## International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy & New Materials (ARCI)

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### Solution Precursor Plasma Spray (SPPS) Technology

#### **Overview**

SPPS is an exciting method to produce a wide variety of functional oxide ceramic coatings, starting with appropriate solution precursors in contrast to powder feedstock in case of conventional plasma spraying. The technique utilizes aqueous/organic chemical precursor solutions fed into the high temperature plasma plume through a dedicated delivery device. The solvent vaporizes as the droplet travel downstream to form solid particles, and are heated & accelerated to the substrate to form finely structured coating deposits.

#### **Key Features**

The SPPS process opens up new avenues for developing compositionally complex functional oxide coatings, with the following benefits:

- ability to create nanosized microstructures without any feeding problems normally associated with powder-based systems,
- flexible, rapid exploration of novel precursor compositions and their combinations
- circumvention of expensive powder feedstock preparation steps,
- better control over the chemistry of the deposit

#### **Potential Applications**

Status

- YSZ based TBCs for gas/steam turbine applications
- Pure α-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> based dielectric coatings
- Graphene films for wear resistance, energy storage applications
- LSM, LiFePO<sub>4</sub>, etc for electrodes (anode & cathode) of SOFCs/Li-lon Batteries
- Ferrites and Titania for photocatalytic applications
- Solar absorption coatings

#### Intellectual Property Development Indices (IPDI)

• Developed wide ranging functional coatings for diverse industrial applications

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Prototype demonstration of various coatings is in progress



#### Schematic of SPPS process



YSZ coating with vertical cracks & distributed pores

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## Major Patents / Publications

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1. Easwaramoorthi Ramasamy, Sivakumar Govindarajan, Shrikant Joshi, Production of Graphene based Materials by Thermal Spray, ARCI patent appln. no. 2626/DEL/2015

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2. G. Sivakumar, R.O. Dusane, and S.V. Joshi, "Understanding the Formation of Vertical cracks in Solution Precursor Plasma Sprayed Yttria-Stabilized-Zirconia Coatings", Journal of American Ceramic Society, 97(11), 3396-3406, 2014

3. G. Sivakumar, Rajiv O. Dusane and Shrikant V. Joshi, A novel approach to process phase pure α-Al2O3 coatings by solution precursor plasma spraying', Journal of the European Ceramic Society, 33 (2013) 2823–2829