

Abstract

Thermal Barrier Removal Process

5 The invention is a process for removing ceramic thermal barrier layers from gas turbine engine hardware. A combination of chemical and mechanical steps are used to remove the thermal barrier coating from the substrate without removing the bond coat from the substrate. The process leaves the bond coat on the substrate in condition to receive a repair ceramic thermal barrier coating. The process includes a caustic solution
10 treatment in an autoclave under controlled conditions followed by a mechanical abrasion process.

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