

## WHAT IS GRAVITY DIE-CASTING?

In this case, liquid aluminium is poured into a Mould to produce a Casting. Typically used for medium volume Production. This is the main business of Alu-Casting.

## WHAT IS PRESSURE DIE-CASTING?

In this case, liquid aluminium is pushed (or injected) into a Mould to produce a Casting. Typically used for high volume production.

## WHAT IS SAND CASTING?

This is the simplest method of producing a Casting. Liquid Aluminium is poured into a Sand Mould. This has a low cost for tooling but quality is poor.

## WHAT IS AN OEM?

Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) are our typical customers. Generally, they will commission tooling to be made so they can produce aluminium castings of good quality and price for a long period, usually many years.

## WHAT IS A CNC?

Computer Numerical Control (CNC) are highly automated machine tools, usually with computer control. In Alu-Casting, they are typically used for adding holes, slots, threads, etc to finished Castings.

## WHAT TYPE OF ALUMINIUM DO YOU USE ?

The main aluminium type we use here is LM6 type. This is generally regarded as one of the best materials for Aluminium castings. We also generally Stock LM24. Other grades are available on request.

## WHAT IS DE-BURRING ?

This is the removal of excess material from the Casting, typically rough edges etc.

## WHAT IS LINISHING ?

This is a belt sanding technique which improves the flatness of a surface.

## WHAT ABOUT THE FINISH ?

An additional Finish is often not required on Aluminium because of its general corrosion resistance. Painting or Anodising are the main options. For Aluminium being used in areas of high corrosion (eg. Coastal wet areas), we can add special paint marine Primers.

## WHAT IS ANODISING ?

This is a finishing process which utilises the natural oxide coating which occurs on Aluminium. This Oxide layer is very thin and protects the underlying metal. This layer can become grey in colour after a period which may or may not be suitable. Anodising thickens this layer to give a hard transparent coating which significantly enhances corrosion resistance. Anodising can also be used to provide different colour finishes.

## WHAT IS THE MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE FOR ALUMINIUM ?

Typically 150- 250 C is the maximum depending on grade of aluminium