

Supply Chain Risks for Additive Manufacturing

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Abstract

The looming sea change for production is Additive Manufacturing (AM). The first industrial revolution moved us from artisan to repetitive production. The next industrial revolution, propelled by AM, moves us from repetitive production to systemized mass artisan production. Today's concerns for AM largely center on it's economics and science.

Yet, solving these concerns is insufficient for enabling the success of the AM led next industrial revolution. Manufacturing processes for the 21st century must be more secure, more stable, and more trustworthy. 20th century legacy mass production has been found to be increasing untrustworthy. This is evidenced by counterfeiting, suspect materials, intentional subversion, and even sabotage. Strategies and leadership is required to develop a trusted supply chain. How will AM meet these challenges?