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Solar selective coatings with multilayered structure based on thermal spraying WC-Co

solar absorption layer

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Abstract: Based on the outstanding high-temperature stability of WC-Co coating prepared by high-velocity

oxy-fuel (HVOF) spraying, CuCoMnOx, CuCoMnOx-SiO2, and SiO2 sols synthesized by sol-gel method were

deposited successively on the coating after grinding the surface of it. CuCoMnO<sub>x</sub> was used as sealing layer to

fill the larger pores and grooves on the surface, then, the composition CuCoMnO<sub>x</sub>-SiO<sub>2</sub> sol was deposited as the

second sealing layer to eliminate the remaining smaller pores as well as transition layer to connect the sealing

layer and the uppermost SiO<sub>2</sub> anti-reflective layer. The absorptance (a) of the new multilayer structure coating

obtained through this way increased from 0.821 to 0.915 and the emittance ( $\epsilon$ ) decreased from 0.434 to 0.290.

After being annealed for 50h at 550°C under non-vacuum environment, the α and ε of the multilayered

coatings stack changed to 0.901/0.320. The structural transformation of the coatings and mechanisms of its

improvement were investigated by X-ray diffraction (XRD), scanning electron microscope (SEM), energy

dispersive spectrometer (EDS) and laser scanning confocal microscope (LSCM). The results indicated that with

the deposition of sol films in turn, defects on the surface of WC-Co coating were gradually reduced and formed

a compact surface eventually, in correspondence, roughness of it reduced. And the formation of good element

gradients in multilayer structures might be the explanation for its substantial improvement in optical

performance.

**Keywords**: solar selective coatings, multilayered structure, CuCoMnO<sub>x</sub>, HVOF, sol-gel method

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