



times. It can therefore be concluded that these alloys are likely to be highly efficient at high rates of charge and discharge.

Conclusions

The data presented suggest that the surface deposition of trace amounts of platinum group metals on metal hydride electrode alloy considerably improves the charging/discharging properties of the electrodes. It can be concluded that for alloys of this type, commonly encountered in NiMH cells, the surface provides a barrier to rapid charging and discharging and the platinum metals, deposited on the surface, are thus reducing the potential barrier and allowing the rapid and efficient charging/discharging of the alloy.

A comparison between the power/energy profiles of typical secondary batteries and this technology suggests that the properties observed here are superior to those of the current NiMH cells and are competitive with the NiCad technology, while being more cost effective.

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Platinum Metals Chemistry Conference

The seventh international conference on the Chemistry of the Platinum Group Metals will be held at the University of Nottingham from 25th to 30th July 1999. Developments in research on clusters, nanostructures and their properties, anti-cancer drugs, polymerisations and other catalytic reactions, ligand effects, catalyst screening, syntheses of complexes and their properties, and photochemistry will be discussed, with speakers coming from Europe, Canada, the U.S.A., New Zealand, Hong Kong and Japan. Plenary lectures will be delivered by Professors B. F. G. Johnson, R. H. Grubbs, D. M. P. Mingos, N. P. Farrell, R. A. Van Santen, J.-P. Sauvage and G. van Koten. There will be poster displays with prizes, and a student bursary is available.

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