Moldflow Simulation Validation Case Study

Curt Randall – GE Appliances, a Haier company

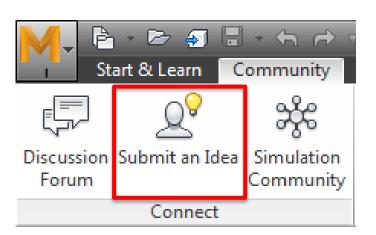
Jeff Higgins – Autodesk, Inc.



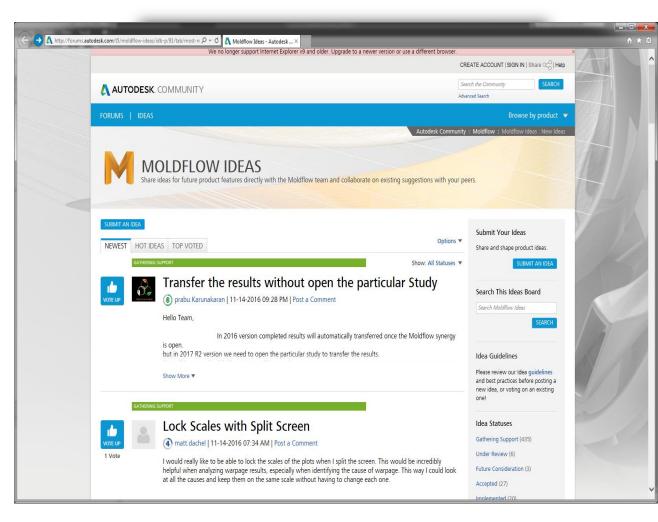


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Simulation Validation

Validate (Definition from the Oxford Dictionary)

"Check or prove the validity or accuracy of

...(something)"





The Million Dollar Question

- How accurate is that Moldflow simulation?
- As analysts we have all been asked this question at one time or another.





The 5¢ Answer

ITDEPENDS.

This is the typical answer given to this question.



The truth is that it does depend on a many items.



Key learning objectives

At the end of this class, you will understand:

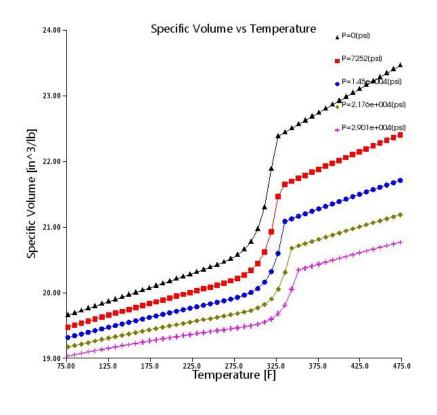
- The importance of material characterization in simulation
- Utilization of cavity pressure sensors for simulation validation
- The use 3D scanning technology to validate part deflections
- The importance of process conditions and simulation setup
- How simulation predictions compare with a real life case study



Material Characterization

- The accuracy of the results depends on the quality of the material characterization.
- Material Quality Indicators
 - Filling
 - Packing
 - Warpage
- Three Levels









Material Quality Rating

Fill Quality

Facking Quality

Gold Silver BronzeUnknown

Fill Quality

Warpage Quality

Gold Silver BronzeUnknown

The state of the st

- Gold Rating
 - High confidence in quality material data
- Silver Rating
 - Combination of well tested and supplemental material data
- Bronze Rating
 - Incomplete data sets and extensive use of supplemental data





>>EXPERT TIP<<

Use gold Level material data for accurate results

Spend the money to get your material characterized

Contact
 Autodesk Moldflow Plastics Labs
 mplmoldflow@autodesk.com





Test Your Knowledge!

Can a material in the database have silver level filling data, gold level packing data, and gold level warpage data?

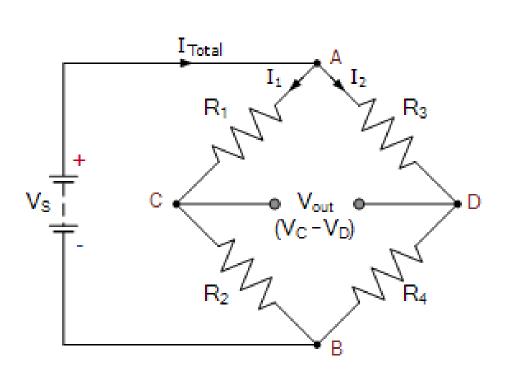


No. The packing quality indicator cannot exceed the filling quality indicator.



Using Cavity Pressure Sensors

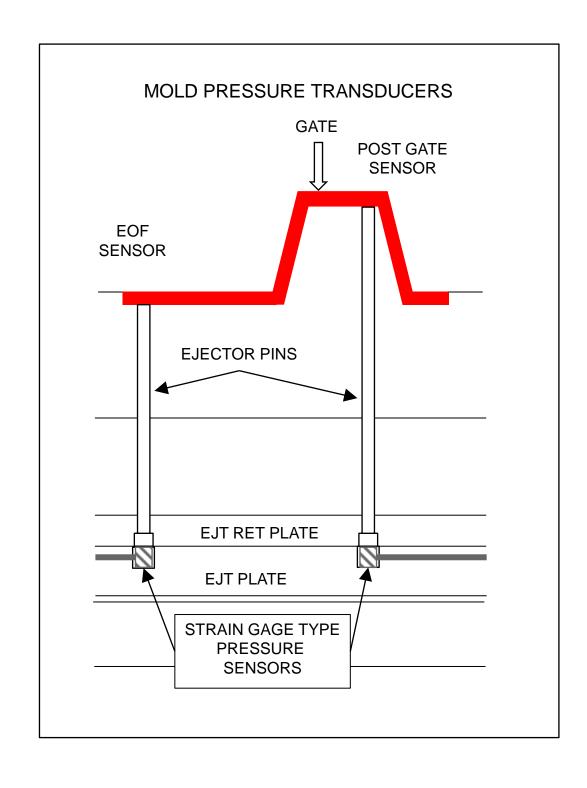
- Process Control (V/P transfer)
- Process Monitoring (Mtl variation, short shots)
- Process Setup Transfer (Machine to Machine)
- Traceability / Genealogy
- Quality Control
 - Cavity Rejects/Containment
 - Sorting
- Pressure Validation





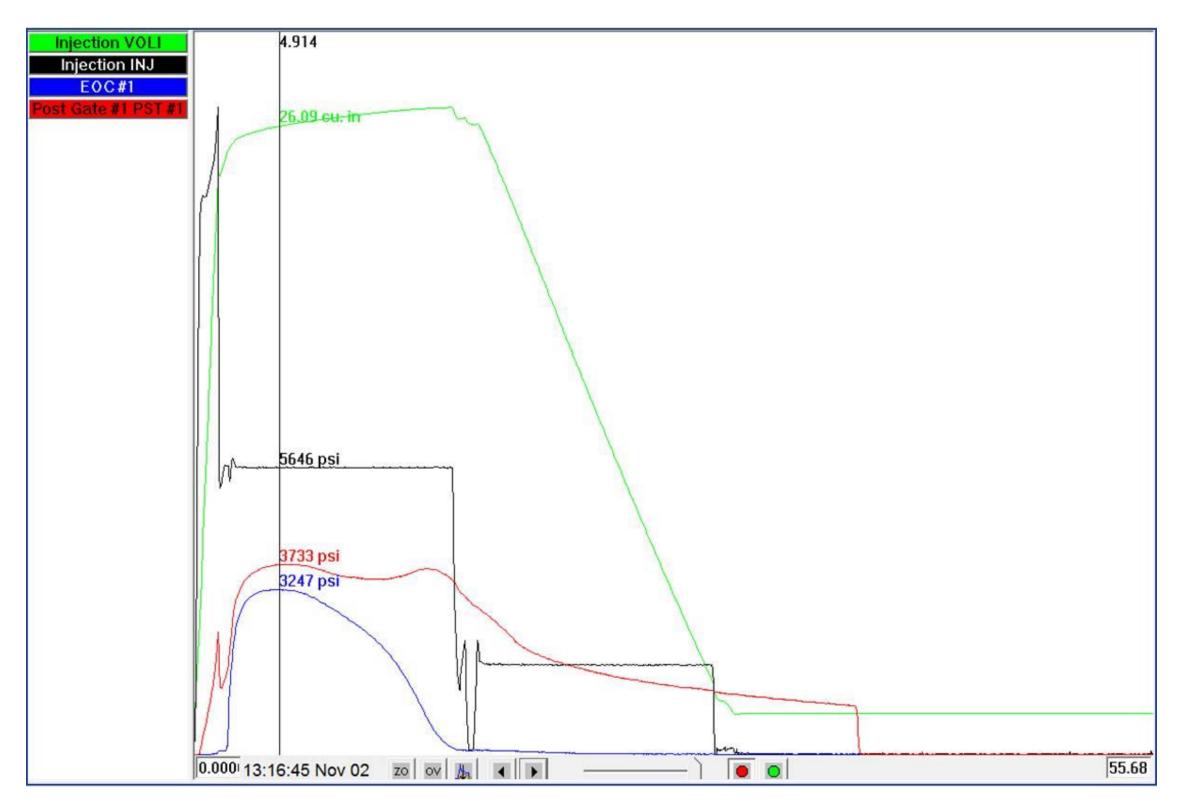
Pressure Sensor Locations

- Post Gate Sensor (PG)
 - As close to the gate as possible
- End of Fill Sensor (EOF)
 - As close to end of fill as possible



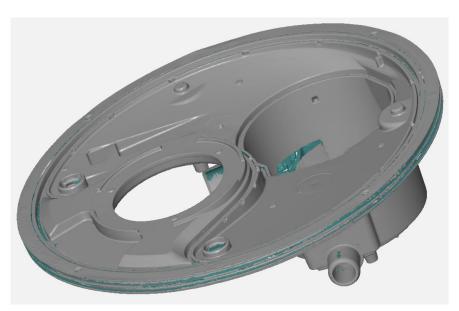


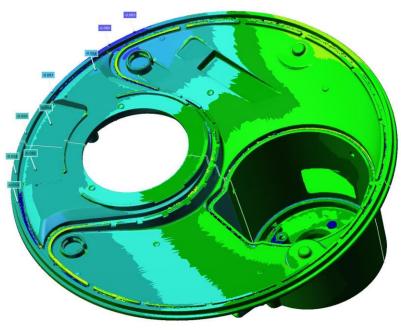
Pressure Trace

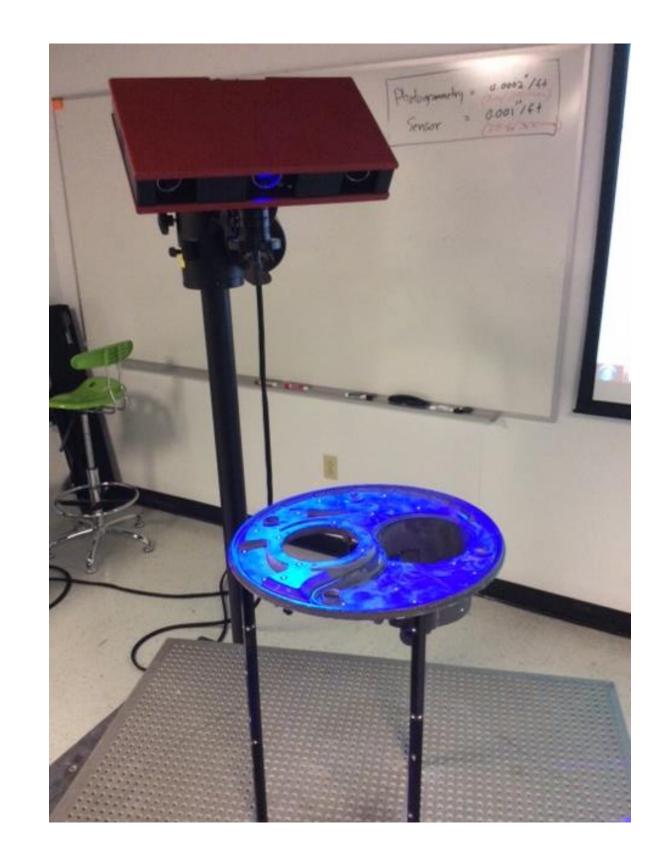




3D Part Laser Scanning







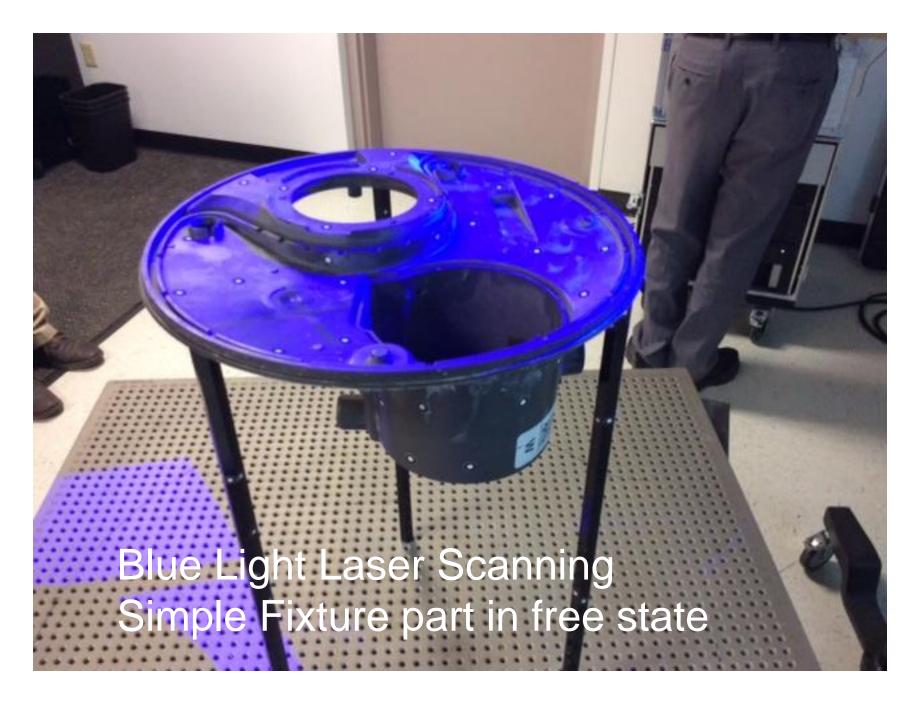




Scanning Setup

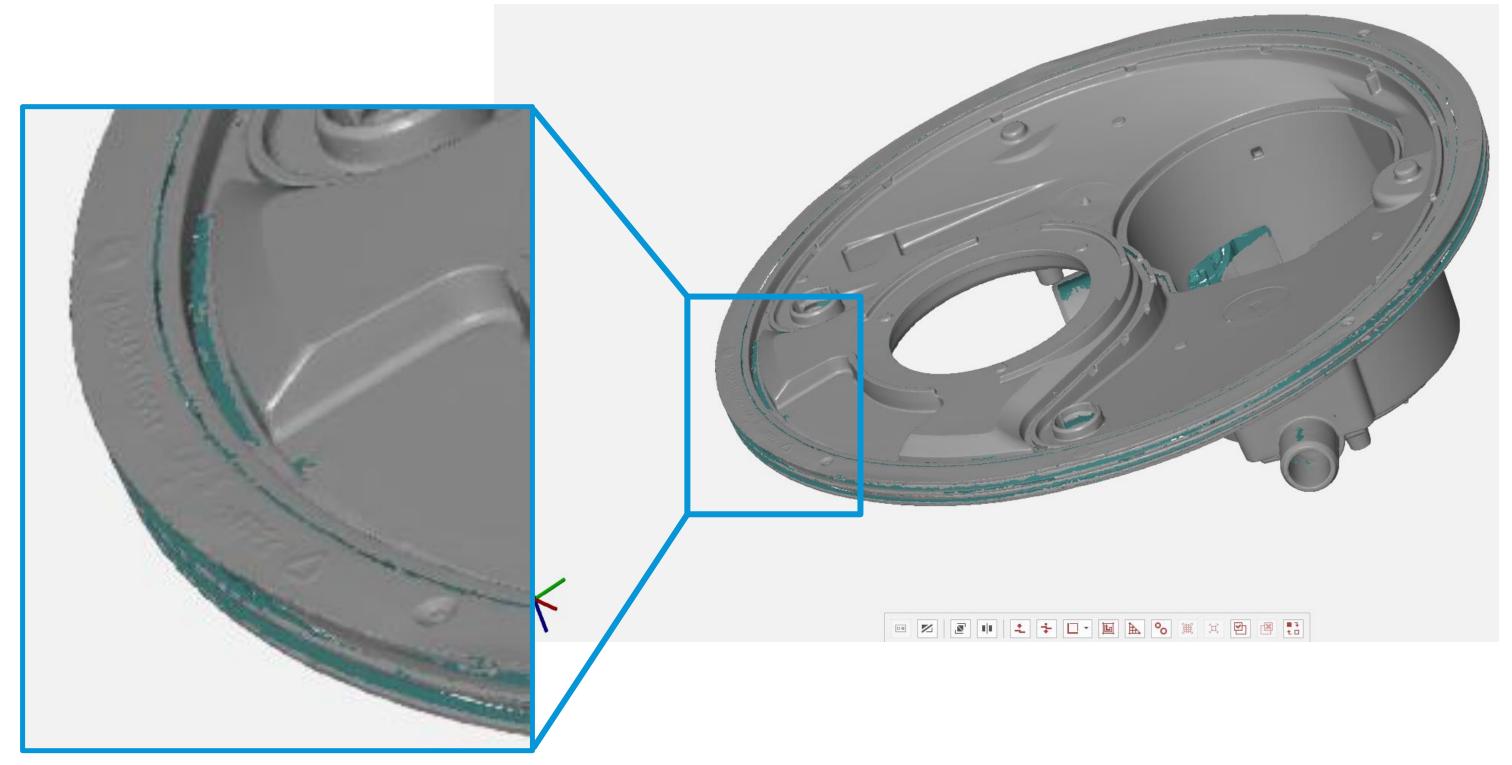


Targets applied to part





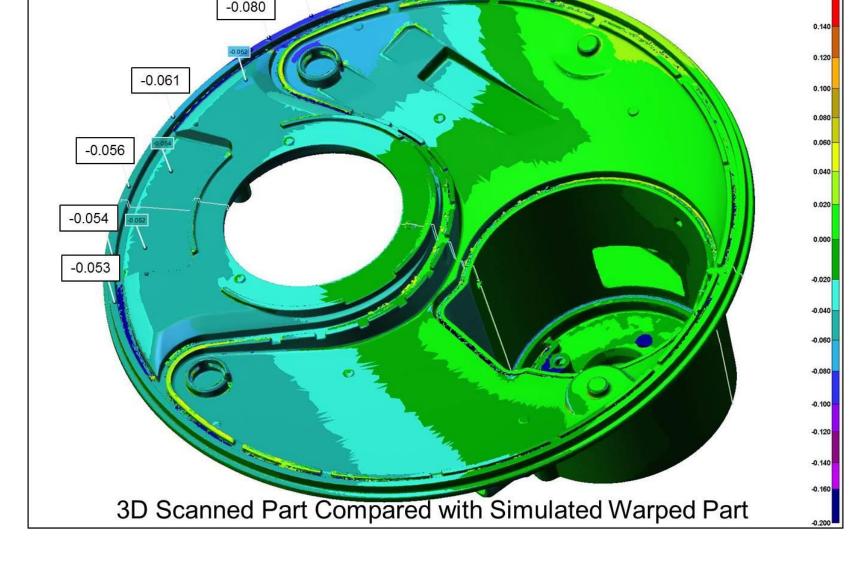
3D Scanned Part





Part Deviation Analysis

- Data is compared to show deviations
 - Scanned part to CAD
 - Simulated warped part
 CAD to scanned part
- Allows use of custom anchor planes



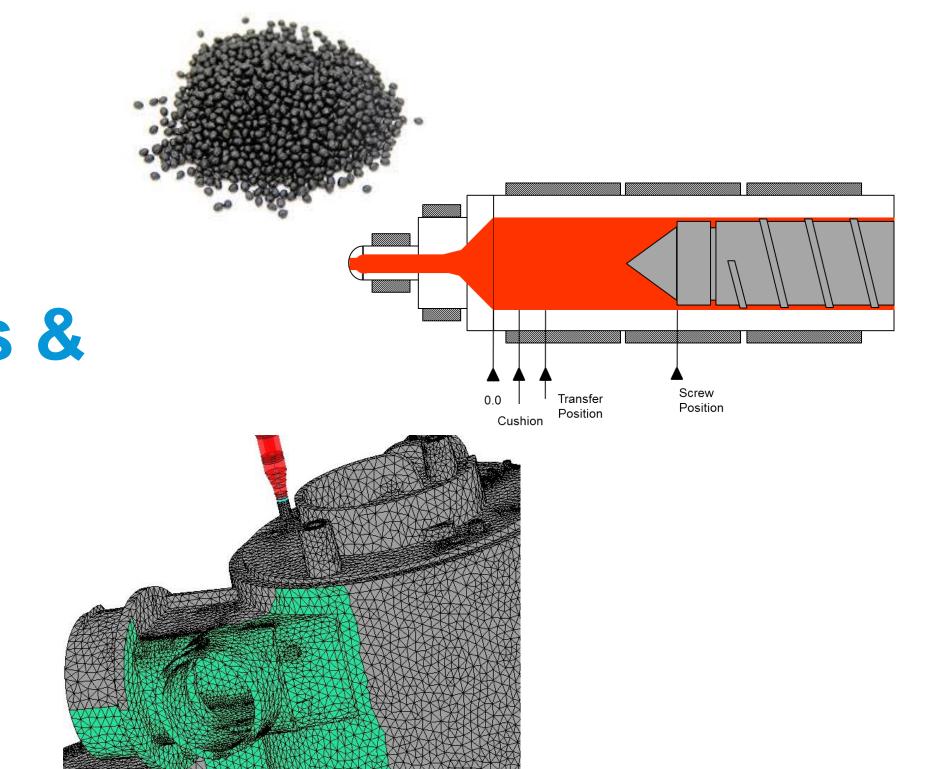
Uses GDT with custom reports from analysis





Z Deflection

Process Conditions & Simulation Setup





Part/Mold Modeling & Mesh

Use Theory & Concepts – Model Requirements

Apply mold material properties

Cooling Lines and mold with inserts

Machine nozzle

Accurate wall thickness

Expanded Data





To Expand or not to Expand?

- That is the real question.
- Use expanded data for simulation validation.
 - Matches meshed mold and inserts
 - Matches cooling line geometry

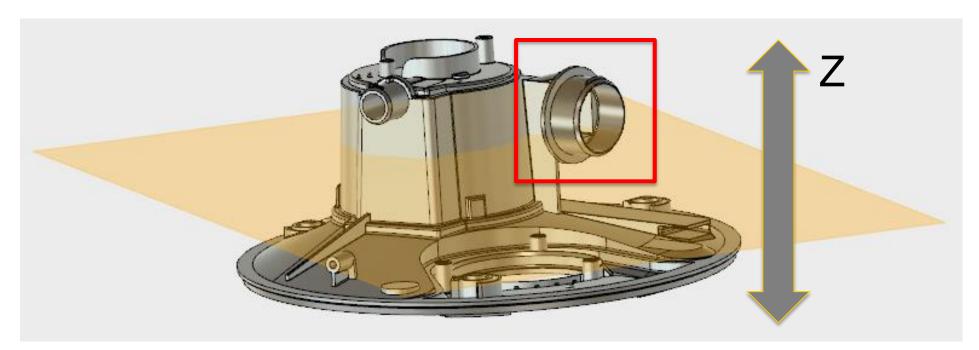




Test Your Knowledge!

How does the software calculate the projected area of a part mesh?





Sum of all surface areas projected onto X-Y plane





>>EXPERT TIP<<

 Use the "exclude from clamp force calculation" option in element properties

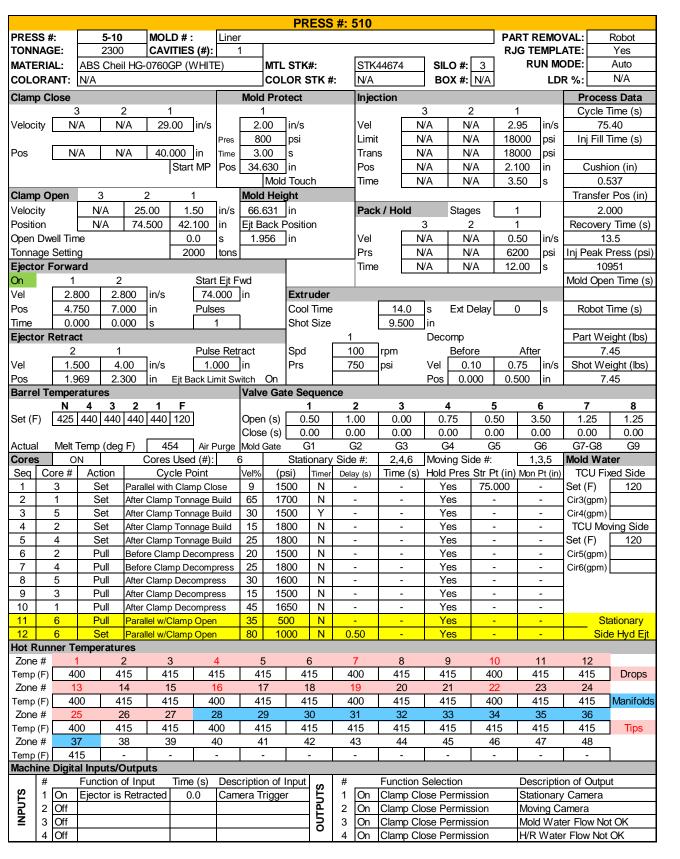
 This is especially true is you are conduction clamp force simulation validation





Process Conditions

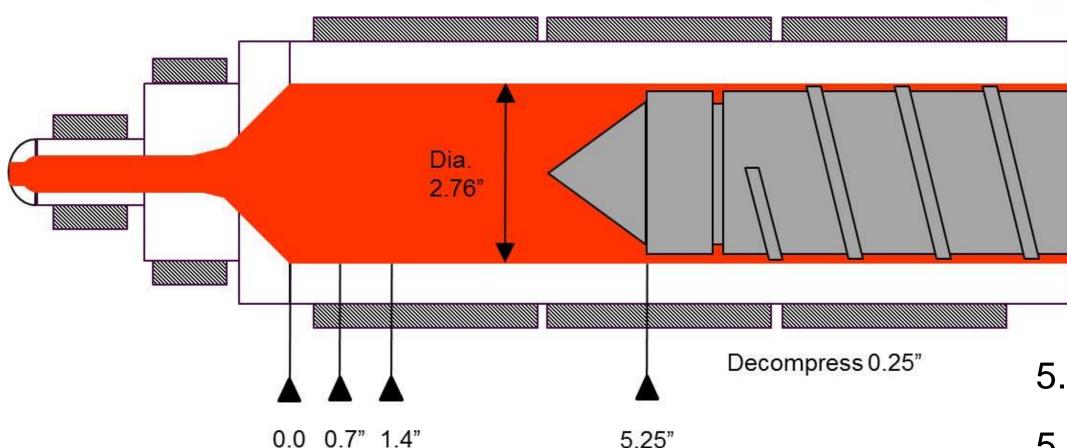
- Machine settings
 - Fill & transfer
 - Pack/hold
 - Cooling
 - Mold open/close time
 - Part removal time
- Mold/melt temperature





Test Your Knowledge!

• What is the shot size of the following machine setup?



5.25 -.25 -.7 = Shot Size = 4.3"

5.25 - .25 - 1.4 = Fill Stroke = 3.6"

>>EXPERT TIP<<

Use absolute ram speed profile and transfer position for accurate results

 Do not be tempted to use a fill time and 98% volume switch-over

The actual switch-over may be only 87%





Decoupled MoldingSM DII (RJG, Inc.)

- Establish fill only part
 - Fill as fast as the machine, mold and part quality will allow without being pressure limited
 - 95-98% Full
- Transfer to pressure control to finish filling and complete packing
 - Packing pressure 50-80% of max fill pressure

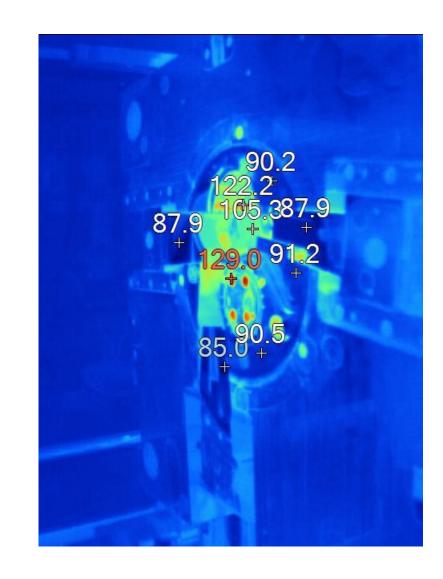


Melt/Mold Temperature

Obtaining accurate melt and mold temperature

readings can be a difficult task.

- Handheld pyrometers
 - Use for melt temperature
- Thermal imaging cameras
 - Use for Mold/Part Temperature
- In mold thermocouples



Custom Injection Molding Machine Database

- Required for simulation validation
- Specific machine information is needed

Injection stroke
Injection rate
Screw diameter
of RAM speed steps
of pressure steps

Maximum injection pressure Intensification ratio Hydraulic response time Maximum clamp force







Simulation Validation Case Study

Part: Appliance Part

Material: Filled PP (Gold Data)

Gate: Valve Gate

Analysis Type: Dual Domain & 3D mesh

Analysis Sequence: Fill, Cool, Fill, Pack, Warp

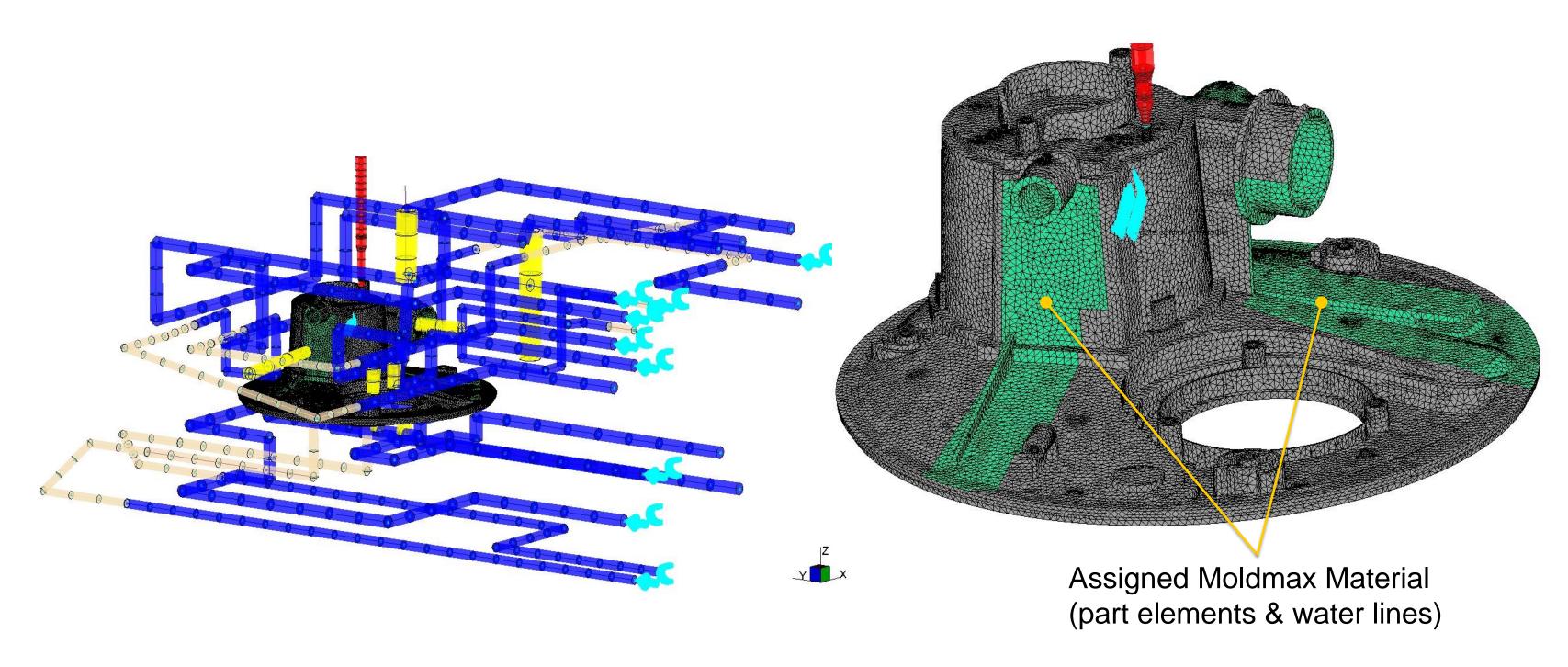
Mold Shrinkage: Cut to .012in/in







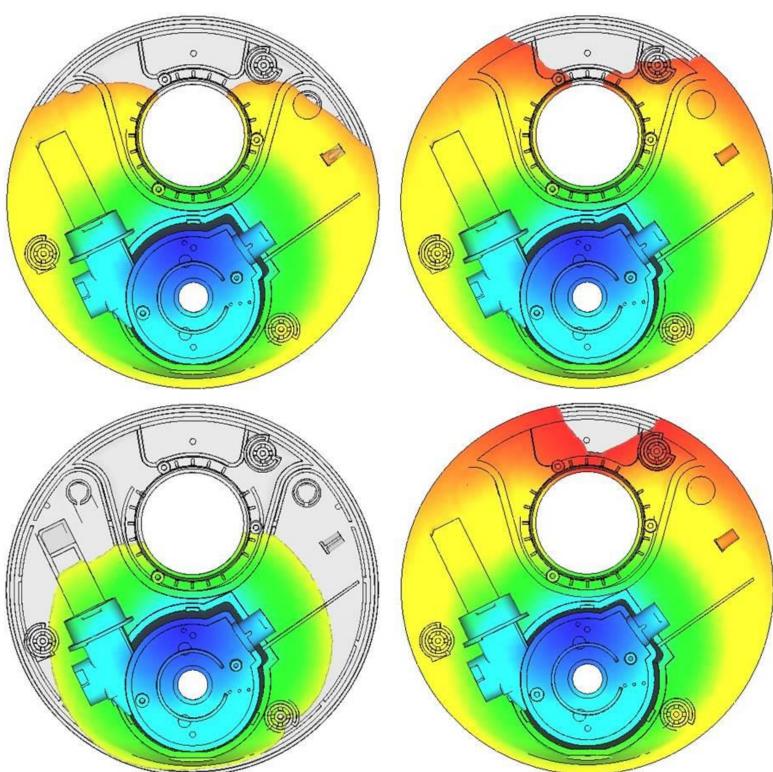
Model with Inserts and Cooling Lines



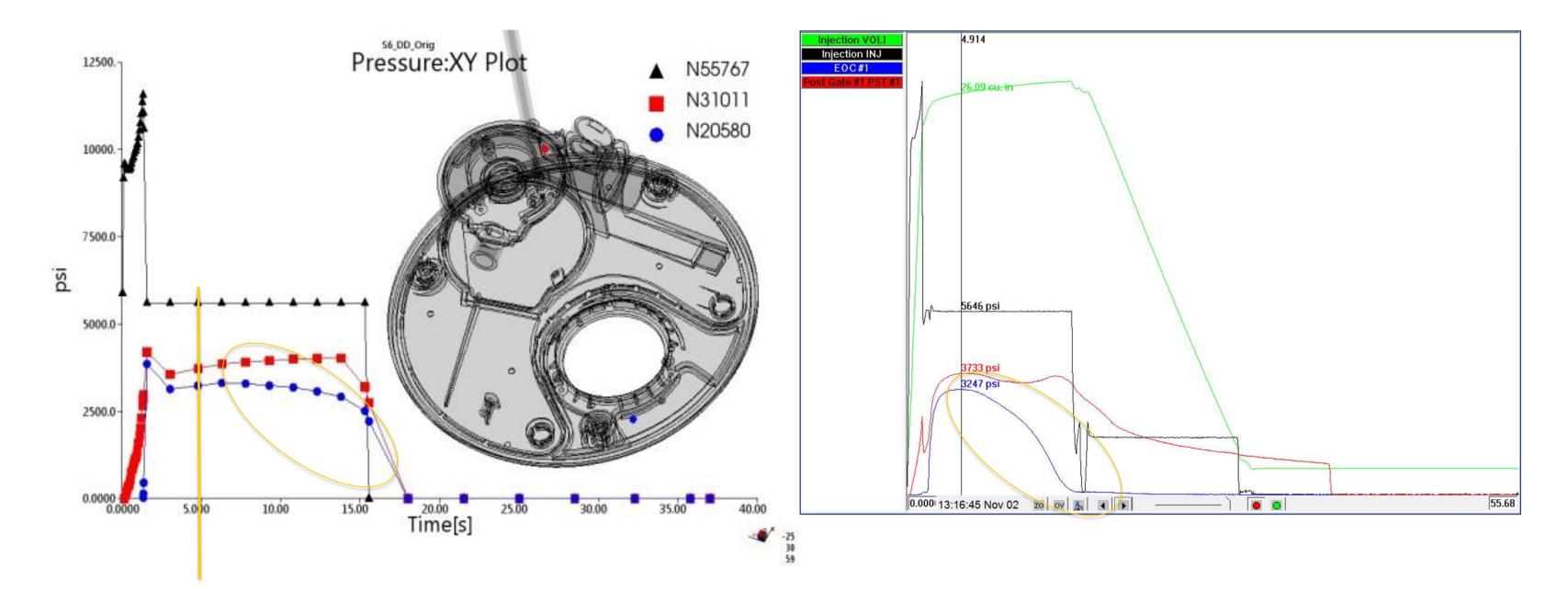


Short Shot Sequence





Pressure Trace vs. Simulation (Continued)





Pressure Trace vs. Simulation (Continued)

PLASTIC PRESSURE VALIDATION

	Actual	DD	DD w/ Nozzle*	3D
Nozzle (psi)	12,480	9,786	11,562*	10,067
Post Gate (psi)	3,733	3,757	3,757	4,002
End of Fill (psi)	3,247	3,246	3,246	3,710

5600 psi packing/hold pressure

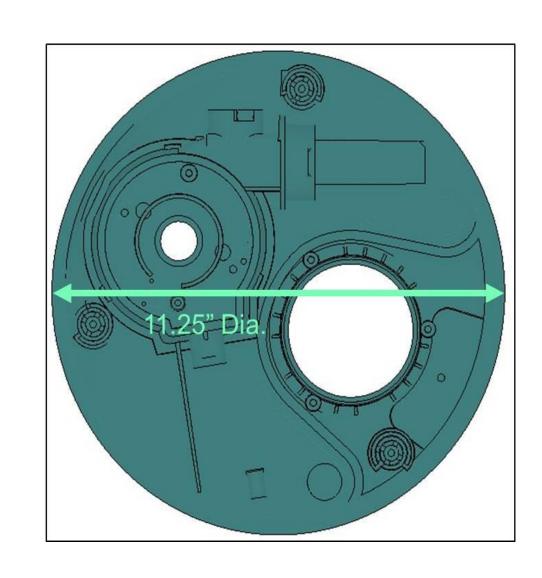
Actual pressures from in cavity pressure sensors

*Machine nozzle pressure loss = 1,776 psi



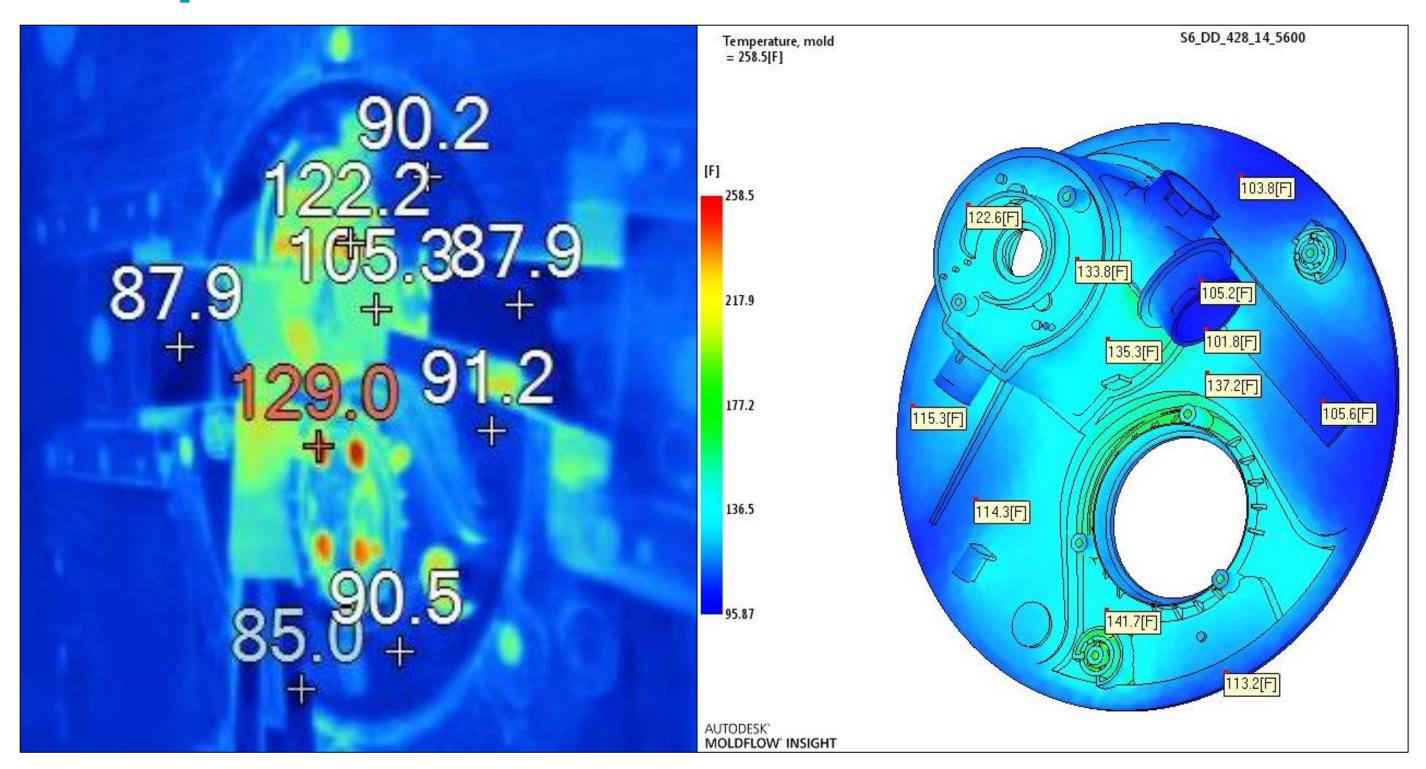
Part Shrinkage vs Simulation

	Actual	DD	3D
Dia (in)	11.2606	11.25	11.29
Shrinkage (%)	1.05%	1.21%	0.81%





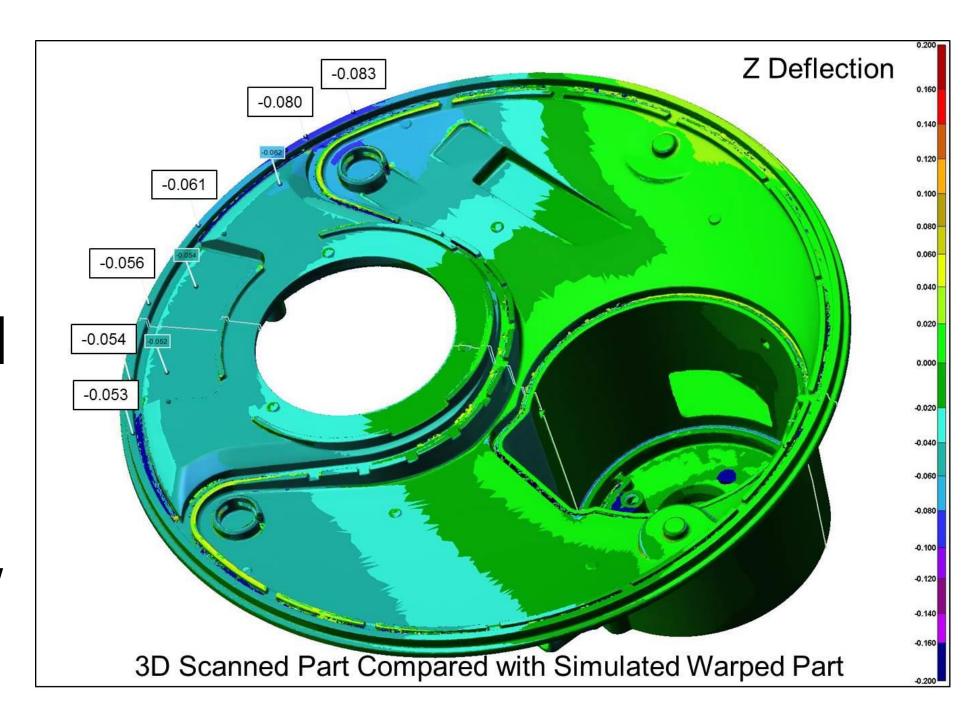
Mold Temperature vs Simulation





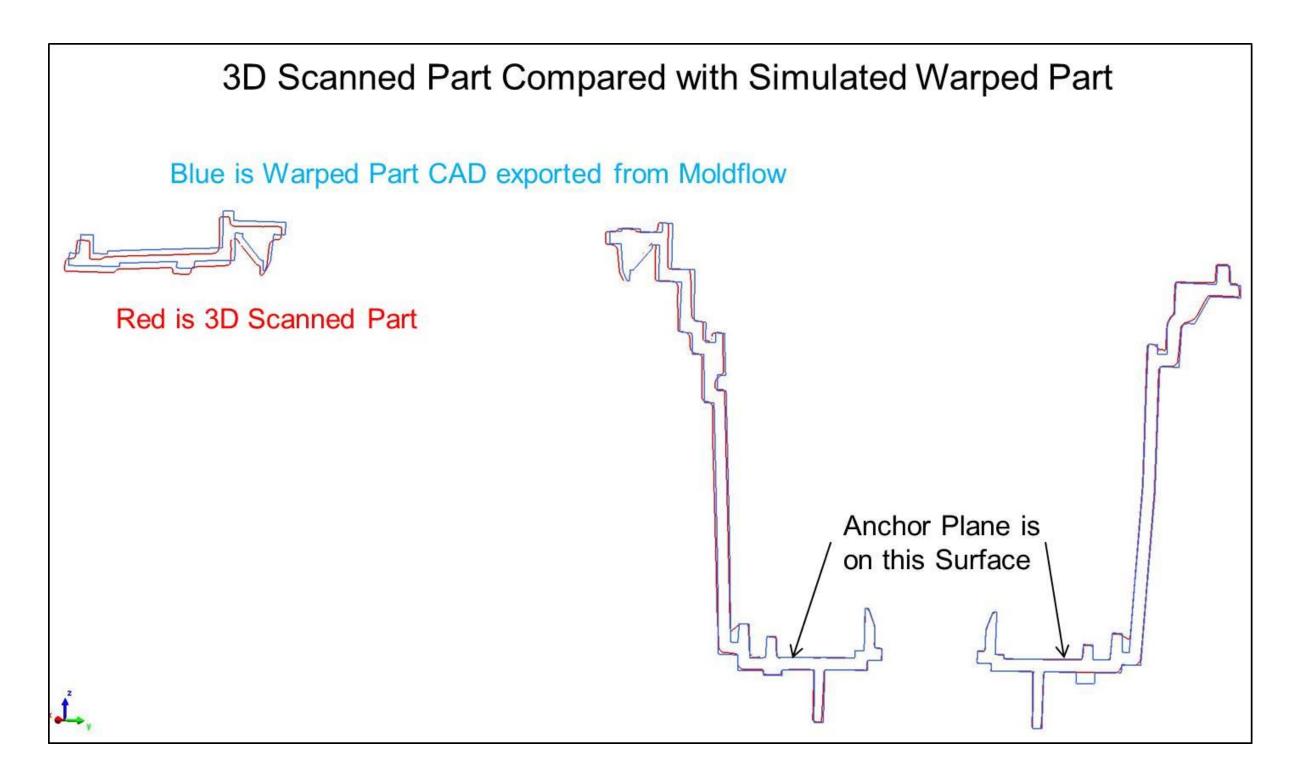
Part Deflection Validation

- Deviation analysis from Polyworks software
- Compares scanned molded part with exported warped CAD from Moldflow



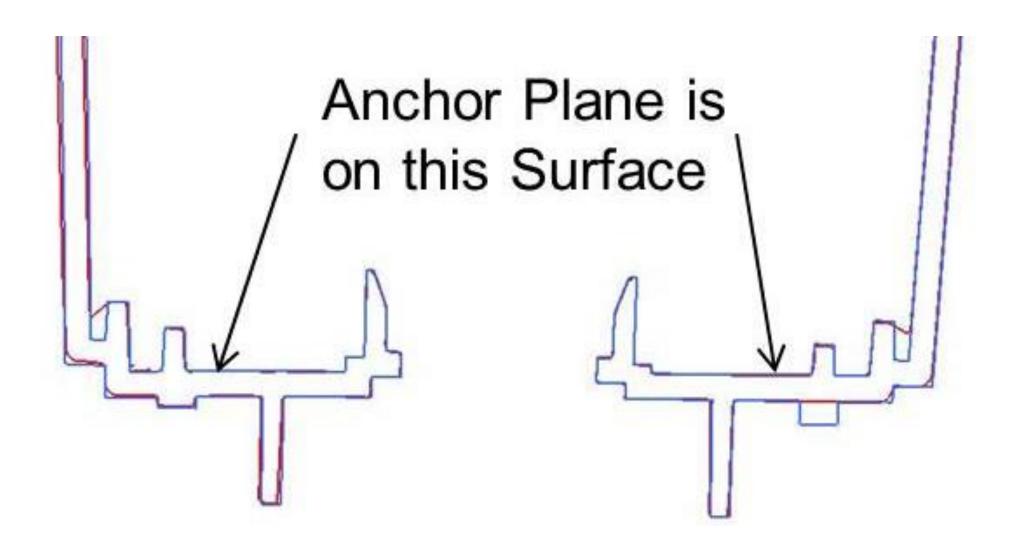


Part Deflection Validation (continued)





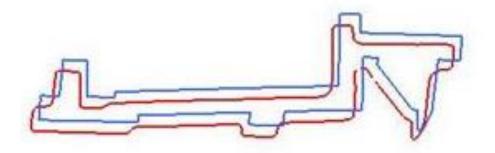
Part Deflection Validation (continued)



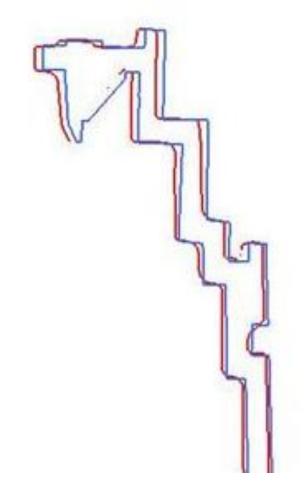


Part Deflection Validation (continued)

Blue is Warped Part CAD exported from Moldflow



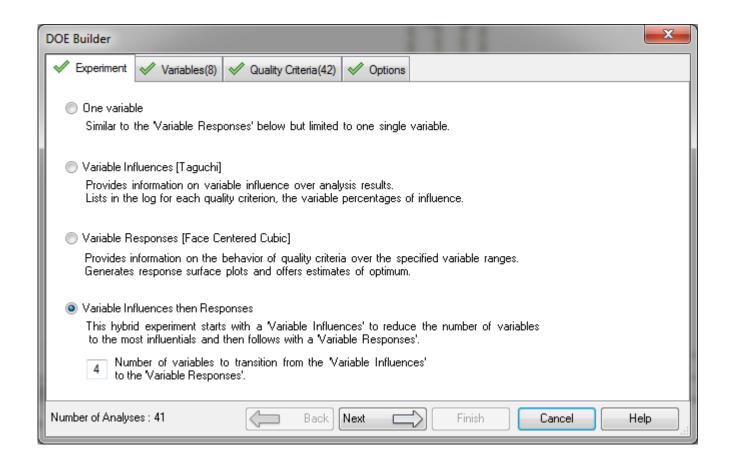
Red is 3D Scanned Part





Find Process Sensitivity

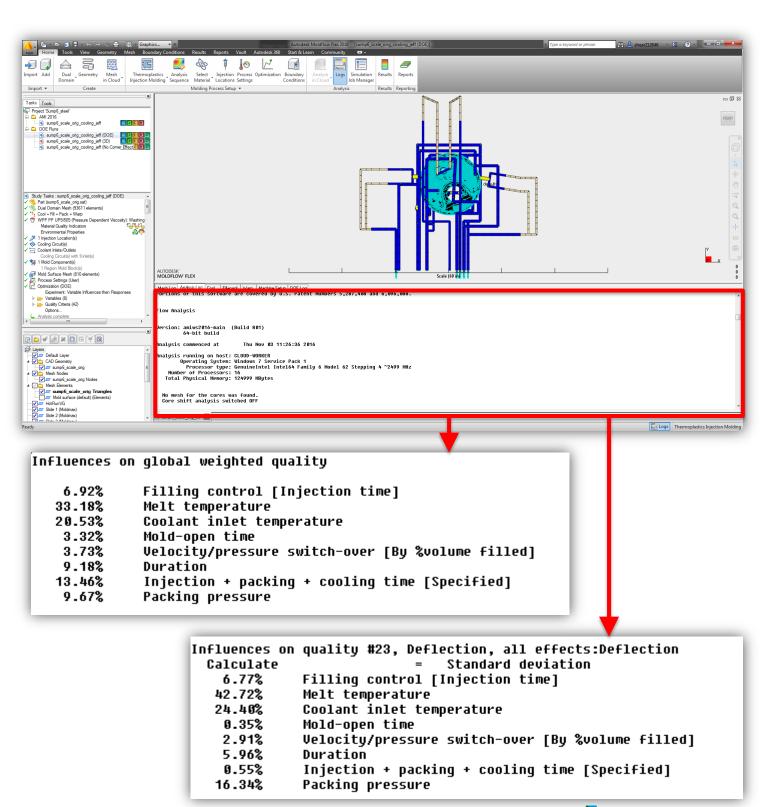
- Moldflow Optimization (DOE)
 - Find Variable Influence on quality criteria
 - Evaluate Impact on the parts





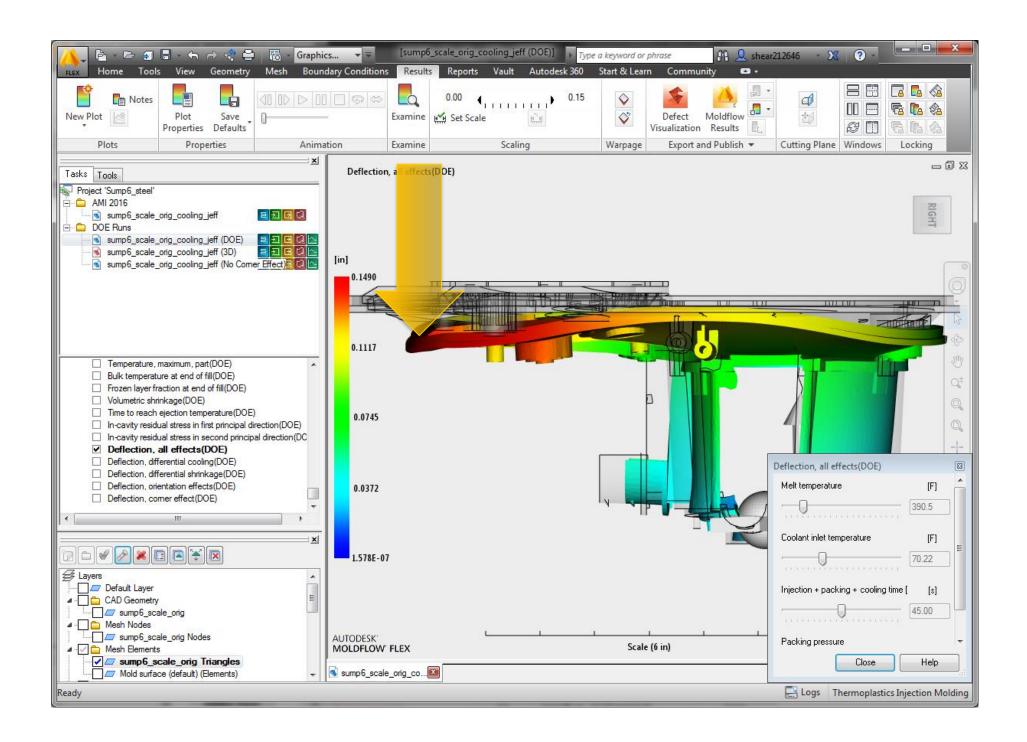
Find Process Sensitivity – Influence Variables

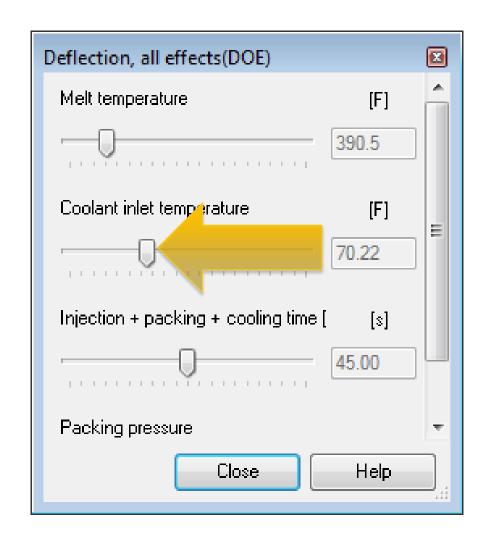
- Moldflow Optimization (DOE)
 - What variables are having the largest impact?
 - What is impacting the part the most?



AUTODESK

Find Process Sensitivity – The impact of change







Conclusions

- The short shot predictions were very close to reality
- The pressure predictions were close (with the nozzle modeled)
- Mold temperature was over predicted *
- Mold shrinkage was over predicted for DD
- Deflection was under predicted *

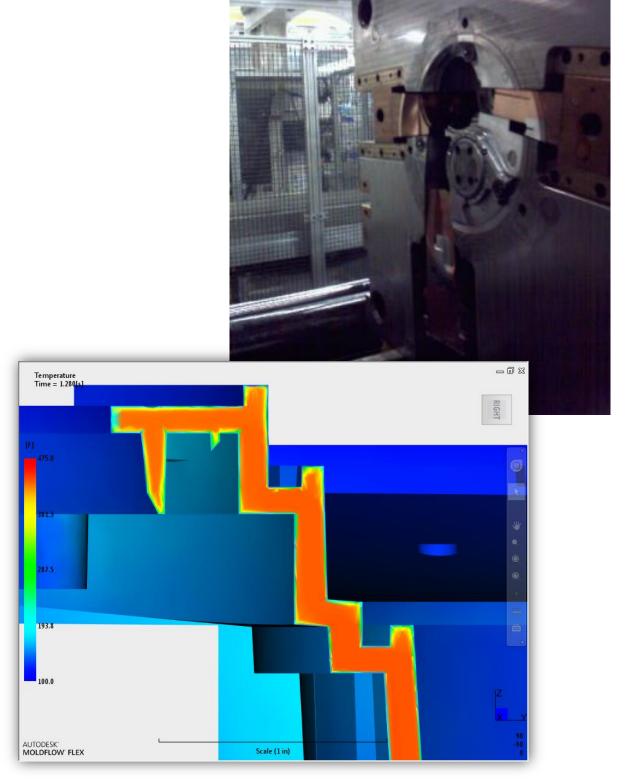
^{*} Need further study with 3D mold mesh & actual mold temperatures





Future Work

- Model & mesh mold in 3D
 - Core/Cavity
 - MoldMax Slides
- Run with Insight v2017
- Conduct 3D simulation with Cool (FEM)
- Conduct optimization analysis
- Work with Autodesk Moldflow Validation Team



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