

ABSTRACT**Method for preparing a metal powder for an additive manufacturing process and use of such powder**

The present invention relates to a method for preparing a metal powder intended for an additive manufacturing process, of the type that involves scanning a bed of powder by a near-infrared laser beam, characterized in that the method comprises: an initial step for selecting a powder, which has an optical reflectivity of higher than 70% for a wavelength ranging between 800 and 1500 nm; then a step for treating said powder, which is different from particle grafting, and which induces a physical and/or chemical surface modification of the grains (4) of said powder, making it possible to lower its optical reflectivity, at the given wavelength. The invention also relates to the use of such a powder, the grains (4) having, after treatment, a median grain size d50 of between 5 and 50 μm .

(FIG. 4)