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(54) **A Fe ALLOY**

(57) The present invention discloses a ferroalloy which is composed of 0.01-0.26wt% of C, 0.08-1.00wt% of Si, 4.50-12.00wt% of Mn, 0.02-0.2wt% of P, 0.025-0.06wt% of S, 3.50-22.00wt% of Ni, 15.00-24.00wt% of Cr and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy. The ferroalloy has explosion

proof and no-spark properties, thus is suitable for the application in the explosion proof and no-spark field and especially suitable for producing containers for dangerous chemicals, emergency rescue apparatus and related tools.

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DescriptionTECHNICAL FIELD

5 **[0001]** The present invention relates to a ferroalloy, and more specifically to a ferroalloy material which is sparkless under impact and friction and explosion proof.

BACKGROUND

10 **[0002]** No-spark metal materials in the prior art are mainly copper alloys. However, apparatus and tools made of no-spark copper alloys tend to exhibit inferior hardness, resulting in dramatically shortened service life and high operating costs, which has impeded the development of the industry for a long time.

[0003] A ferroalloy is disclosed in Chinese Patent Application No. 85103868, which is composed of 2.00-3.25wt% of C, 0.40-1.2wt% of Mn, 0.40-0.90wt% of Si, 0.70-1.50wt% of Cr, 0.60-1.2wt% of B, 0.05wt% or less of P, 0.05wt% or less of S and the balance being Fe to sum up to 100wt%, in which the contents of P and S are kept as low as possible.

15 **[0004]** A hard and wear resistant ferroalloy is disclosed in Chinese Patent Application No. 86102537, which is composed of 2.50-3.00wt% of C, 0.50-1.30wt% of Mn, 0.30-1.3wt% of Si, 25.0-30.0wt% of Cr, 3.90-4.75wt% of Ni, 2.0-2.5wt% of Mo, 0.05wt% or less of P, 0.05wt% or less of S, 0.4-1.0wt% of V, 3.0-4.0wt% of B and the balance being Fe to sum up to 100%.

20 **[0005]** Both of the ferroalloys mentioned in the above two patent application documents have superior hardness and a wear resistance, but they tend to produce sparks during the incidents of impact and friction, rendering them unsuitable for application in the explosion proof and sparkless field.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

25 **[0006]** An object of the present invention is to provide a ferroalloy being both sparkless under impact and friction and explosion proof, which meets the criteria held by the manufacturers of emergency rescue apparatus used for the case of leakage of dangerous chemicals from metal containers and manufacturers of metal containers for dangerous chemicals and is suitable for the application in the no-spark and explosion proof field.

30 **[0007]** In order to achieve the above-said object, the present invention provides a ferroalloy which is composed of 0.01-0.26wt% of C, 0.08-1.00wt% of Si, 4.50-12.00wt% of Mn, 0.02-0.2wt% of P, 0.02-0.06wt% of S, 3.50-22.00wt% of Ni, 15.00-24.00wt% of Cr and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.

[0008] In an embodiment of the present invention, the ferroalloy is composed of 0.15-0.18wt% of C, 0.085-0.09wt% of Si, 5.00-8.00wt% of Mn, 0.03-0.05wt% of P, 0.02-0.025wt% of S, 17.00-19.00wt% of Ni, 16.00-18.00wt% of Cr and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.

35 **[0009]** In an embodiment of the present invention, the ferroalloy is composed of 0.18wt% of C, 0.09wt% of Si, 8.00wt% of Mn, 0.05wt% of P, 0.02wt% of S, 19.00wt% of Ni, 18.00wt% of Cr and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy; or

the ferroalloy is composed of 0.15wt% of C, 0.085wt% of Si, 5.00wt% of Mn, 0.03wt% of P, 0.025wt% of S, 17.00wt% of Ni, 16.00wt% of Cr and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.

40 **[0010]** In an embodiment of the present invention, the ferroalloy further comprises 0.05-6.00wt% of Mo.

[0011] In an embodiment of the present invention, the ferroalloy is composed of 0.020-0.08wt% of C, 0.09-1.00wt% of Si, 9.00-11.00wt% of Mn, 0.08-0.15wt% of P, 0.035-0.045wt% of S, 9.50-21.00wt% of Ni, 19.00-22.00wt% of Cr, 0.06-0.10wt% of Mo and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.

45 **[0012]** In an embodiment of the present invention, the ferroalloy is composed of 0.04wt% of C, 1.00wt% of Si, 11.00wt% of Mn, 0.10wt% of P, 0.035wt% of S, 12.00wt% of Ni, 22.00wt% of Cr, 0.06wt% of Mo and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy; or 0.020wt% of C, 0.09wt% of Si, 10.00wt% of Mn, 0.08wt% of P, 0.035wt% of S, 21.00wt% of Ni, 22.00wt% of Cr, 0.10wt% of Mo and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.

50 **[0013]** In an embodiment of the present invention, the ferroalloy is composed of 0.08wt% of C, 0.095wt% of Si, 9.00wt% of Mn, 0.15wt% of P, 0.045wt% of S, 9.50wt% of Ni, 19.00wt% of Cr, 0.09wt% of Mo and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.

[0014] In an embodiment of the present invention, the ferroalloy further comprises 0.01-4.00wt% of Cu, 0.01-0.22wt% of N and the balance of Fe.

55 **[0015]** In an embodiment of the present invention, the ferroalloy is composed of 0.012-0.017wt% of C, 0.08-0.085wt% of Si, 7.50-12.00wt% of Mn, 0.02wt% of P, 0.025wt% of S, 15.00-20.00wt% of Ni, 17.00-22.00wt% of Cr, 0.05-2.00wt% of Mo, 0.09-0.12wt% of Cu, 0.09-0.12wt% of N and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.

[0016] In an embodiment of the present invention, the ferroalloy is composed of

0.012wt% of C, 0.08wt% of Si, 12.00wt% of Mn, 0.02wt% of P, 0.025wt% of S, 20.00wt% of Ni, 22.00wt% of Cr, 0.05wt% of Mo, 0.12wt% of Cu, 0.12wt% of N and the balance of Fe; or
 0.017wt% of C, 0.085wt% of Si, 7.50wt% of Mn, 0.02wt% of P, 0.025wt% of S, 15.00wt% of Ni, 17.00wt% of Cr, 2.00wt% of Mo, 0.09wt% of Cu, 0.09wt% of N and the balance of Fe.

[0017] When compared with the prior art ones, the ferroalloy of the present invention is both sparkless under impaction and friction and explosion proof. Said ferroalloy can be used for manufacturing metal containers for dangerous chemicals, thus avoiding occurrence of serious accidents caused by leakage of dangerous chemicals therefrom due to the rupture of the containers under incidental impaction and friction during the transporting and handling. Said ferroalloy can also be used in the manufacture of emergency rescue apparatus which, when used for the incident of leakage of dangerous chemicals, will not bring about any spark even if impaction or friction between the apparatus and the metal containers happens, thus avoiding the risk of deteriorating the serious accidents while securing safety and effectiveness of the emergency rescue. The ferroalloy of the present invention is also suitable for application in the explosion proof and no spark field.

BEST EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION

Example 1:

[0018] Steel raw material containing required components of C, Mn, Si, S and P was mixed with Ni and Cr under required quantities and then heated to melt so as to obtain the following chemical composition, which is determined by sampling and analysis: 0.15wt% of C, 5.0wt% of Mn, 0.085wt% of Si, 0.03wt% of P, 0.025wt% of S, 17.00wt% of Ni, 16.00wt% of Cr and the balance of Fe. The ferroalloy was cast into different sections, which were processed and machined into metal containers for dangerous chemicals and emergency rescue apparatus as well as other tools. Their performances are shown in example 8.

Example 2:

[0019] Steel raw material containing required components of C, Mn, Si, S and P was mixed with Ni and Cr under required quantities and then heated to melt so as to obtain the following chemical composition, which is determined by sampling and analysis: 0.18wt% of C, 8.00wt% of Mn, 0.09wt% of Si, 0.05wt% of P, 0.02wt% of S, 19.0wt% of Ni, 18.00wt% of Cr and the balance of Fe. The ferroalloy was cast into different sections, which were processed and machined into metal containers for dangerous chemicals and emergency rescue apparatus as well as other tools. Their performances are shown in example 8.

Example 3:

[0020] Steel raw material containing required components of C, Mn, Si, S and P was mixed with Ni, Cr and Mo under required quantities and then heated to melt so as to obtain the following chemical composition, which is determined by sampling and analysis: 0.08wt% of C, 10.00wt% of Mn, 0.09wt% of Si, 0.08wt% of P, 0.035wt% of S, 21.00wt% of Ni, 18.00wt% of Cr, 0.10wt% of Mo and the balance of Fe. The ferroalloy was cast into different sections, which were processed and machined into metal containers for dangerous chemicals and emergency rescue apparatus as well as other tools. Their performances are shown in example 8.

Example 4:

[0021] Steel raw material containing required components of C, Mn, Si, S and P was mixed with Ni, Cr and Mo under required quantities and then heated to melt so as to obtain the following chemical composition, which is determined by sampling and analysis: 0.04wt% of C, 11.00wt% of Mn, 1.00wt% of Si, 0.10wt% of P, 0.035wt% of S, 12.00wt% of Ni, 22.00wt% of Cr, 0.06wt% of Mo and the balance of Fe. The ferroalloy was cast into different sections, which were processed and machined into metal containers for dangerous chemicals and emergency rescue apparatus as well as other tools. Their performances are shown in example 8.

Example 5:

[0022] Steel raw material containing required components of C, Mn, Si, S and P was mixed with Ni, Cr and Mo under required quantities and then heated to melt so as to obtain the following chemical composition, which is determined by sampling and analysis: 0.02wt% of C, 9.00wt% of Mn, 0.095wt% of Si, 0.15wt% of P, 0.045wt% of S, 9.50wt% of Ni, 19.00wt% of Cr, 0.09wt% of Mo and the balance of Fe. The ferroalloy was cast into different sections, which were

processed and machined into metal containers for dangerous chemicals and emergency rescue apparatus as well as other tools. Their performances are shown in example 8.

Example 6:

[0023] Steel raw material containing required components of C, Mn, Si, S, P, Cu and N was mixed with Ni, Cr and Mo under required quantities and then heated to melt so as to obtain the following chemical composition, which is determined by sampling and analysis: 0.017wt% of C, 7.50wt% of Mn, 0.085wt% of Si, 0.02wt% of P, 0.025wt% of S, 15.00wt% of Ni, 17.00wt% of Cr, 2.00wt% of Mo, 0.09wt% of Cu, 0.09wt% of N and the balance of Fe. The ferroalloy was cast into different sections, which were processed and machined into metal containers for dangerous chemicals and emergency rescue apparatus as well as other tools. Their performances are shown in example 8.

Example 7:

[0024] Steel raw material containing required components of C, Mn, Si, S, P, Cu and N was mixed with Ni, Cr and Mo under required quantities and then heated to melt so as to obtain the following chemical composition, which is determined by sampling and analysis: 0.012wt% of C, 12.00wt% of Mn, 0.08wt% of Si, 0.02wt% of P, 0.025wt% of S, 20.00wt% of Ni, 22.00wt% of Cr, 0.05wt% of Pt, 0.12wt% of Cu, 0.12wt% of N and the balance of Fe. The ferroalloy was cast into different sections, which were processed and machined into metal containers for dangerous chemicals and emergency rescue apparatus as well as other tools. Their performances are shown in example 8.

Example 8:

(A) Samples were made of alloys of examples 1-7 and their explosion proof properties were measured.

[0025] Testing Method

Explosion proof properties were measured according to GB 10686-89, **Testing Method for Explosion Proof Properties of Tools Made of Copper Alloys.**

(1) Free Falling Hammer Test

[0026] The free falling hammer tests were conducted according to the standard of GB 10686.

[0027] Test Temperature: 16 °C; Humidity: 40% RH(relative humidity); Atmospheric Pressure: 100kPa

Sample Gauge: 60(diameter) × 30mm

Number of Samples: three blocks

Mass of Hammer: 14 kg

Testing Gas: a mixture of methane and air

Concentration of Testing Gas: 6.0-7.0 %

Distance from Hammer to Falling Point: 4m

Angle between the Steel Sheet to be impacted and the Horizontal Plane: 45 degree.

[0028] Process of Test: the falling and impacting tests are performed by using a 14kg hammer from a height of 4m for 32 times.

[0029] Standard of Test: No explosion in all of the 32 falling and impacting tests was taken as being qualified.

(2) Rotational Friction Test

[0030] The rotational friction tests were conducted according to the standard of GB 10686.

[0031] Test Temperature: 16 °C ; Humidity: 40% RH(relative humidity); and Atmospheric Pressure: 100kPa

Sample Gauge: 10(diameter) × 150mm

Number of Samples: six bars

Rotational Speed of Revolving Tray: 3000 r/min

Testing Gas: a mixture of methane and air

Concentration of Testing Gas: 6.0-7.0 %

Pressing Force used in the Test: 490 N

Times of Test per min.: five

Process of Test: 5 times of friction tests were conducted for each sample, and no explosion for all of 30 times of rotational friction tests was taken as being qualified.

The tested results are shown in Table 1:

Table 1: Results of Explosion Proof Property Tests for the samples of Examples 1-7

Sample	Results for Free Falling Hammer Tests	Results for Rotational Friction Tests
Example 1:	Qualified	Qualified
Example 2:	Qualified	Qualified
Example 3:	Qualified	Qualified
Example 4:	Qualified	Qualified
Example 5:	Qualified	Qualified
Example 6:	Qualified	Qualified
Example 7:	Qualified	Qualified

(B) Samples were made of alloys of examples 1 and 5 and their physical properties were measured.

Testing Method

[0032] Tensile strength and yield strength ($RP_{0.2}$) were measured according to the standard of GB/T228-2002. Hardness Test: measured according to GB/T230.1-2004.

Testing Environment: room temperature

Testing Equipments: Double Rockwell Hardness Meter, Type T2001, INSTRON Inc. and Universal Material Testing Machine, Type SHT4106D, New Sansi Material Testing Ltd., Shenzhen

The results are shown in Table 2:

Sample	Tensile Strength/Mpa	Yield Strength/Mpa	Tensile Elongation/%	Hardness (HRB)
Example 1:	270	250	4.5	83.0
Example 5:	430	245	19.5	80.0

Claims

1. A ferroalloy which is composed of 0.01-0.26wt% of C, 0.08-1.00wt% of Si, 4.50-12.00wt% of Mn, 0.02-0.2wt% of P, 0.02-0.06wt% of S, 3.50-22.00wt% of Ni, 15.00-24.00wt% of Cr and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.
2. The ferroalloy according to claim 1, wherein it is composed of 0.15-0.18wt% of C, 0.085-0.09wt% of Si, 5.00-8.00wt% of Mn, 0.03-0.05wt% of P, 0.02-0.025wt% of S, 17.00-19.00wt% of Ni, 16.00-18.00wt% of Cr and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.
3. The ferroalloy according to claim 1, wherein it is composed of 0.18wt% of C, 0.09wt% of Si, 8.00wt% of Mn, 0.05wt% of P, 0.02wt% of S, 19.00wt% of Ni, 18.00wt% of Cr and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy; or it is composed of 0.15wt% of C, 0.085wt% of Si, 5.00wt% of Mn, 0.03wt% of P, 0.025wt% of S, 17.00wt% of Ni, 16.00wt% of Cr and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.
4. The ferroalloy according to claim 1, wherein it further comprises 0.05-6.00wt% of Mo, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.
5. The ferroalloy according to claim 4, wherein it is composed of 0.020-0.08wt% of C, 0.09-1.00wt% of Si, 9.00-11.00wt% of Mn, 0.08-0.15wt% of P, 0.035-0.045wt% of S, 9.50-21.00wt% of Ni, 19.00-22.00wt% of Cr, 0.06-0.10wt% of Mo and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.
6. The ferroalloy according to claim 4, wherein it is composed of 0.04wt% of C, 1.00wt% of Si, 11.00wt% of Mn, 0.10wt% of P, 0.035wt% of S, 12.00wt% of Ni, 22.00wt% of Cr,

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0.06wt% of Mo and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy; or
0.020wt% of C, 0.09wt% of Si, 10.00wt% of Mn, 0.08wt% of P, 0.035wt% of S, 21.00wt% of Ni, 22.00wt% of Cr,
0.10wt% of Mo and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.

- 5 **7.** The ferroalloy according to claim 4, wherein it is composed of 0.08wt% of C, 0.095wt% of Si, 9.00wt% of Mn, 0.15wt%
of P, 0.045wt% of S, 9.50wt% of Ni, 19.00wt% of Cr, 0.09wt% of Mo and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of
said ferroalloy.
- 10 **8.** The ferroalloy according to claim 4, wherein it further comprises 0.01-4.00wt% of Cu, 0.01-0.22wt% of N and the
balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.
- 15 **9.** The ferroalloy according to claim 8, wherein it is composed of 0.012-0.017wt% of C, 0.08-0.085wt% of Si,
7.50-12.00wt% of Mn, 0.02wt% of P, 0.025wt% of S, 15.00-20.00wt% of Ni, 17.00-22.00wt% of Cr, 0.05-2.00wt%
of Mo, 0.09-0.12wt% of Cu, 0.09-0.12wt% of N and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.
- 20 **10.** The ferroalloy according to claim 8, wherein it is composed of
0.012wt% of C, 0.08wt% of Si, 12.00wt% of Mn, 0.02wt% of P, 0.025wt% of S, 20.00wt% of Ni, 22.00wt% of Cr,
0.05wt% of Mo, 0.12wt% of Cu, 0.12wt% of N and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy; or
0.017wt% of C, 0.085wt% of Si, 7.50wt% of Mn, 0.02wt% of P, 0.025wt% of S, 15.00wt% of Ni, 17.00wt% of Cr,
2.00wt% of Mo, 0.09wt% of Cu, 0.09wt% of N and the balance of Fe, based on the weight of said ferroalloy.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/CN2008/072001

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

C22C38/58 (2006.01)i

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC: C22C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WPI, EPODOC, PAJ, CPRS, CNKI: C, carbon, Si, silicon, silicium, Mn, mangan, manganese, Ni, nickel, Cr, chrome, chromium, Fe, iron, steel, Mo, molybdenum, Cu, copper, N, nitrogen, sparkless, sparkle, spark, nonsparkability, explos+, explod+, antiknock, detonat+, blast+, outburst+

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
PX	CN101100729A (JIN Baofeng) 09 Jan.2008 (09.01.2008) claims 1-10, description page 2	1-10
PX	CN101235463A (LIU Guanghuo et al.) 06 Aug.2008 (06.08.2008) description page 2	1
X	GB1061559A (WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC CORP) 15 Mar.1967 (15.03.1967) claim 4	1
X	JP9-202944A (NIPPON STEEL CORP) 05 Aug.1997 (05.08.1997) claim 1	4
X	JP2005-15856A (NIPPON STEEL CORP) 20 Jan.2005 (20.01.2005) claim 2	8
X	US6048416A (SPRI-N et al.) 11 Apr.2000 (11.04.2000) claim 1	8

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
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"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim (S) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search
04 Nov.2008 (04.11.2008)

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	WANG Zhongmin et al., Study and Application on New Sparkle Proof Alloy, Foundry Technology, 2001 No.3, pages 51-53	1-10

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
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International application No.

PCT/CN2008/072001

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REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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