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# Monitoring Diffusion Coating Aging with Multi-Frequency Eddy Current MWM Sensors

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## **Diffusion Coatings**

- Widely used to protect hot gas path components in landbased gas turbines and jet engines
- Aging affects protective properties of nickel aluminide and platinum aluminide coatings
- Effective nondestructive evaluation of the aged coatings is critical for refurbish/replace/run decisions

## Objective

• Investigate the capability of model-based eddy current sensors to monitor aging of nickel aluminide and platinum aluminide coatings

## Specimens

- 28 specimens with aluminide coating
- 28 specimens with platinum aluminide coating
- Each specimen: 25 mm x 25 mm squares



#### **Thermal Exposure**

- Four specimens in each group baseline
- The other specimens exposed to 1-hr thermal cycles  $(T_{max} = 2000^{\circ}F)$
- Number of thermal cycles: 20, 50, 100, 200, 300, 400
- Four replicates exposed to the same number of thermal cycles

## **Measurement Method**

- Multifrequency electrical conductivity measurements (2-16 MHz)
- Eddy current Meandering Winding Magnetometer
- Two-unknown model (conductivity and lift-off in an infinite half space material)





JENTEK GridStation Setup with 7-Channel Instrument and 7-Channel MWM-Array Probe

Single Channel MWM Probe with Interchangeable Tips

#### Meandering Winding Magnetometer (MWM®)



Transfer Impedance = Secondary Voltage / Primary (input) Current

## **Scanning Multichannel MWM-Arrays**



## **Conductivity / Lift-off Measurement Grids**



**Example Grids for the MWM-FS35 Sensor and Aluminum** 



#### **Example Applications**

- Engines/Gas Turbines -Crack Detection
- Coatings
  - -TBC, Bond Coat, & Substrate Characterization
- Alpha Case Detection
- Structures
  - -Crack Detection (Hole scans, etc)
  - -Stress and Fatigue Monitoring
  - -Residual Stress and Fatigue Damage Mapping
  - -Prognostics & Health Management
  - -Cold Work QA
- Corrosion Damage Mapping
- Weld Characterization



Engine Disk Slot Crack Detection

727 Third Layer Cracks

Cold Work QA



**Bolt Hole Scans** 



Aluminum Bending Fatigue Damage



Corrosion - C-130 Flight Deck Chine Plate



Friction Stir Welds



Residual Stress Distribution in Steel (applicable to landing gear)

## MWM and IDED Characterization of Hot-Gas Path Components

- Diffusion coatings
- MCrAlY coatings
- TBC
- Crack detection
- Hot corrosion

#### **MWM Measured Conductivity vs. Frequency**



#### Two repeated MWM measurements on different days

#### **MWM Frequency Response Parameter**

• Multifrequency conductivity function that can capture near-surface material condition

#### **MWM Response vs. Number of Thermal Cycles**



"Top" and "bottom" refer to the coating on opposite sides of each specimen

#### **Aluminum Reservoir**

- Aluminum distribution from point-by-point EDS measurements
- Integrated available aluminum (IAA)
- IAA was determined from a summation of excess Al content at the various distances from the surface

#### **Aluminum Reservoir**

• IAA was calculated as

$$\Sigma (Al_{i,9+} - Al_{sub})$$

Where  $Al_{i, 9+}$  is the local aluminum content (from EDS) exceeding 9 percent

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Al<sub>sub</sub> is the aluminum content in the substrate

#### Normalized MWM Frequency Response and EDS-Based IAA vs. Thermal Cycles



The error bars correspond to  $\pm$  one standard deviation of the values for each exposure

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## **Scanning Multichannel MWM-Array**



## MWM-Array Conductivity Image of an Aged Turbine Component



#### **ASTM Standard**



Designation: E 2338 – 04

#### Standard Practice for Characterization of Coatings Using Conformable Eddy-Current Sensors without Coating Reference Standards<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E 2338; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

#### 1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers the use of conformable eddycurrent sensors for nondestructive characterization of coatings without standardization on coated reference parts. It includes the following: (1) thickness measurement of a conductive coating on a conductive substrate, (2) detection and characterization of local regions of increased porosity of a conductive coating, and (3) measurement of thickness for nonconductive coatings on a conductive substrate or on a conductive coating. This practice includes only nonmagnetic coatings on either magnetic ( $\mu \neq \mu_0$ ) or nonmagnetic ( $\mu = \mu_0$ ) substrates. This practice can also be used to measure the effective thickness of a process-affected zone (for example, shot peened layer for aluminum alloys, alpha case for titanium alloys). For specific types of coated parts, the user may need a more specific procedure tailored to a specific application. 1.2 Specific uses of conventional eddy-current sensors are

- D 1186 Test Methods for Nondestructive Measurement of Dry Film Thickness of Nonmagnetic Coatings Applied to a Ferrous Base
- D 1400 Test Method for Nondestructive Measurement of Dry Film Thickness of Nonconductive Coatings Applied to a Nonferrous Metal Base
- E 376 Practice for Measuring Coating Thickness by Magnetic-Field or Eddy-Current Electromagnetic Methods
- E 543 Practice for Agencies Performing Nondestructive Testing
- E 1004 Test Method for Electromagnetic (Eddy-Current) Measurements of Electrical Conductivity
- E 1316 Terminology for Nondestructive Examinations
- G 12 Test Method for Nondestructive Measurement of Film Thickness of Pipeline Coatings on Steel
- 2.2 ASNT Documents:3
- SNT-TC-1A Recommended Practice for Personnel Oualifi-

## Conclusions

- Single-channel MWM sensors and multi-channel imaging MWM-Arrays provide new capabilities for inspecting gas turbine components
- These sensors permit tracking of features of interest for a population of components
- These conformable sensors allow convenient manual and automated inspection on complex surfaces

#### **Conclusions (cont.)**

- MWM technology can differentiate between as-manufactured coating condition and the various conditions of aged samples
- MWM sensors and MWM-Arrays provide a means of characterizing aged nickel aluminide and platinum aluminide coatings
- Multiple frequency MWM technique can be implemented for characterization of diffusion coatings and base metals before and after component refurbishment

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