



# **SURFACE TREATMENTS AT CERN**

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1. Infrastructure dedicated to surface treatment
2. Cleaning and degreasing of parts for UHV applications
3. The electrolytic deposition at CERN
  - Why doing a deposition?
  - Preparation of stainless steel prior to electroplating
  - Silver plating on aluminum alloys
4. Improvement and development

# Infrastructure dedicated to surface treatment

## Surface cleaning of large parts intended for UHV applications

**Preparation copper OFE**



*Tube Max IV*

**Preparation Stainless steel**



*Tank DTL Linac 4*

**Preparation aluminum alloy**



*Chambre VJ ATLAS*

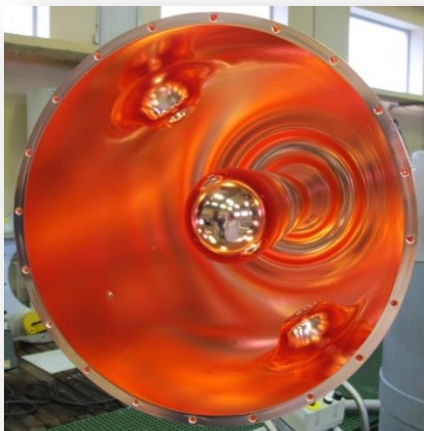
Infrastructure dedicated to surface treatment



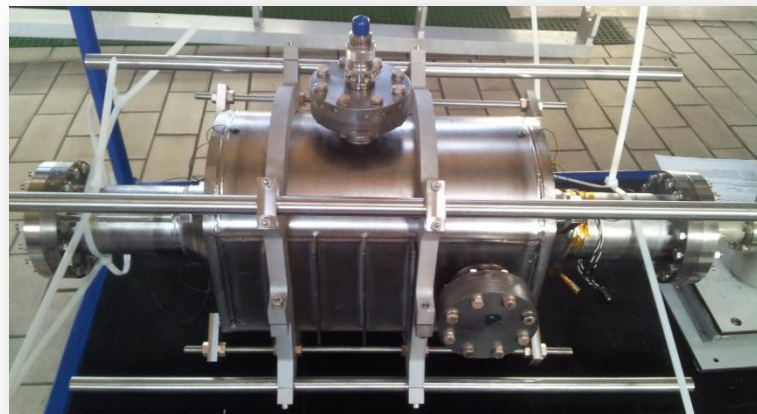
## Surface preparation: chemical polishing and electropolishing of copper and Niobium

Infrastructure dedicated to surface treatment

### Chemical polishing of copper and niobium



*Cavity HIE- ISOLDE*



*Superconducting cavity CRAB*

### Electropolishing of Niobium and copper



*Superconducting cavity 5 cells Niobium for SPL (700 MHz)*



*Copper test cavity (1300 MHz)*

## Surface preparation of large parts intended for UHV applications



Ceramic



BGV Aluminum chamber

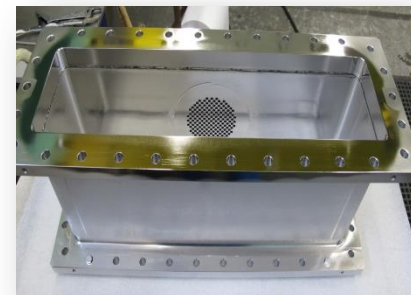


Disque of copper cavity  
PIMS



Connector stainless steel

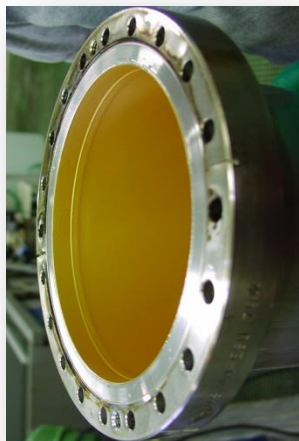
### Electropolishing stainless steel



Guide-Onde LINAC4  
stainless steel

## Electrolytic deposition on stainless steel, copper and aluminum

### Gold electroplating



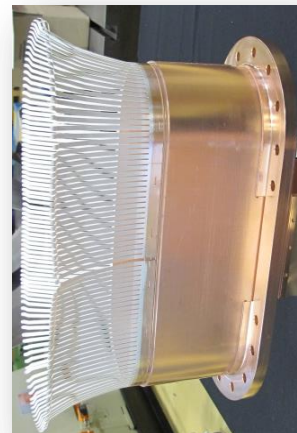
Chambre LINAC

### Copper electroplating



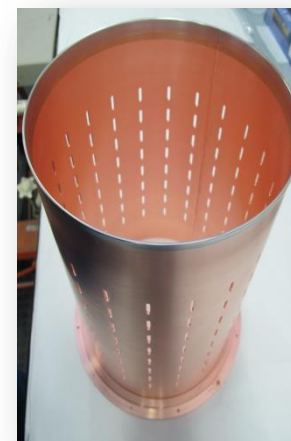
Couvercle Tank LINAC 4

### Silver electroplating



Doigts de contact écran TDI

### Rhodium electroplating

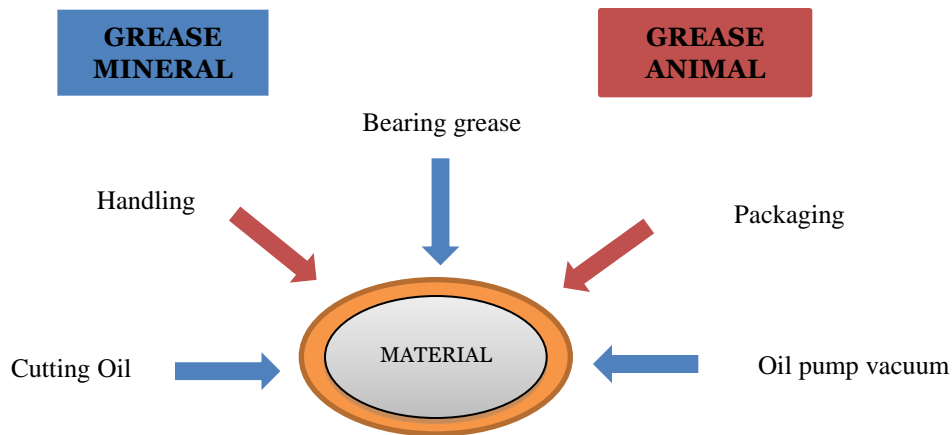


Tube de transition LHCVSR

Infrastructure dedicated to surface treatment

# Cleaning and degreasing of parts for UHV applications

## Why cleaning a part ?



**Eliminate grease** which pollute surface.

**Eliminate the solid particles** present in bold (i.e. particles machining, graphite residuals...)

**Reduction** of vacuum outgasing.

**Prepare the surface** before vacuum deposition or electrolytic plating.



# Purpose of degreasing



Preparation of parts for UHV applications

## THE ALKALINE ELEMENTS

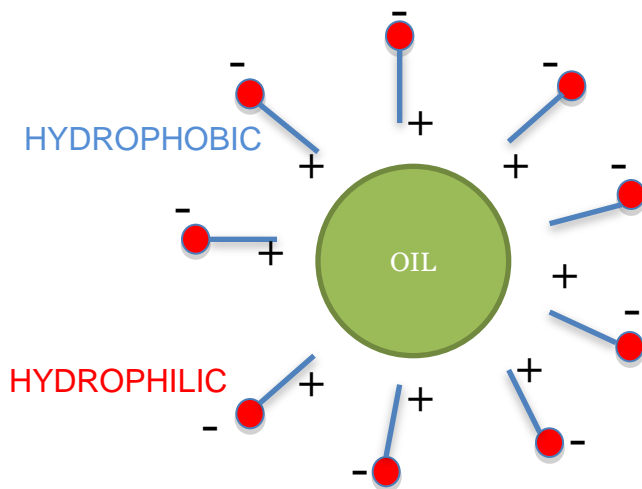
**Take off the grease stains and « trap » with surfactants**

Sodium silicate : Increase the wettability and etching inhibition.

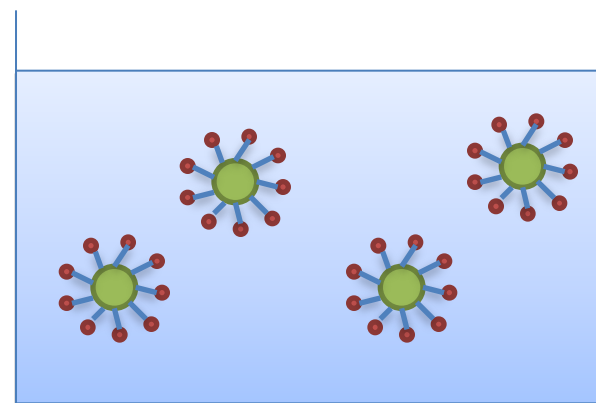
Phosphates : Sequestrant power and enhancement of the action of surfactants.

## THE SURFACTANTS (wetting)

**The surfactants lower the surface tension and capture of oil drops.**



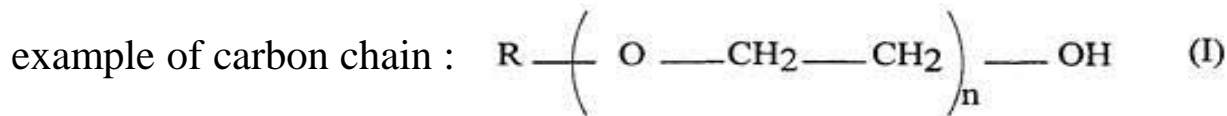
*Action of an anionic surfactant*



*Stable emulsion*

## Solvent Machine

*Halogenated / hydrocarbon mixture*



Porous materials

Ferrite

Tungsten

Silicone valve

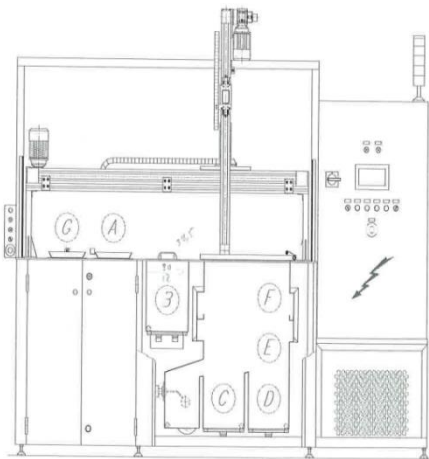
Delicate parts

Ceramic

Evaporation of the solvent

### Operating range:

- A. Loading
- B. **Precleaning**  
cosolvent activated  
U.S
- C. **Cleaning solvent**  
activated U.S
- D. **Rinse solvent**  
activated U.S
- E. **Rinse solvent**  
vapors
- F. Drying
- G. Unloading



*Machine solvent*



The 3 steps of the mechanism of action of ultrasound :

### 1- The cavitation effect

Appearance of bubbles between the substrates and greases

### 2- The effect of pressure

Compression of the air bubble

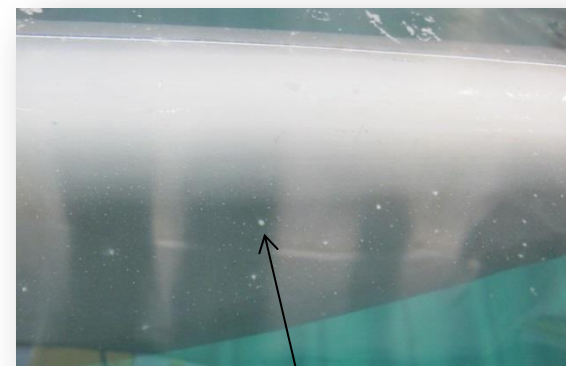
### 3- Implosion of air bubbles

Drop the grease from the surface

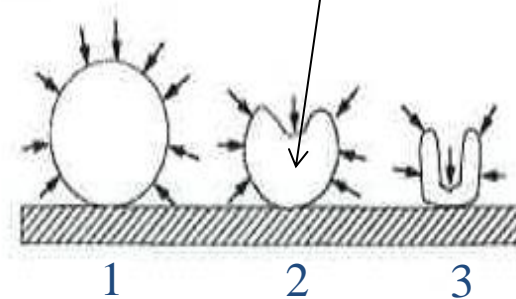
Frequencies used in chemical degreasing :

**20 kHz for the copper and 40 kHz for the aluminum**

**IMPROVES considerably degreasing power**



Air bubbles

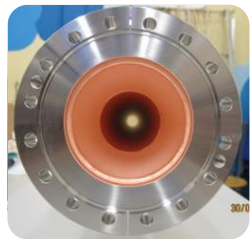


Asymmetric implosion of a cavitation bubble near a solid surface

# Electrolytic deposition at CERN

## COPPER PLATING :

Thermal conductivity and electrical conductivity (reduction of impedance), RF



Chamber BGV

## SILVER PLATING:

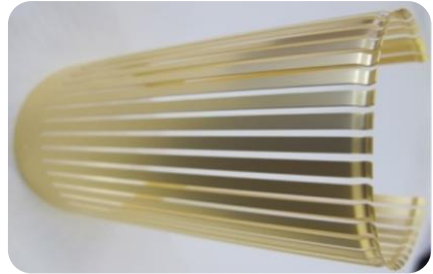
Electrical conductivity (electrical contact)  
Low friction, seizure



Contact fingers

## GOLD PLATING :

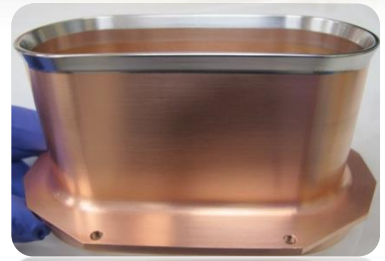
Chemically stable in the atmosphere and electrical conductivity



Contact fingers

## RHODIUM PLATING:

Resistant to high temperature and very high hardness (prevents galling vacuum with the couple Rh-Ag) and seizure



Tube transition



# Preparation of stainless steel before deposition

## Standardization of a stainless steel

### Ex : Stainless Steel 316 LN

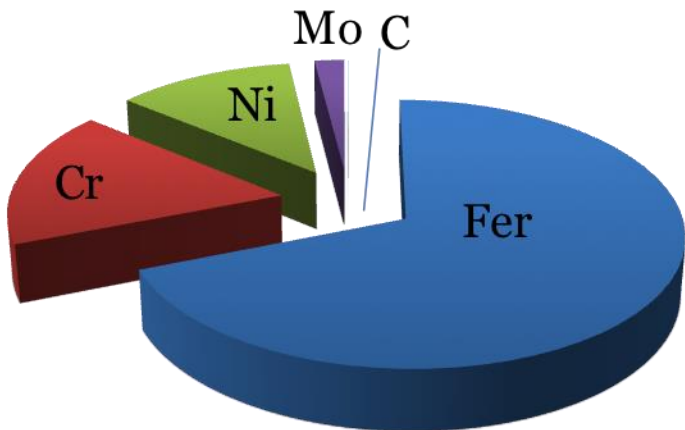
(X2CrNiMo 17-12)

X2 : Alloy steel containing 0,02 % carbon

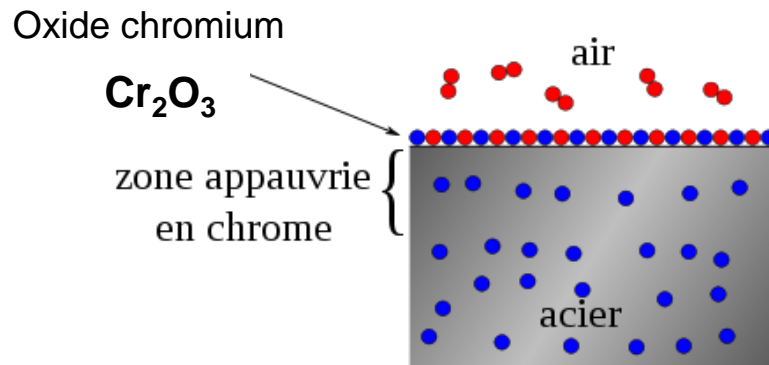
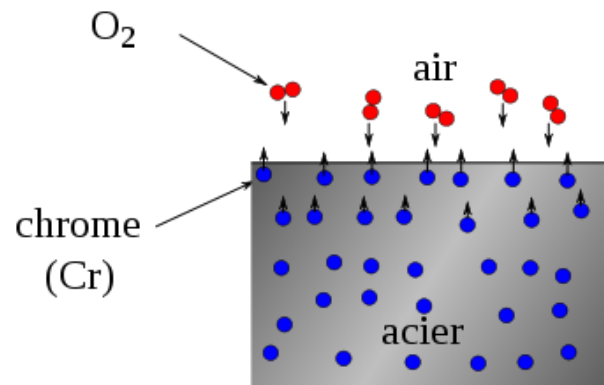
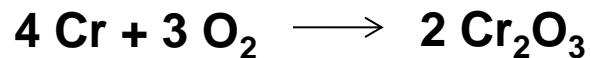
Cr : 16 – 18 % Chrome

Ni : 11 – 14 % Nickel

Mo : 2 – 3 % Molybdène

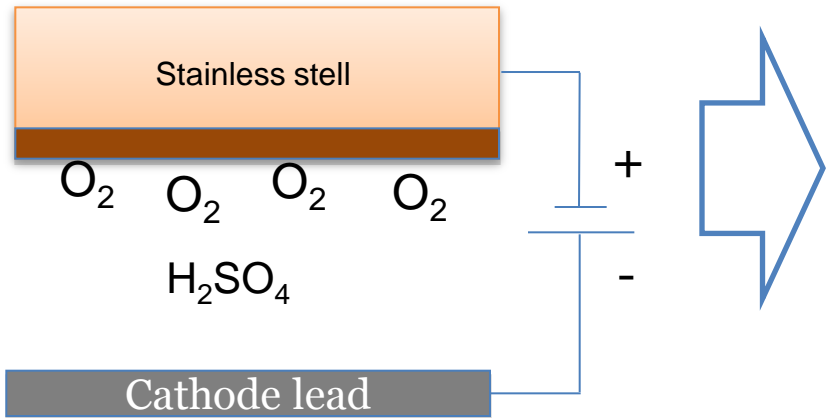


## Mechanism passivating a stainless steel



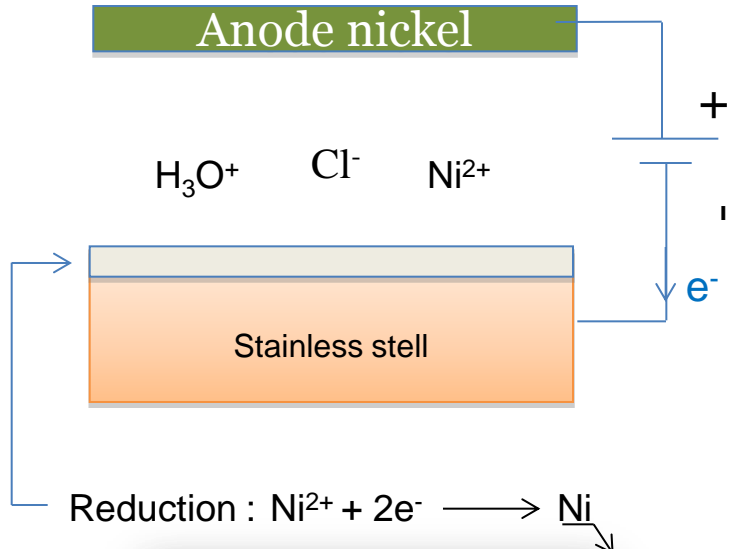
## SULFURIC INVERSION

*Elimination of the passive layer*



## WOOD NICKEL

*As bonding layer*



Applications : Undercoat prior to electroplating



*Nickel plating chamber BELLOW*

1



1. **Substrate type and geometry.**

2. **Study of assembly:** Nature of deposit, anode assembly, masking and electrical contacts.

3. **Mounting:** positioning of the anode, contact verification and assembly.

4. **Treatments according to operative range:** monitoring the operative range.

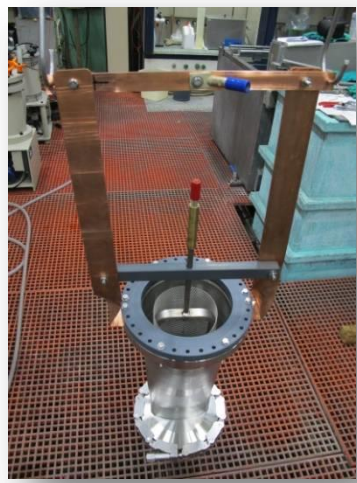
5. **Control of deposit:** Aspect, deposit thickness.



2



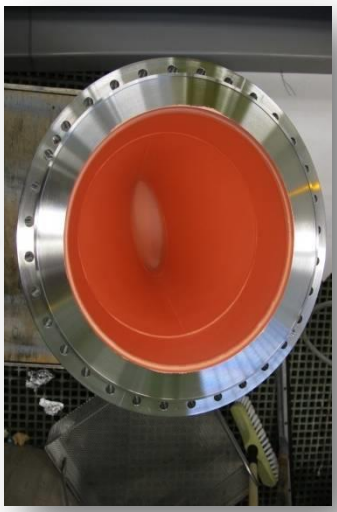
3



4



5



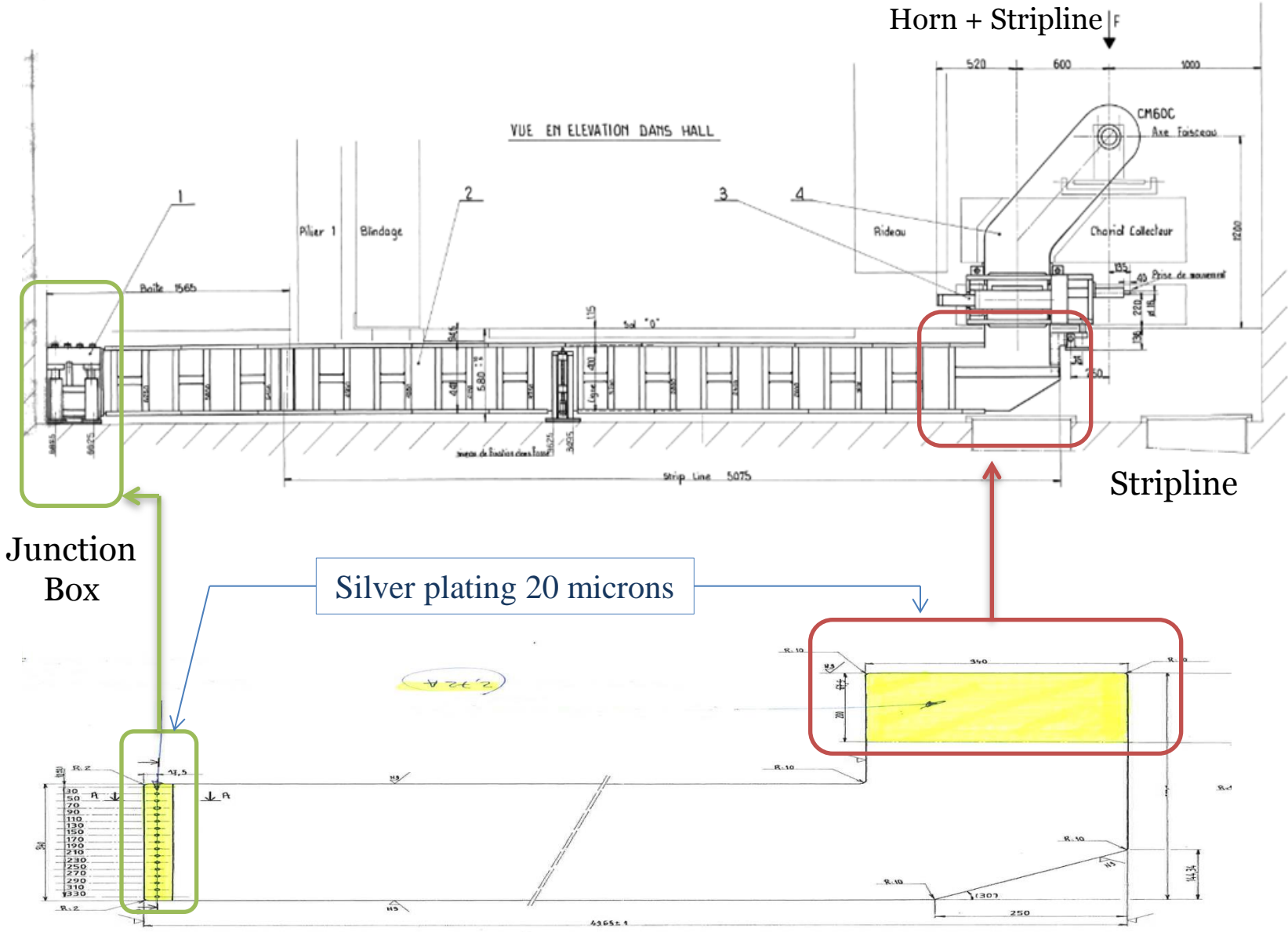
# Electrolytic silver plating on aluminum alloys

*Contact Strip and Strip Line (Experiment AD)*





Electrolytic silver coating on aluminum alloys



## Old procedure

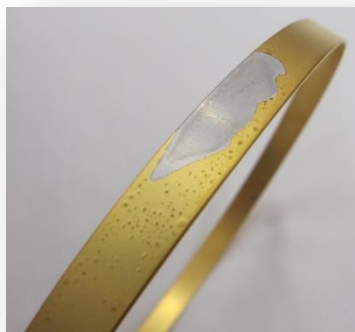
Surface preparation  
Degreasing / Etching

**Step 5 Nickel-Zinc plating**

Step 6 Nickel Sulfamate

Step 7 Pre Silver plating

Step 8 Silver plating



Pell-off gold coating

## New procedure

Surface preparation  
Degreasing / Etching

**Step 5 Double-Zincate**

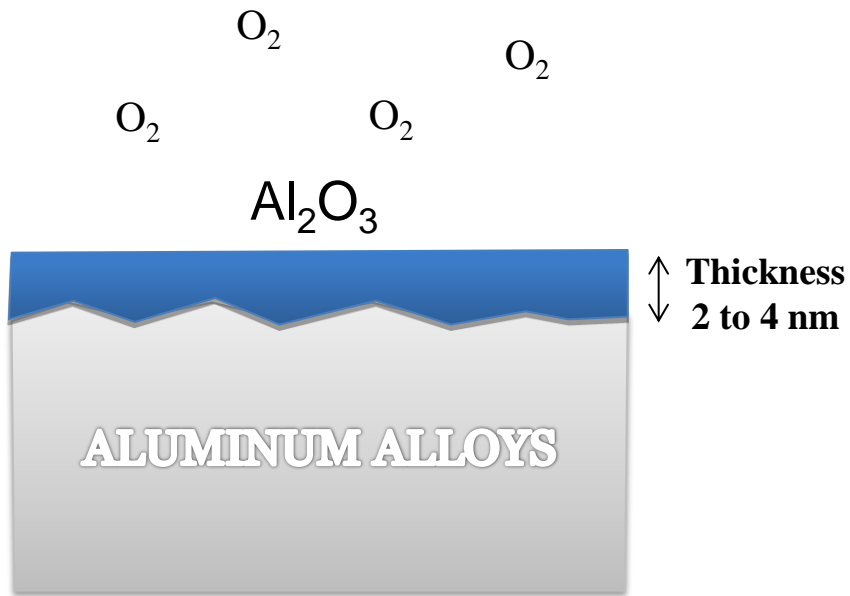
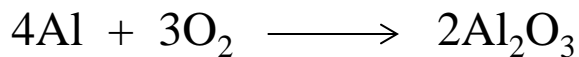
Step 6 Nickel Sulfamate

Step 7 Pre Silver plating

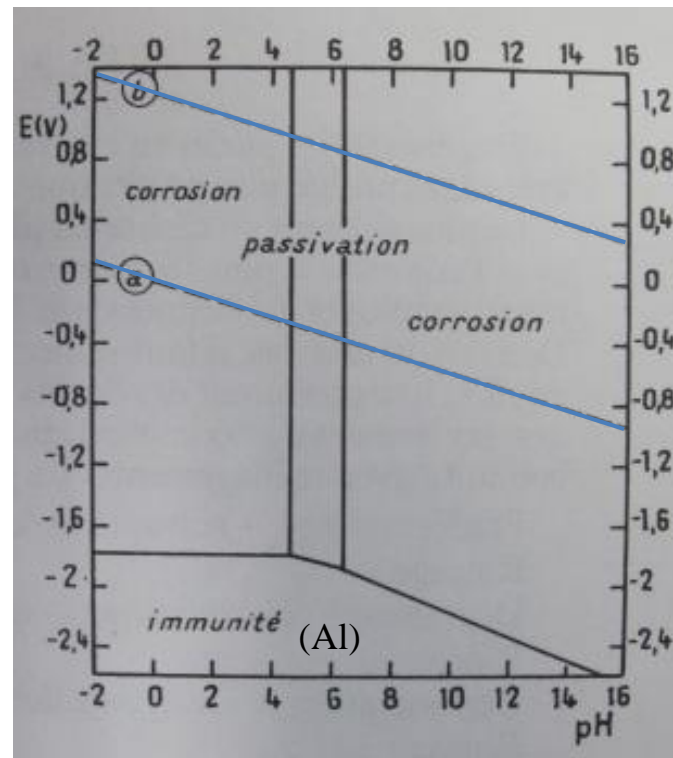
Step 8 Silver plating

**OPTIBOND CONCENTRATE**





Forming a thin oxide layer of alumina



Equilibrium diagrams voltage-pH  
Aluminum-water system at 25° C

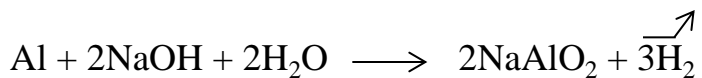
Area of water stability thermodynamique

**ALUMINUM IS AMPHOTERIC METAL**



## Step 3 : Sodium Stripping

Sodium hydroxide at 40°C



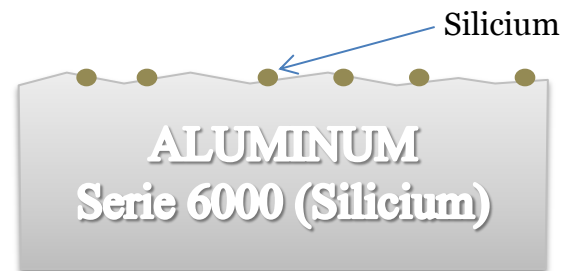
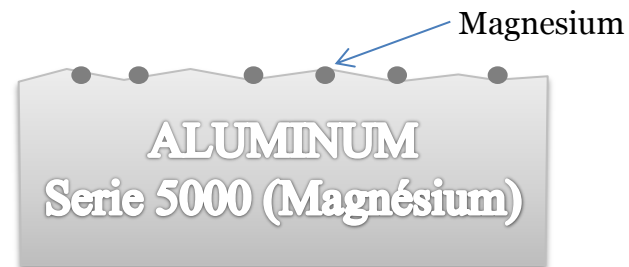
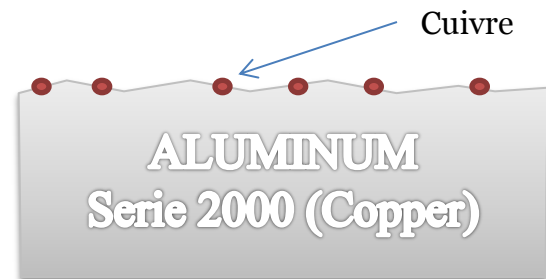
*Dissolution of alumina*

Nitric acid

Nitric acid + Sulfuric acid

Nitric acid + Fluorhydric acid

## Step 4 : whitening

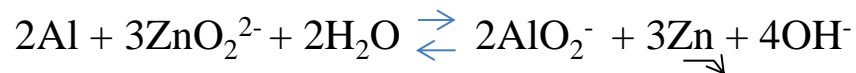
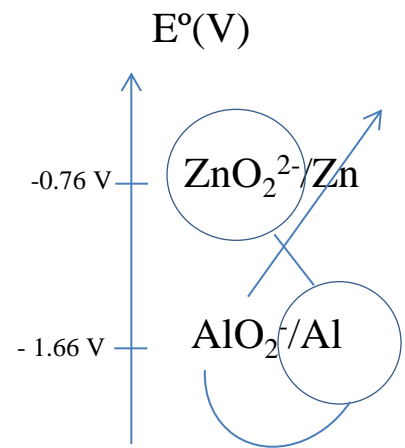
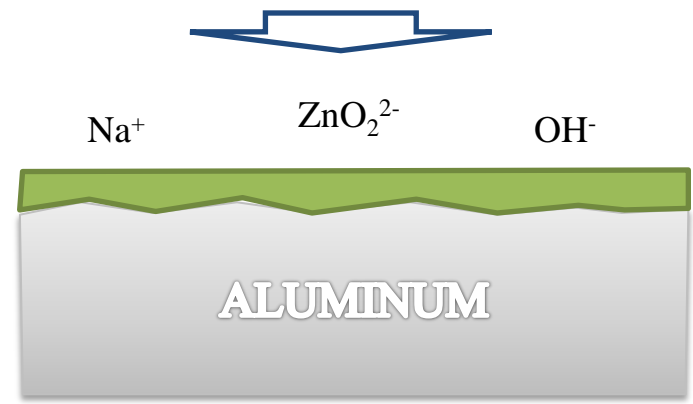
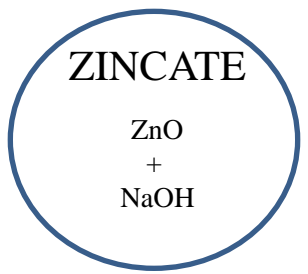


**Dissolution of alloying elements**

Electrolytic silver coating on aluminum alloys

## Step 5 : Double Zinc plating

After stripping  
reformation of native  
alumina layer



Formation of a chemical  
deposition by zinc  
displacement

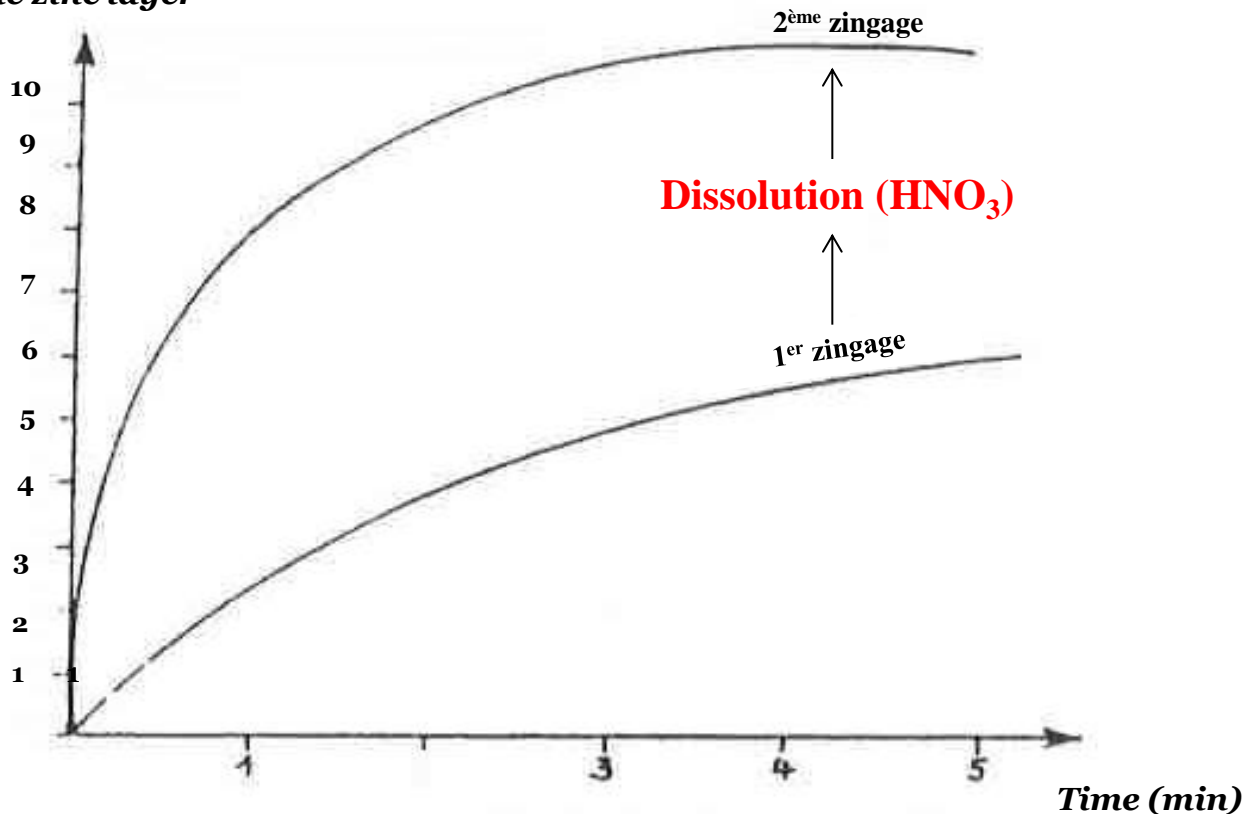


Few nanometer  
thickness



## Evolution of coating weight between 1<sup>st</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Zincate

Weight of the zinc layer  
(mg/dm<sup>2</sup>)



**Provides a thinner deposit with a more compact structure**

Electrolytic silver coating on aluminum alloys

## Step 6 : Nickel Sulfamate

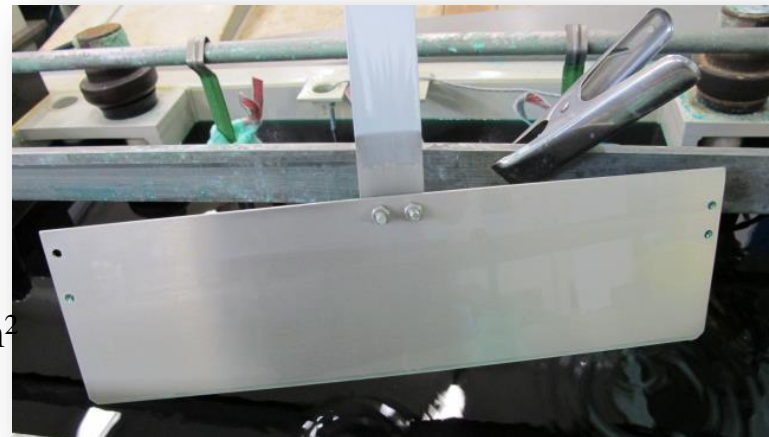
**Sublayer Nickel sulfamate electrolyte (dip the piece under current)**



**Good covering power and deposition constraints**

**Parameters :**

**pH** : 5.5  
 Temperature : 50°C  
 Currents density : 2 - 16 A/dm<sup>2</sup>  
 Deposition rate : 0.5 μm/min to 10 A/dm<sup>2</sup>



*Deposit Nickel sulfamate*

## Step 7 : Silver plating

**Moving powdery silver plating on a nickel coating**

Reduction  $Ag^+ + 1e \rightleftharpoons Ag$

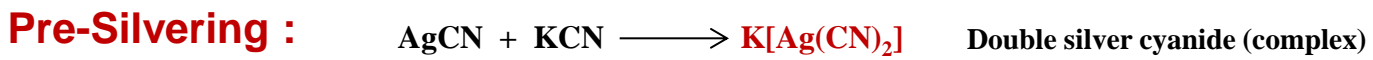
Oxydation  $Ni \rightleftharpoons Ni^{2+} + 2e$

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Reaction sheet  $2Ag^+ + Ni \rightleftharpoons 2Ag + Ni^{2+}$

← Nickel metal

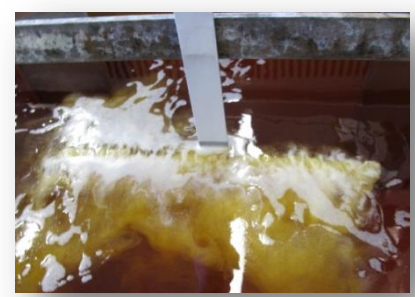
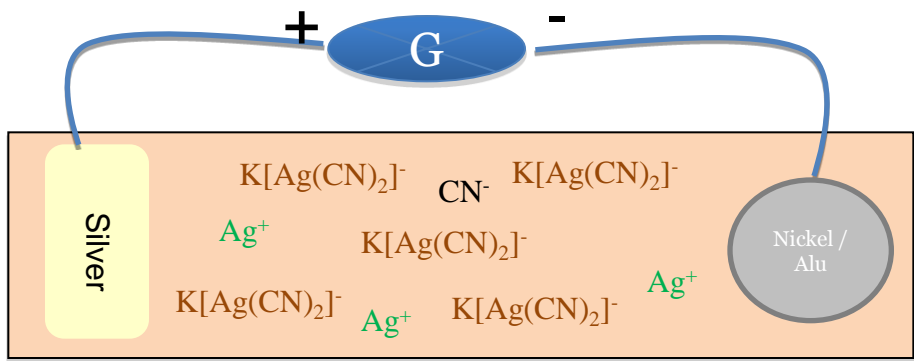
Silver electrolyte



Double silver cyanide enables the lowering of the potential difference between the metal surface (nickel) and silver in solution and prevents the displacement deposition.

**Formulation**  
 [AgCN] : 4 g/L  
 [KCN] : 90 g/L

**Concentration**  
**Ag<sup>+</sup> free low**

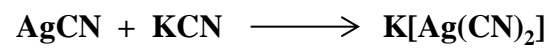


Pre-silvering



Electrolytic silver coating on aluminum alloys

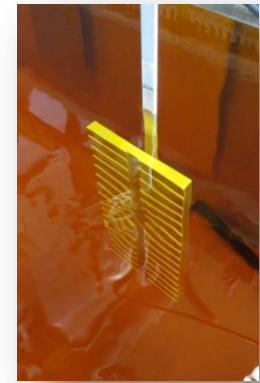
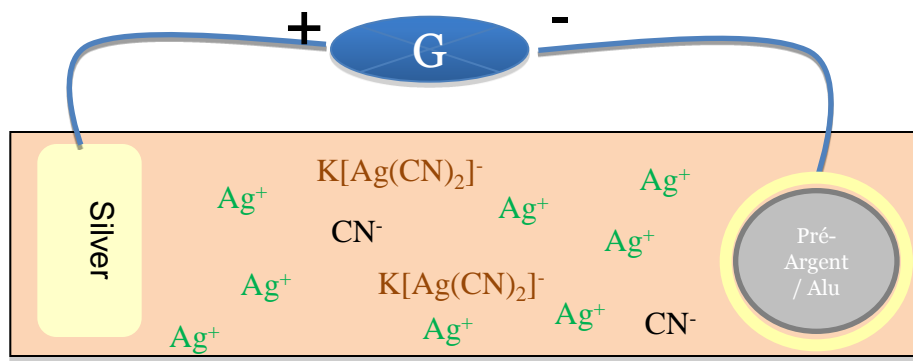
**Silvering :**



Double silver cyanide (complex)

**Formulation**  
 [AgCN] : 37 g/L  
 [KCN] : 130 g/L

**Concentration**  
 Ag<sup>+</sup> free  
 high

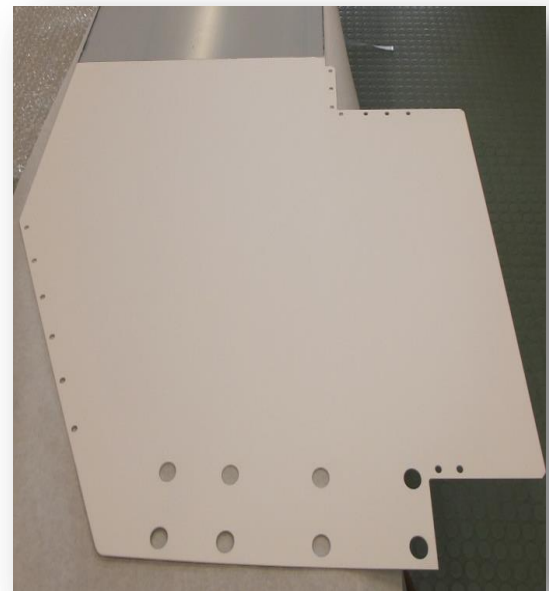


Silvering Contact Strip (AD)

The silver in a uniform power distribution and allows to obtain a deposit until 30 microns



Strip-line AD



# Improvement and development





Workshop 118

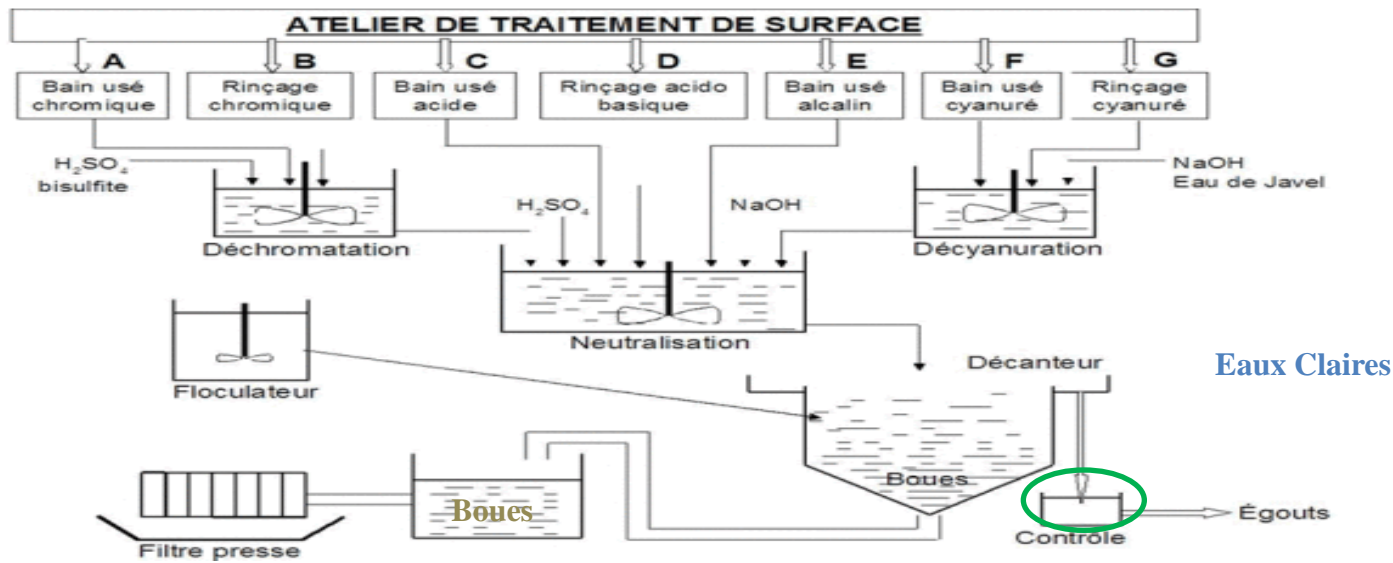


Workshop 102



Effluent

Effluent



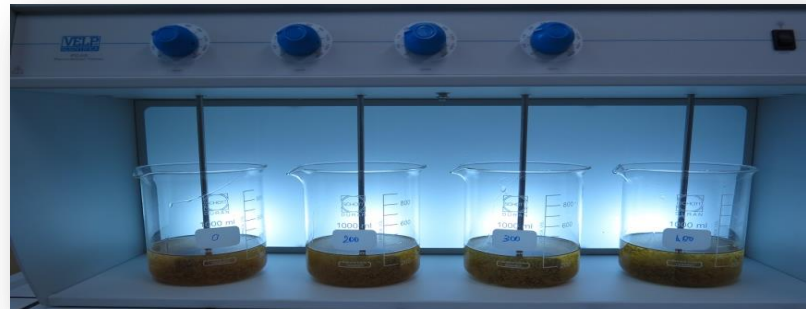
Spectromètre d'Emission Optique (ICP-OES)



## Optimization of the treatment plant

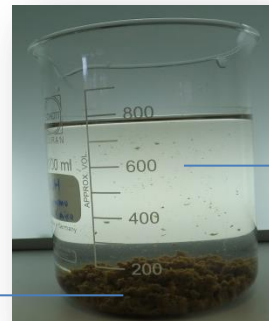
Following overruns on copper water discharges :

- Contact providers specialized in water treatment product
  - Purchase of a test bench (Jar-test)
  - Testing of different organic precipitants



Essai en Jar-test de précipitant en neutralisation

- Supernatant by ICP analysis and determination of the most appropriate methods to our effluent.



Metal hydroxide sludge

Effluents after decantation

Analysis of the supernatant



Optical Emission Spectrometer (ICP-OES)

# Improvement and Development (Laboratory)



## Qualification of new processes for copper chemical degreasing

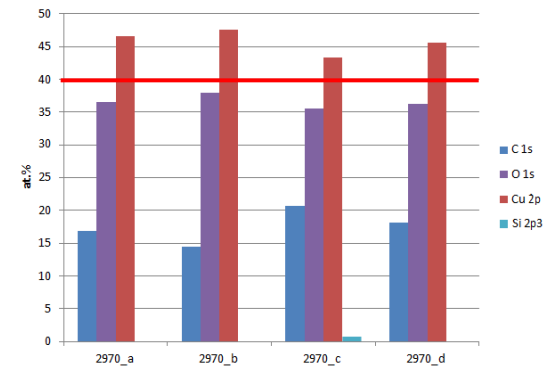
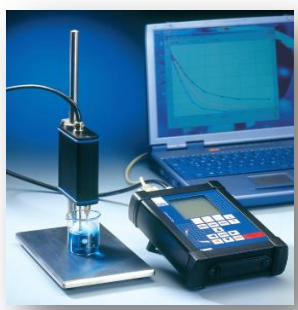


Figure 1: Concentrations atomiques relatives de surface

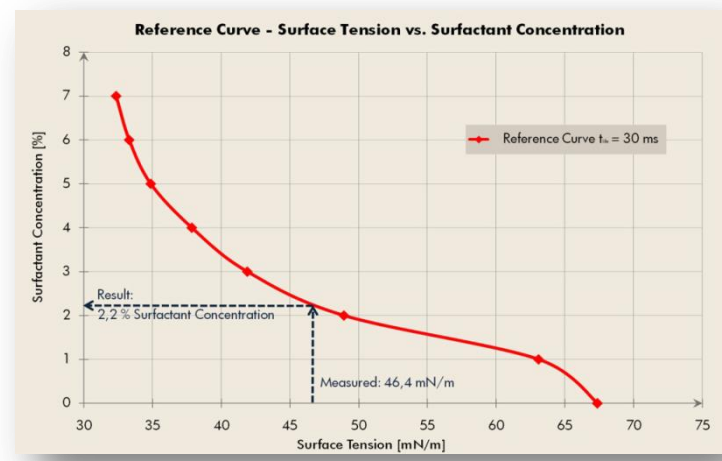
- Contact suppliers specialized in surface treatment (new processes)
- Contamination of samples of copper and chemical degreasing samples according to procedure  
<https://edms.cern.ch/document/997363/3>
- Qualification of processes by measuring the residual carbon surface (XPS)

## Analysis methods surfactants in treatment baths surface

Monitoring the concentration of surfactants in chemical degreasing baths by measuring surface tension.



science line t60





## Etching for the thinning of the sample 3 (LHCb Velo) :

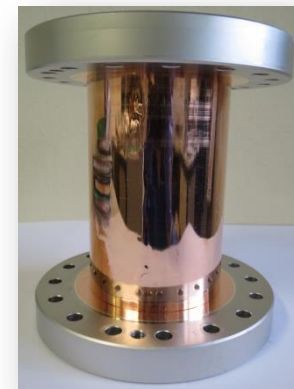
Establishment of a procedure for etching chambers VELO (LHCb)



*Echantillon 3 (LHCb Velo)*

## Achieving chamber with integrated copper electroforming layer NEG:

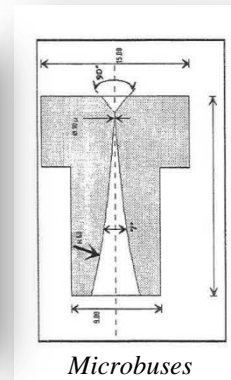
Développement of new sequences copper plating by pulsed current



*Tube électroformé*

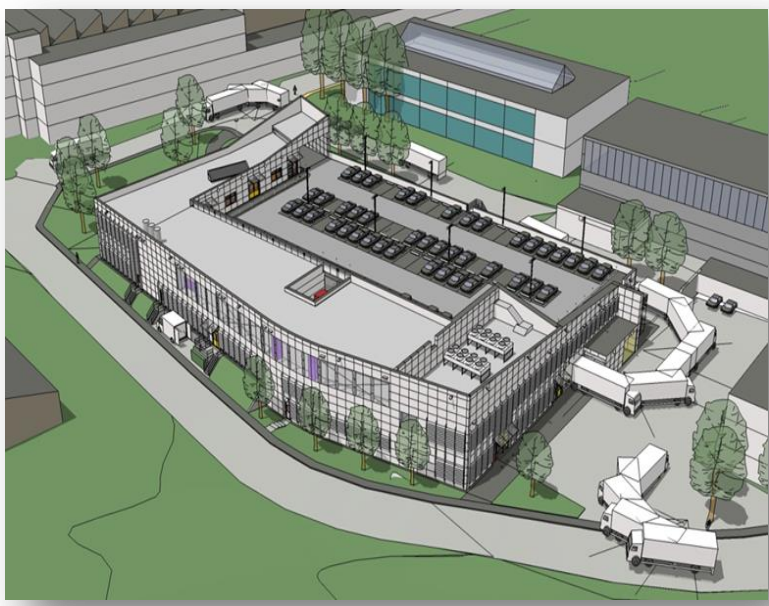
## Fabrication by electroforming nozzle gas diffusion :

Electroformages of micronozzles for injecting a hydrogen micro-jet in the CERN accelerators





# Building new surface treatment (107) planned for 2016



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!