

Table 6—Results of Stress Rupture Tests at 538°C (1000°F)

Alloy	Time of Failure @ 455 kg (1000 lb)	
	228 kg (@ 500 lb)	455 kg (@ 1000 lb)
MBF-1001X	Did not fail after 300 hr	Did not fail after 300 hr
MBF-1002X	Did not fail after 300 hr	Did not fail after 300 hr
MBF-1003X	Did not fail after 300 hr	Did not fail after 300 hr
BAu-4	1 hr	

Table 7—Results of Stress Rupture Tests at 816°C (1500°F)

Alloy	Time of Failure	
	228 kg (@ 500 lb)	455 kg (@ 1000 lb)
MBF-1001X	60 min	6.0 min
MBF-1002X	138 min	12.0 min
MBF-1003X	0.0 min	0.0 min
BAu-4	0.0 min	0.0 min

All BAu-4 brazements failed within an hour, while brazements made with Ni-Pd alloys did not fail even after 300 hr, when the tests were discontinued.

However, at the higher test temperature of 816°C (1500°F), both MBF-1003X and BAu-4 alloys failed immediately after loading. The alloy MBF-1002X exhibited the best rupture strength, followed by the MBF-1001X alloy. It is again interesting to note here that the alloy MBF-1003X contains silicon in addition to boron as a melting point depressor.

Melting Characteristics

Figure 5 illustrates the DTA curves of the Ni-Pd alloys. Alloys MBF-1001X and MBF-1002X, containing only boron, exhibit single melting troughs which are characteristic of near-eutectic alloys. In

contrast, the alloy MBF-1003X, which contains silicon in addition to boron, shows two distinct troughs. The low temperature trough is believed to be due to the melting of palladium silicides. The MBF-1003X alloy is also characterized by a wide melting range, having a solidus temperature (825°C/1517°F) much lower compared to MBF-1001X and MBF-1002X (solidus temperatures 945° and 934°C/1733° and 1713°F, respectively). A lower solidus temperature of the braze filler metal is undesirable in applications where brazements are exposed to elevated temperatures, such as aircraft engine components. Based on these equilibrium melting characteristics alone, the addition of silicon with boron was found to be detrimental for the Ni-Pd based alloys.

Structure-Property Correlation

Based on DTA and mechanical properties, addition of silicon to Ni-Pd-Cr-B leads to detrimental effects. The silicon-and-boron-containing MBF-1003X has a wider melting range and is characterized by a lower solidus compared to the boron-containing MBF-1001X and 1002X. Also, mechanical properties of MBF-1003X brazements are comparatively inferior to those of MBF-1001X and MBF-1002X. These phenomena are believed to stem from palladium silicide formation in joints brazed with MBF-1003X. Therefore, it behooves us to examine representative brazed joint microstructures and determine the role of silicon in modifying joint morphology and associated mechanical properties. For this comparison, brazed joints were made using AISI-316 stainless steel base metal. Filler metals used were MBF-1001X and MBF-1003X alloys. Brazing was performed in a vacuum furnace at a vacuum of about 10^{-4} torr for 10 min

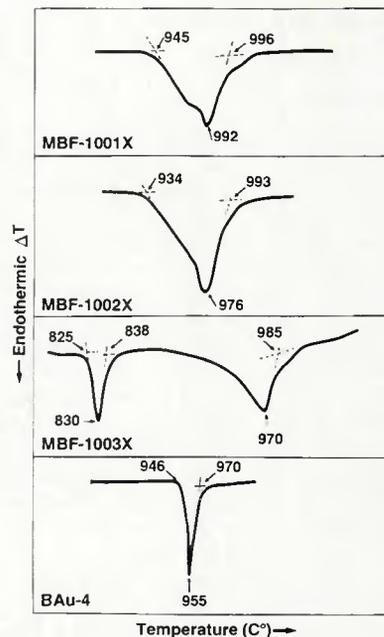


Fig. 5—Thermograms of various alloys

and for 12 hr, at a temperature of 1010°C (1850°F).

Microstructure of AISI-316/MBF-1001X Joints Brazed for 10 Minutes and for 12 Hours

Figure 6 illustrates AISI-316/MBF-1001X joints brazed for 10 min. A narrow centerline eutectic was observed in the brazed joint (Fig. 6A), a portion of which is further magnified in Fig. 6B. Three distinct phases were identified in the centerline eutectic region by Auger elemental analysis—Fig. 7. These phases, as labelled in Fig. 6B, consist of:

1. Dark particles—found to be rich in Cr and B.

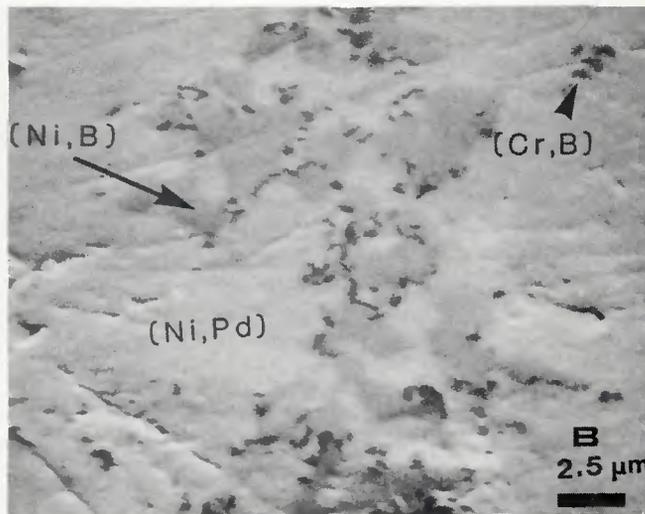
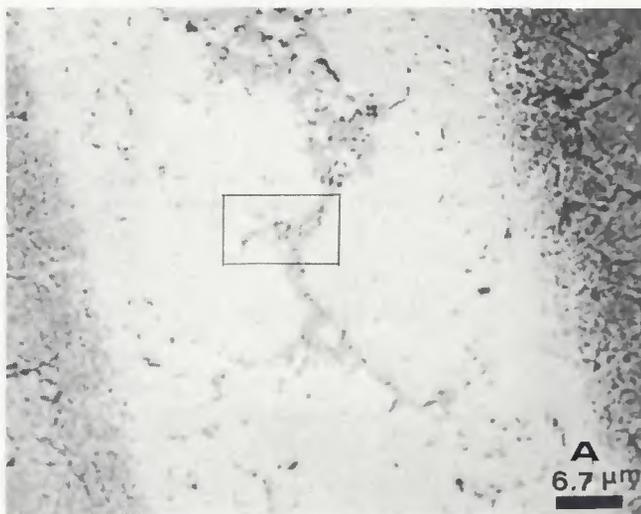


Fig. 6—Photomicrographs of AISI-316/MBF-1001X joint brazed for 10 min. A portion of the narrow centerline eutectic in A (inside the black box) is shown at a higher magnification in B

