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### Kinetics and mechanism of corrosion of mild steel in new types of ionic liquids

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#### **Abstract**

It has been established that the corrosion of mild steel in *Ethaline* and *Reline* (choline chloride based deep eutectic solvents with the ethylene glycol and urea respectively) occurs with oxygen depolarization. The rate of corrosion is significantly affected by the contact time of solvents with air and temperature. These two factors determine the physicochemical properties and play a decisive role in the rate of diffusion of the depolarizer, and hence the corrosion rate. It is shown that both solvents are hygroscopic (for 160 hours of contact with air in *Ethaline* 15 vol.% of water is detected, in *Reline* about 7 vol.%). It is noted that the rate of corrosion of mild steel in *Ethaline* is noticeably higher than in *Reline*. However, when operating temperatures of solvents becomes to  $\approx 70 \div 80$  °C the corrosion rates in *Ethaline* and *Reline* is very close itch other, which is primarily due to the convergence of the viscosity parameters. SEM studies of the surface of the steel samples showed that in *Ethaline* and *Reline* solvents corrosion occurs with the formation of pitting and elements of subsurface corrosion. The mechanism of corrosion is established and the essential role of chloride anions in the formation of intermediate corrosion products is shown.

**Key words:** choline chloride; deep eutectic solvents; impedance; voltammetry; Raman spectroscopy; SEM

#### Introduction

The new class of ionic liquids called deep eutectic solvents (DESs) has become widespread in recent decades [1-3]. DESs can be an alternative to traditional toxic solvents currently used in different fields of science and technology. DESs have a lot of advantages such as a lack of toxicity, low volatility, incombustibility, thermal and chemical stability, the wide range of electrochemical stability. DESs are safe for humans and environment and fulfil all requirements of "green chemistry" [1-6].

Choline chloride is one of the most popular components of DESs. It is a quaternary ammonium salt which can form eutectic mixtures with very low crystallization temperature with

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