13. The method according to claim 12, wherein the mineral particles are provided in a suspension, wherein the workpiece is immersed in the suspension or wetted by the suspension before or during treatment.

14. The method according to claim 12 or 13, wherein the mineral particles are indented on the surface of the workpiece by means of an intender to fill pores or irregularities in the surface.

15. The method according to any of claims 12-14, wherein the minerals comprise at least one of the following components: serpentines and quartz.

16. The method according to any of claims 10 - 15, wherein the minerals comprise at least one of the group consisting of: optical quartz, SiO<sub>2</sub> + Fe, burned serpentine, calcined, Mg<sub>6</sub>[Si<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub>] (OH)<sub>8</sub>, Eudialyt, Na<sub>12</sub>Ca<sub>6</sub>Zr<sub>3</sub> [Si<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>] [Si<sub>9</sub> O<sub>24</sub>(OH)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>2</sub>, baddeleyite, monoclinic ZrO<sub>2</sub>, zirconia, fused zirconia, crushed, sieved and/or milled to micrometer or nanometer size, zirconia further stabilized by MgO and/or CaO and/or Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, titanomagnetite.

17. A device for treating of a surface of a metallic workpiece, preferably according to any of the method as claimed in the preceding claims, the device comprises:

an electrode for electro-spark treating the surface of the workpiece, wherein material the workpiece is ferritic, perlitic and/or austenitic steel and the method creates a thin layer with martensitic microstructures at the surface of the workpiece.

18. The device according to claim 17, further comprising at least one of tools N1 to N3 for densification treatment and/or mineral doping treatment as claimed in the preceding method claims.

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To. **The Controller of Patents**The Patent Office at **New Delhi**