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Metal Additive Manufacturing and Its Post Processing Techniques

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Message from the Guest Editors

Additive manufacturing (AM) has been attracting tremendous attention in recent decades due to its unique advantages over conventional subtractive manufacturing processes in terms of customization and complex geometry and near-net-shape fabrication. To date, the application of AM technology has been extended to various fields of engineering, including automobile, aerospace, medical, and biomedical industries. Although the development of AM technology has been relatively successful at attaining sufficient mechanical properties, actual component adoption in the industry is still limited by the achievable surface finish and geometric accuracy. In this regard, post-processing is essential to remove support structures, tune microstructure and material properties, correct form errors, and improve surface finish. Post-processing methods commonly employ conventional subtractive manufacturing techniques that have been well established for shaping and finishing. It is desirable and challenging to integrate conventional manufacturing processes with the unique features of the additively manufactured components.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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