

## Topic

### Engineering Materials and Properties

### Material Properties

**Strength:**  
The ability of a material to resist an applied force

**Ductility:**  
The amount a material can be deformed

**Malleability:**  
The ability of a material to be deformed without rupturing

**Hardness:**  
The ability of a material to resist wear and abrasion

**Toughness:**  
The ability of a material to withstand an impact without breaking

**Brittleness:**  
The opposite of toughness; the potential for a material to shatter when it experiences an impact

**Stiffness:**  
The ability of a material to resist bending

**Young's Modulus:**  
the ratio of stress to strain of a material, showing how stiff it is



## Polymers

- Polymers are the most commonly used material type in commercial production.

**Thermoplastics:** Consist of long chains of repeating chemical parts; the individual chains are weakly attached to each other making the material ductile. Therefore when they are heated they soften and can be reshaped; then harden when cooled.

**Thermosetting polymers:** Consist of long chains that contain extra links that that stop the chains from moving. When reheated the either char or burn

**Composites:** Are materials made by combining two or more different types of material.

## Factors Influencing the Design of Solutions

**Energy requirements:**

- 1.Obtaining Material
- 2.Refining Material
- 3.Chaging Material Shape
4. Changing Material Properties
- 5.Transporting Materials

**Sources of energy:** Renewable & Non-Renewable

**Non renewable energy sources:** Coal, Oil, Natural Gas

**Nuclear energy:** uses radioactive material, low cost, can cause issues for health and the environment

**Renewable energy sources:** Wind Power, Tidal Power, Biomass, Solar Power



## Engineering Lifespans

**Engineering Lifespans:**  
Obsolescence (Quality/Function/Desirability)

**Maintenance of Engineered Products:**  
Reactive Maintenance  
Proactive Maintenance

**Availability of Materials And User Requirements:**  
Suppliers going out of business  
Market forces, where demand for a material is greater than supply  
Limits on the ability to obtain a material from a foreign country, such as local wars or trade restrictions



## Metals & Alloys

- Metals are made from metal 'ores'. The ore's are rocks/minerals dug from quarries/mines then refined & processed, turning them into usable forms

**Alloy:** A mixture of two or more metals

**Ferrous metals:** Contain iron as their largest alloying element.

**Non-ferrous metals:** Do not contain iron

**Aluminium:** Commonly found, usually alloyed, corrosion resistant, low density. Uses- drinks cans, aeroplane wings and body panels

**Copper:** Can be alloyed to make brass and bronze, excellent electrical and thermal conductor, extremely ductile. Uses- electric wires, water pipes

**Lead:** Relatively soft, malleable, ductile and good corrosion resistance. Uses- construction, around roofs, shielding radiation

**Zinc:** Low melting point, good for die-casting. Uses- car door handles, camera bodies

**Changing the properties of metal products:**  
alloying allows-modifying the structure of the metal, changing the surface chemistry

**Available forms:** Ingots, flat plates, sheets, strips, bars, rods, tubes, pipes, standard section forms and wire

## Material Costs & Supply

**Cost:** Is the price of the product/material

**Availability:** How easy it is to get/obtain

**Form:** The shape and dimensions of a material

**Supply:** Making something available

**Calculating costs:** Based on amount of material required including aesthetic and functional considerations

### Topic

#### Engineering Manufacturing Processes

#### Additive Manufacturing

**Sintering:** Is a process that is used to make products from metal powders

**Rapid Prototyping:** Involves using additive manufacturing to make a complete part or component in a single operation.

**Fused Deposition Modelling:** Is the most common rapid prototyping process; used in 3D printing with ABS, PLA polyamides and nylon

**Stereolithography:** Is a rapid prototyping process that uses a laser to make polymer products

#### Joining & Assembly

**Threaded Fastenings:** Include nuts, bolts and screws. These are available in a wide range of materials, including steel, brass and thermoplastic polymers

**Rivets:** Are used to hold sheets of material together, for example attaching overlapping metal plates to form the hull of a ship or attaching the skin to an aircraft

**Soldering:** Is a process in which two (or more) metal parts are joined together. It involves melting solder to form a joint between the pieces being joined



### Shaping, Forming & Manipulation

**Bending:** involves physically deforming a material. The material to be bent must be ductile and malleable; brittle materials tend to shatter

**Folding:** is bending material over on itself, so that one part covers another

**Press Forming:** is used in industry to make 3D shapes from metal sheet

**Press Moulding:** Polymer sheets can be formed into shapes using a similar process to press forming

**Punching and Stamping:** are used to cut shapes in metal sheets

**Composite Lay Up:** is made up of thin layers of composite material resulting in a thick shaped composite material using a shaped mould

### Material Removal

**Cutting:** sawing, shearing, laser cutting

**Sawing:** use of movement to progressively cut away material as it moves against it

**Shearing:** involves applying force from opposite sides of a sheet of material

**Laser Cutting:** is used to cut thin sheets of material; the material along the cut line is vapourised

**Turning:** involves the use of a lathe to make parts with a round profile

**Milling:** milling machines use a rotating tool to remove metal one thin layer at a time; they can be used to face a piece of material producing a flat surface with a good finish

**Drilling:** makes holes in the material using a rotating tool to progressively remove material

**Chemical Etching:** uses chemicals to remove material rather than a tool; usually used to make PCB's



### Casting & Moulding

**Sand Casting:** is used to make metal parts. It gets its name from using a mould that is made from bonded sand

**Pressure Die Casting:** is mainly used to make parts from non-ferrous metal. The special type of mould called a 'die' usually has two halves

**Injection Moulding:** is a similar process to pressure die casting but it is used for parts made from polymer

### Heat and Chemical Treatment & Surface Finishing

**Normalising:** is carried out on steel that has been work hardened

**Annealing:** involves heating the metal to a suitable temperature and holding it there for a given time

**Hardening and Quenching:** High-carbon steel, can be hardened by heat treatment. The steel can then be put through the process of quenching which involves cooling it rapidly by immersing it in oil or brine (salt water)

**Tempering:** involves heating it to a temperature of 230-300 °C, then quenching it again in oil or brine

**Painting:** is one of the most common surface finishing processes; it can increase corrosion resistance and visual appearances

**Dip Coating:** is used to apply polymer coatings such as PVC, nylon or polyethylene to metal parts

**Electroplating:** uses electricity and a chemical solution to create a coating on a metal part

**Polishing:** is a physical process that gives a material a shinier appearance. It also makes the surface smoother





### Topic

#### Engineering Systems

#### Describing Systems

**System Block Diagrams:** On a system block diagram, the blocks represent the functions or sub-systems; the arrows represent the signals that are sent from and to each block

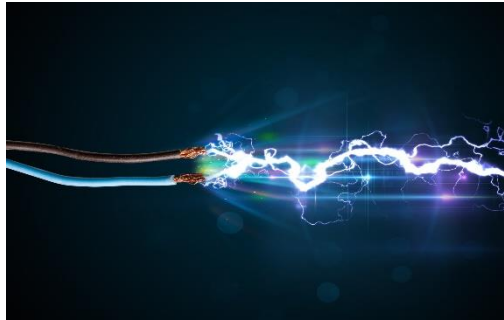
**Schematic Drawings:** Show the individual components required and how they are connected together

**Flowcharts:** Are used to show the order in which a set of events is carried out. For example, they can be used to show how a set of manufacturing processes is carried out or how quality control procedures are applied to it

#### Electrical Systems

**Electric Current:** An electric current is a flow of electric charge through a conductive medium, such as a wire

**Output Devices:** Can be used to provide light, sound or movements. As with inputs, the outputs selected depend on the requirements of the system



#### Structural Systems

**Structural Systems:** The purpose of a structural system is to resist loads and forces that could otherwise cause the main structure to deform or fail.

- Space frame structures
- Monocoque structures

#### Electronic Systems

**Analogue and Digital Signals:** Electronic systems and sub-systems collect, transmit, alter and output both analogue and digital signals

**Sensor Inputs:** Allow systems to gather information about the environment around them; for example changes in light or temperature

**Process Devices:** Are often thought of as the 'brain' of an electronic system; they work by responding to signals

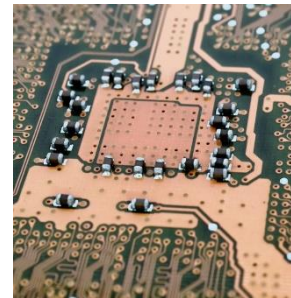
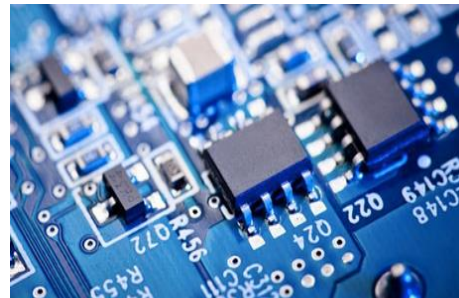
**Programmable Devices:** Can be used to perform more complex operations than discrete circuits

**Interfacing Components:** Also known as drivers, boost the output signal going from the process block of an electronic system

**Output Components:** Turn an electronic signal into real world signals such as light/sound/movement

**Discrete Components within a Circuit:** Are components that are not inputs or outputs but still play an important role

**Simple Programming for Monitoring and Control Processes:** Are designed to make sure engineered products are produced to a high level of consistency



#### Pneumatic Systems

**Pneumatic and Hydraulic Circuits:** Hydraulic systems use a liquid, such as oil or water to control a medium. Pneumatic systems use a compressible gas, such as air

**Pneumatic Systems versus Hydraulic Systems:** Consider the speed of operation

**Common Pneumatic Circuits and Components:** Single and double acting cylinders, delay circuits, logic circuits

**Applications of Pneumatics:** High speed, accurate and precise; therefore used for- robotic applications, drills, saws, screwdrivers, hammers, jackhammers and assembly tools



#### Mechanical Systems

**Linkages:** Are used to change the size of a force, the direction of motion and/or the type of motion

**Mechanical Advantage:** Linkages can be used to provide mechanical advantage; which is the ability of a mechanism to move a large load with a small effort force, usually written without any units

**Conversion of Motion:** Mechanical systems can be used to change the direction of motion in a system

**Gear Trains:** Transmit rotary motion and torque

**Chain and Sprocket:** A series of links are joined together with steel pins to make the chain. The sprockets are toothed wheels which the chain fits over

**Cams and Followers:** Cams and followers turn rotary motion into reciprocating motion

**Pulleys:** Pulley systems are used to reduce effort when lifting loads and to transfer power within a system. They transmit rotary motion

**Bearings:** Are machine parts; their role is to control motion and reduce friction between moving parts