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NANOCOATING ZIRCONIUM ON ASTM A216 WCB CAST STEEL BY SOL GEL DIP COATING METHOD

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Abstract

In this paper, Zirconium oxychloride is reacted with oxalic acid to form zirconium oxalate which on sintering forms zirconium dioxide powder due to decomposition. The A216 WCB steel is dip coated in the sol and sintered in a chemical vapor deposition chamber till 800°C in the presence of argon gas to form the coating. The coating thus formed is characterized using XRD analysis, Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) and then the coating is tested for its corrosion by using Electrochemical workstation. Microstructural features and phase transformations of the synthesized thin films were characterized by X Ray Diffraction and Scanning Electron Microscopy. The corrosion behavior of the coated specimen shows improvement than the uncoated specimen that shows that the coated zirconia increases the corrosion resistance of the A216 steel specimen thus the coated specimen is useful for underwater applications.

Keywords: A216L WCB Steel, Heat treatment, Sol-gel, ZrO₂ thin film.