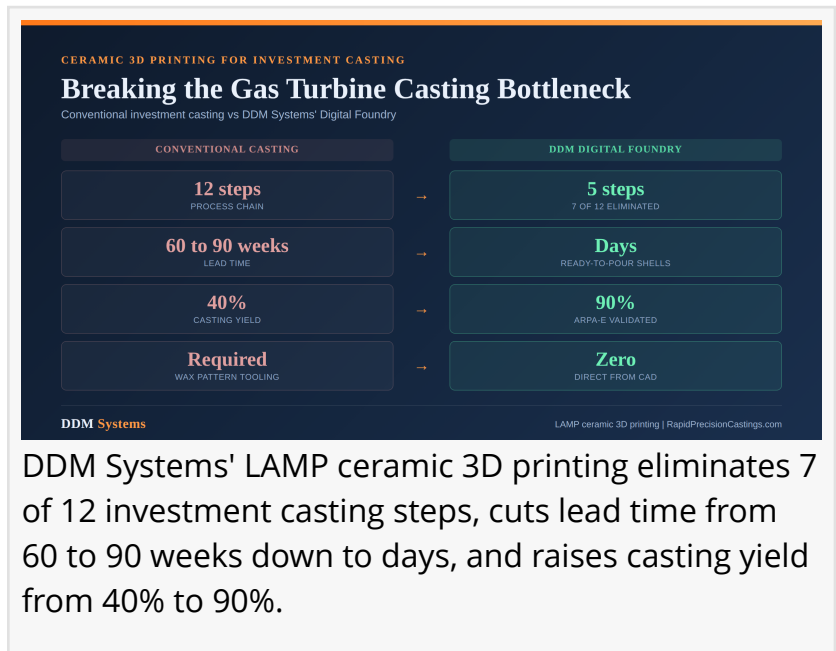


Rapid Precision Castings Urges Earlier Legacy-Part Planning After Civil and Defense Engine Sustainment Announcements

Tooling-free investment casting gives aerospace sustainment teams another sourcing path when legacy suppliers or wax-pattern tooling are unavailable

ATLANTA, GA, UNITED STATES, September 4, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- DDM Systems | Rapid Precision Castings is encouraging aerospace OEMs, MROs, defense programs and fleet-support organizations to evaluate at-risk cast components before depleted inventory, unavailable tooling or supplier loss turns a manageable sourcing problem into an aircraft-on-ground requirement.



DDM Systems' LAMP ceramic 3D printing eliminates 7 of 12 investment casting steps, cuts lead time from 60 to 90 weeks down to days, and raises casting yield from 40% to 90%.

The recommendation follows two significant aerospace-engine sustainment announcements.

Safran reported that its civil-engine spare-parts sales increased 27.9% in USD during the first half of 2026. The company attributed the result largely to the CFM56's favorable workscope mix and comparison base. Increased LEAP shop visits performed by third-party MROs and expanding workscope also contributed.

RTX separately announced that Pratt & Whitney received a nearly \$1.3 billion undefinitized Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity contract covering fiscal-year 2026 F135 initial spare parts, deployable spare packages, depot lay-ins and associated support equipment.

These announcements do not involve DDM Systems. They are cited as industry context illustrating the continuing importance of spare-parts availability across both civil and military aviation.

Legacy casting risk often begins before the part is urgently needed

Aerospace sustainment teams can encounter sourcing problems when:

- Original wax-pattern tooling has been lost, damaged or retired
- The original casting supplier has exited or no longer supports the part
- Required quantities are too small to justify recreating conventional hard tooling
- Existing tooling introduces excessive cost or delay
- Controlled CAD, drawings or process records are incomplete
- A replacement source must undergo inspection, qualification or approval

DDM Systems evaluates whether suitable components can be produced using LAMP™, its patented ceramic additive-manufacturing process. LAMP™ creates ready-to-pour investment-casting molds with integrated cores directly from controlled digital geometry, removing the wax-pattern tooling stage.

For projects requiring cast metal parts rather than ceramic molds alone, DDM's DirectPour™ workflow coordinates the path from customer CAD and alloy requirements through casting, inspection and finished-part delivery.

"The best time to evaluate a legacy casting is before the last serviceable part is installed," said Dr. Suman Das, Founder and CEO of DDM Systems. "If the original tooling or supplier is no longer available, directly printed ceramic molds may remove a major sourcing obstacle. The technical definition, alloy, inspection plan, traceability requirements and approval path still need to be addressed, but the program does not necessarily need to recreate the entire conventional tooling process."

Technical readiness determines the available recovery path

An initial legacy-part review considers:

- Part number, nomenclature and controlling revision
- Released CAD files and engineering drawings
- Alloy, heat-treatment and casting specifications
- Required quantities and delivery schedule
- Critical dimensions and acceptance criteria
- Nondestructive examination and material-certification requirements
- Existing inventory, tooling and supplier status
- Design-authority and source-approval responsibilities

Depending on those inputs, DDM Systems can evaluate the requirement for a directly printed LAMP™ ceramic mold, a DirectPour™ finished-casting scope or additional technical-data development before casting feasibility can be established.

Direct ceramic-mold printing changes how the mold is produced. It does not approve a component for installation, establish missing design requirements or replace applicable engineering and airworthiness controls. Design authority, source approval, first-article inspection, material qualification, traceability and release-to-service obligations remain with the responsible organizations.

Submit an at-risk casting before it becomes an AOG requirement

Aerospace OEMs, Tier suppliers, MROs, government program offices and fleet-support organizations can submit an individual component or a group of at-risk part numbers for review.

[Aircraft Sustainment Casting Support:](https://rapidprecisioncastings.com/aircraft-sustainment-casting-support/)

<https://rapidprecisioncastings.com/aircraft-sustainment-casting-support/>

[Urgent AOG Casting Support:](https://rapidprecisioncastings.com/aog-casting-support-legacy-aircraft-parts/)

<https://rapidprecisioncastings.com/aog-casting-support-legacy-aircraft-parts/>

[Request a Casting Quote:](https://rapidprecisioncastings.com/request-a-quote/)

<https://rapidprecisioncastings.com/request-a-quote/>

About DDM Systems | Rapid Precision Castings

DDM Systems | Rapid Precision Castings is an Atlanta-based digital foundry supporting aerospace, defense, energy and industrial manufacturing. Its patented LAMP™ technology produces ready-to-pour investment-casting ceramic molds with integrated cores directly from digital geometry. Its DirectPour™ workflow supports projects from customer CAD and alloy requirements through finished castings. DDM Systems also provides SLE™ additive repair and dimensional-restoration services for high-temperature superalloy components.

Industry Sources

Safran First-Half 2026 Results:

<https://www.safran-group.com/pressroom/safran-reports-its-first-half-2026-results-2026-07-28>

RTX F135 Sustainment Contract Announcement:

<https://www.rtx.com/news/news-center/2026/07/31/rtxs-pratt-whitney-awarded-1-3-billion-f135-sustainment-contract>

Disclosure: Safran, CFM56, LEAP, RTX, Pratt & Whitney, F135 and F-35 are referenced solely as aerospace-industry context. DDM Systems does not claim participation in, endorsement by or affiliation with the cited companies, contracts or programs.

Suman Das

DDM Systems | Rapid Precision Castings

+1 470-225-6987

[email us here](#)

Visit us on social media:

[LinkedIn](#)

[Facebook](#)

[YouTube](#)

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/939760673>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2026 Newsmatics Inc. All Right Reserved.