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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

An Al-17Fe alloy with high ductility and excellent thermal stability

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Abstract

In this work, Al-17Fe alloys (wt.%) were prepared by a combination of different techniques, including

centrifugal atomization and mechanical milling, followed by compaction via hot extrusion or

advanced spark plasma sintering. Both alloys exhibited a satisfactory hardness of approximately 120

HV 5, which is almost identical to the reference Al-12Si-1Cu-1Mg-1Ni casting alloy. However, when

annealed at 400 °C for up to 100 h, the investigated alloys showed excellent thermal stability, which

manifested as an almost negligible change in the initial hardness. In comparison, the reference Al-

12Si-1Cu-1Mg-1Ni alloy softened considerably, with a decrease in hardness by almost 50 % to 63 HV

5. Compressive stress-strain tests of compact samples at laboratory temperature or at an elevated

temperature of 400 °C in the initial state and after 100 h of annealing at 400 °C confirmed similar or

superior ultimate compressive and compressive yield strengths for both the Al-17Fe alloys compared

to the reference Al-12Si-1Cu-1Mg-1Ni alloy, which softened considerably when annealed at the

elevated temperatures. More importantly, the centrifugally atomized and hot-extruded Al-17Fe alloy

exhibited outstanding ductility, reaching 34 %, even when compressively tested at laboratory

temperature.

Keywords: centrifugal atomization, mechanical milling, extrusion, spark plasma sintering, thermal

stability.

Introduction

Increasing demand for special aluminium alloys, mainly utilized by the automotive industry, has

increased the total production of aluminium alloys, which already exceed the production of steel and

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