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Operations Update

Amaero signs development agreement with automotive manufacturer for additively manufactured tooling

Amaero International Limited, a leader in metal additive manufacturing, has signed an agreement with a major global automotive manufacturer for the collaboration and development of additive manufactured (AM) tooling.

Amaero said the inclusion of additive-manufactured inserts would seek to decrease the risk of any manufacturing defects (e.g. leakers) by adding conformal cooling channels to the design.

It said the cost benefits in reducing any rejects associated with casting, subsequent machining and assembly were significant, especially when critical helium decay leak tests were conducted *after* the final processing stage.

The collaboration between Amaero and the customer would apply to the steel inserts for two aluminium casting die components.

Amaero CEO Barrie Finnin said that while the company had first manufactured tooling inserts four years ago, tooling had only recently become a strategic focus for the business.

"This agreement reinforces Amaero's growth strategy in the most difficult of economic circumstances. We can print the tool steel inserts with complex internal cooling channels that presently cannot be undertaken using conventional techniques," he said.

Mr Finnin said the design, manufacture and testing of the inserts, combined with the subsequently-manufactured components, would inform a case study aimed at demonstrating the effectiveness of conformal cooling in the aluminium die-casting process.

"Hopefully the case study will pave the way for these tooling components to be implemented into full-scale manufacturing," he said.

"These tooling inserts are common to die-casting tools globally, and once this AM process is proven, there would be scope for significant global opportunities."

This ASX release is approved by the Board of Amaero International Limited.

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About Amaero International Limited:

Amaero International Limited is an Australian based company that manufactures large format complex components in metal with laser-based additive manufacturing processes, commonly known as 3D printing.

The principal activity of Amaero is the provision of end to end additive manufacturing solutions in terms of services, equipment and technology to its key clients in the Aviation Defence and Space sectors and the Tool and Die industry.

Amaero has worked with many of the world's leading manufacturers of aerospace and defence products in both an R&D and manufacturing capability and has a demonstrated ability to deliver aviation and military specification 3D printed alloy critical operation components.

Amaero was established with the support of Monash University in 2013 to take advantage of commercial opportunities identified by the Monash Centre for Additive Manufacturing (MCAM). Amaero is co-located with MCAM in Melbourne Australia. It operates two additional facilities, in Adelaide, South Australia, and El Segundo, California, USA.