# PLATHINIUM PLASMA THIN FILM INTERNATIONAL UNION MEETING

23 - 27 September 2019 Antibes, French Riviera

### www.plathinium.com

C Editions SFV 2019 19 rue du Renard - F-75004 Paris, France

ISBN: 978-2-918641-21-6 Legal Deposit: December 2019

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#### #PLATH00149

## INFLUENCE OF TITANIUM ADDITION ON THE PHASE COMPOSITION AND PROPERTIES OF TUNGSTEN BORIDES THIN FILMS

#### TRIB - Plasma-deposited protective and tribological coatings

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#### Abstract content

During latest years the transition metal borides due to combination of outstanding physical properties such as metallic conductivity, high incompressibility, high shear strength, and exceptionally high hardness are the subject of intensive research, especially in thin films form [1].

In this work doped by titanium tungsten borides coatings were deposited by Pulsed Laser Deposition (PLD) and RF magnetron sputtering methods. The (W,Ti)B<sub>4.5</sub> targets with 0 to 24 at. % content of titanium were made by spark plasma SPS method. The XRD investigations shows that even small addition of titanium (8 at.% Ti) causes the change of phase composition, increase hardness, elastic modulus, oxidation and corrosion resistance. In the case of targets, the phase composition changed from 91.8% of WB<sub>2</sub> (P63/mmc) + 8.2% WB<sub>3</sub> (P6/mmc) to 4.6% WB<sub>2</sub> + 95.4% WB<sub>3</sub> for 0 and 8 at. %Ti respectively. Deposited by RF-MS films from no doped target result in  $\alpha$  - WB (I4/amd) phase and change to WB<sub>3</sub> (P6/mmc) with increase of titanium content to 24 at.%. In the case of PLD method deposited layers are consisted mainly with WB<sub>3</sub> phase (Fig.1). The hardness of all deposited films is in super-hard range H>40 GPa. RF-MS films are smooth in comparison with PLD layers (Fig.2) where surface is coated mainly by droplets. However, increasing of titanium content decreases the number and size of deposited particles. In summary, the presented work shows the possibility of controlling of phase composition, structure and morphology of thin films made of novel super-hard tungsten borides by adding titanium.

#### Thanks/Acknowledgement

This work was supported by the project 2017/25/B/ST8/01789 funded by Polish National Science Centre.

#### References

[1] V. Moraes, H. Riedl, C. Fuger, P. Polcik, H. Bolvardi, D. Holec, P.H. Mayrhofer Ab initio inspired design of ternary boride thin films Sci. Rep., 8 (2018), p. 9288

Phase composition of targets and coatings.



Morphology of a) RF-MS, b) PLD 0%Ti, c) PLD 24%Ti

