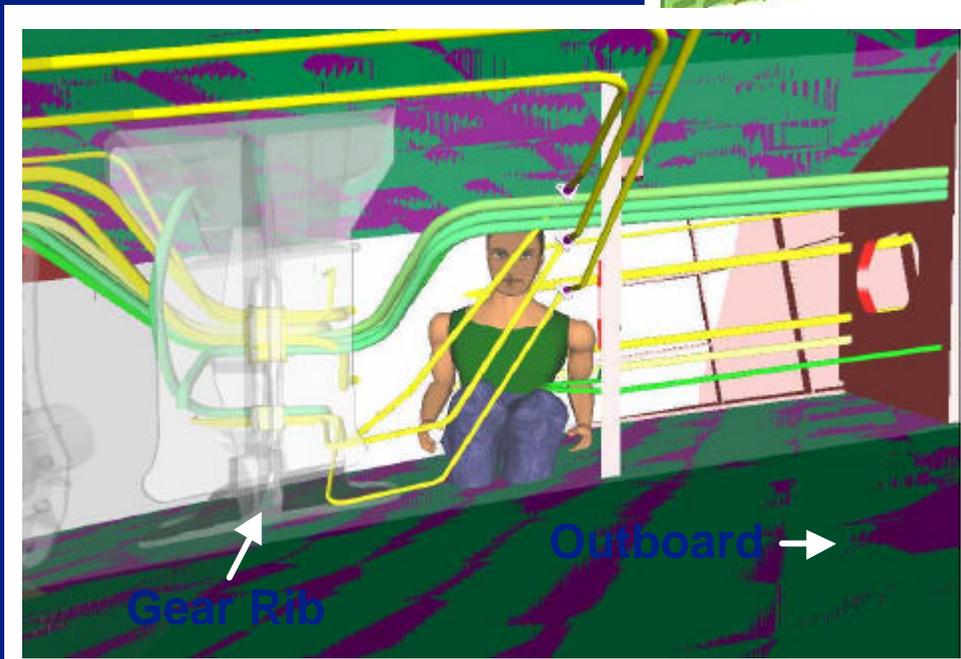
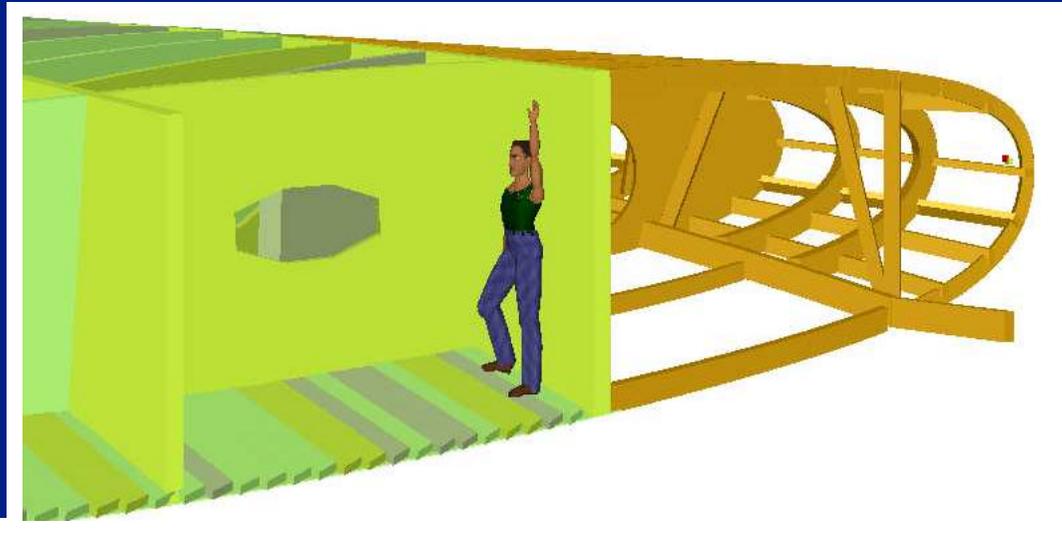
*1<sup>st</sup> Class Privacy*



*Under Floor Galley*

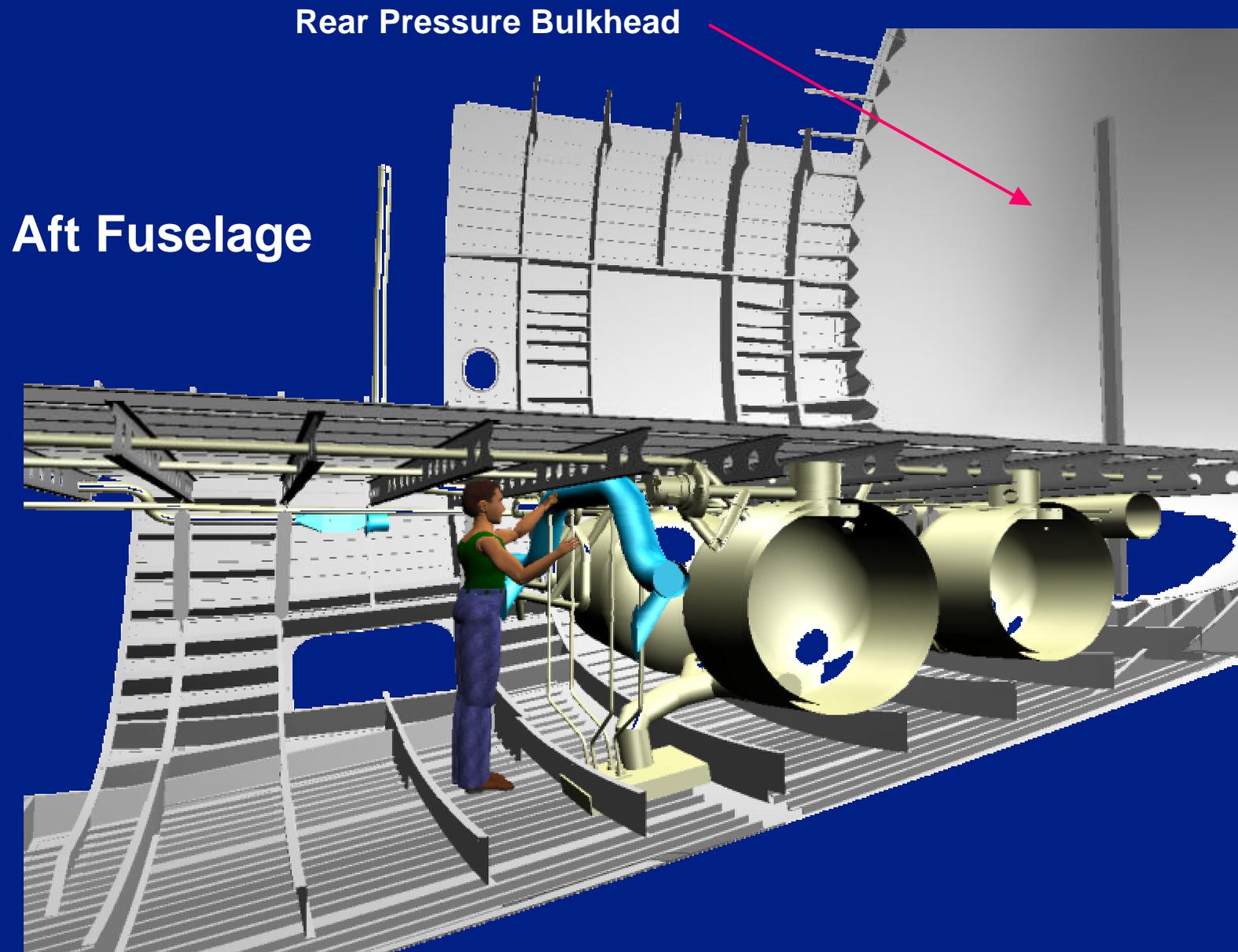
# A380: A big Step in Size

## Wing Root Size

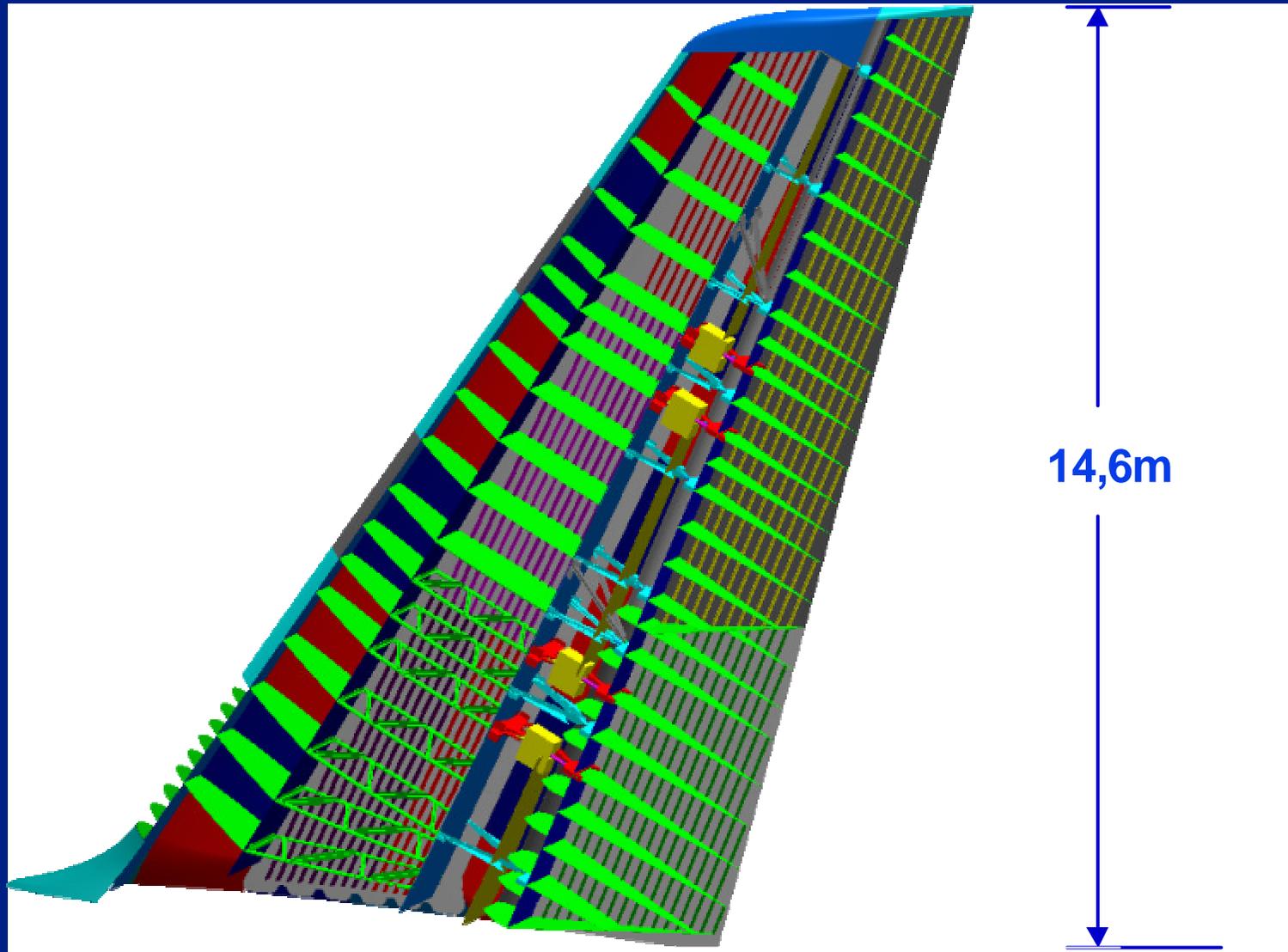


## Accessibility Assessment for Wing Trailing Edge

# A380: A big Step in Size



# A380 Vertical Tail



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# Top Level Technology Requirements

- Requirements driven by Airline Interests:

- ✚ Robust structure: Damage tolerant and easy to inspect & repair

- ✚ Good corrosion prevention

- ✚ Long inspection intervals

- ✚ Simple inspection methods

- ✚ Low spare part prices

- Requirements driven by Manufacturer Interests:

- ✚ Weight savings (a/c performance and reduction of emissions)

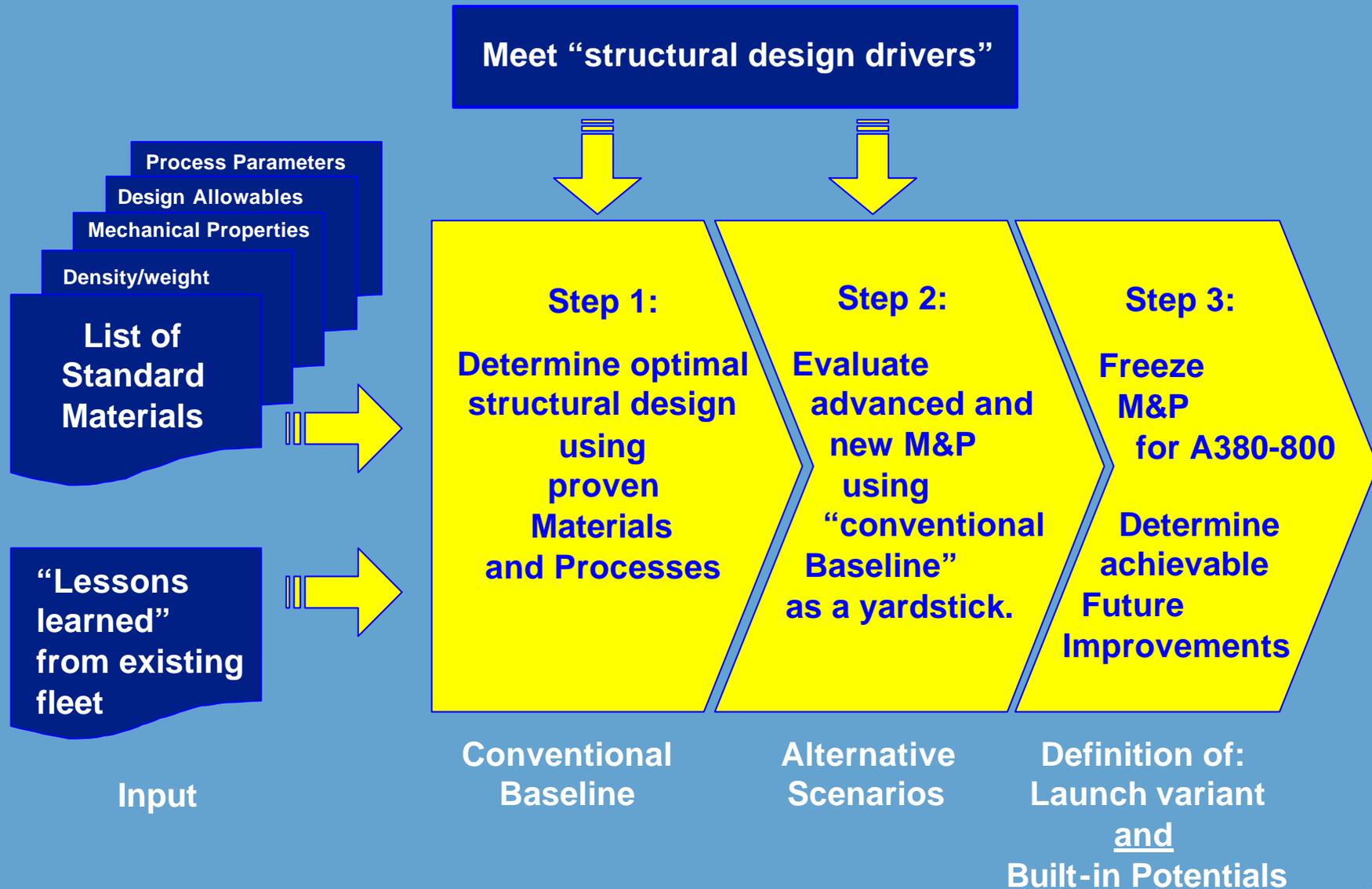
- ✚ Manufacturing cost savings (recurring and non-recurring costs)

- ✚ Proven service readiness

- ✚ Proven maturity of manufacturing processes

- ✚ Built-in potentials of new technologies for further improvements

# The A380 M&P Selection Process: Steps



# The A380 M&P Selection Process: Partnership

Thickness, sizes, etc  
 Density/weight, prices  
**Input from Material Suppliers**

**Material Suppliers**

Continuous Dialog, e.g. Integrated Project Team (IPT) with ALCOA

**Research**

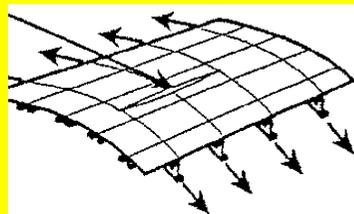
**Airframe Manufacturer**

**Airlines**

**M&P Research**

- material properties
- material performance
- process parameters
- etc

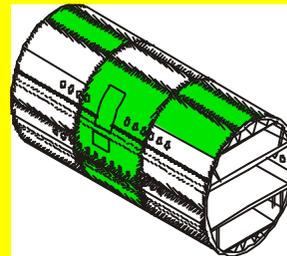
**Testing of coupons & small sub-assemblies**



**Design & Processes**

- design principles,
- costing, weights,
- process verification,
- requirements, evaluation

**Testing of aircraft components**



**Maintainability:**

Agreement on concepts for

- inspections,
- repairs

**Lessons Learned**

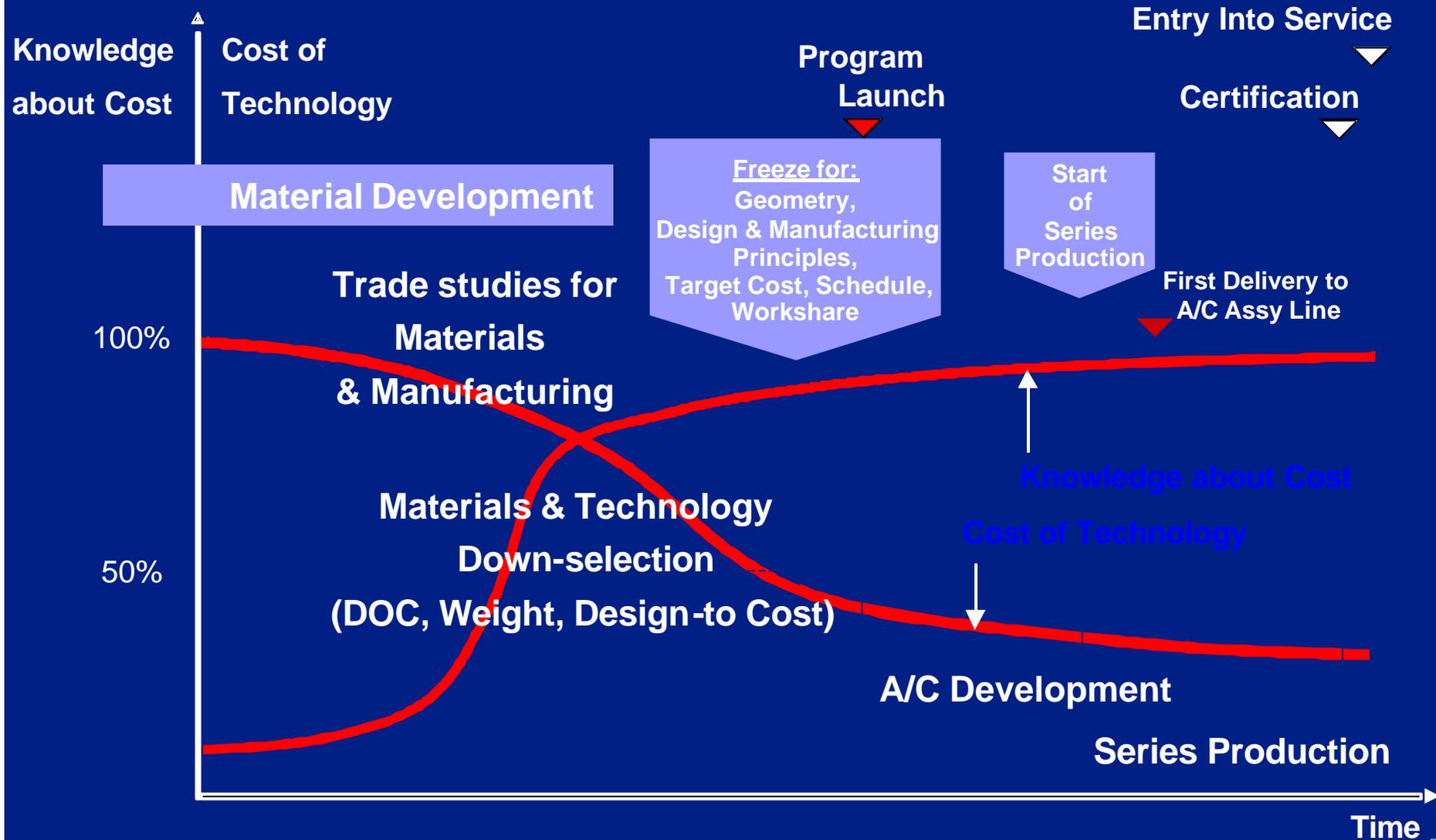
**Acceptance of new Technologies**  
 (Customers have to give their "green light")

**Requirements:**

Design drivers, design principles, complexity of geometries, tolerances, surface protection, etc

In-service experience, inspection methods/equipment, repairs, accessibility, etc

# The A380 M&P Selection Process: Schedule

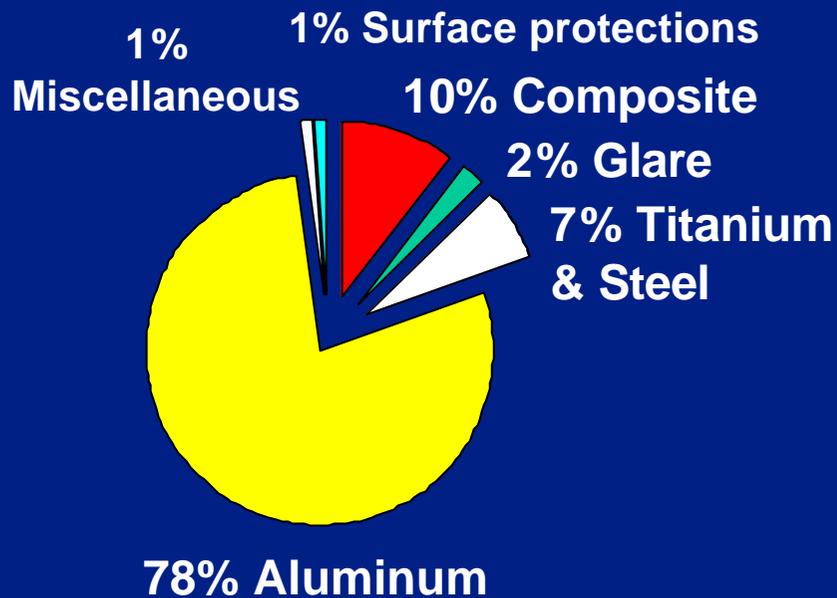


# Contents

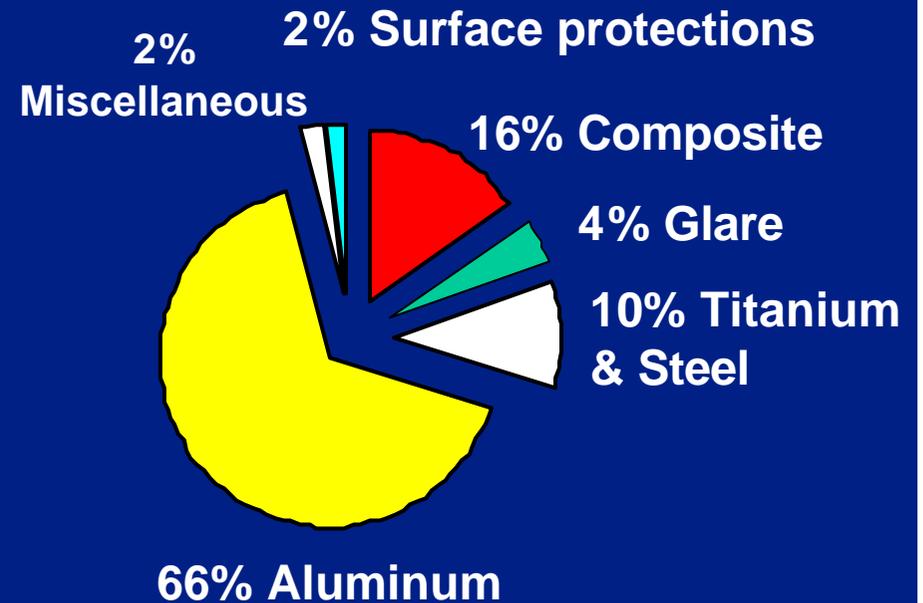
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# A380 Material Distribution (Weight break-down)

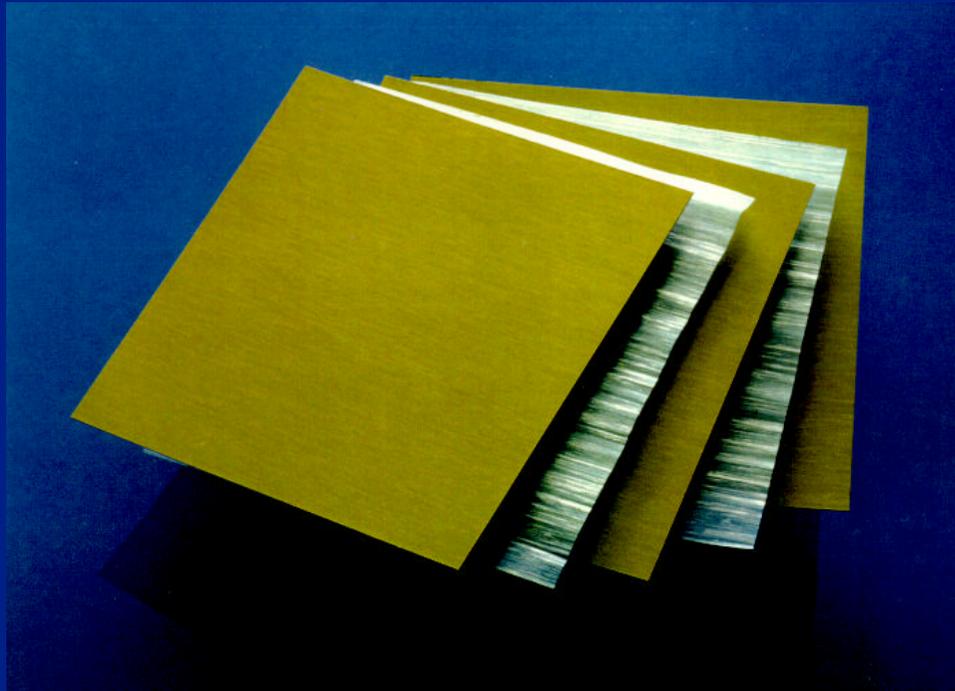
## Buy



## Fly

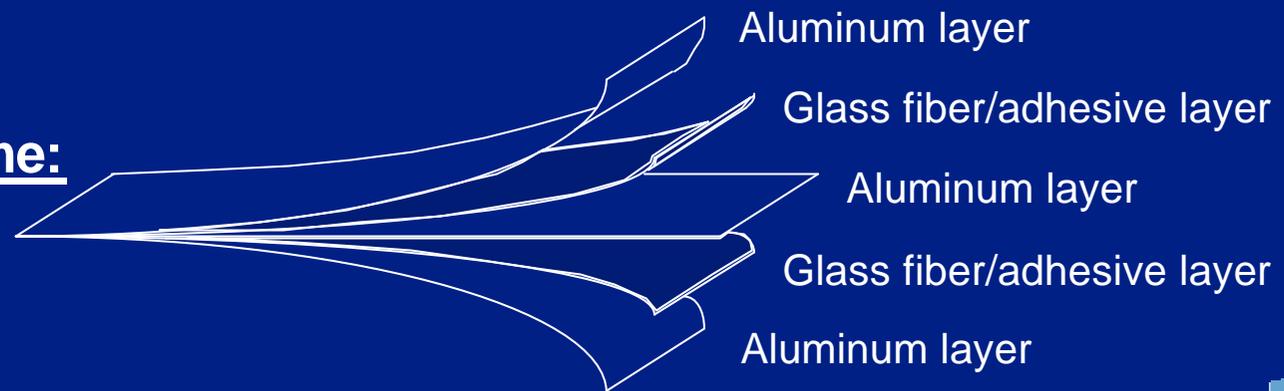


# What Glare is

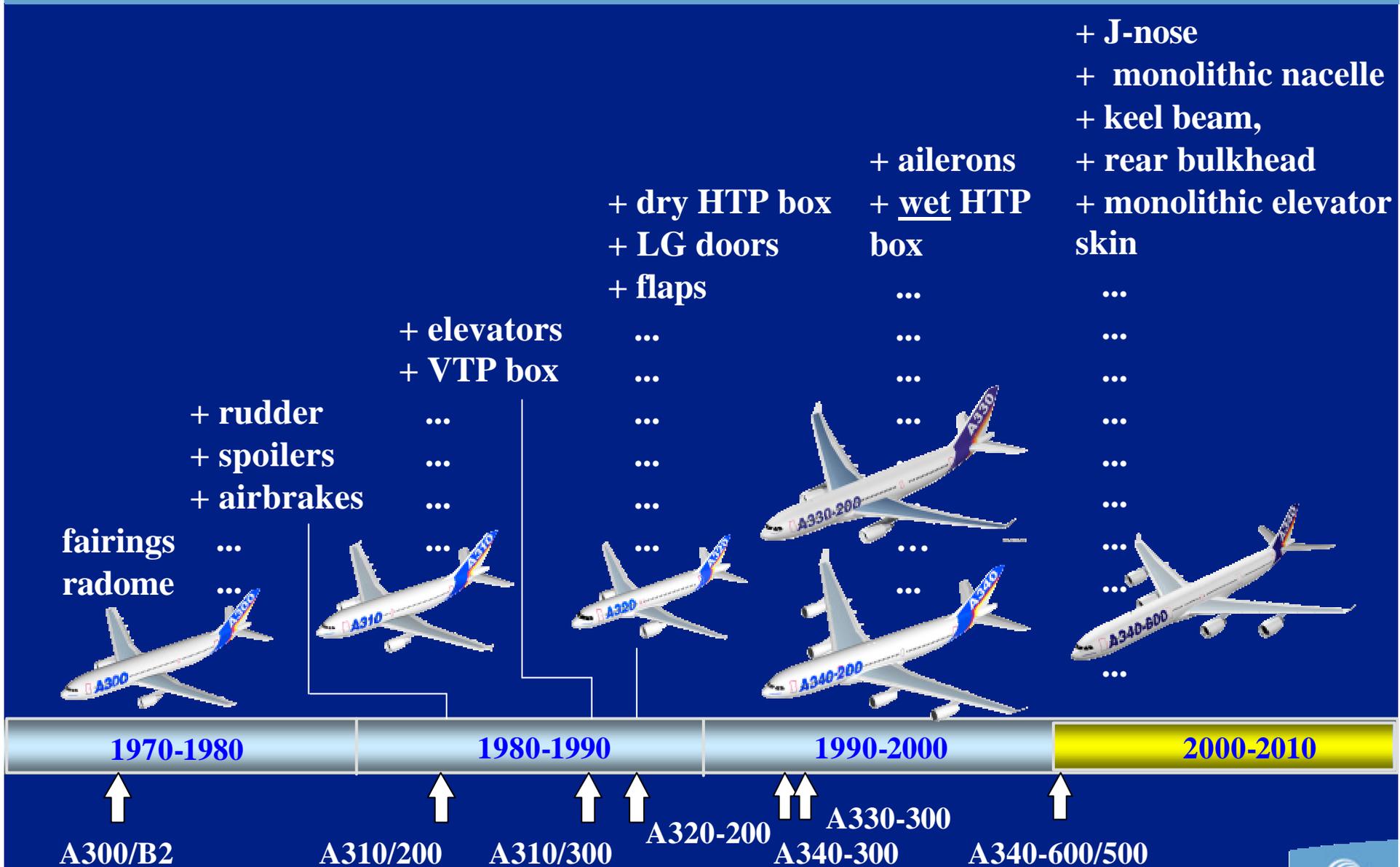


- **GLARE is a member of the family of Fiber Metal Laminates (FML).**

## Lay-up Scheme:



# Evolution of Composite Technology at Airbus



# Examples for Major Composite Structures: A340-600

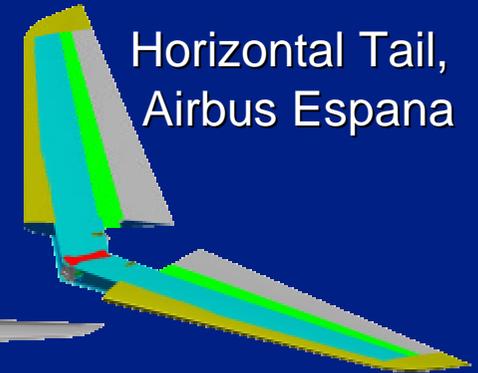


Wing J-Nose, Fokker Special Products, NL

Engine Cowling, Airbus Espana



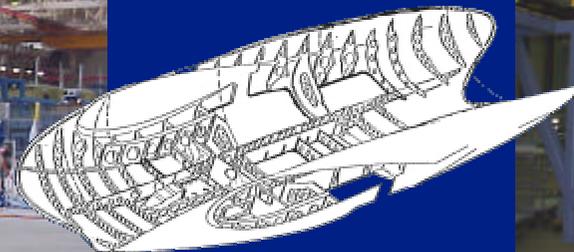
Vertical Tail, Airbus Deutschland



Horizontal Tail, Airbus Espana



Keel Beam, Airbus France

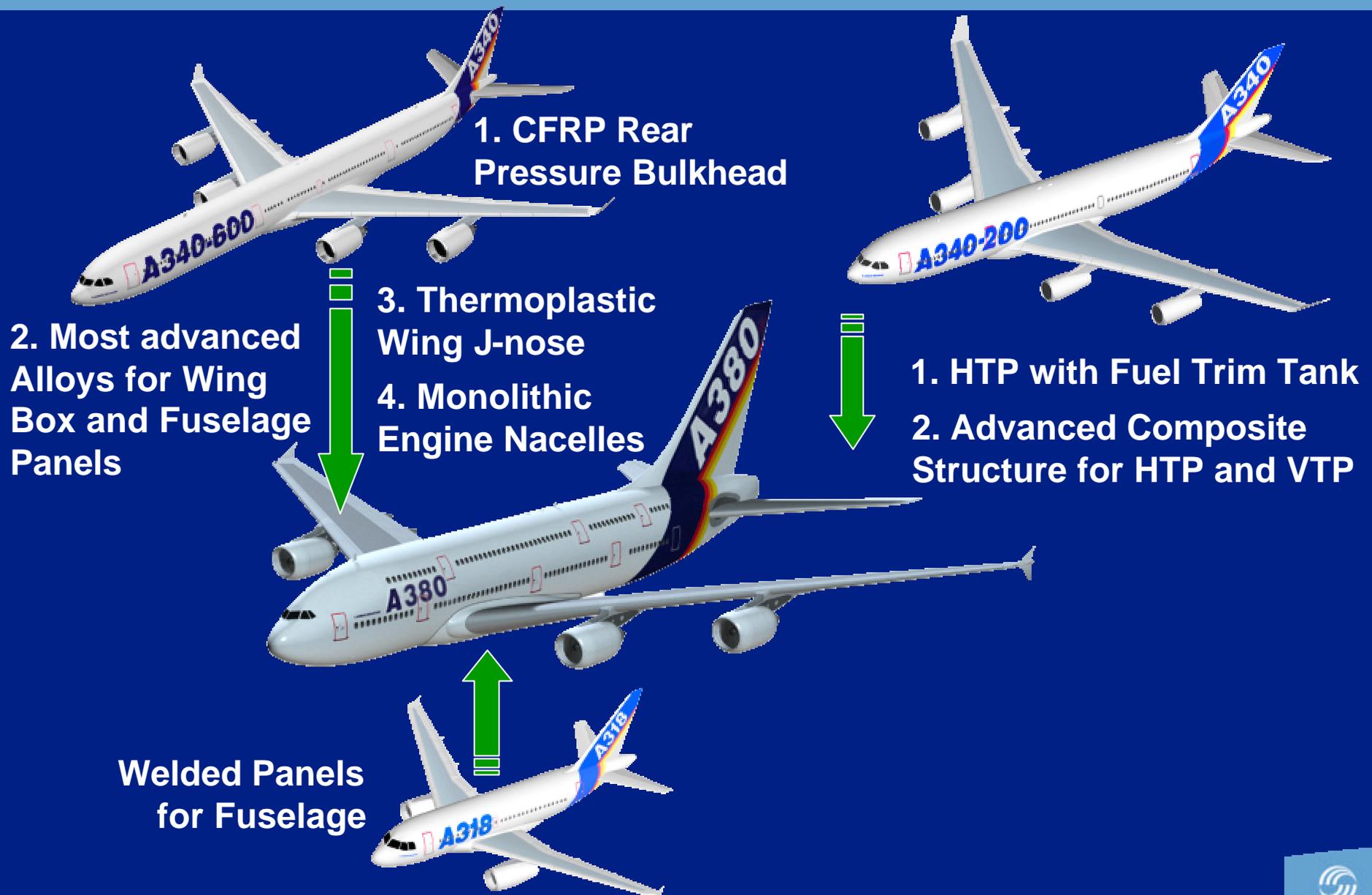


Belly Fairing, Airbus France

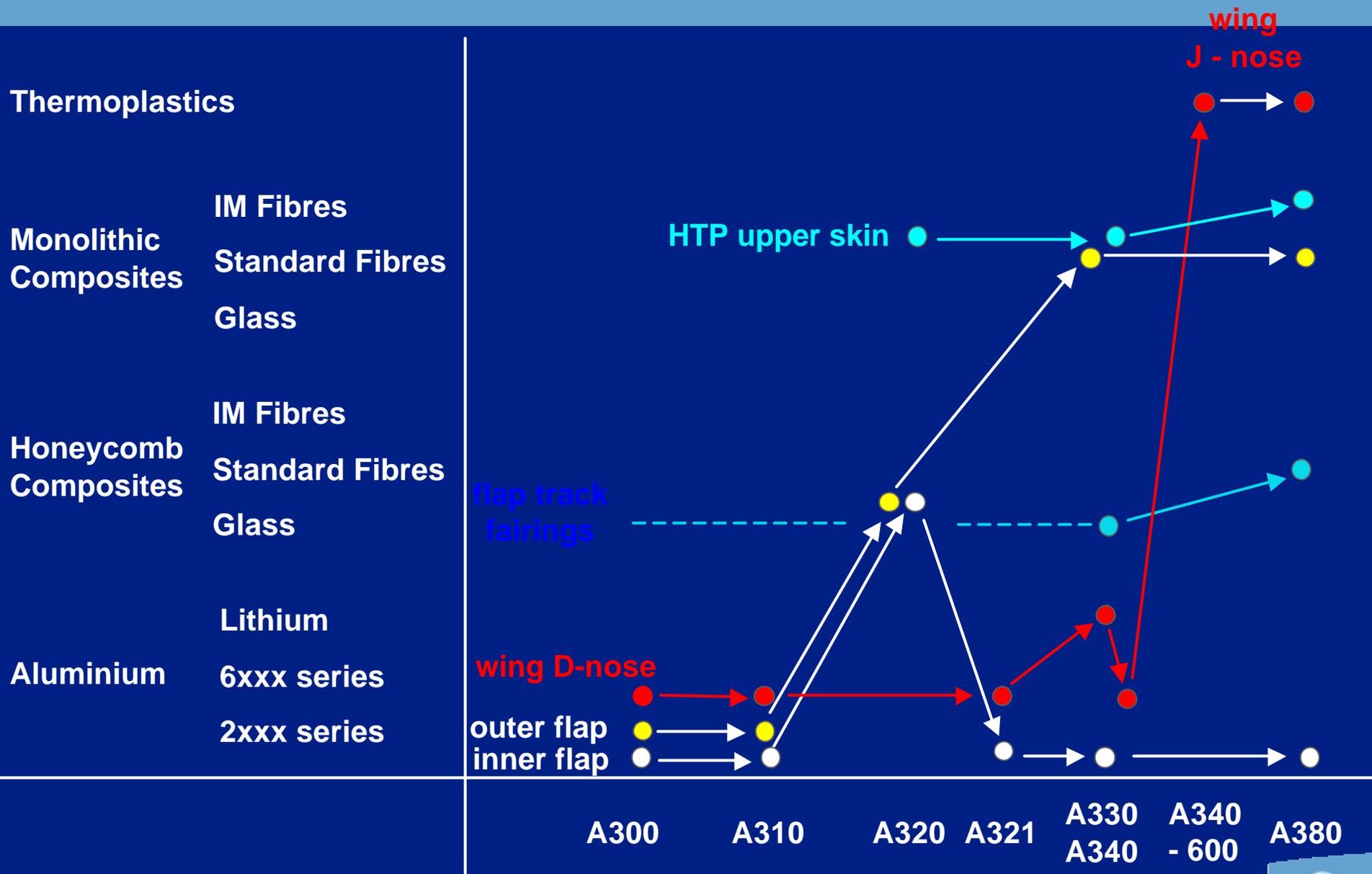


Rear Pressure Bulkhead, Airbus Deutschland

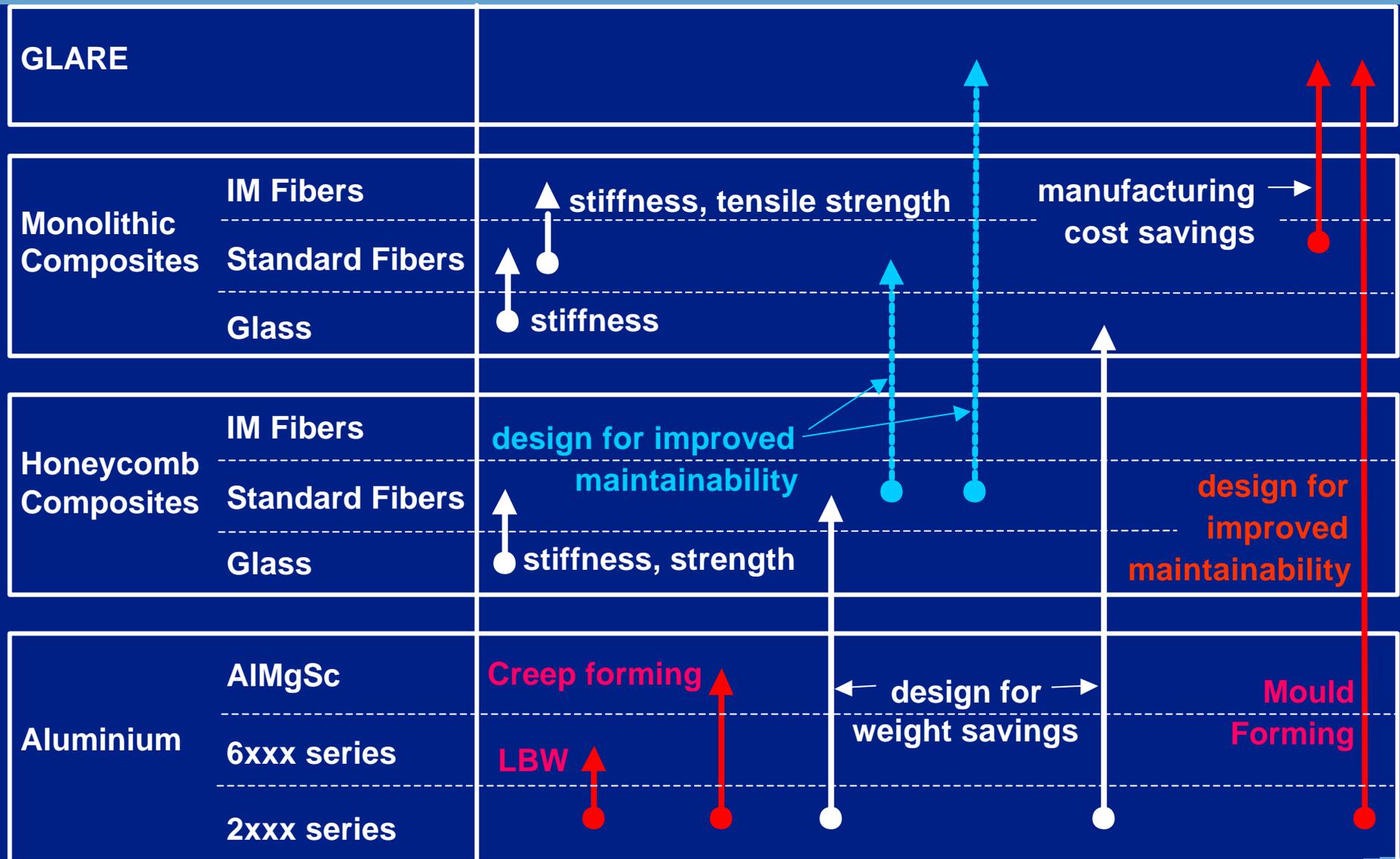
# “Lessons learned”: Take benefit from earlier products



# Evolution is not always continuous



# Trends for Materials and Manufacturing Processes



# M&P for the Vertical Tail Plane

Leading edge & trailing edge panels:  
CFRP fabrics &

Leading edge ribs:

Torsion box panels:  
, ATL,  
pultruded stringers  
(HT- fibers), co-bonded

D-nose:

Truss ribs:  
CFRP,

C-ribs:

Resin infusion (VAP)

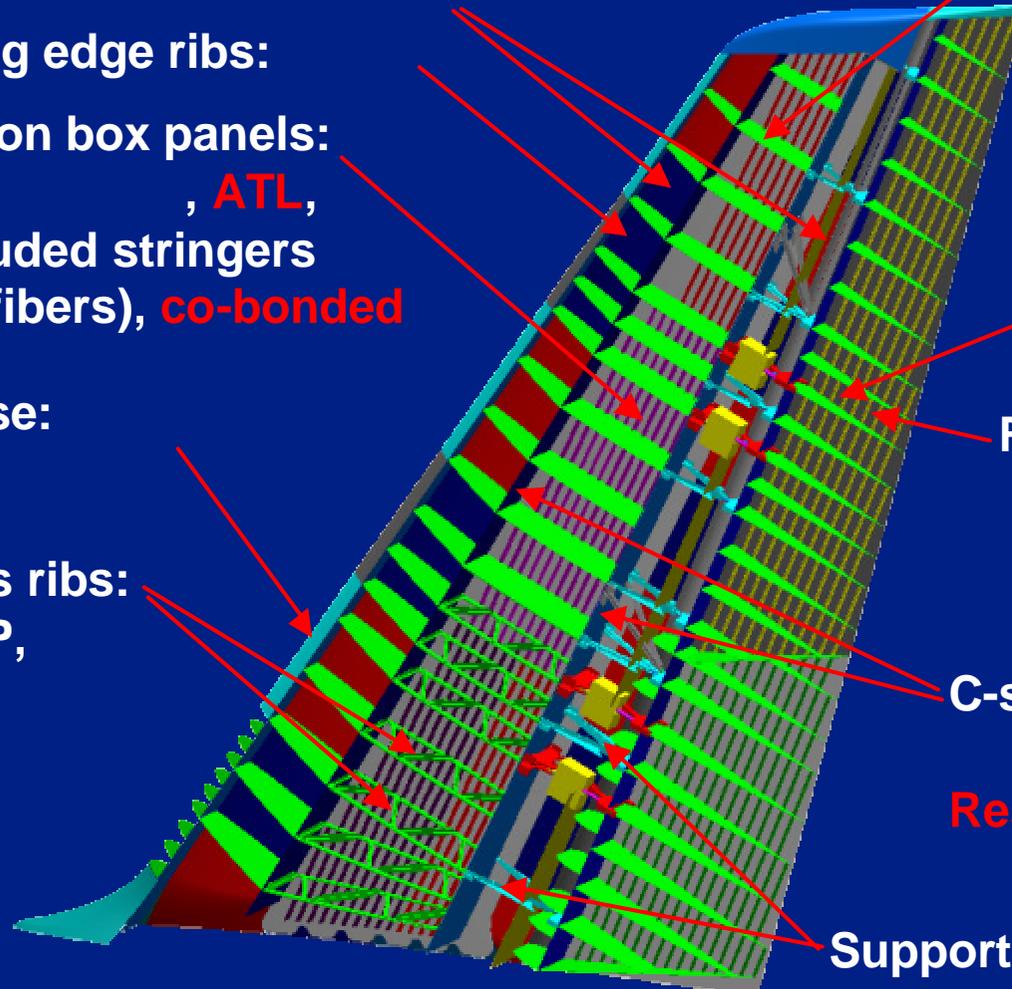
Rudder skins:  
, ATL

Rudder panel stringers:  
, co-bonded

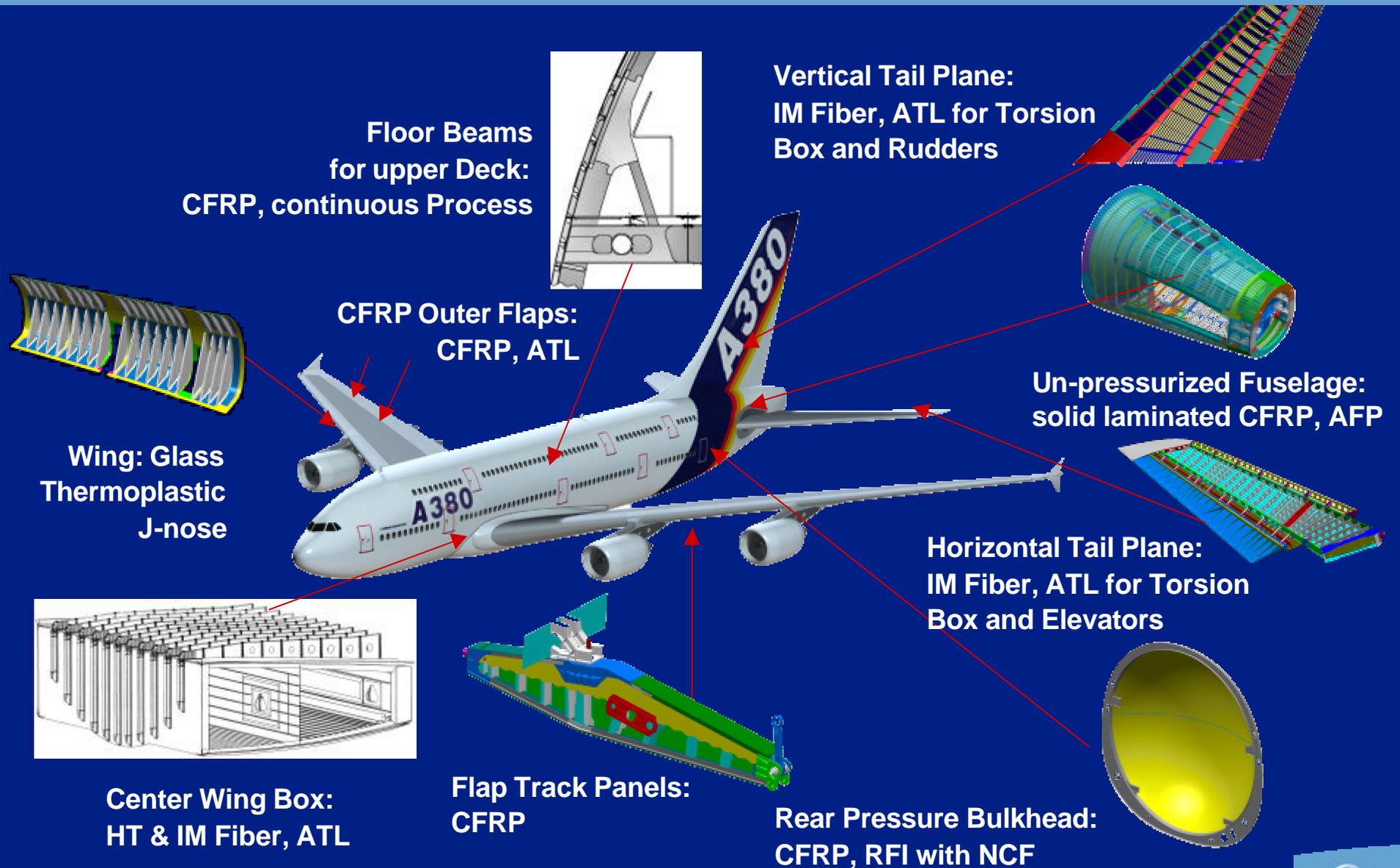
C-shape front & rear spars:

Resin Infusion (VAP)

Support & actuator fittings: RTM



# Major monolithic CFRP & Thermoplastics Applications



# Advanced Composite Materials

- **Combination of Intermediate Modulus Fibers and Resins**

Applications	Fibers		Resins		Prepregs
	Type	Product	Type	Product	Prepreger
IM Tapes under qualification	T800S	Toray	M21	HEXCEL	HEXCEL
	IMS	Tenax-Toho	977.2	Cytec-fiberite	Cytec-fiberite

## **NCF (Non-Crimped-Fibers)**

**Saertex Wagener Material: HTA Preforms (+45°/-45°)**

**Hexel Resin: RTM6**

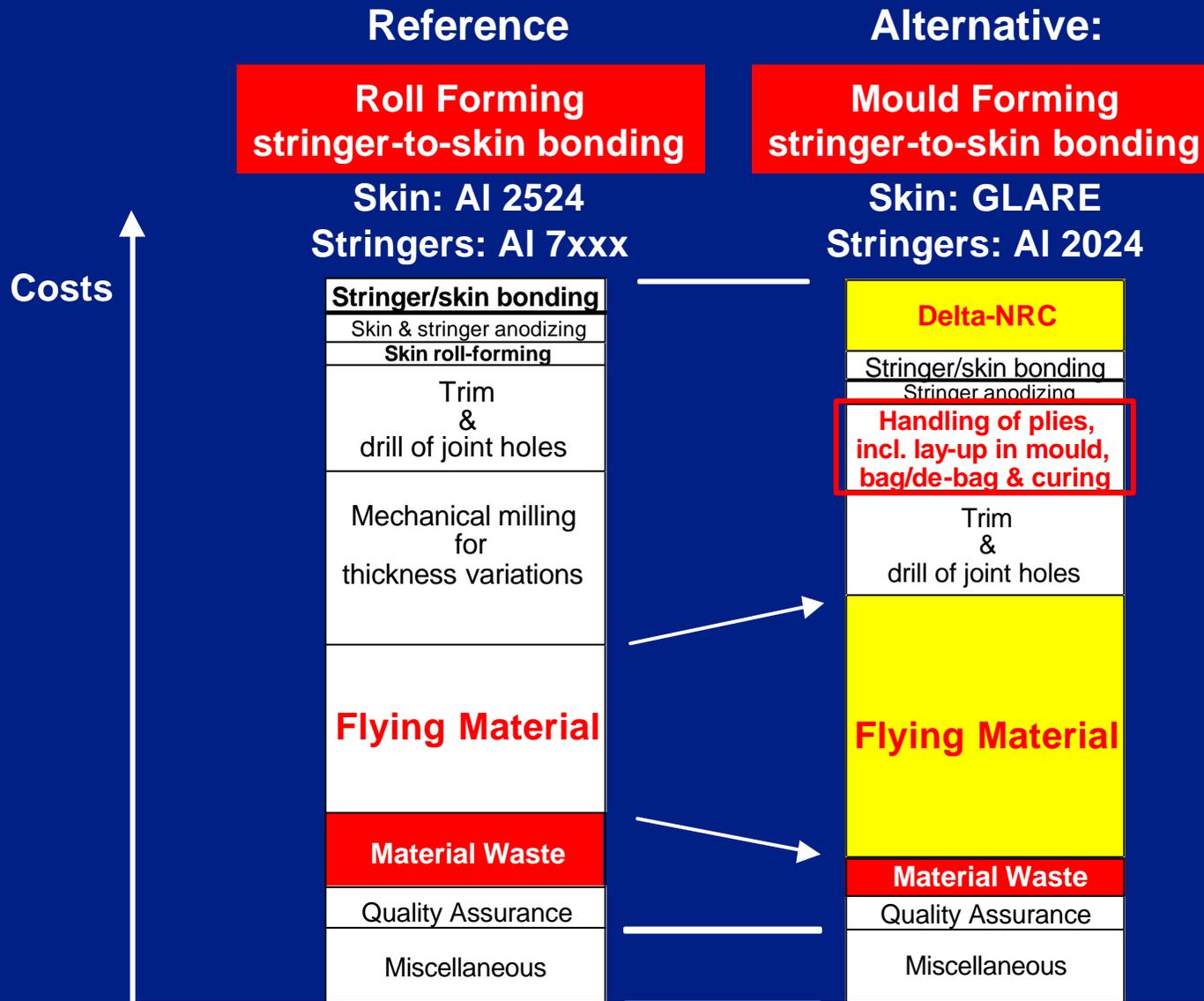
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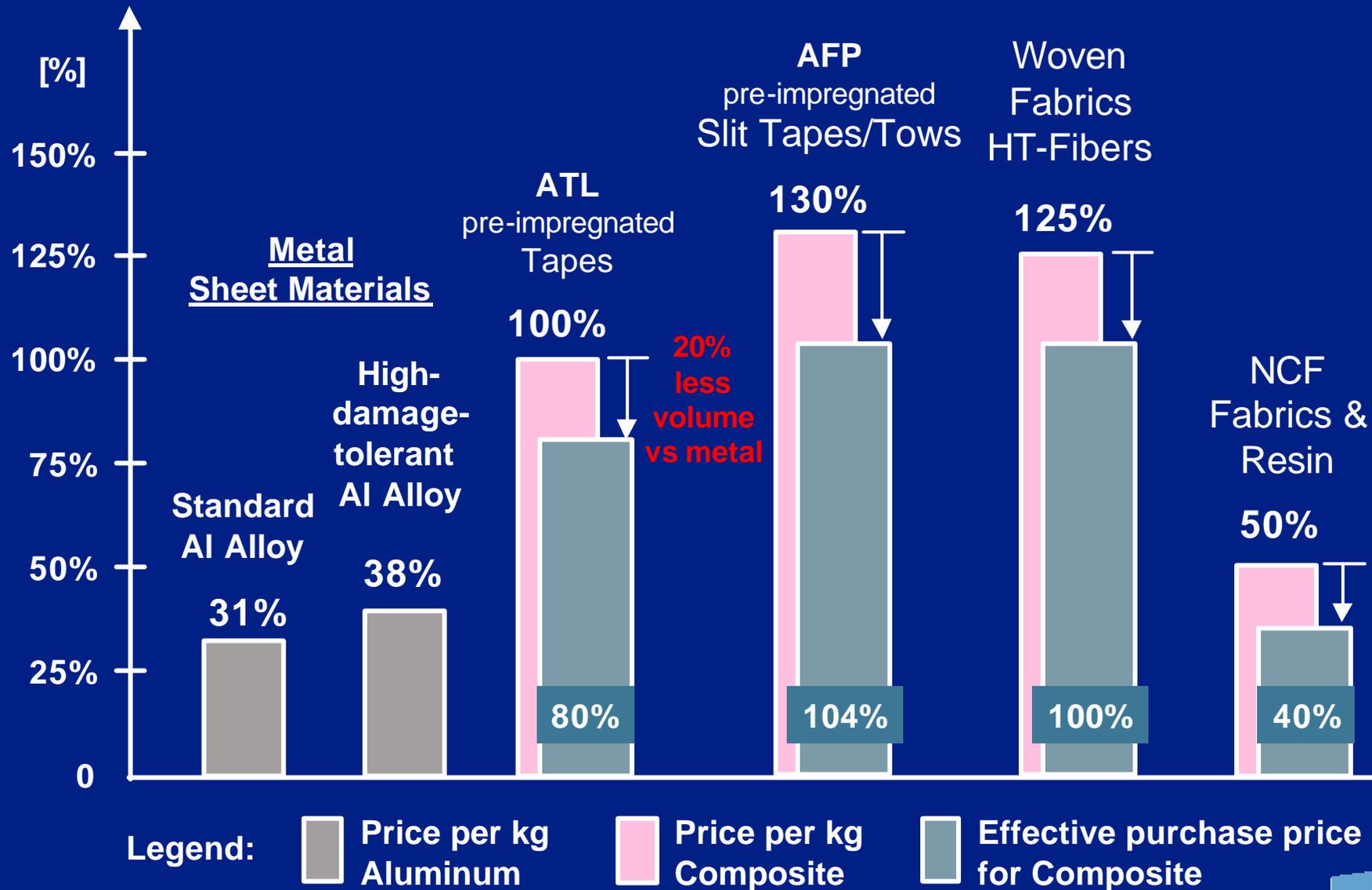
# Design-to-Cost: M&P for Fuselage Panels

Skins	Stringers	Forming	Heat treatment re-solution	Skin/stringer assembly	Impact on Manufacturing
AL 2024	Al 2024	Roll/stretch	Yes	Upper fuselage: Bonding, lower: riveting	Reference
Al 2524	Al 7xxx	Roll/stretch	Depending on severity of double curvature	Upper fuselage: bonding; lower: riveting	Savings due to forming in as-delivered temper
Al 6xxx	Al 6xxx	Roll/stretch	Yes	Welding in 3D-contour	Lower assembly costs through welding
AlMgSc	AlMgSc	<b>Creep forming of stiffened panel</b>	<b>No</b>	In-plane welding	<b>In-plane welding, No heat treatment Resolution, no waste From clamp length</b>
<b>GLARE</b>	Al 2024 or Al 7xxx or <b>GLARE</b>	<u>Skins</u> : lay-up in mould incl. doublers <u>Stringers</u> : Roll	For Al stringers	Bonding	<b>Savings through significant waste reduction and mould forming</b>

# Design-to-Cost: Upper Fuselage Panels (single curved)



# Effective Material Costs at 20% Weight Saving



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# Demonstrators



## Laser-Beam Welding for long and double-curved Panels

# Demonstrator Programs



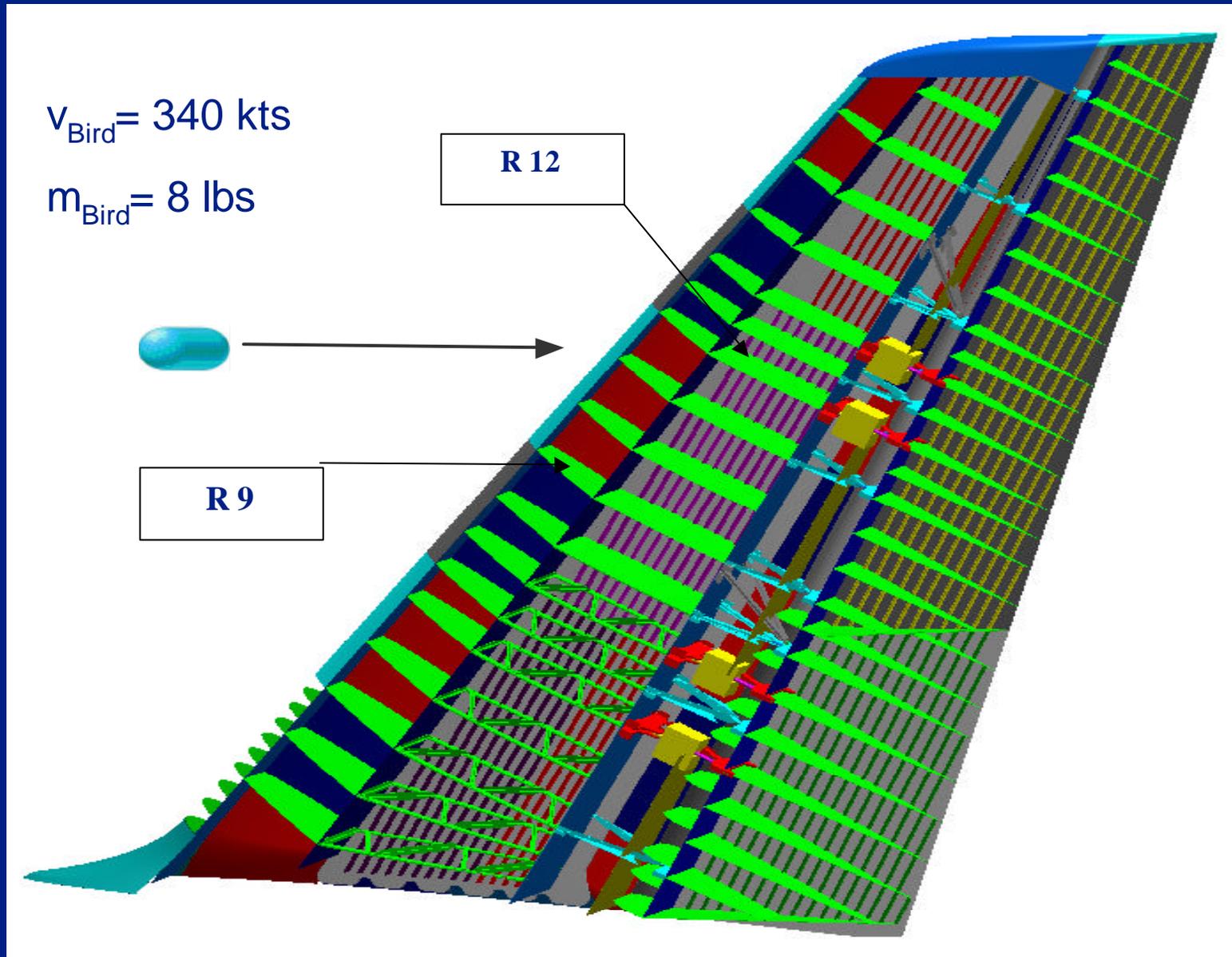
## Mega-Liner Fuselage Demonstrator

# Demonstrators



## Lower Wing Shell: Resin Infusion Technology

# Demonstrators, Bird Strike Tests



# Demonstrators

## Bird Strike Testing



GLARE 3 – 7/6

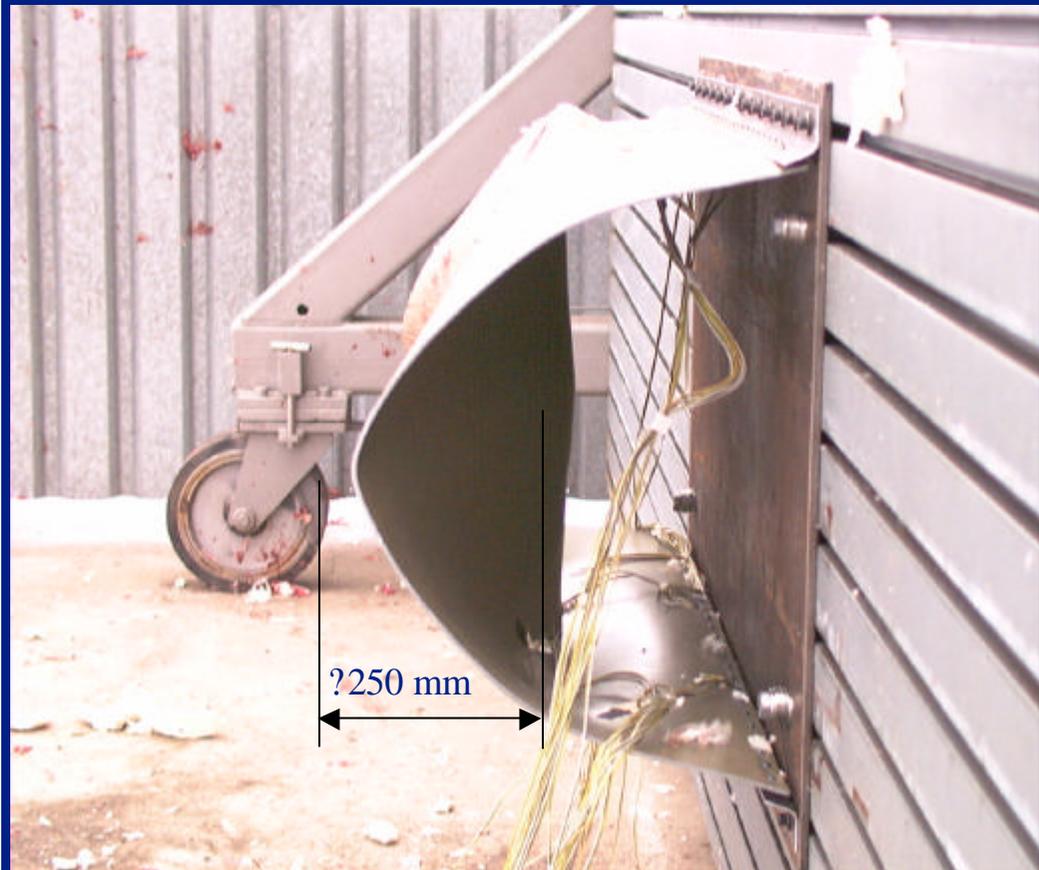
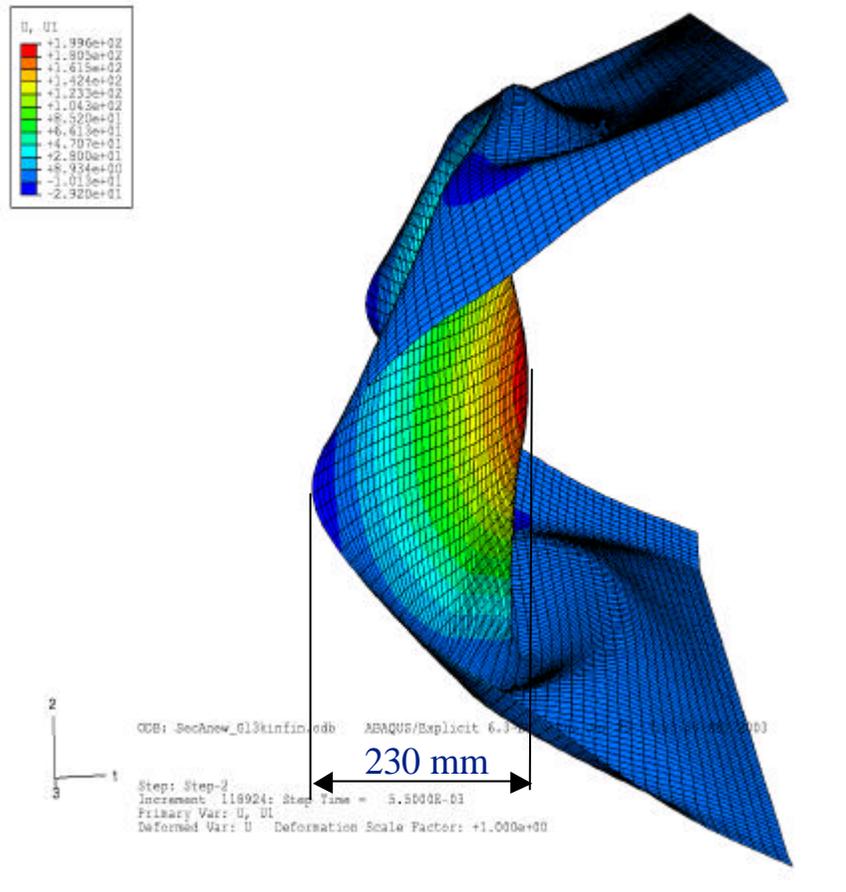
Section A

# Demonstrators, Theory versus Experiment

GLARE 3 – 7/6

Global Deformation

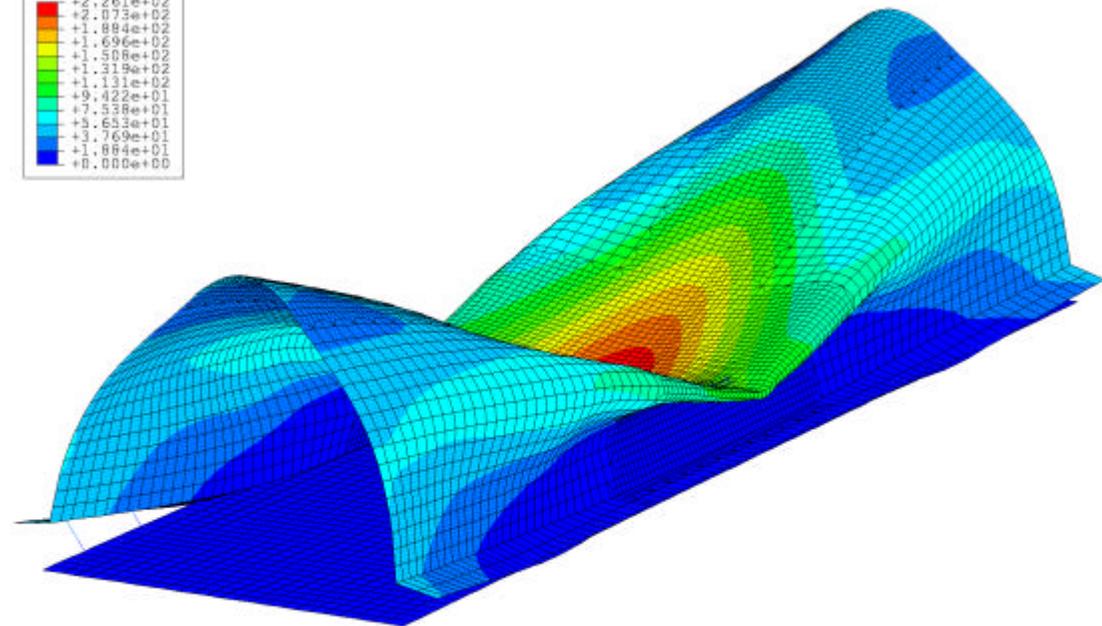
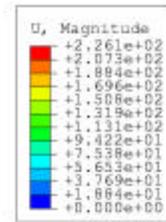
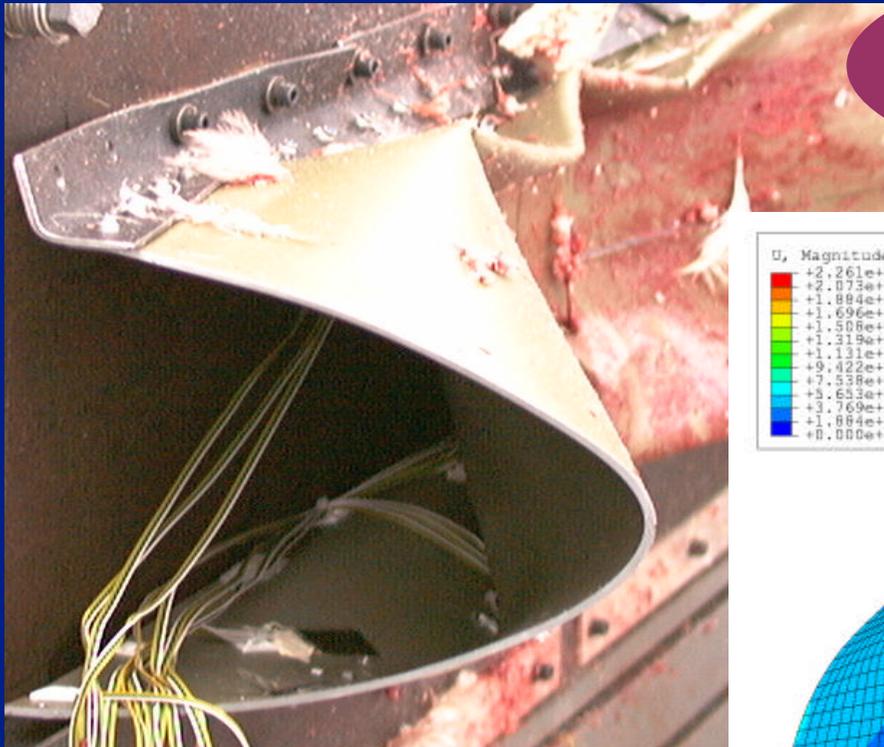
Section A



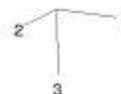
# Demonstrators, Theory versus Experiment

GLARE 3 – 6/5

Section H



ODB: G3\_W\_4BV1.odb ABAQUS/Explicit 6.3-2 Wed Jan 22 10:13:31 MET 2003



Step: Step-1  
Increment 178487: Step Time = 4.6000E-03  
Primary Var: U, Magnitude  
Deformed Var: U Deformation Scale Factor: +1.000e+00

# Demonstrators

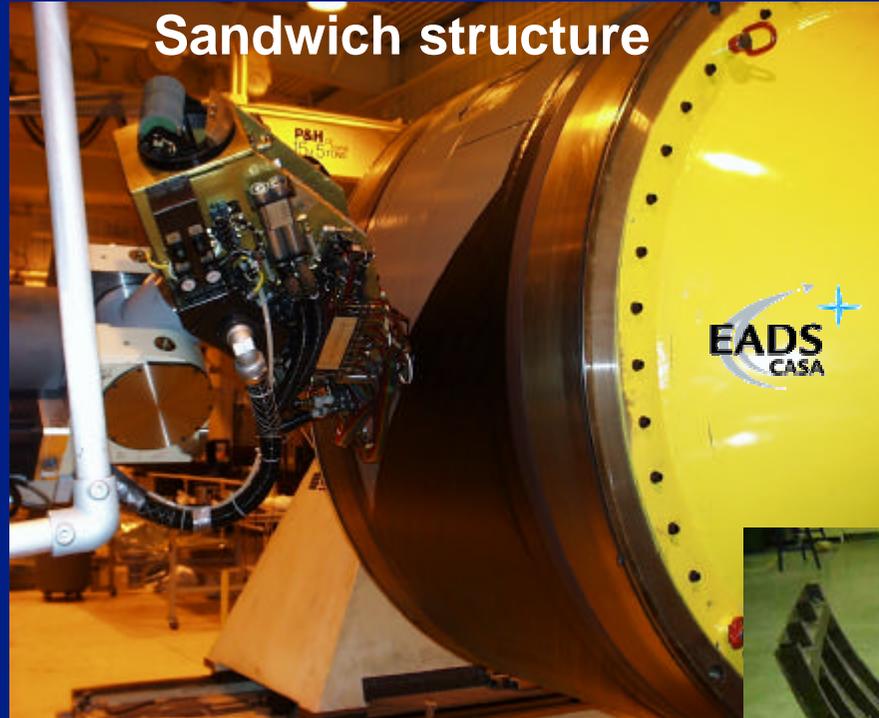


**A380 Rear Pressure Bulkhead: Resin Film Infusion (RFI)  
with pre-forms of non-crimped fibers (NCF)**

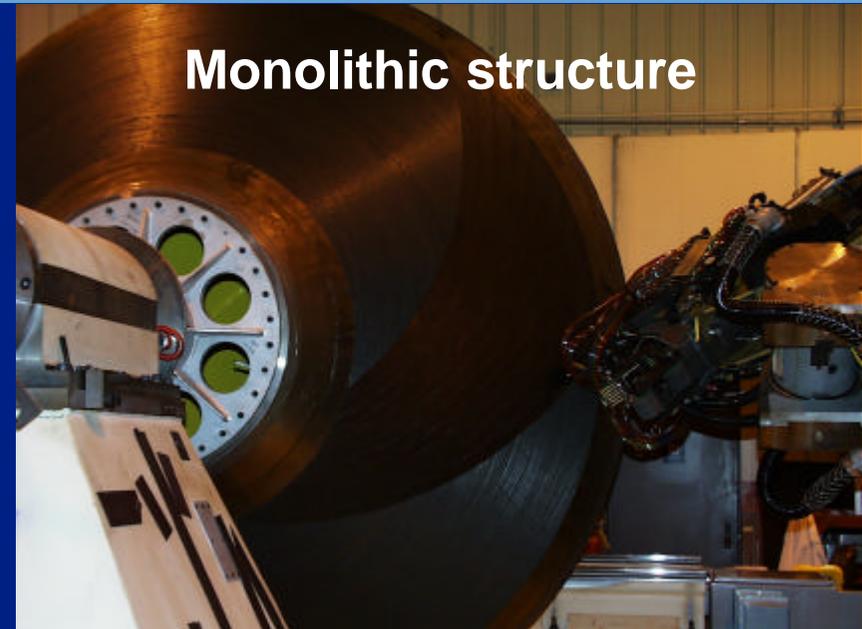
# Demonstrators

**Cylinders and cones:**

**Sandwich structure**



**Monolithic structure**



**Monolithic Engine Cowling**



# Summary on Key Success Business Matters

- The optimum aircraft/cabin configuration was established
- A380 contributes to the solution of airport congestion.
- Structural concepts and technologies have been developed:
  - ✚ Requirements of the innovative configuration are fulfilled
  - ✚ Maturity of selected technologies was demonstrated.
- Design & technologies frozen in co-operation with major airlines
- Changes of infrastructure at airports are kept at minimum:
  - ✚ Definition of “80mx80m-box” together with major airports
  - ✚ Landing gear configuration: no higher pavement loadings as today
- A dedicated world-wide Industrial Partnership has been formed.
- The necessary Launch Customer Base was settled.
- The Program was launched December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2000.

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# Future Technology Requirement

Technologies	Requirements
GLARE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- GLARE-type for high shear loads</li><li>- 180°C resin</li><li>- GLARE with Al7xxx</li></ul>
Laser-Beam-Welding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- advanced forming process: creep forming, <u>instead</u> of roll forming for stringers and stretch forming for skins</li></ul>
Friction Steer Welding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Not mature,</li><li>- minimize impact on temper: T3 is needed for damage tolerance, but T4 at weld-line</li></ul>

# Future Technology Requirement

## Technologies

## Requirements

**IM Fibers**  
(Intermediate Modulus Fibers)

**Improve material performance for  
compression after impact**

**NCF Fibers and RTM6**

- **Improve material performance for  
tension loaded structures with  
open holes (blunt notch design)**
- **Improve material performance for  
compression after impact**

A large crowd of people, many in business attire, are gathered in front of a white Airbus A380 aircraft inside a hangar. They are cheering and raising their hands. The aircraft's main cabin door is open, and a man in a suit is standing in the doorway. The hangar has a high ceiling with structural beams and various flags are visible in the background.

**Thank You for Your Attention**

**... Your A380 Team**