

Engine Expo 2009
Stuttgart

**Advanced steels for the internal combustion
engines of the future**

A. Germidis, PhD

Application development manager Land&Sea transportation
Eramet Alliages

Introduction

Carburizing grade for higher temperatures

PM steels for Diesel injection components

N-alloyed MSS for gasoline injection

Austenitic stainless steels for valves

Conclusions

INTRODUCTION

The Eramet group

Eramet is an integrated mining and metallurgical corporation

□ **Nickel**

□ **Manganese**

□ **Alloys: AUBERT & DUVAL + ERASTEEL**

- ❖ **High speed steels**
Cutting tools, cold work, wear parts
- ❖ **High performance special steels and super alloys**
Aerospace, power generation, tooling, medical, land&sea transportation
- ❖ **Forgings**
Aeronautics, power generation

INTRODUCTION

Key aspects in material development for IC engines

Materials innovation drivers in IC engines/
Continuous improvements or technological breakthroughs

Performance improvements

Engine life: Racing, heavy duty engines

Reliability – safety: Light to heavy duty

Weight reduction: Racing

Reduced emissions: Light to heavy duty

Cost reduction

Lower purchasing cost

Materials allowing a global component cost reduction

- Lower component manufacturing cost
- Material allowing to avoid expensive coatings

INTRODUCTION

Key aspects in material development for IC engines

Applications with « large » volumes: Specific grade development

- Valve steels

Applications with « small » volumes: Generic grade development

- High Speed Steels for Diesel Injection parts: Cutting tool, Cold work
- Martensitic Stainless Steels: Bearings, Knives
- Ni-based alloys: Aeronautics

« Large/Small » depends on melting/ development unit size

- Continuous Cast: n x 100 tons
- Air Melted – Ingot Cast/ Remelted ESR: 25-60 t
- Remelted VIM-VAR: 5-10 t
- Powder Metallurgical (PM): 5-10 t

Steels for Diesel Engines

Meeting emission targets

Higher P: <1000 to ca 3000 bar

Higher T: Up to 450°C

Improved dynamics: α , E/ ρ

Lower quality fuels: Corrosion issues

= Key properties

Temperature resistance

Strength/UTS

Fatigue limit

Wear resistance

Carbide pull-out resistance

Specific modulus

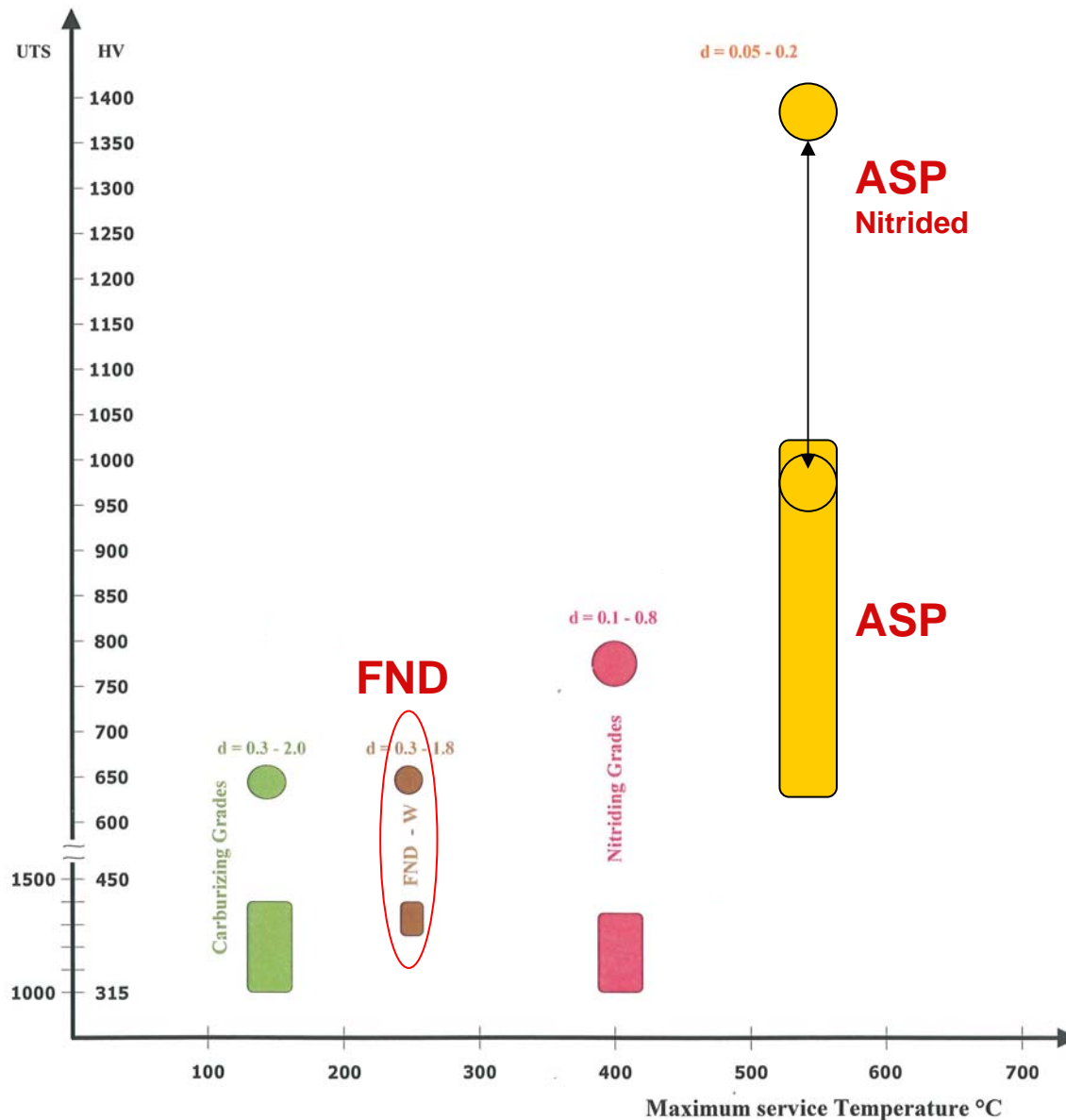
Corrosion resistance

-> High temperature carburizing steels

-> PM Tool Steels/ High-Speed Steels/ Martensitic Stainless Steels

Steels for Diesel Engines

UTS vs Temperature resistance/ Non stainless grades



Steels for Diesel Engines

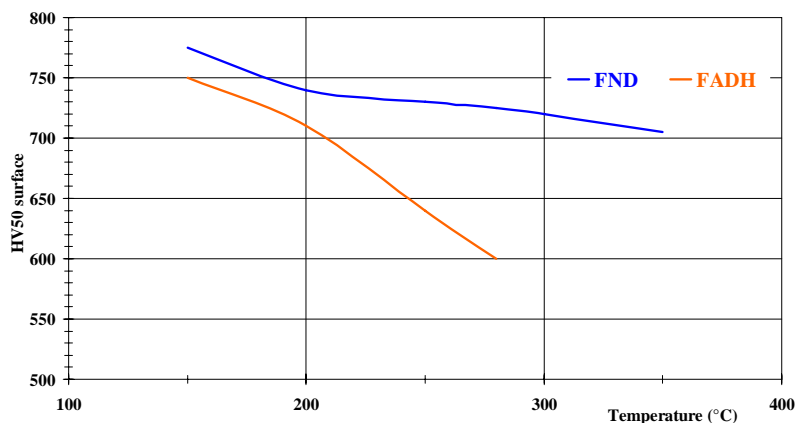
FND/ FND-W A case-hardening grade for higher temperatures

Patented

FND/ FND-W designed to be tempered at 300°C (Si, Mo)

- Can be used up to 250°C+
- Suitable for PVD coating (vs current case-hardening grades)
- Good hardenability/ suitable for gas-quenching = low distortions
- In remelted version (FND-W) + case hardening, $L_f / 20$ M Cycles ~ 1100MPa

Application: Nozzles



| Aubert&Duval grade | Designation | Typical chemical composition (%) | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|------|
| | | C | Mn | Si | Ni | Cr | Mo |
| | 20MnCr5 | 0,20 | 1,3 | 0,25 | - | 1,1 | - |
| MMR1PC | 16NiCr6 | 0,16 | 0,7 | 0,25 | 1,4 | 1,0 | - |
| BXO | 18NiCrMo6 | 0,18 | 0,7 | 0,25 | 1,4 | 1,0 | 0,20 |
| FADH | 16NiCrMo13 | 0,15 | 0,4 | 0,25 | 3,2 | 1,0 | 0,25 |
| BXM | 17CrNiMo6 | 0,17 | 0,7 | 0,3 | 1,7 | 1,7 | 0,35 |
| FND | 15NiMoCr10 | 0,15 | 0,4 | 1,10 | 2,5 | 1,0 | 2,00 |
| FDG | 20NiCrMo13 | 0,20 | 0,5 | 0,30 | 3,0 | 1,0 | 0,50 |
| FDHM | 25NiCrMo13 | 0,25 | 0,6 | 0,25 | 3,0 | 1,3 | 0,25 |

Steels for Diesel Engines

PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS
for high performance components

ASP is originally an industrial process set up in 1972 and a trade mark of Erasteel

ASP process consists in gas atomization of metallic powders followed by hot isostatic compaction

ASP process brings major microstructural benefits for alloyed steels:
High speed steels : ASP 2023, 2030, 2060, cutting, cold work tools

Improvements in cleanliness have opened components markets

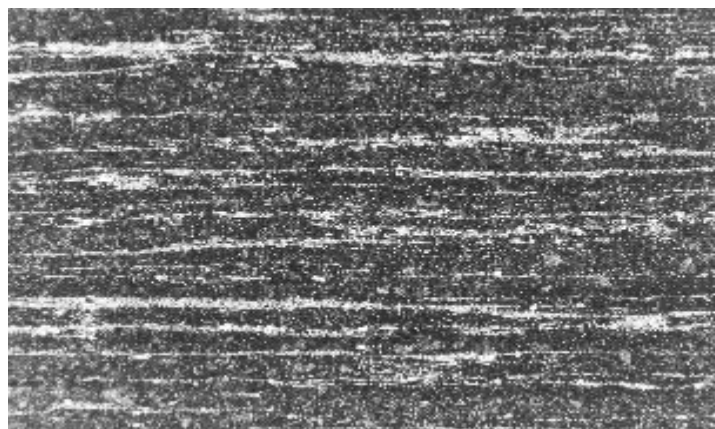
ASP process can be used for other classes of alloys than HSS:
Tool steels, Martensitic Stainless Steels, Superalloys, etc...

Steels for Diesel Engines

PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS for high performance components

A microstructural advantage

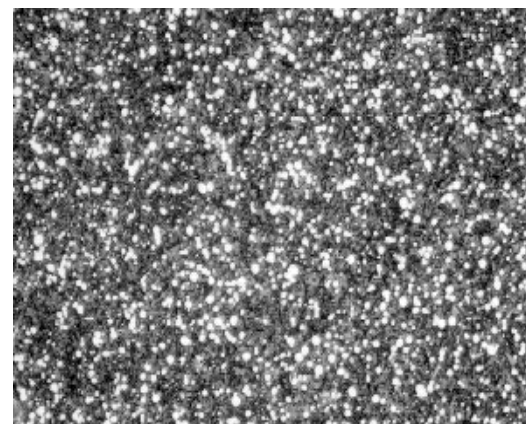
Small, homogeneous, isotropic microstructure



M2

LOM

ASP
2023



Martensitic matrix + carbides (nitrides)

Mo Carbide former (M_6C)

W Carbide former (M_6C)

V, Nb Carbide former (MC)

Partial dissolving
Secondary hardness

Cr Carbide former ($M_{23}C_6/M_7C_3$)

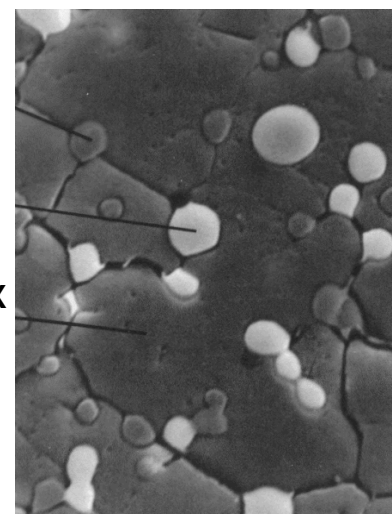
Dissolved in matrix
Secondary hardness

Co Dissolved in matrix
Hardness ("hot hardness")

MC
(2800 HV)

M_6C
(1600 HV)

MATRIX
(800 HV)



1 μ m

Steels for Diesel Engines

PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS
for high performance components

**Typical
compositions**

| | | Normalized des. | C | N | Si | Cr | W | Mo | V | C | Nb | HRC |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------|---|-----|----|-----|-----|------|----|----|-----|
| H S S . T S | M50 | 1.3551 | 0,84 | | | 4 | 0 | 4,2 | 1,1 | | | 64 |
| | ABC III | 1.3333 | 0,99 | | | 4 | 2,8 | 2,7 | 2,4 | | | 64 |
| | M2 | 1.3343 | 0,9 | | | 4 | 6,3 | 4,9 | 1,85 | | | 65 |
| | T1 | 1.3355 | 0,75 | | | 4 | 18 | 0 | 1 | | | 65 |
| | ASP 2012 | 1.3397 | 0,6 | | | 4 | 2,1 | 2 | 1,5 | | | 58 |
| | ASP 2017 | 1.3288 | 0,8 | | | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 65 |
| | ASP 2005 | 1.3377 | 1,5 | | | 4 | 2,5 | 2,5 | 4 | | | 64 |
| | ASP 2004 | 1.3361 | 1,4 | | | 4 | 5,8 | 5 | 4,1 | | | 66 |
| | ASP 2023 | 1.3395 | 1,23 | | | 4 | 6,4 | 5 | 3,1 | | | 66 |
| | Bimax 42 | 1.3247 | 1,1 | | 0,6 | 4 | 2 | 10 | 1 | 8 | | 69 |
| M S S | ASP 2060 | 1.3292 | 2,3 | | | 4 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 10 | | 69 |
| | APZ10 | X120CrMoVN19-2 | 1,15 | | | 19 | | 2,1 | 0,6 | | | 62 |
| | PM 618 | AISI 618 | 1,05 | | 0,5 | 14 | | 4 | 0,2 | | | 63 |

Eutectic solidification with primary carbides: Coarse isolated carbides + stringers

High temperature tempering 450 - 560°C

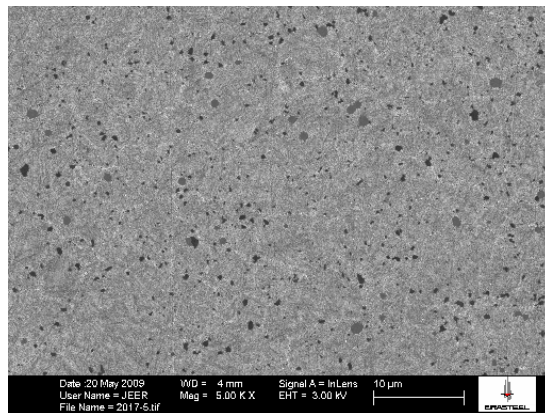
Combination of hardness, impact and wear resistance

Steels for Diesel Engines

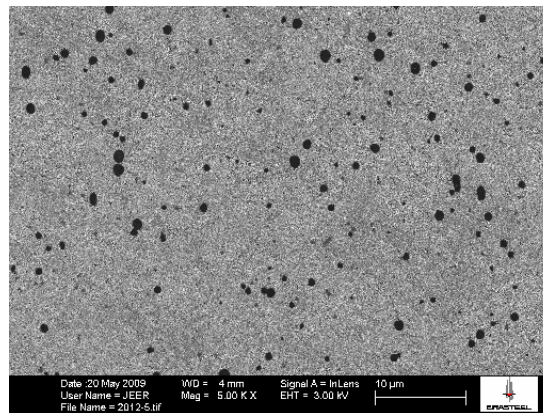
PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS for high performance components

A wide range of microstructures

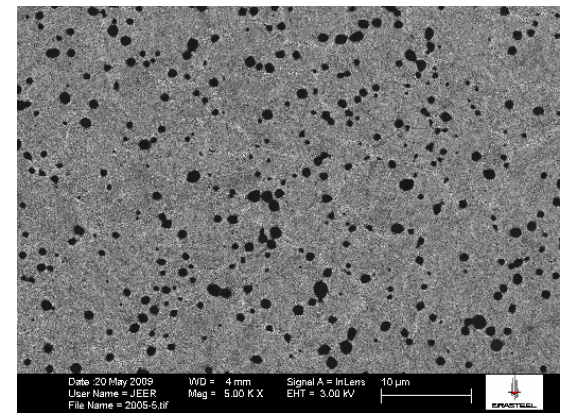
ASP 2017



ASP 2012



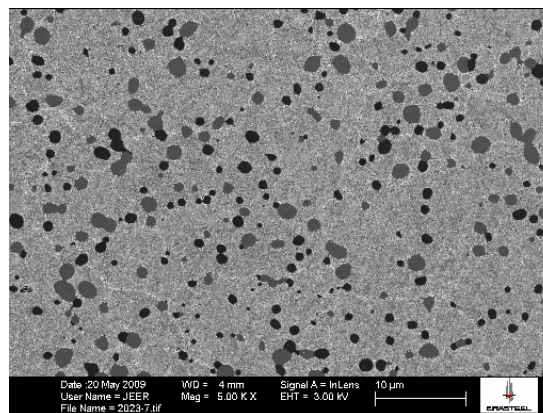
ASP 2005



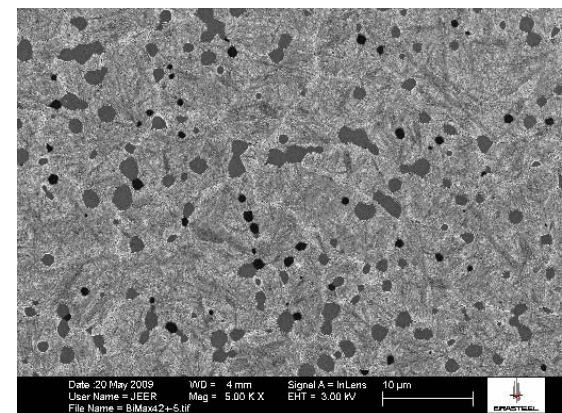
● MC
(2800 HV)

● M₆C
(1600 HV)

10 μm



ASP 2023



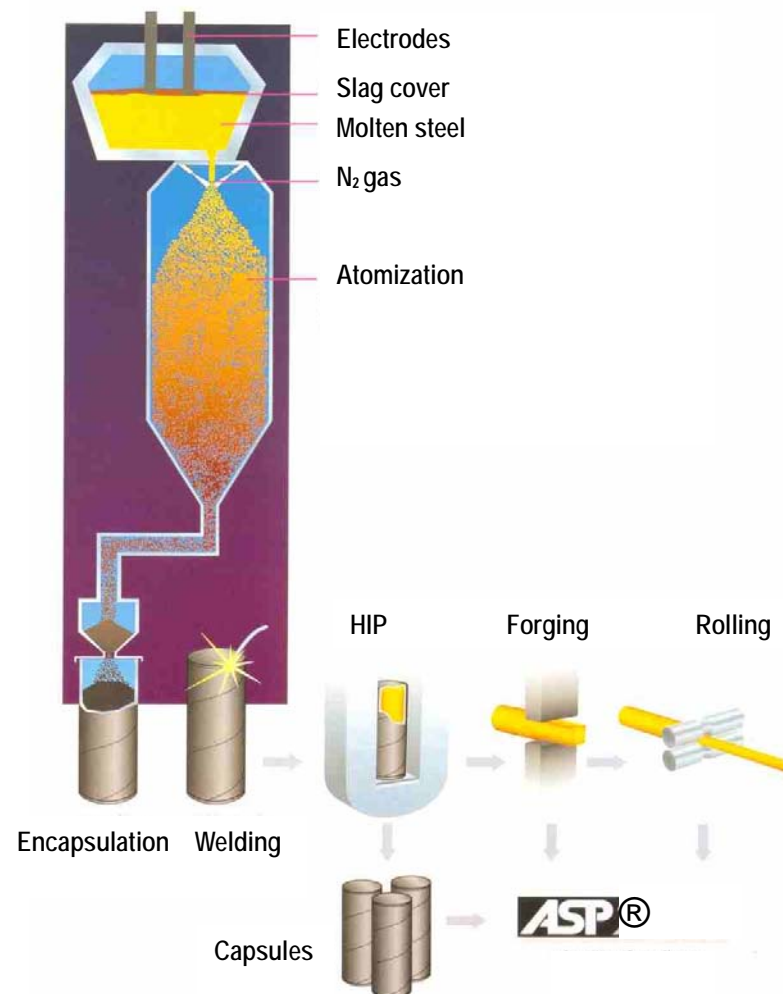
Bimax 42

Steels for Diesel Engines

PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS
for high performance components

The ASP process

- ESH Process
- Gas atomisation (N_2)
- Spherical powders
- HIP 1000bar at ca 1100°C
- Fully dense
- Forged&Rolled



® Registered trade mark

Steels for Diesel Engines

PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS for high performance components

Very high cleanliness

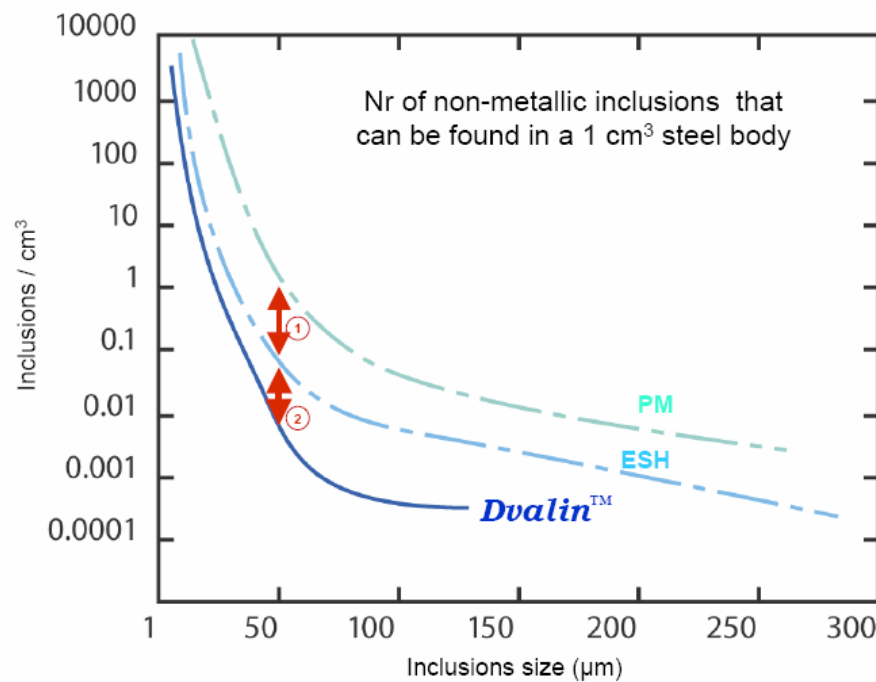
Typical ASTM E45 ratings:
A 0 B 0 C 0 D 0,5

Inclusion content can no longer be defined by a norm such as ASTM

Cleanliness = Process control

- Process development based on:
- LOM and SEM NMI assessments
 - Ultra-Sonic Destructive analysis
 - Fatigue testing

Evolving process: Step and continuous improvements



Steels for Diesel Engines

PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS
for high performance components

Key properties of ASP grades

Temper resistance

Wear resistance

Hardness vs Impact toughness

Strength

Fatigue resistance

Specific modulus

Suitable for nitriding

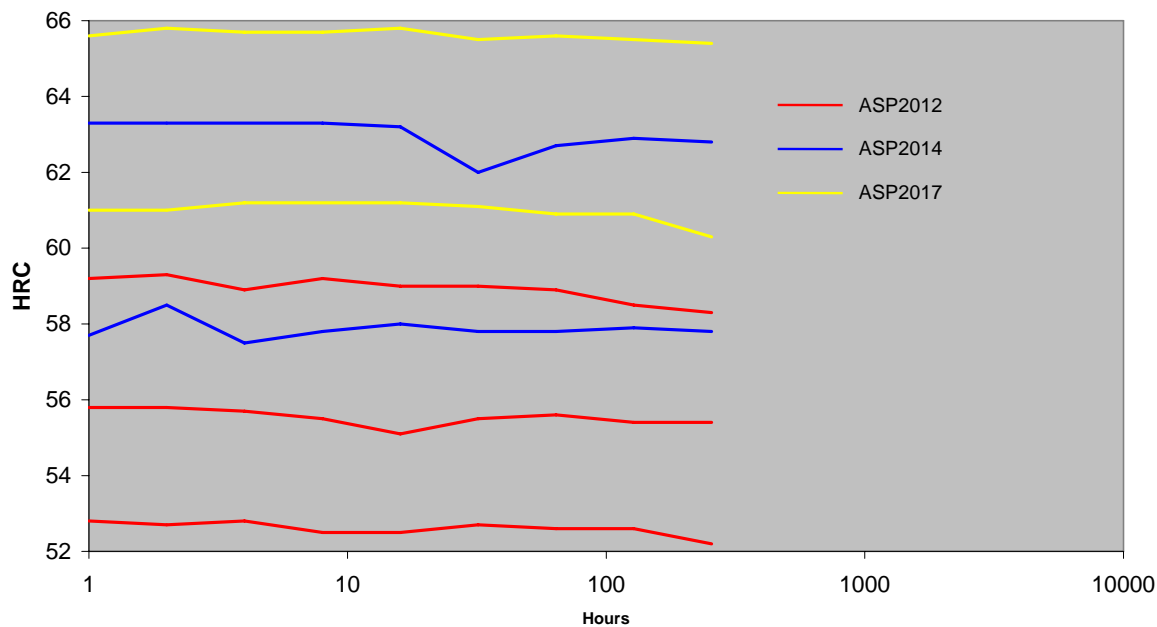
Corrosion resistance

Steels for Diesel Engines

PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS
for high performance components

Key properties: Temper resistance

Temper resistance of ASP at 500C



Steels for Diesel Engines

PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS
for high performance components

Key properties: Wear resistance

Adhesive wear:

Smooth surfaces + nitriding

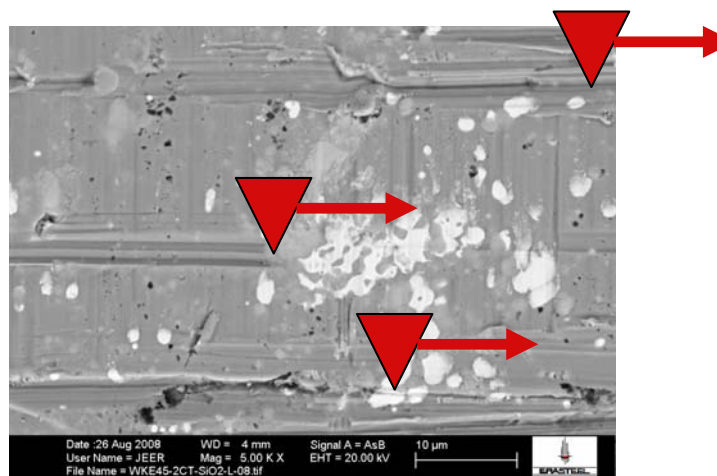
Abrasive wear:

Hardness, carbides (types, fv, sizes)

Cavitation/erosion wear:

Hardness, carbides fv, fatigue resistance

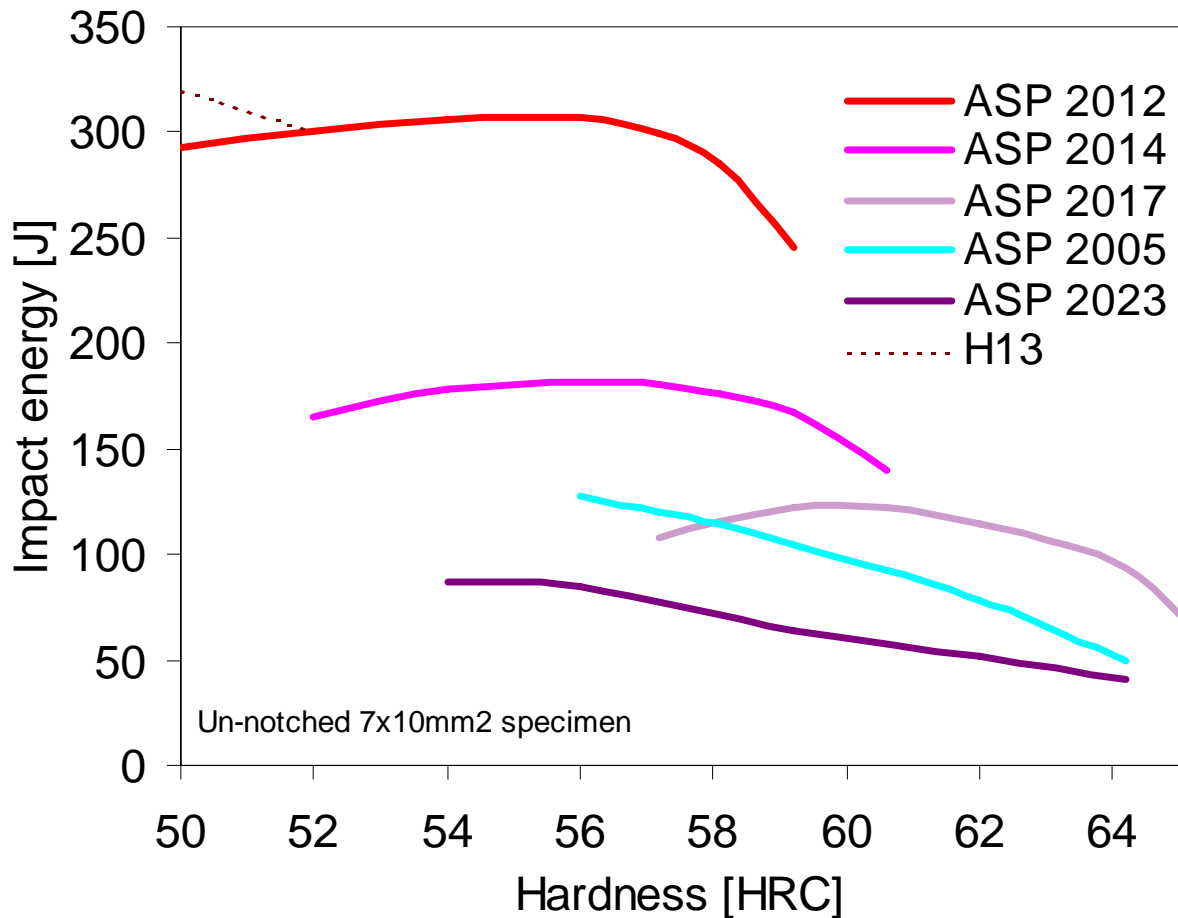
- Hard matrix
- Hard carbides
- Many carbides



Steels for Diesel Engines

PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS
for high performance components

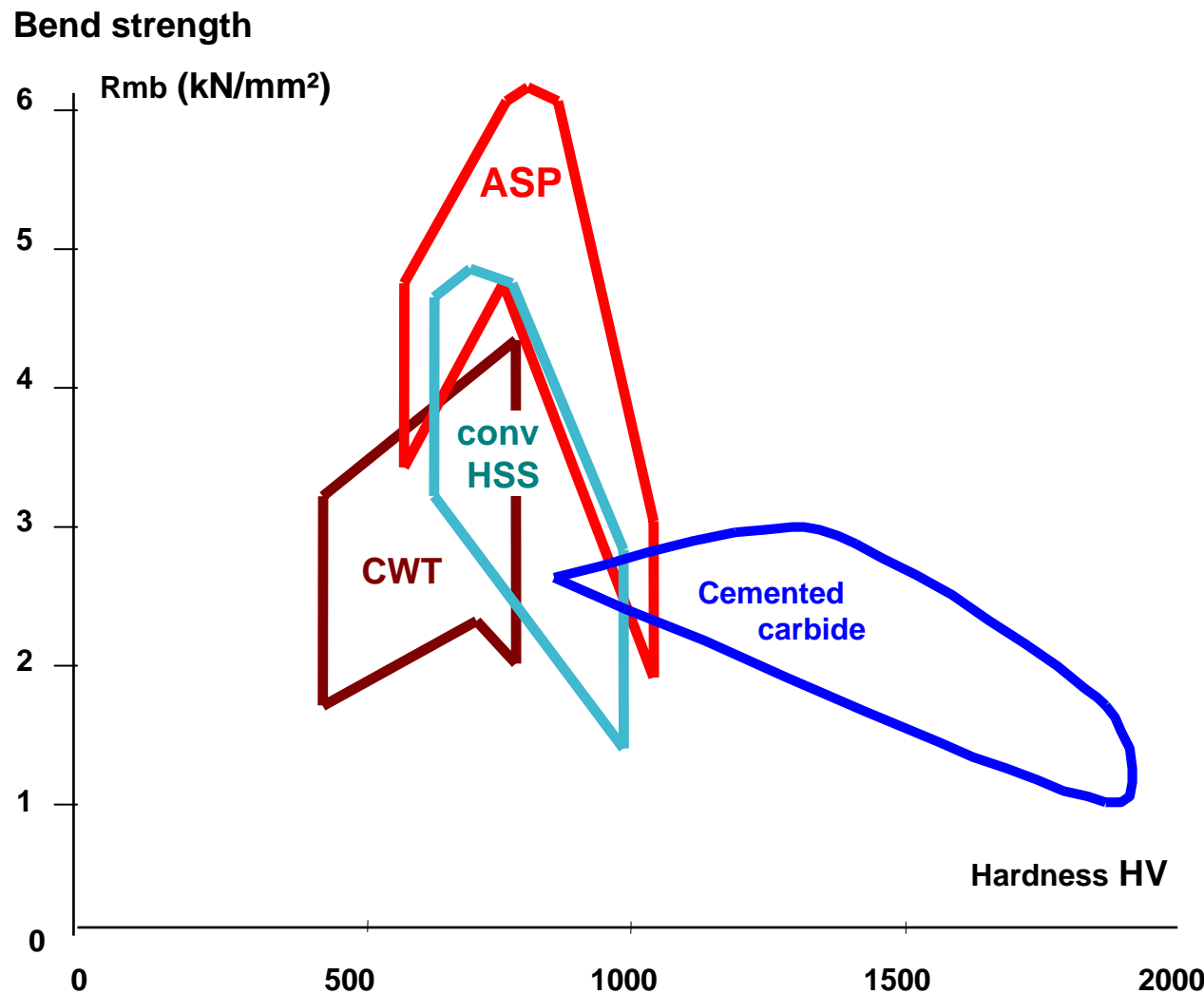
Key properties: Impact Toughness vs Hardness



Steels for Diesel Engines

PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS
for high performance components

Key properties: Strength

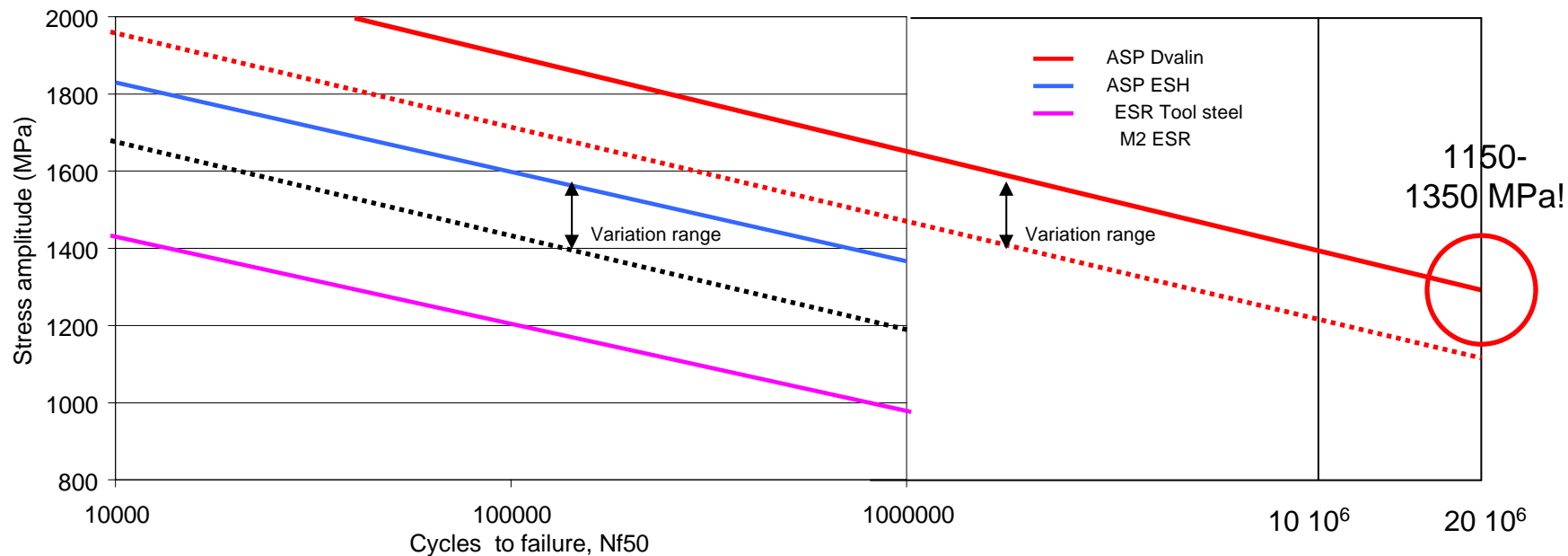


Steels for Diesel Engines

PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS
for high performance components

Key properties: Fatigue resistance

Inclusions, carbide clusters and heat treatment



Rotating bending fatigue

Steels for Diesel Engines

PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS
for high performance components

Key properties: Specific modulus E/ρ

| Grades | C | W | Mo | V | Co | Nb | Hardness range (HRC) | Wear resistance index | Density | E(GPa) | Specific modulus | Charpy (Nm) at max HRC | Max hardness (HRC) | Charpy (Nm) at 62 HRC |
|----------|------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----------------------|-----------------------|---------|--------|------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| ASP 2012 | 0,6 | 2,1 | 2 | 1,5 | | | up to 58 | + | 7,8 | 220 | 28,2 | 280 | 58,0 | NA |
| ASP 2017 | 0,8 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 1 | up to 65 | + | 8 | 235 | 29,4 | 70 | 65,0 | 115 |
| ASP 2005 | 1,5 | 2,5 | 2,5 | 4 | | | up to 64 | +++ | 7,8 | 220 | 28,2 | 50 | 64,0 | 90 |
| ASP 2004 | 1,4 | 5,8 | 5 | 4,1 | | | up to 66 | ++++ | 8 | 240 | 30,0 | 35 | 66,0 | 65 |
| ASP 2023 | 1,23 | 6,4 | 5 | 3,1 | | | up to 66 | +++ | 8 | 230 | 28,8 | 35 | 66,0 | 50 |
| Bimax 42 | 1,1 | 2 | 10 | 1 | 8 | | 67 - 69 | ++ | 8 | 225 | 28,1 | 15 | 69,0 | NA |
| ASP 2053 | 2,45 | 4 | 3 | 8 | | | up to 65 | +++++ | 7,7 | 250 | 32,5 | 40 | 65,0 | 50 |
| ASP 2060 | 2,3 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 10 | | up to 69 | +++++ | 7,9 | 250 | 31,6 | 14 | 69,0 | 21 |

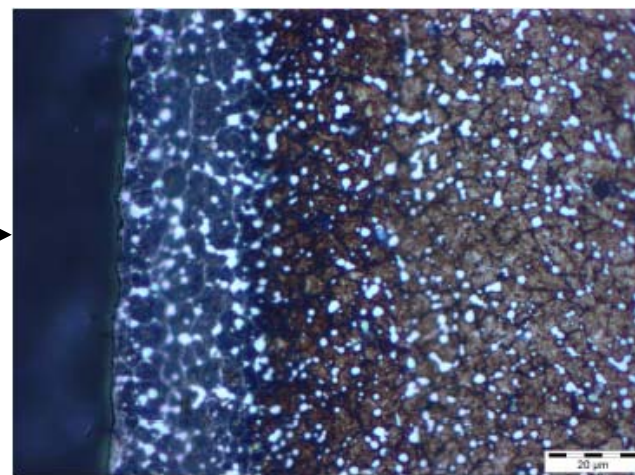
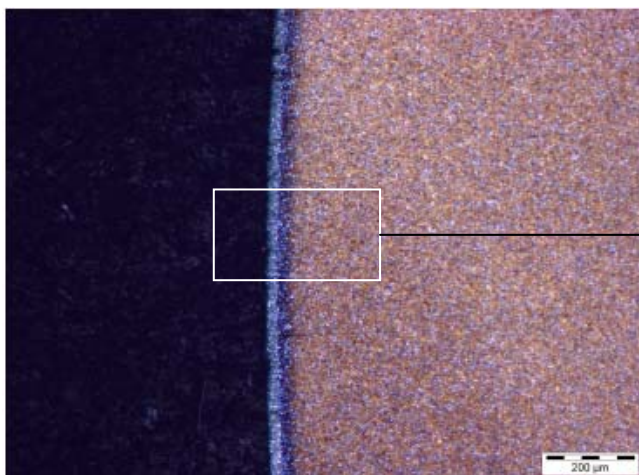
+ 25% vs construction steels!

Steels for Diesel Engines

PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS
for high performance components

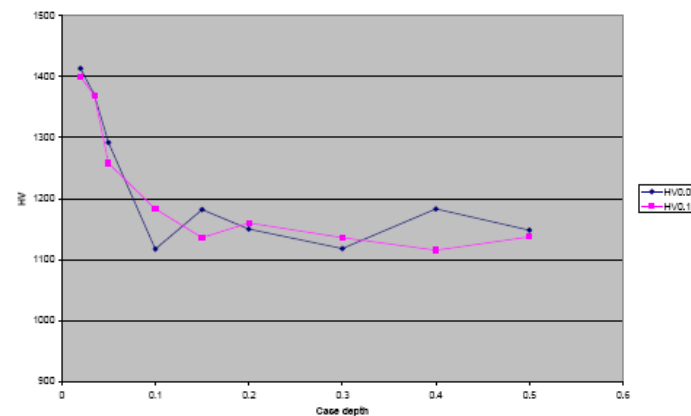
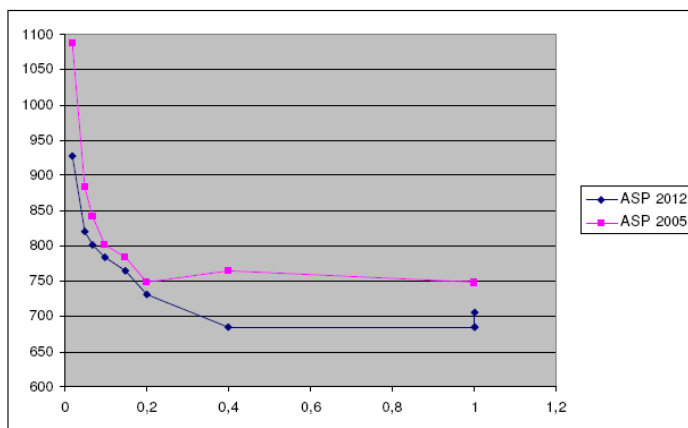
Key properties: Suitable for nitriding

Vs Fatigue, Wear, Friction: **Cost efficient alternative to Cermets/ Ceramics**



Gx 50 : nitrided layer with a visual case depth about 80 microns

Microhardness profil :



Conventional case depth (core hardness + 100HV): 0.05-0.07mm

Steels for Diesel Engines

PM High-speed steels/ tool steels/ MSS
for high performance components

Key properties: Corrosion resistance

PM Martensitic stainless steels

APZ10

PM AISI 618

PM knife/ tooling grades offering

- Temper resistance
- Abrasion resistance
- Fatigue resistance
- Impact resistance

+

Acceptable corrosion resistance with 500°C tempering

N-Alloyed MSS for gasoline injection

X15TN

Patented

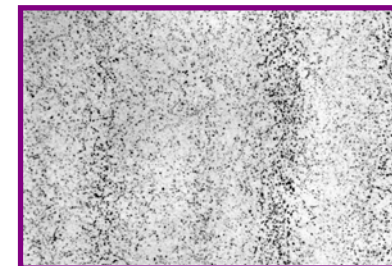
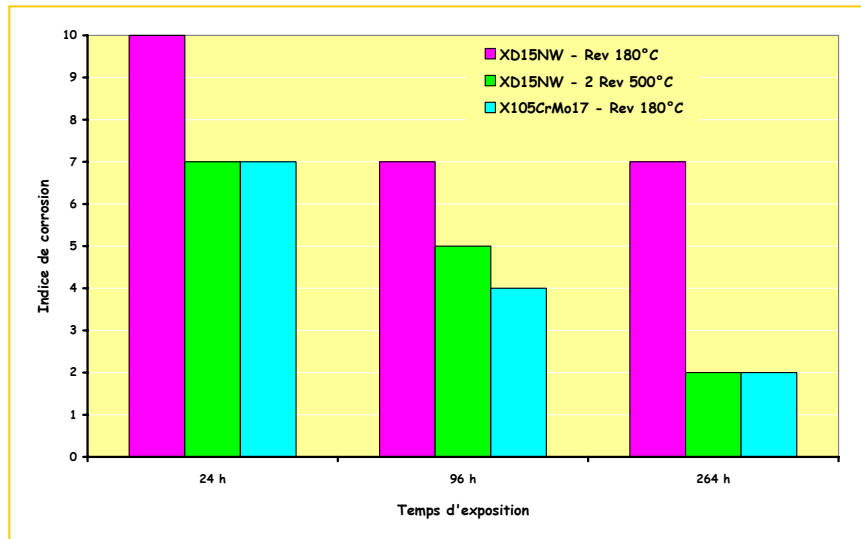
High N Content -> Good PREN

Carbide/Nitrided size decrease vs C alloyed MSS (such as 440C)

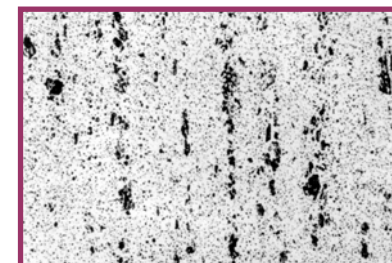
X15TN originally a flying bearing grade -> AMS

- Produced by ESR process, specific know-how -> Fatigue limit 20MC ca 1000MPa
- Hardness: 58-60 HRC (high T temper, cryogenic treatment)
- Good to excellent corrosion resistance
- Good weldability

A validated solution for demanding gasoline injection applications



X15TN



XDBDW
(440C)

N-Alloyed MSS for gasoline injection and inlet valves

XD16N

Patented

High N Content -> Good PREN

Carbide/Nitrided size decrease vs C-alloyed MSS (such as 440C)

XD16N originally an inlet valve steel

- Air melted
- Hardness: 57-58 HRC (high T temper, cryogenic treatment)
- Quench cracking resistance
- Induction hardenable
- Good temperature resistance (High Si)
- Good corrosion resistance (High N)

Cost-efficient alternative to XD15N, still superior to 440C

| Grades | Normalized des. | C | N | Si | Mn | Cr | Mo | V | Max HRC | PREN |
|------------------------|-----------------|------|------|----|----|----|------|-----|---------|------|
| XD15N-W | 1.4123 | 0,42 | 0,25 | | | 16 | 1,8 | 0,2 | 60 | 17 |
| XD16N | - | 0,5 | 0,15 | 2 | 1 | 16 | 0,3 | 0,3 | 58 | 6 |
| AISI 440C/ XDBD | 1.3544 | 1,1 | | | | 18 | 0,75 | | 62 | -13 |

Valve steels/ Exhaust valve

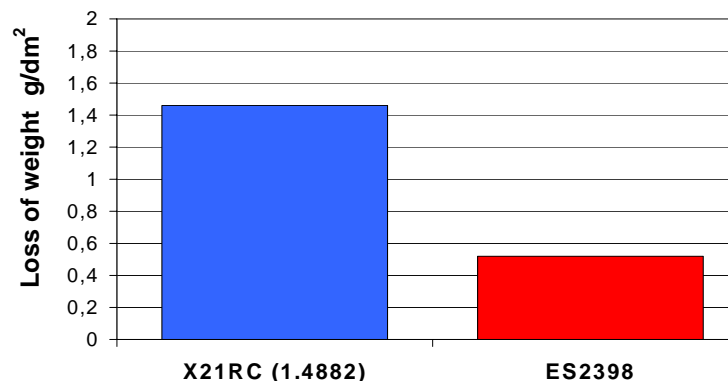
Austenitic valve steel with improved properties X26RC

Patented

X26RC closes the gap between austenitic valve steels and Ni-based superalloys with low Ni content

| Aubert&Duval grade | Designation | Typical chemical composition (%) | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-------|
| | | C | Mn | Cr | Ni | N | Nb | Fe | other |
| X21RC | X50CrMnNiNbN21-9 1.4885 | 0,50 | 9 | 21 | 3,7 | 0,45 | 1,9 | Base | W |
| X26RC | X30CrNiMnNb25-12 - | 0,30 | 5 | 25,5 | 12 | 0,55 | 2 | Base | |
| EA1 | NiCr20TiAl 2.4952 | 0,06 | <1 | 19 | 75 | - | - | < 3 | Ti,Al |

| A&D Grades | UTS (MPa) | 0.2% YS (MPa) | UTS (MPa) |
|------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| | 20°C | | 700°C |
| X21RC | 950 | 550 | 480 |
| X26RC | 960 | 560 | 585 |
| EA1 | 1050 | 620 | 675 |



Comparative mechanical properties (Solutioned + aged)

Oxidation resistance 850°C 100h + pickling

CONCLUSIONS

Case hardening and stainless steels with increased Si/Mo contents resist softening during high temperature use

PM steels offer evolutive and exciting property combinations for critical components in high performance IC engines

N-Alloyed martensitic stainless steels are very interesting materials to fight biofuel corrosion in gasoline injection

Advanced steels with appropriate surface treatment can be more competitive than cheaper steels + expensive coatings or cermets/ ceramics

Alloy content reduction and air-melting for good enough performance allow achieving cost reduction for large volume applications