JOURNAL OF APPLIED ELECTROCHEMISTRY 17 (1987) 223

Editorial

This issue of the *Journal of Applied Electrochemistry* contains several papers from a workshop on refractory metal electrodeposition, held at Imperial College, London, in 1985. The Editor is indebted to Douglas Inman for the procurement and scrutiny of these papers.

Introduction

The following collection of papers originates from a workshop on the electrodeposition of refractory metals from fused salt electrolytes, sponsored by the US Army European Research Office, and held in July 1985 at Imperial College.

There is no doubt concerning the need to protect less-resistant metals with refractory metal coatings. At first sight there are many methods available for this purpose and it was therefore decided to hold a workshop to focus attention on the conditions needed to produce these coatings, and on the structure, properties and behaviour in the use of the resulting plates when compared with the plates produced by electrolysis from aqueous solutions and by non-electrolytic means.

Many difficulties attend the production of coherent coatings of these metals by electrodeposition from molten salts, namely the often dendritic and/or powdery nature of the deposits, although there have been several successful attempts in recent years.

Particular attention was paid to chromium at the workshop as difficulties have been encountered in attempting to use aqueous-plated chromium in extreme conditions of heat and erosion. There were papers on both the aqueous and molten salt plating of chromium included in the workshop. The papers included here give something of the flavour of the meeting although they do not constitute a complete collection.

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