

CONTENTS

Title Page	i
Certificate of Approval	ii
Declaration	iii
Certificate of Supervisor	iv
Acknowledgement	v
List of Abbreviations	vi
List of Symbols and Nomenclatures	vii
List of Figures	viii-xiii
List of Tables	xiv
Abstract	xv
Contents	xvi-xix
 Chapter 1 Introduction	
1.1 Preamble	1
1.2 On surface modification	1
1.3 On techniques of surface modification	2
1.3.1 Thermal spraying	2-13
1.3.2 Plasma spraying	13-16
1.3.3 The requirements for thermal spraying	16-23
1.4 An overview of mullite	23-24
1.5 Overview of the thesis	25
1.6 Summary	25
 Chapter 2 Literature Survey	
2.1 Preamble	26
2.2 Consumables for thermally sprayed coatings	26-27
2.2.1 Alumina	28-29
2.2.2 Zircon	30-33
2.2.3 Mullite	33-39

2.3	Rietveld refinement of thermally sprayed coatings	39-41
2.4	Splats	42-45
2.5	Laser remelting of plasma sprayed ceramic coating	45-46
2.6	Wear resistance coatings	47
2.6.1	Major modes of wear	47-49
2.6.2	Wear resistant coating materials	50
2.6.3	Wear mechanism of thermally sprayed coatings	50-55
2.7	Basis of objective formulation	56-57
2.8	Objective	57-58
2.9	Summary	58
Chapter 3	Experimental Procedure	
3.1	Preamble	59
3.2	Processing of the coatings	59
3.2.1	Powders for coatings	59
3.2.2	Preparation of substrates	59-60
3.2.3	Plasma spraying	61-62
3.2.4	Laser remelting	62-63
3.3	General characteristics of the coatings	63
3.3.1	Microstructure analysis	63-64
3.3.2	Mechanical analysis	65
3.3.2.1	Hardness	65
3.3.2.2	Wear Experiment	65-66
3.4	Splat experiments	67
3.4.1	Preparation of substrates	67
3.4.2	Splat collection	67-68
3.4.2	Splat observation	68
3.5	Summary	68

Chapter 4 Results and Discussion -I:

General Characteristics of the Powders and Coatings

4.1	Preamble	69
4.2	Powders for coatings	69-72
4.3	Splats morphology and cross section	73-74
4.4	Primary microstructure and phases	75
4.4.1	Microstructure and phases of the as-sprayed coating	75-78
4.4.2	Microstructure and phases of the laser remelted coating	79-81
4.5	TEM observations	81-84
4.6	Summary	84

Chapter 5 Results and Discussion -II:

Effect of Parametric Variation on Coating Composition and Properties

5.1	Preamble	85
5.2	Rietveld refinement	85-87
5.3	Factors affecting mullite yield, porosity & hardness	88
5.3.1	Stand-off distance	88-91
5.3.2	Arc current	92-95
5.3.3	Angle of powder injection	96-99
5.3.4	Secondary gas flow rate	100-104
5.4	Laser remelting of the top coat	105-108
5.5	Correlations	109-110
5.6	Summary	110

Chapter 6	Results and Discussion -III:	
	<i>Tribological Properties of the Coatings</i>	
6.1	Preamble	111
6.2	Effect of changing loads, speed and ball material on wear of coatings	111
6.2.1	Rubbing counterpart : Steel Ball	111-120
6.2.2	Rubbing counterpart : WC-Co Ball	121-130
6.2.3	Wear of laser remelted coatings	131-137
6.3	Summary	137
Chapter 7	Conclusion	
7.1	Preamble	138
7.2	Conclusion	138-140
7.3	Contribution	141
7.4	Scope of future work	142
References		143-153
Appendix-A	Correction of weight percentages of reaction products taking silica into account	154-155