

Developments and Trends in Laser Welding of Sheet Metal

F. Vollertsen

BIAS Bremer Institut für angewandte Strahltechnik GmbH,
Klagenfurter Str. 2, 28359 Bremen, Germany

vollertsen@bias.de

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Abstract. There is some remarkable progress in laser beam welding of sheet metal which is driven by the advent of improved laser systems and process technologies. Here, potentials for reducing distortion and avoiding hot cracking are highlighted, and examples of current developments are given in the field of thin and thick sheet metal welding including spot welding of difficult-to-weld materials and material combinations.