



Lightweight Forging Initiative Network

About this organisation

The weight of vehicles is one of the decisive challenges facing the automotive industry in the near future. This is because less weight means lower CO2 emissions as well as improved material and resource efficiency. Thanks to its lightweight design qualities, modern steels will retain a central role in these developments. The Lightweight Forging Initiative offers lightweighting innovations: www.lightweightforging.com

The goal is to achieve weight-savings in cars and light commercial vehicles using innovative components made of steel. During Phase I with 24 participating companies, a medium-sized passenger car was analyzed and the lightweight design potential of 42 kg was achieved in the powertrain and chassis regarding forging parts. In Phase II with 28 companies focused on a light commercial vehicle up to 3.5 t. Phase II identified a feasible lightweight design potential of 99 kg in the powertrain and chassis. In Phase III, finished in autumn 2018, 39 companies from the US, Japan and Western Europe had the focus on the lightweighting potential in the powertrain and chassis of a hybrid passenger car and analyzed 93 kg as well as in the transmission of a conventional truck 124 kg, www.lightweightforging.com

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Organisation type Cluster
Sectors  
Employees 50 up to 249
Turnover n/a
Funding n/a



Lightweight Forging Initiative

Network

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Main areas covered	Forging, Lightweight Forging
Infrastructure	Test laboratory, Benchmarking, Workshops
Certifications	
Keywords	Lightweight Forging, Automobile industry, Vehicles, Steel, Forging
Memberships	

Overview of lightweighting expertise

	Research	Development	Manufacturing & Supply
Offer			
Products Parts and components, Materials	✓	✓	✓
Services & consulting Consulting, Engineering, Prototyping, Simulation, Technology transfer	✓	✓	✓

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Overview of lightweighting expertise			
	Research	Development	Manufacturing & Supply
Field of technology			
Design & layout Lightweight manufacturing, Lightweight design, Lightweight construction concepts, Lightweight material construction	✓	✓	✓
Functional integration Material functionalisation	✓	✓	✓
Measuring and testing technology Component and part analysis, System analysis, Materials analysis	✓	✓	✓
Modelling and simulation Loads & stress, Life-cycle analysis, Optimisation, Processes, Materials	✓	✓	✓
<i>Plant construction & automation</i>			
Recycling technologies Recycling	✓	✓	✓
Manufacturing process			
Additive manufacturing 3D printing	✓	✓	✓
<i>Coating (surface engineering)</i>			
<i>Fibre composite technology</i>			
Forming Impact extrusion, Forging	✓	✓	✓
<i>Joining</i>			
<i>Material property alteration</i>			
<i>Primary forming</i>			
<i>Processing and separating</i>			
<i>Textile technology</i>			

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Overview of lightweighting expertise

	Research	Development	Manufacturing & Supply
Material			
<i>Biogenic materials</i>			
<i>Cellular materials (foam materials)</i>			
<i>Composites</i>			
<i>Fibres</i>			
<i>Functional materials</i>			
Metals Aluminium, Magnesium, Steel, Titanium	✓	✓	✓
<i>Plastics</i>			
<i>Structural ceramics</i>			
<i>(Technical) textiles</i>			

Contacts

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