



Diffusion Bonding of H230 Ni-superalloy for application in microchannel heat exchangers

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- High efficiency due to no phase change during operation and high heat recuperation
- Compact turbo machinery reduces capital cost
- Ability for higher heat recuperation makes heat exchangers an integral part of the sCO2 cycles



Heat Exchangers



• Micro channel heat exchangers have much higher heat transfer efficiency



- Pattern microscale flow paths
- Join these using laser welding, diffusion bonding or brazing

- Dimensional Tolerances
- Uniform microstructure
- Imperative700°C-800°C, 20-30

Microfluidics.com, Basuki et al., MSEA, 538 (2012, MD-38; Zapirain et al. Physics Procedia, 12 (2011) 105-112

Materials – H230 Ni-base superalloy





Heat treatment fixture operating at 850°C



Heat treatment basket for 1200°C



Gas turbine engine combustor

- Solid-solution strengthened Ni-Cr-W-Mo superalloy
- Excellent high temperature strength, Oxidation, grain growth and carburization resistance
- sCO₂ exposure for 500 h Lowest mass gain at 700°C, 20 MPa, compared to 282 and 740*

Diffusion Bonding Model





Temperature, Pressureand Time for DB??

550 µm H230 shims

Surface assumptions-

Parallel, elliptical voids, contact between ridge topsNegligible effect of surface impurities or oxides



Fig. 1. Modelled surface-long parallel ridges.

Void Closure due to -

- Initial plastic deformation of ridges
- Surface & volume diffusion from surface source to the neck
- Evaporation from surface source to condensation at the neck
- Grain boundary and volume diffusion from interfacial source to the neck
- Power-law creep



Input Parameters

- Fixed input parameters-
 - Surface roughness height, Temperature, Material properties
- Variable input parameters-
 - Pressure & Time
- Outputs-
 - % area bonded vs. time
 - % strain vs. time



Bond Pressure (MPa)

Balance creep, time, pressure and bonded area

- Diffusion Bonding Parameters 1150°C for 8 hrs at 12.7 MPa pressure
- Area Bonded > 85 %

55



Output of Diffusion Bonding - stacks







Tensile samples from H230 DB stacks



Microstructure – Non-plated H230



Grain growth across the bond





- Etched microstructure to observe grain growth through the bond line
- No voids resolved

Microstructure near the bondline





• Primary – Primary carbides which form at higher temperature



> 90 % Area Bonded

W- & Mo-based Primary Carbides





20 μm

• Primary Carbides – W- and Mo-based carbides which form at higher temperature

Is the DB stack different?



H230 Sheet



H230 DB stack



100 µm

• 3X higher precipitates/unit area in DB stack



Microstructure – Ni-plated H230



Ni-Plated H230





Large voids at bondline



Grain growth at the bondline

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Microstructure near the bond





Diffusion Bond 80 60 % ¥ 40 Cr 20 W 400 1000 0 200 600 Distance (µm) 100 µm

- Primary Carbides
- Increase in Ni, dip in Cr at the bond



Mechanical Properties



Summary of yield strength



At 750°C, the yield strength of both Ni-plated and Non-Ni-plated H230 is 76% and 82%

 At RT, the yield strength of both Ni-plated and Non-Ni-plated H230 is ~ 90%



Fracture surfaces - Ni-plated H230 DB stack





Fracture surfaces - Non-plated H230 DB stack





• Fracture through the sheet

Fracture through the
^{750°C} bond

Side view of fracture surfaces – Nonplated H230 DB stack





Summary





1) Uniform bond with grain growth across the bondline



2) Ni increase, Cr dip through the bond

3) 750°C - 76% and 82% of H230RT - 82.5% and 89% of H230



4) Micro cracking along precipitate bands



⁵⁾ Cracks along DB





Thank You

