As industries such as aerospace, automotive and renewable energy look towards reducing the structural weight of their components, composite materials are growing in demand.

The growth of carbon-fibre applications has created machining challenges for industry, for example current large scale commercial aircrafts consist of more than 50% composite materials with a typical wing requiring in the region of 5,000 holes and more than 50,000 holes in the entire aircraft.

Composite materials behave very differently to metals. Consequently, new machining technologies have been developed for composites covering areas such as cutting tool design, workholding, coolant and measurement.

On 21st September 2016, the AMRC Forum will discuss the latest developments in composites machining and look forward to the challenges that lie ahead.