

## Poisoning of vanadia based SCR catalysts by potassium:influence of catalyst composition and potassium mobility - DTU Orbit (08/11/2017)

### Poisoning of vanadia based SCR catalysts by potassium:influence of catalyst composition and potassium mobility

The deactivation of  $V_2O_5$ -( $WO_3$ )/ $TiO_2$  catalysts for selective catalytic reduction (SCR) of  $NO_x$  upon exposure to aerosols of KCl or  $K_2SO_4$ , at different temperatures, has been studied. All samples exposed for more than 240 hours lost a substantial fraction of their initial activity although lower exposure temperatures slowdown the deactivation.  $K_2SO_4$  causes a lower rate of deactivation compared to KCl. This may be related to a faster transfer of potassium from the solid KCl matrix to the catalyst, however, it cannot be ruled out to also be caused by a significantly larger particle size of the  $K_2SO_4$  aerosol (mass based distribution mode: 1.3  $\mu m$ ) compared to that of the KCl aerosol (mass based distribution mode: 0.12  $\mu m$ ). The relative activities of exposed catalysts indicate that promotion with  $WO_3$  accelerates the deactivation, likely due to the enhanced Brønsted acidity which appears to promote the transport of potassium. Using a newly developed experimental protocol consisting of two-layer pellets of SCR catalysts, where one side is impregnated with KCl or  $K_2SO_4$ , the potassium transport in such systems, which is assumed to take place through reaction and diffusion over acid sites, was investigated. SEM-WDS measurements on pellets heat treated at 350 °C show that potassium bound in KCl readily leaves its counter ion and thus moves faster into the catalyst compared to potassium from  $K_2SO_4$ , which is in agreement with results from the aerosol exposures.

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