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The effect of particles size distribution and cross-linking agent on the leaching behaviour of anti-corrosion species for long-term active corrosion protection on AA2024-T3 alloy

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Simon Gibbon – AkzoNobel, Felling, UK

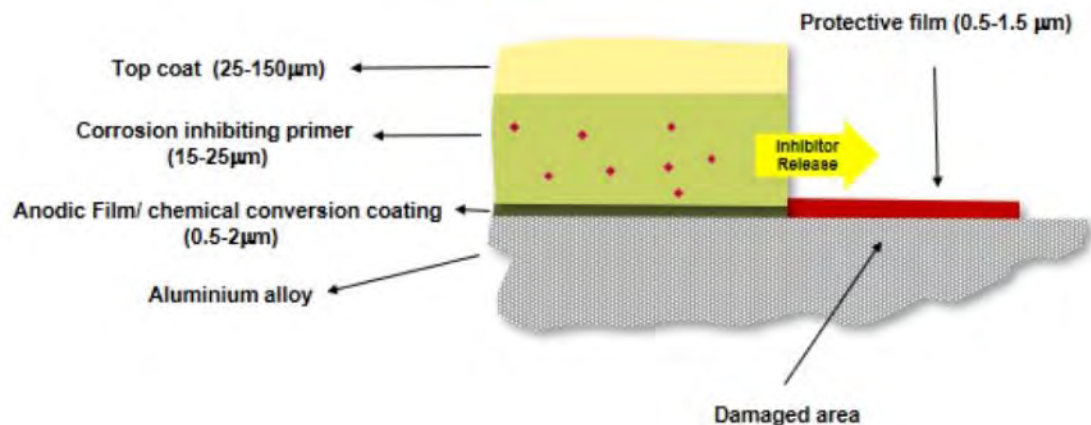
FFFC3 2020

 SUSTICOAT

H2020-MSCA-ITN-2016/721451



Organic coatings provide corrosion protection to aluminium alloy substrates



Active corrosion inhibition due to leaching mechanism

1. Moisture ingress and release of inhibitor
2. Transport and delivery of active species
3. Passivation of damaged area

- Criteria for corrosion inhibition via leaching
 - Soluble inhibitor
 - Fast and effective passivation mechanism
 - Irreversible

Corrosion protective properties of lithium leaching coating technology

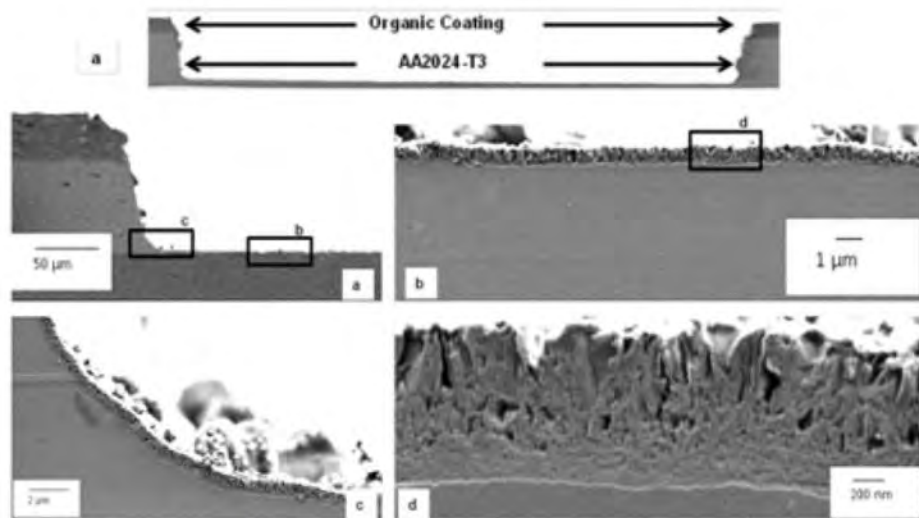


Provide **fast**, **effective**, and **irreversible** corrosion inhibition

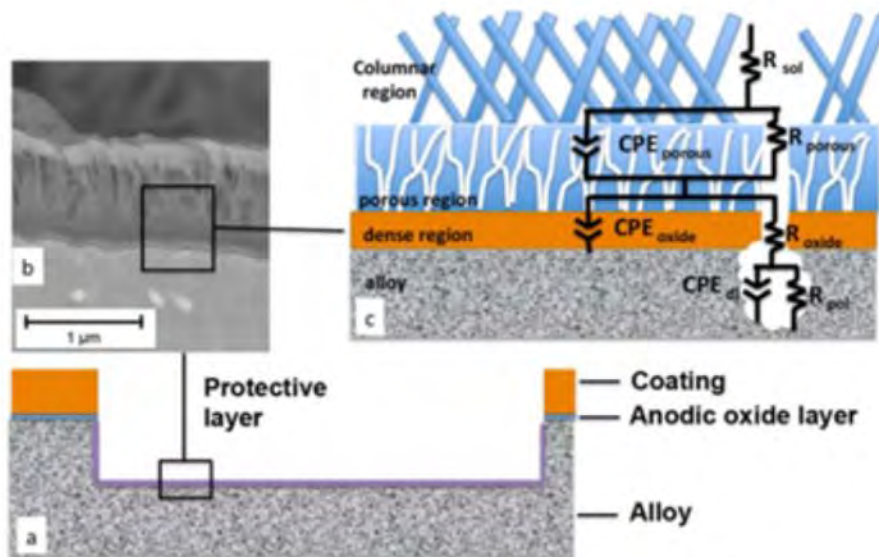
1. Leaching of lithium ions
2. Formation of a protective layer on the aluminium substrate

Relation of physical model with corrosion properties

- Oxide layer provides active corrosion protective properties



Visser et al. *Faraday Discuss.* **180**, 511-526 (2015)



Visser et al. *Journal of the Electrochemical Society*, **164** (7) C396-C406 (2017)

Introduction

The challenge of chromate replacement

Strontium Chromate
inhibition technology

Lithium leaching
technology

Active Corrosion Protection

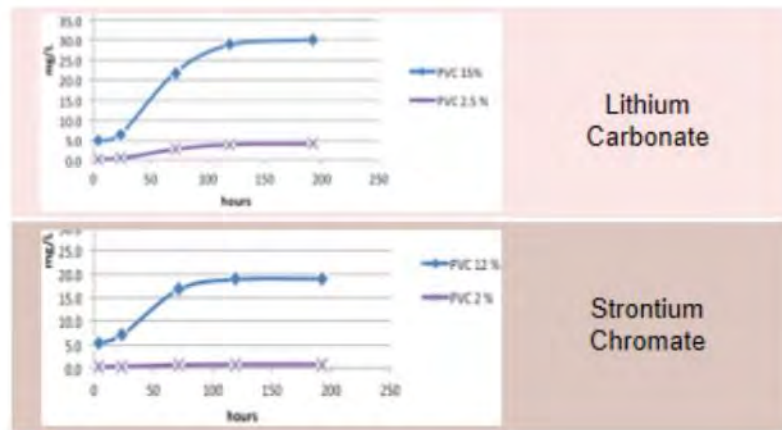
Solubility



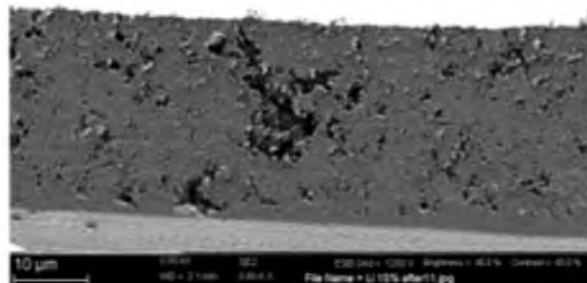
0.12 g/0.1L
↓
15 °C



1.36 g/0.1L
↑
15 °C



The risks of using highly soluble inhibitors in organic coatings



- Risk of osmotic blistering
- Local dissolution of inhibitor
- Faster depletion of the inhibitor system

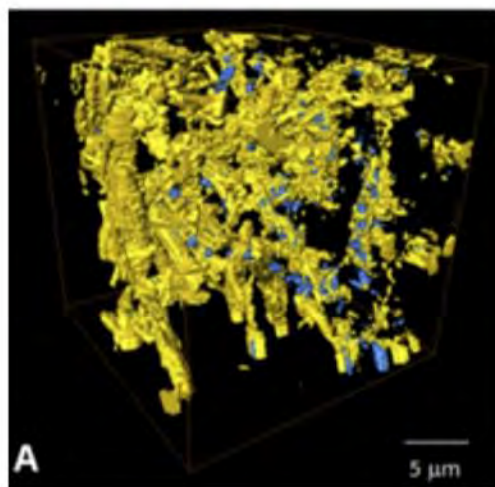


- Early failure of coating
- No corrosion protection
- Short service life of coating

What is known on leaching of corrosion inhibitors?

Transport of active corrosion species

- Network of interconnected clusters of soluble material

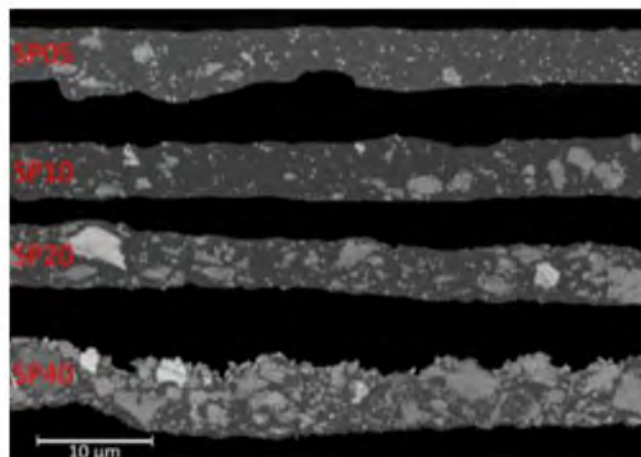


3D Electron tomography showing SrCrO₄ particles (yellow) and associated voids (blue) created by the dissolution of the SrCrO₄ particles.

A.E. Hughes et. al, *Progress in Organic Coatings*, 77, 2014, 1946-1956

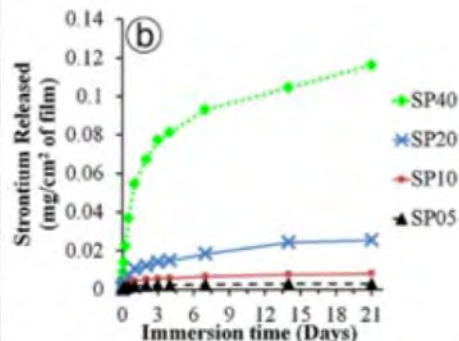
Effect of the pigment Volume Concentration (PVC)

- Increases the volume of pigment clusters resulting in higher leaching rates of active species



SEM Backscattered image of the cross-section of the primer with different PVC.

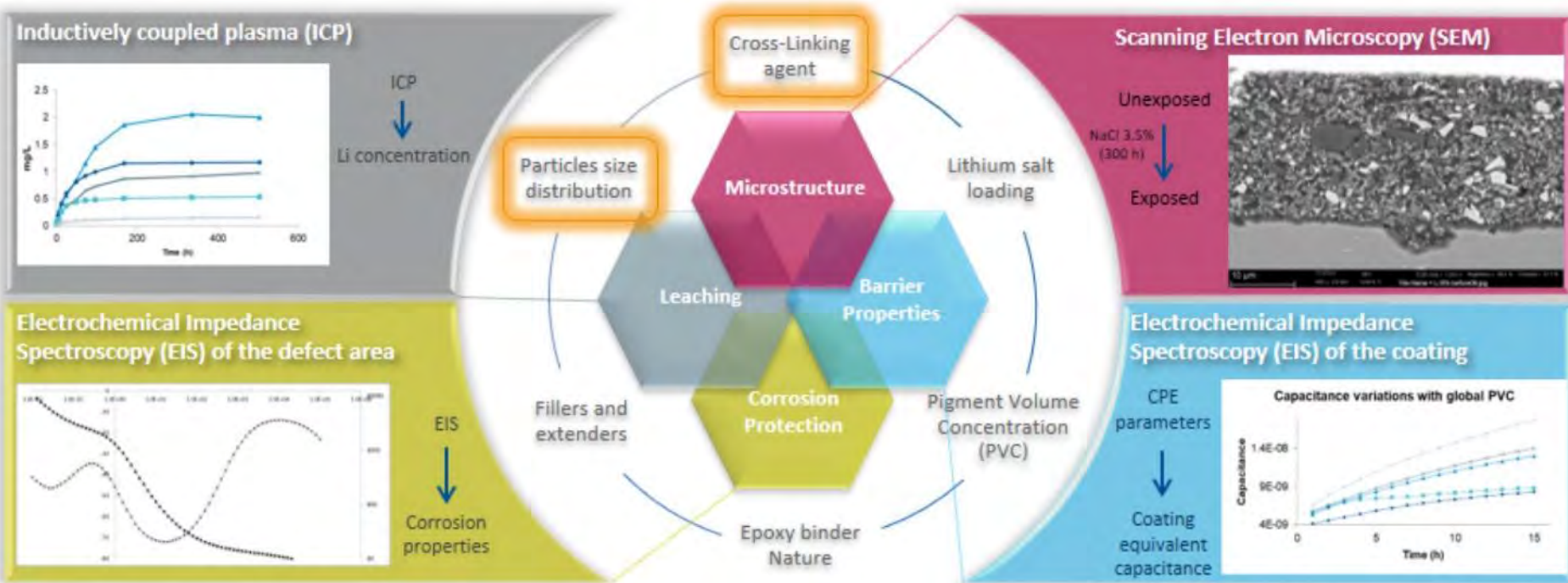
Emad et al. *Progress in Organic Coatings*, 102, 71-81 (2017)



Cumulative release of Strontium per unit area of the primer

Introduction

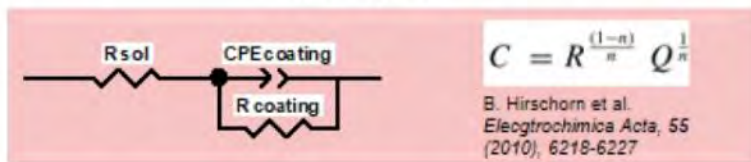
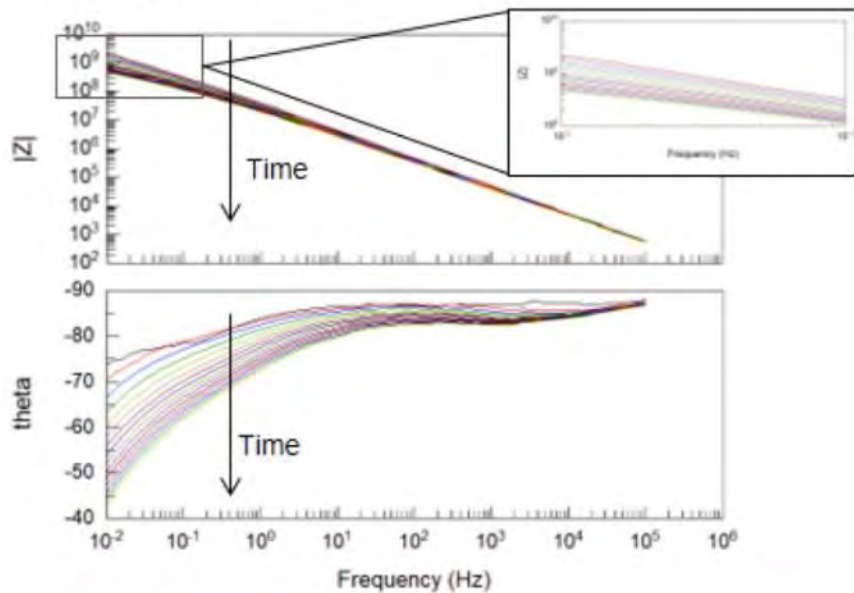
Objective and research approach



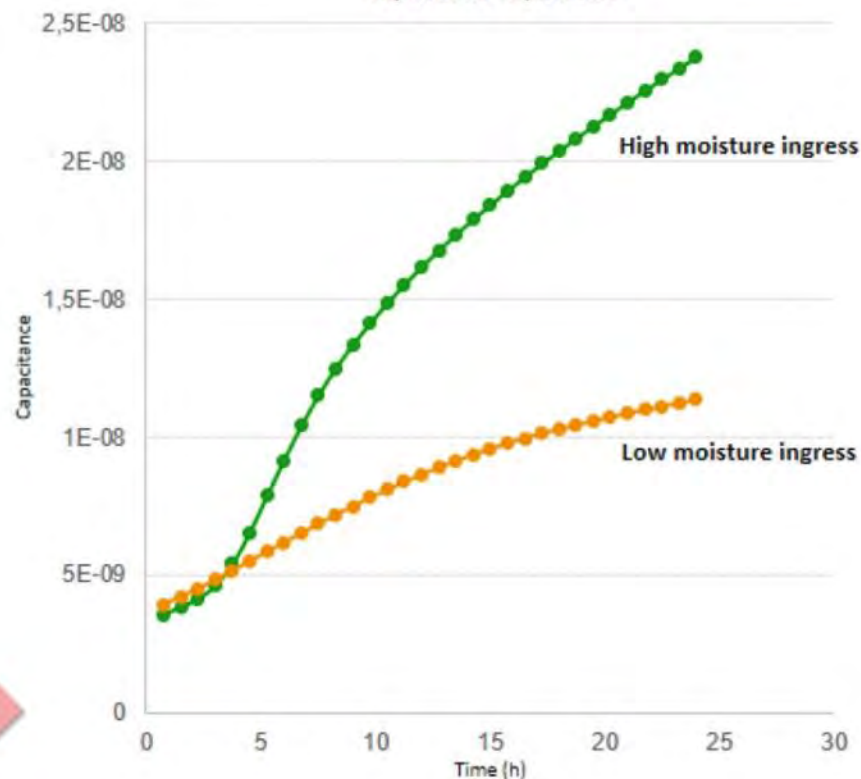
Employed methodologies

1 week moisture ingress using electrochemistry impedance

Solution: Na₂SO₄ 3,5% wt



Equivalent Capacitance



Employed methodologies

1,5 weeks immersion

Solution: NaCl 3,5% wt



Set-up

Constant Volume: 250 ml NaCl 3,5%

Aliquots: 2 ml

Panels area: 25cm²

Duration: 1,5 weeks

ICP Measurements

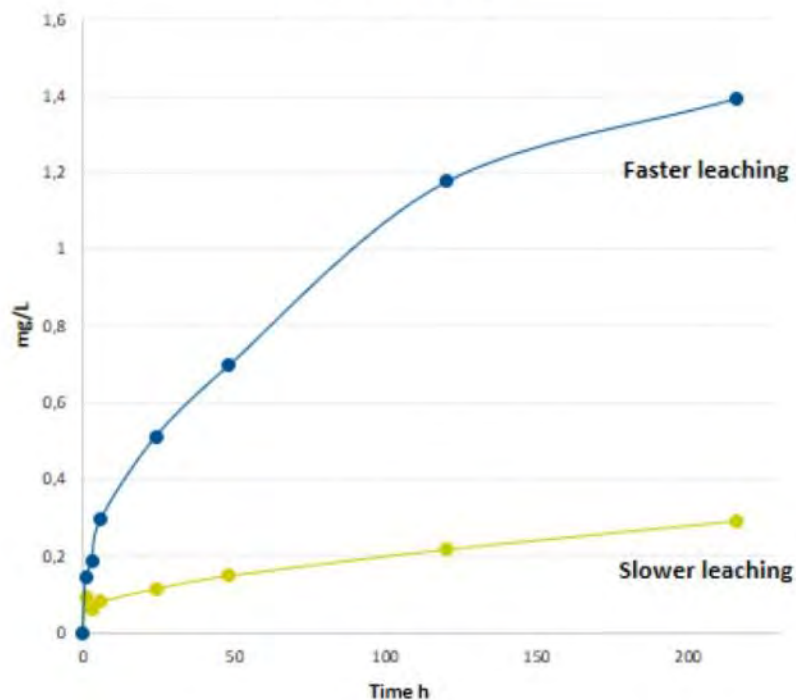
Diluted to 1/4

Acidified 2% HNO₃

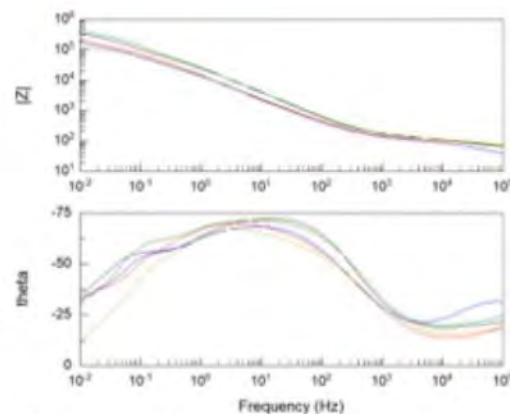
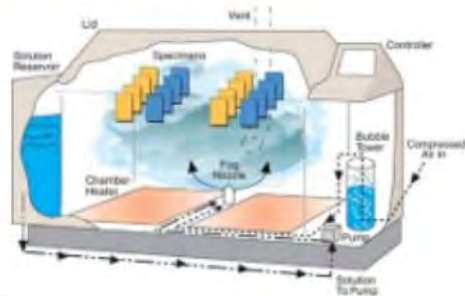
Plastic container

- Lithium tends to adhere to glass

Cumulative leaching



Employed methodologies

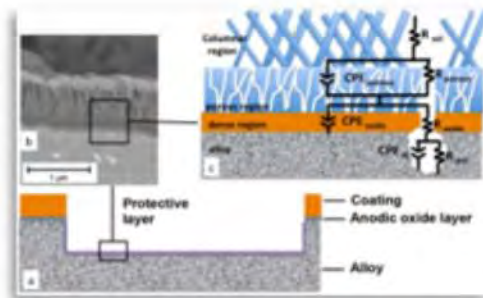


1st
Scribing panels
2,5cm x 2,5cm/1 mm deep

2nd
Neutral Salt Spray (NSS 168 h)
Formation of protective layer

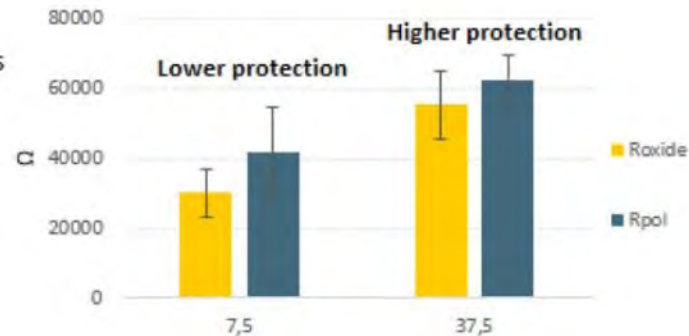
3rd
Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy
0.05 M NaCl solution

Active corrosion protection



4th
Fitting with the physical model which represents the protective layer structure

- R oxide rayer (R_{oxide})
- R polarization resistance (R_{pol})

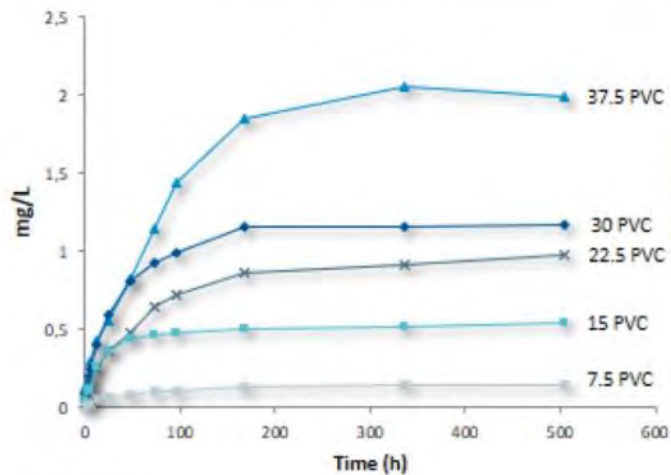


Visser et al. *Journal of The Electrochemical Society*, **164** (7) C396-C406 (2017)

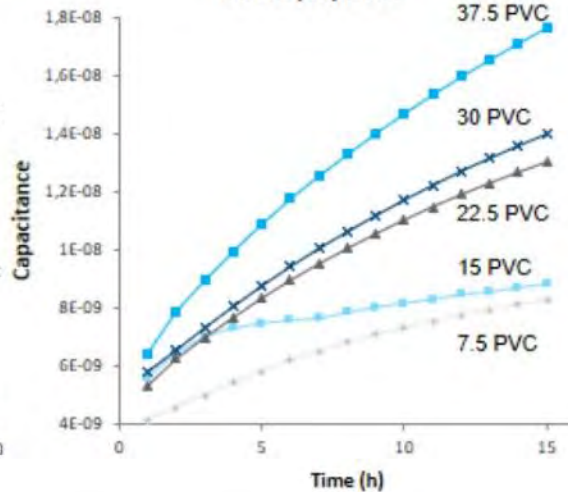
The effect of the PVC

Lithium leaching, Barrier and corrosion protection properties

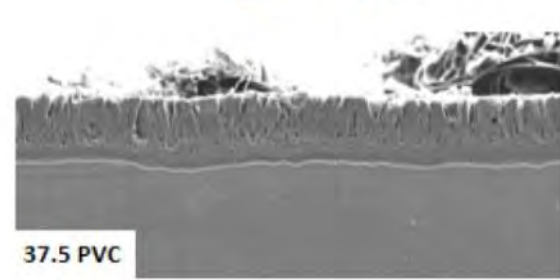
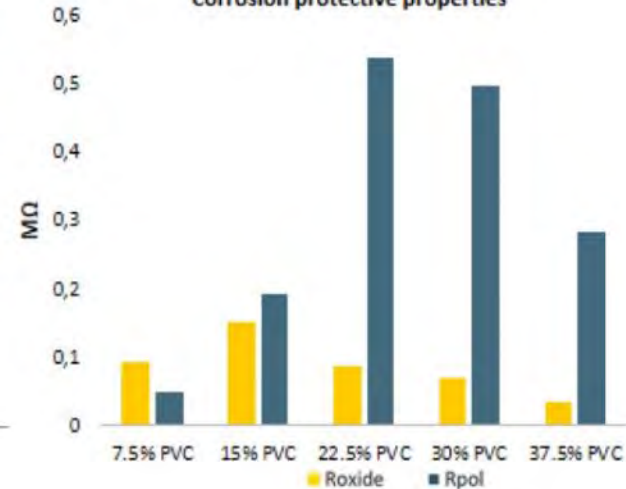
Cumulative release of lithium ions



Barrier properties

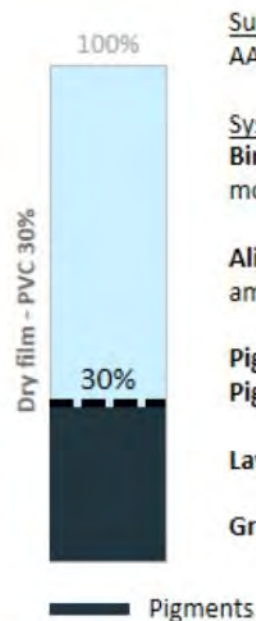


Corrosion protective properties



The effect of the Particles Size Distribution

Lithium leaching and corrosion protection properties



Substrate

AA2024-T3 Bare TSA 0.8 mm

System of study

Binder: Bisphenol A base-resin – group content 5260-5420 mmol/kg;
molar mass 184-190 g

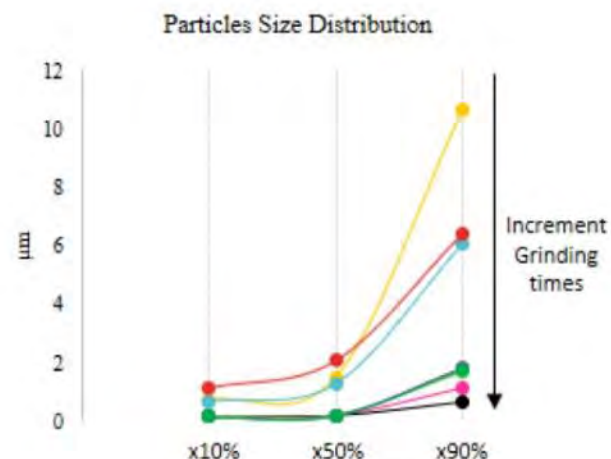
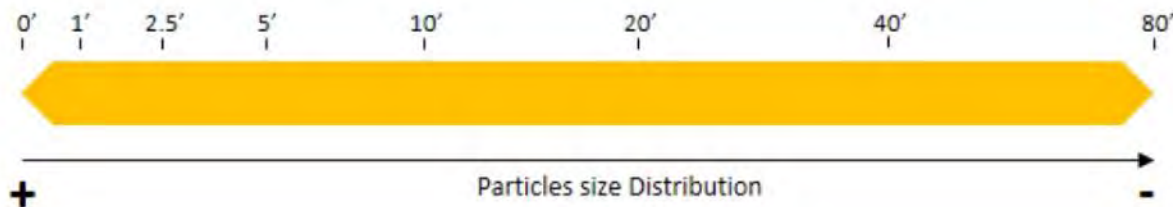
Aliphatic amine cross-linking agent: equivalent weight 135 Wt/{H};
amine value 350-380 mg KOH/g

Pigment volume concentration (PVC): 30%

Pigments (vol%): 8.3% Li_2CO_3 , 7.7 MgO, 7% TiO_2 , 7% BaSO_4

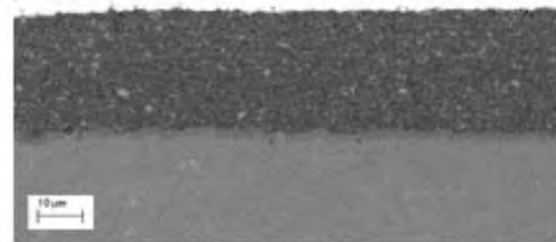
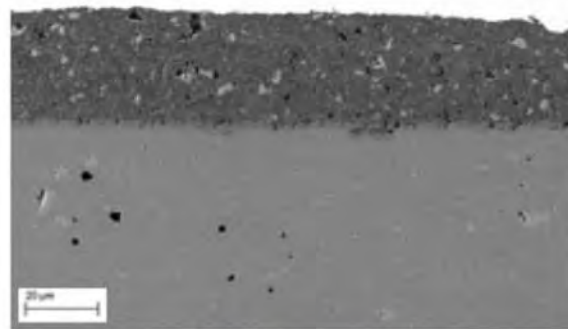
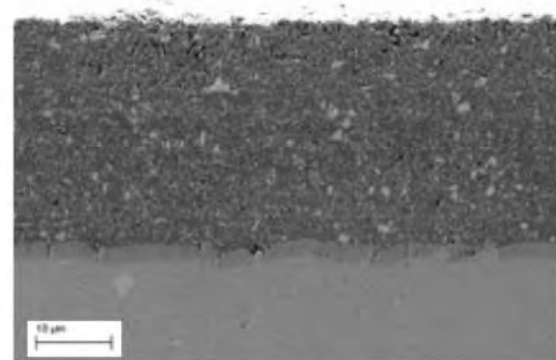
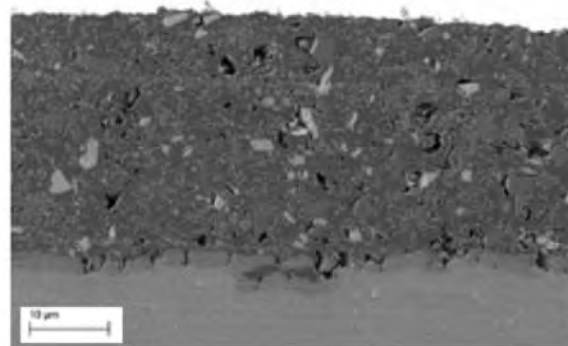
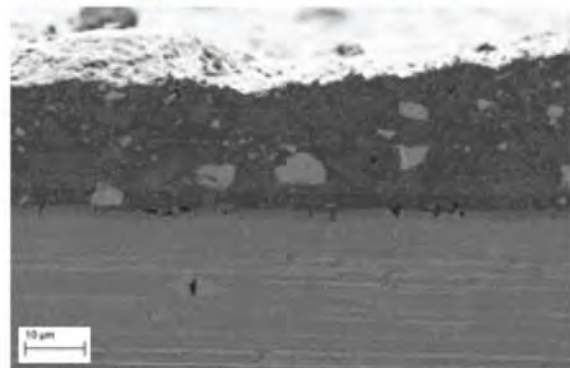
Layer thicknesses – average of 27 μm

Grinding via shaking: Grinding times



The effect of the Particles Size Distribution

Coating microstructure



30PVC-tim-1'

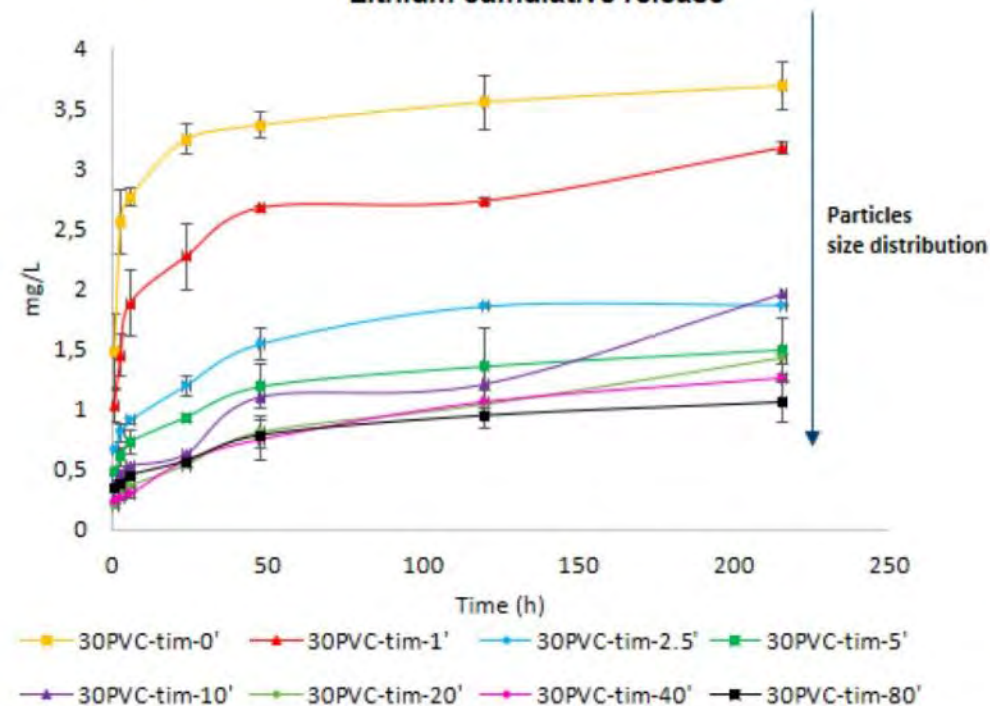
30PVC-tim-10'

30PVC-tim-80'

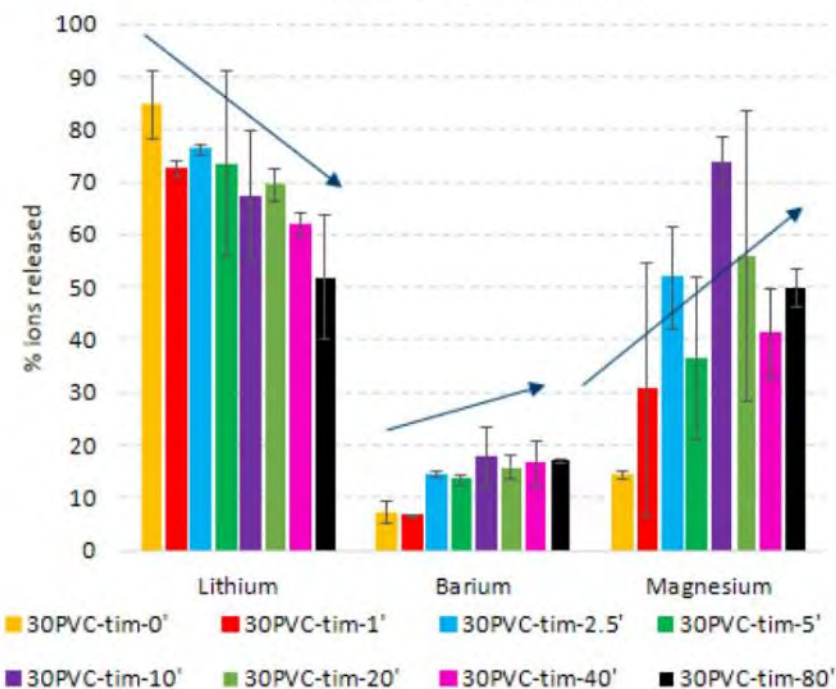
The effect of the Particles Size Distribution

Leaching Properties

Lithium cumulative release



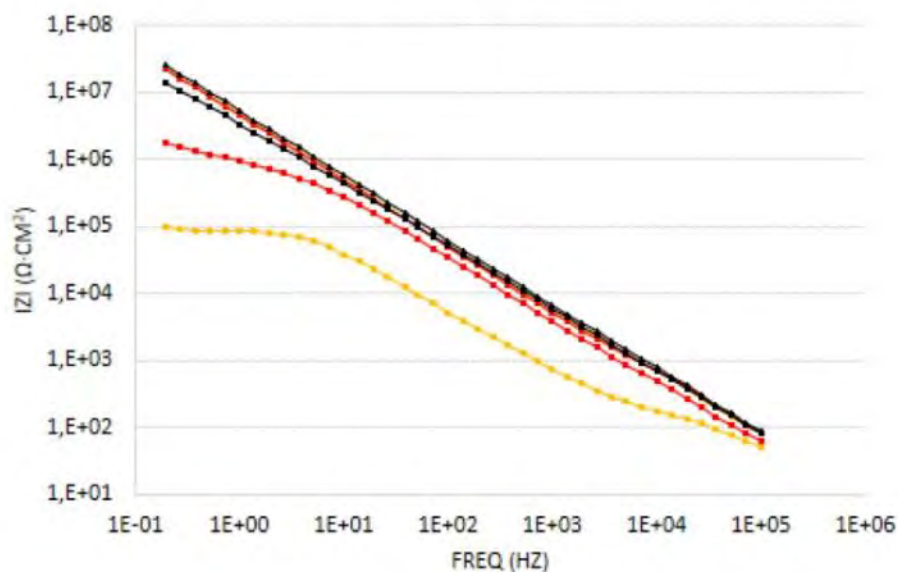
Depletion percentages



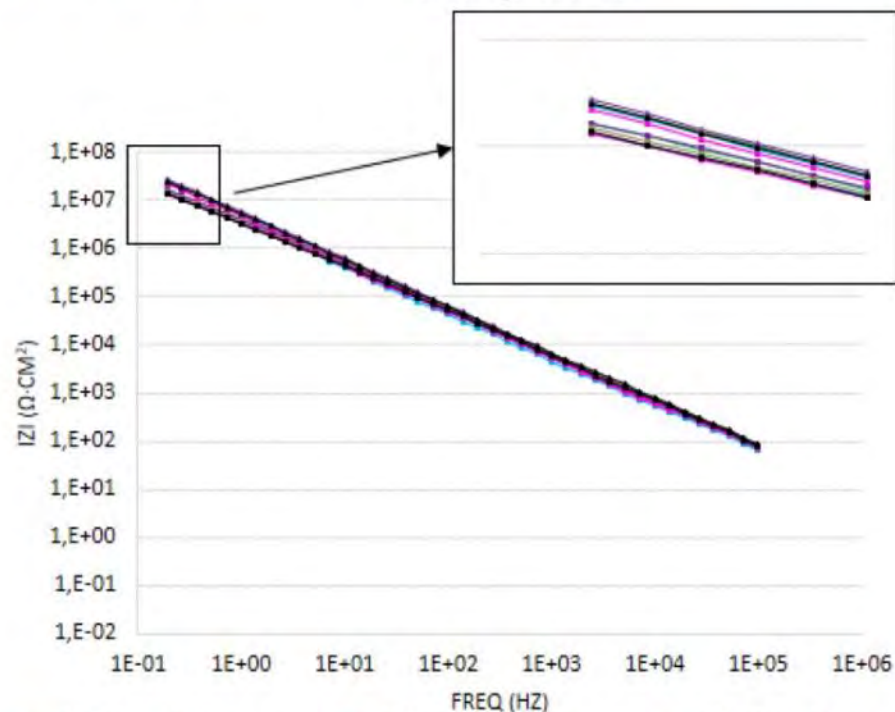
The effect of the Particles Size Distribution

Barrier Properties

❖ Barrier properties decrease with smaller particles size distribution values



30PVC-tim-0' - 1h 30PVC-tim-0' - 24h 30PVC-tim-1' - 1h
30PVC-tim-1' - 24h 30PVC-tim-80' - 1h 30PVC-tim-80' - 24h

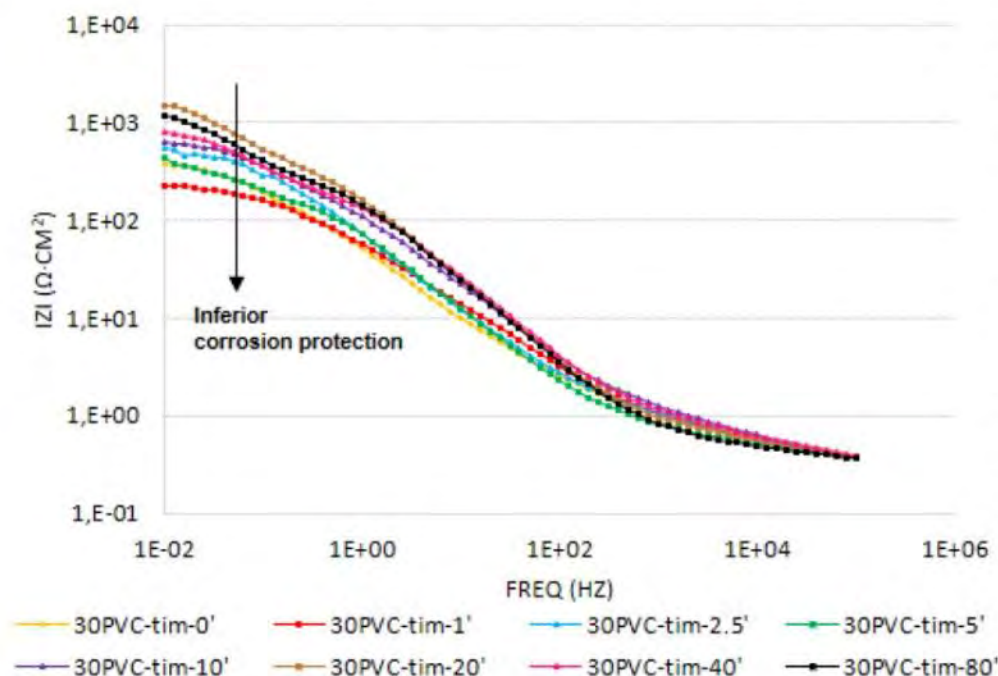


30PVC-tim-2.5' - 1h 30PVC-tim-2.5' - 24h 30PVC-tim-5' - 1h
30PVC-tim-5' - 24h 30PVC-tim-10' - 1h 30PVC-tim-10' - 24h
30PVC-tim-20' - 1h 30PVC-tim-20' - 24h 30PVC-tim-40' - 1h
30PVC-tim-40' - 24h 30PVC-tim-80' - 1h 30PVC-tim-80' - 24h

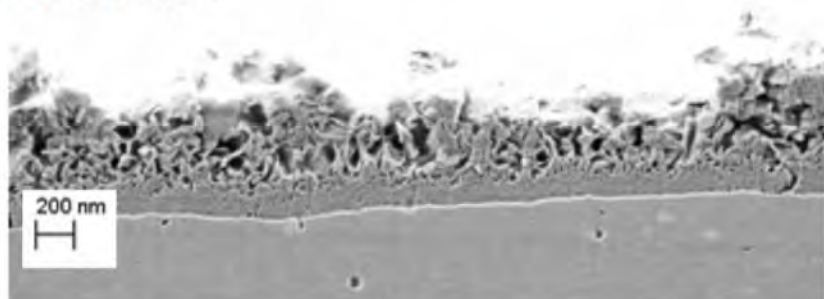
The effect of the Particles Size Distribution

Corrosion protection properties

- ❖ Slower lithium leaching provides superior corrosion protection



30PVC-tim-1'

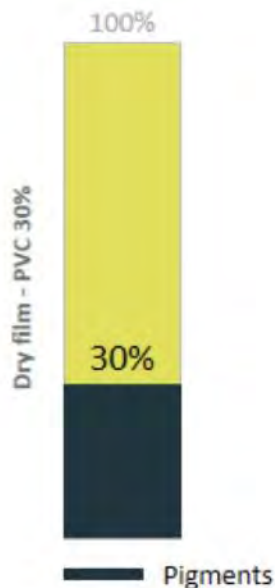


30PVC-tim-80'



The effect of the cross-linking agent

Systems of study



Substrate

AA2024-T3 Bare TSA 0.8 mm

System of study

Binder: Bisphenol A base-resin – group content 5260-5420 mmol/kg; eew . 184-190 g

Curing Agents:

- (A) **Modified aliphatic amine:** Outstanding chemical resistance; ew 88 Wt/{H}
- (B) **Aliphatic amine:** Good chemical resistance; eq 135 Wt/{H}
- (C) **Aliphatic amine adduct:** Good chemical resistance; ew 45 Wt/{H}
- (D) **Modified polyamide:** Good corrosion protection; ew 114 Wt/{H}
- (E) **Aliphatic polyether diamine:** Water soluble and high flexibility; ew 132 Wt/{H}
- (F) **Amidoamine:** Excellent immersion resistance in aqueous media; ew 93 Wt/{H}
- (G) **Cycloaliphatic amine:** no VOC content; ew 82 Wt/{H}

Pigment volume concentration (PVC): 30%

Pigments (vol%): 8.3% Li_2CO_3 , 7.7 MgO, 7% TiO_2 , 7% BaSO_4

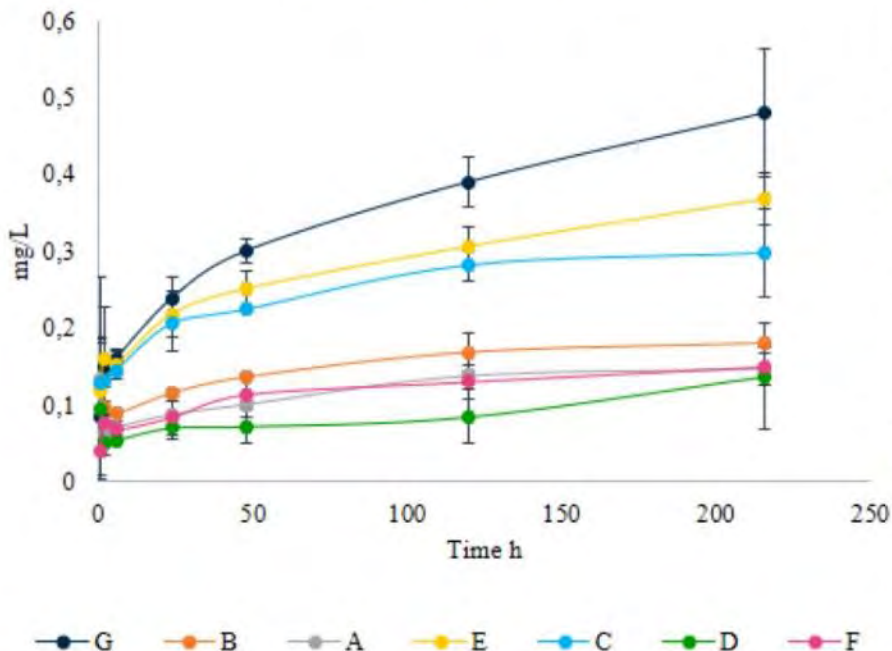
Layer thicknesses – average of 27 μm

Fineness of grind – max 15 μm

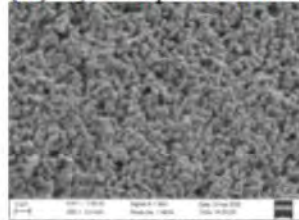
The effect of the cross-linking agent

Leaching Properties

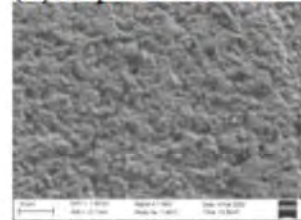
Cumulative leaching



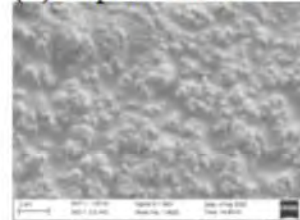
(G) Cycloaliphatic amine



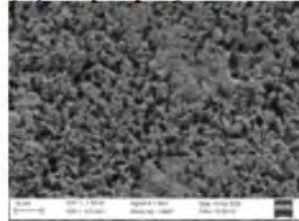
(C) Aliphatic amine adduct



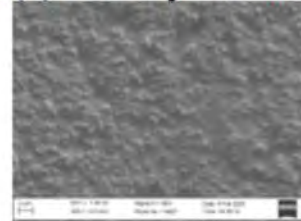
(B) Aliphatic amine



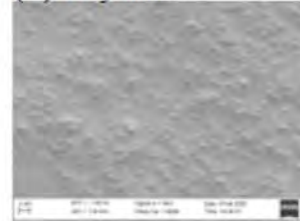
(E) Aliph. polyether diamine



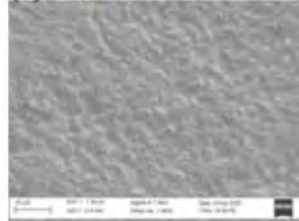
(A) Mod. Aliphatic amine



(D) Polyamine



(F) Amidoamine

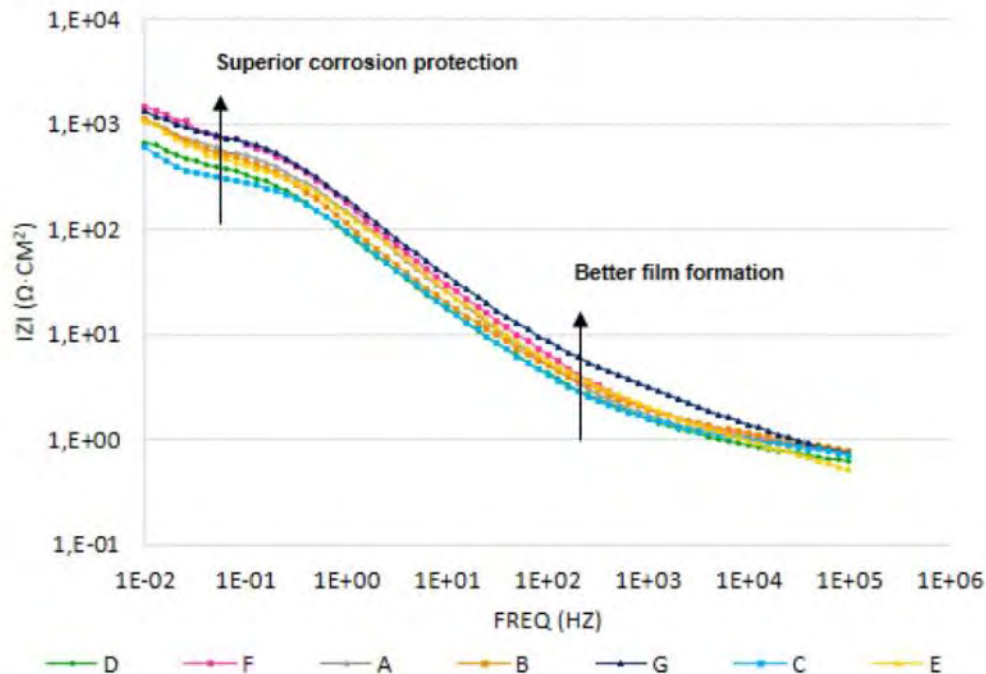


- **Rougher surfaces lead to faster leaching of Li-based corrosion inhibitor**

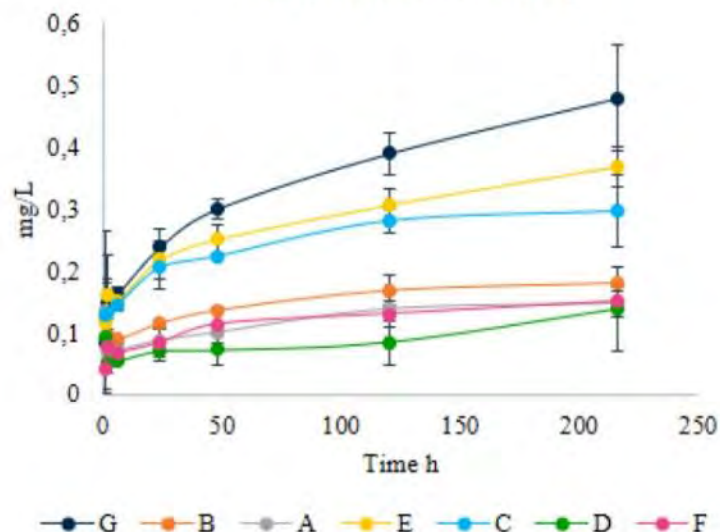
The effect of the cross-linking agent

Corrosion protection properties

Corrosion protection



Cumulative leaching



- Amidoamine (F) system displays the highest impedance in the low ($1\text{E}-02$ – $1\text{E}-01$ Hz), and cycloaliphatic (G) (no VOC content) system has the highest in the middle frequencies range ($1\text{E}-01$ – $1\text{E}-03$ Hz)

Particles size distribution

- Variations in the particles size distribution strongly changes the connectivity between the soluble material in the coating matrix.
- Leaching of lithium inhibiting species increases with decreased particles size distribution, contrarily to these of magnesium and barium which increase.
- The change in the leaching rate modifies the corrosion protection performance of the systems.
- Lower average particles size distributions provide superior corrosion protection

Cross-linking agent

- The cross-linking agent has a small effect on the leaching of corrosion inhibitor. Cycloaliphatic amine displays the highest cumulative leaching.
- This translate in distinct corrosion protection performances. Where the best corrosion protection is provided in this case by the fastest leaching system, the amidoamine.

Thans for listening

Q & A