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Validation of Multi-Frequency Eddy Current MWM® Sensors and MWM-Arrays for Coating Production Quality and Refurbishment Assessment

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Siemens Power Generation Gas Turbine Models







Uncoated turbine blade (rotating component) and vane (stationary component)







JENTEK Instrumentation, Software, MWM Sensors and MWM-Arrays





MWM Single-Channel Probe and Interchangeable Probe Tips



MWM-Array Probe





Coating Thickness - Lift-off Grid Lattices for MCrAIY Coating Family



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Effective Conductivity as a Function of Frequency for Uncoated and Coated Material

(Left) Results from an earlier study; (Right) results for coated alloy 1



Note that the results are essentially not affected by increasing lift-off, i.e., by adding a 25-µm thick shim between the sensor and part.

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Motivation, Objective, and Scope

Motivation

- Thickness measurements of MCrAlY coatings after diffusion heat treatment pose an especially tough problem for conventional eddy current technology
- MWM sensors with grid methods provide a potential solution

Objective

• Evaluate and qualify MWM with grid methods for characterization of MCrAlY coatings

Scope

- Three different superalloy substrates
- Nickel-based and cobalt-based
- All of the examined MCrAlY coatings had gone through the diffusion heat treatment

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MWM Characterization of MCrAIY Coatings

Evaluation of MWM with Grid Methods for Production Quality Control

• The superalloy substrates, investigated with their respective MCrAlY coatings, were:

Alloy 1 (Co-base alloy) Alloy 2 (Ni-base alloy) Alloy 3 (Ni-base alloy)

• Measurements were performed over a wide range of frequencies (Typically 400 kHz to 16 MHz)





Comparison of MWM with Metallographic MCrAIY Coating Thickness Measurements for Three Different Substrate/Coating Combinations



Metallographic Coating Thickness (microns)

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MWM Results of 10% production MCrAIY Coating **Thickness Measurements for Process 1**



MWM Results of 10% Production MCrAIY Coating Thickness Measurements for Process 2



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Correlation Between Surface Roughness and Lift-off for Three Samples



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MWM Measured Lift-off vs. Effective Thickness using a Three-unknown Model

B, C, and D are the three corrosion damage states identified in the study



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Four-Unknown Coating Problem Examples



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Comparison of MWM measured coating conductivity determined with a 4-unknown algorithm vs. 3-unknown algorithm



Section Number (0 is back)





Comparison of MWM measured coating thickness determined with a 4-unknown algorithm vs. 3-unknown algorithm



Section Number (0 is back)



Additional MWM Capabilities

- The MWM results are based on a three-unknown algorithm. For magnetic coatings and/or substrates as well as for substrates with spatially variable properties, an algorithm that can handle four or more unknowns can be used.
- The results presented today were obtained using an MWM sensor with a single sensing element. Imaging MWM-Arrays provide additional powerful capabilities for inspection of coated turbine components.
- MWM-Arrays with multiple sensing elements have the ability to generate images that reveal cracks, microstructural or chemical variations, as well as hidden geometric features.

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Conclusions

- The agreement between the MWM coating thickness results and metallography is remarkably good
- MWM has significant advantages over metallography since it can provide coating thickness measurements nondestructively at any number of selected locations on actual parts in production
- MWM can also provide information on coating porosity variations and TBC thickness





Conclusions

- Correlation of MWM lift-off measurements with surface roughness has been demonstrated. This provides a fast alternative to other profilometry methods even for complex surfaces.
- A study of hot corrosion yielded promising results. Semi-quantitative measurements of corrosion severity using a three-unknown algorithm were shown to be possible. MWM technology can thus be used as a screening method.



