

Introduction to injection molding

Injection molding machine

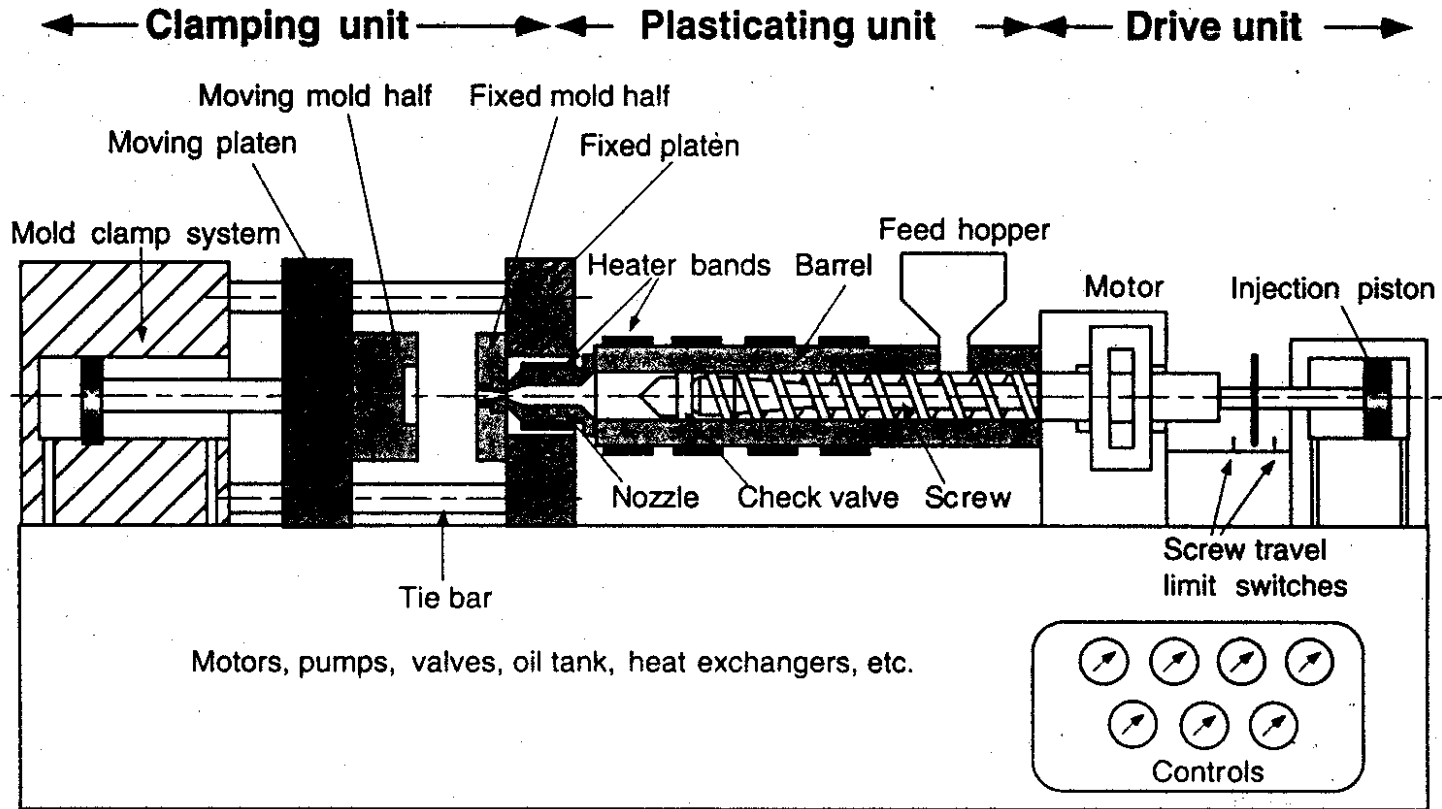


Figure 1.1 Schematic of a typical injection-molding machine

Injection molding cycle

- Injection of the melt into the mold
- Holding pressure and plasticating
 - Additional melt is injected to compensate for contraction due to cooling
 - As the melt cools and solidifies, the pressure should be high enough to avoid sinkmark
- Ejection

Injection molding cycle

t=0

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Screw pushed forward | Hold time | Screw recovery | Soak time |
| Mold filling | Part cooling | | Part ejected |
| Mold closed | | | Mold open |

Characteristics

- Expensive molds – for large production runs
- Low assembly cost
- High pressure – limits the size of the product
- Long products require multiple gates
- Part thickness less than 5mm – limits the cooling time
- Part thickness larger than 0.5mm – premature solidification
- Cycle time is money

Clamping

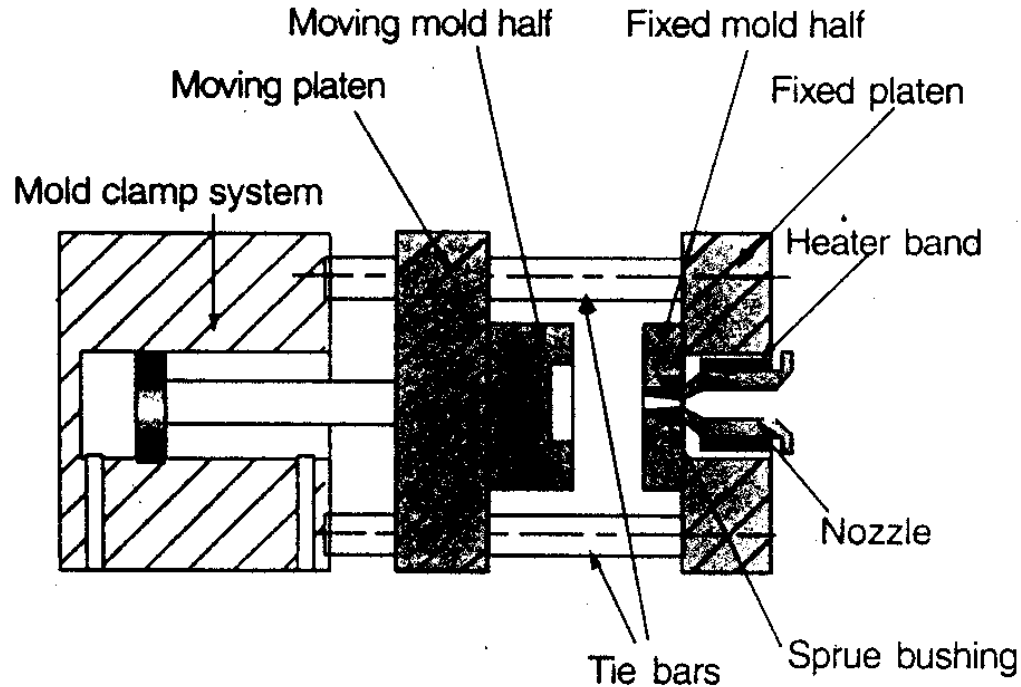
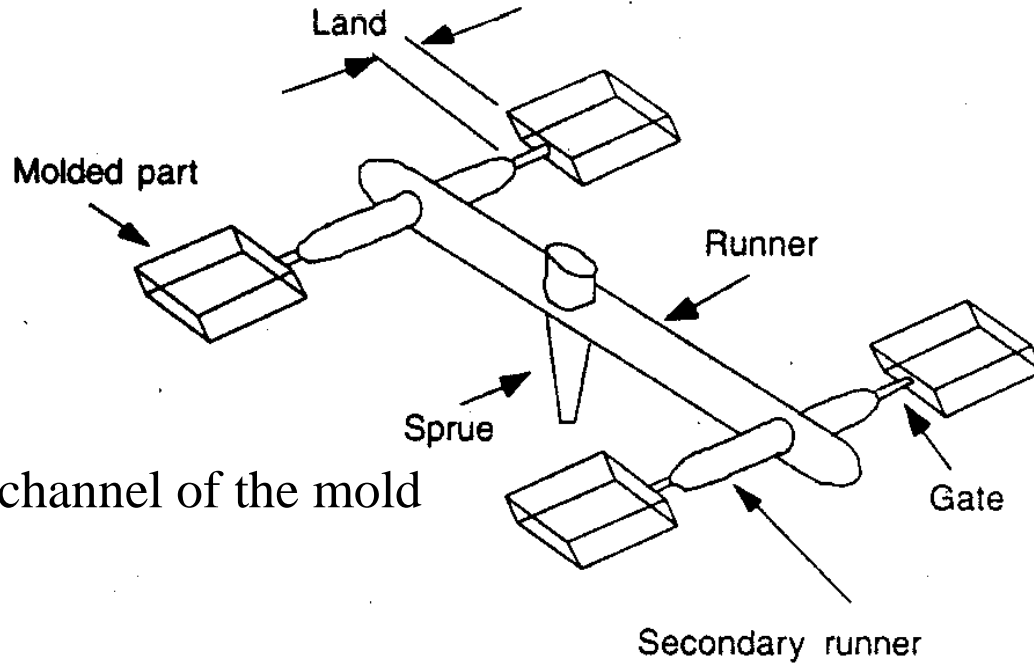


Figure 1.16 The main components of the clamping system

Clamping force pushes the mold halves together, while the pressure of the melt inside the mold pushes the mold halves apart.

Mold



Sprue: entry channel of the mold

Figure 1.19 A runner system for a four-cavity mold

Mold

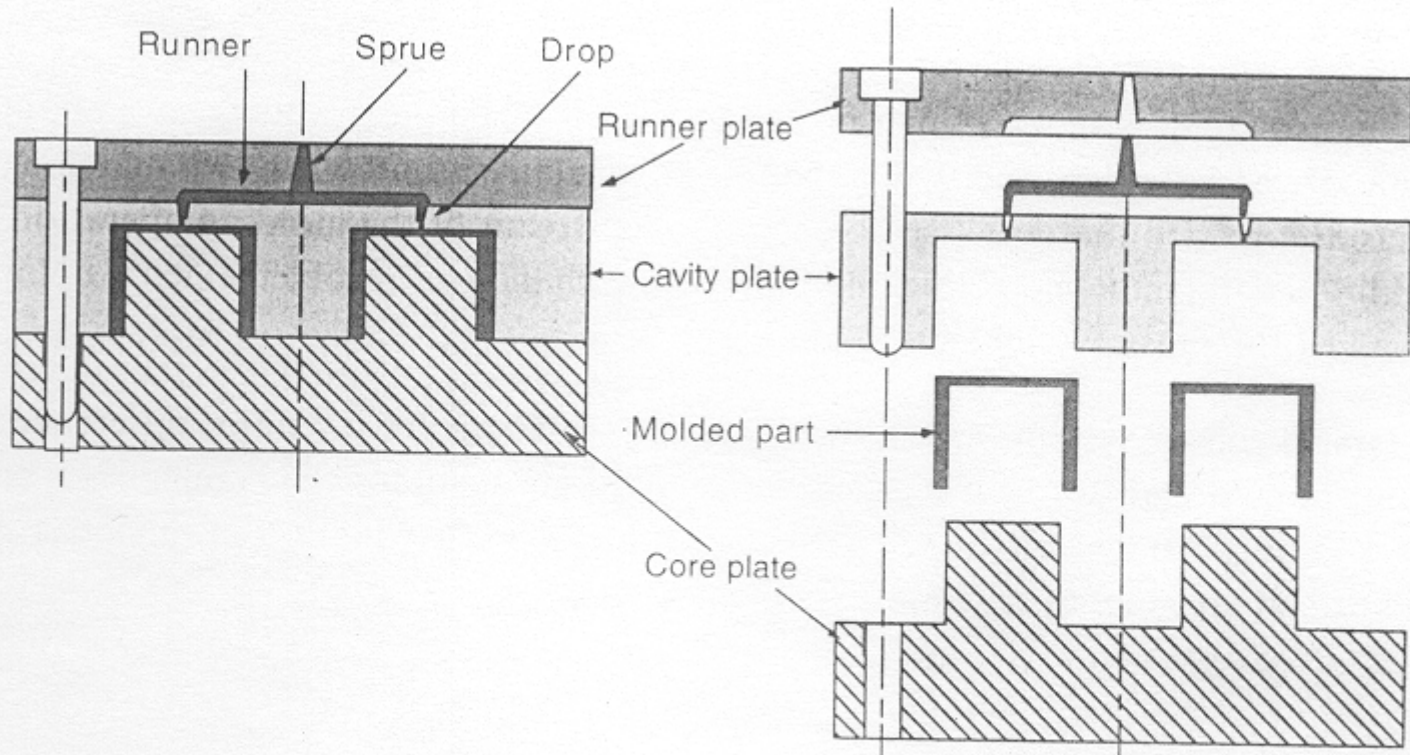
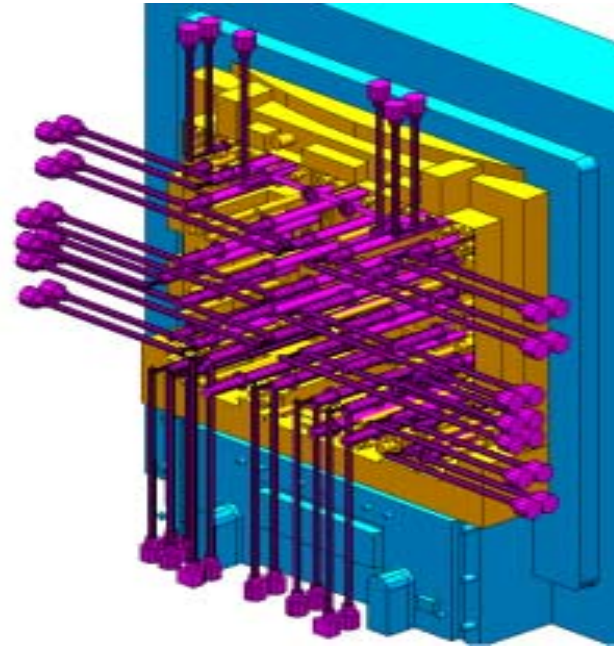
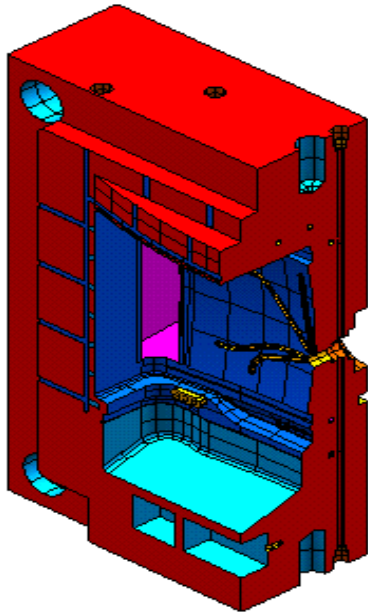


Figure 1.21 Example of a three-plate mold

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Runner

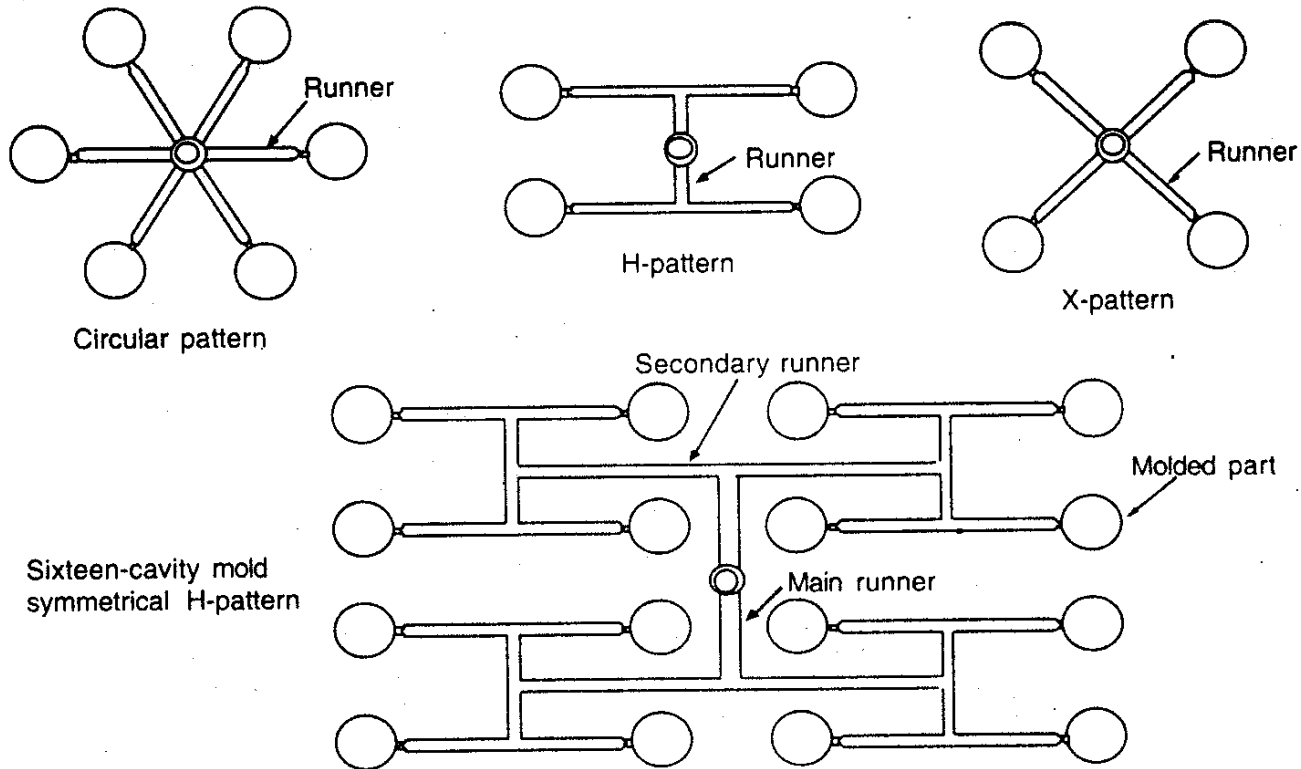


Figure 1.22 Several layouts of runner systems

The objective is to have the plastic reach all gates at the same time.

Flow into the mold

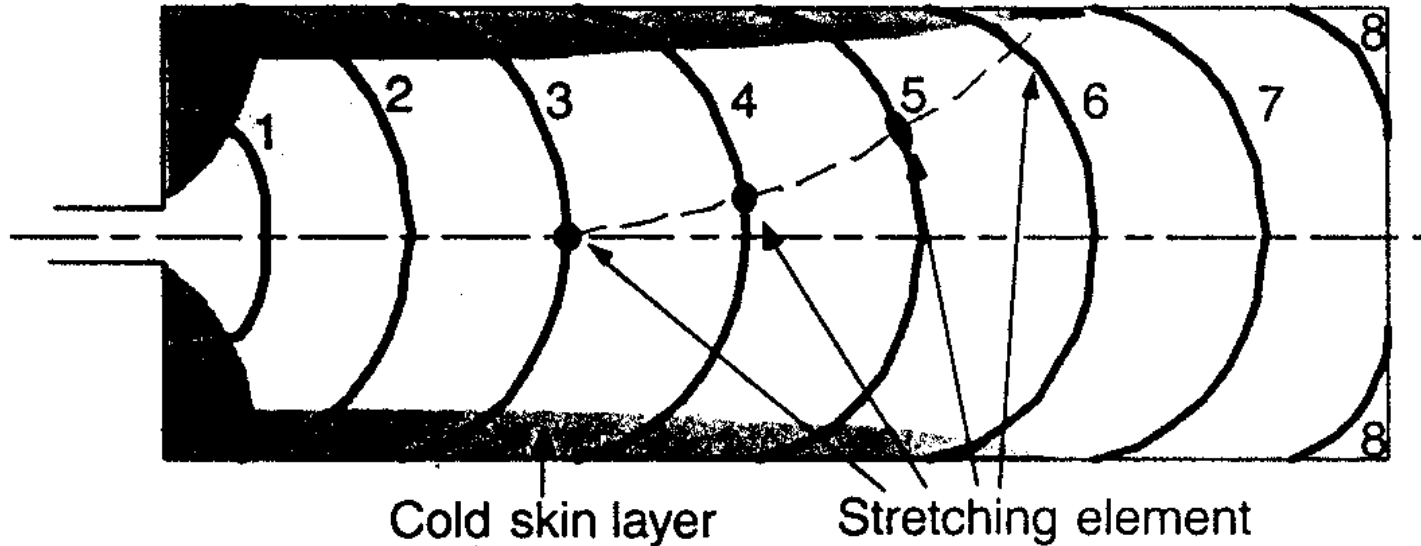


Figure 1.28 Illustration of fountain flow into a mold cavity

high degree of orientation of the surface layers
significant gradient in orientation and morphology

Weldline

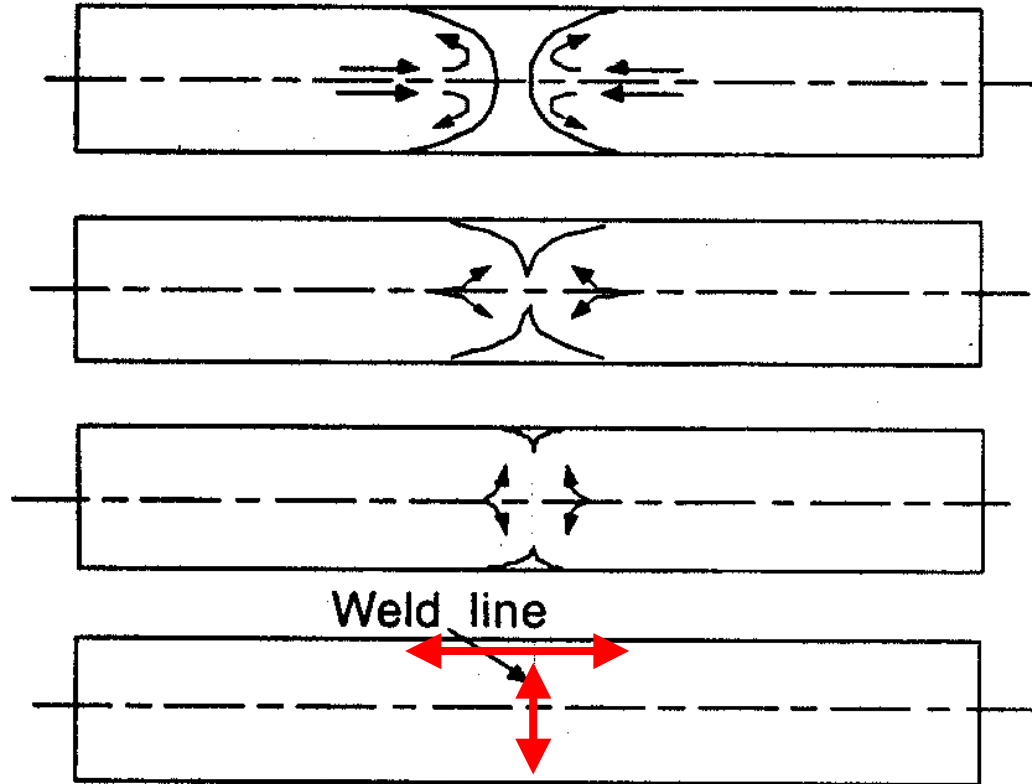


Figure 1.31 Formation of a weld line

Important process parameters

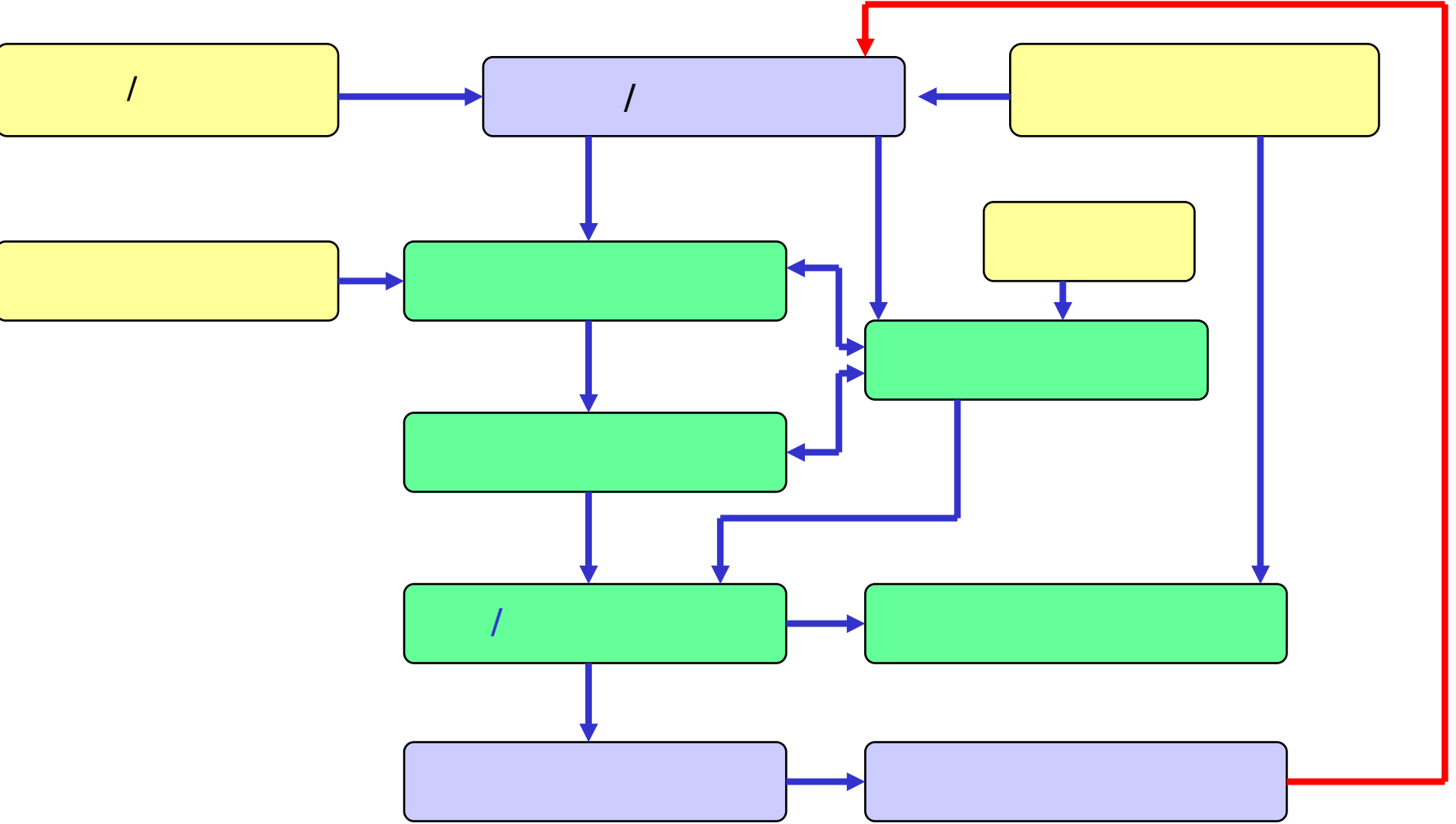
- Product parameters
 - Product dimension, weight, appearance
- Main process parameters
 - Cavity pressure, injection pressure, fill time
- Additional process parameters
 - Melt temperature, mold temperature, hold pressure, cooling time, total cycle time, barrel temperature, screw speed, power consumption (screw, barrel heater)

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(Concurrent engineering)

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CAE S/W

MOLDFLOW

- MF/VIEW : Pre/post processing
- MF/FLOW : Mold filling analysis
- MF/PACK : Packing analysis
- MF/COOL : Cooling analysis
- MF/GAS : Gas-assisted injection molding, PFP
- MF/FIBER : Fiber orientation analysis
- MF/WARP : Shrinkage/Warping analysis
- MF/STRESS : Structural/stress analysis

C-MOLD C-SET: Reactive molding

ANSYS : Structural analysis

CAD S/W : AUTO-CAD, Pro-engineer

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No flow

W/m/deg C
J/kg/deg C
kg/cu.m
deg C
deg C

| Temperature | Shear rate | Viscosity |
|-------------|------------|-----------|
| deg.C | 1/s | Pa.s |
| - | - | - |
| - | - | - |

PVT data

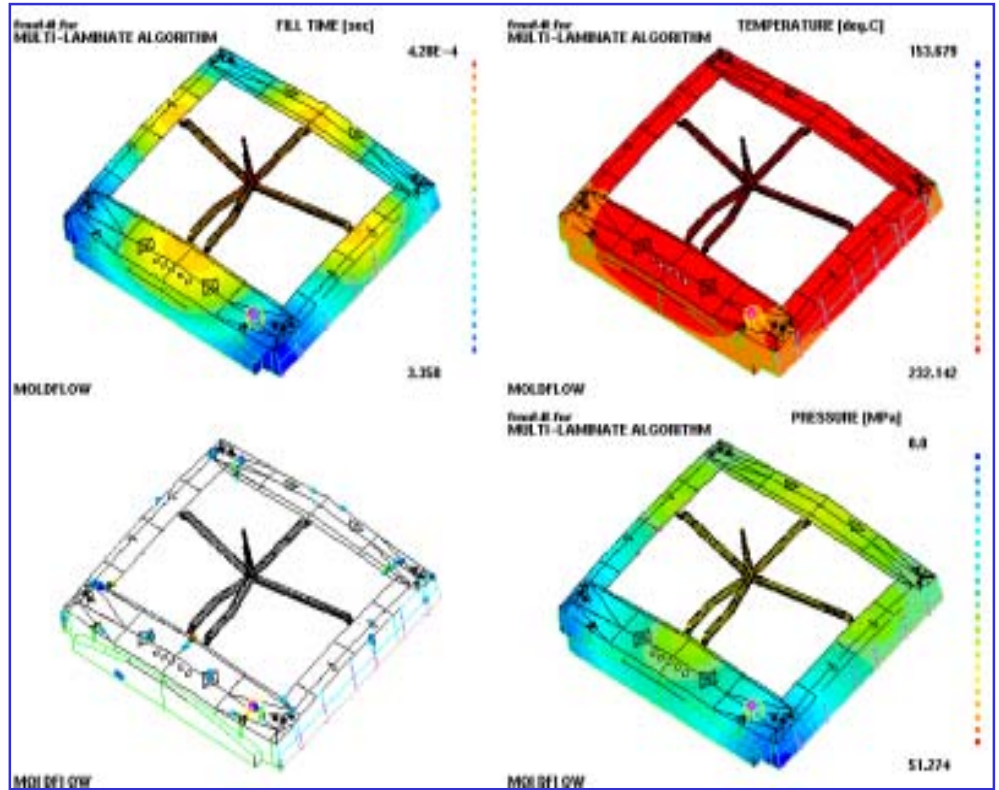
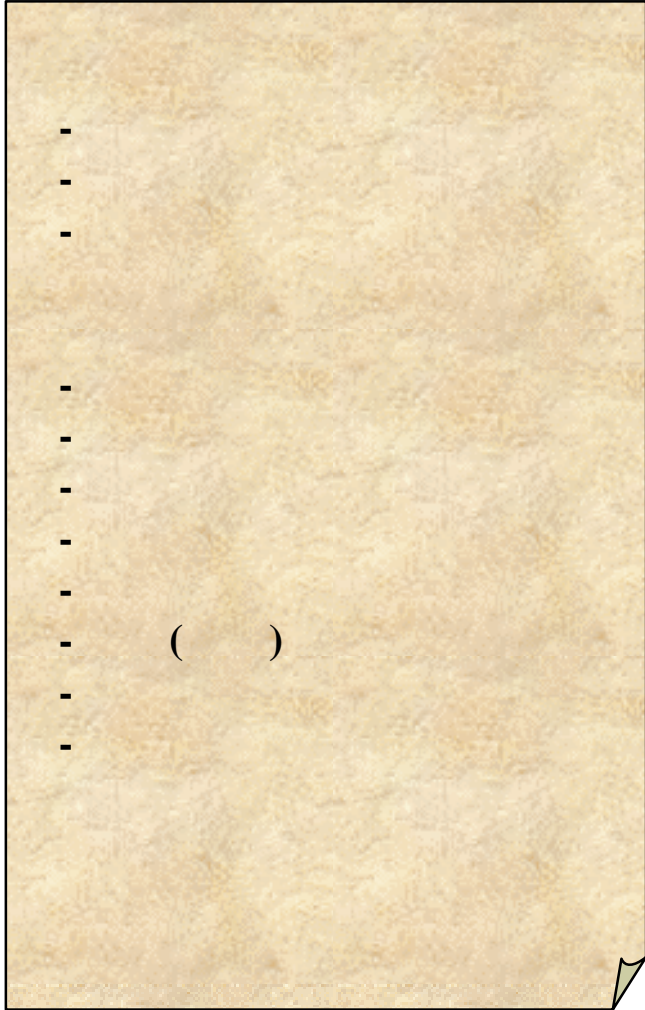
| Temperature | Pressure | Specific volume |
|-------------|----------|-----------------|
| deg C | MPa | cu.cm/g |
| - | - | - |
| - | - | - |

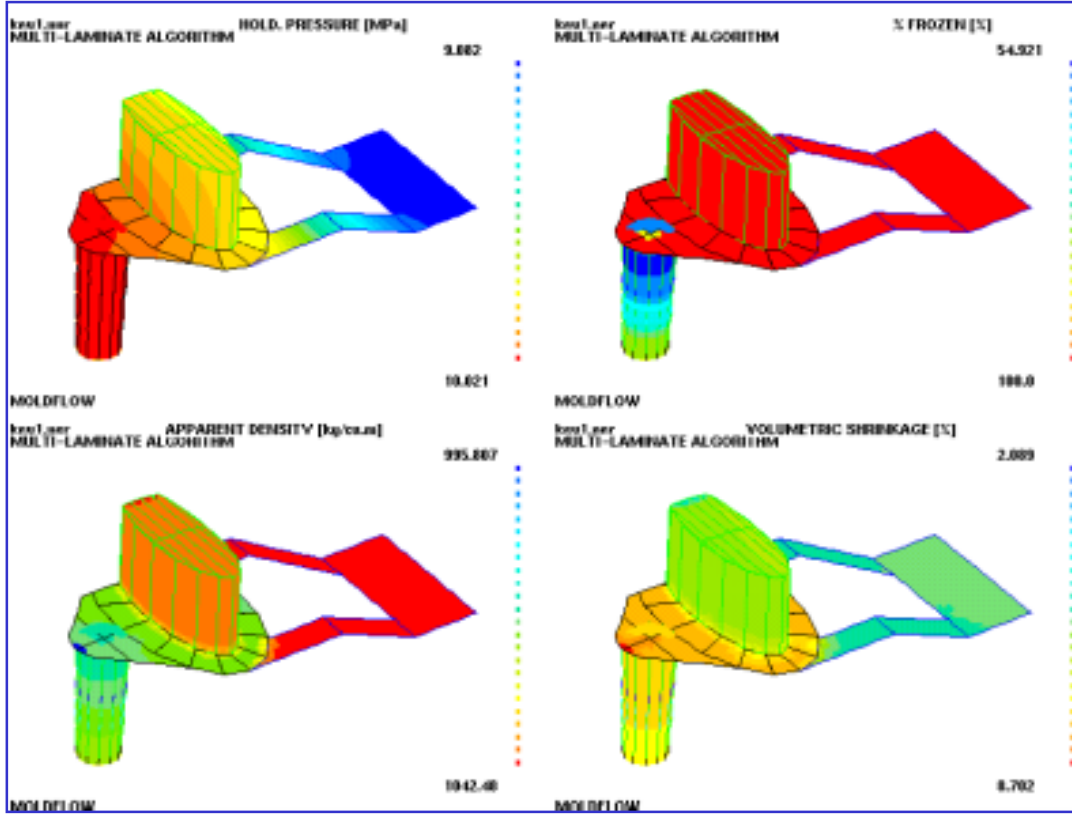
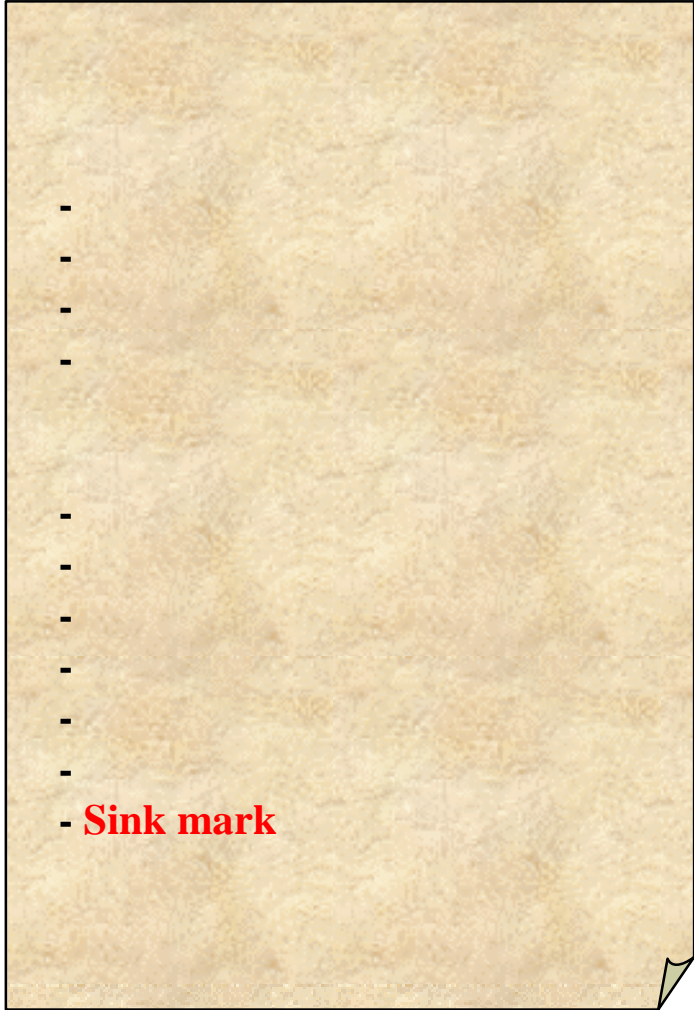
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|-------------------------------|---------|
| Tensile modulus parallel | MPa |
| Tensile modulus perpendicular | MPa |
| Poisson ratio | |
| Solid density | kg/cu.m |

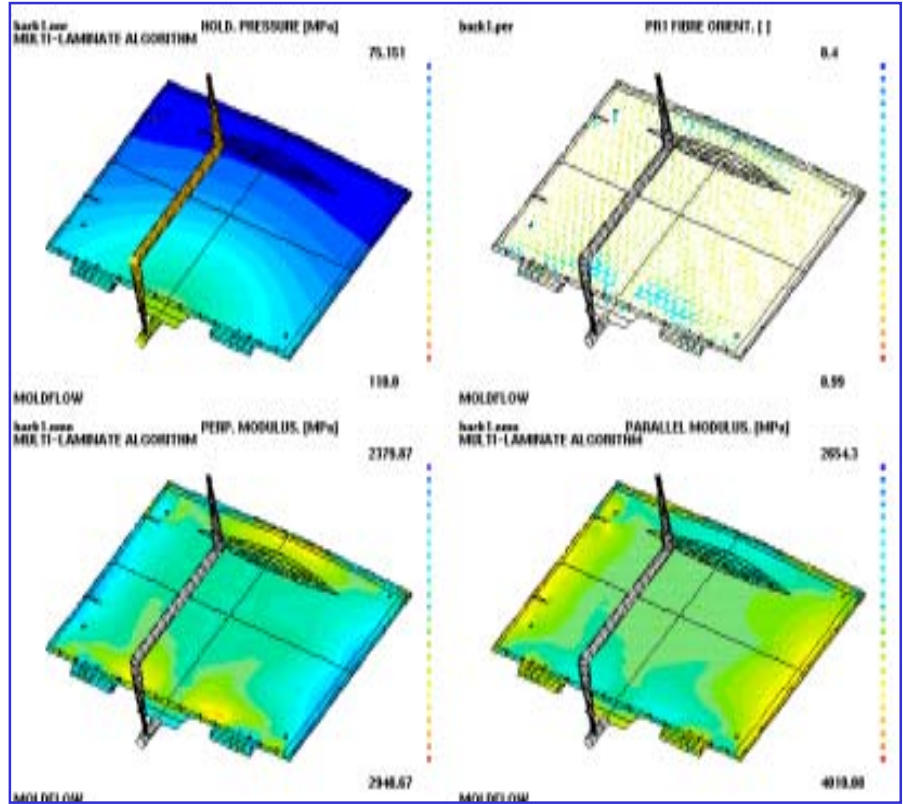
data

Parallel shrinkage coefficients
Perpendicular shrinkage coefficients

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Tensile modulus parallel filler | MPa |
| Tensile modulus perpendicular filler | MPa |
| Poisson ratio filler | |
| Shear modulus, Fiber length | |
| Fiber diameter, Fiber volume fraction | |





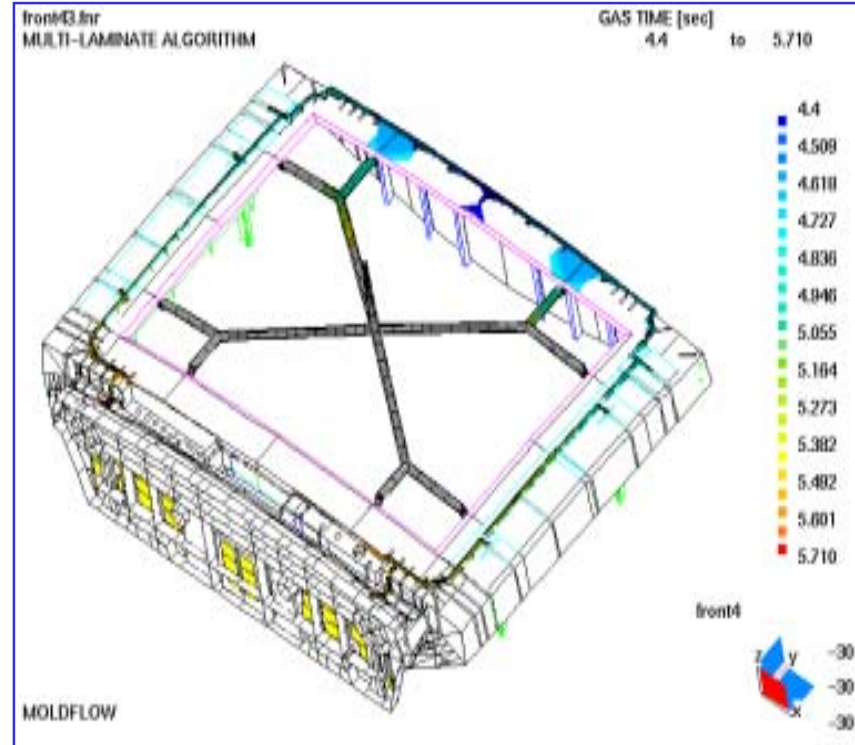


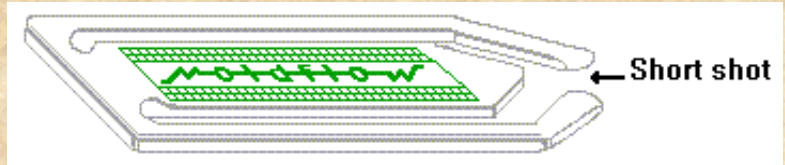


- Constant volume filling/packing
- Constant pressure filling/packing

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- Sink mark
- 가 leakage , blow-through
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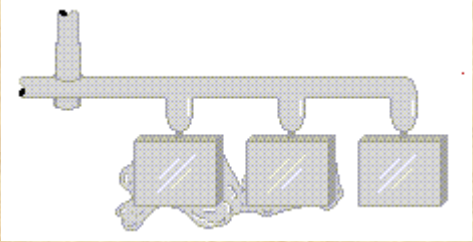
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back pressure

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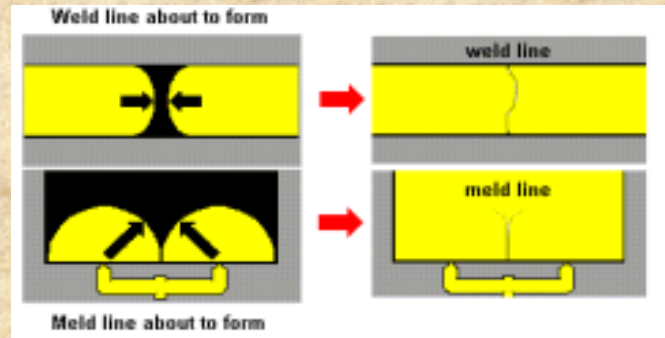
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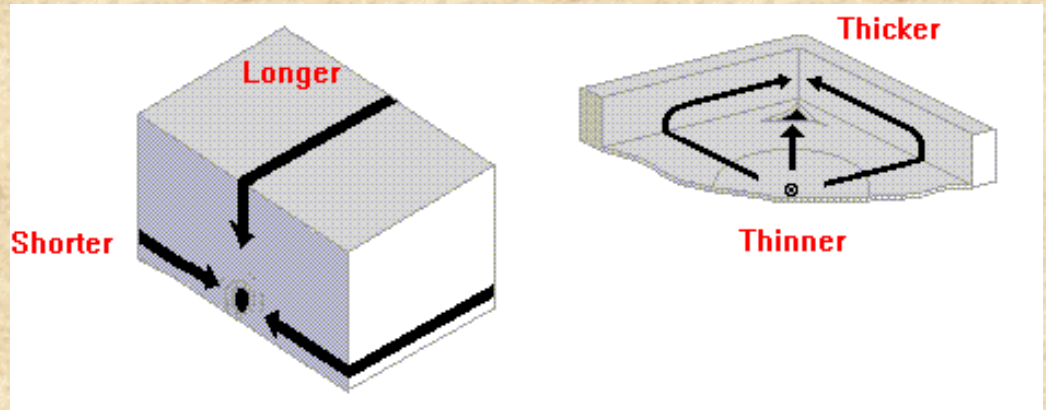




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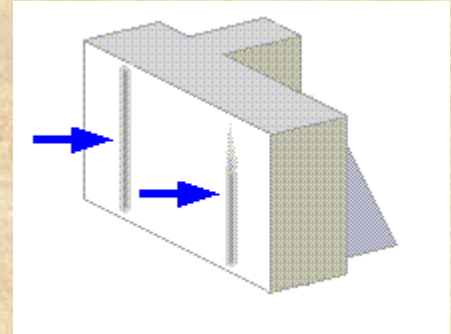
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- flow leader

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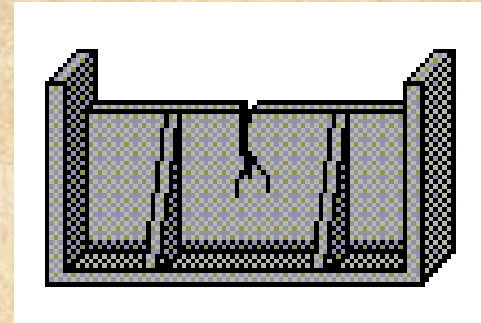
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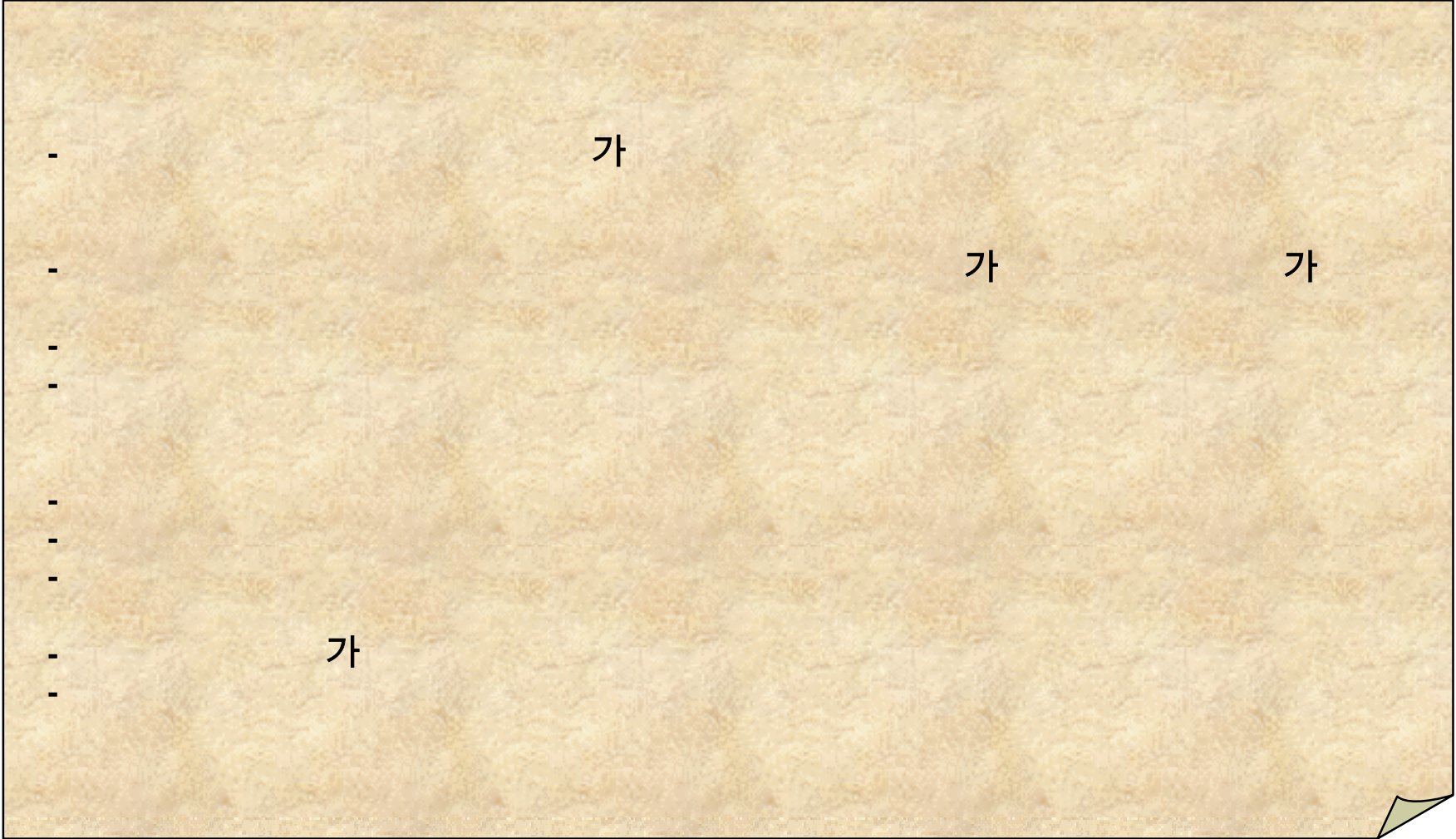
/ (in some cases)

(low melt temp)

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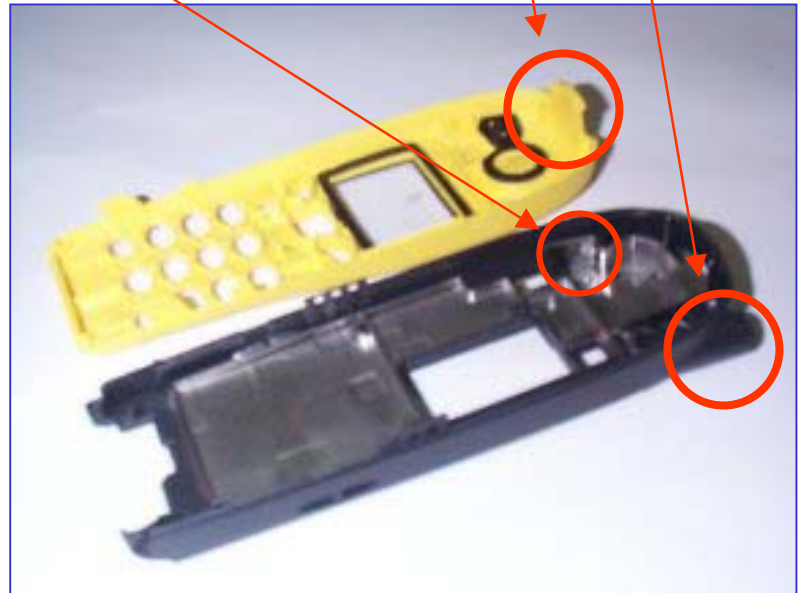
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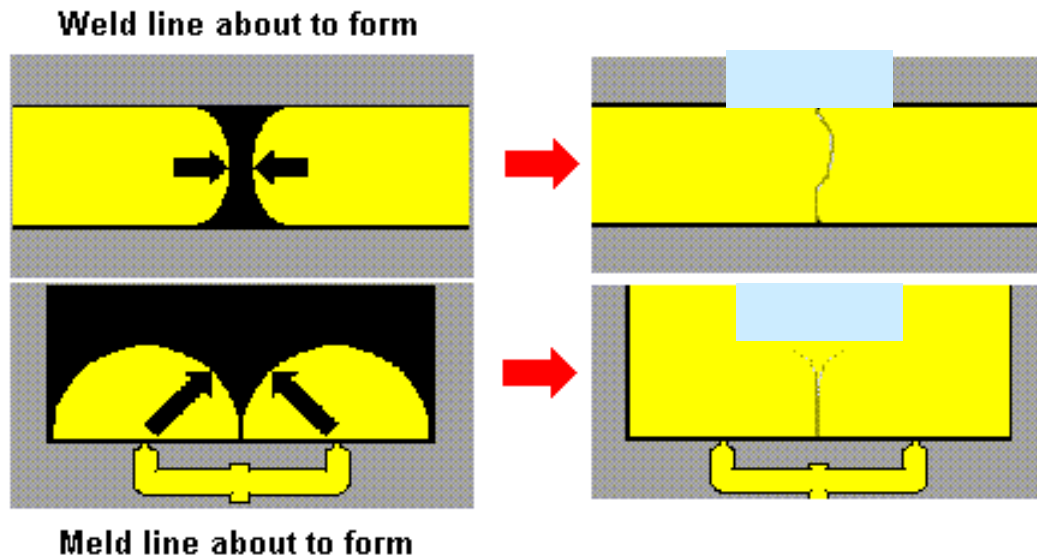
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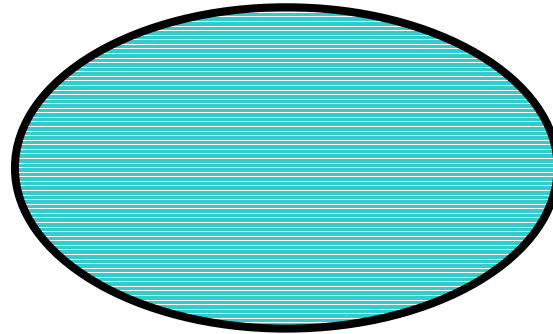
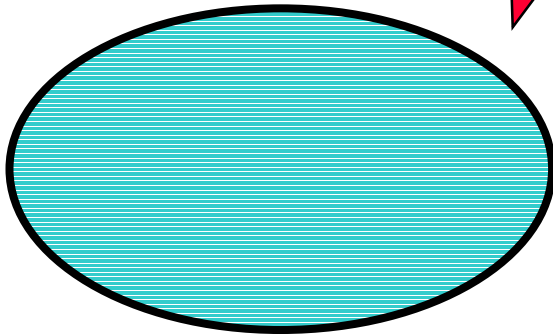
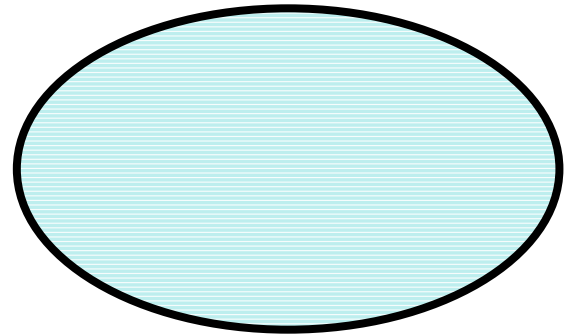
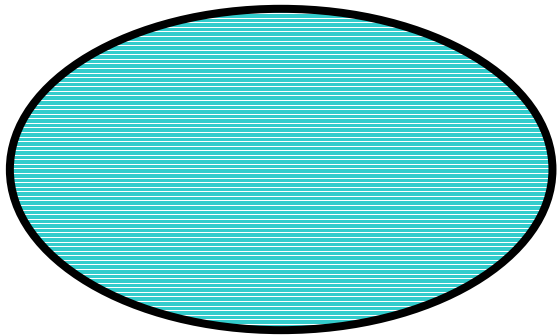


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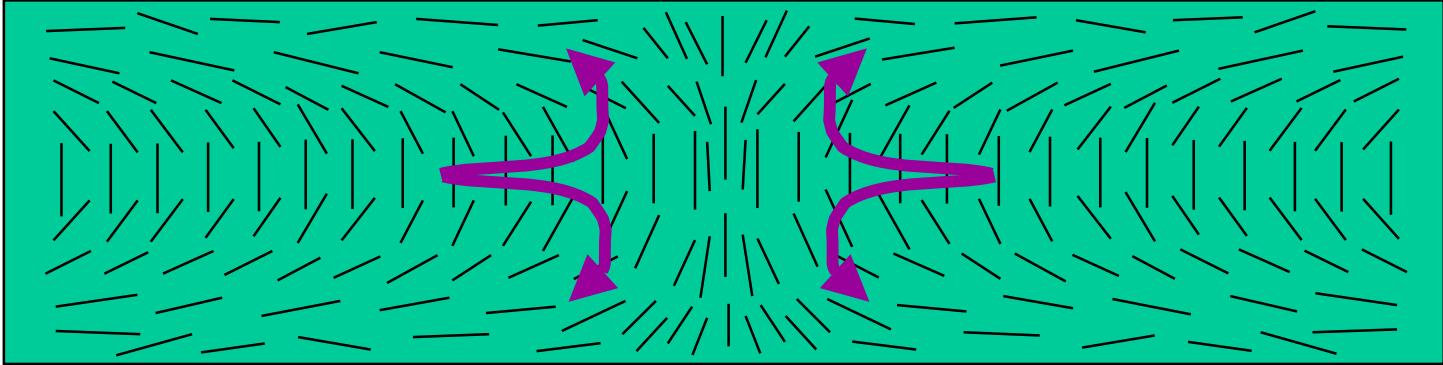
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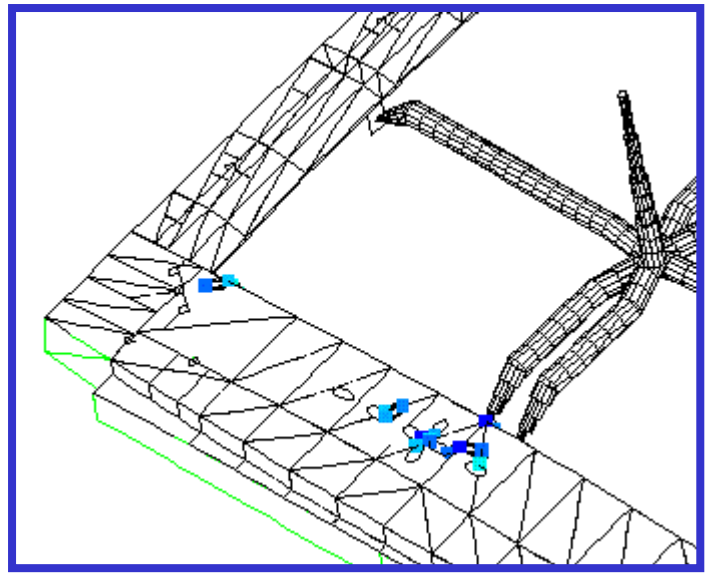
Solvent vapor exposure

Multi-Live Feed injection molding

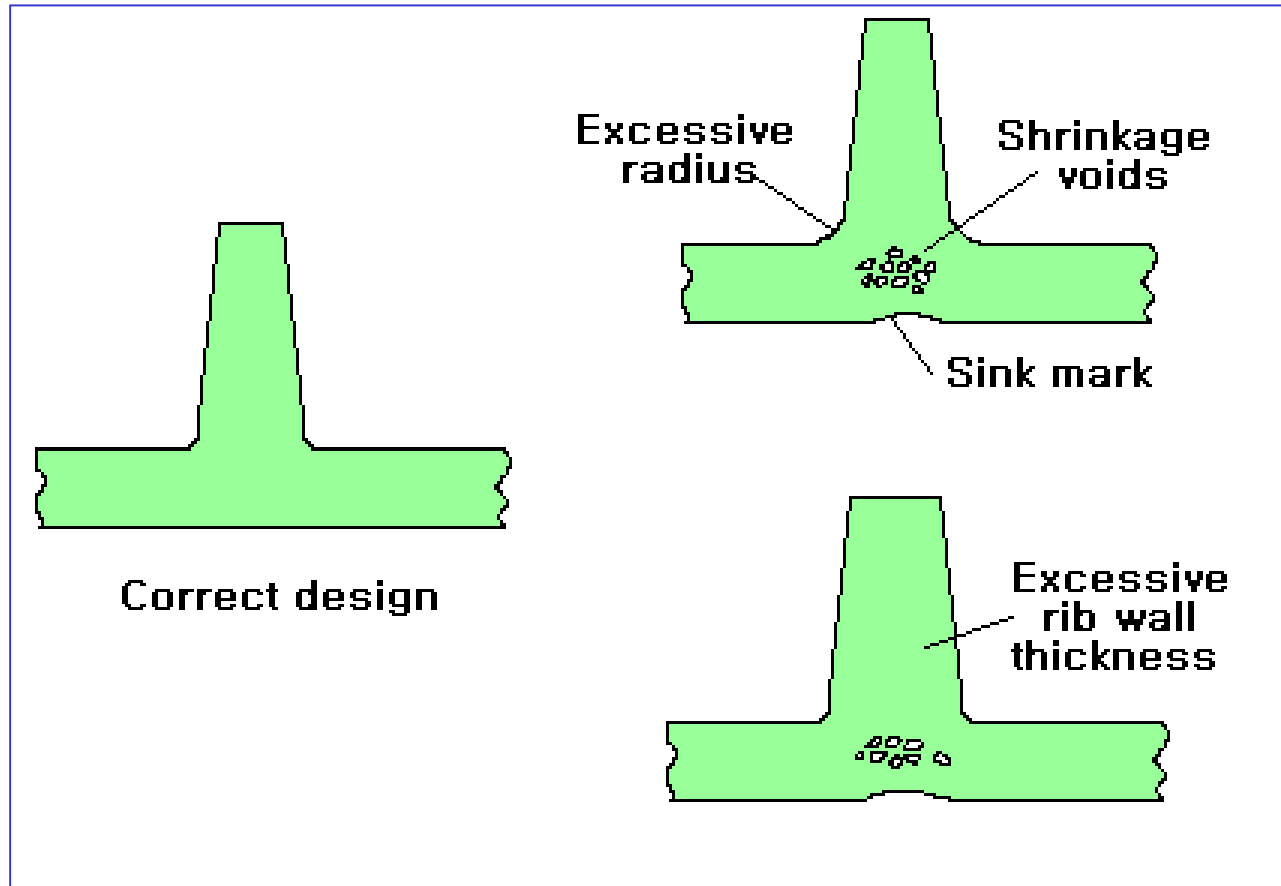
Push-Pull molding

In-mold Reciprocating pins

Sequential gating



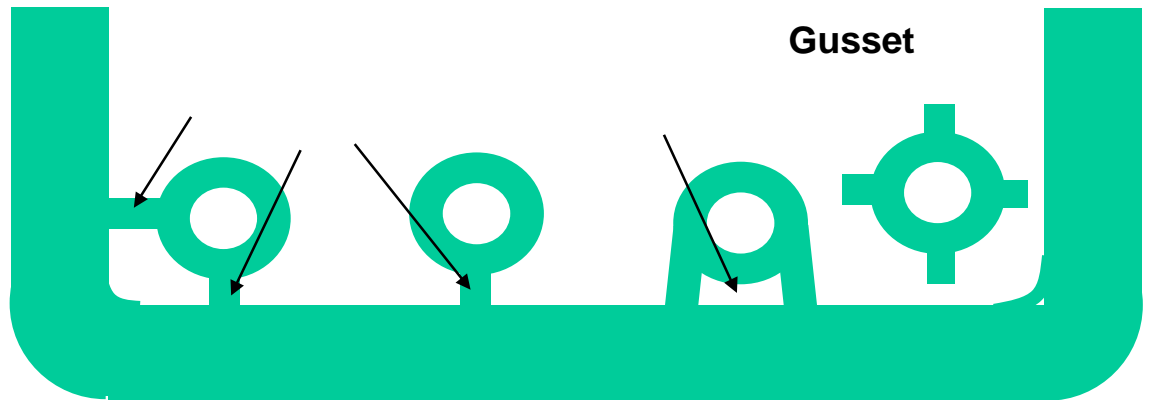
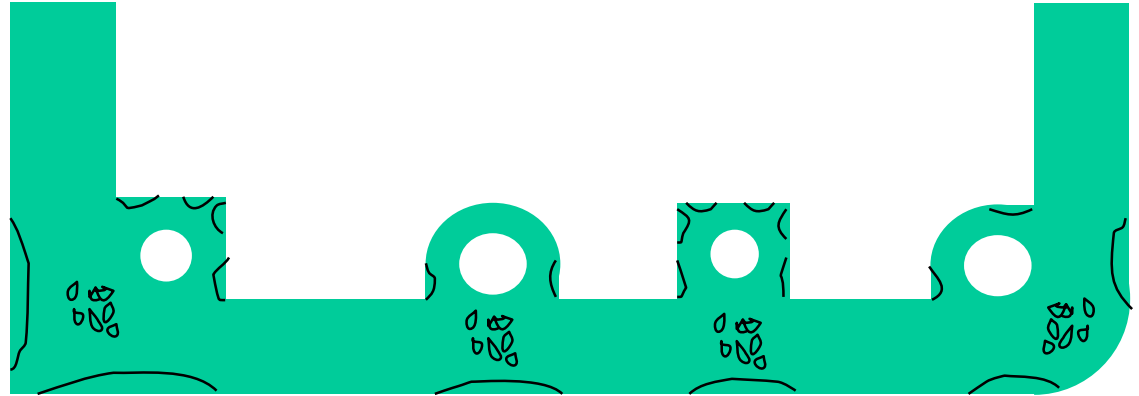
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Adapted from Robert A, Malloy . Plastic Part Design for Injection Molding (1994)

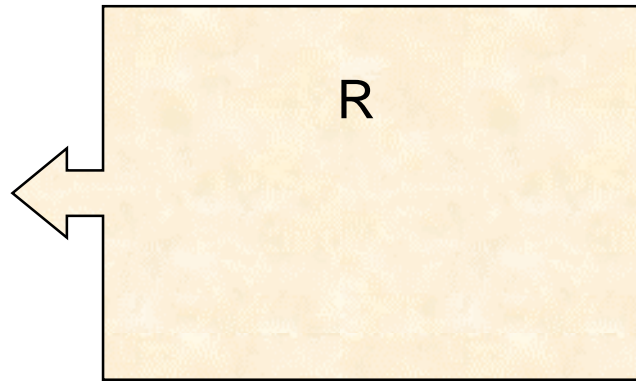
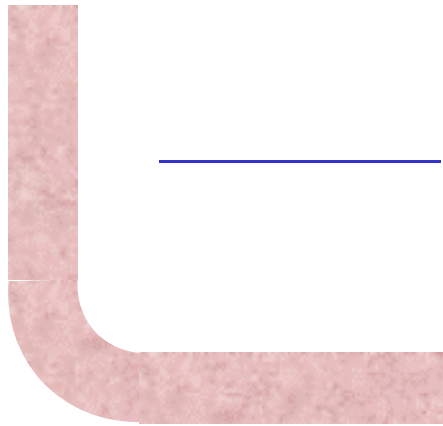
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Sink mark void가



Adapted from Robert A, Malloy . Plastic Part Design for Injection Molding (1994)

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/void/sink



/void/sink

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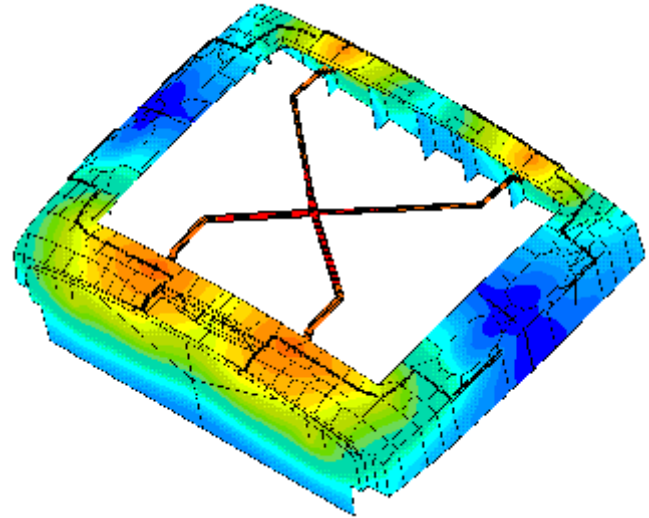
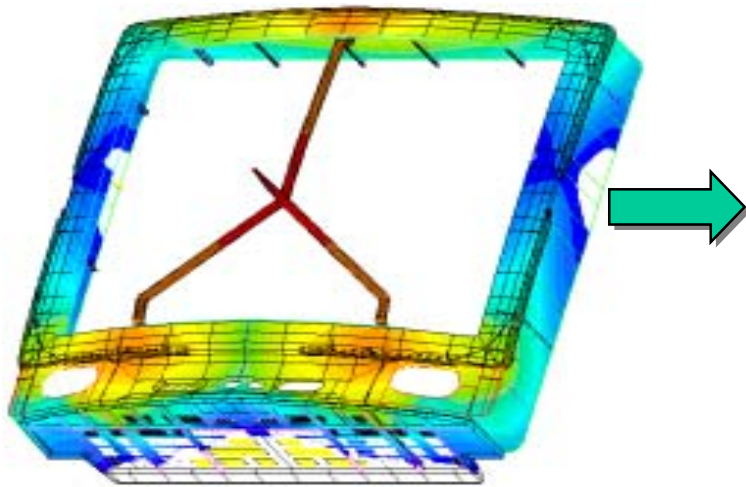
Overview

”Shot short”

”Full short”

Full short process

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- PVT



Polymer Processing