

LENS[®] MATERIAL STARTER RECIPES

LENS Material Starter Recipes are time saving tools helping customers speed the development of new additive manufacturing applications. Developed by Optomec LENS application engineers and material scientists, each recipe provides detailed instructions covering powder feedstock characteristics, machine set-up, processing parameters and expected results for a variety of commercially available powders. Each recipe is also geometry specific providing time savings guidelines to produce quality results for thin wall, small volume and large volume structures. Optical and SEM images showing the microstructure and morphology of samples printed using each recipe are provided. Tensile tests conducted by an independent lab are also provided for small and large volume structures according to ASTM Standard E8.



Figure 1: Single Wall Dumbbell Structure Fabricated from Stainless Steel 420LC

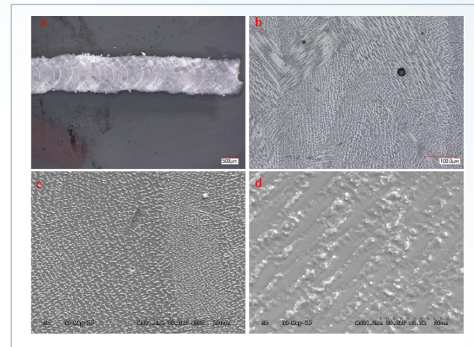


Figure 2: Optical and SEM images showing the microstructure and morphology of LENS deposited SS 420 LC

Ultimate Tensile Strength		Yield Strength at 0.2% Offset		Reduction of Area (%)	Elongation (%)
ksi	MPa	ksi	MPa	4.36 ± 0.49	0.53 ± 0.25
172.10 ± 12.99	1186.58 ± 89.56	157.16 ± 2.85	1083.58 ± 19.65		

Table 1: Tensile Properties of LENS processed SS 420LC in open environment.

Commercially available annealed stainless steel 420 typically has ultimate tensile strength of 95 ksi or 655 MPa whereas commercially available stainless steel 420 tempered at 593°C/1100°F typically has ultimate tensile strength of 150 ksi or 1035 MPa.

KEY FEATURES

- ▶ Developed by Optomec Experts – save weeks of trial and error
- ▶ Proven – use with confidence
- ▶ Commercially Available Powders – easy to repeat results
- ▶ Geometry Specific – speed application development
- ▶ Independently Tested – assure quality results

EXAMPLE LENS® STARTER RECIPES

For a full list of available LENS recipes, please contact sales@optomec.com

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Revision Date: May 19, 2017

LENS Material Starter Recipe

Scope: Inconel Alloy, Large Atmosphere (OA)

Deposition Head: 4-tip LPE

Powder Information

- Material: Inconel 718
- Manufacturer: Carpenter
- Powder Shape and Size (-140+325 Mesh)

Laser and Optics Set

- Laser Fiber: 300 µm
- Collimator: 60 mm
- Focusing lens focal length
- LPE Knob Position: 0.5
- Stand-off distance: 0.3
- Estimated Laser Spot Size
- Relative Spot Position: 0.247" or 6.27 mm
- Substrate Thickness: 6
- Melt Pool Sensor: Not

Powder Feeder and

- Powder Feed Rate: 16
- Powder Mass Flow Rate
- Powder Feeder Argon
- Center Purge Gas Argon

Powders with different particle characteristics. Please refer to the plot in Figure 2 can see

Atmosphere Settings

- Atmosphere: Open Environment
- Diffuser/Shield Gas: Nitrogen

Print Parameters

- Layer Thickness: 0.022"
- Number of layers: 45
- Hatch Spacing: 0.022"
- Hatch Orientation: 0°
- Laser Power: 650W
- Laser Power Density: 2
- Print Speed/ Scan Speed
- Post Processing: None

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Expected Results

- Mass Deposition Rate: Approximately
 - Microstructure
- Figure 3 shows the unetched cross-section of the deposit. Isolated porosity can be seen in the Z build direction. Isolated porosity was observed as seen in Figure 3.



Figure 3: SEM Images in the Z build direction showing isolated porosity.

Figure 4 shows the microstructure and morphology in the XY build direction in Figures 4(a) and 4(b). In these images, in the XY build direction, the remelting of the previously deposited material is visible. The microstructure evolution and the morphology in the XY build direction was similar and the collage in Figure 5 shows representative images of the Inconel 718 deposit in the XY build direction.

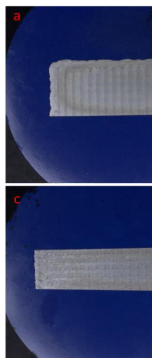


Figure 4: Optical Images showing microstructure and morphology in the XY build direction.

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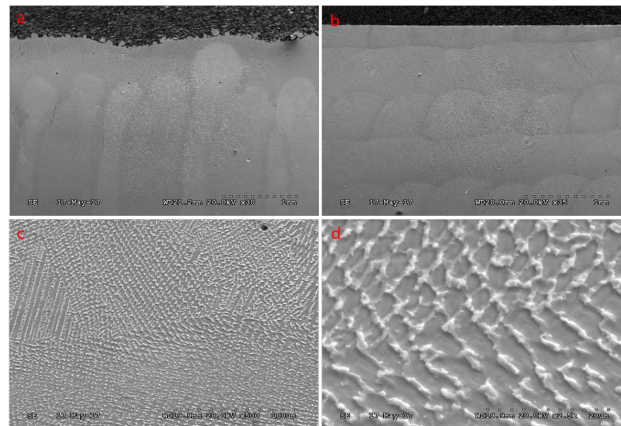


Figure 5: Optical and SEM Image of Inconel 718 at 650W: (a) Morphology in XY build direction; (b) Morphology in Z build direction and (c), (d) Higher magnification image of the morphology on the deposit.

- Tensile Properties- tensile test specimens were fabricated according to the above-mentioned process parameters and machined to ASTM Standard E8. Testing was done on the as LPE/LENS processed samples without any heat treatment, at room temperature, at an independent material testing laboratory in accordance with the above-mentioned ASTM standard. Table 1 below shows the tensile properties of the samples.

Ultimate Tensile Strength		Yield Strength at 0.2% Offset		Reduction of Area (%)	Elongation (%)
ksi	MPa	ksi	MPa		
137.33 ± 1.38	946.85 ± 9.51	81.6 ± 0.95	562.61 ± 6.55	30.33 ± 1.79	26.06 ± 0.64

Table 1: Tensile Properties of LPE processed Inconel 718 at 650W in open environment.

Commercially available Inconel 718 alloy typically has ultimate tensile strength of 140-190 ksi or 965.26-1310 MPa depending upon the heat treatment given and the testing temperature.

Comments

For lasers sources or optics that produce a different spot size, the aim should be to achieve the laser power density as close to the energy density mentioned above. Application specific process development is advised for complex designs, powders with different particle size distribution and different grades of Inconel alloys.

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ABOUT OPTOMECC

Optomecc® is a privately-held, rapidly growing supplier of Additive Manufacturing systems. Optomecc's patented Aerosol Jet Systems for printed electronics and LENS 3D Printers for metal components are used by industry to reduce product cost and improve performance. Together, these unique printing solutions work with the broadest spectrum of functional materials, ranging from electronic inks to structural metals and even biological matter. Optomecc has more than 300 marquee customers around the world, targeting production applications in the Electronics, Energy, Life Sciences and Aerospace industries. For more information about Optomecc, visit <http://www.optomecc.com>.