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Aalto University
School of Engineering

Department of Engineering
Design and Production

Application of Friction Stir Welding and Allied Techniques to Aluminium

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Associate Professor
Materials Joining and NDT



29th October 2014
Turku, Finland

AGENDA

- ☞ Introduction to School of Engineering of Aalto University
- ☞ Fundamentals of Friction Stir Welding (FSW)
- ☞ Industrial Application Samples of FSW
- ☞ Variants of FSW
- ☞ Innovations Based on Friction Stir Concept
- ☞ Applications and Developments of FSW at Aalto University

Aalto University

- Where *Science* and *Art* meet *Technology* and *Business*

Aalto University is a community of:

- 75,000 alumni
- 20,000 students
- 4,700 faculty & staff
- with 340 professors

Created from the merger of 3 leading Finnish universities 1 January 2010:

- ☞ the Helsinki School of Economics (HSE), founded 1911
- ☞ the University of Art and Design Helsinki (TaiK), founded 1871
- ☞ the Helsinki University of Technology (TKK), founded 1849



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Aalto University

6 Schools (with a Dean) and Respective Focus Areas

School of Engineering

- Arctic technology
- Mechanics and material technology
- Multidisciplinary energy technologies
- Sustainable built environment
- Systems design and production

School of Science

- Computing and modeling
- Materials physics
- Energy sciences
- ITC, software and media
- Neuroscience and technology
- Creating and transforming technology based entrepreneurship

School of Chemical Technology

- Sustainable use and processing of natural resources
- New materials
- Energy technologies

School of Electrical Engineering

- Energy
- Health and wellbeing
- Environment
- Information and communication technology
- Micro- and nanotechnology

School of Arts, Design and Architecture

- User driven design and art
- Art & design, science and business
- Heritage based forerunning
- Sense based skills and knowledge

School of Business

- Strategic management & marketing in the global context
- Microeconomics
- Behavioral finance & corporate governance
- Decision-making



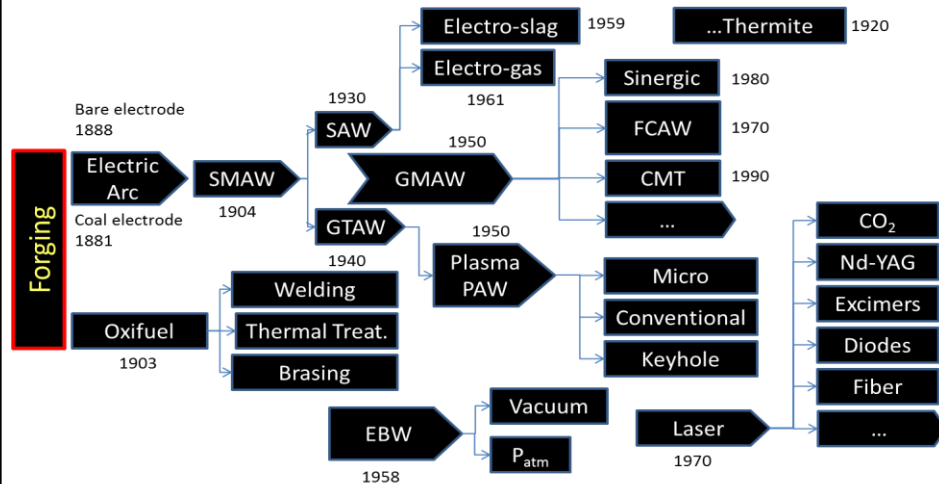
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Materials Joining and NDT

Welding Technology

History



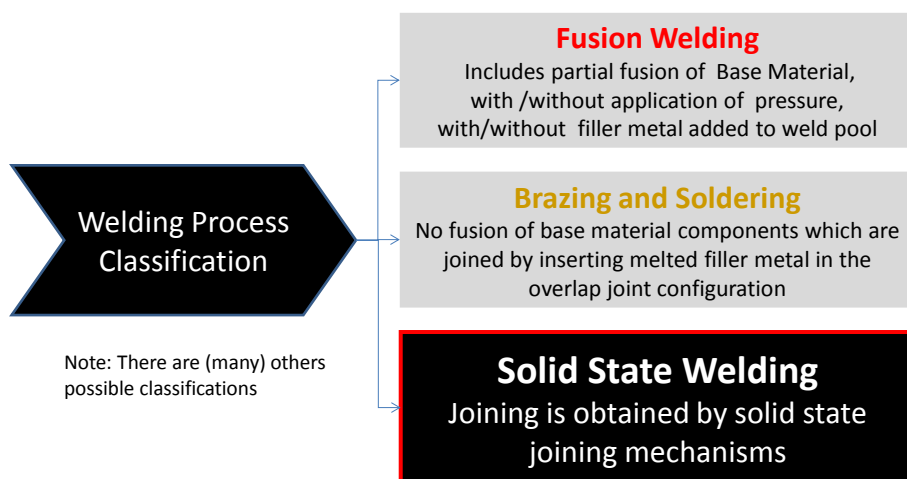
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Materials Joining and NDT

Welding Technology

Classification



Note: There are (many) others possible classifications



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Materials Joining and NDT

Welding Technology

Solid State Welding History



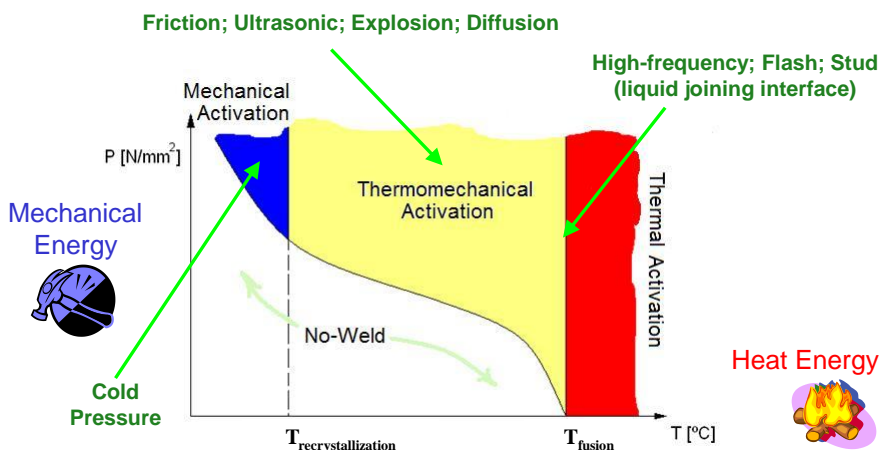
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Solid State Welding

Classification



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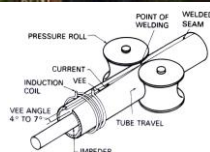
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Solid State Welding

Sample of Conventional Solutions

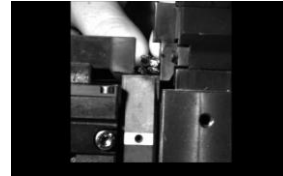
High-Frequency Welding



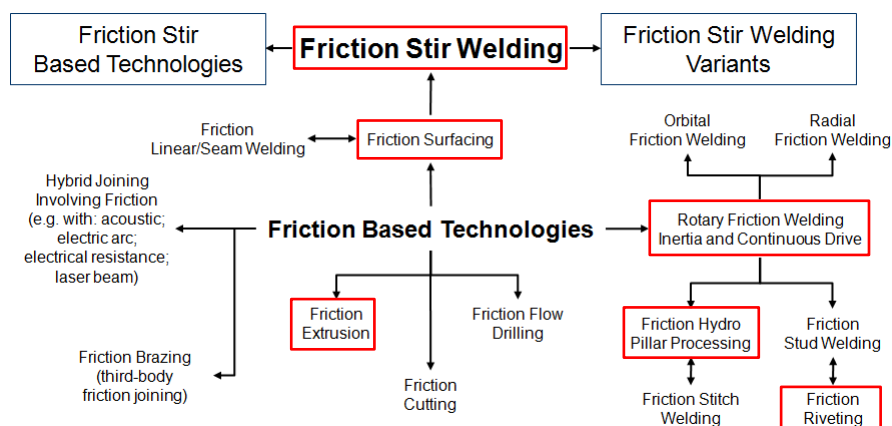
Stud Welding



Ultrasonic Welding



“Third-Body” Region Based Technologies



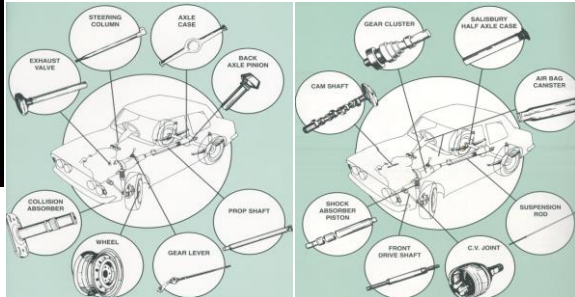
Friction Based Technology

Sample of Processes

Friction Welding



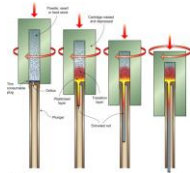
Internacional Patent
2/1956 (A.I.Chudikov)



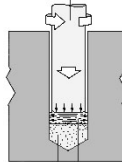
Friction Based Technology

Sample of Processes

Friction Extrusion



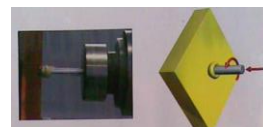
Friction Hydro Pillar



Friction Riveting



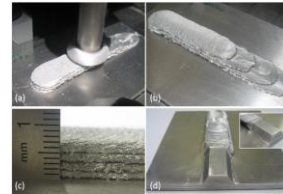
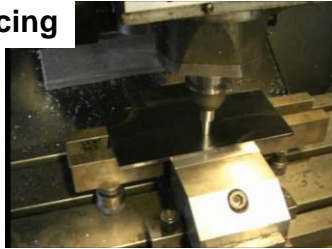
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Friction Based Technology

Sample of Processes

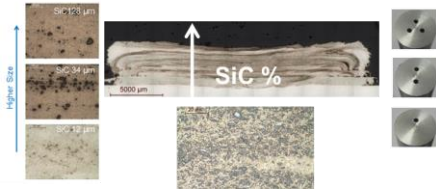
Friction Surfacing



FS for Built-Up

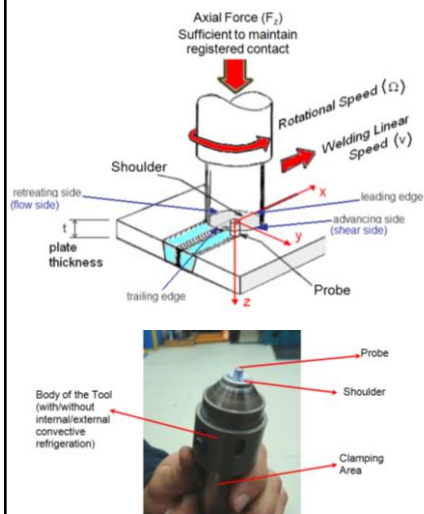


FS Production of Functionally Graded Materials (FGM)



Friction Stir Welding Process

Fundamentals and Parameters



FSW was patented by TWI, 1991, W. Thomas et al., UK

Friction Stir Welding Process

Inventor: Wayne Morris Thomas @ TWI (UK)

☞ The responsible for the most significant development of welding technology in recent history



1. Thomas W M, Nicholas E D, Needham J C, Murch M G, Temple-Smith P, and Dawes C J, 'Improvements relating to friction stir welding'. **US Patent No. 5,460,317, 1991**
2. Nicholas E D and Thomas W M: 'Improvements Relating to Friction welding'. **International Patent Application, B23K 20/12, b29C 65/06, May 30th 1995**

☞ Last **Patent** (US 5,813592) assigned to TWI **Expires**: 29 September **2015**



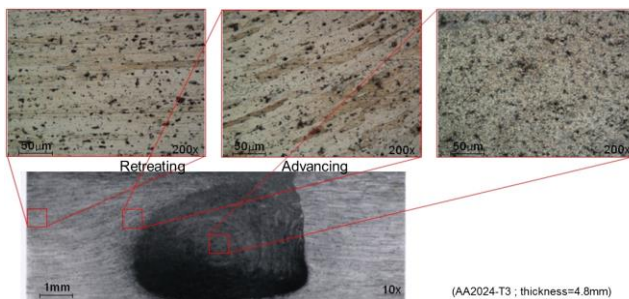
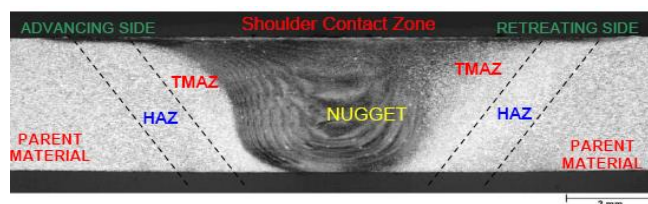
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Friction Stir Welding Process

Fundamentals - Typical Macrostructure



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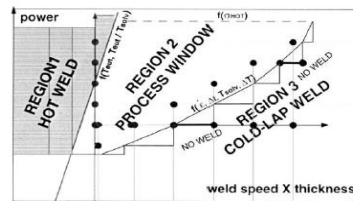
Friction Stir Welding Process

Fundamentals – Heat Input

$$P_{\text{mech}}[W] = [M[N.m] \times 2\pi \Omega[\text{rpm}] + F[N] \times v[\text{mm/min}]] \times \frac{1000}{60} \quad \leftarrow$$

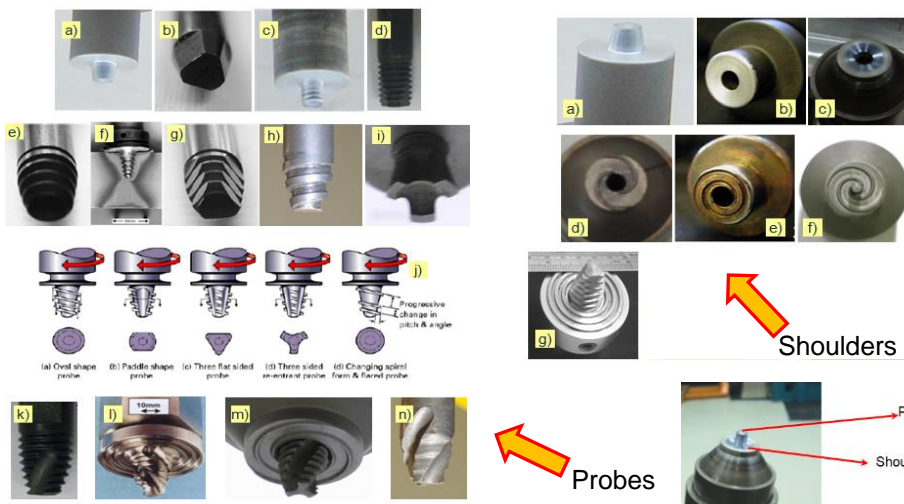
$$\eta_{\text{heat}} = \left(1 - \frac{P_{\text{heat}}}{P_{\text{mech}}}\right) \times 100\% \quad \leftarrow$$

$$HI[J/mm] = \frac{P_{\text{heat}}[W]}{v[\text{mm/min}]} \times 60 \quad \leftarrow$$



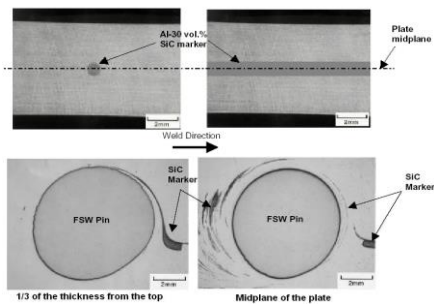
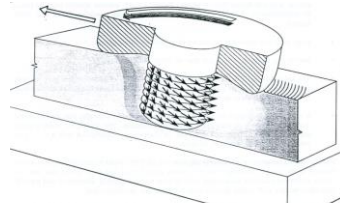
Friction Stir Welding Process

Fundamentals – Tool Geometry



Friction Stir Welding Process

Fundamentals – 3D Material Flow



B. London

Friction Stir Welding Process

Fundamentals – Standards

ISO EN DIN 25239 (03/2012) Friction Stir Welding - Aluminium

Part 1: Vocabulary

Part 2: Design of weld joints

Part 3: Qualification of welding operators

Part 4: Specification and qualification of welding procedures

Part 5: Quality and inspection requirements

AWS D17.3 / D17.3M:2010

Specification for Friction Stir Welding of Aluminum Alloys for Aerospace Applications

Friction Stir Welding Process

Fundamentals – **Advantages** versus **Disadvantages**

- ☞ Welds materials whose structure and properties would be degraded by fusion welding
- ☞ Minimal distortion + Low residual stress levels compared to fusion welding processes
- ☞ Environmentally friendly + Safe: No fumes + No radiation + High energy efficiency
- ☞ Easy repeatability + good control: suitable for automation and robotization
- ☞ Good mechanical properties: No cracks + No porosity
- ☞ No consumables for aluminium alloys
- ☞ Joint can be produced from one side and in all positions
- ☞ Minimal edge preparation required
- ☞ Not influenced by magnetic forces



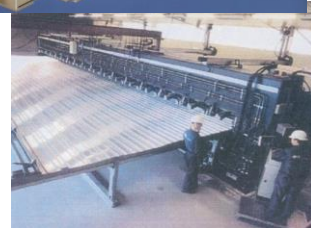
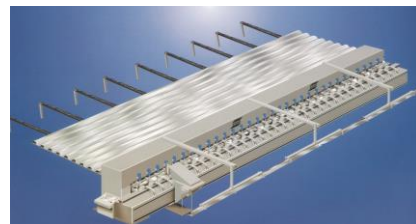
- ☞ Backing anvil required (except bobbin stir tools)
- ☞ Keyhole at the end of each weld (except when a tool with a retractable probe is used)
- ☞ Workpiece requires rigid clamping (except when the Twin-stir™ variant is used)
- ☞ Application not as flexible as certain fusion welding processes



Industrial Application Samples of FSW

Shipbuilding Industry

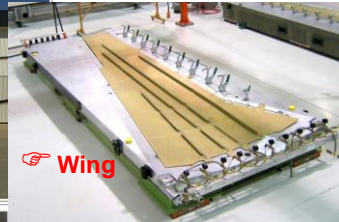
- ☞ First vessel (catamaran) in history made from FSW panels was built by Fjellstrand AS in 1996
- ☞ The panels were made by Marine Aluminium. This kick started the industrialization of FSW process
- ☞ Panels with total FSW length of 110km from 1996 to 1999



Industrial Application Samples of FSW

Aeronautic Industry

☞ Eclipse Aviation @ USA



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Industrial Application Samples of FSW

Aerospace Industry

☞ Boeing Co @ USA

☞ FSW facility dedicated for the production of
the fuel tanks of Delta IV

☞ Vertical and orbital FSW joints: 1998-2000



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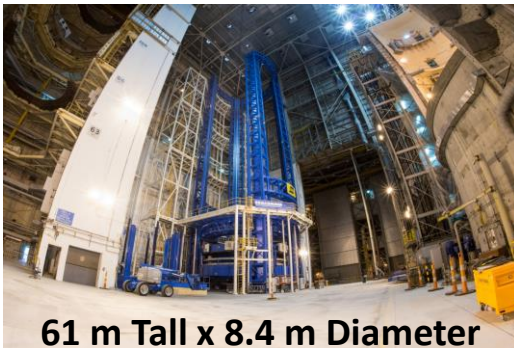
Industrial Application Samples of FSW

Aerospace Industry

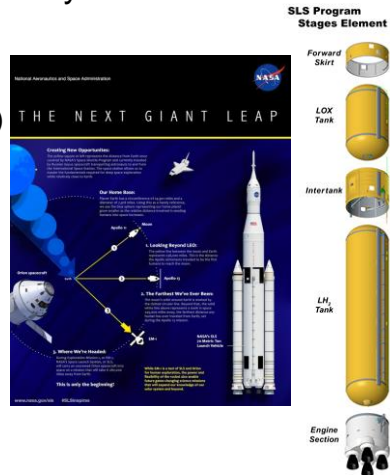
New FSW for Space Launch System:

Vertical Assembly Center (VAC)

(NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility New Orleans)



61 m Tall x 8.4 m Diameter



Cryogenic liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen that will feed the vehicle's RS-25 engine

Industrial Application Samples of FSW

Automotive Industry

Tailored Blanks joined by FSW and subsequently formed



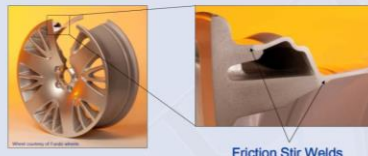
FSW of Tailor Welded Blanks using dissimilar thickness Al sheets - TWI research study



Ford GT: FSW of tunnel to Al frame to form housing of transmission system and fuel tank



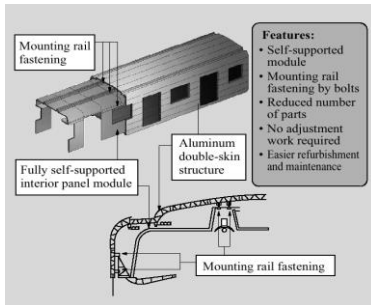
FSW of cast Al hub to wrought Al rim section
Produced by Fundo Wheels for Volvo XC90



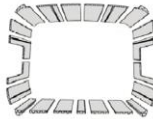
Industrial Application Samples of FSW

Railway Industry

☞ A-Train concept from Hitachi, Ltd @ Japan for rolling stock based on FSW

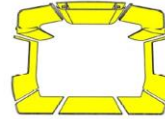


car body structure
double-skinned structure
(aluminum hollow extrusion)

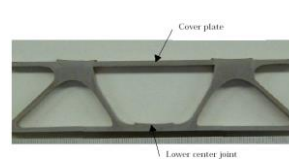
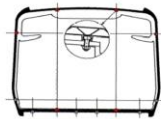


interior
high rigidity moduled interior
(composite material)

A-Train Concept



fastening
easy tightening and loosening
(nuts and bolts)



Industrial Application Samples of FSW

Informatics Industry

☞ Apple 21.5 and 27-inch iMACs 2012 @ USA

Wednesday, October 24, 2012, 04:53 pm

Apple slims down iMac 40% with 'friction-stir welding' & ditching the disc drive

By Daniel Eran Dilger

Apple's new iMac updates the company's flagship Macintosh into a faster, faster and – in particular – thinner version of itself.



Industrial Application Samples of FSW

FSW (kitkahitsaus) in Finland

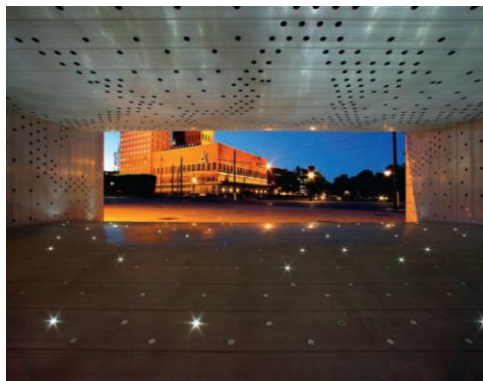
- ☞ Equipment delivered to KMT Oy (**PROMECO**-Kankaanpää) in 12.2003
- ☞ Modular LEGIO 5UT (6m x 0.5m x 0.3m)
- ☞ Applied e.g. electromechanical components
- ☞ **Jori Oy** (South Ostrobothnia) designed and built their own automatic FSW machine in 2004
- ☞ Table 14m long for FSW of Al alloy tanks mostly for powder



Industrial Application Samples of FSW

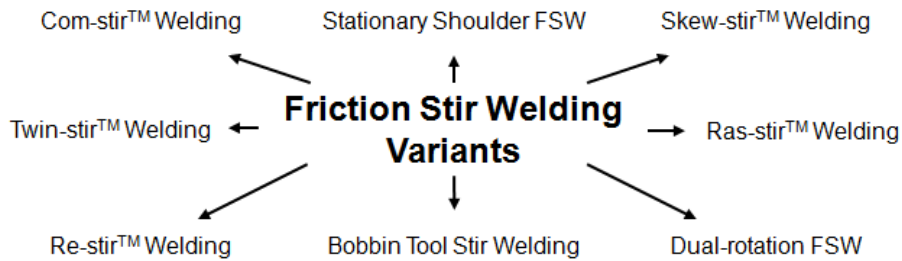
Architecture Application

- ☞ Nobel Peace Centre @ Oslo, Norway



Canopy by David Adjaye that serves as gateway between Oslo City Hall where the Peace Prize Ceremony takes place and the Nobel Peace Center

Friction Stir Welding Based Innovations

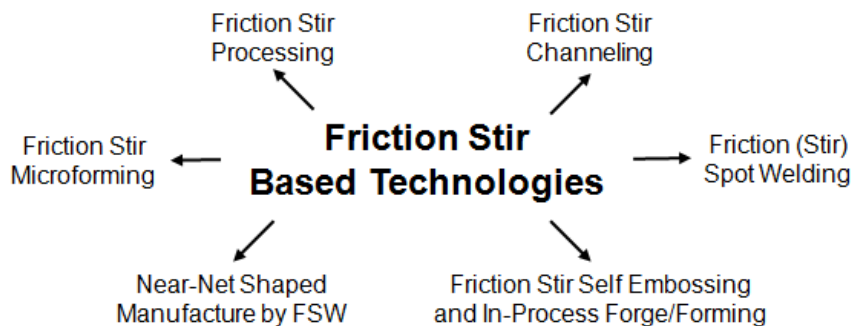


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Friction Stir Based Innovations



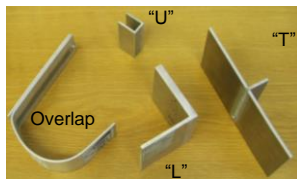
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FSW @ Aalto University

Different Joints and Materials



SPIF of tailored blanks welded by FSW

Dissimilar thickness



Thank You / Kiitos / Tack