

Proposed Material Specifications for LRM

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- The material specification methodology is founded on a single resin and single fiber (including form) combination covered by each specification
- This is not very practical for large scale production
- Dry fibers are qualified separately from any future resin combination and many forms are qualified to the same spec
- It is also usual for commercial reasons to qualify fiber from at least two sources



- Three batch material qualification (AGATE) method is acceptable to the FAA
- Following material qualification many other tests are conducted to demonstrate that part performance is adequate and in line with predicted response (strains and deflections)
- Also process controls are applied to production units
- The recalculation of allowables after n batches will be of no benefit



- More testing is recommended than is industry practice, today
- These guidelines make LRM seem like a complicated and erratic system; in fact, it's more simple and more repeatable than hand layup and autoclave cure
- "highly skilled technicians" are not required to a level greater than hand layup
- We have little track record of LRM in production programs and studies should be conducted of production issues and variability before these guidelines are implemented