



NDIA  
**Joint Armaments  
Conference**

Presentation

19 May 2010



- I. Rushford Hypersonic (Overview)
- II. Hypersonic Plasma Particle Deposition (HPPD)
- III. Applications
- IV. Open Forum



## Rushford Hypersonic

Hypersonic was founded in October of 2007 and was facilitated and supported by:

- ◆ *The Rushford Institute for Nano Technology*
- ◆ *Rushford, MN - Economic Development Authority*
- ◆ *Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation*
- ◆ *U of MN – Office of Technology Commercialization*



## Location - Rural S.E. Minnesota

- ❖ The work force is well educated and possesses a strong work ethic!
- ❖ Manufacturing floor space, utilities and labor are much lower than in major metropolitan areas! It is estimated that Hypersonic has saved in the range of \$1.5 - \$2.2 million to date due to the lower costs in a small community vs. locating in a major metropolitan area and less turnover of labor force.

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## Rushford Hypersonic (Overview cont.)

Hypersonic was founded to utilize the University of Minnesota's Patented - Hypersonic Plasma Particle Deposition (HPPD) and Focused Beam (FIB) processes (which Hypersonic has exclusive rights) to coat and or modify high wear surfaces such as Gears, Bearings, Compressor wheels, Rotor-Blade Wear strips, Cutting tools and Implantable medical devices, etc... with the focus on



## Rushford Hypersonic (Overview cont.)

### *Increasing the Mean Time Between Failure*

thus *Reducing the end cost* of the product by:

- Extending the useful life span of the part or tool
- Reducing change over time
- Increased Service Life
- Less Scrap due to increased life span and reduced dimensional and thermal changes during operation of the part or tool



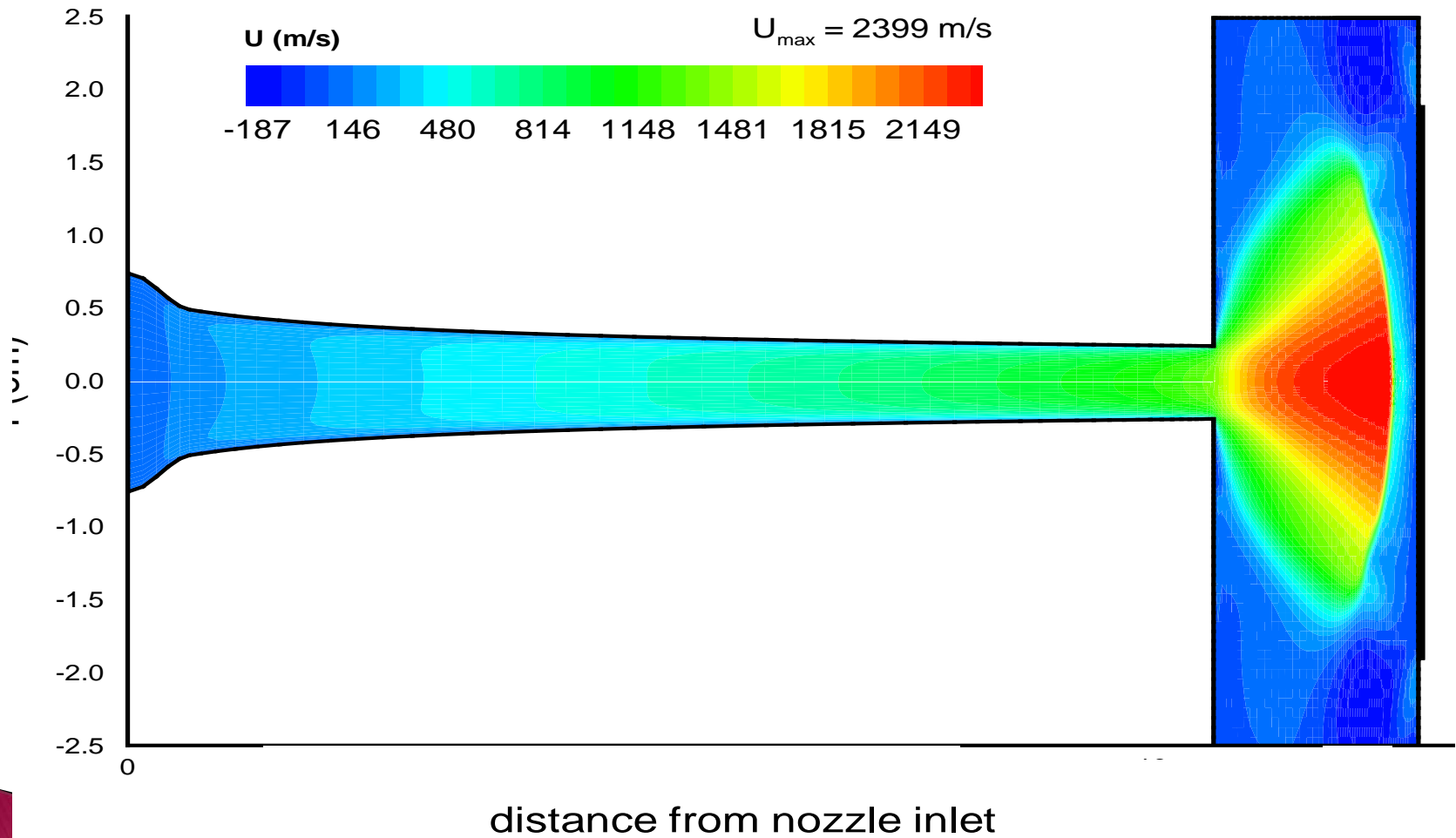


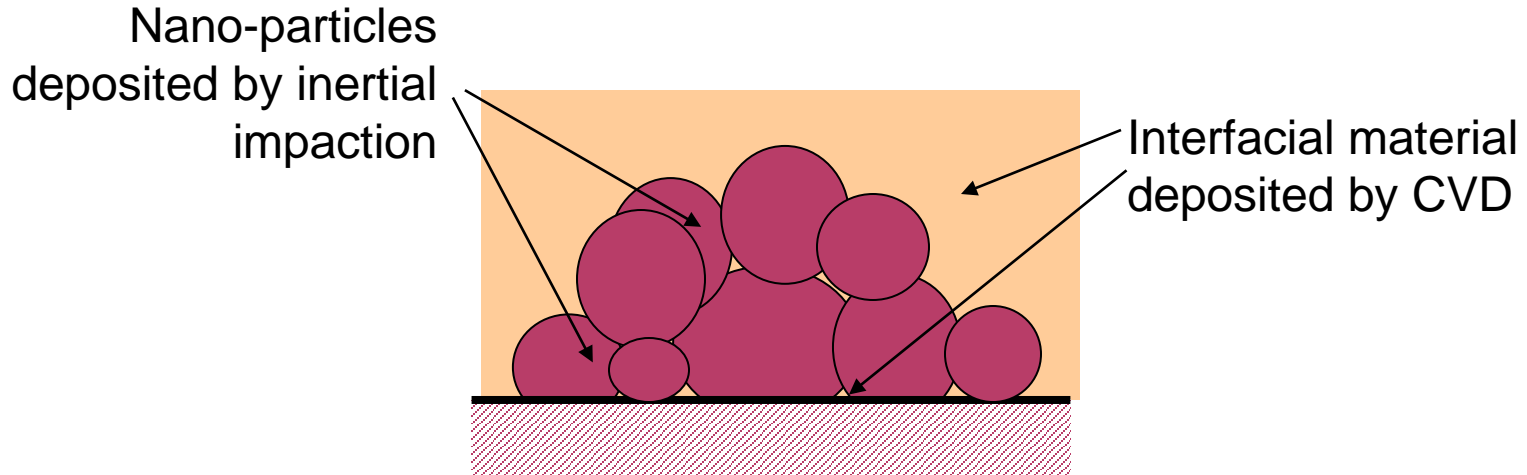
# Hypersonic Plasma Particle Deposition

(HPPD)



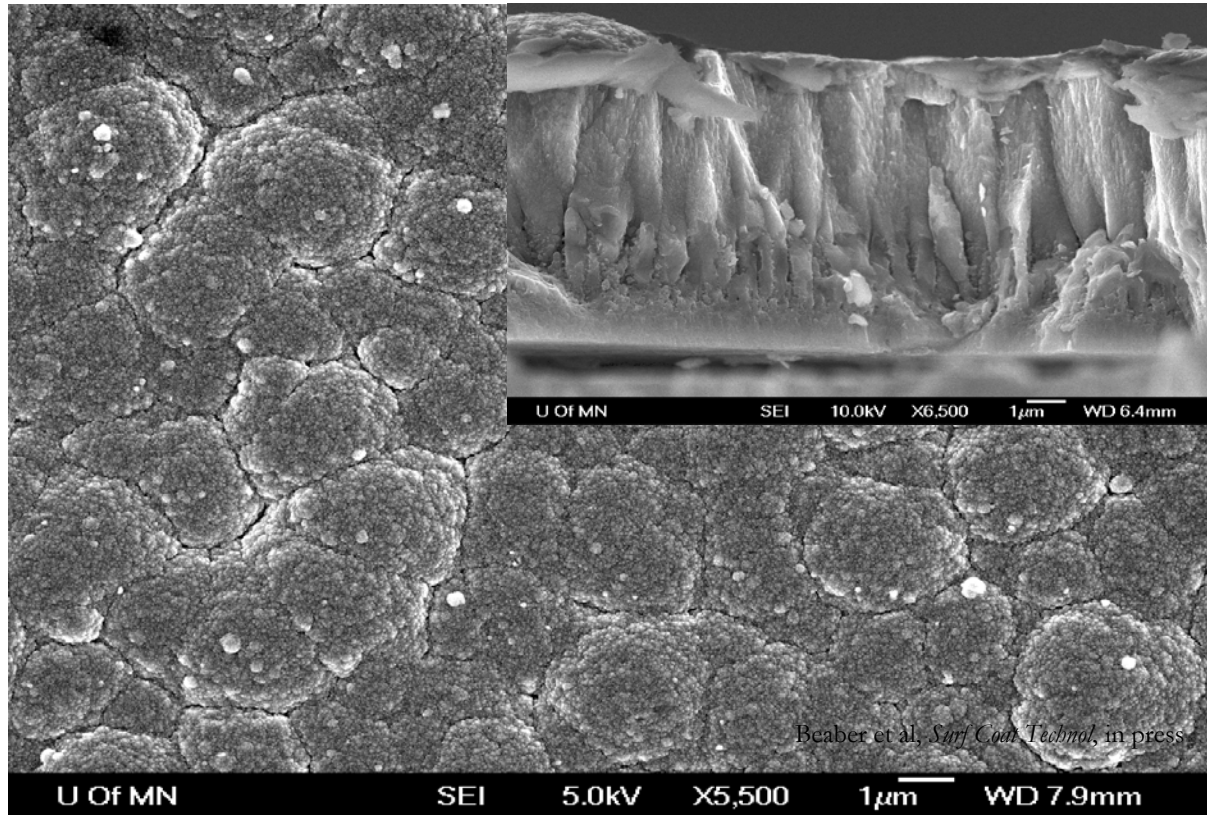
- ▶ The Patented HPPD process is a “Innovative process in which Hypersonic particle impaction is crossed with a thermal plasma CVD.
- ▶ In this process we add various reactant materials and then disassociate them into their atomic elemental states in a reactor (*Intellectual Property*) which operates between (4,000 – 10,000°K<sup>+/-</sup>).
- ▶ We then reassemble the elements into nano-particles ranging from ~2nm – 20nm in size and of the material composition we have designed for the specific application.
- ▶ The particles are then accelerated and impact the substrate at hypersonic velocities of Mach 8<sup>+</sup> in which they go thru a phase-change upon impaction with the substrate and form a chemical weld in addition to the cut impaction of ~3 - 5 nm.

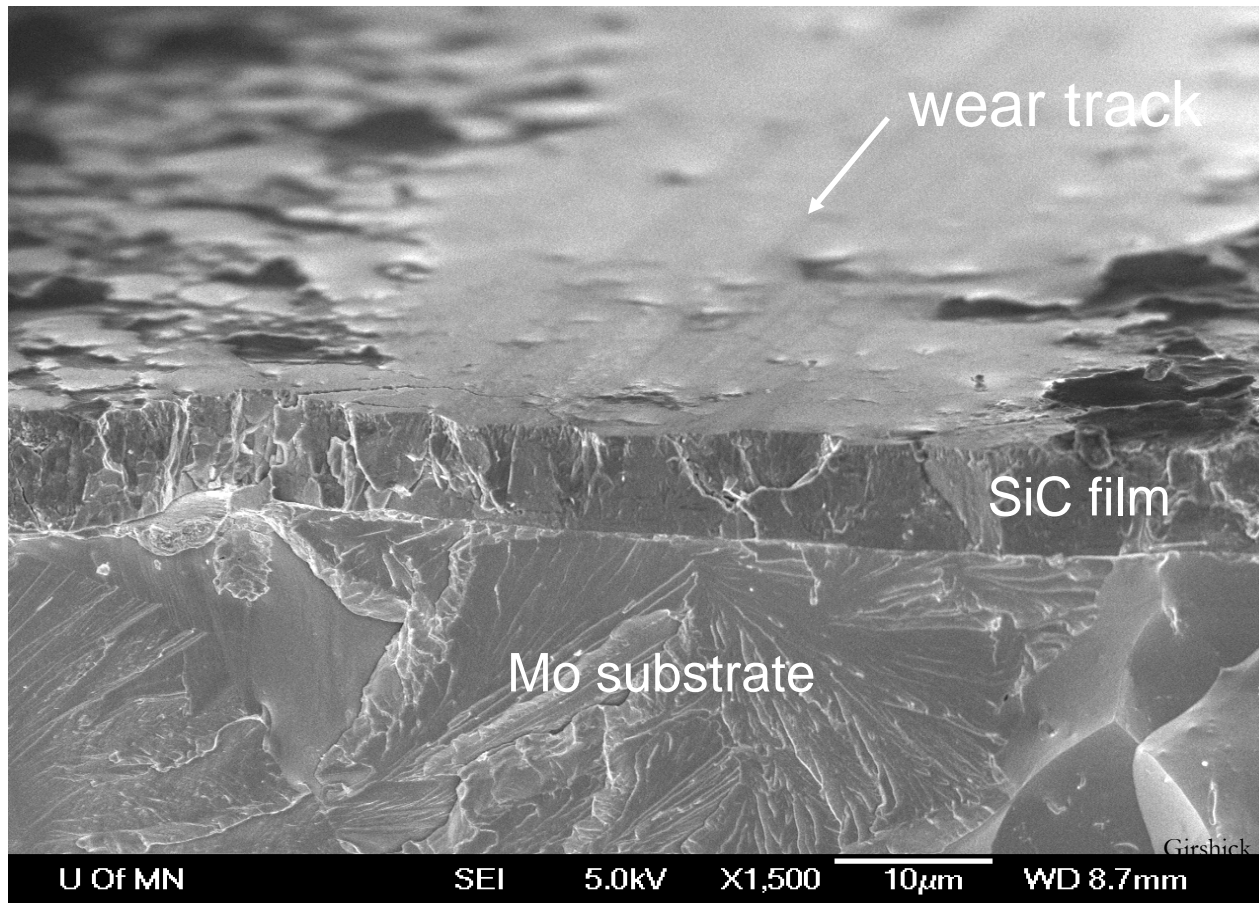




Inherent CVD then fills in pores left by nano-particle impact

# SiC film morphology

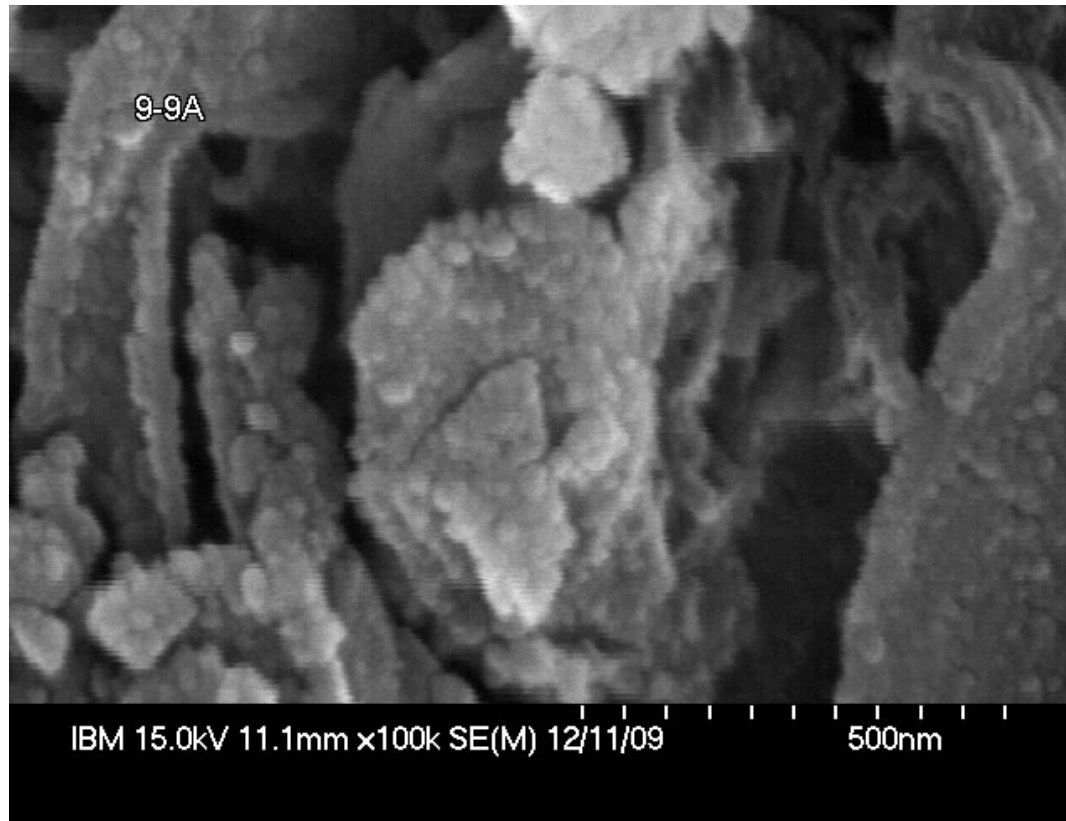




**Pin-on-disk wear track at  $r = 6$  mm**

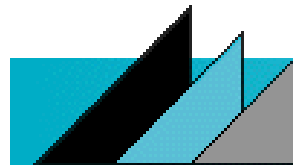
**Qualitatively, wear resistance appears excellent**

# SiC film morphology





**University of Minnesota**

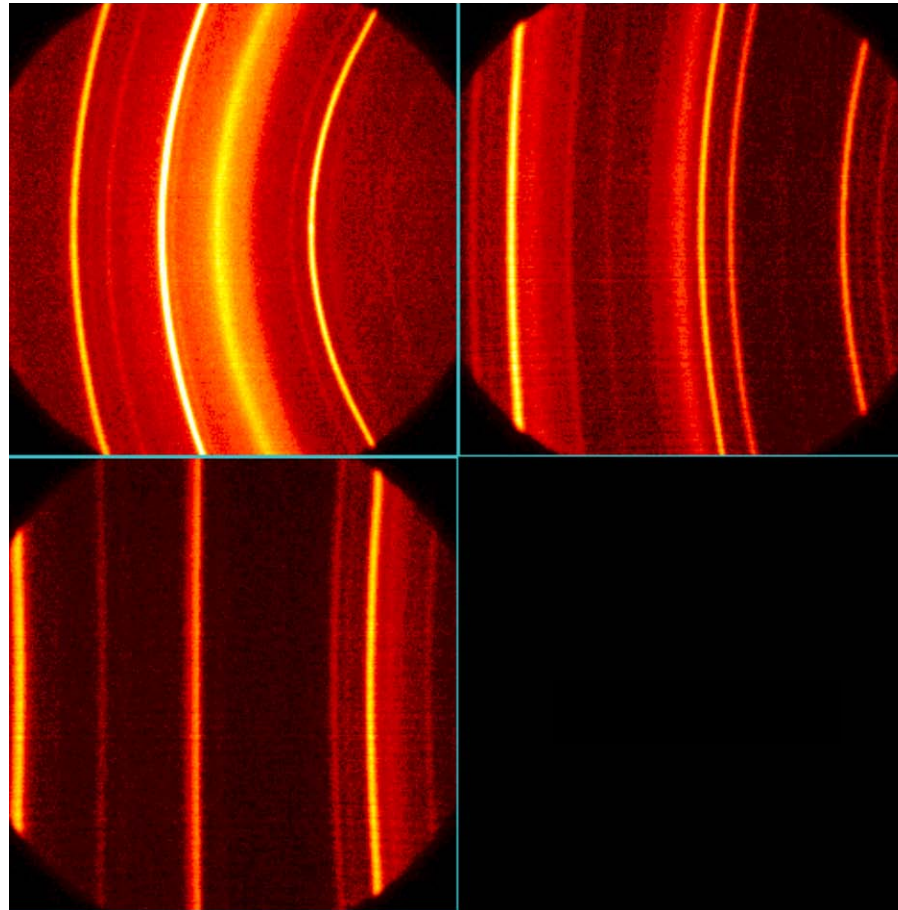


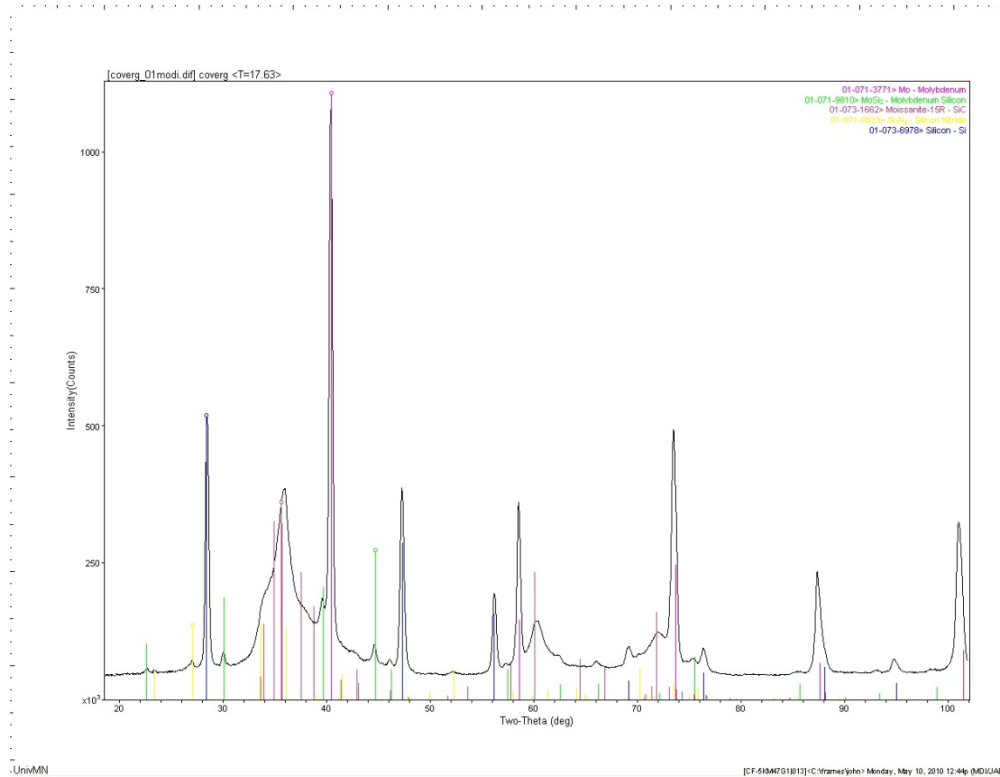
**Characterization Facility**

**X-ray Scattering Lab**



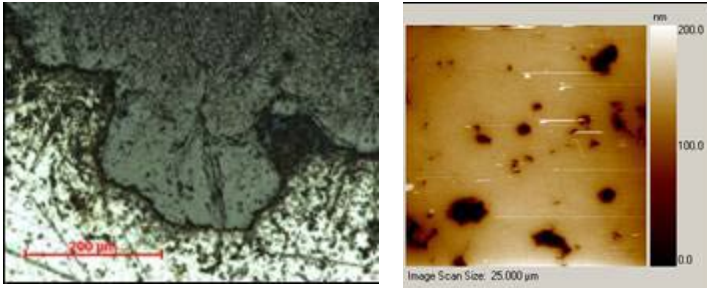
Mo sample with thick coating





...The SiC is moissanite, the hardest material known and the ideal coating.

# Why HPPD is Different!



Sample #	$E_r$ (GPa) Ave $\pm$ StDev	$H$ (GPa) Ave $\pm$ StDev
4	254.7 $\pm$ 11.2	37.01 $\pm$ 1.95

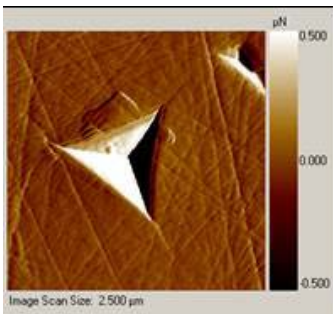
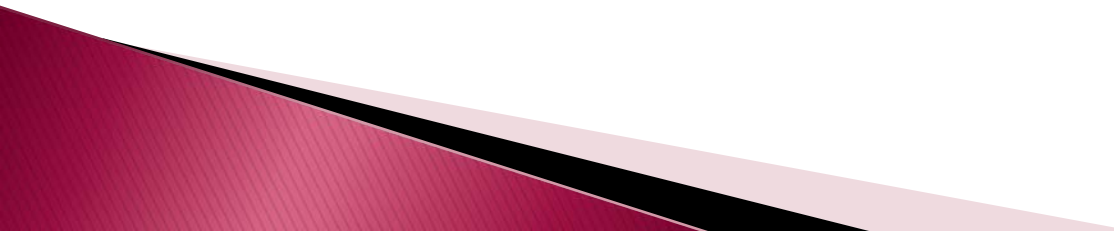


Table 1. Results from fracture toughness tests

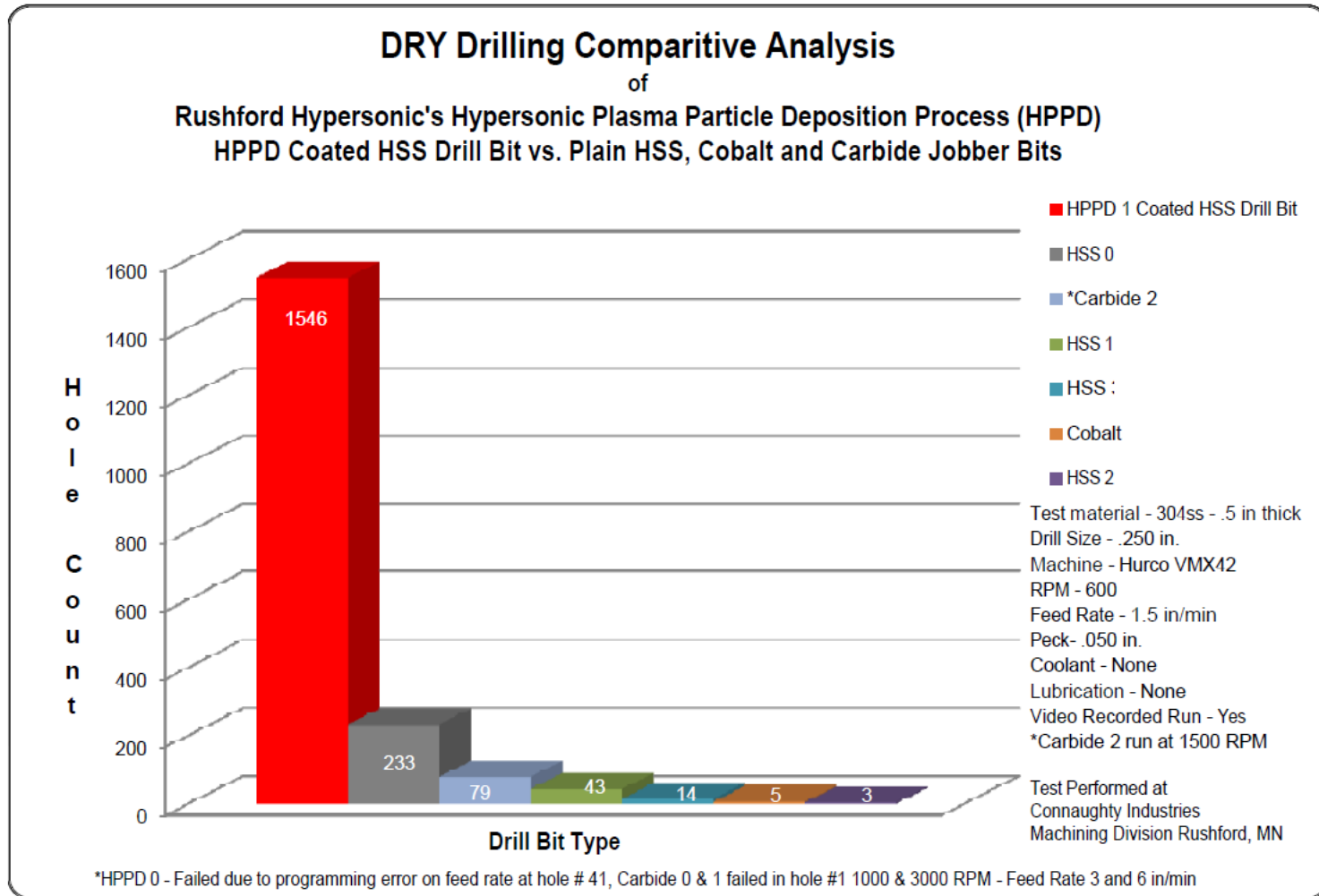
Test #	Peak Load (mN)	Crack Lengths ( $\mu$ m)				$K_{Ic}$ ( $MPa \cdot m^{1/2}$ )
		1	2	3	Ave	
1	30.00	0.97	0.93	0.82	0.90	3.29
2	30.00	0.97	0.98	0.93	0.96	3.02
3	30.00	0.90	0.93	0.84	0.89	3.37
4	30.00	1.06	1.04	0.77	0.96	3.02
					<b>Ave</b>	<b>3.17</b>

1. *HPPD deposition material is 30-50% harder* than the most industrial Ceramic Carbide material in use **>36GPa.**
  2. The *HPPD coating produced is up to 100% more fracture resistant* than current materials going from  $\sim 3MPa m^{1/2}$  to  $6^+MPa m^{1/2}$
  3. Superior Wear Resistance
  4. Deposition of HPPD process is up to 1000x faster than current CVD Processes
  5. HPPD coatings are chemically welded to the substrate vs. just being a coating
- ▶ Rushford Hypersonic LLC has Licensed exclusive rights from U of MN for HPPD and FIB technology

**Connaughty Industries**  
**In house analysis run**  
**of**  
**Rushford Hypersonic LLC's**  
**HPPD coated Drill bits vs. HSS - Carbide and Cobalt**



# Dry Drilling Analysis



HSS Ø START ↓

PLATE 1

TEST HOLES

HPPD Ø HOLE 1 ↓

HPPD 1 HOLE 1 ↑

HPPD 1 HOLES

PLATE 2

HPPD 1

HPPD 1 LAST HOLE 1546 ↓

HSS 1

HSS 1 LAST HOLE 43 ↓

HSS 2

HSS 2

HSS 3

HSS 3

COBALT

CARBIDE 2

CARBIDE 2 LAST HOLE 79 ↑

CARBIDE Ø & 1 ↑

HSS Ø LAST HOLE 233 ↑

HSS Ø

PLATE 2



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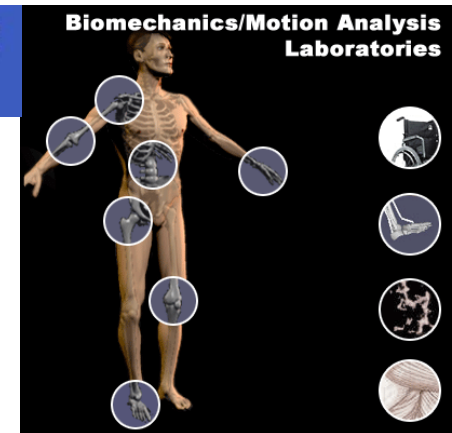
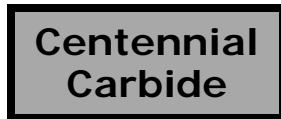


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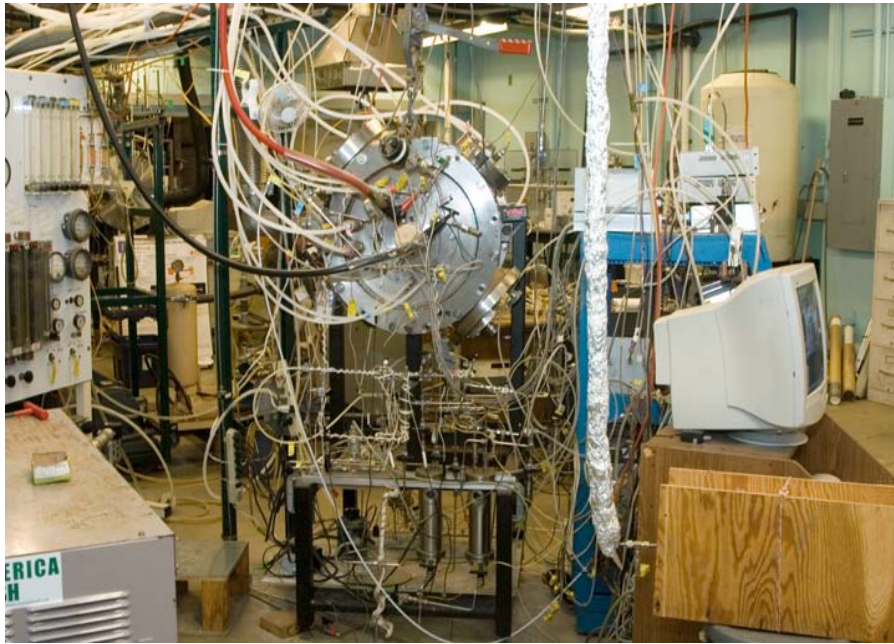




# Customer / Collaboration Base



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University of Minnesota HPPD Lab Machine



Hypersonic's HPPD-001 Deposition Chamber



[www.rushhypersonic.com](http://www.rushhypersonic.com)

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