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## CCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

TiO<sub>2</sub> - based decorative coatings deposited on the AISI 316L stainless steel and glass

using an industrial scale magnetron

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**Abstract** 

This paper presents a study of optical and microstructural properties of the TiO<sub>2</sub>/316L, TiO<sub>2</sub>/Ti/316L

and TiO<sub>2</sub>/Ti/glass interference systems obtained by gas injection magnetron sputtering technique

(GIMS) employing a commercial magnetron line. The samples are examined by means of

spectrophotometry, spectroscopic ellipsometry, confocal optical microscopy, x-ray photoelectron

spectroscopy and atomic force microscopy. The investigation is completed by colorimetric analysis.

Our analysis shows the significant differences in the color of samples with a TiO<sub>2</sub> layer with the

thickness of this layer in the range 30-35 nm.

Keyword

decorative coatings; titanium dioxide; magnetron sputtering; GIMS; CIE Lab color space; optical

properties

1. Introduction

Titanium dioxide has found many high-tech applications in varous fields, including dye-sensitized

solar cells, optical filters, antireflection and wear coatings as well as electrochromic devices [1-6]. Yet

another application of TiO<sub>2</sub> is using it as a decorative coating in architecture, automotive industry and

jewelry [7-10]. In the visible spectral range, the titanium dioxide is a non-absorbing material. The

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