COMPOSITES CURRICULUM - Unit Information

This unit forms part of the Masters level Composites Curriculum developed by Bristol and Plymouth Universities.

Taught block title	Manufacturing Processes A
Unit title	Resin infusion processes
Level (Credit points)	H (2)
Unit director	Professor John Summerscales

Unit description

This unit forms part of the Masters level Composites Curriculum. It builds on the unit "Introduction to Composites" and "Composites Constituents" to provide Learners with a good understanding of the manufacture of fibre-reinforced composites by infusion processes.

Core subjects to be covered

- 1. The RTM- infusion- prepreg continuum.
- 2. Vacuum integrity of mould tools.
- 3. Process and consumable materials.
- 4. Reusable "consumables".
- 5. RIFT1: in-plane flow parallel to the layers of reinforcement.
- 6. RIFT2: through-plane flow from a flow medium or scored core (SCRIMP/VARTM).
- 7. RIFT3: resin film infusion (RFI).
- 8. RIFT4: partially pre-impregnated materials.
- 9. Double diaphragm infusion techniques.
- 10.In-mould gel-coating.
- 11.Infusion of large structures.
- 12. Process monitoring and control.
- 13. Simulation software (LIMS/PAM-RTM/Polyworx)

Statement of unit aims

The aims of this unit are to:

- 1. Give Learners an understanding of the continuum of processes from RTM through infusion to prepregging.
- 2. Provide Learners with an overview of the specific variations of infusion processes.
- 3. Give Learners the tools to optimise infusion manufacturing processes.

Statement of learning outcomes

Learners will be able to:

- 1. Provide a clear overview of the range of infusion manufacturing processes
- 2. Establish an appropriate manufacturing system for infusion of different composites aligned to the specific requirements of the consumer.
- 3. Understand the issues constraining the use of infusion to meet specific performance parameters.

Methods of teaching	7 lectures, 2 lab classes and demonstrations, 1 class exercise
Assessment details if required	Written assignment (85%), 20 minute assessed presentation (15%)
Timetable information	2 days of teaching in a block