Low Cost Preparation of Ni–5wt%Al alloy Anode at Reduced Temperature for Molten Carbonate Fuel Cells

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The preparation method used in this study is the synthesis process of Ni–5wt% Al alloy anode from the green sheet consisted of a physical mixture of 95wt% Ni and 5wt% Al elemental powders by feeding $AlCl_3$ vapor into a reactor. The first step is to remove the organics of the green sheet (sintering process), and then $AlCl_3$ vapor is introduced into a reactor for the formation of Ni–5wt% Al alloy (alloying process). Namely, the two–step process (the preparation of Ni–Al alloy powders and the sintering process) are combined into the one–step preparation. In addition, the alloy formation is performed under the melting point of Al (below 660°C). So, the price for alloy formation can be reduced due to the inexpensive Ni and Al elemental powders, the low reaction temperature, the combined process and the low price of $AlCl_3$. In this study, we have prepared Ni–5wt% Al alloys anode from the green sheet consisted of a physical mixture of Ni and Al elemental powders by using $AlCl_3$ at reduced temperatures. Physical properties of Ni–5wt% Al alloy anode were examined by three point bending strength test and mercury porosimetry. Creep resistance was also investigated.