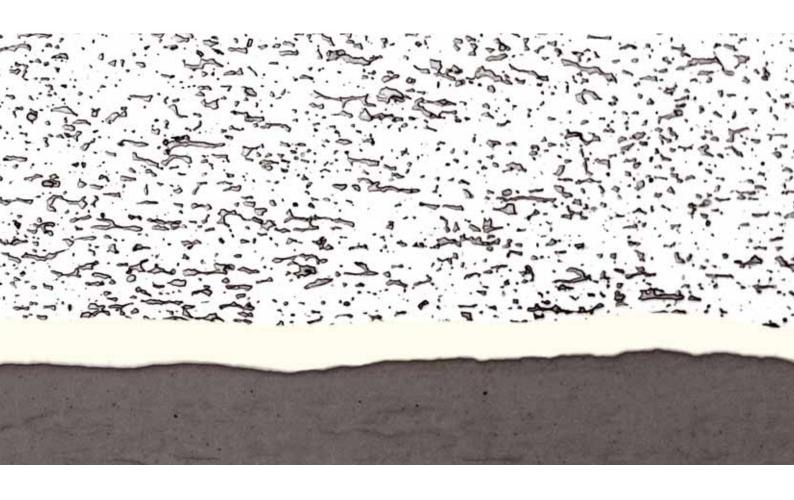
KOLBENSCHMIDT PIERBURG GROUP



KS R20

Lead-free Steel-Aluminum Composite Material for Main Bearings



Brief description of the sliding material

Plain bearings made from steel/aluminum composite materials are widely used as main bearings in gasoline and diesel engines.

KS R20 is a robust bearing material. Given its excellent antiseizing property, good embedding capability and adaptability, KS R20 is suited for the manufacture of bearing shells in bi-material design, for example. This Material is insensitive to oil corrosion.

With its specific load carrying capacity of up to 50 MPa, this material is suited for application in engines subject to low to medium loads.

In the present chemical composition, KS R20 complies with the requirements of the EU Directive 2000/53/EC on End-of-Life Vehicles.

Bearing structure

Bearings made from KS R20 are composed of a steel back, an intermediate layer made from pure aluminum and an aluminum/tin/copper running layer.

The steel quality used is normally grade DC04 with a hardness in the range of $150-220\,\mathrm{HB}$. Usually, they range between 1.0 and 3.0 mm.

The intermediate layer made from pure aluminum provides the metallic bond between the steel and the aluminum running layer. Its thickness varies between 0.01 and 0.05 mm.

On the finished sliding element, the aluminum-tin-copper alloy that forms the running layer to the sliding partner exhibits a thickness of $0.2-0.5\,\mathrm{mm}$ and a hardness of up to $30-50\,\mathrm{HB}$.



Micrograph of the composite



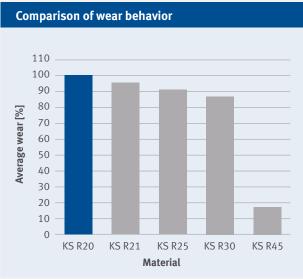
Bi-material: steel / aluminum bearings

Unit	KS R20
MPa	>150
MPa	>90
GPa	63
k⁻¹	24 · 10 · 6
W (m⋅k) ⁻¹	50
	MPa MPa GPa k ⁻¹

Chemical composition of the running layer Sn 16.5 to 22.5% 0.7 to 1.3% Cu Si max. 0.7% Ti max. 0.2% mass-% Ni max. 0.1% max. 0.7% Fe Mn max. 0.7%others combined max. 0.5% ΑI

The hardness of the running layer is in the range of $30-50\,\mathrm{HB}$.

Comparison of the specific load carrying capacity 100 90 Spec. load capacity [MPa] 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 KS R20 KS R21 KS R25 KS R45 KS R30 Material



Test conditions

- Bearing shell diameter: 47.8 mm
- Wall thickness (approx.): 1.4 mm
- Sliding velocity: 0.25 m/sec
- Spec. static load: 6.2 MPa
- Test duration: 3.0 h

Manufacture of the sliding material

The aluminum alloy is manufactured in vertical continuous casting. Mechanical processing of the strand surface as well as special heat treatment steps prepare the material for plating. The so-called pre-composite results from plating a pure aluminum foil (Al 99.5) on the strand. Roll cladding is used to apply the pre-composite onto the steel. Selective thermomechanical treatment steps give the desired material characteristics.

Plain bearing manufacture

KS R20 strip is used to manufacture sliding elements by punching and forming. The final wall thickness of the bearing shells and the design of the inside surface is achieved by machining.

Application

Sliding elements made from KS R20 are characterized by their excellent anti seizure property, good embedding capability and adaptability. They are therefore suited for use as main bearings in low to medium-load engines.

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