



Why implementing AI in QC controls?

Project 03237
a.k.a. AQCAI

About our Group

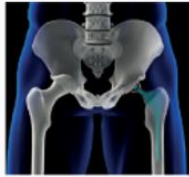
Lincotek

Lincotek
Surface Solutions



- Commercial and helicopter aircrafts parts processing.
- Hot gas and compressor section coatings.
- Small to large Gas Turbine (4 to 567MW).
- Hot gas section coatings (Airfoils, HS, Combustion parts).

Lincotek
Medical

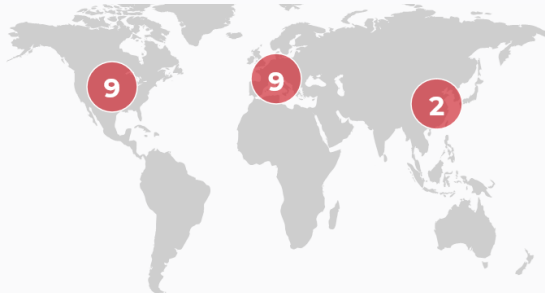


- Product development
- Machining
- Forging
- Casting
- AM
- Vacuum and air plasma spray coating of implants.
- Finishing and final packaging of products.

Lincotek
Equipment



- Custom design & mfg with high degree of automation.
- Superior quality and productivity targets.



- Contract Manufacturer with specific focus on Integrated Supply Chain
- Segments: Medical, Aerospace and IGT.
- 50+ years in thermal spray coatings
- 20 manufacturing sites globally
- 1.700+ employees
- Double digit % sales growth last 10 years
- > 15% Revenue invested in CAPEX
- 60+ thermal spray systems
- 38 additive printing units in production
- 125 precision machining centers
- Forging, Casting, Anodizing
- 7 R&D Centers globally
- Privately owned



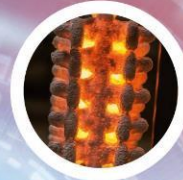
Leading end-to-end service offering



PRODUCT
DEVELOPMENT



ADDITIVE
MANUFACTURING



CASTING



FORGING



COATING
SOLUTIONS



MACHINING



FINISHING
AND POLISHING



ELECTROCHEMICAL
TREATMENTS



CLEANING AND
PACKAGING



HA SPRAY
POWDER



Comprehensive Development & Manufacturing Expertise

Lincotek
Medical

Spine Solutions



Reconstruction



Sport Medicine & Trauma



Extremities



Medical global footprint



Surface treatments - Danco Medical:
Warsaw, Indiana U.S.A
Changzhou, China.

R&D / Product Development:

Logan, UT – U.S.A.
Bologna, Italy
Trento, Italy

Additive Manufacturing:

Trento, Italy
Memphis, TN –U.S.A.

Casting:

Portland, OR – U.S.A.

Forging:

Torino, Italy

Precision Machining:

Bologna, Italy
Logan, UT – U.S.A.
Dayton, OH – U.S.A.
Portland, OR – U.S.A. (Femoral
Grinding/Finishing)

Coating:

Trento, Italy
Salerno, Italy
Wuxi, China
Memphis, TN – U.S.A.



Facts & Figures

- Contract Manufacturer with focus on medical devices and medical instruments
- 900+ employees worldwide | Danco Medical included
- Over 700 customers served worldwide: Europe, US, Asia
- Approximately 27M devices processed annually
- 18% CAGR 2010-2019 from organic growth
- ISO 13485, FDA, NMPA and JMHLW registered sites
- Around 400,000 square feet of capacity globally
- Global leader in thermal spray coatings services
- Global Precision Machining, Forging & Casting with > 125 precision machining centers
- Additive Manufacturing Pioneer with 25+ production units installed globally
- 800K + implantable devices produced with additive manufacturing, 100K+ per year
- 30+ Master Files registered with FDA
- Dedicated teams to drive R&D and Innovation

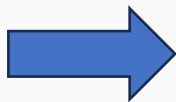


Plasma spray coatings and Quality Controls

Quality controls divided in:

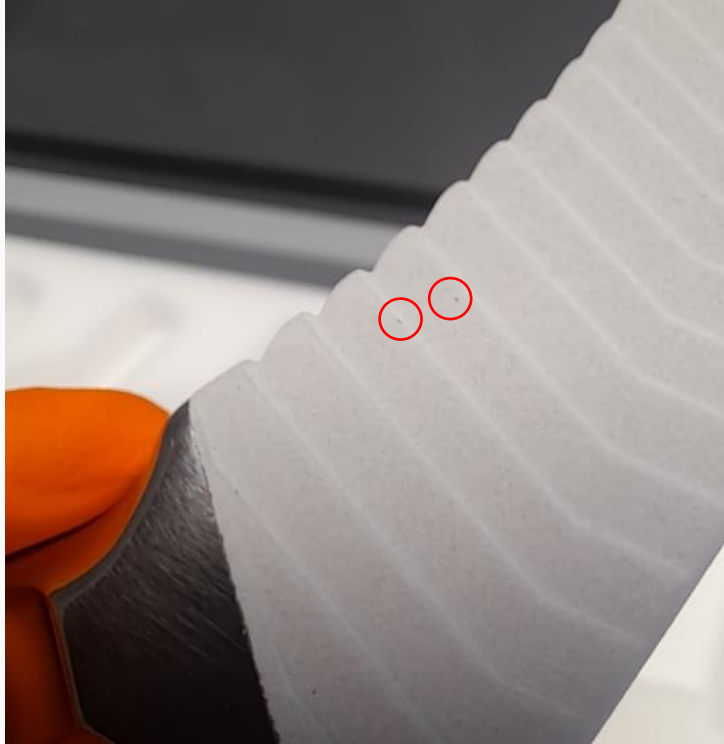
- Coating Properties
 - Destructive test, process controls on dummies
 - Mechanical Properties
 - Chemical Properties
 - Morphology
- Coating Dimensions
 - Non destructive tests
 - Measurement on devices or dummy

- Visual Inspection 100%
 - Batch number
 - Coated area visual inspection
 - Uncoated area visual inspection



Coated area	Uncoated area
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black spot• White spot• Missing coating• Stain• Chipping• Coating clusters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scratch• Dent• Stain• Over spraying• Coating position out of spec

Examples of defect



Human Visual Quality Controls

- Defects could be very small
- Subjective
- Dependent to light conditions
- Fatigue could lead to loss of efficacy
- Hard to cope with different acceptance criteria
 - Each customer has its own acceptance criteria
 - Each product family (belonging to the same customer) can have different acceptance criteria (defect catalogue)
 - 80 active customer, 1600 active product families
- Time consuming



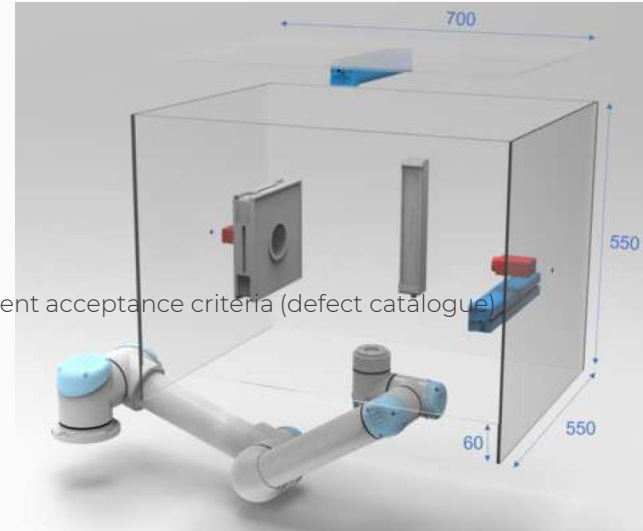
Automated Visual Quality Controls

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SOLVED

Why AI and not just Computer Vision?

- Optimal for classification
- Performs better (than others) with non standard geometries
- Capable of generalization

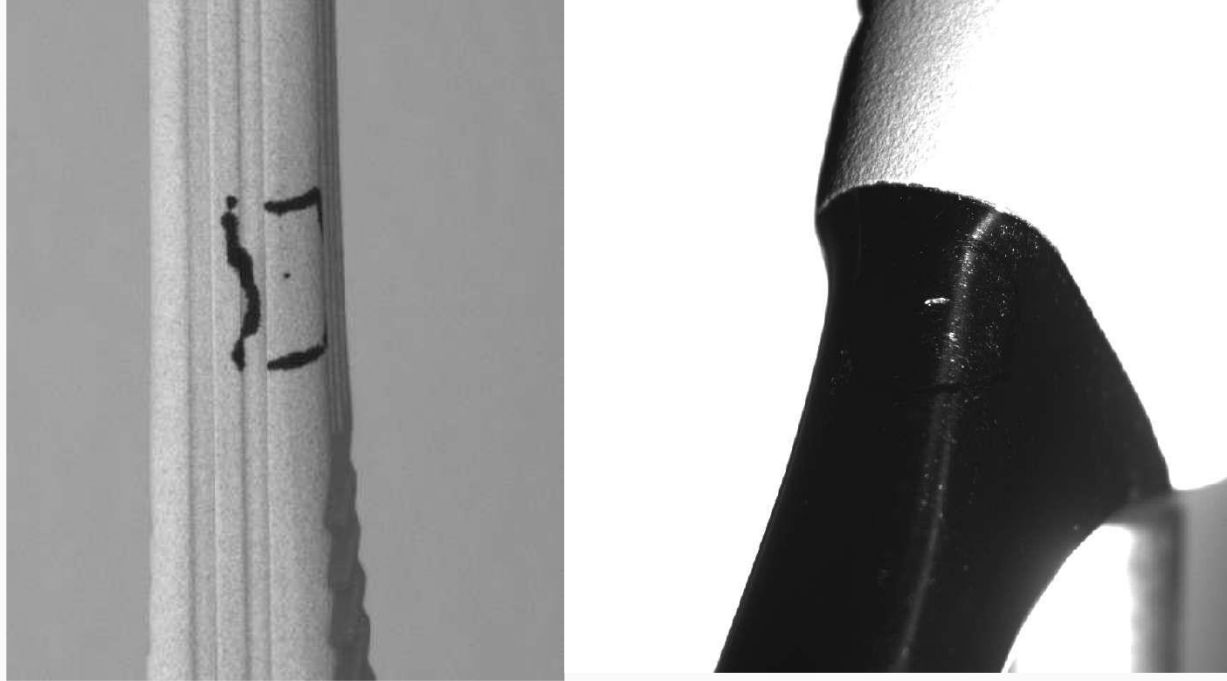


HW and SW

- HW setup
 - 2 high resolution cameras
 - Different light for coated and uncoated surfaces
 - Cobot for part movements
 - Controller
 - Industrial PC
- SW setup
 - Object detection AI model based on YOLO CNN
 - Supplier proprietary web-platform
 - Integration with Cobot
 - Integration with SAP



Need to capture the defect first



Parts are moved in front of the camera, continuous acquisition, several images for the same defects



AI Model evaluated

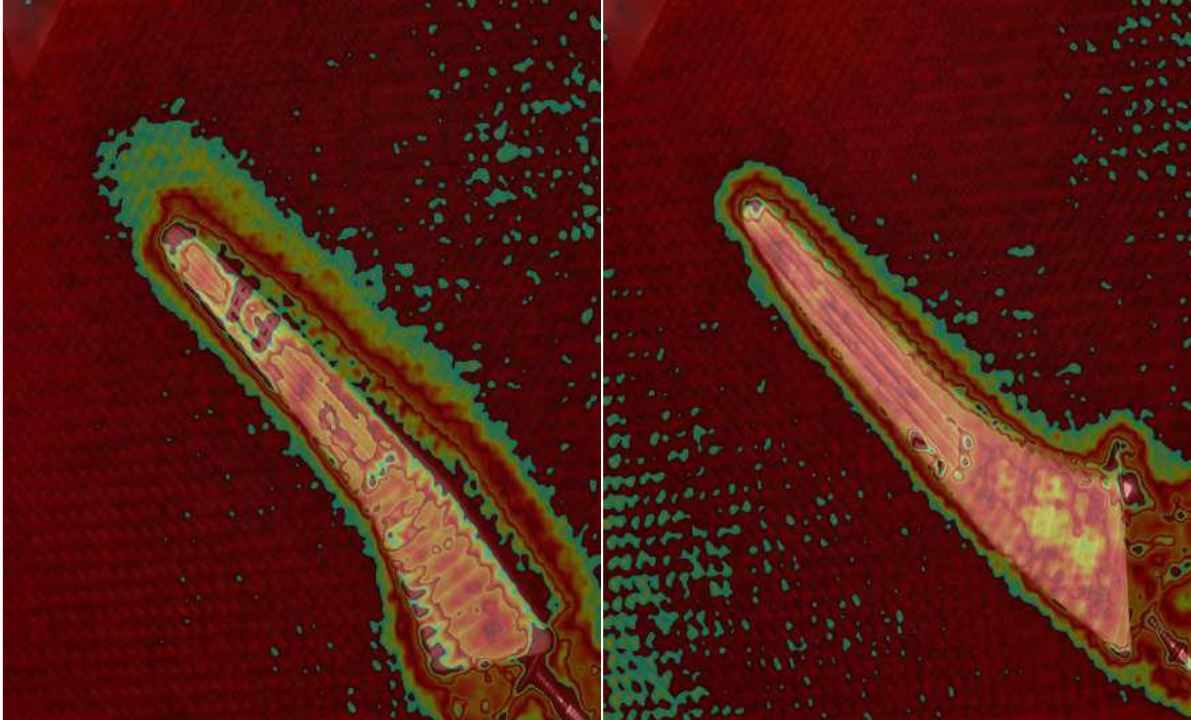
- Anomaly detection: these AI models are trained only on «good» images, without defects, learning to identify anomaly as a difference in comparison to the reference
- Image classification: these AI models learn to classify an image with a single class label different anomalies;
- Object detection: the widely used strategy due to its capability of identify and locate different object categories in an image

Each model brings pros and cons.

- Anomaly detection requires less images but is not working well with complicated geometries and images
- Image classification and Object detection requires way more data to teach the AI but allow precise measurements and evaluation of the defects



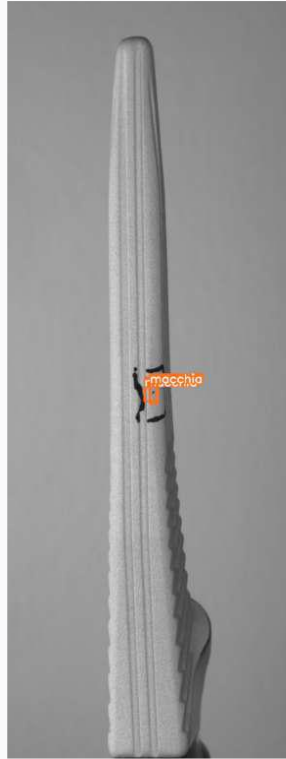
Anomaly detection



Both item features and defect were identified as anomalies



Object detection



Object detection

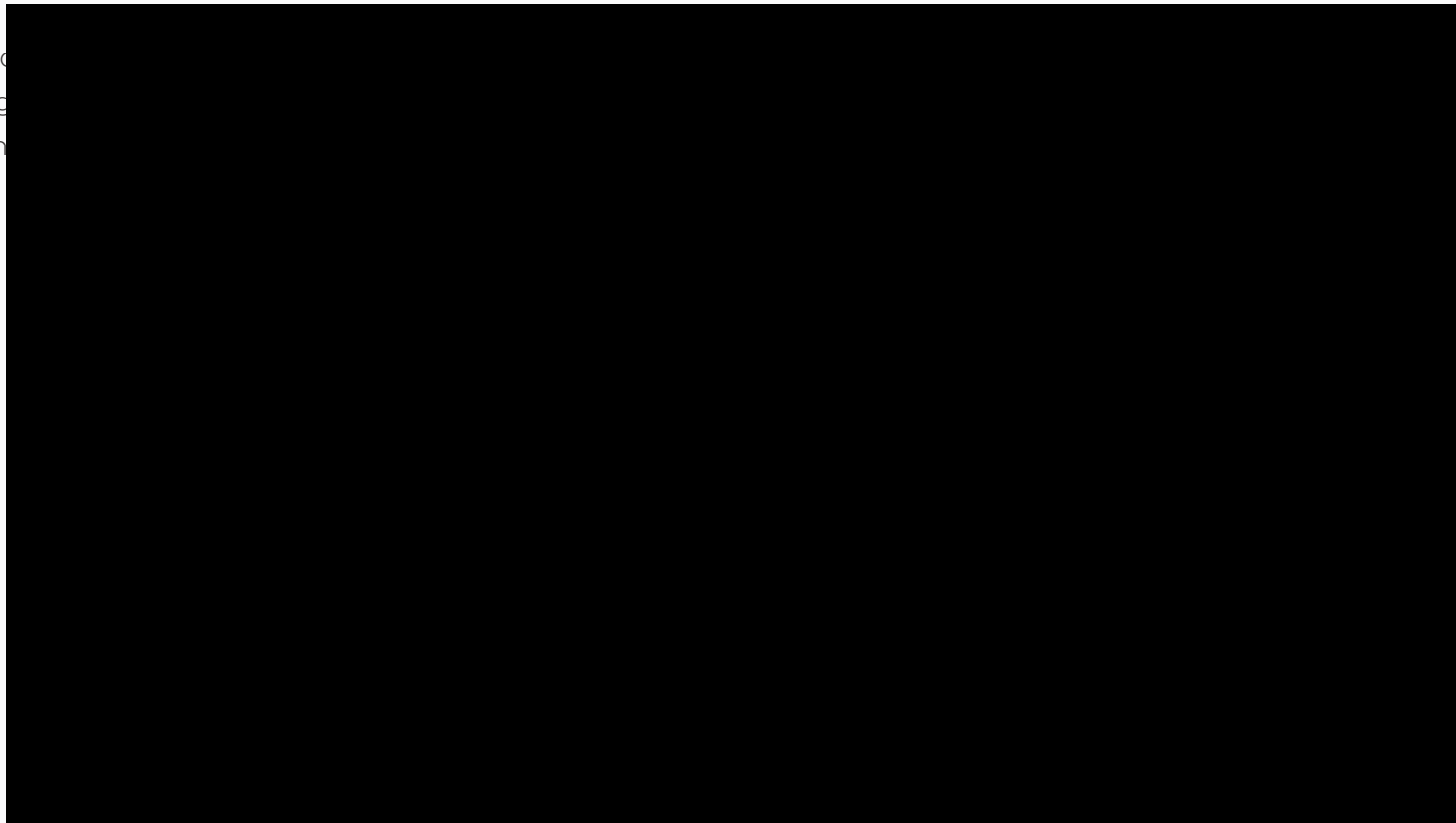


Instance segmentation



Project Status

- Protocol
- Imaging
- Training



Is all that glitters gold? (.....is this a Stairway to heaven?)

1. Is AI infallible in QC?
2. Is AI better than humans in QC?
3. Can AI replace humans in QC?



Is all that glitters gold? (.....is this a Stairway to heaven?)

1. Is AI infallible in QC?
2. Is AI better than humans in QC?

	Coated area							Uncoated area
Precision	80%	90%	95%	96%	97%	98%	99%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black spot• White spot• Missing coating• Stain• Chipping• Coating clusters
Instances per defect class	400	1200	3000	4000	5000	8000	15000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scratch• Dent• Stain• Over spraying• Coating position out of spec
Instances per defect class with data augmentation	280	840	2100	2800	3500	5600	10500	

1. No, 100% is mathematically not achievable
2. AI can be more reliable than humans in a longer period (humans escape rate 0,06%), but requires a considerable effort to get there. Generalization capability still to be evaluated

Is all that glitters gold? (.....is this a Stairway to heaven?)

3. Can AI replace humans in QC?

Not today:

- AI can be huge support to Human control with repeatable and objective measurements
- VALIDATIONS issues

But tomorrow....





Thank you