

Effect of Carbon and Fluorine Added to Silicomanganese Slag Fluxes

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Abstract—A welding flux containing silicomanganese slag with a flux additive based on dust taken from gas cleaning facilities of aluminum industry has been studied. The following has been studied: the effect of a carbon-and-fluorine-containing additive exerted on the content of total oxygen and hydrogen in the welding seam's metal, as well as on the impact strength in the positive and negative temperature range. To make the welding flux, silicomanganese slag produced by the West Siberian Electrometallurgical Plant has been used as a base. Also, a flux additive has been used to make carbon-and-fluorine containing dust taken from the electrostatic precipitators of RUSAL's aluminum-producing enterprises. The samples have been welded using an ASAW-1250 welding tractor. The chemical composition of the welded samples under study has been determined according to GOST (State Standard) 10543–98 by means of an atomic emission technique using a DFS-71 spectrometer and by means of an X-ray fluorescence technique using an XRF-1800 spectrometer. Fractional gas analysis has been performed using a LECO TC-600 analyzer. The welded samples have been tested for impact strength in the positive and negative temperature range using a pendulum impact testing machine according to GOST (State Standard) 9454–78. Upon using a carbon-and-fluorine-containing flux additive in the welding flux based on silicomanganese slag, the amount of oxygen and hydrogen in the welding seam's metal exhibits a decrease. At the same time, the impact strength in the positive and negative temperature range exhibits an increase. The curves for the amount of oxygen and hydrogen in the welding seam's metal, as well as for the impact strength depending on the introduced amount of carbon-and-fluorine-containing flux additive, are plotted.

Keywords: welding, welding flux, industrial waste, silicomanganese slag, gas cleaning dust, impact strength, total oxygen, hydrogen

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INTRODUCTION

In Russia, much attention is paid to the development of novel welding and surfacing fluxes with the use of wastes taken from metallurgical production [1–3]. In the manufacturing of welding and surfacing materials, various slag systems have recently been used, including the use of wastes from metallurgical production [4–21], in order to reduce their production costs. A number of studies conducted earlier were devoted to improving the compositions of welding fluxes based on slag from silicomanganese production. Novel welding fluxes based on silicomanganese slag with a carbon-and-fluorine-containing additive made of dust taken from gas purification facilities of aluminum industry have been proposed in [22, 23].

In the present work, a further study of welding flux based on slag taken from the production of silicomane-

gane mixed with a carbon-and-fluorine-containing flux additive is presented.

EXPERIMENTAL

For the welding of samples, an ASAW-1250 welding tractor was used. The chemical composition of the studied welded samples was determined according to GOST (State Standard) 10543–98 using a DFS-71 spectrometer (atomic emission method), and an XRF-1800 spectrometer (X-ray fluorescence method). The welded samples were tested for the value of impact strength (KCV) in the positive and negative temperature range and carried out using a pendulum shock testing machine according to GOST (State Standard) 9454–78. The fractional gas analysis was performed using a LECO TC-600 analyzer.

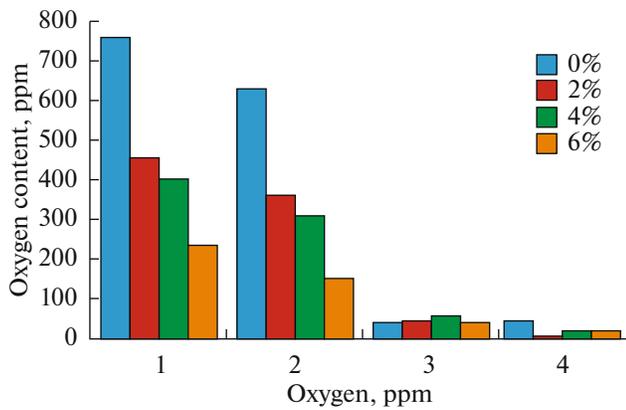


Fig. 1. Fractional gas analysis of the samples containing 0, 2, 4, and 6% of carbon-and-fluorine-containing additives and the amount of oxygen, ppm: (1) total and surface content; (2) in silicates; (3) in aluminates; (4) in calcium aluminosilicates, in calcium silicates, and in magnesium spinels.

In this work, the welding-and-technological properties of the welding flux made of silicomanganese slag and the flux additive based on the dust taken from gas purification facilities involved in aluminum industry were studied. In addition, the following effects appeared: the introduction of the carbon-and-fluorine-containing additive exerted on the content of total oxygen and hydrogen in the welding seam's metal, as well as this additive on the physicomechanical properties of the welding seam's metal (impact strength in the positive and negative temperature range).

As the components for the welding flux preparation, silicomanganese slag was used as the base, and dust taken from electrostatic precipitators involved in aluminum industry was used as the flux additive. The components exhibited the following chemical compositions:

—silicomanganese slag produced at the West Siberian electrometallurgical plant: 6.91–9.62 wt % of

Al_2O_3 ; 22.85–31.70 wt % of CaO; 46.46–48.16 wt % of SiO_2 ; 0.27–0.81 wt % of FeO; 6.48–7.92 wt % of MgO; 8.01–8.43 wt % of MnO; 0.28–0.76 wt % of F; 0.26–0.36 wt % of Na_2O ; up to 0.62 wt % of K_2O ; 0.15–0.17 wt % of S; 0.01 wt % of P;

—dust of electrostatic precipitators of aluminum industry (carbon-and-fluorine-containing additive) of the RUSAL combined company: 21.00–46.23 wt % of Al_2O_3 ; 18–27 wt % of F; 8–15 wt % of Na_2O ; 0.4–6.0 wt % of K_2O ; 0.7–2.3 wt % of CaO; 0.5–2.48 wt % of SiO_2 ; 2.1–3.27 of Fe_2O_3 ; 12.5–30.2 wt % of total C; 0.07–0.90 wt % of MnO; 0.06–0.90 wt % of MgO; 0.09–0.19 wt % of S; 0.1–0.18 wt % of P.

The flux additive was performed according to a technique described in [22, 23].

The composition of the studied welding fluxes is presented below in Table 1.

The submerged arc welding was carried out line-to-line on both sides using the samples made of 09G2S steel sheets with a size of 500×75 mm, 16 mm thick. The process was performed with the use of Sv-08GA wire with a diameter of 4 mm. In the welding experiments, an ASAW1250 welding tractor in an operating mode at welding current strength $I_w = 700$ A was used; welding voltage $U_w = 30$ V; and welding speed $V_w = 35$ m/h.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

After the welding, the samples have been examined for the content of total oxygen and hydrogen in the welding seam's metal, and the impact strength in the positive and negative temperature range has been determined (see Table 2).

The oxygen concentration in the welding seam's metal exhibits a decrease with an increase in the content of the carbon-and-fluorine-containing additive in the flux (Fig. 1). In the case of submerged arc welding without any additive, comparing to the samples with a 6% carbon-and-fluorine-containing additive, the oxygen's mass fraction decreases from 759.5 to 236.5 ppm on the average.

Upon fractional gas analysis, increasing additive content in the flux, the oxygen's mass fraction in silicates has changed upon submerged arc welding without additives comparing to the samples with a 6% content of carbon-and-fluorine-containing additives from 628.25 to 155.1 ppm on the average. No signifi-

Table 1. The amount of components in the welding flux, %

Sample	Silicomanganese slag	Carbon-and-fluorine-containing additive
0	100	—
2	98	2
4	96	4
6	94	6

Table 2. Impact strength of welded samples

Sample	Impact strength, J/cm ²		Total and surface oxygen content, ppm	Hydrogen content, cm ³ /100 g
	KCV +20°C	KCV –20°C		
0	43.3	17.16	759.5	2.0
2	46.4	24.33	456.0	1.8
4	51.4	25.00	402.5	1.4
6	59.2	31.83	236.5	1.3

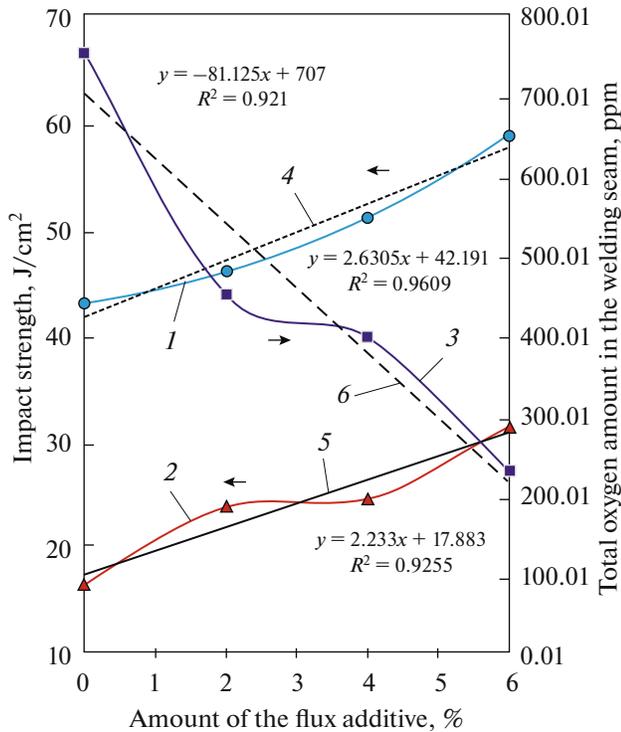


Fig. 2. Impact strength (KCV) (1) at +20°C, (2) at -20°C, and (3) total oxygen amount in the metal of the welding seam depending on the amount of the flux additive; (4, 5, 6) linear dependences.

cant changes have been found in the case of aluminates, calcium aluminosilicates, calcium silicates and magnesium spinels.

The oxygen distribution in silicates, aluminates, and aluminosilicates could be, to all appearance, connected with the oxidation level of the obtained slag and the assimilation of nonmetallic inclusions by the slag, depending on the slag's resulting viscosity.

The analysis of the mechanical properties (impact strength in the positive and negative temperature range) has shown that the impact strength level increases when the amount of carbon-and-fluorine-containing additive increases. Upon introducing 6% of carbon-and-fluorine-containing additive into the flux, the impact strength KCV exhibits an 88% increase at a temperature of -20°C, and a 37% increase at a temperature of +20°C.

Figure 2 shows the amount of total oxygen and the impact strength in the negative and positive temperature range depending on the added amount of the flux additive.

Figure 3 shows the impact strength in the negative and positive temperature range depending on the total oxygen content in the welding seam's metal.

Upon changing data concerning oxygen, a correlation is observed between the impact strength and the oxygen content (see Fig. 3).

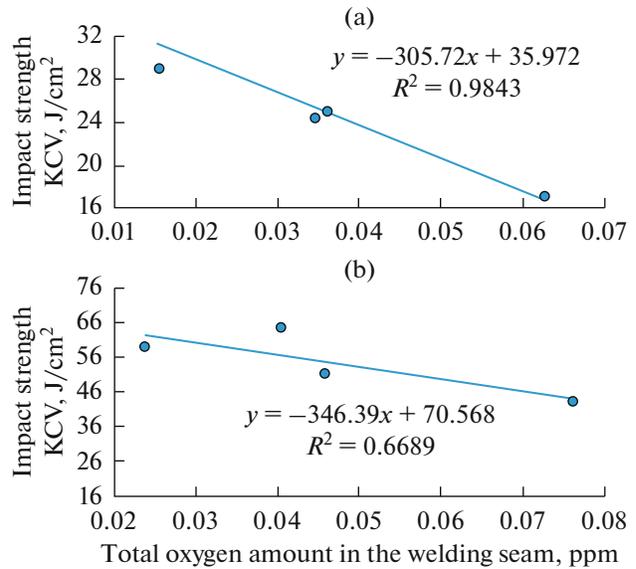


Fig. 3. Impact strength depending on total oxygen amount in the metal of the welding seam: (a) at a temperature of -20°C, and (b) at a temperature of +20°C.

Figure 4 shows the amount of hydrogen in the welding seam and the impact strength in the negative and positive temperature range depending on the added amount of the flux additive.

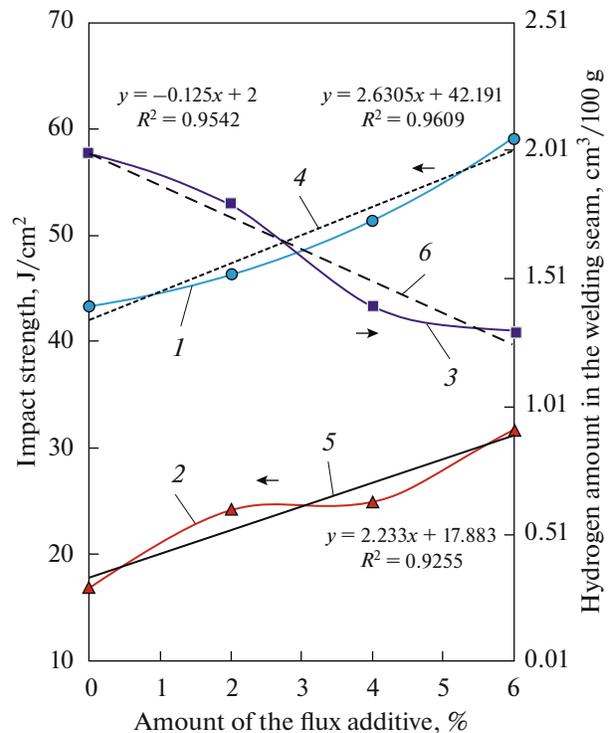


Fig. 4. Impact strength (KCV) depending on the amount of flux additive: (1) at +20°C and (2) at -20°C, and (3) total hydrogen amount in the metal of the welding seam; (4, 5, 6) linear dependences.

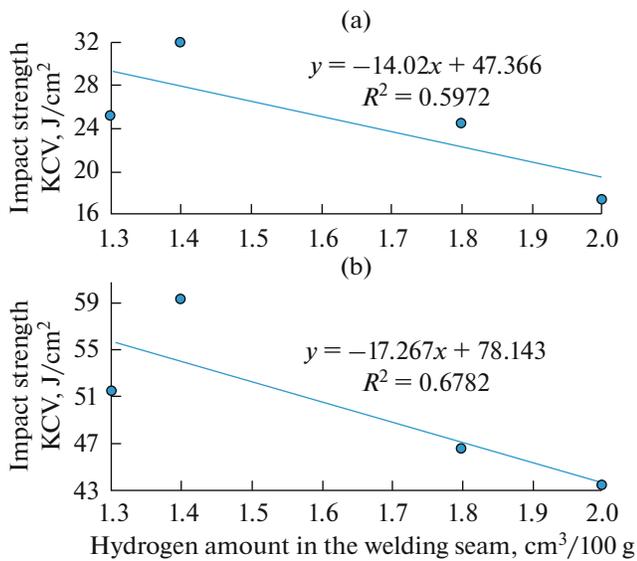


Fig. 5. Impact strength depending on hydrogen amount of in metal of the welding seam: (a) at -20°C and (b) at $+20^{\circ}\text{C}$.

Figure 5 shows the impact strength in the negative and positive temperature range depending on the amount of hydrogen in the welding seam's metal.

The analysis has revealed that the hydrogen content in the welding seam's metal exhibits a decrease from $2.0\text{ cm}^3/100\text{ g}$ of metal to $1.3\text{ cm}^3/100\text{ g}$ of metal (submerged arc welding without any additive, and with 6% of a carbon-and-fluorine-containing additive).

CONCLUSIONS

Upon using a carbon-and-fluorine-containing flux additive to the welding flux based on silicomanganese slag, the amount of oxygen and hydrogen in the welding seam's metal exhibits a decrease, and at the same time, the impact strength increases both at positive and negative temperature values.

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