

Welcome and Introduction

Robert A Smith
Past President, BINDT





Workshop objectives

• Aims:

- Brief the NDT community on the ways in which NDT could help to increase the use of composite materials in high-volume car manufacture.
- Define what success will look like.
- Document the resulting requirements.



Regulatory questions

- Do regulations apply to just safety or are we including environmental requirements?
- Vehicle safety is based on decades of experience, which we do not have for composite vehicles, or do we?
- Which aspects have to be revisited for composites?
- How will MOTs cope with composite vehicles?
 - There is no rust to detect but an impact could have severely decreased the strength and yet be invisible to the eye.
- What will be the design-limiting factor for road vehicles?
 - For aircraft it is mid-air bird strikes and hail storms, not tiny impacts creating barely visible dents.



Regulatory questions

- Once requirements have been established for composite components, what manufacturing test strategy will be acceptable to ensure they continue to be met
 - sample 1 in 100 for some kind of dimensional conformity,
 - sample 1 in 1000 for a tear-down or for X-ray CT or 3D characterisation of the microstructure of the composite?
- What structural integrity strategy will be employed?
 - Metallic aircraft SI strategy is based on slow defect growth under fatigue
 - composites do not exhibit growth under fatigue so static strength requirements are used for composite aircraft – leading to a philosophy that 'no invisible defect can grow to failure'.



Programme

10:00 Welcome and Introduction to the Work	rkshop.
--------------------------------------------	---------

10:15-10:45 Overview of potential for NDT of Automotive

Composites.

Session 1 Motorsport, sports cars and super cars

11:25-11:45 Coffee break

Session 2 Regulation, insurance and repair

13:00-13:40 Lunch

Session 3 High-volume challenges

Session 4 Breakout session

16:00-16:40 Afternoon tea with sandwiches, etc.

Session 5 NDT Requirements Panel Session (ends 6 pm)