



**PRESS RELEASE 2015-01-26**

## **VBN Components starts Sweden's most modern steel plant in Uppsala**

**In the autumn of 2014, the company VBN Components, located in Uppsala, Sweden, issued new shares and received a large investment. The investment has now resulted in that VBN, in a very short time, has established a top modern steel plant in Uppsala where very wear resistant steel components are formed by 3D-printing, additive manufacturing, branded Vibenite. The new facility makes it possible for manufacturing industries to improve their profitability by better material and shorter lead times. VBN is now growing and is looking for personnel, mainly within production.**

The new VBN Components production facility for free formed materials is now launched and the company is now ready to meet the large interest in the first material Vibenite60, that together with advanced 3D-printing technique is used for all types of components with wear resistance demands. Volvo is one of the customers that [successfully are testing](#) gear hobs produced by VBN.

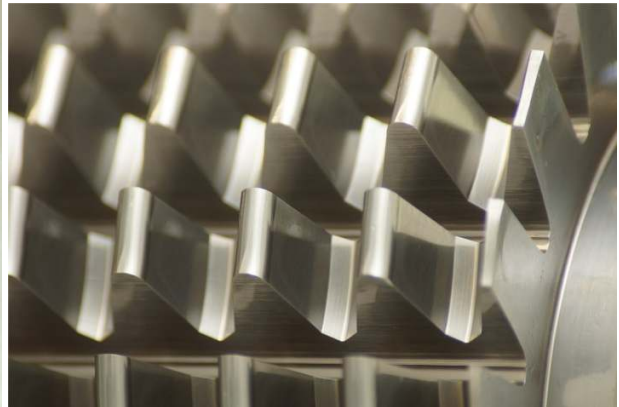
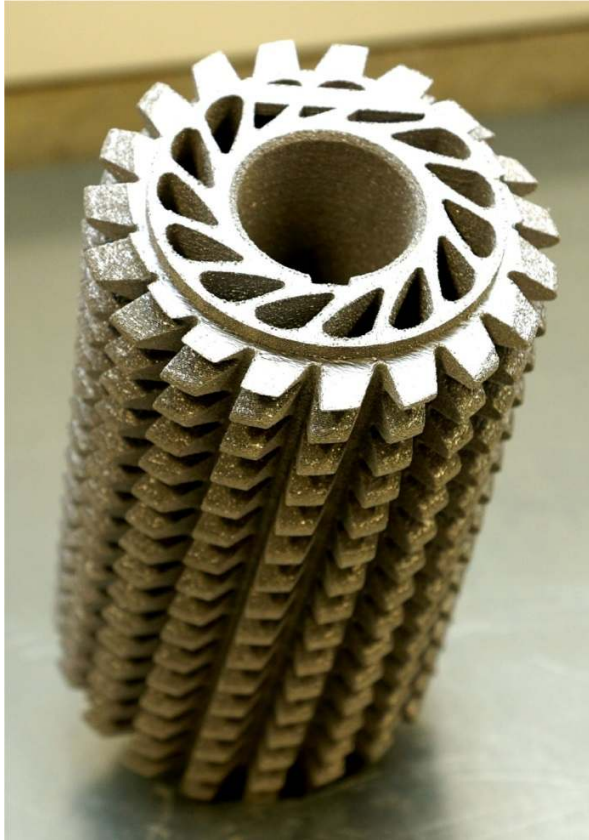
– We are happy to be able to put one of Sweden's most modern steel plants in Uppsala. VBN is first to market with this type of material directly adapted to 3D-printing. What is unique is to combine an extreme wear resistance with advanced product shapes through 3D-printing. To be able to meet the market inquiries we need to increase our personnel within production, says Martin Nilsson, CEO at VBN Components.

The response for VBN's technique has been significant and mainly the customer benefits are put in focus, where the 3D-printing of Vibenite® results in high component performance, short delivery times and a heavily reduced environmental impact. By using additive manufacturing technique, almost no material needs to be cut away to obtain a certain component shape, and hence leads to less scrap-metal.

– During a customer visit last week, we discussed the 3D-printing of a component where the customer had bought big metal bars for the manufacturing of a tool and needed to remove 80 percent of the material by machining. We could show that VBN can manufacture the same component with as low as 0,5 percent scrap-metal. Of course, these substantial improvements are very positive, but we find the biggest gain to be that our material will last much longer than traditional components, says Martin Nilsson.

This particular day, VBN is producing gear hobs, a production tool for gear wheel manufacturing, with heavily reduced weight and higher performance than traditional hobs. VBN's gear hobs do not only result in shorter lead times and less material waste, the tool weight has also been reduced by 40 percent down to 9 kilos. This means that the staff can lift the hob without risk.

Martin Nilsson, co-founder of VBN Components, is the new CEO since November 2014. The former CEO and co-founder Ulrik Beste is now CTO and is responsible for the production technique and the R&D.



*Directly from the 3D-printer: VBN Components' hollow gear hobs are made from the material Vibenite®60 with high wear resistance and heavily reduced weight.*

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