

## Potentiostatic Growth of Hazenite Mineral Coating on AZ31 Magnesium Alloy in 0.1 M $K_2HPO_4$ /0.1 M $Na_2HPO_4$ Solution

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**Abstract :** Hazenite conversion coating was deposited on AZ31 Mg alloy in a deaerated phosphate solution containing 0.1 M  $K_2HPO_4$  and 0.1 M  $Na_2HPO_4$  ( $Na_{0.1}K_{0.1}$ ) with pH 9 at  $-0.8$  V. The coating mechanism of hazenite was elucidated by in situ potentiostatic current decay, scanning electron microscopy (SEM), energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS), X-ray diffraction (XRD), X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS), Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR), electron probe micro-analyzer (EPMA) and differential scanning calorimetry (DSC). The volume of  $H_2$  evolved during potentiostatic polarization was measured by a gas collection apparatus. The degradation resistance of the hazenite coating was evaluated in simulated body fluid (SBF) at  $37^\circ C$  by using potentiodynamic polarization (PDP). The results showed that amorphous  $Mg(OH)_2$  was deposited first, followed by the transformation of  $Mg(OH)_2$  to amorphous  $MgHPO_4$ , subsequently the conversion of  $MgHPO_4$  to crystallized K-struvite ( $KMgPO_4 \cdot 6H_2O$ ), finally the crystallization of crystallized hazenite ( $NaKMg_2(PO_4)_2 \cdot 14H_2O$ ). The deposited coating was composed of four layers where the inner layer is comprised of  $Mg(OH)_2$ , the middle layer of  $Mg(OH)_2$  and  $MgHPO_4$ , the top layer of  $Mg(OH)_2$ ,  $MgHPO_4$  and K-struvite, the topmost layer of  $Mg(OH)_2$ ,  $MgHPO_4$ , K-struvite and hazenite ( $NaKMg_2(PO_4)_2 \cdot 14H_2O$ ). The PD results showed that the hazenite coating decreased the corrosion rate by two orders of magnitude.

**Keywords :** magnesium alloy, potentiostatic technique, hazenite, mineral conversion coating

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