Cross Sectioning is the first and most important step in the sample preparation process. Getting the best results involves obtaining a smooth surface finish, minimum chipping, material deformation, without sacrificing cutting speed. Today, most laboratories, work with dozens of materials. Frequently each material requires a different sectioning method and sample preparation approach. Selecting the right equipment, consumables, and parameters for your specific material/application will significantly affect your sectioning operation. Save you time and money, as well as set the stage for the rest of your specimen preparation process.

The ever increasing variety of ultra hard, new generation, composite, engineered, highly metallic content and exotic materials, transform the way we look at cross sectioning. And set many age old conventional sectioning equipment and consumables obsolete. New materials require different technology & sample preparation methods.

With sectioning/wafering saw manufacturers recommending a different blade for each material. Abrasive blades for some materials, such as: ductile metals, such as sintered carbides or composites containing predominantly hard phases. Sintered (metal bonded) diamond wafering blades for cutting of brittle materials, such as ceramics or minerals. CBN (cubic boron nitride, and Resin bond diamond wafering blades for cutting highly metallic materials. Many laboratory technicians still spend days and even weeks, experimenting with different consumables, cut off wheels, coolants, RPM’s and many other variables. An expensive and time consuming trial and error process, witch can be avoided with proper understanding of your material, consumables and objectives you need to accomplish.

New Generation diamond wafering blades have been engineered to change the way sectioning and specimen preparation process is handled. This article deals with new developments in diamond wafering blade manufacturing, technologies and several misconceptions regarding their use. The following information have come from years of experience in research, development and manufacturing of precision diamond products, as well as years of personal experience and observation.

New improvements in diamond wafering blade manufacturing technology have expanded the use of diamond, into many other application, traditionally sectioned by other types of cut off blades. Historically Laboratories, R & D, and manufacturing facilities have found the high cost of using diamond wafering blades prohibitive. Relying on abrasive cut off blades to observe brunt of their sectioning work, including application where use of diamond could be advantages. Diamond can be used to section very hard materials, than switch to cutting soft materials, while still maintain consistent performance and cutting speed. SMART CUT™ technology recently developed by UKAM Industrial Superhard Tools has made use of diamond wafering blades more economically feasible on broader variety of materials & applications. Materials such as:

- Plastic
- Very soft metals
- Non-ferrous soft metals
- Very ductile metals
- (Ti) Soft ferrous metals
- Medium soft ferrous metals
- Medium hard ferrous metals Hard ferrous metals
- Very hard ferrous metals
- Extremely hard ferrous metals
- Sintered carbides
- Hard ceramics
- Minerals and ceramics

Have been successfully sectioned utilizing new generation metal bond diamond wafering blades with SMART CUT™ technology.

How Diamond Wafering Blades Work

Simply, a diamond blade wafering blade is a cutting tool which has exposed diamond particles captured in a metal matrix each with a small cutting edge. 1A1R wafering blade is made of a steel core with an Inside Diameter (ID) usually ½” or other size, that rotates around a center shaft.
During the sectioning operation, the surface speed may reach 30 m/sec, if using a high speed sectioning saw. This is faster than most cars running on a highway. The cutting action is performed by accumulation of small chips scratched out by the numerous diamond particles impeded in the bond.

The number of cutting edges which is determined by the number of diamonds (or concentration) make up the structure of the diamond blade, along with its matrix, (metal or nickel bond). The size of the diamond particle will have a direct result in the size of chip you can obtain. The thickness of the blade (diamond particle plus matrix) will determine the width of the cut. Therefore, blade selection along with feed rate, cutting speed, and depth of cut will ultimately determine your sectioning success.

The following are some factors to consider when selecting the right diamond wafering/sectioning blade for your application:

**Diamond Grit (Mesh Size)**

According to U.S. Standards, mesh designates the approximate number of sieve meshes per inch. High Mesh Sizes mean fine grits, and low numbers indicate coarse grits.

Diamond Mesh Size plays a major role in determining the surface finish quality, smoothness, level of chipping you will obtain, and material microstructure damage you will obtain. Finer mesh size diamonds such as 220 and 320 grit are much smaller in size than coarser diamond particles. And will give you a very smooth surface finish, with minimal amount of chipping on edges. These mesh sizes are usually used for fine cutting of a full rage of materials such as: LiNbO3, YVO4, GaAs, and optical materials. Courser diamond particles such as 80 and 100 grit are much larger in diameter and are frequently used fast cutting / material removal on more harder materials such as silicon carbide, zirconia, Al2O3, stainless steels, and other advanced ceramics and high metallic content materials. Witch do not require a very fine surface finish.

Diamond Mesh size does have considerable effect on cutting speed. Coarse Diamonds are larger than finer diamonds and will remove more material than finer diamond particles. This means that coarse diamond wheels are more aggressive for material removal than the finer diamond wheels and will cut faster. However, the tradeoff is increase in material micro damage. If you are cutting fragile, more delicate materials then finer mesh size diamond wafering blades are recommended.

Diamond mesh size (grit size) should provide maximum removal rate at minimal acceptable finish. Often the desired finish cannot be achieved in a single step/operation. Lapping or polishing may be necessary to produce desired surface finish, as a secondary step in your sample preparation process.

**Diamond Wafering Blades & Cutting Speeds**

**High Speed vs. Low Speed**

Sectioning can be performed either at low or high speeds. There are advantages and disadvantages of each process. Diamond may break at very high speeds, and fall out at very slow speeds. An optimum surface speed / RPM's must be selected to balance out the two disadvantages. Diamond Wafering Blade life will usually increase at slower cutting speeds. However the increase in labor costs, utilities costs, depreciation of equipment and other overhead expenses. Will usually offset the saving blade life and other consumables. Cutting speed is often the most important consideration when selecting the right diamond wafering blade for your application. The operator mush choose a balance between life of the blades and their cutting rate.

Diamond has a higher impact strength than the material being machined. During the sawing operation, the diamond ruptures the material by impact. Each diamond is able to transfer the electrical power into momentum the breaks the material.
By increasing power on your sectioning saw, your diamond wafering blade RPM’s and surface speed will increase as well. Hence, each diamond will chip off a smaller amount of material, reducing its impact force on material being machined. And reducing cutting resistance. In theory, by increasing surface speed / RPM’s, each diamond should receive a smaller impact force.

However, because impact is supported by a smaller volume, the impact force with this low volume is actually increased. There is a higher probability that the diamond particles will break or shatter. Hence, sectioning materials at very low surface speeds, creates a large impact force between diamond and material being machined. Although the diamond may not break, the risk that the diamond will be pulled out of diamond wafering blade and causing premature failure of the blade does increase.

**Diamond Wafering Blades & Cutting Speeds Case Studies**

New Generation Sintered (metal bond) diamond wheel with SMART CUT™ technology was tested against a conventional metal bond diamond wheel under similar conditions. Using three different materials, namely Aluminum, Brass, and Quartz, cuts were made to determine cutting times for all five diamond wheel types. Using a Model 650 Low Speed Diamond Wheel Saw, each diamond wheel blade was used for cutting the specified materials. Each specimen cut was a 12-millimeter diameter rod of material, helping maintain consistency during the cutting process. Specimens were first mounted onto a graphite plate, which was then mounted onto an aluminum mounting block. The entire system was then placed into the Model 65001 Single Axis Goniometer specimen mount of the Model 650. Specimens were mounted using MWH 135 low melting point wax (melting point at 100 degrees Celsius).

The following diamond wheels were used in this experiment:

- Conventional Diamond Wafering Blade, Sintered (metal bonded) 4.4 diameter; 0.012. thickness; Mesh Size: coarse; Diamond Concentration: High
- New Generation, Sintered (metal bonded) Diamond Wafering Blade with SMART CUT™ technology. 4. diameter; 0.012. thickness; Mesh Size: coarse. Diamond Concentration: High

Each diamond wheel was used to make three cuts on each sample, with a total of nine cuts total per wheel. The diamond wheels were dressed with a silicon carbide dressing stick immediately prior to cutting. The following cutting parameters were used for each of the cuts made.

**Cutting Parameters**

- Load: 80 grams  
- Blade Dressing: Prior to each cut
- Wheel Speed: 10 maximum on dial
- Coolant Density: 30:1

Each cut was timed and recorded, with each cut averaged for each sample and then plotted in a graph.

**Results:** New Generation, Sintered (metal bonded) Diamond Wafering Blades with SMART CUT™ technology cut substantially faster than Conventional Sintered (metal bond) diamond wafering blades. For all three materials.

**Cutting Times of Various Materials Using Different Diamond Wheels**

(All samples 12mm rods)

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</table>
Diamond Concentration

The proportion, and distribution of diamond abrasive particles, also known as "concentration" has an effect on overall cutting performance and price of precision diamond blades. Usually concentration defined as: Concentration 100 = 4.4 ct per cm layer volume (mesh size + bond).

Based on this definition a concentration of 100 means that the diamond proportion is 25% by volume of diamond layer, assuming at diamond density is 3.52 g/cm³ and 1 ct = 0.2g. Nominal diamond concentration in precision diamond blades range from 0.5 ct/cm³ to 6 ct/cm³. This means diamond concentrations are available from 8 to 135.

Until recently Diamond Concentration has played a major role in Diamond Sectioning/Wafering Blade performance. A new technological process recently developed, called SMART CUT™ technology, minimizes the effect of diamond concentration in your overall sectioning process. Selecting Optimum Diamond Concentration for your application will depend on a large number of factors, such as:

- Material Being Cut
- Bond Type and Hardness
- Diamond Mesh Size
- Cutting Speeds
- Coolants being used

Diamond Concentration is still a factor in determining the life and cutting speed of your Diamond Sectioning/Wafering Blade. Higher diamond concentration is recommended and usually used for cutting softer and more abrasive types of materials. However, the trade off is significantly slower cutting speed. Low diamond concentration is recommended and widely used for cutting ultra hard and brittle materials.

Diamond Concentration & Cutting Performance

Today, most sectioning saw manufacturers and laboratory technicians recommend and use low concentration diamond wafering for sectioning ceramics, glasses, silicon, carbides, sapphire, and other related semiconductor and optical materials. And use high concentration wafering blades should on metals such as stainless steel, aluminum, titanium, pc boards. A new technological breakthrough called SMART CUT™ technology, in orienting diamonds inside the metal matrix, so that every diamond is better able to participate in cutting action, is making fundamental changes in these beliefs and setting new benchmarks on how diamond wafering blade performance is measured.

By orienting diamonds, SMART CUT™ technology makes diamond concentration only a minor factor in the overall sectioning equation. Studies and extensive testing shows that diamond concentration in wafering blades manufactured utilizing SMART CUT™ technology plays a no major role in determining overall wafering performance. Large number of diamonds in a high concentration diamond wafering blade come in contact with material, creating friction, hence considerably slowing down material removal rate. It takes considerable dressing in order to reexpose the next diamond layer.

SMART CUT™ technology resolves this problem by making sure that every diamond is in the right place and at the right time, working where you need it most. You get maximum use of diamond and bond. Before this technology was developed, orienting diamonds inside the wafering blade bond matrix was impossible. This was one of the main problems faced by diamond tool manufacturers worldwide. Over the decades there have been numerous attempts to solve the diamond and CBN distribution problem. Unfortunately, none of the attempts have been proven effective. Even today 99.8% diamond wafering blade manufacturers still have no way or technology to evenly control and distribute Diamond or CBN particles inside bond matrix, nor properly position them to maximize their machining efficiency.
Current Diamond Wafering Blade technologies are also inadequate to provide effective control of diamond mesh size (grit size) and concentration of variations on different parts of the same tool. Current technologies also do not allow diamond distribution to be factored in when manufacturing a wheel specifically designed for individual material property and structure.

What most diamond wafering blade manufacturers used to do, and still do today is place diamonds inside the metal matrix, with no control over diamond distribution. The problem with this approach is inconsistent diamond tool performance. Only about 40% of these diamonds are able to participate in the cutting action. The rest fall out, become dull, or disintegrate before they have a chance of being used. This factor causes the following problems:

**Problems with Conventional Diamond Wafering Blades**

The distance between each Diamond or CBN particles determines the work load each diamond will perform. Improper spacing of diamond or CBN particles typically leads to premature failure of abrasive surfaces or structure. If diamond or CBN particles are too close to one another, some of these particles are redundant and provide little or no assistance in cutting and sectioning. Excess diamonds particles increase the cost of manufacturing diamond tools, due to high cost diamond and CBN powder.

Yet have no effect in increasing performance. In fact excess and non performing diamond or CBN particles reduce the diamond tools overall performance and efficiency by blocking up the passage of debris from material being machined. In many cases these excessive diamond particles play a major rule in decreasing the useful life of your diamond tool. Conventional diamond wafering blades and diamond tools have been suffering from these type of problems and inefficiencies for over 50 years.

**Diamond Inefficiency / Ineffective Wafering Blade Performance**

The performance of a diamond wafering blade depends on how diamonds are distributed and adhered in matrix. Diamond weak. If diamond particles are separated too far (the impact exerted by each diamond particle on material becomes excessive), the sparsely distributed diamond or CBN particles may be crushed or even dislodged from the matrix into which they are disposed. The damaged or missing diamond particles are unable to fully assist in the work load. Hence the workload is transferred on to the remaining diamond particles. The failure of each diamond particle causes a chain reaction, which soon results in tool ineffective performance or complete pre-mature failure of the wafering blade.

**Inconsistent Cutting Speed & Excessive Blade Dressing**

Conventional diamond wafering blade usually exhibit the following behavior: After a few dozen cuts, speed of the wafering blade gradually begins to slow down. You will notice excessively longer cutting speeds, and equipment motor bug downs. And since only a few diamonds participate in the machining action, you may find your self applying an increasing amount pressure just to machine the same amount of material. Without properly orienting the diamonds, conventional wafering blades quickly become dull, out of round. With further cutting requiring constant blade dressing, in order to expose new diamonds.

**Excessive Heat Generation & Loss of straight cutting capability**

By constantly dressing the wafering blade, pressure put forth on material, causes the tool to overheat and loose its tension. The user may find themselves using excessive force and pressure just to cut a small amount of material.

**SMART CUT™ technology allows**

Diamond Concentration to be controlled & Evenly Distribution at various parts of diamond wafering blade
Frequently a metal bond diamond wafering blade requires different sizes of diamonds and different diamond concentrations to be distributed at different parts of the wafering blade bond. Most diamond wafering blades wear faster on the edge or in front than the middle. Higher diamond concentrations are preferred in these locations to prevent uneven wear and thus premature blade failure.

By making the distribution of Diamond or CBN particles uniform and in a predetermined pattern, tailored to individual customer application. The work load can be evenly distributed to each diamond particle. As a result a diamond wafering blade with SMART CUT™ technology will machine material faster and its working life will be extended a considerable amount of time.

SMART CUT™ technology promotes not only even diamond distribution. But strong diamond retention as well. Allowing the diamond wafering manufacturer to use of smaller diamond particles. Small diamond particles will improve surface finish, and optimized performance of each diamond particle.

How SMART CUT™ works

Figure # 1

The sharpest and finest quality Synthetic DeBeers diamonds that go into a SMART CUT™ Diamond Bond. Immediately penetrate into the material, grinding and polishing as they cut.

Figure # 2

Diamonds are activated only at the exposed layer. As diamond layer begins to wear out, diamonds in the new layer are immediately activated, substituting the already used up diamond layer. The SMART CUT™ Diamond Bond makes sure every diamond is in the right place and at the right time, working where you need it most.

Figure # 3

The newly exposed diamonds don’t effect diamonds working already inside the material. Unlike many other diamond bonds, diamond in a SMART CUT™ remain sharp and grow sharper with each cut. Prolonging product life and consistent performance.
Figure # 4

This advanced formulated open bond design insures minimal chipping, fast cut, constant speed of cut, minimal cutting noise, and most important of all minimum loss of precious material.

**ADVANTAGES:**

SMART CUT™ technology allows the diamond spacing to be controlled in the wafering blade bond matrix. Hence improving every diamond particles performance. Often reducing the need for high diamond concentration, such as 100 con used in wafering blades. Every Diamond in a SMART CUT™ diamond bond works like a small horse. Unlike many other bond designs, the SMART CUT™ begins to work from the first cut, and remains to work at the same level of consistent performance until you take your last cut. This unique open bond design insures you get the maximum usage of diamond and bond every time you use a SMART CUT™ wafering blade.

- More Consistent cutting speeds
- Minimal Chipping
- Faster Cutting Action
- Minimal Blade Dressing / Diamond Rexposure
- Easier to Use / Less maintenance required
- No Contamination

**Sectioning Materials with High Metallic Content**

Historically conventional Metal Bonded Diamond Wafering Blades had problems in cross sectioning high metallic content specimens. It could take hours cross sectioning materials such as titanium and tungsten carbide with a diamond blade. Most laboratories use abrasive cut-off blades for this application. NEW GENERATION Sintered (metal bond) Diamond Wafering Blades - SMART CUT™ technology actually do a good job on metals, not just ceramics. See graph below for comparison of cutting speeds on high metallic content materials. Here is an example of typical sectioning results obtained using the New Generation Sintered (metal bond) diamond wafering blade.

New Generation Metal Bond with SMART CUT™ technology

- Diamonds are oriented and evenly distributed through the bond. So that every diamond is better able to participate in cutting action.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Generation Metal Bond with SMART CUT™ technology</th>
<th>Conventional Metal Bond</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diamonds are placed inside bond with no control over diamond distribution or orientation. 100 concentration is used to make sure the blade will cut hard materials.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Microstructure of New Generation Metal Bond with SMART CUT™ technology

- Diamond concentration is dispersed to areas of bond, where its needed most. Every diamond works at the right place and at the right time. The sharpest part of the diamond particle almost always peruses from the bond, growing sharper with each cut.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Microstructure of Conventional Metal Bond Wafering Blade</th>
<th>---</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Some areas of diamond bond are filled with excessive number of diamond particles. In other bond layers, diamond particles are rarely sighted. In a few occasions material comes in contact with overly excessive number of diamonds. In other cases, there are almost no diamonds to be found. User must periodically dress blade, to rexpose bond layers. Until new diamonds can be found.</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Metallographic Diamond Blade Case Studies

Wafering Blade Performance & Cutting Speeds

Case Study No. 1
New Generation Sintered (metal bond) diamond wheel with SMART CUT™ technology was tested against a conventional metal bond diamond wheel under similar conditions. Using three different materials, namely Aluminum, Brass, and Quartz, cuts were made to determine cutting times for all five diamond wheel types. Using a Model 650 Low Speed Diamond Wheel Saw, each diamond wheel blade was used for cutting the specified materials. Each specimen cut was a 12-millimeter diameter rod of material, helping maintain consistency during the cutting process. Specimens were first mounted onto a graphite plate, which was then mounted onto an aluminum mounting block.

The entire system was then placed into the Model 65001 Single Axis Goniometer specimen mount of the Model 650. Specimens were mounted using MWH 135 low melting point wax (melting point at 100 degrees Celsius). The following diamond wheels were used in this experiment:

Wafering Blades Tested

- Conventional Diamond Wafering Blade, Sintered (metal bonded) 4” diameter; 0.012” thickness; Mesh Size: coarse; Diamond Concentration: High
- New Generation, Sintered (metal bonded) Diamond Wafering Blade, 4” diameter; 0.012” thickness; Mesh Size: coarse; Diamond Concentration: High. With SMART CUT™ technology.

Each diamond wheel was used to make three cuts on each sample, with a total of nine cuts total per wheel. The diamond wheels were dressed with a silicon carbide dressing stick immediately prior to cutting. The following cutting parameters were used for each of the cuts made:

Cutting Parameters

- Load: 80 grams
- Blade Dressing: Prior to each cut
- Wheel Speed: 10 maximum on dial
- Coolant Density: 30:1

Each cut was timed and recorded, with each cut averaged for each sample and then plotted in a graph.

Results: New Generation, Sintered (metal bonded) Diamond Wafering Blades with SMART CUT technology cut substantially faster than Conventional Sintered (metal bond) diamond wafering blades. For all three materials.

Cutting Times of Various Materials Using Different Diamond Wheels

(All samples 12mm rods)

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Case Study No. 2

A small rod of 100 steel: 6 chromium 15mm in diameter by 35mm in length was obtained for cutting tests. Three cuts were made to evaluate cutting time, surface finish, and accuracy of the cut (parallelism) using different diamond wheels. The surface of the part following cutting was inspected using an inverted optical microscope at low magnification to qualitatively compare surface roughness. The width of the sample following cutting (the thickness) was
measured to determine if any significant variation was observed in the specimens. Finally, a comparison of cutting times was made to compare the wheel cutting efficiency as well. The sample rod material was cut using similar conditions for each diamond wheel.

The sample was mounted onto the Model 650 Low Speed Diamond Wheel Saw using a Model 65006 Vise sample holder. A water-soluble coolant was used to prevent excess heating during the cutting process, and was replenished after each cut. Cutting load was applied to the specimen directly onto the arm mechanism, and the counter-balancing weight was used to prevent wheel binding during the cutting process. A total cutting load of approximately 600 grams was used with the diamond wheel saw during each cut, and dressing of the blade was done periodically every hour during the cutting process.

Cutting times and thickness variations of diamond wheels cutting 100 Steel: 6 Chromium sample

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wafering Blade Type</th>
<th>Cutting Time</th>
<th>Thickness (mm)</th>
<th>Variation (mm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SMART CUT™ Diamond Wafering Blade</td>
<td>8 hours</td>
<td>1.940 – 2.070 mm</td>
<td>0.130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conventional Diamond Wafering Blade</td>
<td>13 hours, 12 min</td>
<td>1.370 – 1.540 mm</td>
<td>0.170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wafering Blades Tested:

New Generation Metal Bond Diamond Wafering Blade with SMART CUT technology Mesh Size: 120

Conventional Diamond Wafering Blade. Mesh Size: 120

Concentration: High

Sectioning Materials with High Metallic Content

Product: 10” x .040” x ½” New Generation metal bond Diamond Wafering Blade with SMART CUT™ technology

Application: Zr, Nb, Ti, Hf, and their alloys. These are very tough, ductile metals.

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Customer Comments: "We found that it worked well for cutting all of alloys and pure metals. It worked extremely well for sectioning carbide inclusions in Zircaloy. Before using your blade, we have had little success sectioning these types of samples."

Case Study No. 4

Application: sectioning a client part consisting of a thick stainless steel disk bonded by a proprietary process to an alumina ceramic insulator.

Customer Comments: "I had previously mounted this combo in epoxy and attempted to cut it on another manufacturer's low speed wafering saw using both their diamond blade and a wafering blade they had recommended for cutting metal. Both blades did well on the ceramic but even with constant dressing the cutting rate in the metal portion of the sample was infinitesimal and I gave up the effort after a whole day of effort. Your blade cut the same sample in approximately 15 minutes on the surface grinder and rates in the stainless steel portion were only slightly slower than in the ceramic."

Case Study No. 5

Wafering Blade: 6” x .020” x ½”

Material: Low Carbon Steel

Specimen Size: 5/8”

Saw Used: Isomet 1000

Cutting Speeds in Minutes

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<td>Smart Cut™ Wafering Blades: 1.51 Conventional Blade: 5.15</td>
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Conclusion: SMART CUT™ New Generation Metal Bond Diamond Wafering Blades cut Copper 2.32 times faster
**Case Study No. 6**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Material:</th>
<th>Copper</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Specimen Size:</td>
<td>3/4”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saw Used:</td>
<td>Isomet 1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Wafering Blade:** 6” x .020” x ½”

Cutting Speeds in Minutes

- **Smart Cut™ Wafering Blades:** 5.59 min
- **Conventional Blade:** 13 min

**Conclusion:** Smart Cut™ New Generation Metal Bond Diamond Wafering Blades cut Copper 2.32 times faster.

**Case Study No. 7**

**Material:** cobalt chromium

**Specimen Size:** 4.0” Saw: South Bay 650

**Cutting Speed**

- **Smart Cut™ New Generation Metal Bond Diamond Wafering Blade:** 8 hours
- **Conventional metal bond diamond wafering blade:** 13 hours.

**Conclusion:** Smart Cut™ Diamond Wafering Blade cut Cobalt Chromium 1.62 times faster.

**Case Study No. 8**

Saw used on: Isomet 1000 Low Speed Saw

**Specimen Size:** 2” x 1-1/2”

**Wafering Blade:** 5” x .014” x ½”

**Material:** Bone with metal implant. Pig aurora with annuaries bypassed by stent made from polymer with metal bands embedded.

**Cutting Speed**

- **Smart Cut™ wafering blade:** 20 minutes
- **Conventional Wafering Blade:** 30 minutes
PROBLEM
Uneven Distribution

BEHAVIOR
Diamonds too Far Apart – Easily Broken

RESULT
Short Tool Life

Diamonds are too Close Together – Cannot Penetrate

Insufficient Diamond Exposure

Pullout Crystals

Slow Cutting Rate/Speed

Weak Bonding

Diamond Concentration

Diamond Waste

Cost

Random

Regular

Diamond Spacing
UKAM Industrial Superhard Tools is one of the leading manufacturers of high Precision Diamond Wafering Blades in the world. From 0.5” to 72” OD, starting .001” TH and up. With over 50 years of experience in manufacturing, research, and development. Following the belief that there is always room for improvement. We continue to raise standards for the whole industry. In addition to manufacturing diamond wafering / sectioning blades for our own SMART CUT series Precision Diamond Saws. We manufacture many Diamond Wafering Blades used on other well know sectioning / wafering saws.

We recognize that the Diamond Wafering / Sectioning Blade by itself is perhaps the most important factor in your sectioning / precision diamond sawing operation. The diamonds impregnated inside the bond matrix of the wafering blade, are what actually participate in cutting action. No matter how precision or well made your wafering saw. You will not be able to obtain the material surface finish, and precision tolerances you need, if the blade you are using is not right for your application

UKAM Industrial Superhard Tools proprietary blade chemistry, precision manufacturing methods, modern quality control methods, allow us to control and regulate the dozens of variables that affect blade life, quality of cut, surface finish. Reducing and often eliminating additional steps often required after sectioning. All blades are manufactured to fit your specific material, application, and surface finish requirements. We will work with you to determine your needs, and develop the right bond formulation, concentration, and grit sizes.

UKAM Industrial Superhard Tools has one of the Largest Inventory of Precision Diamond Wafering Blades in the U.S. With over 4,000 diamond wafering blades in stock, available in different sizes, thickness, arbor sizes, diamond concentrations, diamond mesh sizes, and bond hardness’s.

You are sure to find the Right Diamond Wafering Blade for your application in stock and ready for same day delivery. If you are not using these blades, you are paying too much.