

ABSTRACT

METHOD OF DECORATING A CERAMIC PART

The invention proposes a method of locally colouring a part made of ceramic material of the metallic oxide type mainly including the following steps::

- taking a support for the part and a laser, able to move relative to each other in an XY plane,

- 5 - Performing a plasma treatment of the part using a gas containing one element selected from among nitrogen and carbon, so as to convert a surface layer of metallic oxide, into a substantially stoichiometric ceramic chosen from among metal nitrides and carbides.

- locally illuminating the part with the laser beam so as to provide sufficient
10 energy to cause a local change in colour by altering the stoichiometry of the surface layer, and

- scanning the surface of the part using the laser beam so as to form a determined pattern.