



High strength CICC jacket with YS>1500MPa at 4.2 K for future magnetic confinement fusion

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- CHN01: Chinese High Nitrogen cryogenic structural steel 01
- 2015, Sponsored by Prof. L.F. Li (TIPC)

for MCF and Space applications;

2019, Trial manufacture by

IMR (Institute of Metal Research, CAS) & TIPC;

2020, Research alliance by

ASIPP(End-user for MCF)&TIPC; Directed by Prof. Li

2022, To be used as jacket material and TF case of MCF.







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Part 1

Introduction



Introduction



Fusion energy development strategy roadmap in China







SC Magnets of CFETR



16 TF coils, 8 CS coils, 6 PF coils

(1) ReBCO CICC: CS (2) Nb₃Sn CICC: TF、CS、PF1/7 (3) NbTi CICC: PF2-6

Cable-in-conduit conductors (CICC)



The jacket in the CICC is the bearing component for the electromagnetic force, which is required to have high strength and toughness at 4.2 K.



Introduction



Increase in magnetic field intensity in limited space is an effective strategy to improve fusion power. ($P \propto B^4$) Increase in magnetic field \longrightarrow Huge Lorenz forces \longrightarrow High strength and toughness cryogenic structural steel.





Mechanical requirements of CFETR jacket

Temp.	YS	UTS	EL	K _{IC}
K	MPa	MPa	%	MPa⋅m ^{1/2}
4.2	≥1500	≥1800	≥25	≥150

- > High strength and toughness
- Excellent fatigue resistance
- Good weldability
- > Non-magnetic
- corrosion-resistant













Status of cryogenic structural materials for MCF

Materials	YS (MPa)	UTS (MPa)	EL (%)	K _{lc} (MPa√m)	Application
316L	~800	~1550	~44	~200	ITER PF/CC jacket
316LN	~1078	~1535	~35	~200	ITER TF jacket
JK2LB	~1076	~1450	~43	~209	ITER CS jacket
Incoloy 908	~1115	~1660	~24	~200	KSTAR jacket
CHN01 (N50)	≥1500	≥1800	≥25	≥150	CFETR jacket

The 316LN and JK2LB jackets developed by ITER do not meet the requirements.

The development of cryogenic structural steel with high strength and high toughness has become one of the challenges in the application of the CFETR.





Two type of jacket (ReBCO-/Nb₃Sn- CICC jacket) in CFETR

Cold Working (ReBCO-CICC jacket)



Cold Working + Heat Treatment (Nb₃Sn-CICC jacket)



Compressing Bending and straightening Winding Heat treatment 650°C@100h





Part 2

R&D of CHN01 jacket



Chemical composition of CHN01



Fe-22%Cr-14%Ni-5%Mn-2%Mo-0.15%V-0.15%Nb-(0.2-0.4)%N-0.01%C

Element	С	Si	Mn	Р
Nitronic [@] 50/XM-19	≤0.06	1.0	4-6	≤0.04
CHN01	≤0.01 ↓	≤0.3	4.5-6.0	≤0.06
Element	Cr	S	Ni	Ν
Nitronic [@] 50/XM-19	20.5-23.5	≤0.03	11.5-13.5	0.2-0.4
CHN01	20.5-22.0	≤0.005	13.5-15.5	0.2-0.4

1. For Nb₃Sn-CICC, heat treatment (HT, 650 °C/100h) leads to decrease in ductility due to formation of carbide ($M_{23}C_6$, thus low Carbon, <0.01 wt.%).

2. Increasing the Nickel content is beneficial to eliminate the δ ferrite phase and to increase the cryogenic toughness.



R&D Progress



Since 2020, it took two year to complete 5 batches of jacket material.

Mass production and performance verification were completed in 2023.





Mass production



In 2023, 30 tons CHN01 steel were prepared.

In 2023, the production of circle-in-square jackets with a total length of 5000 m was completed.

Two suppliers:

Jiuli













Main Parameters of CHN01 Jacket Tube

Item	Requirements	Results
Dimensional accuracy	± 0.2 mm	± 0.15 mm
Grain size	Grain size number is larger than 5	7-9
Ferrite Content	No ferrite traces	satisfy
Carbide	No M ₂₃ C ₆	satisfy
Magnetic permeability	μ < 1.03	1.001-1.003

The success rate of pipe preparation is higher than 90%.



Mechanical Properties Evaluation



Jacket Type:

ReBCO-CICC Jacket (4%CW)

Nb₃Sn-CICC Jacket (4%CW + HT)



Specimens Geometry:



Tensile test according to the ASTM E1450 FT test according to the JIS Z 2284 FCGR tests according to the ASTM E647 All tests have been performed at the TIPC



ReBCO-CICC jacket



Tensile test results at 4.2 K (5 batches, 10% sampling rate).

The average UTS, YS, and EL are 1815 MPa, 1532 MPa and 32%. respectively.







Tensile test results at 4.2 K (4 batches, 10% sampling rate)

The average UTS, YS and EL are 1813 MPa, 1553 MPa and 33%, respectively.









Fracture toughness at 4.2 K

	Status	<i>K</i> _{lc} (<i>J</i>)/ МРа-т ¹ ⁄2
Requirements		≥150
ReBCO jacket	CW(4%)	279
	CW(4%)	293
Nb ₃ Sn jacket	CW(4%)+HT(650°C/100h)	262
	CW(4%)+HT(650°C/100h)	267



CHN01 vs. ITER 316LN/JK2LB







CHN01 vs. ITER jacket





The toughness of modified 316LN, JK2LB, Incoloy 908, and JJ1 declines sharply after the strength increases $(K_{lc}(J) < 100 \text{ MPa} \cdot \text{m}^{1/2} @ \text{YS} \sim 1500 \text{ MPa})$

The CHN01 jacket has the same fracture toughness as the ITER jacket, but the strength is higher.

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CHN01 vs. ITER jacket





The FCGR of the CHN01 jacket is lower than those of the modified 316LN, JK2LB, JJ1, and Incoloy 908 materials.

There is no obvious degradation of the CHN01 jacket after aging.

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Jacket Welding

Mechanical properties of the welding joints are required to be the same as those of the jacket;

In a CW+HT condition, producing sound welds is particularly difficult;

Novel filler material was developed by the Shougang Research Institute of Technology .



	С	Si	Mn	Р	S	Cr	Ni	Mo	V	Nb	Ν	0
CHN01	0.008	0.30	5.18	0.005	0.002	22.3	14.6	2.1	0.19	0.09	0.31	0.0019
CHN01 fille	0.015	0.43	11.02	0.005	0.003	12.2	11.8	4.9	0.20	0.17	0.25	0.0016



Jacket welding



Reliable tungsten inert gas (TIG) welding technology has been developed Welding joint without any defects observed.







Tensile and FT results of ReBCO-CICC jacket welding joint at 4.2 K

Series	Series Explanation		EL (%)	K _{IC} (MPa⋅m¹/²)
Requirements	≥1500	≥20	≥130	
JFY-ASIPP1-C3.5H0-M1	CW, face	1506	32.9	
JFY-ASIPP1-C3.5H0-JM1	CW, corner	1519	30.6	260







Tensile and FT results of Nb₃Sn-CICC jacket welding joint at 4.2 K

Series	Explanation	YS (MPa)	EL (%)	K _{IC} (MPa⋅m¹/²)
Requireme	≥1500	≥20	≥130	
JFY-ASIPP1-C3.5HN-M1	CW+HT, face	1436	23.9	
JFY-ASIPP1-C3.5HN-JM1	CW+HT, corner	1512	20.6	200

The YS of the welded joint can reach 95% of the target value. HT leads to decrease in EL.





Both the CHN01 and welding joint (welding zone) exhibits fully austenitic structure and it is non-magnetic.



CHN01, RT and LT

CHN01 and WZ with and w/o HT, RT

Thermal contraction of the CHN01 between 300 K and 4 K is about 0.285%. It's the same as ITER 316LN (~0.294%).



Thermal conductivity between 300 K and 4 K





Manufacture of BEST CS and TF CICC jacket







BEST CS ReBCO CICC (CHN01)



BEST TF CHN01 dummy conductor



BEST TF CHN01 dummy coil





Part 3

Summary





A N-strengthened SS "CHN01" has been developed in China;

The CHN01 CICC jacket exhibits high strength, toughness and fatigue resistance, which meets the requirements of next-generation MCF (CFETR);

The developed welding materials and welding technology meet the requirements of jacket welding;

China has the mass production capacity of the CHN01 CICC jacket, and it has been used in manufacture of the BEST device.





Thanks your attention!

