

Diffusion Coatings for Corrosion Protection of Nickel-Plated Steels for Biomass Combustion Plants

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Motivation

- Co-firing of biomass increases chlorides and alkali species in steam generator
- Therefore limited to low temperatures and small amounts of biomass



Corroded tubes [1]

Goal of this study:

Development of coatings extending the lifetime of superheater tubes

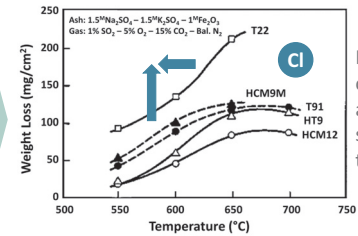
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Corrosion Mechanisms

- Formation of eutectic salt mixtures (from alloying elements and deposits)

[2,3,4]	T [°C]	Phases and Eutectics below (Na,K)SO ₄ melting T [°C]	T [°C]	Phases and Eutectics below (Na,K)Cl melting T [°C]	T [°C]
Na ₂ SO ₄	884	K ₂ Fe(SO ₄) ₂	618	FeCl ₂	300
K ₂ SO ₄	1069	Na ₂ Fe(SO ₄) ₂	624	KCl-K ₂ Cr ₂ O ₇	368
NaCl	800	Na ₂ SO ₄ -NiSO ₄	671	KCl-K ₂ SO ₄ -Na ₂ SO ₄	478
KCl	771				

- Dissolution of protecting oxide scales by fluxing mechanisms
- "Active oxidation" by chlorine



Bell-shaped curve of fireside corrosion [5]

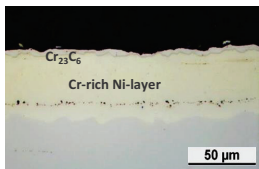
Increase of corrosive attack and shift to lower temperatures

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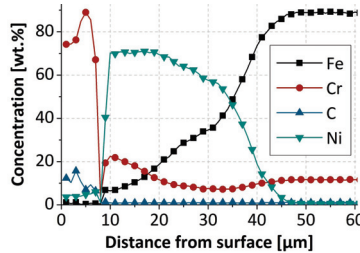
Ni + Cr-Diffusion coating

1st step: Interlayer of *electroplated Ni* on X20CrMoV12-1

2nd step: Pack cementation (Cr-powder)



Diffusion coating: 1050°C, 2h (10% Cr, 2% MnCl₂)



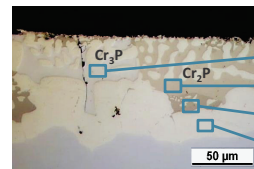
TARGET: obtaining the good corrosion resistance of Ni- and Cr-rich austenitic steel like DMV310N

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Ni-P + Cr-Diffusion coating

1st step: Interlayer of *electroless Ni plating* on X20CrMoV12-1

2nd step: Pack cementation (Cr-powder)



Diffusion coating: 1050°C, 2h (10% Cr, 2% MnCl₂)

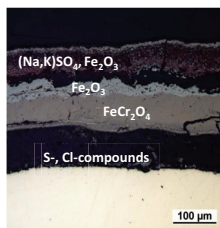
Element	Cr	Ni	Fe	P	C
at.-%	44,7	14,2	12,4	22,4	-
	32,3	23,2	8,1	29,8	-
	61,3	1,1	3,6	-	29,2
	19,6	45,1	26,6	1,2	-

TARGET: same as for Ni + Cr-Diffusion coating, but by using electroless plating → cost-efficient and widely used in industry

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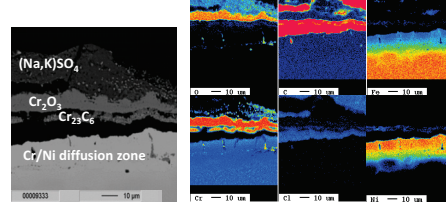
Corrosion Test

- 650°C, 100h: HCl- and SO₂-containing atmosphere, slurry-sprayed deposits of sulfates and alkali chlorides (melting point ≈ 600°C)



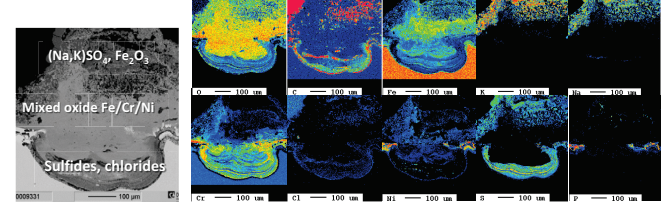
Uncoated X20 reference sample

X20 + Ni + Cr



EPMA-Scan: corrosion resistance notably improved, but detachment from substrate occurs (see also [6])

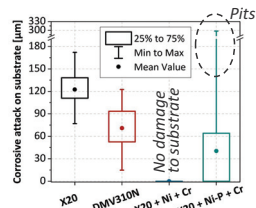
X20 + Ni-P + Cr



EPMA-Scan: coating mostly protective, however local dissolution of phosphides accompanied by pitting observed

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Conclusion



Comparison of degradation, 650°C, 100h

- Improvement in corrosion resistance of X20 steel by application of Cr-diffusion coating with Ni-Interlayer
- Cr-carbides are attacked and partly dissolved by chlorine species, but substrate is still enriched in Cr and Ni
- Phosphides from Ni-P interlayer suffer severe corrosion as well → **TARGET:** reduction of phosphide-formation by using a low-P containing solution or by replacing P as deposited element

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Literature

- [1] Müller et al. *TK Verlag* (2013)
- [2] Bürgel et al. *Springer* (2011)
- [3] Niu et al. *Asia-Pacific Journal of Chemical Engineering* (2013)
- [4] www.crct.polyuml.ca: PhaseDiagram-Web
- [5] Topoda et al. *EPRI Report GS-6422* (1988)
- [6] Grabke et al. *Materials Research* (2004)

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