Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Reaction Chemistry & Engineering. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2019

Supporting information

Insights into coated NiCrAl open-cell foams for the Catalytic Partial Oxidation of CH4

Phuoc Hoang Ho^a, Wout de Nolf^b, Francesca Ospitali^a, Didier Beton^c, Lars Torkuhl^c, Giuseppe

Fornasari^a, Angelo Vaccari^a, Patricia Benito^{a,*}

^aDipartimento di Chimica Industriale "Toso Montanari", Università di Bologna, Viale

Risorgimento 4, 40136, Bologna, Italy.

^bEuropean Synchrotron Radiation Facility, 71 Avenue des martyrs, 38000 Grenoble, France.

^cAlantum Europe GmbH, Paul-Heyse-Strasse 29, 80336 Munich, Germany

*E-mail: patricia.benito3@unibo.it.



Fig. S1. Reactor layout.



Fig. S2. SEM-EDS characterization of bare NiCrAl foams: clean foam (a, a1, and a2) and calcined foam (b, b1, and b2). Foam surfaces with Cr-enriched composition were observed after calcination in static air at 900 °C for 12 h, temperature ramp 10 °C min⁻¹.



Fig. S3. SEM images of Rh/Mg/Al-HT NiCrAl catalyst coated without pretreatment. Coating is thin, not homogeneous, and it has an Al-rich composition.



Fig. S4. Raman spectra of bare NiCrAl foam recorded at four different locations. All bands observed were associated to Cr_2O_3 .



Fig. S5. LSV curves recorded from 0 to -1.4 V *vs SCE* in KNO₃ 0.3 M at NiCrAl foam (scan rate 50 mV s⁻¹).



Fig. S6. Typical current transient curves recorded at -1.2 V vs SCE for 2000 s during the electrodeposition on 4 samples of NiCrAl foams in 0.06 M nitrate solution containing Rh/Mg/Al = 5/70/25 (a.r.).



Fig. S7. Raman spectra of calcined coated foam.

Foam	$CH_4/O_2/N_2$	GHSV / h ⁻¹	Rh/Mg/Al-NiCrAl		
number	/ v/v		Sel. H ₂ / %	Sel. CO / %	H_2/CO
4	2/1/20	126,000	79.4 ± 1.9	89.3 ± 0.5	1.78 ± 0.04
		77,400	81.0 ± 2.1	91.1 ± 0.3	1.78 ± 0.04
		30,500	84.8 ± 1.8	96.7 ± 0.3	1.75 ± 0.03
	2/1/4	30,500	79.1 ± 2.7	91.1 ± 1.9	1.74 ± 0.02
		23,000	78.1 ± 2.8	89.1 ± 2.7	1.75 ± 0.01
2	2/1/20	252,000	71.6 ± 0.9	82.9 ± 0.4	1.73 ± 0.01
		154,800	75.5 ± 0.4	86.9 ± 0.5	1.74 ± 0.01
		61,000	82.5 ± 0.9	94.9 ± 0.3	1.74 ± 0.02
	2/1/4	61,000	76.8 ± 0.2	89.9 ± 0.6	1.71 ± 0.01
		46,000	75.8 ± 0.5	87.3 ± 0.8	1.74 ± 0.01

Table S1. Selectivities in H_2 , CO, and H_2 /CO ratio of Rh/Mg/Al-NiCrAl catalyst in CPO of CH_4 at oven temperature 750 °C in different reaction conditions. Average values of four analyses in each reaction conditions were displayed



Fig. S8. Temperature profiles measured at $GHSV = 126,000 h^{-1}$ in diluted gas mixture at different points of time-on-stream. The hot spot temperatures decreased at the beginning of the test when the catalyst was further activated by time-on-stream and reached to stability after 3 h of time-on-stream.



Fig. S9. Raman spectra of the spent catalysts tested in the four-foam catalytic bed configuration.