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(54) Title: COLD ROLLED AND COATED STEEL SHEET AND A METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THEREOF

(57) Abstract: A cold rolled and heat treated steel sheet having a composition comprising of the following elements 0.13 % ≤ Carbon ≤ 0.18 %, 1.1 % ≤ Manganese ≤ 1.8%, 0.5 % ≤ Silicon ≤ 0.9 %, 0.6 % ≤ Aluminum ≤ 1%, 0.002 % ≤ Phosphorus ≤ 0.02 %, 0 % ≤ Sulfur ≤ 0.003 %, 0 % ≤ Nitrogen ≤ 0.007% and can contain one or more of the following optional elements 0.05% ≤ Chromium ≤ 1 %, 0.001% ≤ Molybdenum ≤ 0.5%, 0.001% ≤ Niobium ≤ 0.1%, 0.001% ≤ Titanium ≤ 0.1%, 0.01% ≤ Copper ≤ 2%, 0.01% ≤ Nickel ≤ 3%, 0.0001% ≤ Calcium ≤ 0.005%, 0 % ≤ Vanadium ≤ 0.1%, 0 % ≤ Boron ≤ 0.003%, 0 % ≤ Cerium ≤ 0.1%, 0 % ≤ Magnesium ≤ 0.010%, 0 % ≤ Zirconium ≤ 0.010%, the remainder composition being composed of iron and unavoidable impurities caused by processing, the microstructure of said steel sheet comprising in area fraction, 60 to 75% Ferrite, 20 to 30% Bainite, 10 to 15% Residual Austenite, and 0% to 5% Martensite, wherein the cumulated amounts of Residual Austenite and Ferrite is between 70% and 80%.



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COLD ROLLED AND COATED STEEL SHEET AND A METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THEREOF

The present invention relates to cold rolled and coated steel sheets suitable for use as steel sheet for automobiles.

5 Automotive parts are required to satisfy two inconsistent necessities, viz. ease of forming and strength but in recent years a third requirement of improvement in fuel consumption is also bestowed upon automobiles in view of global environment concerns. Thus, now automotive parts must be made of material having high formability in order that to fit in the criteria of ease of fit in the intricate automobile
10 assembly and at same time have to improve strength for vehicle crashworthiness and durability while reducing weight of vehicle to improve fuel efficiency.

Therefore, intense Research and development endeavors are put in to reduce the amount of material utilized in car by increasing the strength of material. Conversely, an increase in strength of steel sheets decreases formability, and thus
15 development of materials having both high strength and high formability is necessitated.

Earlier research and developments in the field of high strength and high formability steel sheets have resulted in several methods for producing high strength and high formability steel sheets, some of which are enumerated herein for conclusive
20 appreciation of the present invention:

US20140234657 is a patent application that claims for a hot-dip galvanized steel sheet having a microstructure, by volume fraction, equal to or more than 20% and equal to or less than 99% in total of one or two of martensite and bainite, a residual structure contains one or two of ferrite, residual austenite of less than 8% by
25 volume fraction, and pearlite of equal to or less than 10% by volume fraction. Further US20140234657 reaches to a tensile strength of 980 MPa but unable to reaches the elongation of 25%.

US8657969 claims for high strength galvanized steel sheet has a Tensile Strength of 590 MPa or more and excellent processability. The component composition contains, by mass %, C: 0.05% to 0.3%, Si: 0.7% to 2.7%, Mn: 0.5% to 2.8%, P: 0.1% or lower, S: 0.01% or lower, Al: 0.1% or lower, and N: 0.008% or lower, and
5 the balance: Fe or inevitable impurities. The microstructure contains, in terms of area ratio, ferrite phases: 30% to 90%, bainite phases: 3% to 30%, and martensite phases: 5% to 40%, in which, among the martensite phases, martensite phases having an aspect ratio of 3 or more are present in a proportion of 30% or more.

The purpose of the present invention is to solve these problems by making
10 available cold-rolled steel and coated sheets that simultaneously have:

- an ultimate tensile strength greater than or equal to 600 MPa and preferably above 620 MPa,
- an total elongation greater than or equal to 31% and preferably above 33%.

In a preferred embodiment, the steel sheets according to the invention may also
15 present a yield strength 320 MPa or more

In a preferred embodiment, the steel sheets according to the invention may also present a yield strength to tensile strength ratio of 0.6 or more

Preferably, such steel can also have a good suitability for forming, in particular for rolling with good weldability and coatability.

20 Another object of the present invention is also to make available a method for the manufacturing of these sheets that is compatible with conventional industrial applications while being robust towards manufacturing parameters shifts.

The cold rolled and heat treated steel sheet of the present invention may optionally be coated with zinc or zinc alloys, or with aluminium or aluminium alloys to improve
25 its corrosion resistance.

Carbon is present in the steel between 0.13% and 0.18%. Carbon is an element necessary for increasing the strength of the steel sheet by producing low-

temperature transformation phases such as bainite, further Carbon also plays a pivotal role in Austenite stabilization hence a necessary element for securing Residual Austenite. Therefore, Carbon plays two pivotal roles one in increasing the strength and another in retaining austenite to impart ductility. But Carbon content less than 0.13% will not be able to stabilize Austenite in an adequate amount required by the steel of present invention. On the other hand, at a Carbon content exceeding 0.18%, the steel exhibits poor spot weldability which limits its application for the automotive parts.

Manganese content of the steel of present invention is between 1.1 % and 1.8%. This element is gammagenous. The purpose of adding Manganese is essentially to obtain a structure that contains Austenite and impart strength to the steel. An amount of at least 1.1% by weight of Manganese has been found in order to provide the strength and hardenability of the steel sheet as well as to stabilize Austenite. But when Manganese content is more than 1.8% it produces adverse effects such as it retards transformation of Austenite to Bainite during the over-aging holding for Bainite transformation. In addition the Manganese content of above 1.8% also reduces the ductility and also deteriorates the weldability of the present steel hence the elongation targets may not be achieved. A preferable content for the present invention may be kept between 1.2% and 1.8%, further more preferably 1.3% and 1.7%.

Silicon content of the steel of present invention is between 0.5% and 0.9%. Silicon is a constituent that can retard the precipitation of carbides during overageing, therefore, due to the presence of Silicon, carbon rich Austenite is stabilized at room temperature. Further, due to poor solubility of Silicon in carbide it effectively inhibits or retards the formation of carbides, hence also promotes the formation of Bainitic structure which is sought as per the present invention to impart steel with its essential features. However, disproportionate content of Silicon does not produce the mentioned effect and leads to a problem such as temper embrittlement. Therefore, the concentration is controlled within an upper limit of 0.9%. A preferable content for the present invention may be kept between 0.6% and 0.8%

Aluminum is an essential element and is present in the steel between 0.6% and 1%. Aluminum is an alphas phase element and imparts total elongation to the steel of present invention. A minimum of 0.6% of Aluminum is required to have a minimum Ferrite thereby imparting the elongation to the steel of present invention.

5 Aluminum is also used for removing oxygen from the molten state of the steel to clean steel of present invention by and it also prevents oxygen from forming a gas phase. But whenever the Aluminum is more than 1% it forms AlN which is detrimental for the steel of Present invention therefore preferable range for the presence of the Aluminum is between 0.6% and 0.8%.

10 Phosphorus constituent of the steel of present invention is between 0.002% and 0.02%. Phosphorus reduces the spot weldability and the hot ductility, particularly due to its tendency to segregate at the grain boundaries or co-segregate with manganese. For these reasons, its content is limited to 0.02 % and preferably lower than 0.014%.

15

Sulfur is not an essential element but may be contained as an impurity in steel and from point of view of the present invention the Sulfur content is preferably as low as possible, but is 0.003% or less from the viewpoint of manufacturing cost. Further if higher Sulfur is present in steel it combines to form Sulfides especially with
20 Manganese and reduces its beneficial impact on the steel of present invention.

Nitrogen is limited to 0.007% in order to avoid ageing of material and to minimize the precipitation of nitrides during solidification which are detrimental for mechanical properties of the Steel.

25

Chromium is an optional element for the present invention. Chromium content may be present in the steel of present invention is between 0.05% and 1%. Chromium is an essential element that provides strength and hardening to the steel but when used above 1% it impairs surface finish of steel. Further Chromium contents under
30 1% coarsen the dispersion pattern of carbide in Bainitic structures, hence; keep the density of carbides low in Bainite.

Molybdenum is an optional element that constitutes 0.001% to 0.5% of the Steel of present invention; Molybdenum plays an effective role in determining hardenability and hardness, delays the appearance of Bainite and avoids carbides precipitation in Bainite. However, the addition of Molybdenum excessively increases the cost of the addition of alloy elements, so that for economic reasons its content is limited to 0.5%.

Niobium is an optional element for the present invention. Niobium content may be present in the steel of present invention between 0.001 and 0.1% and is added in the Steel of present invention for forming carbo-nitrides to impart strength of the Steel of present invention by precipitation hardening. Niobium will also impact the size of microstructural components through its precipitation as carbo-nitrides and by retarding the recrystallization during heating process. Thus finer microstructure formed at the end of the holding temperature and as a consequence after the completion of annealing that will lead to the hardening of the Steel of present invention. However, Niobium content above 0.1% is not economically interesting as a saturation effect of its influence is observed this means that additional amount of Niobium does not result in any strength improvement of the product.

Titanium is an optional element and may be added to the Steel of present invention between 0.001% and 0.1%. As Niobium, it is involved in carbo-nitrides formation so plays a role in hardening of the Steel of present invention. In addition Titanium also forms Titanium-nitrides which appear during solidification of the cast product. The amount of Titanium is so limited to 0.1% to avoid formation of coarse Titanium-nitrides detrimental for formability. In case the Titanium content is below 0.001% it does not impart any effect on the steel of present invention.

Copper may be added as an optional element in an amount of 0.01% to 2% to increase the strength of the steel and to improve its corrosion resistance. A minimum of 0.01% of Copper is required to get such effect. However, when its content is above 2%, it can degrade the surface aspects.

Nickel may be added as an optional element in an amount of 0.01 to 3% to increase the strength of the steel and to improve its toughness. A minimum of 0.01% is

required to produce such effects. However, when its content is above 3%, Nickel causes ductility deterioration.

Calcium content in the steel of present invention is between 0.0001% and 0.005%. Calcium is added to steel of present invention as an optional element especially during the inclusion treatment. Calcium contributes towards the refining of Steel by arresting the detrimental Sulfur content in globular form, thereby, retarding the harmful effects of Sulfur.

Vanadium is effective in enhancing the strength of steel by forming carbides or carbo-nitrides and the upper limit is 0.1% due to the economic reasons. Other elements such as Cerium, Boron, Magnesium or Zirconium can be added individually or in combination in the following proportions by weight: Cerium $\leq 0.1\%$, Boron $\leq 0.003\%$, Magnesium $\leq 0.010\%$ and Zirconium $\leq 0.010\%$. Up to the maximum content levels indicated, these elements make it possible to refine the grain during solidification. The remainder of the composition of the Steel consists of iron and inevitable impurities resulting from processing.

The microstructure of the Steel sheet comprises:

Ferrite constitutes from 60% to 75% of microstructure by area fraction for the Steel of present invention. Ferrite constitutes the primary phase of the steel as a matrix. In the present invention, Ferrite cumulatively comprises of Polygonal ferrite and acicular ferrite Ferrite imparts high strength as well as elongation to the steel of present invention. To ensure an elongation of 31% and preferably 33% or more it is necessary to have 60% of Ferrite. Ferrite is formed during the cooling after annealing in steel of present invention. But whenever ferrite content is present above 75% in steel of present invention the strength is not achieved.

Bainite constitutes from 20% to 30% of microstructure by area fraction for the Steel of present invention. In the present invention, Bainite cumulatively consists of Lath Bainite and Granular Bainite, To ensure tensile strength of 620 MPa and preferably 630 MPa or more it is necessary to have 20% of Bainite. Bainite is formed during over-aging holding.

Residual Austenite constitutes from 10% to 15% by area fraction of the Steel. Residual Austenite is known to have a higher solubility of Carbon than Bainite and, hence, acts as effective Carbon trap, therefore, retarding the formation of carbides in Bainite. Carbon percentage inside the Residual Austenite of present invention is preferably higher than 0.9% and preferably lower than 1.1%. Residual Austenite of the Steel according to the invention imparts an enhanced ductility.

Martensite is an optional constituent and may be present between 0% and 5 % of microstructure by area fraction and found in traces. Martensite for present invention includes both fresh martensite and tempered martensite. Present invention form martensite due to the cooling after annealing and get tempered during overaging holding. Fresh Martensite also form during cooling after the coating of cold rolled steel sheet. Martensite imparts ductility and strength to the Steel of present invention when it is below 5%. When Martensite is in excess of 5 % it imparts excess strength but diminishes the elongation beyond acceptable limit. The preferable limit for martensite is between 0% and 3%.

A total amount of Ferrite and Residual Austenite must always be between 70% and 80% to have total elongation of 31% and a minimum of 70% is required to ensure the total elongation above 31% while having a tensile strength of 600MPa. Ferrite and residual austenite are soft phase in comparison to martensite and bainite therefore imparts for elongation and ductility but whenever the cumulative presence is more than 80% the strength drops beyond the acceptable limits.

In addition to the above-mentioned microstructure, the microstructure of the cold rolled and heat treated steel sheet is free from microstructural components, such as pearlite and cementite without impairing the mechanical properties of the steel sheets.

A steel sheet according to the invention can be produced by any suitable method. A preferred method consists in providing a semi-finished casting of steel with a chemical composition according to the invention. The casting can be done either into ingots or continuously in form of thin slabs or thin strips, i.e. with a thickness

ranging from approximately 220mm for slabs up to several tens of millimeters for thin strip.

For example, a slab having the above-described chemical composition is manufactured by continuous casting wherein the slab optionally underwent the direct soft reduction during the continuous casting process to avoid central segregation and to ensure a ratio of local Carbon to nominal Carbon kept below 1.10. The slab provided by continuous casting process can be used directly at a high temperature after the continuous casting or may be first cooled to room temperature and then reheated for hot rolling.

- 10 The temperature of the slab, which is subjected to hot rolling, is at least 1150° C and must be below 1280°C. In case the temperature of the slab is lower than 1150° C, excessive load is imposed on a rolling mill. Therefore, the temperature of the slab is preferably sufficiently high so that hot rolling can be completed in the temperature range of $Ac1 + 50^{\circ}C$ to $Ac1 + 250^{\circ}C$ and preferably between $Ac1 + 50^{\circ}C$ and $Ac1 + 200^{\circ}C$ while always having final rolling temperature remains above $Ac1 + 50^{\circ}C$. Reheating at temperatures above 1280°C must be avoided because they are industrially expensive.

- 20 A final rolling temperature range between $Ac1 + 50^{\circ}C$ to $Ac1 + 250^{\circ}C$ is preferred to have a structure that is favorable to recrystallization and rolling. It is necessary to have final rolling pass to be performed at a temperature greater than $Ac1 + 50^{\circ}C$, because below this temperature the steel sheet exhibits a significant drop in rollability. The sheet obtained in this manner is then cooled at a cooling rate above 30°C/s to the coiling temperature which must be below 625°C. Preferably, the cooling rate will be less than or equal to 200° C/s.

- 25 The hot rolled steel sheet is then coiled at a coiling temperature below 625°C to avoid ovalization and preferably below 600°C to avoid scale formation. The preferred range for such coiling temperature is between 350° C and 600° C. The coiled hot rolled steel sheet may be cooled down to room temperature before subjecting it to optional hot band annealing.

The hot rolled steel sheet may be subjected to an optional scale removal step to remove the scale formed during the hot rolling before optional hot band annealing. The hot rolled sheet may then subjected to an optional Hot Band Annealing at temperatures between 400°C and 750°C for at least 12 hours and not more than 5 96 hours, the temperature remaining below 750°C to avoid transforming partially the hot-rolled microstructure and, therefore, losing the microstructure homogeneity. Thereafter, an optional scale removal step of this hot rolled steel sheet may performed through, for example, pickling of such sheet. This hot rolled steel sheet is subjected to cold rolling to obtain a cold rolled steel sheet with a thickness 10 reduction between 35 to 90%. The cold rolled steel sheet obtained from cold rolling process is then subjected to annealing to impart the steel of present invention with microstructure and mechanical properties.

In the annealing, the cold rolled steel sheet subjected to two steps of heating to reach the soaking temperature between $Ac1+30^{\circ}C$ and $Ac3$ wherein $Ac1$ and $Ac3$ 15 for the present steel is calculated by using the following formula :

$$Ac1 = 723 - 10,7[Mn] - 16[Ni] + 29,1[Si] + 16,9[Cr] + 6,38[W] + 290[As]$$

$$Ac3 = 910 - 203[C]^{(1/2)} - 15,2[Ni] + 44,7[Si] + 104[V] + 31,5[Mo] + 13,1[W] - 30[Mn] - 11[Cr] - 20[Cu] + 700[P] + 400[Al] + 120[As] + 400[Ti]$$

wherein the elements contents are expressed in weight percent.

20 In step one cold rolled steel sheet is heated at a heating rate between 10°C/s and 40°C/s to a temperature range between 550°C and 650°C. Thereafter in subsequent second step of heating the cold rolled steel sheet is heated at a heating rate between 1°C/s and 5°C/s to the soaking temperature of annealing.

Then the cold rolled steel sheet is preferably held at the soaking temperature during 25 10 to 500 seconds to ensure at least 30% transformation to Austenite microstructure of the strongly work-hardened initial structure. Then the cold rolled steel sheet is then cooled in two step cooling to an over-aging holding temperature. In step one of cooling the cold rolled steel sheet is cooled at cooling rate less than

5°C/s and preferably less than 3°C/s to a temperature range between 600°C and 720°C and preferably between 625°C and 720°C. During this step one of cooling ferrite matrix of the present invention is formed. Thereafter in a subsequent second cooling step the cold rolled steel sheet is cooled to an overaging temperature range between 250°C and 470°C at a cooling rate between 10°C/s and 100°C/s. Then the cold rolled steel sheet is held in the over-aging temperature range during 5 to 500 seconds. The cold rolled steel sheet is then brought to the temperature to a coating bath temperature range of 400°C and 480°C to facilitate coating of the cold rolled steel sheet. Then the cold rolled steel sheet is coated by any of the known industrial processes such as Electro-galvanization, JVD, PVD, Hot dip(GI) etc.

EXAMPLES

The following tests, examples, figurative exemplification and tables which are presented herein are non-restricting in nature and must be considered for purposes of illustration only, and will display the advantageous features of the present invention.

Steel sheets made of steels with different compositions are gathered in Table 1, where the steel sheets are produced according to process parameters as stipulated in Table 2, respectively. Thereafter Table 3 gathers the microstructures of the steel sheets obtained during the trials and table 4 gathers the result of evaluations of obtained properties.

Table 1

Sample Steels	C	Mn	Si	Al	P	S	N	Other elements present
A	0.155	1.54	0.696	0.728	0.014	0.002	0.003	-
B	0.157	1.54	0.690	0.721	0.014	0.002	0.003	-
C	0.148	1.54	0.698	<u>0</u>	0.013	0.0027	0.0044	-
D	<u>0.114</u>	1.62	<u>0.293</u>	<u>0.031</u>	<u>0.027</u>	0.0028	0.005	-Ni:0.025, Cr: 0.345

underlined values: not according to the invention.

5

Table 2

Table 2 gathers the annealing process parameters implemented on steels of Table 1. The Steel compositions A and B serve for the manufacture of sheets according to the invention. This table also specifies the reference steels which are designated in table as C and D . Table 2 also shows tabulation of Ac1 and Ac3. These Ac1 and Ac3 are defined for the inventive steels and reference steels as follows:

10

$$Ac1 = 723 - 10,7[Mn] - 16[Ni] + 29,1[Si] + 16,9[Cr] + 6,38[W] + 290[As]$$

$$Ac3 = 910 - 203[C]^{(1/2)} - 15,2[Ni] + 44,7[Si] + 104[V] + 31,5[Mo] + 13,1[W] - 30[Mn] - 11[Cr] - 20[Cu] + 700[P] + 400[Al] + 120[As] + 400[Ti]$$

15

wherein the elements contents are expressed in weight percent.

All sheets were cooled at a cooling rate of 34 °C/s after hot rolling and were finally brought at a temperature of 460°C before coating. All the sheets have a cold rolled reduction of 65%.

The table 2 is as follows :

Table 2

Trial	Steel Sample	Step one				Step two		Soaking Temperature (°C)	Soaking time (s)
		Reheating T (°C)	HR Finish T (°C)	HR Coiling T (°C)	Heating rate for fast heating before annealing (°C/s)	Fast heating stop T (°C).	Slow Heating Rate before annealing (°C/s)		
I1	A	1200	850	500	12	600	1.6	770	179
I2	B	1200	870	520	19	600	3.1	800	110
I3	A	1200	850	500	12	600	1.9	800	179
R1	A	1200	850	500	12	600	1.9	800	293
R2	<u>C</u>	1200	850	500	12	600	1.9	800	179
R3	<u>D</u>	1200	920	585	<u>9</u>	600	1.2	770	238

Trial	Step one			Step two				Ac1 (°C)
	Slow cooling rate after annealing (°C/s)	Slow cooling stop temperature (°C/s)	Fast cooling rate (°C/s)	Fast cooling stop temperature (°C)	temperature for overaging (°C)	Holding time (s)	Ac3 (°C)	
I1	0.6	700	30	410	410	129	1117	727
I2	1.5	700	39	460	460	79	1112	727
I3	0.9	700	31	400	400	129	1112	727
R1	-----	-----	34	460	460	129	1117	727
R2	0.9	700	31	400	400	129	827	727
R3	0.5	700	27	350	350	172	835	720

I = according to the invention; R = reference; underlined values: not according to the invention.

Table 3

Table 3 exemplifies the results of the tests conducted in accordance with the standards on different microscopes such as Scanning Electron Microscope for determining the microstructures of both the inventive and reference steels.

5 The results are stipulated herein:

Sample Steels	Ferrite (%)	Bainite (%)	Residual Austenite (%)	Martensite (%)	Ferrite + Residual Austenite (%)
I1	67	22	11	0	78
I2	65	24	10	1	75
I3	63	27	10	0	73
R1	<u>53</u>	<u>37</u>	10	0	<u>63</u>
R2	62	<u>32</u>	<u>5</u>	1	<u>67</u>
R3	62	<u>33</u>	<u>5</u>	0	<u>67</u>

I = according to the invention; R = reference; underlined values: not according to the invention.

Table 4

Table 4 exemplifies the mechanical properties of both the inventive steel and reference steels. In order to determine the tensile strength, yield strength and total elongation, tensile tests are conducted in accordance of JIS Z2241 standards.

The results of the various mechanical tests conducted in accordance to the standards are gathered

Table 4

Sample Steels	Tensile Strength (MPa)	YS (MPa)	YS/TS	Total Elongation(%)
I1	634	386	0.61	34.7
I2	672	401	0.60	33.2
I3	633	411	0.65	36.1
R1	677	389	0.57	<u>27.7</u>
R2	602	365	0.61	<u>28.6</u>
R3	622	343	0.55	<u>22.5</u>

- 10 I = according to the invention; R = reference; underlined values: not according to the invention.

CLAIMS

1. A cold rolled steel sheet having a composition comprising the following elements, expressed in percentage by weight:

0.13 % $\leq$ Carbon $\leq$ 0.18 %

1.1 % $\leq$ Manganese $\leq$ 1.8%

0.5 % $\leq$ Silicon $\leq$ 0.9 %

0.6 % $\leq$ Aluminum $\leq$ 1%

0.002 % $\leq$ Phosphorus $\leq$ 0.02 %

0 % $\leq$ Sulfur $\leq$ 0.003 %.

0 % $\leq$ Nitrogen $\leq$ 0.007%

and can contain one or more of the following optional elements

0.05% $\leq$ Chromium $\leq$ 1 %

0.001% $\leq$ Molybdenum $\leq$ 0.5%

0.001% $\leq$ Niobium $\leq$ 0.1%

0.001% $\leq$ Titanium $\leq$ 0.1%

0.01% $\leq$ Copper $\leq$ 2%

0.01% $\leq$ Nickel $\leq$ 3%

0.0001% $\leq$ Calcium $\leq$ 0.005%

0 % $\leq$ Vanadium $\leq$ 0.1%

0 % $\leq$ Boron $\leq$ 0.003%

0 % $\leq$ Cerium $\leq$ 0.1%

0 % $\leq$ Magnesium $\leq$ 0.010%

0 % $\leq$ Zirconium $\leq$ 0.010%

the remainder composition being composed of iron and unavoidable impurities caused by processing, the microstructure of said steel sheet comprising in area fraction, 60 to 75% Ferrite, 20 to 30% Bainite, 10 to 15% Residual Austenite, and 0% to 5% Martensite, wherein the cumulated amounts of Residual Austenite and Ferrite is between 70% and 80%.

2. Cold rolled steel sheet according to claim 1, wherein the composition includes 0.6% to 0.8% of Silicon.

3. Cold rolled steel sheet according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the composition includes 0.14% to 0.18% of Carbon.
4. Cold rolled steel sheet according to claim 3, wherein the composition includes
5 0.6 % to 0.8% of Aluminum.
5. Cold rolled steel sheet according to anyone of claim 1 to 4, wherein the composition includes 1.2% to 1.8% of Manganese.
- 10 6. Cold rolled steel sheet according to claim 5, wherein the composition includes 1.3% to 1.7% of Manganese.
7. Cold rolled steel sheet to anyone of claims 1 to 6, wherein, the cumulated amounts of Ferrite and Residual Austenite is between 73% and 80% and the
15 percentage of Residual Austenite is less than 13%.
8. Cold rolled steel sheet to anyone of claims 1 to 7, wherein, the amount of Martensite is between 0% and 3%.
- 20 9. Cold rolled steel sheet according to anyone of claims 1 to 8, wherein the Carbon content of Residual Austenite is between 0.9 to 1.1%.
10. Cold rolled steel sheet according to anyone of claims 1 to 9, wherein said steel sheet has an ultimate tensile strength of 600 MPa or more, and a total
25 elongation of 31% or more.
11. Cold rolled sheet according to claim 10, wherein said steel sheet has yield strength of 320 MPa or more and a total elongation of 33% or more.
- 30 12. Cold rolled steel sheet according to anyone of claims 1 to 11, wherein said steel sheet is coated.

13. A method of production of a cold rolled steel sheet comprising the following successive steps:

- providing a steel composition according to anyone of claims 1 to 6;
- reheating said semi-finished product to a temperature between 1150°C and 1280°C;
- rolling the said semi-finished product in the austenitic range wherein the hot rolling finishing temperature shall be between $Ac1+50^{\circ}C$ and $Ac1+250^{\circ}C$ to obtain a hot rolled steel sheet;
- cooling the sheet at a cooling rate above 30°C/s to a coiling temperature which is below 625°C; and coiling the said hot rolled sheet;
- cooling the said hot rolled sheet to room temperature;
- optionally performing scale removal process on said hot rolled steel sheet;
- optionally annealing is performed on hot rolled steel sheet at temperature between 400°C and 750°C;
- optionally performing scale removal process on said hot rolled steel sheet;
- cold rolling the said hot rolled steel sheet with a reduction rate between 35 and 90% to obtain a cold rolled steel sheet;
- then performing a annealing at soaking temperature between $Ac1+30^{\circ}C$ and $Ac3$ for a duration between 10 and 500 seconds by heating the said cold rolled steel sheet by a two step heating wherein:
 - o in step one of heating, the cold rolled steel sheet is heated at a heating rate between 10°C/s and 40°C/s to a temperature range between 550°C and 650°C;
 - o then in step two, the cold rolled steel sheet is heated at a heating rate between 1°C/s and 5°C/s from a temperature range between 550°C and 650°C to the annealing soaking temperature at which it is maintained,
- then cooling the cold rolled steel sheet in a two step cooling wherein:
 - o in step one of cooling, the cold rolled steel sheet is cooled at a cooling rate less 5°C/s to temperature range between 600°C and 720°C

- then in step two, the sheet is cooled at a cooling rate between 10°C/s to 100°C/s from a temperature range between 600°C and 720°C to an overaging temperature
- then the said cold rolled steel sheet is overaged at a temperature range between 250°C and 470°C during 5 to 500 seconds and
- then cooled to room temperature to obtain a cold rolled steel sheet.

14. A method according to claim 13, wherein the coiling temperature is below 600°C.

15. A method according to claim 13 or 14, wherein the finishing rolling temperature is between $Ac1+50^{\circ}C$ and $Ac1+200^{\circ}C$.

16. A method according to anyone of claims 13 to 15, wherein the cooling rate after annealing is less than 3°C/s in the temperature range between 625°C and 720°C.

17. A method of production of a cold rolled steel sheet as claimed in anyone of claims 13 to 16 wherein the cold rolled steel sheet is annealed between $Ac1+30^{\circ}C$ and $Ac3$ and temperature of annealing is selected so as to ensure the presence of at least 30% of austenite at the end of the soaking.

18. A method of production of a cold rolled steel sheet as claimed in anyone of claims 13 to 17 wherein the cold rolled steel sheet can be coated a temperature range between 400°C and 480°C.

19. Use of a steel sheet according to anyone of claims 1 to 12 or of a steel sheet produced according to the method of claims 13 to 18, for the manufacture of structural or safety parts of a vehicle.

20. Vehicle comprising a part obtained according to claim 19.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/IB2019/057795

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. C21D8/02 C21D9/46 C22C38/02 C22C38/04 C22C38/06
ADD.

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)

C21D 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)

EPO-Internal, CHEM ABS Data, WPI Data

C. 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	WO 2018/115936 A1 (ARCELORMITTAL [LU]) 28 June 2018 (2018-06-28) claim 1; tables 1-5 -----	1-20
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A	WO 2017/108866 A1 (ARCELORMITTAL [LU]) 29 June 2017 (2017-06-29) claims 1-33; tables 1-5 ----- -/--	1-20



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"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

"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

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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