The Plymouth Student Scientist - Volume 16 - 2023

The Plymouth Student Scientist - Volume 16, No.1 - 2023

2023

Use of biomimicry model for the design of perforated composite plates

Modica-Cliff, G.

Modica-Cliff, G. (2023) 'Use of biomimicry model for the design of perforated composite platesl', The Plymouth Student Scientist, 16(1), pp. 49-85. https://pearl.plymouth.ac.uk/handle/10026.1/21078

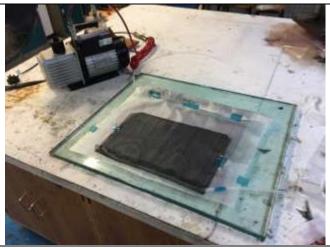
The Plymouth Student Scientist University of Plymouth

All content in PEARL is protected by copyright law. Author manuscripts are made available in accordance with publisher policies. Please cite only the published version using the details provided on the item record or document. In the absence of an open licence (e.g. Creative Commons), permissions for further reuse of content should be sought from the publisher or author.

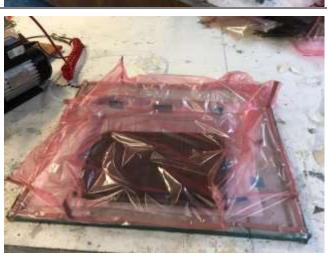
Appendices

Illustrated Laminate Manufacture

The following shows steps taken to manufacture the specimens. The composite plates were manufactured using the RIFT method described Summerscales and Cullen (2021).



- 1. The glass plate was cleaned and sealed.
- 2. The fabric lay-up was positioned on the glass.
 - a. Add mould if required
- 3. Peel ply and infusion mesh are cut to size and placed over the fabric.
- 4. Inlet and outlet tubes are cut to size and positioned.
- 5. Blue release tape is used to secure everything in place.



- 6. Vacuum bag is cut to size.
- 7. Bagging tape is applied to bag.
- 8. Protective film of bagging tap is removed, and the bag is stuck on the glass plate.
- 9. The tape is then press on to create a seal.
- 10. The outlet pipe is attached to the pump and the inlet to a pressure gauge.
- 11. The pump is activated, and the level of vacuum assessed using the gauge.



- 12. The bagging tape is checked for leaks, closing any that are found.
- 13. The outlet tube is crimped and the leak rate is measured in mbar/min.
- 14. If the leak rate and achieved vacuum are suitable the inlet tube is crimped and the outlet is uncrimped.
- 15. Now the resin is weighted.
- 16. The recommend amount of hardener is added.
- 17. Now the resin and hardener are mixed.
- 18. The inlet tube is inserted into the resin pot.
- 19. The inlet tube is uncrimped and the resin flows.
- 20. Now the flow is monitored, and the inlet tube is crimped again once the resin reaches the outlet.
- 21. The set up is left under vacuum until gelled.



22. The pipes are crimped and then the laminate is post cured whilst still in the bag.



23. Once finished the laminate is demoulded.

- 24. Then it is mounted for waterjet cutting.
- 25. Due to the nature of waterjet cutting the continuous line leave one uncut edge.
- 26. Then the remaining edges are cut using a band saw.
 - a. Then drilled if required



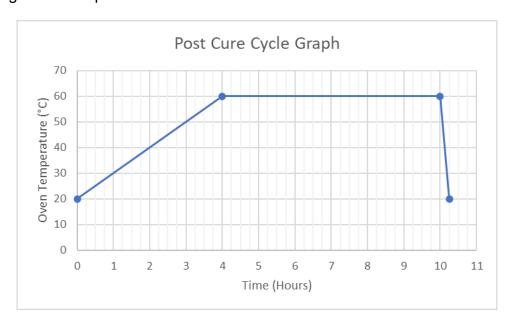
27. Glass fibre tabs are then bonded and clamped.

Manufacturing Conditions

The following table shows the conditions on the day of manufacture.

| | Plate A | Plate B |
|------------------------|------------|------------|
| Date | 09/03/2022 | 21/03/2022 |
| Time | 12:28 | 15:31 |
| Temperate (°C) | 18 | 21 |
| Relative Humidity (%) | 45 | 42 |
| Pressure (mbar Abs.) | 999 | 1011 |
| Pressure reached (mbar | 4.5 | 5.0 |
| Abs. | | |
| Leak rate (mbar/min) | 0.10 | 0.35 |

Oven Programme for post cure:



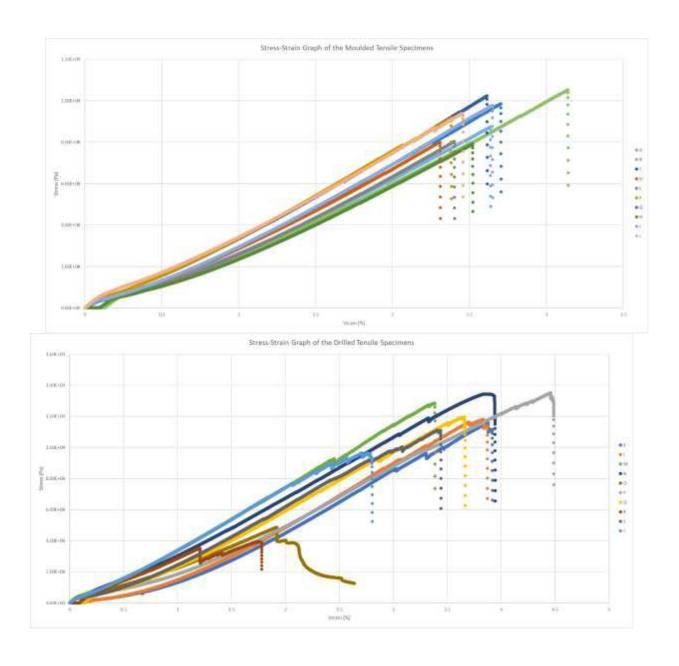
| Property | Unit | Value |
|--------------------------------|------|-------|
| Programme Number | Pr | 1 |
| Number of steps | n | 3 |
| Periodic repeat (1=yes , 0=no) | r | 0 |
| Initial temperature (°C) | p0 | 20 |
| Time step 1 | t1 | 4 |
| Second temperature (°C) | p1 | 60 |
| Time step 2 | t2 | 6 |
| Third temperature (°C) | p2 | 60 |
| Time step 3 | t3 | 0.15 |
| Final Temperature (°C) | р3 | 20 |

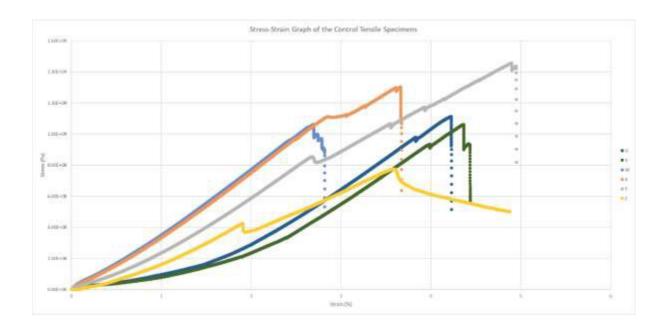
Property Prediction Calculations

| | Property | Symbol | Units | Width Method | Burn Off Method | Density Method | Equation | Comment |
|---------------------------|---|------------------------|--------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------|--|
| | Fabric Areal Weight | Af | gsm | 595.148 | 595.148 | 595.148 | n/a | From average of 5 100cm ³ samples |
| | Fabric Areal Weight | Af | kg/m^2 | 0.5951 | 0.5951 | 0.5951 | /1000 | |
| | Number of Plies | n | n/a | 3 | 3 | 3 | n/a | From layup |
| | Density of Fibre | pf | g/cm^3 | 1.77 | 1.77 | 1.77 | n/a | From (Fu et al., 2000) |
| | Density of Fibre | pf | kg/m^3 | 1770 | 1770 | 1770 | 10^6/10^3 | |
| Fibre Volume Fraction | Specimen Thickness | t | mm | 1.997 | 2.00 | 2.00 | n/a | From average sample thickness |
| | Specimen Thickness | t | mm | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.002 | /1000 | |
| | Cured Ply Thickness | Т | mm | 0.666 | 0.666 | 0.666 | t/n | |
| | Fibre Volume Fraction | Vf | n/a | 0.516 | 0.579 | 0.648 | (n*Af)/(pf*t) | |
| | Matrix Volume Fraction | Vm | n/a | 0.484 | 0.421 | 0.352 | 1-Vf | |
| | Tensile Strength Matrix | σm | MPa | 71 | 71 | 71 | n/a | From IN2 Datasheet 67.0-75.0 MN/m ² |
| | Tensile Strength Matrix | σm | Pa | 7.10E+07 | 7.10E+07 | 7.10E+07 | *10^6 | |
| | Youngs modulus Matrix | Em | MPa | 2800 | 2800 | 2800 | n/a | From IN2 Datasheet 2500-3100 |
| Matrix Properties | Youngs modulus Matrix | Em | Pa | 2.80E+09 | 2.80E+09 | 2.80E+09 | *10^6 | |
| | Fibre strain to Failure Matrix | ϵ_{Fm} | % | 8 | 8 | 8 | n/a | From IN2 Datasheet 7-9 % |
| | Fibre strain to Failure Matrix | ϵ_{Fm} | n/a | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.08 | /100 | |
| | Tensile Strength Fibre | σf | GPa | 4.9 | 4.9 | 4.9 | n/a | From (Mesquita et al., 2021) |
| | Tensile Strength Fibre | σf | Pa | 4.90E+09 | 4.90E+09 | 4.90E+09 | *10^9 | |
| | Youngs modulus Fibre | Ef | GPa | 230 | 230 | 230 | n/a | From (Mesquita et al., 2021) |
| Fibre Properties | Youngs modulus Fibre | Ef | Pa | 2.30E+11 | 2.30E+11 | 2.30E+11 | *10^9 | |
| | Fibre strain to Failure Fibre | ϵ_{fF} | % | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.1 | n/a | From (Mesquita et al., 2021) |
| | Fibre strain to Failure Fibre | ϵ_{fF} | n/a | 0.021 | 0.021 | 0.021 | /100 | |
| | Fibre length Distribution Factor | ηl | n/a | 1 | 1 | 1 | n/a | All unidirectional so set to unity |
| Rule of Mixtures Tensile | Fibre Orientation Distribution Factor | ηΟ | n/a | 1 | 1 | 1 | n/a | Fabric so set to unity |
| Modulus Prediction | Rule of Mixtures Elastic Modulus Prediction | Ec | Pa | 1.20E+11 | 1.34E+11 | 1.50E+11 | n/a | |
| | Rule of Mixtures Elastic Modulus Prediction | Ec | GPa | 119.93 | 134.28 | 150.10 | /10^9 | |
| Kelly-Tyson Tensile | Tensile stress in matrix at failure strain of the fibre | σm* | Pa | 1.86E+07 | 1.86E+07 | 1.86E+07 | (εfF/εfm)*σm | Assuming Linear Elastic |
| Strength Prediction | Kelly-Tyson Compoiste Strength Prediction | σς | Pa | 2.54E+09 | 2.84E+09 | | σfVf+σm*Vm | |
| Strength Prediction | Kelly-Tyson Compoiste Strength Prediction | σς | GPa | 2.54 | 2.84 | | /10^9 | |
| Assumed Failure Strain | Assumed failure strain strength prediction | σc | Pa | 3.00E+08 | 3.36E+08 | | Ec*(0.25/100) | |
| Strength Prediction | Assumed failure strain strength prediction | σc | GPa | 0.300 | 0.336 | 0.375 | /10^9 | |

Tensile Test Results

Below are the results from the tensile tests in tabular and graphical form.





Experimental Derivation of Composite Density

The following shows the method of determining the composite density:



The samples are cut from unused remnants of the plates. Also, a piece of the raw fibre is prepared. The sample was suspended from the scales.





Then the 'in air' weight was recorded. Then sample was submerged and apparent 'in water' weight is recorded. This was repeated for all samples.

Table of composite density calculations

| | | | A (Control and Drilled) | B (Moulded) |
|------------------------|----|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Fluid Density | рх | g/cm ³ | 0.9975 | 0.9975 |
| Mass of plate in air | а | g | 1.21031 | 1.50264 |
| Mass of plate in water | b | g | 0.40824 | 0.53529 |
| Composite Density | рс | g/cm ³ | 1.50521 | 1.54947 |

Below are the calculations used to calculate the fibre volume fractions.

Thickness method:

| Property | Unit | Symbol | Drilled | Moulded | Control |
|------------------|-------------------|--------|----------|----------|----------|
| Plate Thickness | mm | t | 1.94 | 1.93 | 2.00 |
| | m | t | 0.001944 | 0.00193 | 0.001997 |
| Fibre Density | g/cm ³ | pf | 1.77 | 1.77 | 1.77 |
| | Kg/m ³ | pf | 1770 | 1770 | 1770 |
| Measured Areal | | | | | |
| Weight | g/m ² | Af | 595.15 | 595.15 | 595.15 |
| | Kg/m ² | Af | 0.595148 | 0.595148 | 0.595148 |
| Number of Layers | n/a | n | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Fibre Volume | | | | | |
| Fraction | n/a | Vf | 0.518802 | 0.522565 | 0.505204 |

Burn off method:

| Property | Unit | Symbol | Plate A | Plate B | Control Fibres |
|--|-------|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------------------|
| Crucible Weight | Mcruc | g | 26.05346 | 25.72575 | 25.36831 |
| Crucible and Plate Initial | Мс+р | g | 27.22216 | 27.18966 | 26.39931 |
| Crucible and Plate After 10 minutes in Furnace | Mc+p | g | 26.85007 | 26.73967 | 26.36351 |
| Plate Weight after 10 minutes | Мр | g | 0.79661 | 1.01392 | 0.9952 |
| Crucible and Plate After 5 hours in Furnace | Мс+р | g | 26.26179 | 26.03748 | 25.68840 |
| Plate Weight after 310 minutes | Мр | g | 0.20833 | 0.31173 | 0.32009 |
| Crucible and Plate After 25 minutes in Furnace | Mc+p | g | 26.19912 | 25.95479 | 25.58473 |
| Plate Weight after 335 minutes | Мр | g | 0.14566 | 0.22904 | 0.21642 |
| Initial Composite Mass | Mc | g | 1.16870 | 1.46391 | 1.031 |
| Fibre loss correction | Mcorr | g | 0.693907 | 1.09112 | |
| Fibre Weight | Мр | g | 0.693907 | 1.09112 | |
| Composite Density | рс | g/cm ³ | 1.50521 | 1.54947 | |
| Fibre Density | pf | g/cm ³ | 1.77 | 1.77 | |
| Fibre Volume fraction | Vf | % | 50.49199 | 65.2483 | |

Density method:

| Property | Unit | Symbol | Α | В |
|-------------------|------|-------------------|----------|----------|
| Resin Density | pr | g/cm ³ | 1.08 | 1.08 |
| Fibre Density | pf | g/cm ³ | 1.77 | 1.77 |
| Composite Density | рс | g/cm ³ | 1.505211 | 1.549474 |
| Graph Gradient | m | g/%cm3 | 0.0069 | 0.0069 |
| Fibre Volume | | | | |
| Fraction | Vf | % | 61.6247 | 68.0397 |

Finite Element Validation

The Solidworks simulation software was used to conduct tensile test simulation for the drilled and control specimens.

Modelling of the moulded plates required a separate software Ansys Composite PrepPost, which had the capability of modelling the fibre orientation. This was attempted but insufficient time was available to conduct meaningful studies as manufacturing took longer than anticipated due to lack of composite specific technician and the difficult of representing the true fibre orientation in Ansys Composite PrepPost shown in Figure 35. Additionally, the moulded specimens were modelled as flat plates as modelling the surface topology of the raised section presented additional challenges.

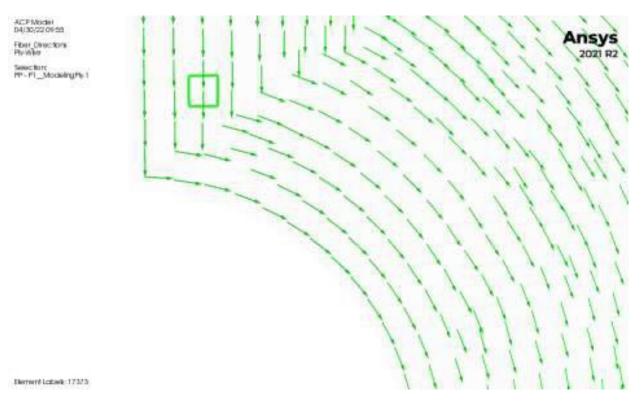
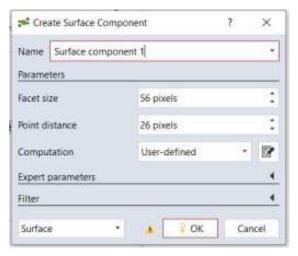


Figure 35: 10.5 attempted model of fibre orientation around hole.

Digital Image Correlation

The shape, motion and deformation of solid objects can be measured from video using DIC (LePage, 2022). Specimens were prepared by removing burrs and applying the speckle pattern using spray paint as advised by Dantec Dynamics (2022) which can be seen in Figure 16. Only the specimens with holes were analysed on the flat side of the specimens as they were more likely to fail around the hole which was the area of interest, whereas the control samples could fail anywhere in the gauge length and therefore not give any meaningful data. Video footage of the tensile tests was taken and then divided into frames. These images were then processed using GOM Correlate software where the hole diameter was used as the scale reference. Figure 36 Shows more detail of the surface settings.



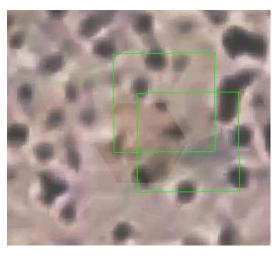
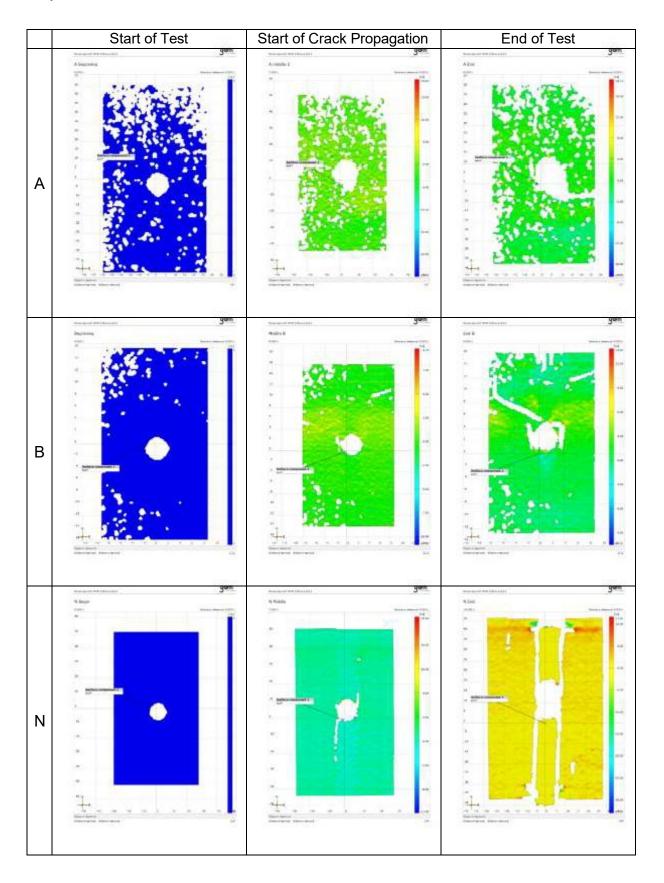


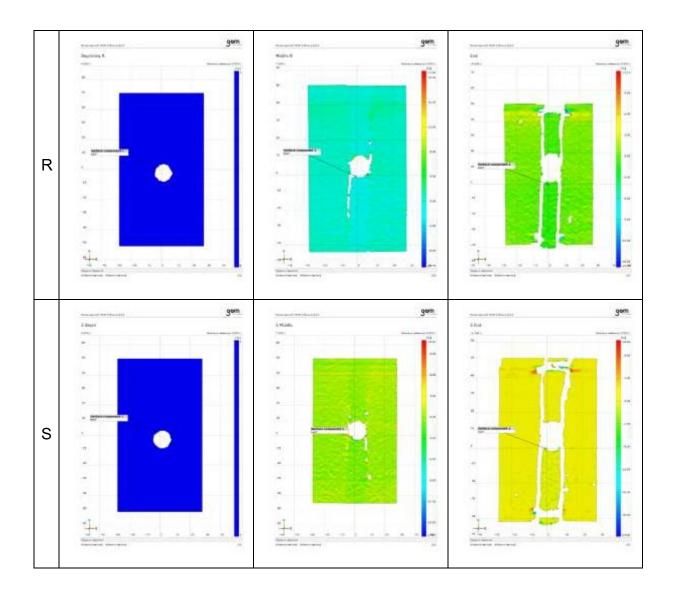
Figure 36: 10.6 GOM surface settling, with detailed visualisation of a facet.

DIC Results

The following table shows the results from the DIC analysis. Sample O was not analysed because the camera resolution in the trial test was insufficient.



The Plymouth Student Scientist, 2023, 16, (1), 49-85 – Supplementary file

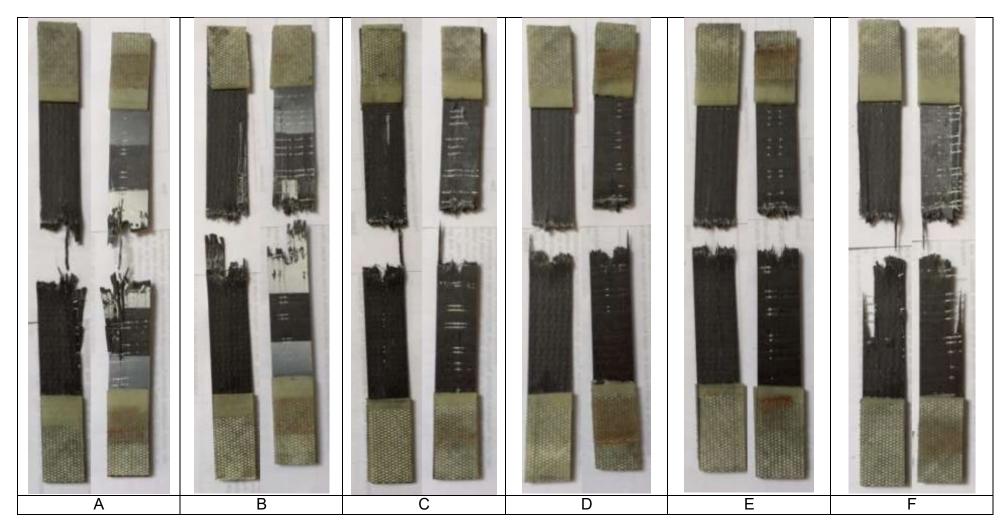


Specimen Dimensions

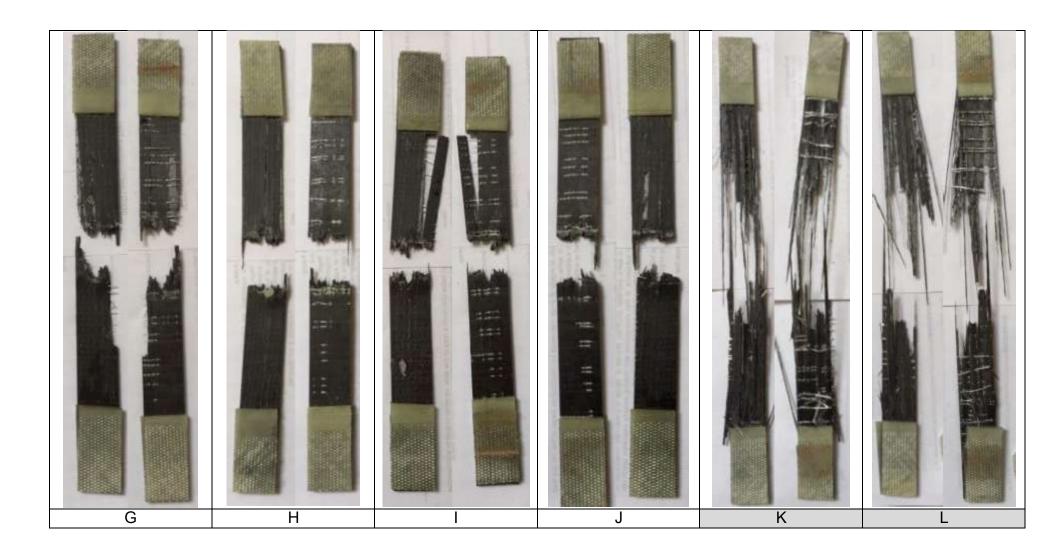
| Plate 1 Mo | oulded Holes | | | | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Test | Width R1 (mm) | Width R2 (mm) | Width R3 (mm) | Width Average (mm) | Thickness R1 (mm) | Thickness R2 (mm) | Thickness R3 (mm) | Thickness Average (mm) |
| а | 24.80 | 24.73 | 24.69 | 24.74 | 1.88 | 1.99 | 1.96 | 1.94 |
| b | 24.70 | 24.69 | 24.70 | 24.70 | 2.01 | 2.01 | 1.91 | 1.9 |
| С | 24.62 | 24.66 | 24.71 | 24.66 | 1.91 | 1.96 | 1.94 | 1.94 |
| d | 24.78 | 24.66 | 24.78 | 24.74 | 1.91 | 1.98 | 2.01 | 1.9 |
| e | 24.62 | 24.78 | 24.67 | 24.69 | 1.92 | 1.91 | 1.97 | 1.93 |
| f | 25.01 | 24.78 | 24.74 | 24.84 | 1.87 | 1.86 | 1.85 | 1.80 |
| g | 24.66 | 24.71 | 24.69 | 24.69 | 1.87 | 1.91 | 1.91 | 1.90 |
| h | 24.56 | 24.74 | 24.63 | 24.64 | 1.93 | 1.90 | 1.95 | 1.93 |
| i | 24.64 | 24.66 | 24.69 | 24.66 | 1.95 | 1.96 | 1.91 | 1.94 |
| j | 24.57 | 24.61 | 24.67 | 24.62 | 1.91 | 1.90 | 1.96 | 1.92 |
| | | | Mean | 24.70 | | | Mean | 1.93 |
| | | | StDevP | 0.06 | | | StDevP | 0.03 |
| Plate 2 Dri | lled Holes | | | | | | | |
| Test | Width R1 (mm) | Width R2 (mm) | Width R3 (mm) | Width Average (mm) | Thickness R1 (mm) | Thickness R2 (mm) | Thickness R3 (mm) | Thickness Average (mm) |
| k | 24.70 | 24.68 | 24.67 | 24.68 | 1.88 | 1.96 | 1.99 | 1.94 |
| I | 24.68 | 24.68 | 24.65 | 24.67 | 1.96 | 1.98 | 1.97 | 1.97 |
| m | 24.68 | 24.71 | 24.71 | 24.70 | 1.91 | 2.02 | 2.04 | 1.99 |
| n | 24.72 | 24.63 | 24.65 | 24.67 | 1.82 | 1.89 | 1.98 | 1.90 |
| 0 | 24.68 | 24.77 | 24.67 | 24.71 | 1.84 | 1.88 | 1.76 | 1.83 |
| р | 24.72 | 24.69 | 24.72 | 24.71 | 1.95 | 1.95 | 1.91 | 1.94 |
| q | 24.68 | 24.69 | 24.72 | 24.70 | 1.93 | 1.94 | 1.99 | 1.9 |
| r | 24.72 | 24.63 | 24.65 | 24.67 | 1.82 | 1.89 | 1.98 | 1.90 |
| s | 24.79 | 24.80 | 24.77 | 24.79 | 2.01 | 2.02 | 2.03 | 2.02 |
| t | 24.68 | 24.68 | 24.64 | 24.67 | 2.02 | 1.98 | 2.03 | 2.03 |
| | | | Mean | 24.70 | | | Mean | 1.94 |
| | | | StDevP | 0.03 | | | StDevP | 0.06 |
| Plate 2 Co | ntrol Plates | | | | | | | |
| Test | Width R1 (mm) | Width R2 (mm) | Width R3 (mm) | Width Average (mm) | Thickness R1 (mm) | Thickness R2 (mm) | Thickness R3 (mm) | Thickness Average (mm) |
| u | 24.70 | 24.71 | 24.80 | 24.74 | 2.01 | 2.01 | 1.98 | 2.00 |
| v | 24.70 | 24.71 | 24.69 | 24.70 | 2.06 | 1.95 | 1.97 | 1.99 |
| w | 24.70 | 24.68 | 24.69 | 24.69 | 2.07 | 1.99 | 2.03 | 2.03 |
| х | 24.73 | 24.75 | 24.75 | 24.74 | 1.98 | 1.97 | 1.99 | 1.98 |
| у | 24.69 | 24.71 | 24.70 | 24.70 | 2.02 | 2.05 | 2.06 | 2.04 |
| z | 24.65 | 24.63 | 24.68 | 24.65 | 1.95 | 1.95 | 1.90 | 1.93 |
| | | | Mean | 24.70 | | | Mean | 2.00 |
| | | | StDevP | 0.03 | | | StDevP | 0.04 |
| | | | | | | | | |

Fractured Specimens

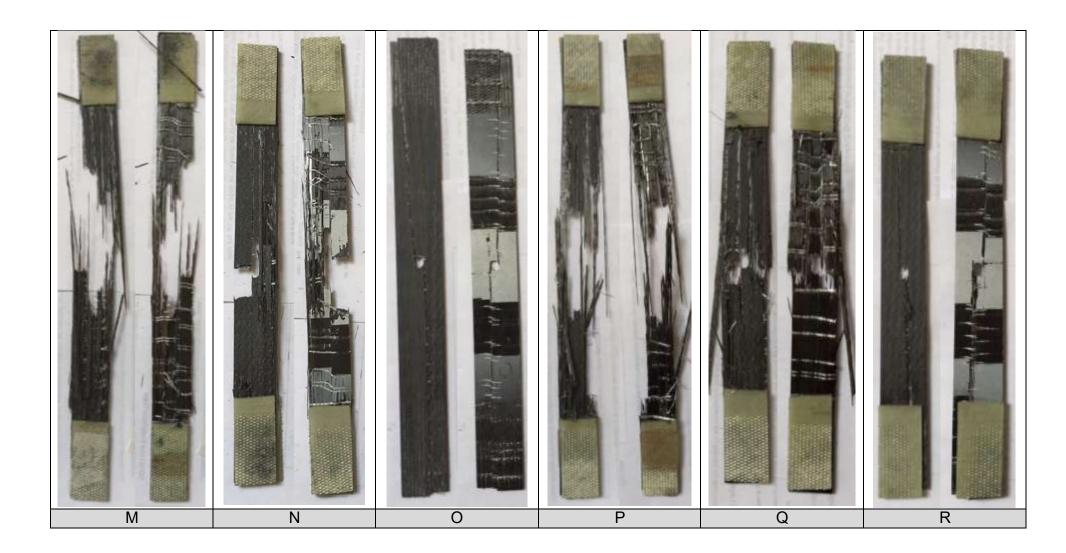
The following table shows each of the specimens after the tensile test. Each specimen has a top face, shown first, and mould facing side shown second.



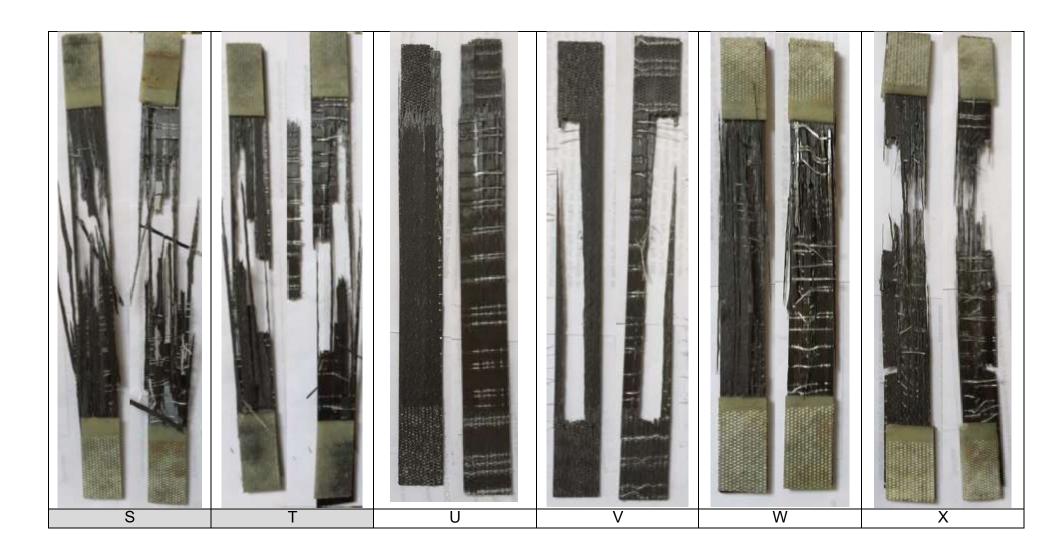
The Plymouth Student Scientist, 2023, **16**, (1), 49-85 – Supplementary file



The Plymouth Student Scientist, 2023, **16**, (1), 49-85 – Supplementary file



The Plymouth Student Scientist, 2023, **16**, (1), 49-85 – Supplementary file



The Plymouth Student Scientist, 2023, **16**, (1), 49-85 – Supplementary file

| Y Z | |
|-----|--|

Specimen Details

The relative tow and stitch distances were determined using only the mould tool face and therefore the first ply.

| Туре | Specimen | Largest | Distanc | Distance of | | Detail of failure |
|---------|----------|---------|-----------|-------------|--------------------------|--|
| | Number | Remnant | Stitch fr | Stitch from | | |
| | | Length | Hole (m | m) | to Hole | |
| | | (mm) | Above/E | Below | | |
| | A | 30 | 4 | 6 | Between single tow | Break across midpoint, with I remnant spanning to one side |
| | В | 25 | 3 | 10 | Between single tow | Break across midpoint, with large remnant (25mm) spanning midpoint to one side |
| Moulded | С | 30 | 1 | 9 | In- between tows | Break across midpoint with thin remnant |
| 2 | D | 15 | 4 | 6 | In- between tows | Break across midpoint with thin remnant |
| | Е | 0 | 3 | 8 | Between single tow | Break across midpoint |
| | F | 20 | 6 | 4 | In- between tows | Break across midpoint with thin remnant, Missing section (6X45mm) |

| | 0 | 0.4 | 7 | - | 1 | Dunales |
|---------|---|-----|----|----|-----------|--------------------|
| | G | 24 | 7 | 5 | In- | Break across |
| | | | | | between | midpoint with thin |
| | | | | | tows | remnant |
| | Н | 10 | 3 | 5 | In- | Break across |
| | | | | | between | midpoint with thin |
| | | | | | tows | remnant |
| | I | 7 | 3 | 8 | Between | Break across |
| | | | | | single | midpoint with thin |
| | | | | | tow | remnant |
| | J | 20 | 9 | 4 | In- | Break across |
| | | | | | between | midpoint with thin |
| | | | | | tows | remnant |
| | K | 145 | 2 | 10 | In middle | Large scale fibre |
| | | | | | of tow | pull out |
| | L | 150 | 3 | 10 | In middle | Large scale fibre |
| | | | | | of tow | pull out |
| | M | 145 | 2 | 6 | In middle | Large scale fibre |
| | | | | | of tow | pull out |
| 70 | N | 130 | 2 | 6 | In middle | Large scale fibre |
| Drilled | | | | | of tow | pull out, missing |
| | | | | | | section |
| | 0 | n/a | 7 | 5 | In middle | Crack down side of |
| | | | | | of 2 tows | hole which |
| | | | | | | continues to other |
| | | | | | | side hole and down |
| | Р | 140 | 10 | 2 | In middle | Large scale fibre |
| | | | | | of 2 tows | pull out |
| | | | | | | |

| | Q | 1450 | Stitc middle | | In middle of tow | Large scale fibre pull out |
|---------|---|------|-----------------|-----|---------------------|--|
| | R | n/a | 5 | 3 | In middle of tow | Crack down side of hole which continues to other side hole and down |
| | S | 150 | 5 | 2 | In middle of tow | Large scale fibre pull out |
| | Т | n/a | 6 | 2 | In middle of 2 tows | Large scale fibre pull out |
| | U | 14 | n/a | | n/a | Specimen slipped and failure is not valid |
| | V | 14 | n/ | a | n/a | Large section broke out, specimen is still attached |
| trol | W | 15 | n/ | a | n/a | Fibre pull out along whole gauge length |
| Control | X | 15 | n/ | a | n/a | Fibre pull out along whole gauge length |
| | Υ | 15 | n/ | n/a | | Fibre pull out along whole gauge length |
| | Z | n/a | n/a | | n/a | Break not due to tension, Specimen slipped and failure is not valid |

Waterjet Route

The following drawings show the dimensions of the waterjet profile, they account for the 0.7mm curf of the waterjet cutter. These files were converted to DXF files when cut.

Plate A:

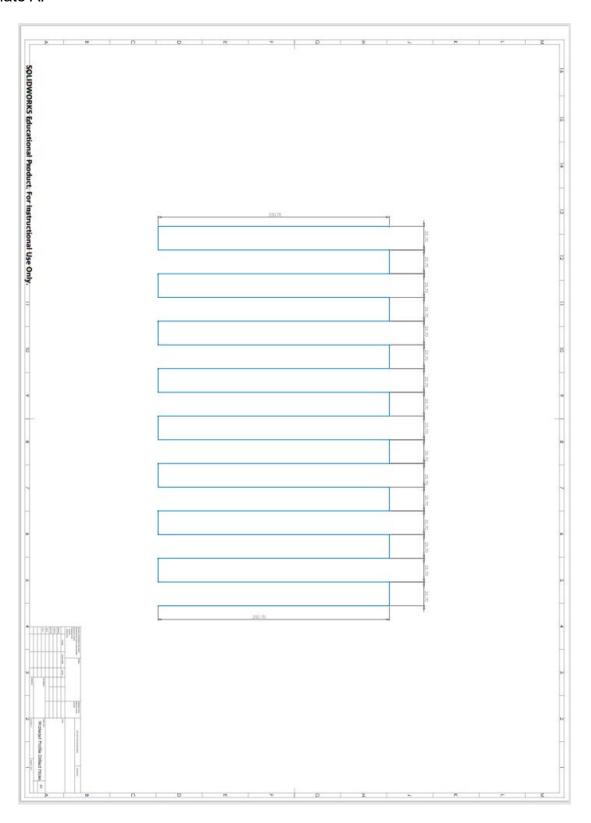
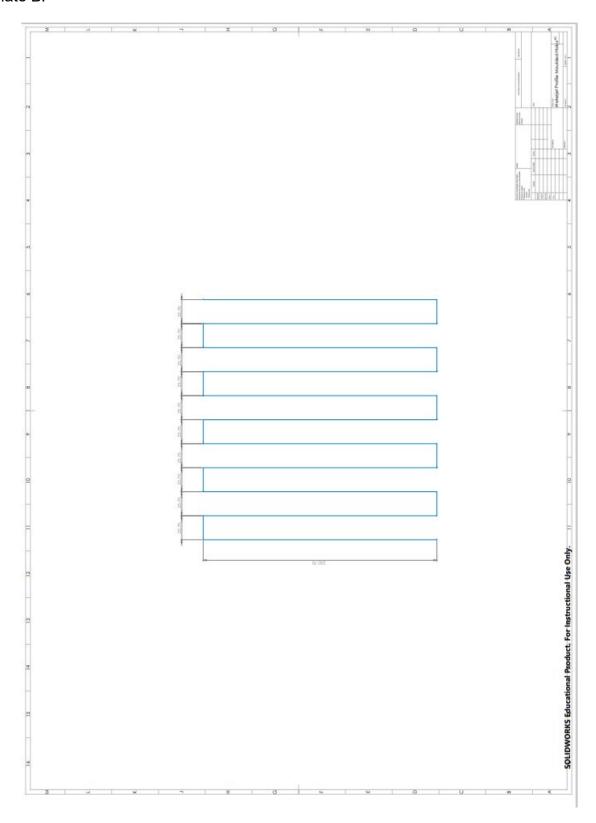
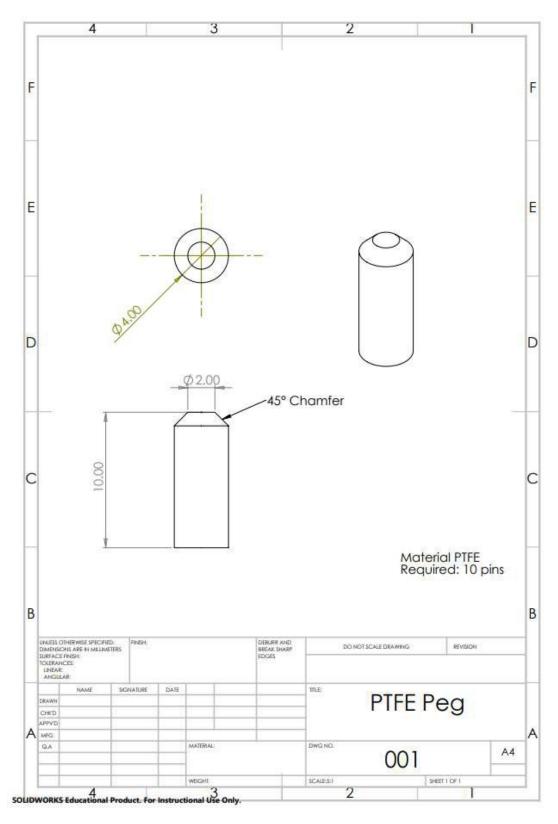


Plate B:



Components Manufactured by Technicians for Mould

The PTFE pegs were manufactured in Brunel W6 and design for the project by the author. They were turned on a lathe from a piece of 10mm PTFE bar.



Risk Assessment

The following risk assessment is based on one from Summerscales (2017).

| Reference | Activity/Task | Hazards | Persons in Danger | Probability (P) | Severity (S) | Risk Factor (R =P*S) | Controls in Place <i>or</i> Action to be Taken | Additional Requirements |
|-----------|--|----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | |
| | Life [JSu] | meningitis | all | 2 | 3 | 6 | Awareness | |
| | Smoking [JSu] | now illegal indoors in the UK | all | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | Visitors | | | | | | | |
| | visitors [JSp] | tripping | all | 1 | 1 | 1 | areas kept tidy walkways marked general good housekeeping | control and guidance by UoP staff |
| | visitors [JSp] | overhead hazards | all | 1 | 1 | 1 | overhead beams signed protective padding as required | control and guidance by UoP staff |
| | visitors [JSp] | slipping hazards | all | 1 | 3 | 3 | prevent splashing into walkways use signs to warn of danger do not run | control and guidance by UoP staff |
| | visitors [JSp] | fire | all | 1 | 2 | 2 | shout fire react to bell follow evacuation procedures (leave by nearest exit and proceed to assembly point) | control and guidance by UoP staff (fire marshalls) |
| | hands-on demonstrations/activities [JSp] | general | all | 1 | 2 | 2 | avoid potentially dangerous activities engage visitors in actions with little or no risk consider the ability of the visitor to actively participate. | control and guidance by UoP staff maintain a staff presence at all times and a high staff/student ratio. |
| | | | | | | | | |
| C0 | Thermosetting resins | | | | | | | |
| C0A | Epoxide resin | | | | | | | |
| | base resin [JSu] | sensitisation | operator | 1 | 2 | 2 | personal protective equipment (specifically lab coat barrier cream nitrile gloves safety glasses) | is the operator already sensitised? |
| | curing agents [JSu] | skin absorption | operator | 1 | 2 | 2 | personal protective equipment (specifically lab coat barrier cream gloves) | |

The Plymouth Student Scientist, 2023, 16, (1), 49-85 – Supplementary file

| | mixing components [JSu] | volatile organic compounds | operator/those adjacent | 2 | 1 | 2 | local extraction during both decanting and mixing | |
|------|--|---|----------------------------|---|---|---|---|--|
| C0B | Unsaturated polyester | | | | | | | |
| | base resin/diluent [JSu] | solvent (styrene) | operator | 2 | 1 | 2 | vapour extraction ventilation - personal protective equipment (specifically lab coat barrier cream gloves) | |
| | peroxide initiator [JSu] | oxidising substance: burns | operator | 2 | 3 | 6 | dispense with single opening partial vacuum polymer pipettes. | personal protective equipment (specifically safety glasses lab coat barrier cream gloves) |
| | cobalt accelerators | CMR2 reprotoxic. possible carcinogenic class 1B. | operator | 1 | 1 | 1 | cobalt-free accelerator | |
| | cobalt sulphate | lung carcinogenic category 1B. reproductive toxicant category 1B. mutagenic category 2. | operator | 1 | 1 | 1 | cobalt-free accelerator | |
| 24 | Deinforcement films | | | | | | | |
| C1 | Reinforcement fibres | | operator/those | | | | | |
| | all fibres [JSu] | nuisance dust | adjacent | 1 | 1 | 1 | dust mask local extraction | |
| | all fibres | sharp cutting tool | operator/those adjacent | 1 | 2 | 2 | use chain mail glove(s) provided. | |
| | carbon fibres [JSu] | electrical conductor leading to short circuit | electrical equipment | 2 | 1 | 2 | avoid floating fibres filtered electrical power supplies | synthetic fibres are not anticipated to be respirable, but can irritate. |
| | | | | | | | | |
| C2A | Reinforcement fabrics | | | | | | | |
| | lifting reinforcement [JSu] | back injury | operator | 2 | 2 | 4 | use appropriate lifting strategies (hoists or request assistance from others) | |
| | cutting [JSu] | sharp tools | operator | 2 | 2 | 4 | chain mail gloves shielded roller cutter if practical | |
| 67 | Decin infusion | | | | | | | |
| C7 | Resin infusion See C0A, C0B, C1 and C2 | | | | | | | |
| | above and C10B below as appropriate | | | | | | | |
| | lifting mould tools [JSu] | back injury | operator | 2 | 2 | 4 | use appropriate lifting strategies (hoists or request assistance from others) | |
| | releasing panel from mould tool | see C10A | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| C8A | Vacuum bagging | | | | | | | |
| | See C0A, C0B, C1 and C2 above and C10B below as appropriate | | | | | | | |
| | lifting mould tools [JSu] | back injury | operator | 2 | 2 | 4 | use appropriate lifting strategies (hoists or request assistance from others) | |
| | releasing panel from mould tool | see C10A | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| C10A | Machining composites | | | | | | | |

| | demoulding composites [JSu] | sharp edges | operator | 2 | 2 | 4 | protective gloves trim at earliest opportunity | |
|------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| C10B | Machining all materials | | | | | | | |
| | sawing [BDL] | blade | operator | 2 | 2 | 4 | guard tools | training |
| | sawing [BDL] | loose particles | operator | 2 | 2 | 4 | guard eye protection | training |
| | sawing [BDL] | rotating machinery | operator | 2 | 2 | 4 | guard emergency stop | training |
| | sawing [BDL] | loose work-piece | operator/others | 2 | 1 | 2 | guard emergency stop | training |
| | sawing [BDL] | dust | operator/others | 2 | 1 | 2 | extraction dust mask | training COSHH |
| | sawing [BDL] | electricity | operator | 1 | 3 | 3 | regular maintenance PAT testing | |
| | diamond slitting saw | rotating blade | operator | 2 | 2 | 4 | guard face mask/eye protection | training, leather gloves, due caution. |
| | diamond slitting saw | dust | operator | 1 | 1 | 1 | cut wet to trap dust | training |
| | | | | | | | | |
| C4 | Health and safety | | | | | | | |
| | Hot polyurethane including foam: thermal decomposition products may include carbon dioxide, hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, hydrogen cyanide, isocyanates, isocyanic acid, amines and other potentially hazardous decomposition products [4, 5]. | | operator/those adjacent | 2 | 3 | 6 | avoid exposing materials to high temperatures. | Exposure to such chemicals may cause irritation of the eyes and respiratory tract with symptoms of running nose, watering eyes, coughing, headaches, dizziness, nausea and breathlessness. Isocyanates and amines can also cause allergic reactions (sensitisation) of the skin and lungs. Workers exposed to thermal degradation chemicals may experience immediate or delayed effects. Obtain medical attention if any symptoms occur. |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | Universal test machines ~ quasi-static tension ~ compression ~ flexure [Sam Thorpe] | | | | | | | |
| | Moving parts | Injuries to the user | Operator and others in close proximity | 1 | 2 | 2 | Training will be provided prior to action. Operation in controlled area. Restricted use with close supervision by staff. | Personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety guards are provided. Only one user can operate the test machine. |
| | Ejection of material | Damage to eyes | Operator and others in close proximity | 2 | 2 | 4 | Guidance will be provided to students and others on good practice. | Use of personal protective equipment (PPE) or safety guards where applicable. |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | Optical microscopes [Sam Thorpe] | | | | | | | |
| | Moving objectives | trapped fingers | Operator | 2 | 1 | 2 | Training will be provided prior to action. | |
| | Moving objectives | damaged sample or lens | None | 1 | 1 | 1 | Training will be provided prior to action. | |
| | Glass slides | cut fingers if glass broken | Operator | 2 | 1 | 2 | Guidance provided to students and others on good practice and information on broken glass disposal. | |

Reference List

LePage, W. (2022). *DIC fundamentals*. digitalimagecorrelation.org. [Online]. Available at: https://digitalimagecorrelation.org/#:~:text=Digital%20image%20correlation%20(DIC)%20is,c an%20be%20difficult%20to%20achieve. [Accessed 9 April 2022].

Summerscales, J. (2017). *Risk Assessments appropriate to the Composites Manufacturing laboratory (Brunel 007)*. University of Plymouth module MATS347. [Online]. Available at: https://ecm- academics.plymouth.ac.uk/jsummerscales/mats347/risk.htm [Accessed 5 November 2021].

Summerscales, J. and Cullen, R. (2021). *Composite plate manufacture by resin infusion*. University of Plymouth module MATS347 Appendix A. [Online]. Available at: https://dle.plymouth.ac.uk/pluginfile.php/1800770/mod_folder/content/0/Appendix_A_RIFT.doc?forcedownload=1 [Accessed 7 November 2021].