METHOD OF FORMING A METALLIC CARBIDE LAYER ON A GOLD ALLOY

ABSTRACT

A method of forming a metallic carbide layer on a gold alloy comprising at least one other metallic element capable of forming the metallic carbide layer, the method comprising the steps of:

- heating the gold alloy in a non-oxidizing environment providing carbon precursors to react with the at least one other metallic element to form the metallic carbide layer; and
- quenching the gold alloy in a quenching medium containing further carbon precursors to further form the metallic carbide layer.