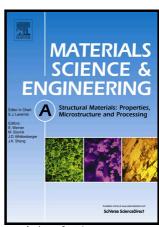
# Author's Accepted Manuscript

Grain refinement of non-equiatomic Cr-rich CoCrFeMnNi high-entropy alloys through combination of cold rolling and precipitation of  $\sigma$  phase

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www.elsevier.com/locate/msea

PII: S0921-5093(18)31095-5

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.msea.2018.08.038

Reference: MSA36809

To appear in: Materials Science & Engineering A

Received date: 1 May 2018 Revised date: 6 August 2018 Accepted date: 10 August 2018

Cite this article as: Ken Cho, Yumi Fujioka, Takeshi Nagase and Hiroyuki Y. Yasuda, Grain refinement of non-equiatomic Cr-rich CoCrFeMnNi high-entropy alloys through combination of cold rolling and precipitation of σ phase, *Materials Science & Engineering A*, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.msea.2018.08.038

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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

Grain refinement of non-equiatomic Cr-rich CoCrFeMnNi high-entropy alloys through combination of cold rolling and precipitation of  $\sigma$  phase

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Grain refinement of non-equiatomic Cr-rich CoCrFeMnNi high-entropy alloys with an fcc structure was studied focusing on the precipitation of a Cr-rich  $\sigma$  phase along grain boundaries and shear bands. We found for the first time that the  $\sigma$  phase can be precipitated at the grain boundaries and the shear bands in the alloys at a significantly fast precipitation rate. The  $\sigma$  phase effectively suppressed the grain growth of the fcc matrix during recrystallization of the alloy after conventional cold rolling, resulting in a fine-grained microstructure with a mean diameter of approximately 1  $\mu$ m. The alloys with this fine microstructure containing the  $\sigma$  phase exhibit high strength over a wide

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