Coatings produced using submicron and nanoscale powders are becoming increasingly popular for coatings with advanced microstructures. Especially demanding applications such as gas turbine hot-section components and solid-oxide fuel cells can benefit from the improved physical and mechanical properties that these coatings can offer.

Suspension spray combines the versatility and rapid deposition rate of Atmospheric Plasma Spray (APS) with the ability to produce advanced microstructures from submicron and nanoscale powders. It also provides the possibility of a full range of material compositions that include oxide ceramics, alloys, carbides, blends and more. Suspension spray can generate columnar microstructures that are similar to electron-beam physical vapor deposition (EB-PVD) Thermal Barrier Coatings (TBC) but at a much lower investment cost.

To ensure consistent coatings with repeatable characteristics it is essential that the suspension feedstock and liquid feed system are perfectly matched. For good flow, the particles in the suspension must be well dispersed and homogeneous throughout the coating operation. Oerlikon Metco suspension spray technologies combines material, equipment and application expertise to ensure repeatable quality coatings.

**Superior suspension consistency**

The suspension must be designed to resist settling and agglomeration. Well-dispersed suspensions have slow sedimentation rates and low viscosities that serve to maintain suspension consistency and promote good feed characteristics.

The sedimentation rate is significantly reduced with the use of an effective dispersant such as that used in Metco 6608.

Metco 6608 has a low viscosity that results in a slow and stable sedimentation rate.

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**Metco 6608 Properties**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Solids content (wt%)</td>
<td>25.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viscosity (cP)</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific Gravity (g/cm³)</td>
<td>1.017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* the sedimentation rate test was performed by placing well-mixed suspensions in clear glass containers and measuring, over time, the total height of the liquid less the height of sediment to get the height of the suspension.
Every successful coating solution starts with the right material choice. Oerlikon Metco provides unique formulations for suspension plasma spray of thermal barrier coatings that are a cut above the rest.

- Manufactured with our HOSP™ process and milled to submicron particle size.
- Comparable composition and exceptional purity as that of our highest quality $8Y_2O_3 ZrO_2$ products.
- Designed for low viscosity and high stability required of liquid suspension feedstocks.

Feeding of extremely fine, submicron and nanostructured powders can be problematic. However, the Metco LFS 400 accurately and continuously feeds suspension feedstock materials for thermal spray processes in production environments.

- Pulse-free operation while maintaining a consistent suspension without sedimentation to ensure the highest feed accuracy.
- Dual-canister design allows for continuous feeding making it the ideal feeder for R&D, prototyping and production operations.
- Designed for quick, simple maintenance and trouble-free operation.

Our best-selling plasma spray guns are readily and simply adapted for suspension plasma spray:

- TriplexPro-210 triple cathode cascading arc gun for highest consistency, lowest process drift and best throughput.
- SinplexPro single cathode cascading arc guns for excellent stability and process reliability at high throughput, which retrofits into your existing plasma spray system.
- Metco F4MB-XL and Metco 9MBM conventional plasma spray guns are well-known worldwide, and engineered for reliable performance.
Perfect solutions through optimum materials and innovative technologies

Oerlikon Metco is a global leader in surface engineering solutions and services offering:
- A broad range of thermal spray, laser cladding and other advanced surface technology equipment
- Integrated systems and materials
- Specialized coating and surface enhancement services
- Manufactured components for the turbine, automotive and other industries
- Customer support services

Oerlikon Metco provides a comprehensive manufacturing, distribution and service network, catering to aviation, power generation, automotive and other strategic growth industries.

To take control of your surface engineering challenges, contact your Oerlikon Metco sales office, visit our web site at www.oerlikon.com/metco or e-mail us at info.metco@oerlikon.com

About Oerlikon Metco

Oerlikon Metco enhances surfaces that bring benefits to customers through a uniquely broad range of surface technologies, equipment, materials, services, specialized machining services and components. The surface technologies such as Thermal Spray and Laser Cladding improve the performance and increase efficiency and reliability. Oerlikon Metco serves industries such as aviation, power generation, automotive, oil & gas, industrial and other specialized markets and operates a dynamically growing network of more than 50 sites in EMEA, Americas and Asia Pacific. Oerlikon Metco, together with Oerlikon Balzers, belongs to the Surface Solutions Segment of the Switzerland-based Oerlikon Group.

Information is subject to change without prior notice.

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