Abstract for submission to session on *Corrosion in Nuclear Symposium* at the Corrosion 2010 NACE Annual Conference: San Antonio, Texas, March 14–18, 2010

Repassivation Behavior of A Ni-22% Cr-13% Mo-3.8% Fe-2.8% W Alloy in Chloride-Containing Solutions With and Without Sulfur at 22 and 60 °C

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To evaluate the susceptibility to sulfur-enhanced corrosion, repassivation behavior of Alloy 22 (Ni-22% Cr-13% Mo-3.8% Fe-2.8% W) was investigated in chloride-containing solutions with and without sulfur at temperatures of 22 and 60 °C [72 and 140 °F] using a scratch technique. The effects of applied potential and sulfur addition on repassivation of Alloy 22 were evaluated by measuring changes in current over time. All cases showed that once the passive film was mechanically disrupted by scratching, the anodic current increased abruptly to the peak current and thereafter decreased as repassivation occurred. For a higher potential increased from −0.1 to 0.5 V_{SCE} in 0.5 M NaCl at 22 °C [72 °F], the peak current increased proportionally, indicating faster repassivation. The addition of 0.01 M Na_2S yielded nearly identical results as the sulfur-free cases. In simulated concentrated water containing 0.01 M Na_2S, Alloy 22 repassivation was observed to commence immediately after scratching. However, an increase of the concentration to 0.1 M Na_2S in 0.5 M NaCl at 22 °C or an increase of temperature to 60 °C [140 °F] with 0.01 M Na_2S causes a decrease of the peak current. Test results indicate that Alloy 22 can repassivate in a relatively short period in the sulfur-containing solution.

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