

# Thermal Wave Imaging, Inc.

Leaders and Innovators in IR NDI and QA

presented to

**Boeing**

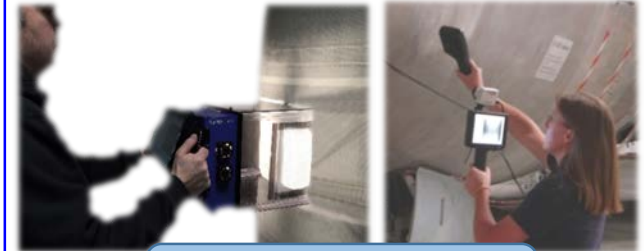
Oct. 10, 2017

St. Louis, MO

# About Thermal Wave Imaging, Inc.

- Founded 1992
- Located in Detroit, MI
- World leaders in Thermographic NDI
  - 2014 ASNT R&D Achievement Award
  - 2016 DOD Maintenance Innovation Challenge
  - 2016 ASNT Mehl-Lester Honor Award
  - 2017 DOD CTMA Award
- We turn R&D problems into working solutions using patented TWI technologies
  - Thermographic Signal Reconstruction (TSR)
  - Precision Truncated Flash Excitation
  - Parallel Processing and Analysis of IR Sequences
  - Automated Detection of Turbine Blade Blockages
  - Measurement of Porosity in Composites

## Solutions at Every Scale



Handheld / Portable



Automated



Large Scale

# Making Thermography a Viable NDI Method

**A Quantitative Assessment of Advanced Nondestructive Inspection Techniques for Detecting Flaws in Composite Laminate Aircraft Structures**

March 2016 **DOT/FAA/TC-15/4**

Final Report

Federal Aviation Administration  
William J. Hughes Technical Center  
Aviation Research Division  
Atlantic City International Airport  
New Jersey 08405

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Aviation Administration

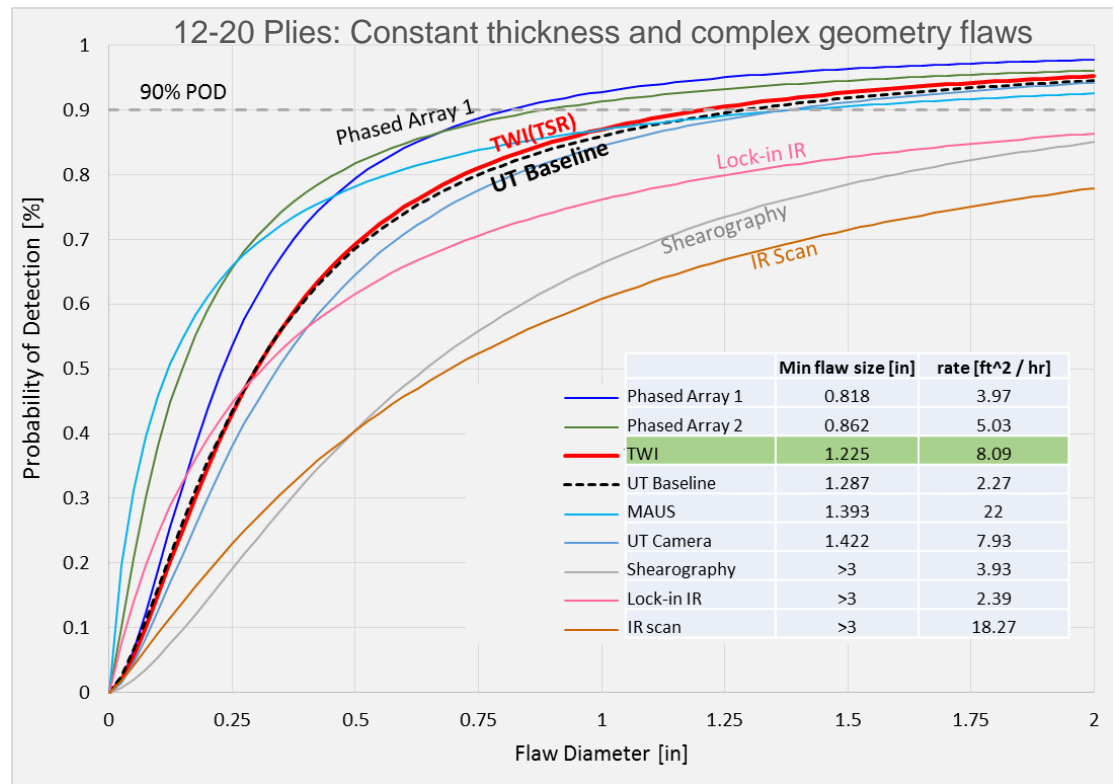
**A Quantitative Assessment of Conventional and Advanced Nondestructive Inspection Techniques for Detecting Flaws in Composite Honeycomb Aircraft Structures**

December 2016 **DOT/FAA/TC-15/63**

Final Report

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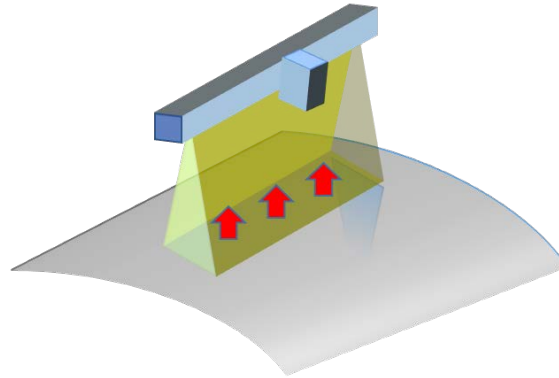
- Among top 3 in POD, minimum flaw size and inspection rate (TC-15/4)
- Best performer of all thermography and shearography systems (TC-15/4)
- “Overall, when both 90% PoD levels and false calls are considered, thermography provided the best overall performance.” (TC-15/63)

# Solving the Most Challenging Problems

## Some Recent Examples



Automated Composite QA



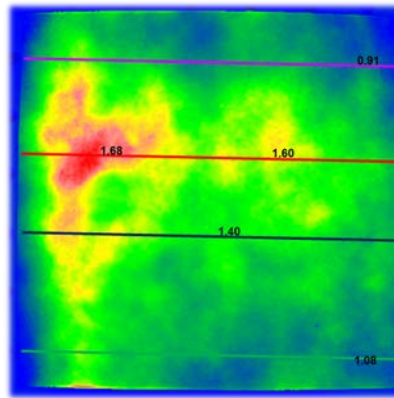
Real-time FOD Detection



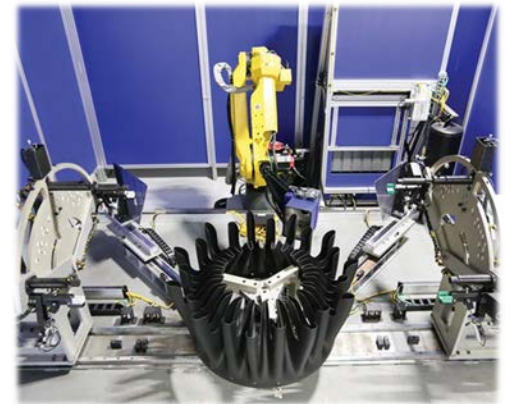
Projection Thermography



Aircraft Brake Inspection

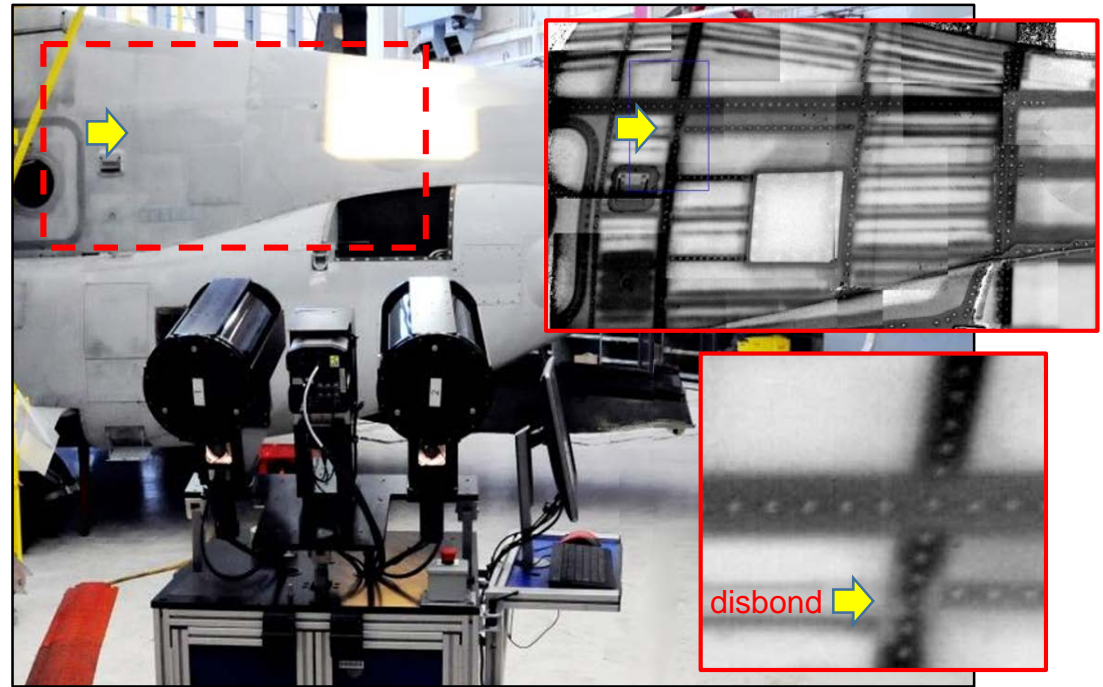
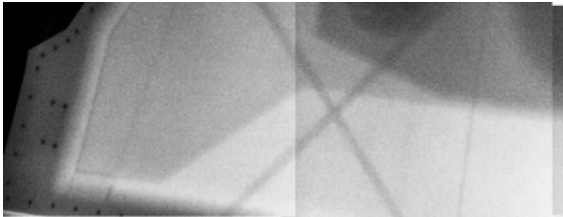


Paint Thickness Measurement



CMC Hot Section QA

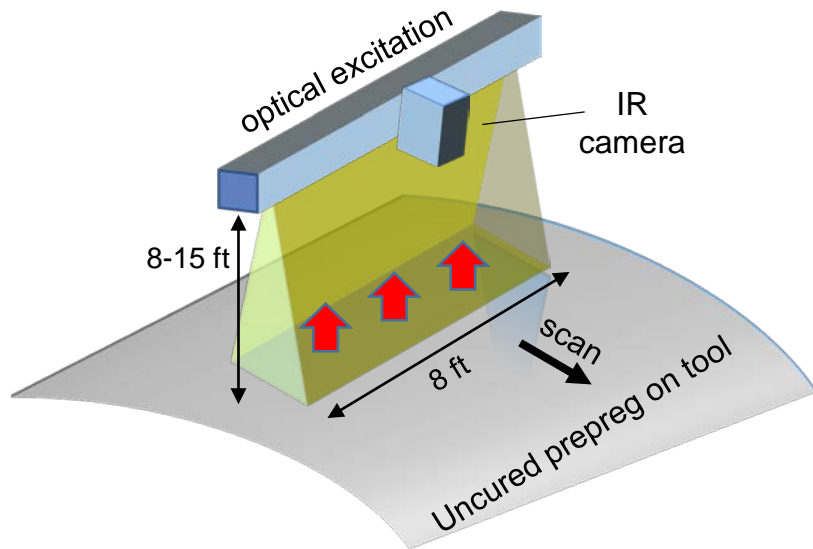
# Large-Scale Projection Thermography



- Inspect large area from 10-15 ft standoff distance
- Fully automated inspection
- Inspect 80 ft<sup>2</sup> in 9 minutes
- TSR signal processing for enhanced flaw detection

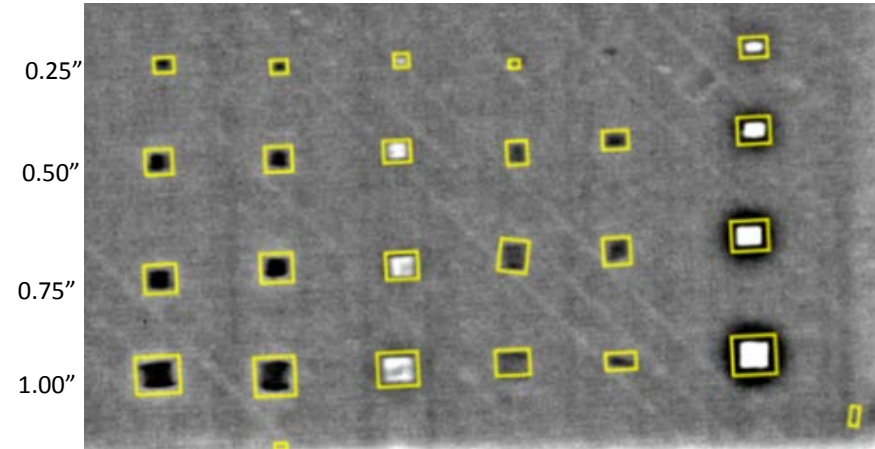


# Real-Time FOD Detection

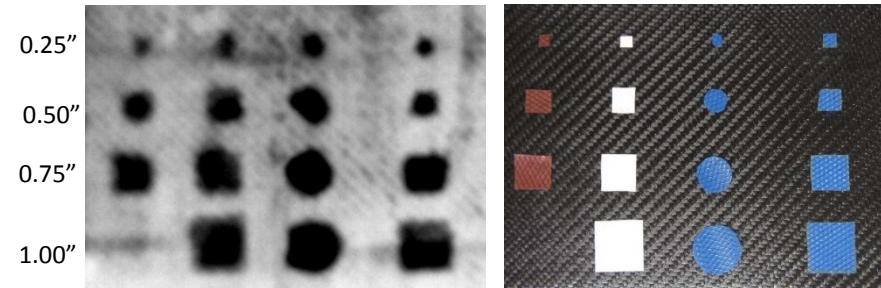


- Inspect prepreg on tool during layup
- Hand layup or ATL
- Detect surface and subsurface FOD
- 8 -15 ft standoff distance
- Inspection rate up to 120 in / sec
- Inspect 110 ft < 1 min
- Boeing TRL 9

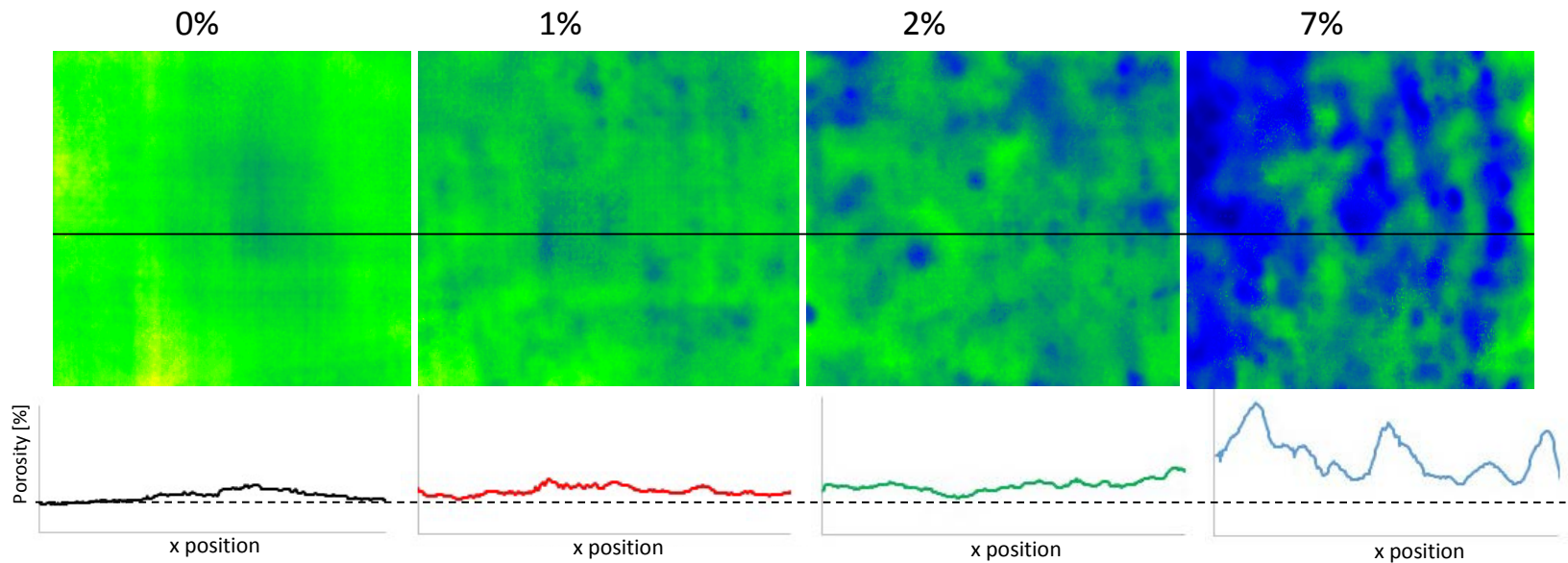
Automated detection of surface FOD  
12 ft standoff, scan rate 120 in / sec



Subsurface FOD in prepreg on tool

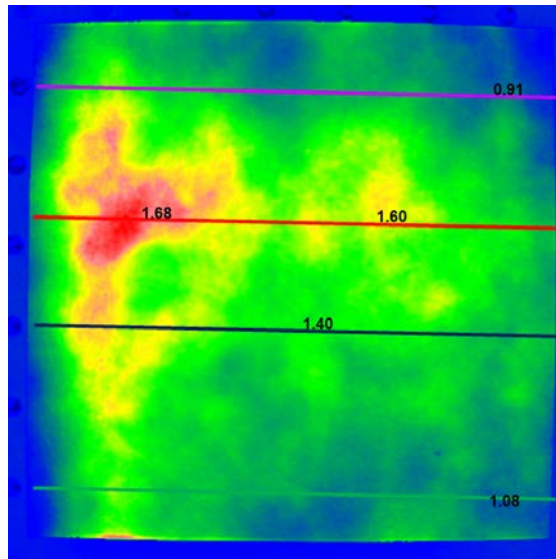


# Single-Side Porosity Measurement

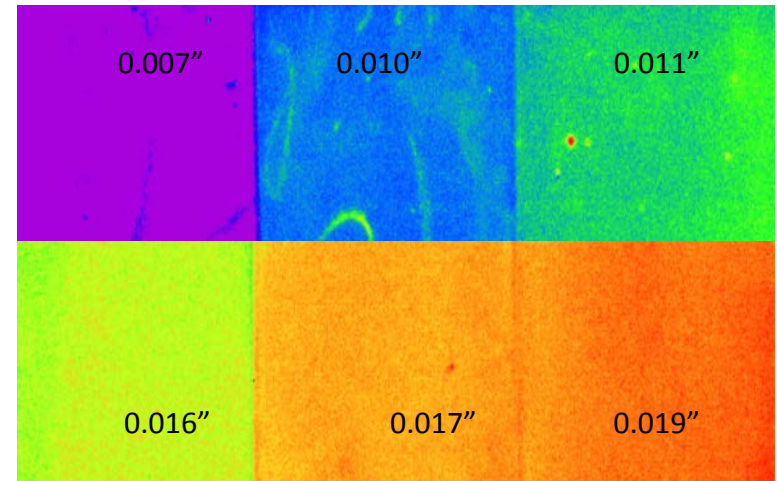
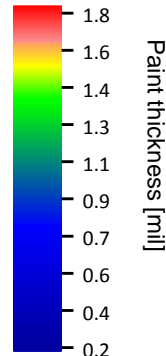


- Detection and measurement of <math><1\%</math> volume porosity in carbon epoxy composites
- Non-contact, single side access
- Compatible with curved surfaces and acoustic holes
- Provides porosity map of entire part

# Ultra-High-Speed Thermography



Thickness Map: Paint on Al

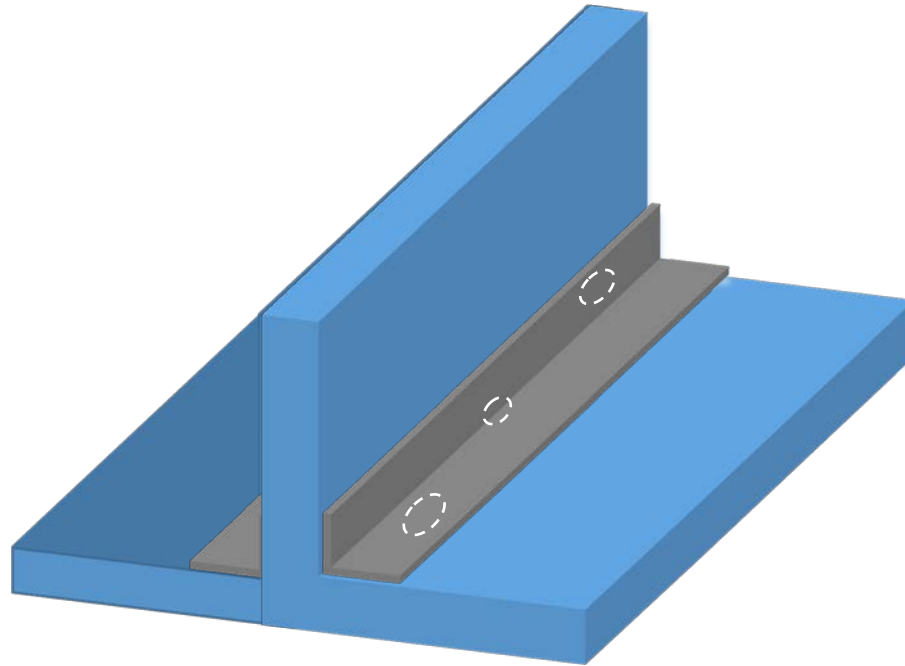


Metallic coating on steel: thickness measurement

- 5 kHz effective frame rate at 1K x 1K pixel density
- **Result cannot be obtained with conventional IR camera technology**
- Based on TWI precision flash truncation and TSR signal processing technologies
- Applications
  - **Paint thickness measurement**
  - Turbine blade bond coat thickness measurement
  - Characterization of heat damage



# Inspection of Composite Radii



- Detection of disbond, delamination FOD or nonuniformity on tight radii
- Apply to structures where UT is not an alternative
- Also applies to leading edge

# For More Information

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