Details of CARE Facility

Name of CARE facility: 3-D Surface Profilometer to Characterize Material Surfaces

Location: Laboratory of Advanced Ceramics (next to Physics Workshop or near to WL extension)

Total cost of equipment/facility: 33.2 Lakhs

Year of CARE funding: 2002-03 and Operational since, March, 2003

Support provided by CARE: 18 Lakhs (matching grant of Rs. 15.2 lakhs form a BRNS Project)

Name of Principal Investigator: Dr. Bikramjit Basu (bikram@iitk.ac.in; Tel: 7771/7920)

Participating departments: MME, ME, ChE

Brief description and capability of CARE facility:

LSP works on the principle of Dynamic focusing of a laser beam and evaluation of the objective position. In particular, IR light (wavelength 780 nm) through guided objective is focused on the specimen surface. The reflected light is subsequently assessed by the objective and directed to a focus detector. The moving position of the objective is converted to an electrical signal via a position transducer. The profile spacing position of the specimen in the Y-axis is controlled by a timed motor and the acquired signal is processed by commercial software.



Technical Specifications:

Laser probe spot radius: 2µm

Reflectivity of sample: should be between 4 % and 95 %

Working distance: 10mm Spatial resolution: 0.1 µm (approx) Vertical resolution: 5 nm (depending on measuring range, below 0.1 µm depth not tested till now)

Vertical measuring range: $\pm 250 \mu m$ or $\pm 25 \mu m$

Scanning speed: 0.1 to 0.5 mm/sec for different cut-off / traversing lengths

Maximum area to be scanned: 56 X 56 mm² or 120 X 56 mm²

Utilization of the facility: a) PI: Mostly for analysis of wear tracks/scars, area and depth of various

2-D profiles, surface roughness measurements

b) Others: Dr. Sumit Basu (ME): Surface roughness of eroded polymer nanocomposites

Dr. Animanshu Ghatak (ChE): Roughness of polymeric films

Dr. Deepak Gupta/M. Katiyar (MME): Thickness of as-deposited electronic films

Dr. N V Reddy (ME): Surface roughness of machined surfaces

Dr. S. Khandekar (ME): Groove roughness of flow channels

Dr. Ashutosh Sharma (ChE): Surface roughness after laser lithography experiments

Dr. Utpal Das (EE): Surface quality of electrode surface

Mechanism of time sharing: Monday and Fridays in every week and on other days, if required.

Charging mechanisms: Rs. 200 /- per scan

Any difficulties, which you faced in running CARE facility: No full time technical personnel to look after this CARE facility available at present. PhD students help the users of this machine on every Friday and if required, on any other day during the week, depending on the urgency of the USER. Mostly, it has been noticed that this facility is accessed by many USERS on even Saturdays and Sundays.

Link to the website for the CARE facility, if any: http://home.iitk.ac.in/~bikram