

Special Issue

Future Trends in Green Additive Manufacturing

Message from the Guest Editors

According to Eurostat [1], the major sources of greenhouse gas emissions are the energy industries, fuel combustion by users, and transport. Additive Manufacturing (AM) is part of the technological solution for lowering greenhouse gas emissions by enabling the creation of local production chains, the specific demand-triggered production of goods and spare parts, and short development cycles supported by the related digital design process [2]. The technology is on the threshold of moving from a niche technology to a mass technology. Two opportunities are behind this development: (1) AM technology allows the development of innovative products [4]. This is where the advantage of the technology becomes apparent, as it enables the creation of a great complexity of shapes while at the same time allowing a great variety of materials to be used. (2) AM technology offers the possibility of producing components and products in a way that saves resources and energy and therefore contributes to green manufacturing [4]. AM therefore represents a great opportunity to close the gap between economic and ecological product manufacturing.

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