

PRODUCT VS. PRODUCTION DEVELOPMENT II - INTEGRATED PRODUCT, PRODUCTION, MATERIAL AND JOINT DEFINITION

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ABSTRACT

As product, production systems and material strongly influence each other, an integrated view on these domains offers huge potentials during development in order to adjust characteristics being mutually dependent. Considering manufacturing aspects within the design process certainly constitute a widespread approach to make sure that the products can be produced to predefined costs and quality.

As product characteristics are realised through material characteristics and manufacturing processes, material aspects need to be integrated into this view. Moreover, different geometries have to be assembled in order to create particular structures, why joints devote a special attention.

For this reason, a definition approach that integrates product, production systems, material plus joints and considers the ecological performance apart from the regular technical and economic aspects offers a huge potential for successful future solutions. This paper reviews relevant development approaches as well as supporting IT tools in the different domains. As a result, an extendedly integrated view is introduced and a method that supports the integrated selection of solutions regarding a technical, economic and ecological performance is introduced.

Keywords: Integrated product development, Concurrent Engineering (CE), Design methods

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1 INTRODUCTION

In light of today's challenging world with more and more complex demands on products and services (e.g. regarding productivity, efficiency and sustainability), prospective systems engineering approaches may no longer just take into account a separate product, production and material development, but rather evoke an integrated view on all these domains in order to exploit the whole potentials of its interaction.

Having this in mind, the adequate consideration of manufacturing aspects within the design process is a widespread approach to make sure that products can be produced to predefined costs and quality.

As product characteristics are realised through its manufacturing processes and the used material, the often-unappreciated material aspects need to be integrated into an early evaluation. Not enough with that, however, different geometries have to be connected in order to create particular structures as well as parts are added to assemblies, which leads to a particularised focus on the joint section design along with its intrinsic technology selection.

Figure 1 shows the definition process of product, material, production system and joints along the lifecycle of product and production system. The characteristics that are defined in the different phases within the definition processes influence the lifecycles to a high degree. While costs and quality were the main criteria for an assessment over the past years, ecological criteria get more and more in focus.

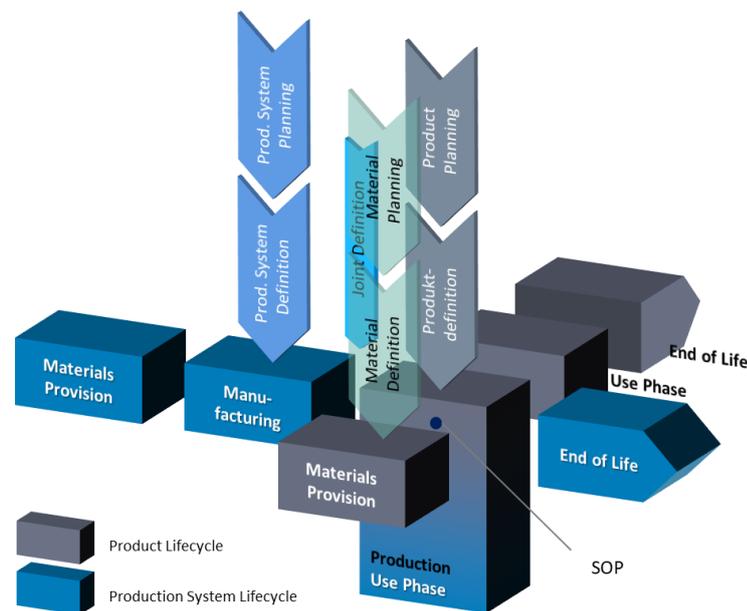


Figure 1. Intersection of the product and production system lifecycle with the respective definition phases, based on [Vielhaber and Stoffels \(2014\)](#) as well as [Stoffels et al. \(2015\)](#)

For this reason, a holistic definition approach that integrates product, material, production system and its joints while considering an optimised technical, economic and ecological performance offers a huge potential for successful solutions in the future.

This paper extends the existing concept of an integrated product, production and material definition of [Stoffels et al. \(2015\)](#) by integrating joints.

It is structured as followed. First, development approaches as well as supporting IT-Tools concerning domains, relevant for this contribution, are reviewed (section 2). Subsequently, an extended integrated view is represented (section 3). Section 4 introduces a method that supports the integrated selection of solutions regarding technical, economic and ecological performance. The paper will finally be concluded by a short summary and outlook.

2 STATE OF THE ART AND LITERATURE REVIEW

In this section, structure from an extract of established approaches and methodologies in the above-mentioned domains is analysed, ensuing a furtherly unified categorisation of the individual development phases.

2.1 Product development

While analysing popular product development approaches, a common structure can be identified (see Table 1). Beginning with the specification of a product, in this phase initial requirements to the product are defined and constraints (i.e. environmental, legal, technical, etc.) are determined.

In a second step, the reviewed approaches include a concept development. VDI 2221 (1993) methodology demands identification of product functions that require respective principle solutions. The arrangement of these principle solutions represents a potential concept. Suh (1990) provides a mapping of defined design parameters and process variables to the functional requirements, defined in the specification phase. These elements represent a conceptual solution. Most approaches are complemented by a subsequent assessment and selection procedure to accentuate the overall best concept.

In the next step, the previously developed concept will be detailed and designed. In the VDI221 guideline, a decomposition into feasible modules is emphasised that are subsequently integrated to the entire product and documented to be produced at the end.

Table 1. Overview of established approaches and methodologies within the domain of product development, based on Stoffels (2017)

	VDI2221 (1993)	Ulrich & Eppinger (2008)	Akao (1990)/Hauser & Clausing (1988)	Suh (1990)	Weber (2005)
Specification	Definition	Concept Development	Requirements Definition	Determination of Functional Requirements	Analysis of the requirements
	<i>Clarification and specification of the scope</i>	<i>Identification of customer needs</i>	<i>Determination of the customer attributes</i>	<i>Determination of Functional Requirements FRs and constraints</i>	<i>Determination of Required Properties</i>
Concept Development	Draft	Concept Development/ System Development	Concept Development	Concept Development	Concept Development
	<i>Identification of functions and their structures</i> <i>Search for solution principles and their structures</i>	<i>Development of alternative concepts</i> <i>Development of product architecture</i>	<i>Determination of the Engineering Characteristics</i>	<i>Mapping of defined Design Parameter DPs and Process Variables PVs</i>	<i>Determination of the major characteristics (synthesis)</i> <i>Analysis of the resulting properties</i> <i>Identification of optimizing potential</i>
Component Development	Design of Modules	Detail Development	Parts Deployment	Decomposition	Detail Design
	<i>Structure into feasible modules</i> <i>Design of the relevant modules</i>	<i>Detailed and embodiment design</i>	<i>Determination of the crucial part characteristics</i>	<i>Decomposition of Functional Requirements, Design Parameters and Process Variables</i>	<i>Refinement of the characteristics with analysis and synthesis steps</i>
System Integration	Design				
	<i>Design of the entire product</i>				

2.2 Production System Development

In the production domain, also the development of production systems follows a common structure as described in established approaches, see Table 2.

In a first step, here the market and competitor's situation are analysed and the requirements are derived in most of the reviewed methodologies. Based on these constraints, the reviewed approaches develop a first production concept, where the scope varies from the definition of processes and sequence through a complete layout design to the final definition of modules and machines. In doing so, Wu (1994)

additionally considers logistic aspects, whereas Spur (1994) includes an organisation planning. Suh's (1995) approach is based on the axiomatic design methodology from product development, but both design parameters and process variables are assigned to the functional requirements being defined in the specification phase.

Subsequently, the generated concept is detailed in the reviewed approaches. For this purpose, components (i.e. machines, factory automation, etc.) will be designed and allocated, while used manufacturing technologies will be detailed.

On this way, [Gu et. al \(2001\)](#) and VDI 4499 (2008) guideline also provide a comprehensive evaluation of the entire production system in a final step.

Table 2. Overview of established approaches and methodologies within the domain of production system development, based on [Stoffels \(2017\)](#)

	Eversheim (2002), Minolla (1975)	REFA (1990)	Bellgran & Säfsten (2010)	Suh (1995)	Gu et al. (2001)	VDI4499 (2008)	Wu (1994)	Spur (1994)
Specification		Preliminary Planning	Preparation/ Analysis	Definition of Requirements	Definition of Requirements		Analysis of situation	
		<i>Situation analysis, definition of objectives</i>	<i>Analysis of market and development potential and the existing production system</i>	<i>Definition of Functional Requirements FRs & Constraints</i>	<i>Definition of Functional Requirements FRs & Constraints</i>		<i>Analysis of the market</i>	
Concept Development	Workflow Planning	Rough Planning	Concept Development	Concept Development	Concept & Configuration Development	Concept Development	Concept Development	Production System Planning
	<i>Definition of the processes & sequence</i>	<i>Definition of the processes, assessment and selection of solutions options</i>	<i>Definition of modules, operations and processes</i>	<i>Mapping of Design Parameters DPs and Process Variables PVs</i>	<i>Determination of operations, machines and components Layout design Mapping of DPs and PVs to FRs</i>	<i>Layout design, Determination of technologies</i>	<i>Arrangement of the manufacturing, logistics and control functions</i>	<i>Planning of organisation, material flow, processes and resources</i>
Component Development	Work System Planning / Production resource design	Detail Planning	Detailing	Decomposition of Concept	Detailed Design	Component Design	Design	Production System Design
	<i>Determination of the resources, layout and logistics</i>	<i>Detailing of subsystems</i>	<i>Detailing of the concept</i>	<i>De-composition of Functional Requirements, Design Parameters and Process variables</i>	<i>Refinement of components</i>	<i>Design of the production facilities</i>	<i>Selection and allocation of components</i>	<i>Design of the required components</i>
System Integration					Design Evaluation	Virtual Commissioning		
					<i>Comprehensive evaluation of the system design</i>	<i>Verification of the interplay of hardware and software</i>		

2.3 Material selection

The selection of appropriate materials within the development process is a challenging task, as there is an enormous number of materials with different properties available. An internationally recognised methodical approach for material selection, supported by a particular IT tool is presented by [Ashby \(2005\)](#). Ashby translates material-related design requirements into specific material properties.

Subsequently, the entire solution space of materials is screened by using constraints and material indices. A material index represents the ratio between two specific material properties. The Cambridge Engineering Selector (CES Selector, [Granta Design \(2020\)](#)) can be used for this purpose.

2.4 Joints

The selection of joints is a rather neglected topic within the development process; however, it truly is a key factor for future multi-material design ([Kaspar et al., 2018](#)). Nevertheless, and apart from a systematic evaluation approach by [Kaspar et al. \(2018\)](#), [Rusitschka \(2017\)](#) presents an approach to select detachable joints. The approach starts with the definition of the solution space. A joint is described as an element that connects two parts. Parts constitute from geometry and material, whereas a joint contains information about the joint principle and the joining process. Potential solutions that fulfil the requirements are subsequently evaluated related to costs.

2.5 Tools in product and production system development

Apart from the purely theoretical approaches, there is a wide range of software tools that are used within the development processes of product and production system, see Table 3. At the interface between both domains, product life cycle management (PLM) or simply product data management (PDM) tools are the fundamental basis for the information exchange. In addition, environmental impacts can be calculated with life cycle assessment tools ensuing even more precise results as the development process progresses. Against this background, also material and process databases provide a basis for the selection of appropriate materials in combination with its applicable manufacturing technologies.

Having a deeper look to the product development, especially the specification phase is supported by requirements management tools in order to consider requirements consistently during the process. Based on that, SysML tools enable the generation of concepts and finally 3D-CAD come up with the more detailed design of components, whereas multiple simulation possibilities (i.e. FEA, CFD, etc.) analyse the presumptive properties.

In the field of production systems development, 2D-CAD, 3D-CAD and layout planning tools support the generation of concepts. CAD-Tools supplemented with electrical engineering tools are used in for the design of components. The interplay between the different components as well as the properties are analysed with simulation tools (i.e. NC-simulation, robotics simulation, PLC simulation, etc.).

Table 3. Overview of established tools for product and production systems development

	Product Definition		Production Definition
Specification	Requirements Management Tools	PDM/PLM, ERP, LCA, LCC, Material/Process Database	
Concept Development	SysML Tools, 3D-CAD		2D-CAD, 3D-CAD, Layout Planning
	Modelica Tools		Material Flow Simulation, Cycle Time Analysis, Logistics Simulation
Component Development	3D-CAD		2D- CAD, 3D-CAD, Electrical Engineering
	FEA, Multi Body Simulation (MBS), Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD)		NC Simulation, Robotics Simulation (Collision Detection, Accessibility Studies, Physics), PLC Simulation
System Integration			
			Virtual Commissioning (SiL, HiL)
			Full LCA, Full LCC

2.6 Analysed deficits for a next generation IPPD

As indicated above, actual approaches focus a somewhat limited view to just one or two domains. Nevertheless, the complexity of future products needs to take into account an even more integrated view to all four domains, a fully matched product and production systems development, material selection and

a systemic joint section design. For this purpose, and apart from Ashby's mainly unattached material selection methodology, a particularised material and joint selection and evaluation approach within the IPPD represents the genuine challenge. This is why an adequate joint section design for a holistically cross-component development view (except [Kaspar et al. \(2018\)](#) barely no systematic approaches focussing a cross-component view with all the influences back to the decision-making to materials, design and manufacturing choices) need to be associated to such an already intricate development procedure in section 3.

3 INTEGRATED VIEW

Based on the reviewed approaches in section 2, the following framework integrates the domains product and production system development. Furthermore, the definition of materials and joints is covered in order to provide a holistic approach. First, a common terminology is introduced. On the basis of the results, a process model that addresses all domains is presented. The integration is completed by a method to represent solution combinations.

3.1 Terminology

The literature review in section 2 has shown, that the structure presented in Table 4 is very well suited to describe the different steps within the development processes. The original table ([Stoffels et al., 2018](#)) is extended by an appropriate joint definition according to the understanding from [Kaspar et al. \(2018\)](#). Phases with corresponding results for the four domains (product, production, material, joints) are arranged based on these rough categories.

Table 4. Integrated terminology of the development phases, based on [Stoffels et al. \(2018\)](#)

	Product Definition		Production Definition		Material Definition		Joint Definition	
	Phase	Results	Phase	Results	Phase	Results	Phase	Results
Specification Phase I	D0: Requirements Definition	Requirements	P0 Requirements Definition	Requirements	M0: Requirements Definition	Requirements	J0: Requirements Definition	Requirements
Concept Phase II	D1: Functional Design	Function Structures	P1: Functional Design	Production Functions	M1: Property Definition	Material Properties	J1: Property Definition	Joint Section & Properties
	D2: Principle Design	Principle Solutions	P2: Technology Selection	Technology Chain	M2: Class Selection	Material Subclasses	J2: Principle Design	Principle Solution & Technology
Component-/ Detailed Phase III	D3: Detailed Design	Product Components	P3: Detailed Process Design & Production System Design	Process Structure & Production System Specification	M3: Specification	Material Specification	J3: Detailed Design & Specification	Joint Specification (Elements & Process)
System Integration Phase IV	D4: System Integration	Product Specification	P4: System Integration	Process and Production System Specification	M4: System Integration	Overall Material Specification		

3.2 Integrated process model

Using the results from the previous section, an integrated process model that considers the domains product, production, material and joints is developed (see Figure 2). Here, the process model is based on [Stoffels \(2017\)](#), whereas joints were added (see Figure 2). In this model, integrated steps complement the existing domain specific phases. Therein, solutions developed in the respective domain are collectively assessed and narrowed.

At the beginning, a general specification is separated into domain specific specification steps. In the concept phase, potential combinations of working principles, material subclasses and manufacturing technologies are analysed. Using combined technical, economic and ecological assessment criteria, unfavourable solutions are skipped.

Subsequently, the remaining combinations need to be further detailed. For each working principle, the deployment of potential geometries with corresponding joints is performed. These solution combinations are to be analysed and narrowed. The results are returned to the domain specific phases, checked and approved.

Within the domain specific phase, the concepts need to be detailed to components. Various designs with different materials arise over development time in the product domain and, for example, potential production resources are selected and developed in the production domain. The resulting properties are

checked with appropriate simulation tools within the domains, while the interaction between design, production system, material and joints are analysed in the integrated component phase. An integrated assessment tool supports the selection of the best combination regarding technical, economic and ecological criteria. Thus, the results are returned to the domains again and the specification is finalised and the solutions are released.

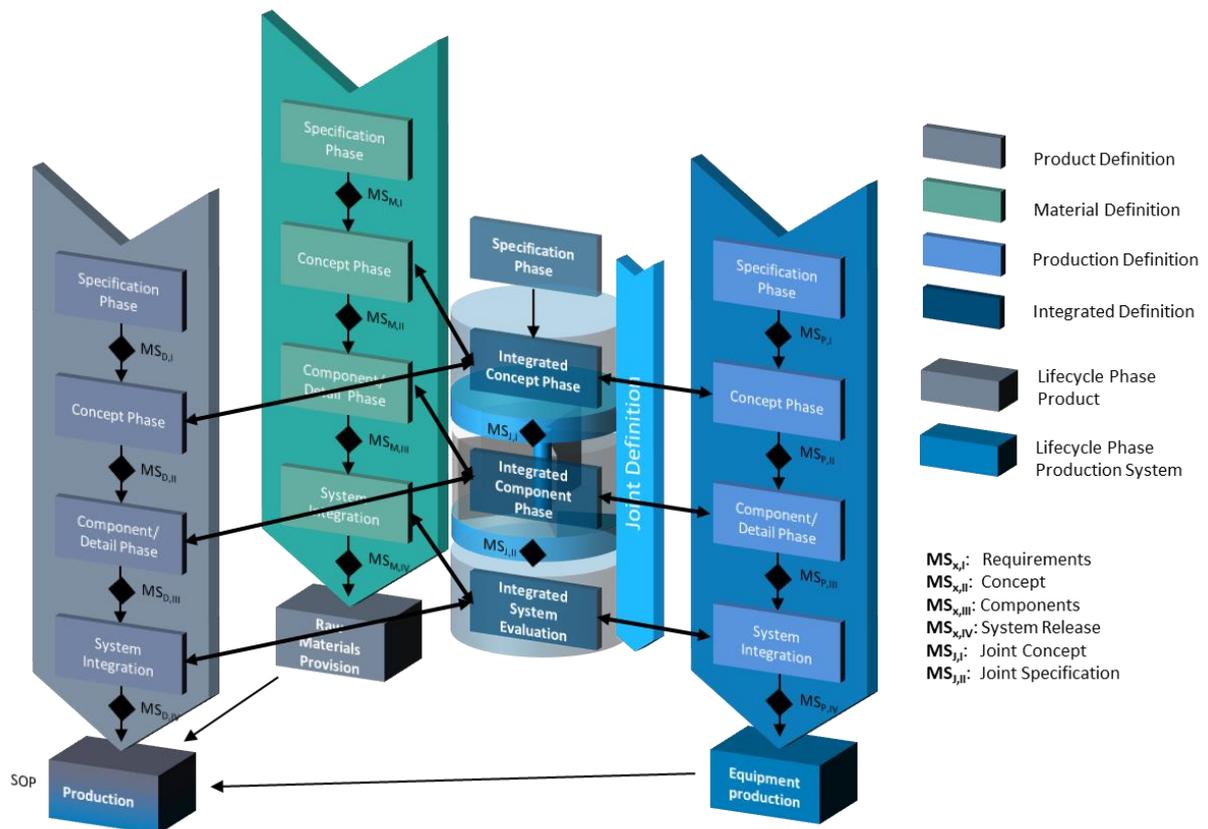


Figure 2. Integrated process model, based on (Stoffels, 2017)

In a last step, an integrated evaluation using life cycle analysis (LCA) and life cycle costing (LCC) provides detailed information of the results. It is only an analysis phase; if the requirements are not fulfilled, the previous processes have to be repeated. These data form the basis for very accurate analyses and enable an estimation of properties in early development phases for future products.

4 METHODOLOGICAL SUPPORT

In order to select or narrow solutions within the development process, an extensive tool is required. This tool needs to analyse the interactions between the solutions generated in each domain. For this reason, the authors developed the integrated morphological chart. Combinations of working principle, material subclass and manufacturing technology are assessed in the integrated concept phase regarding technical, economic and ecological criteria. Technical quality, costs, carbon dioxide emissions, LCA limit values, energy demand, resource criticality and so on are among these criteria. With progress of the development, combinations of components, materials and processes in combination with resources are assessed. Each combination is represented by a cube.

While, the first version does not consider the connection of various components, the tool needs to be extended to integrate joints. The approach is shown in Figure 3.

As described above, combinations of working principles, material subclasses and technologies are assessed and narrowed - unfavourable solutions are discarded. In a next step, each combination needs to be drilled down. Geometries that fulfil the requirements are generated and arranged over joints (light blue). A joint contains rough shape/geometry, a material (material subclass at this early stage) and a joining technology. With this approach, different solution structures are deployed.

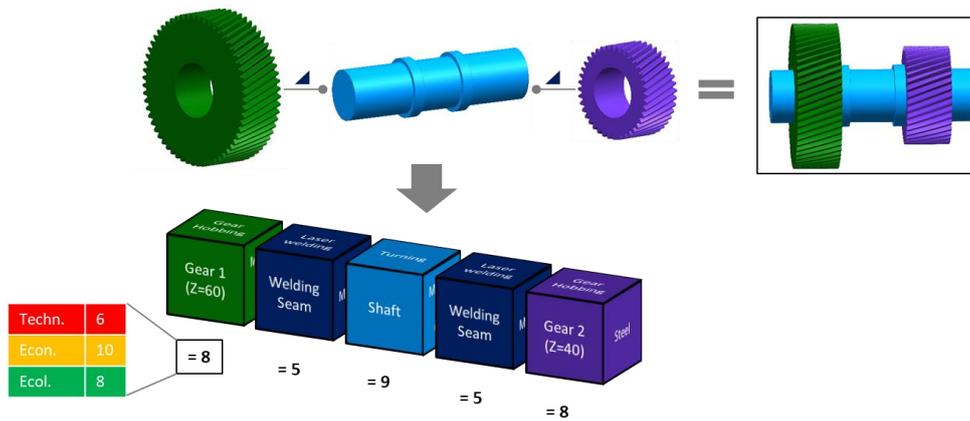


Figure 4. Application example "gear shaft" - Solution A

$$\sum Score(cubes, A) = \left(\frac{(8 + 9 + 8) \cdot 0,7}{3} + \frac{(5 + 5) \cdot (1 - 0,7)}{2} \right) \cdot 5 = 36,66 \quad (3)$$

$$Score_{Solution, A} = \frac{36,66 \text{ points}}{5 \text{ cubes}} + \frac{5 \text{ cubes} \cdot 1}{5 \text{ cubes}} = 7,332 + 1 = 8,332 \quad (4)$$

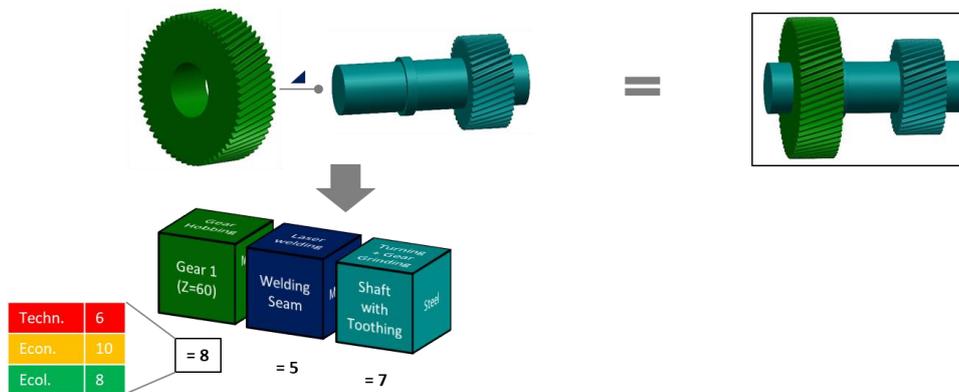


Figure 5. Application example "gear shaft" - Solution B

$$\sum Score(cubes, A) = \left(\frac{(8 + 7) \cdot 0,7}{2} + \frac{(5) \cdot (1 - 0,7)}{1} \right) \cdot 3 = 20,25 \quad (5)$$

$$Score_{Solution, A} = \frac{20,25 \text{ points}}{3 \text{ cubes}} + \frac{5 \text{ cubes} \cdot 1}{3 \text{ cubes}} = 6,75 + 1,66 = 8,41 \quad (6)$$

Solution B has a higher total score in this example, which is selected for further considerations. As development continues, joints are further detailed using i.e. the approach of Rusitschka (2017).

5 CONCLUSION

An integrated consideration of product, production, material and joints is an essential key to competitive products, regarding technical, economic and ecological performance. As a basis for the integration, a common understanding of different development phases and results is needed. Thus, different approaches in the specific domains are reviewed and structured into categories.

Based on this description, the development of an integrated process model is possible. The key elements of this process are common assessment steps, where generated solutions are analysed for their technical, economic, and ecological performance. In order to support a required evaluation with methodical support, the integrated morphological chart is extended to consider joints.

Next, the presented approach will be validated in future contributions with more comprehensive examples.

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