

THE IMPACT OF FEED PREPARATION ACID STOICHIOMETRY AND REDOX ON MELT RATE FOR THE SB3-FRIT 418 FEED SYSTEM

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July 2004

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In March 2004, the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) transitioned to a blend of Sludge Batch 2 (SB2) and Sludge Batch 3 (SB3), and implemented a frit change from Frit 320 to Frit 418. This blended sludge batch has been designated SB3 although previously SRNL has called this new sludge batch SB2/3. A series of dry-fed tests (using the Melt Rate Furnace or MRF) and slurry fed tests (using the Slurry-Fed Melt Rate Furnace or SMRF) have been performed to investigate the effect of feed preparation acid stoichiometry and REDOX (REDuction/OXidation) on the melt rate of the SB3 – Frit 418 system. With regards to acid stoichiometry, the current DWPF target of 155% gave a higher melt rate than the 185% when tested in the SMRF. This contradicted the MRF results for the first time that both melt systems were used to evaluate melt rate with various feeds. The SMRF results should be used as slurry-fed results are more representative of what would occur in the DWPF, especially since the variable tested did not change the final glass composition. With regard to changes in REDOX (0.0, 0.1, and 0.2), the MRF tests indicated no difference while the SMRF tests showed that melt rate was not negatively impacted until a REDOX below 0.1 was used. In addition, all SMRF acid stoichiometry and REDOX feeds tested were diluted from about 50 to 45 weight percent total solids after melt rates had been determined at 50 weight percent. In all cases the lower weight percent solids resulted in lower melt rates. Based on this testing, the Immobilization Technology Section (ITS) recommends that the DWPF continue to operate the feed preparation processing for SB3 with Frit 418 with a targeted acid stoichiometry of 155% and a targeted REDOX of 0.2. If needed for other process concerns, REDOX targets approaching 0.1 could be used at DWPF before melt rate would be negatively impacted.

Because all of this testing was performed on small-scale equipment with dried or slurried, non-radioactive simulant, the exact impact of feed acid stoichiometry and REDOX on the radioactive sludge in a DWPF-sized melter could not be quantified.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACTL	Aiken County Technology Laboratory
DWPF	Defense Waste Processing Facility
EDS	Energy dispersive spectroscopy
ITS	Immobilization Technology Section
LMR	Linear Melt Rate
MRF	Melt Rate Furnace
REDOX	REDuction/OXidation
SEM	Scanning electron microscopy
SB2	Sludge batch 2
SB3	Sludge batch 3
SME	Slurry Mix Evaporator
SMRF	Slurry-fed Melt Rate Furnace
SRAT	Sludge Receipt and Adjustment Tank
SRS	Savannah River Site
SRNL	Savannah River National Laboratory
WL	Waste Loading
WSRC	Westinghouse Savannah River Company
XRD	X-ray diffraction

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In March 2004 the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) transitioned to a blend of Sludge Batch 2 (SB2) and Sludge Batch 3 (SB3), and implemented a frit change from Frit 320 to Frit 418. This blended sludge batch has been designated SB3 although previously SRNL has called this new sludge batch SB2/3. A series of dry-fed tests (using the Melt Rate Furnace or MRF) and slurry fed tests (using the Slurry-Fed Melt Rate Furnace or SMRF) have been performed to investigate the effect of feed acid stoichiometry and REDOX (REDuction/OXidation) on the melt rate of the SB3 – Frit 418 system. The targeted waste loading for all of the feeds was 35%. The impact of waste loading had been previously investigated (Lorier and Smith, 2004) in the MRF. This previous report also documented the impact of acid stoichiometry in the MRF, but Frit 432 was used as there was no Frit 418 available at the time of the tests.

Tests were performed with non-radioactive, simulated SB3 material. Due to the small-scale of the test equipment and the design of the equipment, as well as the use of dry or slurry simulant feed, the behavior of the actual radioactive feed in the DWPF melter cannot be fully proven.

2.0 EXPERIMENTAL

2.1 4-L SRAT and 22-L SRAT/SME Feed Preparation

All Sludge Receipt and Adjustment Tank (SRAT) products for the MRF runs were fabricated at the Aiken County Technology Laboratory (ACTL). All feeds made for the MRF and SMRF tests used the same simulated sludge and they all had a targeted waste loading (WL) of 35%. The sludge was made at the Clemson Environmental Technologies Laboratory. It was a mixture of 40% SB2 and 60% SB3. Trim chemicals were added to achieve the final desired composition. The SRNL Mobile Lab sample ID for the SB2/SB3 simulated sludge is 04-0241 and the average results of two samples are given below in Table 2-1.

Table 2-1. SB3 Sludge Composition for all MRF and SMRF Acid Stoichiometry and REDOX Tests

Element	Weight % Calcined @ 1100 C	Element	Weight % Calcined @ 1100 C
Al	9.57	Mn	4.07
Ba	0.139	Na	14.05
Ca	2.37	Ni	1.06
Cr	0.153	Pb	0.01
Cu	0.157	S	0.35
Fe	28.35	Si	1.04
Gd	0.075	Zn	0.323
K	0.122	Zr	0.486
Mg	2.15		

Anion	Mg/Kg
HCO ₂	< 100
NO ₂	19050
NO ₃	14150
SO ₄	2215
C ₂ O ₄	< 1000

Total % Solids	Insoluble % Solids	Wt% Calcined
22.6	15.4	16.3

For the MRF acid stoichiometry tests, one 4-L SRAT run was performed at the targeted acid stoichiometry (155 or 185%) and a REDuction/OXidation (REDOX) (expressed as $Fe^{2+}/\Sigma Fe$) target of 0.2 with Frit 418 (nominal and measured compositions listed in Table 2-2) later added for the targeted waste loading (WL). This same Frit 418 lot was used in the feeds used for all of the SMRF tests reported in this document as well.

For the MRF REDOX tests, three 4-L SRAT runs were performed at the target acid stoichiometry of 155% and a targeted REDOX of 0.0, 0.1, or 0.2. In addition, one 4-L SRAT batch was made for a 100% nitric MRF run and a 40% nitric MRF run (at a target of 155% acid stoichiometry as well). The predicted REDOX's of the 100% and 40% nitric acid runs were -0.35 and -1.3 respectively. For

reference, a 155% acid stoichiometry feed for targeted REDOX's of 0.2, 0.1, and 0.0 have about 10, 12 and 15% nitric respectively for SB3. In other words, the 100% and 40% nitric acid feeds tested in the MRF were very high in the percentage of nitric acid used. It should be noted as well that DWPF would not be allowed to process 185% acid stoichiometry SB3 feed as it would exceed hydrogen generation safety limits.

Table 2-2. Nominal and Measured Compositions of Frit 418 Used for Melt Rate Tests

Oxide	FRIT 418*	
	Nominal (wt%)	Measured (wt)
B ₂ O ₃	8	8.05
Li ₂ O	8	7.91
Na ₂ O	8	7.99
SiO ₂	76	75.32
Impurities	---	0.707
Total	100	99.977

*all Frit 418 used for the MRF and SMRF tests was from DWPF Lot 418 L2U

The feeds for the SMRF tests were made in the ACTL 22-L SRAT/SME (Slurry Mix Evaporator). Two 22-L runs were needed for each type of feed made. The same targeted acid stoichiometries and REDOX's from the MRF tests were used. A 0.2 REDOX feed was not made for the set of SMRF REDOX tests. This was because the SMRF 155% acid stoichiometry feed test previously discussed in this report had the required composition and feed preparation cycle (0.2 REDOX). 100% and 40% nitric acid feeds were not made for the SMRF after the 100% and 40% MRF tests indicated excessive off-gassing. Analyses of the SRAT and SME products used in the SMRF acid stoichiometry and REDOX tests are given in Appendix A. The calculated waste loadings for the 155% and 185% SMRF acid stoichiometry feeds were close to the targeted 35% (36.2 and 35.9% respectively). The calculated waste loadings for the SMRF 0.0 and 0.1 REDOX runs were close to target as well (36.6 and 36.2% respectively). All waste loadings were calculated by using the normalized lithia (Li₂O) values in the Frit 418 (see Table 2-2) and SME feeds tested.

The pH was monitored during the 22-L SRAT/SME REDOX feed preparation runs. The 0.0, 0.1, and 0.2 REDOX feeds had values in the 5-6 range. The pH of the 4-L 100% and 40% nitric acid run feeds had respective pH's of 0.8 and 4.

Additional details of the various feed preparation runs are given in Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) notebook WSRC-NB-2003-00046. Run plans for the 22-L SRAT/SME runs for the four feeds made are given in SRNL inter-office memorandums SRT-GPD-2004-00037, SRT-GPD-00038, SRT-GPD-2004-00040, and SRT-GPD-2004-00041.

2.2 Melt Rate Furnace Testing

The dry-fed MRF utilizes has a cylindrical inner chamber approximately 0.5 cubic feet in size, with heating coils winding around the chamber walls. The diameter of the chamber is ~7", and an insulating sleeve and a 1200 mL stainless steel beaker were inserted from the top. The tests were conducted with 6" deep stainless steel beakers inserted with the sleeve so that the beaker bottom was approximately flush with the top of the uppermost chamber coil. An insulating block was used to cover the beaker. The furnace was heated to 1150°C with the top opening covered. Once the furnace reached the setpoint, the cover was removed and the beaker containing sufficient dried, sieved material to produce 500 grams of glass was inserted. After 50 minutes, the beaker was removed from the furnace and allowed to slowly

cool to room temperature. This residence time in the furnace was determined during testing in 2002 to establish a standard test time for melt rate comparison for this dry-fed furnace (Lorier et al. 2002).

The relative melt rate is determined by measuring the height of the glass layer in the bottom of the beaker at ¼” intervals. The average height and duration in the furnace is used to yield a relative linear melt rate number, with units of inches/hour. General observations of the sectioned beaker are also used to describe differences between runs. A volumetric estimate of melt rate is also calculated, but the linear method is the basis for comparison in this and other reports. In general, the volumetric and linear values show similar results.

2.3 SMRF Testing

The SMRF was heated up with 8 kg of a prefabricated SB3 Frit 418 glass targeting 35% waste loading. The run plans used for the SMRF tests were SRT-GPD-2004-00033 (“Run Plan for the SB2/SB3 Frit 418 Acid Stoichiometry Runs in the Slurry Fed Melter Rate Furnace”) and SRT-GPD-2004-00062 (“Run Plan for the SB2/SB3 Frit 418 REDOX Runs in the Slurry Fed Melter Rate Furnace”). The SRNL log notebook used was WSRC-NB-2003-00163. After the acid stoichiometry tests were completed, the SMRF was drained and shut down. The glass drained from this test was used to charge the SMRF for the REDOX runs.

Details about the SMRF are documented elsewhere by Smith et al. (2003). The melt pool and vapor space setpoints were 1125°C and 750°C respectively. The time for each feed cycle after the vapor space had reached the vapor space feed initiation setpoint of 750°C was 20 seconds (37 seconds was needed for the 155% acid stoichiometry run at 50 weight percent solids to allow for enough of this thicker feed to be delivered to the SMRF in one feed cycle). Each feed was diluted from 50 to 45 weight percent solids to determine the impact of percent solids on melt rate. This was also done so that direct melt rate comparisons could be made for the same feeds at a lower weight percent solids. The measured amps for the melt pool and vapor space heaters were about 20 each for all of the tests. The tests were run basically the same as those for the SB2/SB3 Frit 418 (Case 6b – 250 canisters) 40% waste loading SMRF test performed in August 2003 (Smith et al. 2003).

2.3.1 SMRF Acid Stoichiometry Test Details

The SMRF was charged with 8 kg of startup glass on 4/12/04 and heated up to operating temperatures. The 155% acid stoichiometry test was performed on 4/13/04. The feed was fairly thick (see section on feed rheologies) and the feed cycle time had to be increased from 20 to 37 seconds to get about 70 grams/feed cycle (normally get 90-100 grams/20 second feed cycle). After about five hours of feeding the cold cap (basically dried out feed) had formed a mound that blocked the feed tube in the SMRF. This mound was knocked down as well as two others in the next 1.5 hours. At about 1500 the feed line plugged and the test was stopped. The feed was diluted from 50 to 45 weight percent solids (later analysis gave a measured weight percent solids of 45.5%). The cold cap was allowed to burn off for 1.5 hours. During this cold cap burn off time, a top of glass sample was taken (SMRF-0156). Feeding with the 45 weight percent solids feed was resumed at about 1630. The feed was easier to pump and the feed cycle time was reduced back to 20 seconds. Due to problems with plugging of the feed tank suction line inlet, the stable run time for this diluted feed was only about 2 hours.

The next day a top of glass sample was taken (SMRF-0160) which appeared to be foamy (many small bubbles). Feeding of the 185% acid stoichiometry feed (50 weight percent solids) was then started. Multiple suction line pluggages were experienced until the suction line slots were enlarged. No cold cap mounding occurred. At 1630 the feed line plugged and the cold cap was then allowed to burn off while the feed was diluted to 45 weight percent solids (measured at 45.2% after the test). No cold cap

mounding was observed but one feed line plug occurred at 2010. The test was stopped at 2300. The next day a top of glass pool sample (SMRF-0164) was taken which was also observed to be foamy. The SMRF was then drained that same day.

2.3.2 SMRF REDOX Test Details

The SMRF was charged with about 6 kg of glass drained from the SMRF at the end of the acid stoichiometry tests and brought up to temperature on 5/10/04. Feeding of the 0.0 REDOX feed at 50 weight percent solids was started the next day at 0721 with 20 second feed cycles that delivered about 90-100 grams/feed cycle. The feed line plugged at 1050 and slight feed mounding (1" high) was noted at 1206. At 1354 the feed mound had reached the feed tube. It was knocked down, but then the mound built back up to the feed tube at 1420. After being knocked down again the mound was almost up to the feed tube at 1450. Feeding was stopped at 1500 while the feed was diluted to 45 weight percent solids (measured after test as 46.2%) and the cold cap allowed to burn off. Feeding was resumed at 1622 and the test stopped at 2205. No cold cap mounding was observed for this diluted feed but there was a feed line plug at 1820 that took 15 minutes to fix.

The next day a top of glass sample (SMRF-0169) was taken. The top of the glass pool appeared foamy and the top of glass sample had multiple small bubbles in it. Feeding of the 0.1 REDOX material at 50 weight percent solids was started the same day at 0720. At 1250 the cold cap had mounded up to the tip of the feed tube and at 1345 feeding was stopped. At 1555 the cold cap had mounded up to the feed tube again. At 1620 the pour stream was surging at high pour rates. Due to this and cold cap mounding, feeding was stopped at 1632 to allow the cold cap to burn off and dilute the remaining feed to 45 weight percent (measured after test as 46.0%). Feeding was then resumed at 1730. No mounding problems were observed after the feed dilution but a vapor space thermocouple failure resulted in about 30 minutes of not feeding. At 2152 the test was stopped.

On the next day top of glass pool temperature measurements were taken that showed that the top of glass pool temperature ranged from 850 to 940 °C. A top of melt pool sample (SMRF-0173) was taken. This sample, like the others taken in these tests, had multiple small bubbles. The SMRF was drained and then powered down.

3.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Effects of Acid Stoichiometry – MRF Tests

Testing in the MRF indicated an increase in melt rate with increasing acid stoichiometry. For Frit 418 the estimated linear melt rate rose from 0.58 in/hr to 0.78 in/hr when the acid addition was increased from 155% to 185%. Using Frit 432, the linear melt rate rose in a similar fashion (Lorier and Smith, 2004). If, however, the results of the MRF 0.2 REDOX test discussed in section 3.3 (0.72 in/hr) are used (run at 155% acid stoichiometry and therefore should be same as the 155% acid stoichiometry discussed above), then there was no impact observed in the MRF tests with regards to acid stoichiometry. Due to these conflicting results, no conclusions can be made from the MRF tests with regards to the impact of acid stoichiometry on melt rate for the SB2/SB3 Frit 418 feed system.

3.2 Effects of Acid Stoichiometry – SMRF Tests

Details of the SMRF acid stoichiometry runs are given in section 2.3.1. Feeds with acid stoichiometries of 155% and 185% at 50 and 45 weight percent solids were tested. Table 3-3 summarizes the melt rates for these feeds.

Table 3-3. Melt Rates for SB3 Frit 418 Feeds at 155 and 185% Acid Stoichiometries

Targeted Acid Stoichiometry/Wt % Solids	Melt Rate (g/min)	Run Times Used to Determine Melt Rates
155/50	14.1	4/13/04 (1100-1500)
185/50	11.5	4/13/04 (2030-2247)
155/45	12.7	4/14/04 (1330-1630)
185/45	9.0	4/14/04 (1900-2300)

Unlike the MRF results, the SMRF results were fairly conclusive. The 155% acid stoichiometry feed resulted in higher melt rates than the 185% acid stoichiometry feed at both 50 and 45 weight percent solids. In addition, the 50 weight percent solids feeds had higher melt rates for both acid stoichiometries than at 45 weight percent solids. The SMRF results should be considered to be a better indicator of the impact of feed acid stoichiometry on DWPF melt rate because small scale slurry feeding is a better test method (versus dry fed tests) for melt rate for DWPF, especially when the targeted glass composition is not being altered.

As discussed in section 2.0 (SMRF Testing), glass and top of glass pool samples were taken during this test. A discussion of the top of glass pool samples is given in section 3.6. Analyses of startup glass, as well as various glass pour and drain samples are given in Appendix B. Table B-1 in Appendix B also shows that the REDOX values for the glasses produced were close to the target of 0.2.

3.3 Effects of REDOX – MRF Tests

Three MRF runs were conducted at 0.0, 0.1, and 0.2 REDOX. There was no difference in the linear melt rate, with the rates being 0.73, 0.69, and 0.72 in/hr respectively. These tests were performed on product that had an elevated sulfate concentration. The sectioned beakers were similar in appearance. A second test was performed with 0.0 and 0.1 REDOX using the same sludge as used for the SMRF acid stoichiometry and REDOX tests (nominal sulfate concentration) and again there was no difference in melt

rate between the two samples (0.59 in/hr for both). The reason for the lower melt rates cannot be attributed fully to the lower sulfate concentration but no other differences in the two sets of tests could be determined. If each set is looked at independently, the same conclusion can be made that melt rate was not impacted by REDOX in these MRF tests.

In addition to the above REDOX tests, 100% nitric and 40% nitric MRF tests were performed as well using nominal sulfate concentration SB3 sludge. As stated previously, the predicted REDOX's of the 100% and 40% nitric acid runs were -0.35 and -1.3 respectively. When the 100% nitric batch was placed in the MRF, brown smoke immediately began coming out the vent hole in the top. As the beaker heated, the smoke increased and was escaping from underneath the entire top cover of M-board. The crusty top layer rose to nearly the top of the beaker. Figure 3-1 shows that a very small layer of glass was formed in the bottom of the beaker during the heating cycle. Most of the material was incorporated in the layers of foam above the glass. The melt rate for the 100% nitric acid run (0.40 in/hr) was ~ 35% less than the 0.0 and 0.1 REDOX from the second set of tests. This is to be expected with the large amount of material incorporated into the crusty layer in the top of the beaker.

The 40% nitric acid run also generated more brown smoke than the SB3-Frit 418 MRF runs with REDOX's targeted in the 0.0 to 0.2 range, but less than the 100% nitric test. The crusty layer rose in the beaker, but not to the extent that occurred in the 100% nitric run. Figure 3-1 below shows an improvement in the amount of glass formed compared to the 100% nitric run. The estimated melt rate was about the same (0.57 in/hr) that was achieved with the 0.0 and 0.1 REDOX testing (0.59 in/hr for both). Based on the behavior of the material in the MRF, there was no SMRF testing conducted with the 100% and 40% acid strategies.

Figure 3-1. Cross-Sectional Views of 100 and 40% Nitric Acid SB2/SB3 Frit 418 MRF Beakers



3.4 Effects of REDOX – SMRF Tests

Details of the SMRF REDOX runs are given in section 2.3.2. Feeds with targeted REDOX's of 0.0 and 0.1 (both at 155% acid stoichiometry) at 50 and 45 weight percent solids were tested. The melt rates from the previously run 155% acid stoichiometry SMRF test (see section 3.2) were used as the 0.2 REDOX test. Table 3-4 summarizes the melt rates for these feeds.

Table 3-4. Melt Rates for SB3 Frit 418 SMRF REDOX Tests

Targeted Feed REDOX/ Wt % Solids	Melt Rate (g/min)	Run Times Used to Determine Melt Rates
0.0/50	12.4	5/11/04 (1000-1330)
0.0/45	11.4	5/11/04 (2000-2300)
0.1/50	14.2	5/12/04 (1130-1530)
0.1/45	11.5*	5/12/04 (1900-2000)
0.2/50	14.1	4/13/04 (1100-1500)
0.2/45	12.7	4/14/04 (1330-1630)

*short run time of only one hour due to vapor space thermocouple failure

The melt rates for the 0.2 and 0.1 REDOX feeds (at 50 weight percent solids) were about the same (14.1 versus 14.2 g/min respectively). The melt rate was somewhat lower (12.4 g/min), however, for the 0.0 REDOX feed at the same weight percent solids. This may be because almost all of the MnO₂ or Mn₂O₃ goes to MnO at a REDOX 0.09. This then results in the evolution of more oxygen in the cold cap (causing foaming) which negatively impacts melt rate (Jantzen and Plodinec, 1986)(Schreiber and Hockman, 1987). As with the acid stoichiometry feeds, the melt rates were all lower when the feeds were diluted to 45 weight percent solids as compared to their 50 weight percent counterparts at a constant REDOX. For the 45 weight percent solids, the 0.0 and 0.1 REDOX melt rates were about the same and lower than the 0.2 REDOX feed. Due to short stable run time for the 0.1 REDOX feed at 45 weight percent solids, the actual melt rate may not have been accurately determined and therefore caution should be taken when using the resultant melt rate from that test.

3.5 Feed Rheology

Samples of the SME products for the 155% and 185% acid stoichiometry SMRF runs, as well as the 0.0 and 0.1 REDOX runs were taken and rheological properties were measured. Figure 3-2 shows the 155% and 185% rheogram. Figure 3-3 shows the 0.0 and 0.1 REDOX feed rheograms results and also plots the 155% acid stoichiometry feed rheogram (same as a 0.2 REDOX feed). All of the feeds plotted were at about 50 weight percent solids.

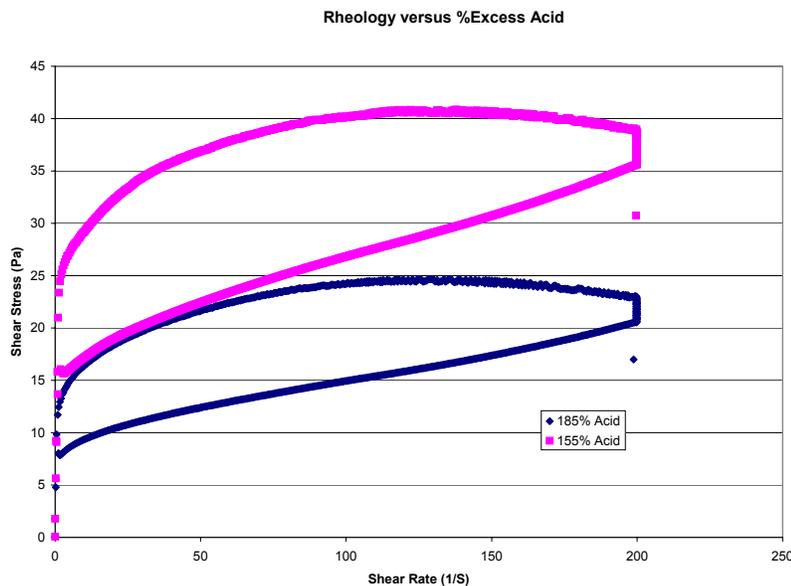


Figure 3-2. Rheogram Plots of the SMRF 155% and 185% Acid Stoichiometry Feeds

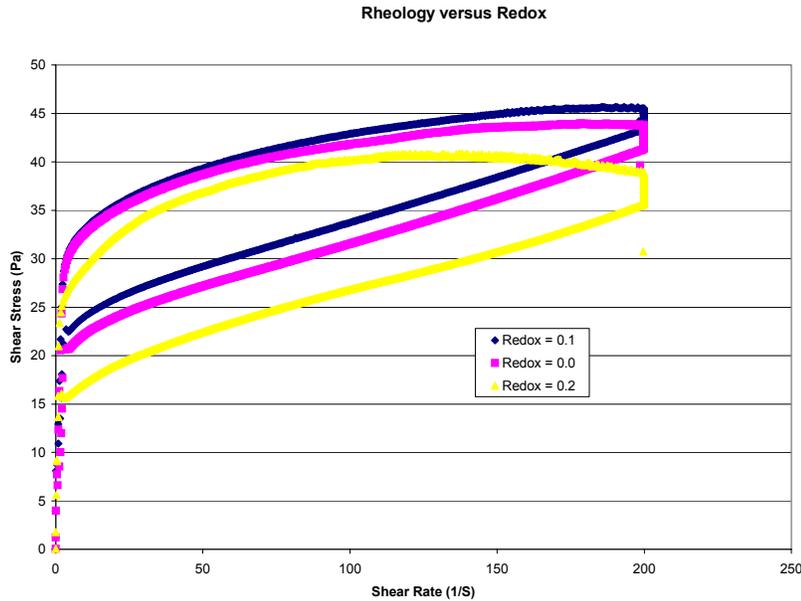


Figure 3-3. Rheogram Plots of the SMRF 0.0, 0.1, and 0.2 REDOX Feeds

Figure 3-2 shows that the 185% acid stoichiometry feed had a lower shear stress than the 155% acid stoichiometry feed. This agrees with the SMRF feeding observations given in section 2.3.1 of this report. It was difficult to pump the 155% acid stoichiometry feed at the desired amount per feed cycle and cold cap mounding was observed as well. However, the 155% acid stoichiometry feed had a higher melt rate in spite of these problems. Figure 3-3 shows that the shear stress of the feed was not greatly impacted by REDOX. This agrees with the feedings observations given in section 2.3.2 of this report.

3.6 SMRF Top of Glass Pool Samples

After each SMRF test was completed in the evening (usually 2200 to 2300), the SMRF was idled overnight and then a top of glass pool was taken the next morning before the next test was started. As previously noted, the temperature of the top of glass measured the day after the 0.1 REDOX test ranged from 850 to 940 °C.

Each of the top of glass samples taken was foamy. The top of glass samples taken after the 155% and 185% acid stoichiometry tests (samples SMRF-0160 and SMRF-0164 respectively) were submitted for Scanning Electron Microscopy/ Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy (SEM/EDS) analysis. In addition, the samples were analyzed by X-Ray Diffraction (XRD) to determine what crystalline phases were present. Figure 3-4 is a picture of sample SMRF-0164 which shows the foamy nature of the top of the glass after feeding has been stopped for about eight hours. The appearance of this top of glass sample was typical of the others taken.



Figure 3-4. Foamy SMRF Top of Glass Sample (SMRF-0164)

Figures 3-5 through 3-8 are SEM Micrographs of the SMRF-0160 top of glass sample. Figure 3-5 is a micrograph of a section of the sample and the next three are micrographs of higher magnifications portions of the section shown in Figure 3-5. EDS's of the various spots noted are given in Appendix C and are used to determine the elements present in the various spots analyzed. Spot 1 in Figure 3-6 is a phase composed of Fe, Si, Mn, Cr, and Ni (typical spinel components). Spot 2 appears to be glass. Spot 5 in Figure 3-7 is mostly Pd while Spot 7 is composed of Ru, Rh, Si, and Fe. In Figure 3-8, Spots 8, 9, and 10 are phases consisting of various amounts Ag, Cu and S. Figure 3-9 is an XRD plot of SMRF-0160 showing the presence of the crystalline phases trevorite (NiFe_2O_4) and aegerine ($\text{NaFe}^{3+}\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6$) confirming the presence of spinels in the cold cap sample.

This foamy layer can negatively impact melt rate by acting as an insulating layer between the molten glass and the cold cap. The resultant lower temperatures in the upper region of the melt pool (850 to 940 °C as previously cited) would allow for the formation of these crystalline phases.



Figure 3-5. SEM Micrograph of Top of Glass Sample SMRF-0160



Figure 3-6. SEM Micrograph (Higher Magnification) of SMRF-0160 (Photo 4256)

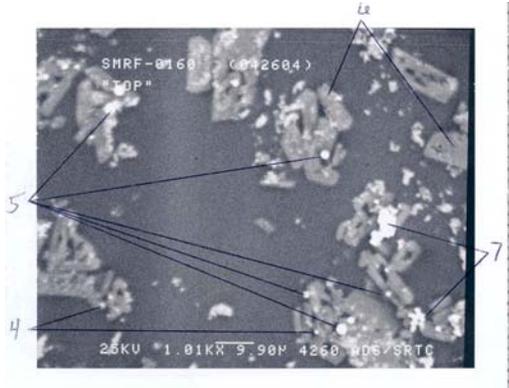


Figure 3-7. SEM Micrograph (Higher Magnification) of SMRF-0160 (Photo 4260)

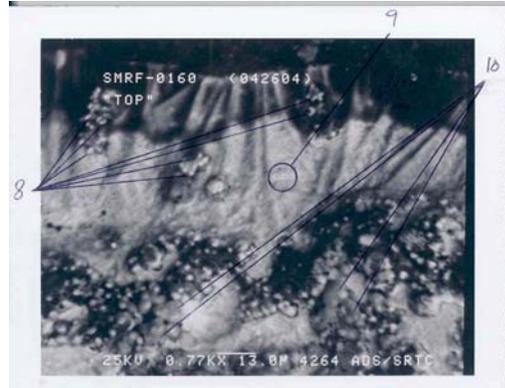


Figure 3-8. SEM Micrograph (Higher Magnification) of SMRF-0160 (Photo 4264)

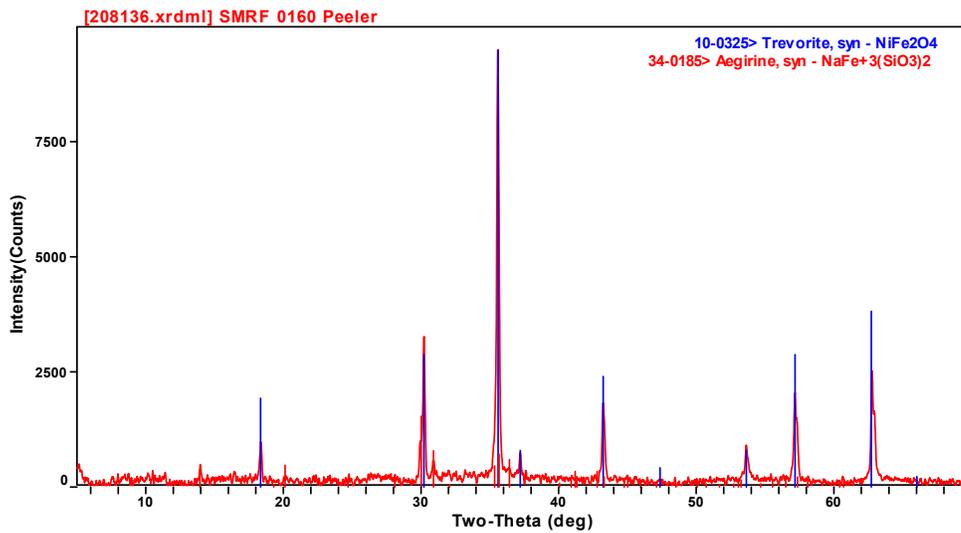


Figure 3-9. XRD of Top of Glass Sample SMRF-0160

4.0 CONCLUSIONS

A series of dry-fed tests (using the Melt Rate Furnace or MRF) and slurry fed tests (using the Slurry-Fed Melt Rate Furnace or SMRF) have been performed to investigate the effect of feed preparation acid stoichiometry or REDOX (REDuction/OXidation) on the melt rate of the SB3 – Frit 418 system. This objective was met and the following conclusion can be made based on this work:

- Melt rate results from the MRF tests contradicted the SMRF results (see SMRF acid stoichiometry test conclusion below) for the impact feed acid stoichiometry. The differences in results from the MRF and SMRF may be a parameter other than final glass product (acid stoichiometry) was investigated which may not be able to be evaluated in dry feed testing (MRF).
- Melt rate results from the MRF REDOX tests indicated no impact of REDOX (0.0, 0.1, and 0.2 REDOX feeds tested). This did not agree with the SMRF tests as discussed below. As with the MRF acid stoichiometry tests, the differences in results from the MRF and SMRF REDOX tests may be because a parameter other than final glass product was investigated which may not be able to be evaluated in dry feed testing (MRF).
- Due to the MRF results, caution should be taken when trying to use to MRF as a melt rate tool when parameters other than final glass composition are being tested.
- For the SMRF tests, the current DWPF target feed preparation acid stoichiometry of 155% gave a higher melt rate than 185%.
- MRF tests with 40% and 100% nitric acid feed (resulting in negative calculated feed REDOX's) showed high amounts of off-gassing and a much lower melt rate for the 100% nitric acid feed. Due to the off-gassing observations, these feeds were not tested in the SMRF as part of the REDOX runs.
- Feeds with targeted REDOX's of 0.0, 0.1, and 0.2 were tested in the SMRF. These tests indicate that melt rate was not negatively impacted until the targeted feed REDOX dropped below 0.1. It is postulated that this is due to the fact that the oxidation state of manganese increases at a REDOX of 0.09 and lower, thereby resulting in a foamy cold cap/glass.
- The dilution of the SMRF feed from 50 to 45 weight percent solids results in lower melt rates for all acid stoichiometry (155% and 185%) and REDOX feeds tested (0.2, 0.1, and 0.0).
- SMRF top of glass samples taken at various times after cold cap burn off were found to be foamy. The crystalline phases trevorite and aegerine were present in these samples as identified by XRD.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS/PATH FORWARD

- It is recommended that DWPF continue to use the targets of 155% acid stoichiometry and 0.2 REDOX for SRAT feed preparation of the SB3 – Frit 418 system.
- Continue investigating melt rate tools that can give relative differences in feeds with regards to off-gas surges and melt reactions.
- Investigate reproducibility of MRF by running multiple tests with identical feed.

6.0 REFERENCES

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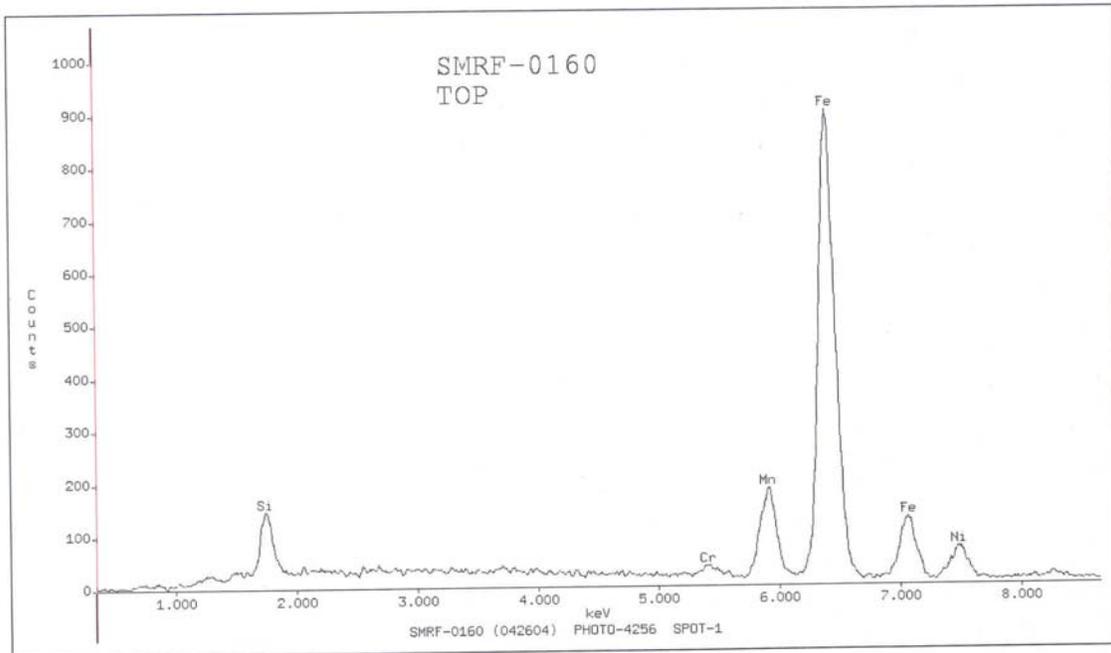
APPENDIX A – SRAT/SME ANALYSES

APPENDIX B – SMRF GLASS SAMPLE ANALYSES

Sample ID	Lab ID	Al	B	Ba	Ca	Cr	Cu	Fe	Gd	K	Li	Mg	Mn	Na	Ni	Pb	Pd	Rh	Ru	S	Si	Ti	Zn	Zr										
<i>elemental wt%-calcined 1100C</i>																																		
SMRF 0156 (A)	04-0391	3.35	1.64	0.044	1.64	0.078	0.059	10.1	0.025	0.079	2.36	0.945	1.47	10.5	0.423	0.039	<0.010	<0.010	<0.010	0.218	22.6	0.023	0.114	0.180										
SMRF 0156 (B)	04-0391	3.33	1.61	0.043	1.59	0.082	0.061	10.2	0.034	0.142	2.37	0.933	1.48	10.6	0.417	0.044	<0.010	<0.010	<0.010	0.218	22.6	0.025	0.111	0.180										
SMRF 0157 (A)	04-0392	3.19	1.67	0.042	1.67	0.072	0.061	9.64	0.026	0.048	2.41	0.877	1.59	9.38	0.344	0.030	<0.010	<0.010	<0.010	0.182	23.4	0.014	0.106	0.151										
SMRF 0157 (B)	04-0392	3.19	1.64	0.042	1.64	0.073	0.060	9.76	0.025	0.048	2.40	0.884	1.58	9.51	0.345	0.030	<0.010	<0.010	<0.010	0.184	23.5	0.015	0.106	0.148										
SMRF 0161 (A)	04-0393	2.98	1.69	0.039	1.69	0.074	0.054	8.82	0.024	0.016	2.46	0.833	1.72	9.48	0.327	0.019	<0.010	<0.010	<0.010	0.153	23.6	0.002	0.094	0.091										
SMRF 0161 (B)	04-0393	3.04	1.74	0.038	1.76	0.072	0.054	8.96	0.025	0.017	2.52	0.824	1.75	9.23	0.335	0.019	<0.010	<0.010	<0.010	0.154	23.6	0.002	0.096	0.086										
SMRF 0163 (A)	04-0394	3.41	1.60	0.045	1.60	0.068	0.055	9.62	0.026	0.075	2.39	0.929	1.39	9.64	0.353	0.039	<0.010	<0.010	<0.010	0.188	23.1	0.024	0.115	0.192										
SMRF 0163 (B)	04-0394	3.44	1.62	0.047	1.62	0.069	0.056	9.76	0.027	0.070	2.35	0.949	1.40	9.88	0.352	0.040	<0.010	<0.010	<0.010	0.189	23.1	0.025	0.116	0.217										
SMRF 0165 (A)	04-0395	3.41	1.61	0.044	1.63	0.065	0.055	9.55	0.026	0.074	2.35	0.898	1.37	9.42	0.347	0.038	<0.010	<0.010	<0.010	0.179	23.1	0.024	0.117	0.188										
SMRF 0165 (B)	04-0395	3.43	1.62	0.046	1.62	0.064	0.055	9.75	0.026	0.068	2.38	0.902	1.38	9.37	0.355	0.039	<0.010	<0.010	<0.010	0.177	23.1	0.025	0.114	0.186										
<i>oxide wt% - calcined 1100C</i>																																		
SMRF 0156 (A)	04-0391	6.33	5.28	0.049	2.30	0.114	0.074	14.4	0.029	0.095	5.07	1.57	1.90	14.2	0.537	0.042	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.654	48.4	0.038	0.141	0.243	101									
SMRF 0156 (B)	04-0391	6.29	5.18	0.048	2.23	0.120	0.076	14.6	0.039	0.170	5.10	1.55	1.91	14.3	0.530	0.048	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.654	48.4	0.042	0.138	0.243	102									
SMRF 0157 (A)	04-0392	6.03	5.38	0.047	2.34	0.105	0.076	13.8	0.030	0.058	5.18	1.46	2.05	12.7	0.437	0.032	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.546	50.1	0.023	0.131	0.204	101									
SMRF 0157 (B)	04-0392	6.03	5.28	0.047	2.30	0.107	0.075	14.0	0.029	0.058	5.16	1.47	2.04	12.8	0.438	0.032	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.552	50.3	0.025	0.131	0.200	101									
SMRF 0161 (A)	04-0393	5.63	5.44	0.044	2.37	0.108	0.068	12.6	0.028	0.019	5.29	1.38	2.22	12.8	0.415	0.021	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.459	50.5	0.003	0.117	0.123	100									
SMRF 0161 (B)	04-0393	5.75	5.60	0.043	2.46	0.105	0.068	12.8	0.029	0.020	5.42	1.37	2.26	12.5	0.425	0.021	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.462	50.5	0.003	0.119	0.116	100.0									
SMRF 0163 (A)	04-0394	6.44	5.15	0.050	2.24	0.099	0.069	13.8	0.030	0.090	5.14	1.54	1.79	13.0	0.448	0.042	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.564	49.4	0.040	0.143	0.259	100									
SMRF 0163 (B)	04-0394	6.50	5.22	0.053	2.27	0.101	0.070	14.0	0.031	0.084	5.05	1.58	1.81	13.3	0.447	0.043	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.567	49.4	0.042	0.144	0.293	101									
SMRF 0165 (A)	04-0395	6.44	5.18	0.049	2.28	0.095	0.069	13.7	0.030	0.089	5.05	1.49	1.77	12.7	0.441	0.041	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.537	49.4	0.040	0.145	0.254	100									
SMRF 0165 (B)	04-0395	6.49	5.22	0.052	2.27	0.093	0.069	13.9	0.030	0.082	5.12	1.50	1.78	12.6	0.451	0.042	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.531	49.4	0.042	0.141	0.251	100									
										SMRF-0156 WL					SMRF-0157 WL					SMRF-0161 WL					SMRF-0163 WL					SMRF-0165 WL				
										36.7					35.2					32.2					36.0					35.7				
Sample ID	Lab ID	Fe(2+)	Fe(3+)	Fe(total)	Fe(2+)/Fe(3+)	Fe(2+)/Fe(total)																												
EA		0.046	0.225	0.271	0.20	0.17	156 Norm Li2O					157 Norm Li2O					161 Norm Li2O					163 Norm Li2O					165 Norm Li2O							
Smrf-0156	04-0391	0.083	0.341	0.424	0.24	0.20	5.01					5.13					5.36					5.06					5.08							
		0.087	0.347	0.434	0.25	0.20																												
Smrf-0157	04-0392	0.064	0.412	0.476	0.16	0.13	SMRF-0156 (Top of glass sample after end of 155% acid stoich feed @ 50% solids)																											
		0.069	0.299	0.368	0.23	0.19	SMRF-0157 (8kg glass poured sample for 155% acid stoich)																											
Smrf-0161	04-0393	0.022	0.477	0.380	0.05	0.06	SMRF-0161 (startup glass for SMRF)																											
		0.023	0.482	0.378	0.05	0.06	SMRF-0163 (8 kg glass poured sample for 185% acid stoich)																											
Smrf-0163	04-0394	0.162	0.432	0.594	0.38	0.27	SMRF-0165 (1.5 kg glass drain sample after 185% acid stoich)																											
		0.156	0.437	0.593	0.36	0.26	Note: All WL calculations verified by hand calculations, Frit 418 normalized Li2O value is 7.91 (Lot L2U from DWPF)																											
Smrf-0165	04-0395	0.088	0.367	0.455	0.24	0.19	WL's calculated w/normalized Li2O values in feed and Frit 418																											
		0.042	0.195	0.237	0.22	0.18																												

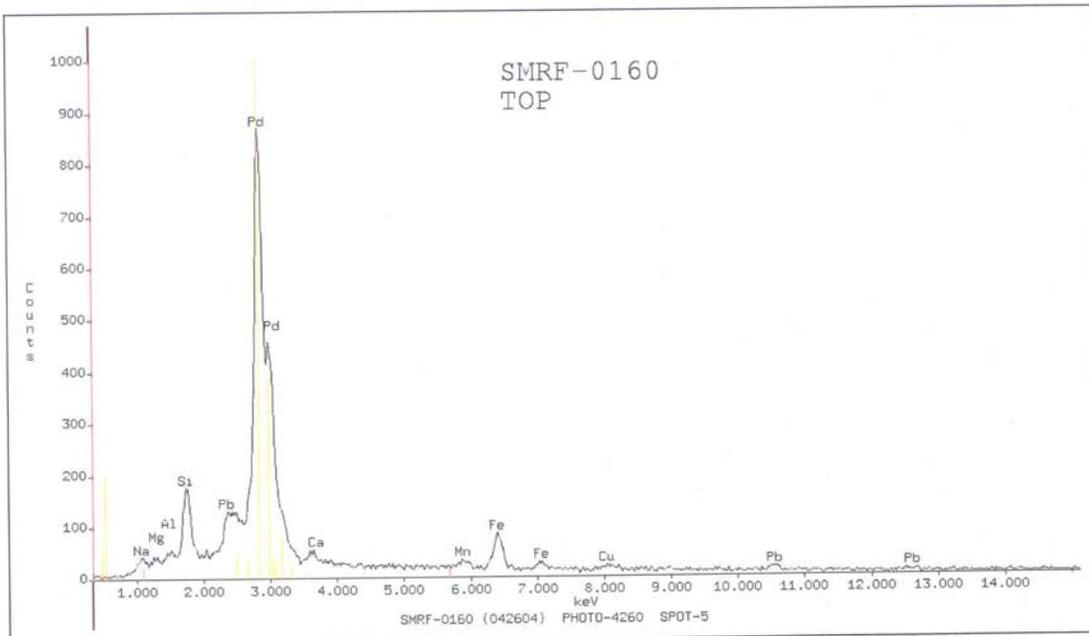
Table B-1. SMRF SB3 Frit 418 Acid Stoichiometry Glass Pour and Glass Drain Analytical Results

**APPENDIX C – EDS ANALYSES OF SMRF TOP
OF GLASS SAMPLE SMRF-0160**



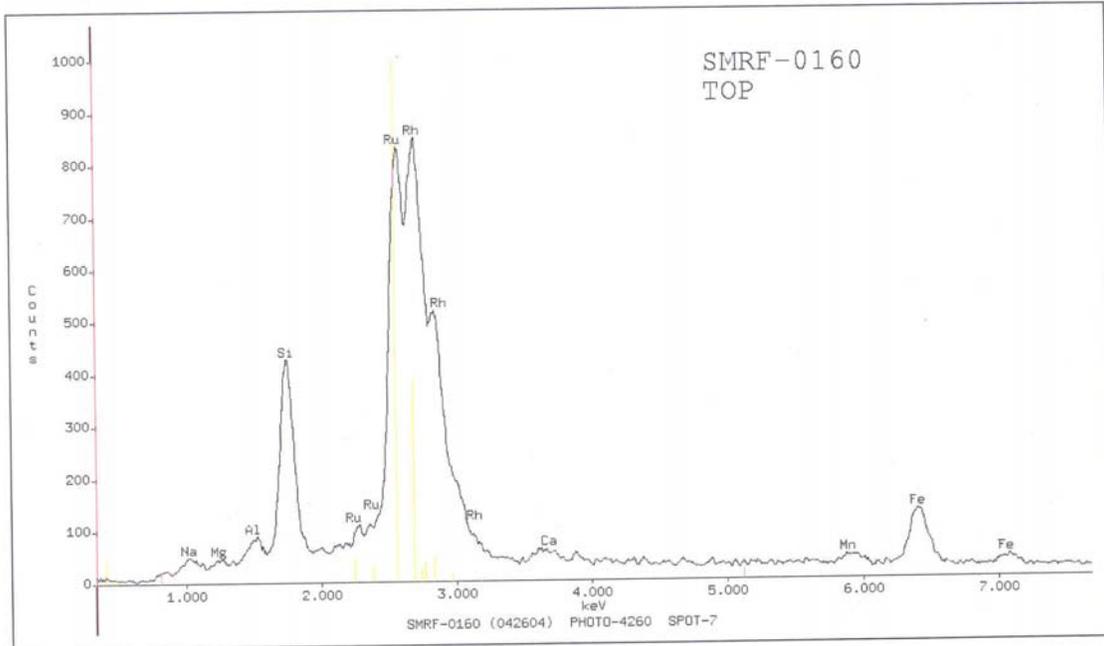
SMRF-0160 (042604) PHOTO-4256 SPOT-1

Figure C-1. EDS of SMRF Top of Glass Sample SMRF-0160 (Spot 1) Indicating Crystalline Phase Composed of Fe, Si, Mn, Cr, and Ni



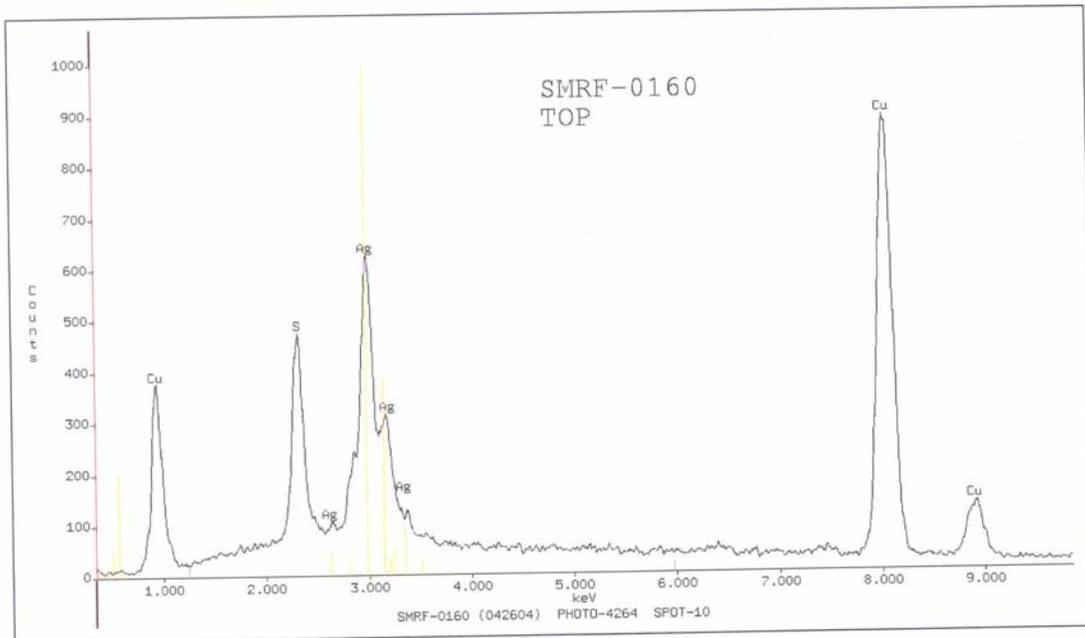
SMRF-0160 (042604) PHOTO-4260 SPOT-5

Figure C-2. EDS of SMRF Top of Glass Sample SMRF-0160 (Spot 5) Indicating Pd Rich Crystalline Phase



SMRF-0160 (042604) PHOTO-4260 SPOT-7

Figure C-3. EDS of SMRF Top of Glass Sample SMRF-0160 (Spot 7) Indicating Ru and Rh Rich Crystalline Phase



SMRF-0160 (042604) PHOTO-4264 SPOT-10

Figure C-4. EDS of SMRF Top of Glass Sample SMRF-0160 (Spot 10) Indicating Crystalline Phase with Ag, Cu, and S