

# Futuristic Approach and Usage of Advanced Composite Materials: Review

Aishwarya Brahmane<sup>1</sup>, Bharti<sup>2</sup>, Aanchal Chuniana<sup>3</sup>

*Department of Aerospace Engineering, Chandigarh University  
Ghauran, Punjab, 140413, India.*

Submitted: 01-12-2021

Revised: 11-12-2021

Accepted: 14-12-2021

## ABSTRACT

With the advent of the new generation, the aerospace industry employs a great percentage of state-of-the-art composite materials in the fabrication of each new modulation of aircraft. Advancements in composites resume to forge ahead, and the arrival of novel categories such as nanotube types is irrefutable to speed up and increased use of composites. Also, a forging ahead fashion in evolution of material is the amelioration in processing and erection of necessary materials to either amend physical characteristics or to counterface their appliance in new domains and functions for future application. The advanced composite materials can satiate all the requirements solicited for in aerospace materials, and subsequently their usage in the aerospace industry is steadily skyrocketing. This paper reviews the advanced composites in aerospace vehicles and their futuristic approach in upcoming aviation projects. Besides, it recounts us about the industries which are manufacturing them.

**Keywords-:** Composite Materials, fibres, reinforcement, matrix, kevlar, self healing.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The composite materials and structural designs are the prime focus of the Aerospace Industry. Most important part of an Aircraft is its skin (airframes) made up of composites. Aviation and Aerospace Industry concentrate more on composites because of its unconventional strength, stiffness, multifacetedness, distinct and exceptional physical properties. The strength prerequisites of the aviation regulations set forth the airframe limit conditions, which decide the strength of the airframe and its components. A Composite material customarily consists of relatively strong, stiff fibres in a tough resin matrix. Popular fabrication process comprises using prepregs as raw materials accompanied by autoclave moulding. The utilization of composite

materials lead to appreciable weight reduction which accounts for spiffing performance and enhanced fuel efficiency. Many ilks of strengthening materials are up to grabs for usage in aircraft. Three sorts are frequently used to construct accustomed aircraft. Typically used Composite materials are fiberglass, carbon fiber, and Kevlar. Glass fiber or fiberglass is the most widely used bolstering material. The rationale behind employing these strengthening materials are their remarkable features like being lightweight, strong, less brittle and get molded into various convoluted shapes. Another novel feature of this Composite material when compared to other structure types is that they are corrosion resistant, thermal insulator, have good damage tolerance and they do not sever from metal fatigue the way it happens in the case of aluminum. In lieu, they bend, which lets them outlast than metal, which in turn signifies lower maintenance and cost effectiveness.

## II. COMPOSITE MATERIALS

Composite material is a material fabricated when two or more dissimilar substances are blended together which has distinct physical and chemical features unlike the individual materials forming a completely new and unique material. These materials comprises stronger and weaker material namely reinforcement and matrix respectively.

The prime feature of the reinforcement is to render high strength, stiffness and other mechanical properties (low density) to the composite namely carbon fibre, fiber glass, etc.

The cardinal task of matrix is to provide the shape to the structure. So, materials composed of matrix are shapeable and have the ability to hold the shape formed which is very beneficial. The matrix is the first component of the composite which confronts the forces imposed on it.

### III. ADVANCED COMPOSITE MATERIAL

#### 3.1 Fibre Reinforced Polymer Composite Material

Fibre-reinforced polymer composite materials are becoming more favored materials for construction for the erection of aircraft and spacecraft. Specifically, the usage of fibre reinforced materials as cardinal structural materials in current years in various forefront technology indicative aerospace ventures worldwide has rendered surety which catalyzed their espousal as chief materials for aerospace vehicles. Specially, the ground breaking fibre reinforced composites made using carbon or aramid fibres in polymer matrices proffer many of these features as mentioned below:

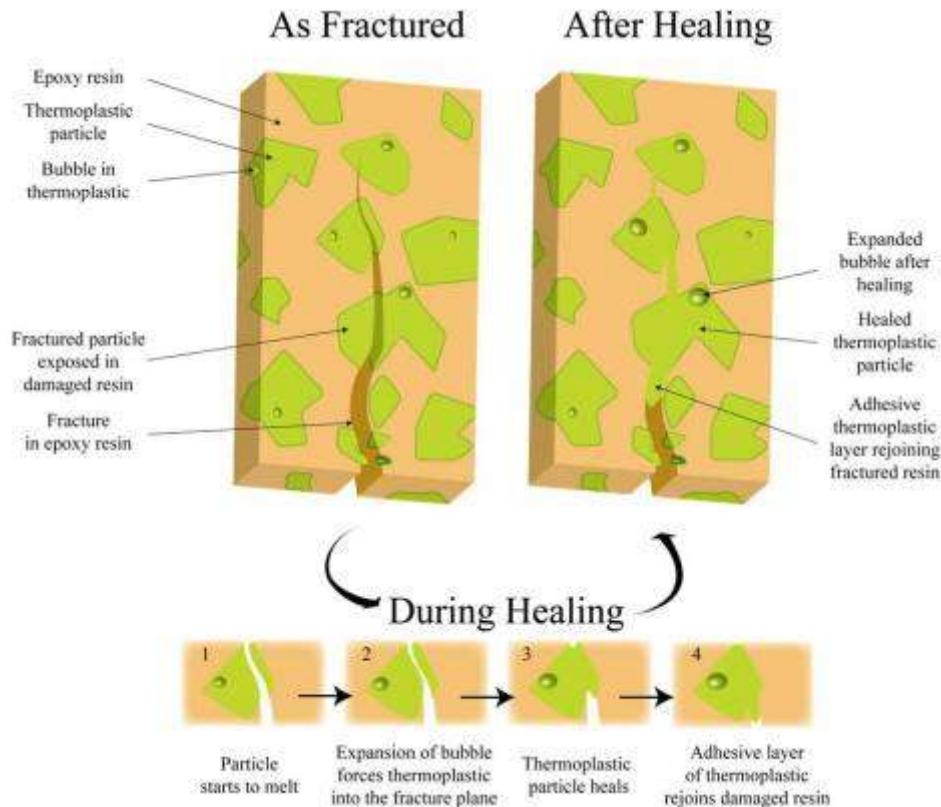
- Unheavy owing to substantial specific strength and stiffness.
  - Due to high specific strength and stiffness it is resilient to fatigue and corrosion.
  - Potential for high level optimization: adapting the directional strength and rigidity.
  - Ability to cast massive convoluted shapes in marginal cycle time lessening part and assembling times. Capability to mould large complex shapes in small cycle time reducing part count and assembly times. Excellent for thin-walled or profusely sinuous construction.
  - Capacity to sustain dimensional and alignment steadiness in space environs.
  - Prospect of low dielectric downfall in radar transparency.
  - Probability of attaining low radar cross section.
- These composite materials also have some intrinsic shortcomings:
- Laminated conformation with flimsy interfaces: mediocre resistance to out of plane tensile loads.
  - Liability to detriment due to impact and intense probability of internal damage being disregarded.
  - Moisture assimilation and leading deterioration due to high temperature performance.
  - Abundance of probable manufacturing flaws and change in material characteristics.

Even after embracing these fallibilities estimated advantages are appreciable and nearly all aerospace programmes optimize a considerable

amount of composites in aerospace vehicles. These benefits exist not without the presence of hassles. There are many challenges one need to confront while using composite materials. The composites are novel as well as exceptional to other materials, they are not isotropic, heterogeneous, have distinct manufacturing and working techniques and also varied controls for fetching fair quality material. These materials have a convoluted material behavior subjected to load needing novel and knotty analysis equipment. Besides this, the behavior is not always foreseeable by scrutiny and this makes dependence on many costly and cumbersome inevitable. The ways to confront these challenges have developed due to the advancements in computer technology and analysis methodology to implement so~emes contingent on computer aided design, finite element methods of analysis and erecting computer interfaces amongst all facets of development, namely, design, analysis and manufacturing. Using this technology allows us to transfer information speedily subsuming graphics and correct analysis methodologies for a proper prediction of intricate behavioral patterns of composites. It is possible only by optimizing the vast computational power for several purports that the aircraft structural design of today can confront the challenges posed by the required performance.

#### 3.2 Self-Healing Composites: An advancement in material for Aerospace Structures.

We have several advanced composite materials available for building aircraft. But human beings have proclivity to strive for improving technology in material science. Prevalently, the entire world is assaying to proceed towards a novel category of material which will most feasibly be used in all types of industrial as well as all other sectors in the proximal future. This new kind of ground breaking material is Self-Healing Composites. These materials are very proficient and after ample of research scientists discovered that it can imitate biological systems. These materials have higher future prospects which could prove to be a fillip for the aerospace industry.



**Fig 1 Self-Healing Composite Material [13]**

The elementary definition of a self-healing material is that it is a material which is erected prosthetically that holds the potential of mending itself from any under-mination caused to it or acclimatize to its ambience for mechanical reinforcement. These materials are beneficial for the aerospace sector because it would be able to cope up with issues like aging, wear and tear caused due to long hours of operation and flaws like small crannies which can present a crucial challenge which could not be surmounted by composites and other materials we presently use.

One more advantage that self-materials can impart is that it can dynamically augment life of the material as well its lastingness. We would be able to look after its maintenance without requirement of manpower. Scientists found this conception of seal healing materials through biological systems. This material use the disruptive approach of living creatures which are able to self-mend and recover from mutilation caused on their upper epidermal layer. This is done by using blood cells which seal any open injuries caused to them by forming clots.

Corrosion problems caused in the structures can be restored efficiently after healing done by composites. Fuselage, engine

blades, combustion chambers, smart paints and impact resistant space structures are the applications of self-healing materials in the aerospace sector. More time will be required for self-healing composites to become provident and cost effective but definitely it will prove to be very profitable. Presently, many military development companies are inventing composite material development which is a greatly fascinating sector in aviation. There is an appreciable jeopardy when it is a matter of research and development in manufacturing it. The hankered composite material might not be able to be manufactured with the prevailing technology we possess. And even if it is designed it may have a single-handed implementation which may not prove to be beneficial. In the development of any new composite material monetary profit and financial assurance are a very crucial facet.

These Composites can probably become essential in Aerostructure Application especially for fatigue and impact resistance issues. Corrosion and barrier like properties can be effectively maintained after healing.

If we use healing technology on composite materials then it would give advanced potentials for maintaining themselves. Conflating this self-healing

structure with other materials will pioneer a new era of design. Particularly in fiber reinforced composites some conformations has flaws that are not easily noticed or it infeasible to mend. Many modern aircrafts have ample of such composite materials which have this constraint. If there is any cranny or constraint on repair then it averts the huge usage of composites in aerospace structures. So incorporating self-healing composites in structures would prove to be highly profitable in terms of safety and performance.

Inception of failure is a very solemn situation in engineering. So, we always look out for ways by which we can prevent this failure. Failure of many parts is caused by proliferation of damage. So, preventing any cranny that is present on the surface can aid in augmenting the lifetime of that concerned part on which that crack was present. Aerospace engineers can augment the life expectancy of any aircraft component by using self-healing composites in it which can act as a healing agent.

#### IV. COMPOSITE USAGE IN AIRCRAFT DESIGN

Amidst the pioneering uses of advanced composite material was 30 years back. At that time, boron reinforced epoxy was employed for the outer skin of the tails of the U.S. F14 and F15 fighter jets. Incipiently, in secondary structures composite materials were only employed but with passing time as knowledge and evolution of the materials has ameliorated we started using them in primary structures like wings and fuselages of the aircraft as well. Formerly, the structural weight percentage of composites used in fabricating was very teensy almost 2% in the F15, but with the passing time the percentage has burgeoned rapidly from 19% used in F18 to 24% in the F22 airplane.

Most of the parts of Eurofighter use a great ambit of composite materials. The wing skins, forward fuselage, flaperons and rudder all comprise composite material. 75% of the exterior area is constituted by strong or toughened epoxy skins. Grossly, 40% of the structural weight consists of Carbon-fibre-reinforced composite material in Eurofighter. About 20 and 25% composites by weight are contained in European fighters, 26% meant for Dassault's Rafael 20% - 25% for the Saab Gripen and the EADS Mako.

##### 4.1 Composite materials usage in aerospace companies

A cut above strength to weight ratio can be rendered by composite materials as compared to metals. The ratio is 20% more than metals. Lower

weight helps in less fuel utilization leading to less emissions. Less riveted joints are needed by plastic structures so it leads to increased aerodynamic efficacies and less fabricating expenses. When composites first came into sight, the aviation industry was spontaneously riveted by such advantages rendered by composites. The aviation industry was the constructor of military aircraft who grasped the bite at the cherry to amend the speed and mobility of their products. Weight really plays a significant role when it is a question of building and designing heavier than air machines. So, designers have attempted continually to amend lift to weight ratio which results in higher amount of lift generation from the very time man flown his machine into air (airplane). Weight is significantly reduced by using composite materials and there are three prime categories in usage namely carbon fibre, glass and aramid-reinforced epoxy. Composites are multifaceted because it is used not only for structural applications but also in components of both aircraft and spacecraft including gliders and fighter jets. The distinct types of composites have divergent mechanical features and are employed in various areas of aircraft fabrication. For instance carbon fibre has inimitable fatigue conduct and is breakable. The RB211 jet engine of Rolls Royce found in the 1960's having carbon fibre compressor blades foundered cataclysmically owing to bird bangs. In an exploratory program, 1500 composite constituents were used by Boeing to supersede metal components in a helicopter. Composite based components utilization instead of using metals is burgeoning in commercial as well as luxury aviation. Carbon fibre is the most prevalent fibre utilized in many of the aerospace implementations.

#### V. ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF USING COMPOSITES

Composite Material possesses excellent features with unique qualities that must be studied in detail. Having a wide range of benefits in the Aviation sector, this has slowly rooten the industry. Other positive attributes include the resulting fuel efficiency (which is equally significant with today's rising fuel prices), good fatigue and many more mentioned below.

Benefits of using composites:

1. Diminution in weight – 20%-50% of weight is saved.
2. Mechanical features can be altered by 'lay-up' design, with narrowing thicknesses of



strengthening cloth and orientation of the cloth used.

3. Provide high impact resilience – Kevlar (aramid) armor shields planes, too. It abates the inadvertent wreckage posed to the engine pylons which borne engine controls and fuel lines.

4. It has high damage tolerance which helps to evade accidents.

5. Corrosion issues of galvanisation which transpire when two disparate metals are in touch with each other does not occur and are evaded. So, using non-conductive fiberglass proves to be beneficial.

Some demerits of Composites:

1. Some high continual prices.

2. Greater discontinuous prices.

3. Greater Material prices.

4. Concealed damage caused by impact.

5. Restoration is distinct from those to metal structure.

6. To avoid adjacent aluminum part galvanic corrosion composite need isolation.

Composite materials aids in reducing weight as they are conventionally 20% floatier as compared to aluminum and are more trusted than other typically are 20% lighter than aluminum and are known to be more reliable than other outmoded metallic substances, resulting in lessened expense of aircraft servicing, and a less number of assessment during servicing is required.

Extensive composite used in primary structures of Boeing 787 Dreamliner which leads to ignition of 20 % less fuel than a comparably sized all aluminum aircraft and 10,000 lb lighter. These results prove that using fiber composite aggregate in saving weight and increased payload capacity and reduced fuel burn, however it helps Airlines to avail oneself of using these aircraft making profit in the face of increasing fuel prices.

## VI. FUTURISTIC APPROACH TO COMPOSITES

Ultimately, the offering of Composites hinges on the metals used as lesser the metals, higher will be the endeavours towards questing the new composition of composites. Also, due to modulation in aircraft's Engine, it became uphill for these previous generation Composites to cater the elementary prerequisites. The Aircraft Engine decides the fuel Efficiency and has temperature Potentials as high as 3800°F (2,100°C) leading to complications for forthcoming Composites. With skyrocketing demands, the commercial sector is under pressure to improvise the performance as well as balancing the weight- to-mass ratio resulting in weight reduction. Apart from these essentials, the manufacturing department of

Aircraft Business ensures to abate the operational cost to utilize the opportunity profitability so far if possible.

### 6.1 Development of New Composite Material

Titanium alloys, nickel alloys, and some nonmetal composite materials such as ceramics are conducted into the material equation nowadays in order to cater some temperature requirement and heat-resistant super alloys (HRSAs). In comparison with the traditional aluminum, the composite material tend to be more arduous to machine.

### 6.2 Ceramic matrix composites (CMCs)

Ceramic matrix composite is a material with sterling thermal characteristics and with enhanced mechanical features which helps in surpassing the constraints of monolithic ceramic (i.e toughness) and blazoning other merits. The hot sections of the aero engines including turbine disks and aerofoils are the viable applications of CMCs in aviation industry.

### 6.3 Metal matrix composites (MMCs)

Metal matrix composites comprises of an aluminum or titanium matrix with oxide. These consist of an aluminum or titanium matrix, Nitride, carbide or oxide is used as a reinforcement and have many benefits as compared to monolithic materials. But the issue with them is that they are not very hard and is more exorbitant and moreover arduous to machine. Likely applications of MMCs subsumes largely loaded surfaces such as turbine fan blades, helicopter rotor blades and floor supports.

### 6.4 Carbon Nanotube technology

In the Scientific era, advanced materials like Carbon nanotubes have been anticipated to be very promising for the upcoming future. System developers are now beholding the prospects of employing these in new applications for electronics and screening of large scale aircrafts. Carbon nanotube technology has vast applications in the domain of aerospace and defence electronics. Due to EMI shielding, aircraft composed of carbon composite receive unused current from lightning bashes. Metal is used to shield the aircraft but residual current is still present in some proportion. This feathery material is being employed for EMI shielding and protecting internally. It assists in proper protection and permits you to screen the internals of an airplane composed of carbon fibre.

Having the tensile strength equal to carbon fiber, Carbon nanotubes are supple too. Comparatively, not encountering the same

brittleness which in turn distinguishes the strain to failure. They supersede the composite materials by being in fabric like format.

One can envisage that the surface of a wing would be both operational, it would defrost itself, it could be the antenna, it could notify back to the aircraft and utter 'we are or we are not integral', carbon nanotube technology can bring gargantuan numbers of multifunctional applications and can be very advantageous to both aircraft and spacecraft.

### 6.5 Shape memory metals (SSMs)

When SSMs are heated they regress to their initial deformation shape. They typically comprise copper/nickel based alloys and also other materials can be employed. The hybrid applications of SSM actuators is through their simpleness like variable jet intake and altering variable geometry chevrons where archaic systems are massive and convoluted when analogized with the likely savings.

## VII. THE COMPANIES IN AEROSPACE COMPOSITES PRE-EMINENCE

After the induction of composites to the global market composite materials have been attaining notability and that is relevant to all key industrial domains. Paramount cost and performance benefits have been proffered by composite materials because of which it has accomplished pre-eminence more than the accustomed materials employed for several applications. We are acquainted with the fact that the aerospace sector is perceived to work on a base of very austere set of rules founded by regulators to alleviate any jeopardy during operations, while the aerospace sector is known to run on a foundation of very stringent regulations set by regulators in order to mitigate any risk of mishap during operations, it really took long time for the espousal of these materials. It is really essential for the manufacturers to pick and choose materials which fit in immaculately in all facets set by regulatory bodies as we know that aircraft operate in rigorous conditions. So, this was not the only reason which prevented these materials from introducing themselves into the sector. In these elapsing years, composites have been entering into aerospace applications which are exacting to aircraft performance as well to its safe operation. Fabricating primary aircraft structures which incorporate fuselage, wings in conjunction with

some other components. Paramount growth prospects have been presented by the wrestling aerospace industry to the composite constructors athrow the world and resumes to endorse progression of materials and innovation in technologies by them. Composites are competent in dealing with swingeing environmental fetters and therefore their applications are being tried and tested across the overall sector. Because of which the aerospace sector has been seeing a shift from the accustomed usage of metals to composites for making constituents and components.

### 7.1 Toray Advanced Composites-a pre-eminent company

Toray Advanced Composites is a multinational producer and supplier of advanced composite materials. In the twentieth century, the sophisticated thermoplastic composites and thermoset prepreg resins that are used today in a broad range of applications were developed by this company. In the modern era advanced composite materials deliver magnificent strength with remarkable weight reduction. Toray construe the future of flight by introducing the launch vehicles of the latest generation. Opportunities for betterment in aerospace and defense industries are being offered by unusually rugged, heat resistant and feathery materials to lessen weight, ameliorate performance and wane the total cost of critical structures of aircraft.

The aerospace industry is attaining new pinnacles because Toray has more than 40 years of experience in innovation of advanced composite material development. Toray is a noted leader in thermoset and thermoplastic prepreg panaceas for a wide range of aerostructure applications. It not only renders advanced material remedies but also works concertedly to cater customer needs.

Stellar manufacturers of commercial aircraft hinge on Toray's heat and impact resistant Catex brand of thermoplastic composites nifty for fixed wing leading edges, engine inlets and through a multifariousness of structural applications extending from clips and bracket to engine pylon doors and control surfaces. Toray's advanced composites is a spiffing company for manufacturing composites for aerospace applications. Many of the world foremost aerospace programs count on Toray's advanced composite materials and is known for working in aerospace sector on emanating programs.

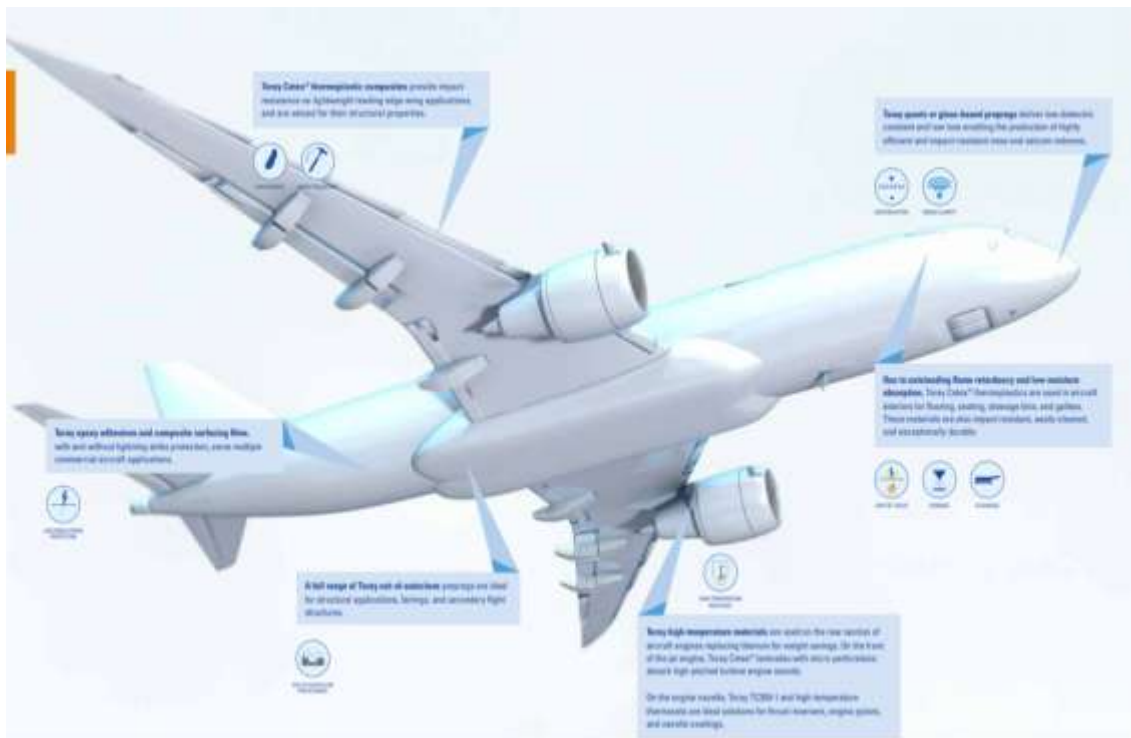


Fig 2. Aircraft composed of Toray's Composites [14]



Fig 3. Launch Vehicle Composed of Toray's Composites [14]

## 7.2 Boston Materials Incorporation- International Aerospace Composite Manufacturer

Another name that pops-up in mind after Toray in Aerospace Composites Manufacturing

Business is Boston Materials. As Advanced Composites plays an essential role in Aviation, their manufacturing becomes a matter of concern. Instead of being in demand, Composites manufacturing Industries are harder to discover.

Boston Materials, well known Incorporation has 4.2 / 5 ratings on Google. Boston Materials designs and manufactures Carbon Super-composite™ - a safe and unique carbon fiber composite manufacturer with abiding material. These Carbon Super-composite have particular features i.e 3D and layer-by-layer reinforcement available in prepreg that bind immediately into existing manufacturing workflows. The Z-axis

Reinforcement technology used in Industry has soared the bar upto \$1.75 million in seed funding with the support of SABIC and the clean Energy Venture Group.

Some other industries manufacturing Composites in Aviation Sector are Hexcel -a foremost advanced composites company and Blackhawk Composites-attain a cut throat edge.

## VIII. STUDY OF COMPOSITE STRUCTURE IN AIRCRAFT

### 8.1 Composite structure of Boeing 787

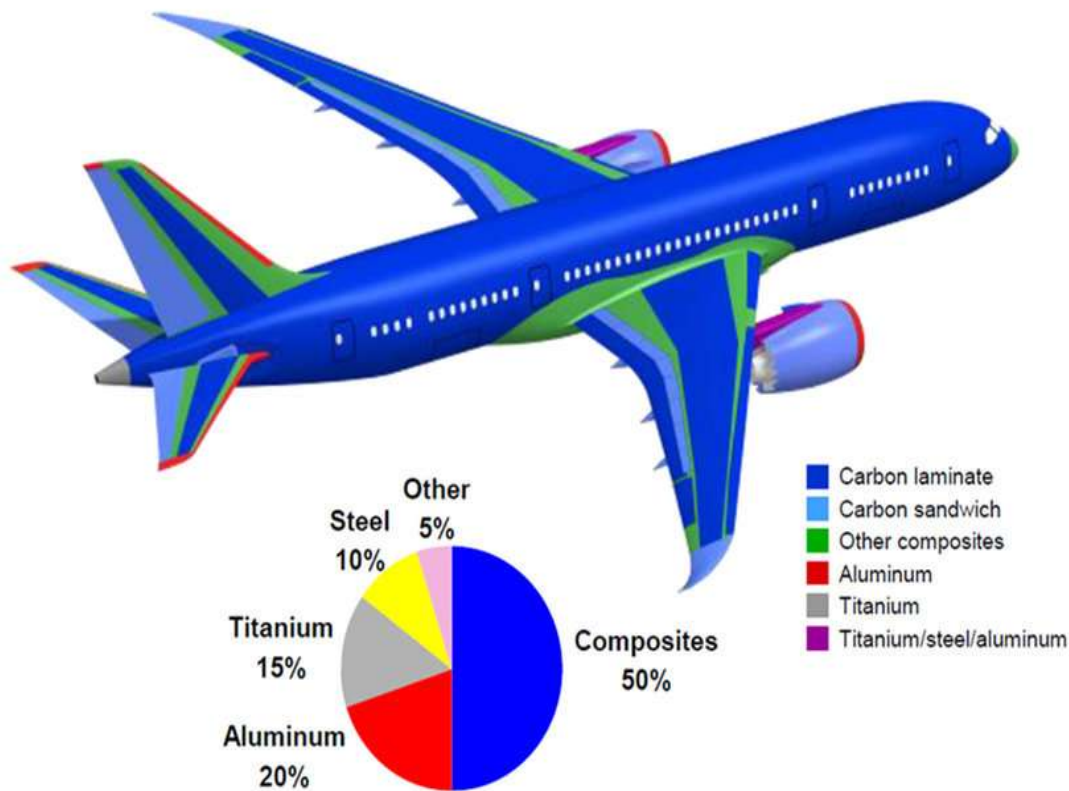


Fig 4. Composite Structure of Boeing 787 [10]

More than any exemplar Boeing commercial airplane, Boeing 787 optimizes a greater amount of composite materials in its airframe and primary structure. Boeing engineers select the best material for certain applications of the airframe while initiating the design process devoid of any biased notions. The implication of this design process is an airframe composing of almost half CFRP along with other composites. This method helps in weight saving of approximately 20 percent as compared to other usual aluminum designs.

To reduce the weight of the airframe in terms of technological side, Boeing pioneered to make an agglomeration of materials: The proportion in which the material is used in Boeing 787 consists of 50% composites by weight which means 80% by volume, 20% aluminium, 15% titanium, 10% steel and 5% other material. The outcome of using this material mixture is a 20% diminution in fuel consumption as compared to other accustomed aircraft of same size. Besides lightweight composites, three other main technologies devote to that excellent performance:



new, more efficacious engines and systems applications and aerodynamic updates of the wing surfaces. The use of aluminum is for the wing, leading edges and titanium is primarily used on engines and clasps with some amount of steel in several areas of aircraft.

32,000 kg of CFRP composites is contained by each Boeing 787 aircraft which is made with 23 tons of carbon fibre. Composites are used on several parts such as fuselage, wings, tail, doors, and interior of the aircraft. On massive rotating spindles, Boeing 787 fuselage sections are reposed. To impart maximum strength along maximum load paths, strengthening fibres are placed in certain directions. Additionally, the fuselage areas are healed in large airtight pots. The outcome is the monocoque shell which has internal longitudinal stiffeners earlier built in. The accustomed built up airframes requires more fasteners as compared to this highly integrated structure. Analogous

composite fabrication methods are applied to the wings as well.

One gripping fact in Boeing 787 is that it has composite wings which have oblique wingtips. The wingtip of this aircraft has a higher degree of sweep than the remaining part of the wing. This design of the wingtip which is aerodynamic in nature aggrandize fuel efficiency and climbing performance which results in waning the takeoff length of the runway. The function of the design is analogous to winglets which increases the effective aspect ratio of the wing thereby preventing the pernicious wingtip vortices. As a result of which the amount of lift induced drag weathered by the aircraft is ebbed. The demerit of metallic wings is that it is not feasible to apply various camber shapes along the wing span because of lacking the capability to have that double curvature configuration as it is specific to composite wings only and not possible to accomplish in metallic wings.

## 8.2 Composite Structure of A350 XWB



Fig 5. Composite Structure of Airbus 1350 XWB- Intelligent Airframe [12]

Primary goal of engineers is to design the aircraft with lighter weight and maximum load carrying capacity. Hence, weight reduction becomes the main concern which in turn foresee the composite material with specific characteristics.

Studying elaborately about the A350 XWB, newly joined the wide-body airliners from

Airbus. This A350 XWB had the latest advancements in fuselage and wing structures- smartly designed airframe and wing layout of a carbon fiber-reinforced polymer. In comparison with other longrange competitors, this airbus is providing a trend-change of 25% in fuel efficiency. Models of A350 XWB especially A350-800, A350-

900 and A350-1000 having astonishing flight range, fuel efficiency and many other benefits. Its optimal operating efficiency is assured by utilized standard portions, systems, airframe skin material and power engines which further rely on Manufacturing, Assembly and its maintenance.

Possessing an extraordinary combination of high strength, high stiffness, low weight and durability we left with no doubt why composites are the main bolster in the Aviation Sector. From many years, Airbus has contributed in such materials and manufactured many commercial jetliners with these advanced materials, whether its cornerstone A310's vertical stabilizer or latest developed A350 XWB.

From head to toe, Airbus avail advanced composites in jetliners and challenges the material science by taking such risks. Carbon-fibre reinforced plastic, or CFRP is the common name that stands-out in Advance Composite Materials used in Airbus. The material is lighter than Aluminum, stronger than iron, offers better strength-to-weight ratio and non-corrosive.

Usually, CFRP characteristics alter between its component Materials. Separately neither the carbon fibre nor resin can form the product desired for Aircraft's formation. But on forming layer after layer and uniting the multiple bonds, the CFRP aerostructure puts on the strength and maintains the load-bearing properties benefited for ideal Aircraft Composite.

Modified Composition of carbon-fibre reinforced plastic is carried out by A350 XWB. To Mention, A350-XWB's wing (upper and lower covers) composed of lightweight carbon Composites. Largest single Aviation part ever made from carbon fibre is reported 32 metre long and 6 metre wide .

Features of CFRP other than stronger and tougher aerostructure is its weight reduction as it can carry more passengers, burn less fuel hence increase the efficiency, cover more distance or fly farther.

### 8.2.1 Use of Sophisticated Materials

Tangible meliorism in design is due to the broad ambit of advanced materials used in Airbus XWB as compared to earlier Airbus models. The broad ambit of advanced materials used in the A350 XWB contributes to a tangible amelioration in design when compared to earlier Airbus models. The novelty of Airbus XWB owing to some key design innovations are explicated below.

### 8.2.2 Composites used in Airbus XWB

Composite materials are being over nearly half of the aircraft's fuselage to elude the

prerequisite for fatigue relevant checks which are needed on other conventional aircraft made up of aluminum. Composite materials render greater resistance to corrosion due to which it is used in aircraft.

### 8.2.2 (i) Progressive Aluminum Alloys

Aluminum is being used in some parts of the aircraft such as in the airframe as well as nose of the aircraft. Approximately 19% aluminum is used in the airframe. Besides, aluminum is used in the nose of the aircraft in place of a single piece carbon fiber structure the reason being aluminum is cost friendly.

### 8.2.2 (ii) Titanium

Approximately, 14% titanium is used in the airframe. The reason why this material is used is because of the aforementioned main features:

- Feathery (Light weight)
- High resistance to degeneration of material
- Robust
- Recycling is undemanding

The benefit that we can acquire by using titanium in addition to composites is it eases the requirement for prevention of corrosion in the aircraft by approximately 60%.

### 8.2.3 Fuselage Composed Of Carbon Fiber Reinforced Plastic

The A350 XWB is the first Airbus in which a great extent of carbon-fibre reinforced plastic have been used. In this Airbus wing structures and fuselage made up of carbon-fibre reinforced plastic. The main purpose of using this composite material in aircraft is convenient maintenance and outcome of less fuel burn by reducing weight, and allowing sophisticated wing design and structure.

The Airbus A350-1000 wing has the same span as the A350-900 aircraft which is already in commercial service. For the innovative technological advances 90% of the parts that make up the A350-1000 have been modified and its trailing edge has been extended to resize the wing for the plane's additional payload and range. Additionally, the upper wing skin of the largest A350 XWB aircraft is fabricated from carbon fibre composite material which is prevalently used in civil aviation.

There is an Airbus amenity in filton. Contiguous to Bristol where the upper skin wings for the A350-1000 were designed and developed. Besides, a number of other systems such as plane fuel's systems and landing gear are also designed and examined there at the Airbus facility.

The special feature of the Airbus A350 XWB aircraft family is its highperformance wings which helps in making the plane speedy, more fuel efficient and tranquil for the passengers. There are certain sleek features in the wing design which includes droop-nose leading edge devices used on the wing and new robust dropped-hinge flaps which enhance the jetliner's fuel efficiency at low speeds as well. The A350 XWB can deviate its wing flaps differentially which aids in optimizing the wing profile and render improved load control.

### IX. RESULT & DISCUSSION

The significance of composite materials is immense not only in the current components but also in the future components of the aircraft. Owing to its superior characteristics like it provides good structural strength and possess exceptional physical properties which ultimately enhances the performance and fuel efficiency of the aircraft. Composites are used in various components of the aircraft like fuselage, wing-flaps, control surfaces, radome, space vehicles such as rockets, satellites, missiles, etc so the area of application of composites is massive. In future, composites such as Hybrid Composites, Honeycomb structure would be widely used. While designing an aircraft, strength and stiffness are the two major parameters which we take into consideration. Whereas in the case of space vehicles stiffness and lower coefficient of thermal expansion is desirable. The advanced composite market is anticipated to mushroom at a fast rate as compared to the previous years. Many aerospace companies are focussing more on incorporating advanced composites in their aircrafts which enable them to make it fuel efficient, corrosion resistant and lighter in weight. The futurity of the advanced composite materials is indeed promising. We can presumably see increase in the use of composites in two main market segments like Aerospace and Defence sector. These materials will gradually prevail over material previously used in any industry. The demand for these strong materials would be high so the prices associated with the manufacturing would probably wane. So these materials would be easily available in the market.

### X. CONCLUSION:

Advanced Composite Materials has taken over the whole Aviation Manufacturing Companies. It has become crucial because of its extraordinary properties i.e., high strength, high stiffness and low density. Being lighter than Aluminum and stronger than iron made it stand out from the world of material Science. Latest

generation long range aircrafts or jetliners have fully designed composite fuselages and wing structure. It's been easy for manufacturers to repair these composite materials as compared to metals. Electrical Insulator, resistance to a wide range of Chemical Agents, flexible design and cheaper than metals are reliable advantages of Composites. Carbon Nano technology being an important part is a great challenge to drive the scale volume and reduce the cost. 69% lighter weight is provided by composites which drives up the output of being broadly used in the industries. This Business guarantee for a continuous expansion as forming a new material from existing one made innovative products and touches the zenith of horizon.

Many more Composites are on the way and research on every new formulation is going on and hence the roots of composite manufacturing are getting thicker resulting in marvelous outcomes. Self-healing composites are newly added showing the property of recyclability. Tighten the bonds of filament reinforcement and matrix, stronger and tougher the composite material. Usage of self-healing composites in the aerospace sector will prove to be very beneficial when used with other composites because of its inimitable features. Still, it has a long way to go ahead. But certainly with technological advancements we would be using it more frequently in our upcoming aerospace projects.

### REFERENCES

- [1]. D. Zenkert, An Introduction to Sandwich Construction, Emas Publishing, London, 53 p, 1997.
- [2]. B. Hayes, L. M. Gammon, Optical microscopy of fiber-reinforced composites (ASM International), 223 p, 2010.
- [3]. T. L. Price, G. Dalley, P. C. McCullough, L. Choquette, Handbook: Manufacturing advanced composite components for airframes, Report DOT/FAA/AR-96/75, Office of Aviation Research, 41 p, April 1997.
- [4]. L. Werfelman, The composite Evolution, AeroSafety World, pp 17-21, March 2007.
- [5]. H. Massengill, Applied Aerodynamics – Commercial Flight, Aerospace America, 7 p, December 2005.
- [6]. T. Edwards, Composite materials revolutionise aerospace engineering, Ingenia Magazine Online, Issue 36, 24 p, September 2008.
- [7]. Rana, Sohail, Parveen, Shama, Fanguero, Raul, 2015. Advanced carbon nanotube reinforced multi-scale composites. In:

- Bakerpur, Ehsan (Ed.), Advanced Composite Materials: Manufacturing, Properties, and Applications. De Gruyter Open.
- [8]. Blaiszik, B.J., et al., 2010. Self-healing polymers and composites. Annual Review of Materials Research 40 (1), 179e211.
- [9]. <https://www.toraytac.com/>
- [10]. <https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-difference-between-Airbus-A350-and-Boeing-787-in-terms-of-composite-materials>[img]
- [11]. ref:<https://www.airbus.com/newsroom/news/en/2017/08/composites--airbus-continues-to-shape-the-future.html>
- [12]. [https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Composite-usage-in-Airbus-A350-XWB\\_fig2\\_308882060](https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Composite-usage-in-Airbus-A350-XWB_fig2_308882060)[img]
- [13]. <https://aeromit.in/self-healing-composites-for-aerospace-applications/>[img]
- [14]. Toray\_Aerospace-Advanced-Composite-Materials\_Selector-Guide.pdf [img]
- [15]. Fergurson, J.B., Schultz, B.F., Rohatig, P.K., 2014. Self-healing metals and metal matrix composites. JOM 66 (6), 866e871.
- [16]. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/engineering/boeing-787-dreamliner#:~:text=The%20Boeing%20787%20aircraft%20is,steel%20used%20in%20various%20areas.>
- [17]. <https://www.industryweek.com/leadership/companies-executives/article/21942033/boeing-787-a-matter-of-materials-special-report-anatomy-of-a-supply-chain.>
- [18]. <https://contest.techbriefs.com/2017/entries/aerospace-and-defense/7555>.
- [19]. Advanced Composite Materials of the future in Aerospace Industry M Mrazova - Incas bulletin, 2013 - bulletin.incas.ro.
- [20]. Composite materials for aerospace applications PD Mangalgi - Bulletin of Materials Science, 1999 - Springer.
- [21]. Advanced Composites in Aerospace Engineering S Rana, R Fanguero - Advanced composite materials for aerospace ..., 2016 - Elsevier.
- [22]. Composite Materials in Aerospace Applications NV Nayak - International Journal of Scientific and Research ..., 2014 - Citeseer.
- [23]. Advanced composite materials and Aerospace Engineering DU Shanyi - Acta MateriaeCompositaeSinica, 2007 - en.cnki.com.cn.
- [24]. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/materials-science/self-healing-polymer>.
- [25]. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23311916.2015.1075686>.
- [26]. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/281105044\\_Self-healing\\_composites\\_A\\_review](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/281105044_Self-healing_composites_A_review)
- [27]. [Development of research and application of the advanced composite materials in aerospace engineering \[J\]](#) J Shen, HQ Xie - Materials Science and Technology, 2008.
- [28]. [Composite materials in aerospace design](#) GI Zagainov, GE Lozino-Lozinski - 1996.