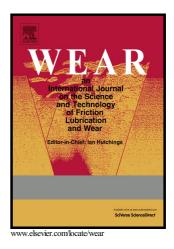
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Tribological properties and wear mechanisms of DC pulse plasma nitrided austenitic stainless steel in dry reciprocating sliding tests

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Abstract

Expanded austenite (γ_N) , or S-phase, is a special phase of low-temperature nitrided austenite containing highly super-saturated nitrogen in the form of heterogeneous Cr-N nano-clusters. A nitrided layer of singe phase γ_N is known to provide austenitic stainless steel with combined high hardness, good wear resistance and superior corrosion resistance. This paper reports recent experiments on a comparative study of the sliding wear properties and wear mechanisms of nitrided austenite stainless steel AISI 316, with a special attention paid on worn surface structural evolutions induced by frictional heating and sliding deformation. The samples were prepared by DC pulsed plasma nitriding treatments of various time at a fixed power. Knoop micro-indentation has revealed hardening behaviour of the nitrided samples. The reciprocating ball-on-disc sliding wear and friction properties were investigated at ambient environment conditions using an alumina counterpart ball. The worn surfaces have been analysed by XRD, FEG-SEM and EDX to show wear induced changes in the crystalline characteristics and the wear mechanisms of tribo-oxidation, cracking, abrasive wear and ploughing deformation. Moreover, longitudinal cross-sectional foils of Download English Version:

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