

Surface Treatment VI

Computer Methods and Experimental
Measurements for Surface
Treatment Effects

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SURFACE TREATMENT VI

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Preface

This book contains some of the papers presented at the Sixth International Conference on Surface Treatment that was held on the island of Crete (Greece) in March 2003. The conference was organized by the Wessex Institute of Technology of the UK. Previous conferences in the series have been held in Southampton (1993), Milan (1995), Oxford (1997), Assisi (1999) and Seville (2001).

The aim of the Surface Treatment conference series is to encourage international cooperation amongst scientist and engineers and to exchange new ideas. The book deals with fundamental and applied concepts in the interdisciplinary field of surface engineering, in particular focusing on the interplay between applied physics, materials science and engineering, computational mechanics and mechanical engineering.

About two decades ago the emergence of the subject 'surface treatment' had been greatly driven by the realization that the surface is usually the most important part of any engineering component. Structural components fail by wear, corrosion, high cycle fatigue etc., that is to say affected and initiated by the surface conditions. Consequently, an appropriate approach is to modify the surface layer of a base- material or coat it, so as to provide an enhanced performance. However, in many cases it is the combination of effects, e.g. of wear and corrosion, that is causing the damage and as a result this complexity makes the field of surface engineering so challenging. For instance, a thin protective layer against corrosion could be easily removed in a wearing situation, which requires a different approach when corrosion and wear properties are separately of importance. Unfortunately, there exists an almost bewildering choice of surface treatments that cover a wide range of thickness. The choice has to be such that the surface treatment does not impair too much the properties of the substrate for which it was originally chosen, that is to say it should not significantly reduce, for instance, its load carrying capabilities. This aspect of the substrate has been frequently overlooked in surface engineering with too much of an emphasis on the protective coating itself. The aforementioned aspects are reported and discussed in this book.

In particular, the focal point in this book is on surface coating, damage mechanics, residual stress effects, laser surface treatment and mechanical surface treatment. Special emphasis was given to the application of advanced theoretical and experimental approaches.

Thanks are due to the authors for their interesting contributions. The editors are also grateful to the members of the International Scientific Advisory Committee, who have helped to review the abstracts and the scientific papers to ensure the quality of the conference and this book.

The Editors,
Crete, 2003

Contents

Section 1: Surface Coating

Evaluation of surface treatment of Ti-6Al-4V alloy specimens <i>S.-I. Nishida, S. Young, N. Hattori & A. Tsuchiyama</i>	3
Method to define the batchsize and composition of processes in surface treatment <i>V. Osthus, C. Berger & B. Kaiser</i>	13
Modulating CH ₄ flow during the fabrication of improved CVD diamond coatings <i>N. Ali, V.F. Neto, Y. Kousar & J. Gracio</i>	21
Scratching of polymeric coatings: experimental study and mechanical analysis <i>I. Demirci, C. Gauthier & R. Schirrer</i>	31
Adhesive strength of DLC films prepared by ionization deposition <i>A. Tsuchiyama, Y. Shima & H. Hasuyama</i>	41
Energetics of aluminium alloys anodization for porous oxide films elaboration <i>G. Zamora, L. Arurault & R.S. Bes</i>	51
Production of CrN/NbN superlattice coatings by cathode switching reactive cathodic arc evaporation <i>C. Pecchio, E. Bemporad, D. De Felicis, S. De Rossi & F. Carassiti</i>	61
CFD simulation of an HVOF process for the optimization of WC-Co protective coatings <i>C. Bartuli, F. Cipri, T. Valente & N. Verdone</i>	71
Basis of high-pressure water-ice jet creation and application for surface treatment <i>P. Borkowski</i>	85

Section 2: Mechanical Surface Treatment

- Effect of shot peening on fatigue strength of maraging steel 99
N. Kawagoishi, T. Nagano & M. Moriyama
- Numerical analysis of thermal phenomena and deformations 109
in processing zone in the centerless continuous grinding process
L. Kukielka & J. Kustra
- Effect of fine-particle bombardment on fatigue strength 119
of carburized Cr-Mo steel
*H.N. Ko, C. Kagaya, H. Itoga, K. Ogasawara, N. Egami, K. Tokaji
& M. Nakajima*
- Regeneration of fatigue properties by methods 129
of surface cold-work hardening
*E.N. Kablov, I.E. Kovalev, P.D. Zhemanyuk, V.V. Tkachenko,
A.V. Boguslayev, S.A. Voitenko, L.A. Pirogov, F.P. Banas
& A.E. Kovalev*

Section 3: Laser Surface Treatment

- Laser melt injection of hard ceramic particles into Al and Ti alloys 141
– processing, microstructure and mechanical behaviour
V. Ocelik, S. Nijman, R. van Ingen, U. Oliveira & J.Th.M. De Hosson
- Numerical simulation and microstructural investigation 155
of an aluminum-copper alloy processed by laser surface remelting
N. Cheung, M.A. Pinto, M.C.F. Ierardi & A. Garcia
- Microstructural features in a laser clad TiB-Ti composite coating 165
B.J. Kooi, Y.T. Pei & J.Th.M. De Hosson
- The influence of non-metallic inclusions on the strengthening 175
of steels by laser treatment
S. Gubenko & M. Iskov
- A numerical solution for non-linear heat flow problem 183
using boundary integral method
S.G. Ahmed

Section 4: Damage Mechanics

- Fatigue behaviour of nitrided low alloy steel in 3%NaCl solution 195
K. Tokaji & S. Takahashi

The influence of fillet rolling on fatigue strength – experiment and calculation <i>R. Schaal, B. Kaiser, B. Pyttel & C. Berger</i>	205
Internal fracture process in fatigue of radical nitrided bearing steel <i>K. Morino, N. Kawagoishi, Q. Chen, K. Fukada & E. Kondo</i>	213
Fracture mechanism of shot-peened maraging steel in long-life region <i>T. Nagano, M. Moriyama & N. Kawagoishi</i>	223
On the microstructure and deformation mechanisms under indentations of TiN/(Ti,Al)N multilayer coatings <i>N.J.M. Carvalho, B.J. Kooi & J.Th.M. De Hosson</i>	233
On the lay selection with determined surface frictional properties <i>H. Latos & M. Dalak</i>	243
Determination of interface strength of polymer-polymer joints <i>B. Lauke, T. Schüller & K. Schneider</i>	253
Effect of fiber length on tensile strength of jute-fiber-reinforced polypropylene with several kinds of interfacial treatment <i>K. Shima, K. Okubo & T. Fujii</i>	261
Secondary cracking and dispersion of rocks at the contact with fluids <i>V.M. Kornev & Yu.V. Kornev</i>	269
Fatigue crack growth of SA508 C1.3 pressure vessel steel in high-temperature argon and water environments <i>I.S. Kim, S.G. Lee & H.C. Cho</i>	277
Section 5: Residual Stress Effects	
Near surface secondary stresses affecting the mechanical behavior <i>Y. Katz & H. Alush</i>	287
Numerical simulation of superficial diffusion and precipitation of chemical elements, with application to some nitriding process <i>J.M. Bergheau, J. Devaux, P. Duranton, R. Fortunier, B. Larreur & J.B. Leblond</i>	297
Investigation of the combined stress and strain situation in diffusion welded rectifying elements <i>O. Korolkov, T. Rang & R. Kurel</i>	307

A new X-ray method for residual stress evaluation in coatings <i>M. Gelfi, E. Bontempi, V. Rigato, A. Patelli, A. Guizzi, R. Roberti, M. Tosti & L.E. Depero</i>	317
Finite element simulation of roller burnishing in crankshafts <i>S. Courtin, C. Henaff-Gardin & G. Bezine</i>	333
Index of Authors	343