



## Carbide alloyed composite manufactured with the PIM method

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The history of metal injection moulding (MIM) is very short and have not more than 30 years in Europe. The first MIM parts producer started business in Germany with the mass production of dental brackets in the 1980's. MIM technology has greatly matured since these early days and its acceptance by end users is constantly growing. Now metal injection moulding parts producers can be found throughout Europe. Most of these companies have a background in metallurgy and some of the larger MIM producers were originally traditional powder metallurgy companies. Powder injection moulding gives the possibility to make the best use of the input materials and to fabricate the near-net-shape tools, eliminating in this way the costly plastic working and machining, using the finish grinding and heat treatment only. Forming the plastic polymer-powder feedstock with the injection moulding method seems to be especially interesting. This method makes it possible to exploit advantages of the polymers injection moulding for fabrication of metal-, ceramic-, and composite materials [1-4].

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