



6 ADDITIVE

RM Forum Settembre 2024









### **Powder Traceability is Possible for Recycled Materials**



- Powder traceability is a crucial quality requirement for industries such as medical implant manufacturing
- <u>Misconceptions exist</u> that recycled materials compromise traceability, thereby product quality and safety
- <u>The FDA allows</u> for the reuse of materials for medical devices printed with AM with proper controls
- Today's largest medical implant suppliers have <u>embraced used and recycled powder</u> while placing high demands that the upcycled powder meets their stringent qualification



#### 24/7 HIGH VOLUME PRODUCTION





#### **METAL POWDERS & 3D PRINTED SOLUTIONS**





World's only premium metal 3D powders from sustainably-sourced feedstocks



- > 24/7 production in ISO9001 certified facility & process
- Portfolio of products addressing all key markets
- > 91% lower CO<sub>2</sub> footprint versus competitive process
- Yields exceeding 90%, utilizations approaching 70%
- Working with the world's top 3 OEMs

### **6K Additive Powder Production Process**





# **UniMelt<sup>®</sup> Plasma**

Up to **100** Ton per Year per Machine

Up to **6000K** Temperature

~95% Efficiency

Modular & Scalable Technology





## **Material Traceability Scenarios Based on Raw Material**





## Scenario 2 - Recycling solid waste streams into premium powders





### **Certified Ti64 Chips**





AFTER

## **Scenario 3 - Rejuvenation - Ti64**

Grade 5 & 23 production possible from used powder



### CURRENTLY NOT POSSIBLE BY ANY OTHER COMPANY



#### Used Powder:

- Agglomeration of powder (satellites)
- Increase in Oxygen (>1300 PPM)
- Flow: None
- No current upcycle outlet
  - Currently landfilled



### Certified Ti6-4 Grade 23 Powder:

**CHEMICAL** ANALYSIS Element Unit Result wt% Bal. Ti Al wt% 6.1 V 3.87 wt% Fe wt% 0.2 С wt% 0.006 S wt% < 0.005 0 wt% 0.069 Ν wt% 0.023 н wt% < 0.005

- Meets industry specifications
- Ultra-low oxygen (<800ppm)</li>
- Flow: 24s
- Print Results
  - Exceeds ASTM requirements
  - Comparable w/competition

### **Ti64 Print Data at Room Temperature**



### **Print Information and Conditions**

- AM Machine Concept Laser M2
- Heat Treat HIP-Hot Isostatically Pressed
- Specimen Condition Fully machined
- Competitor Data
  Internally generated









## The Biomedical Project: Fully Traceable Raw Material



**Objective** – A world first, joint development of implants made from upcycled medical material revert



- Collects/aggregates large quantities of traceable used and end-of-life implants
- 2. **6 Cleans**, crushes, & spheroidizes the implants into premium quality powder for AM applications
- 3. Additive Approves the powder and additive Manufacturer manufactures new implants





Sources	Used powders	Solids	Used implants	Scrap parts
AM Manufacturers	X	X		X
Hospital			X	X
Crematorium			X	

- AM manufacturers and 6K Additive are collecting the AM used powders, solids and scrap parts
- SMR is working with hospitals and crematoriums to collect the end-of-life parts
- 6K Additive and SMR are finalizing the proof of concept for turning end-of-life parts into premium powders

## **Managing All Revert Streams**

Upcycling scrap to serve both additive and subtractive industries



**ADDITIVE** 

# **Premium Recycled Powder Benefits the Planet & The Bottom Line**

![](_page_12_Picture_1.jpeg)

By recycling our used powder with 6K Additive we have been able to drive down our contribution costs for material by 15%, which in turn drives down costs for the customer and our operating cost. What started as an exercise in reducing our environmental impact, has also reduce our costs and exceeded our expectations in quality and performance. We'd recommend 6K Additive to anyone."

![](_page_12_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### **Kevin Engel**

Director of Additive Manufacturing and Metrology Operations

![](_page_12_Picture_6.jpeg)

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