



BEECHCRAFT

CMH-17 Sandwich Working Group
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We build aircraft you can believe in.

- I. Process Stabilization (Materials and Process Controls)**
- II. Basic Design Strength**
- III. Balanced Sandwich Design**
- IV. Area or Damage Specific Design Strengths**
- V. Residual Strength**

I. Process Stabilization (Materials and Process Controls)

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I. Receiving Inspections

- Replicate the Supplier Specifications and Test Data
- Statistical Sampling Basis After Production Process Stabilization

II. Core

- Baked Core (Twice)
- Bagging
- Clean Room; Environmental Controls
- Solvent Exclusion
- Build Times Must be Recorded and Limits Observed

III. Pre-preg / Adhesive Film Sheets / Foaming Adhesives

- Replicate Supplier Qualification Data Upon Receipt/Use
- Total Out-Time for the Roll must be Observed
- Build Times Must be Recorded and Limits Observed

IV. Assembly Process

- Ply Assembly Controls
- Rigorous Repeated Compaction Planning
- Build Times Recorded and Limitations Observed
- Surface Preparation for Partially Cured or Cured Components

V. Autoclave Process

- Inert Gas Pressurization Required
- Optimizing Toughness Requires High Temperature Resin Curing and Maximum Sustainable Pressure Consistent with Core Density
- Porosity Limitations, Un-bonded Areas, Ply Wrinkling, Resin Content, Core and Cured Component Shifting

VI. Routine Re-Qualification

- Manufacturing Excess for Qualification and MRB action Required for each Cured Component
- 100% Ultrasonic Inspection of Sandwich Assemblies

II. Basic Design Strength

I. Gross Area Strength Limitations

- Open Hole Compression Typical
- Environmental Effects Must be Included
- Elevated Temperature w/Moisture Saturation
- Cold Temperature without Moisture (Critical for Toughness)
- Operating Temperature Limitations (INCLUDING SOLAR EFFECTS!)

II. Damages Included in Design Allowables Baseline

- BVID
- Non-Visible Damage Allowables

III. Damage Growth Studies

- Detail and Component Cyclic Testing of BVID, Manufacturing Permitted Defects Critical in Compression
- Representative Undetected/Unrepaired Damage Cyclic Testing

IV. Laminate Failure Modes

- Two Dimensional Finite Element Modeling is Required for Broad Area Evaluation
- Three Dimensional Finite Element Modeling/Analysis Required for Core Ramp and Core Termination Details
- Ply by Ply Analysis Required for In-Plane Modes of Failure
- Interlaminar Shear Usually not Critical for Poisson's Effect, but Significant for Laminate Bending

V. Sandwich Failure Modes

- Core Shear ~ Off Axis Usually Critical and Usually Overlooked
- Face Sheet Wrinkling ~ Face Sheet Shear/Compression Interaction Critical
 - Core Density/Rigidity
 - Cell Size is second order function
- Face Sheet Crimping ~ Face Sheet Shear/Compression Interaction Critical
 - Core Density/Rigidity
 - Cell Size is second order function
- Face Sheet Dimpling ~ Core Size/Compression Stress Interaction

III. Balanced Sandwich Design

I. Basic Flat-wise Strengths

- Allowables Development and In-Process Test Failures Must Result in Core Fracture
 - Cohesive Failures not Adhesive Failures
 - Small Cell Sizes and Medium Densities are Preferable
- Facesheet Separation from the Core is Not Permissible
- Flat-wise Fracture Growth Must be in the Core
- Sheets Must be able to Resist Boiling Water Vapor to 225 Degree F

II. Flat-wise Strength Pressure Loading

- Sheets in a Sheet with Damaged or Missing Core Must be Able to Resist Residual Strength Pressure
- Sheets in a Sheet with Damaged or Missing Core Must be Able to Resist Fatigue Pressure Loads

IV. Area or Damage Specific Design Strengths

I. Threat and Vulnerability Studies

- Scuffs, Scratches and Abrasions
- Small Impacts
 - Small Engine Debris
 - Runway Debris
 - Service and Manufacturing Handling Impacts
- Hail Impact
 - In-Flight Hail Assessment and Testing (See UCSD)
 - Ground Hail Impact Assessment
- Lightning Damage
 - Zonal Analysis
 - Unreported Strikes
 - Reported Strikes

II. UV Damage

- Unpainted, Worn or Depleted Paint
 - Damage Can Occur in 24 Hours or Less!!
 - Improper Storage

III. Blunt Impact Damage

- Threat Analysis Must Include Ground, Runway, Thrust Reverser, Tire Tread, Maintenance and Flight Damage
- Objective: Ensure Face Sheet and Core Design Exhibit Visible Face Sheet Damage in Lieu of Delamination or Core Failure
- If this is not Achievable, a rigorous threat Analysis and test program is required
- Non-Visible Damage May Reduce Component Allowables By up to 40%!

IV. Large Discrete Source Damage

- Rotor Burst
- Birdstrike
- Rouge Hailstone
- High Energy Lightning
- Ice Shedding
- Tire Burst and/or Rim Release
- Ground Vehicle and Large Animal Impact

V. Expected Damages and Abuses, Point Allowables

- Development of sandwich structure response with Three Dimensional Finite Element Modeling/Analysis
- Component testing required to evaluate residual strength

VI. Damage Growth Arrest

- Defense against growth at the next cell wall
 - Smaller cell size advantageous
- Damage will typically grow to a minimum energy configuration
 - Circular or oval
 - Burn or lightning damage
- Gross Area Redistribution of Loads in the Sandwich Structure
 - Can be estimated analytically
 - Requires extensive test background for meaningful prediction
- Exceeding laminate or sandwich allowables will result in propagation of failure
 - Invariant with panel size
 - Facesheet stiffening typically does not arrest growth

V. Residual Strength

I. “Yep, I felt that one! Let’s call it a day.”

- Birdstrike
 - Gelatin impact testing is representative
 - Analytical basis can be developed based upon 3D FEM modeling
 - Sacrificial OML facesheet design
- Rouge Hail
 - Develop an empirical basis using UCSD type projectiles and methods
 - Six inch hailstone
 - Smaller sizes may be more critical
 - The aerial density of impact decreases with hailstone size
- Lightning
 - Design for six inch damage to the OML facesheet and Core
 - Perforation of the IML facesheet is possible
 - Edges typically resistance to failure propagation

II. Damage Containment Philosophy

- Initial ~ At Occurrence
 - High toughness resin system
 - Pressurized structure protect the IML facesheet
 - Use of adhesive film between facesheets and core is essential to preclude dynamic separation of the sandwich
- Post Damage ~ Continued Flight