

In-situ SEM observations of Co-Cr alloys under deformation

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Co-Cr (L605) tubes used for manufacture of coronary stents, in two thermo-mechanical conditions, cold worked or annealed, were submitted to in-situ tensile tests in a scanning electron microscope. The cold worked tube contains a relatively large amount of precipitates. Three annealing temperatures have been selected: one below the solution annealing point (1000 °C), another at solution annealing (1175 °C) and a third one closest to 1250 °C. The microstructural aspects of the surface under deformation are analyzed at high magnification.