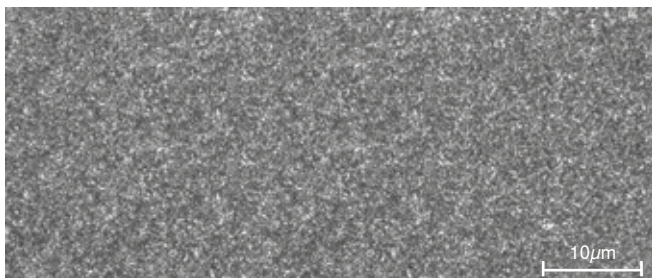


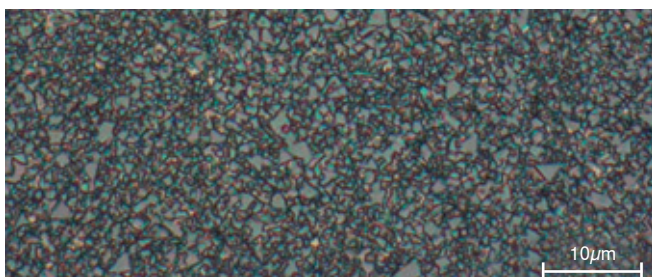
The graphic illustrations below show that the mechanical properties of the carbide mainly depend on the binder content (Co) and the TC grain size. Hardness, i.e. wear resistance, increases inversely proportional to the fracture toughness. This means that the harder the material the more it reacts to notch tensions and impact stress (the 'impact resistance' parameter, which cannot be precisely defined, correlates with the fracture toughness of the material).

On the other hand, the transverse rupture strength does not directly depend on the hardness but rather on the TC grain size and the cobalt content. The adhesive wear (tendency to

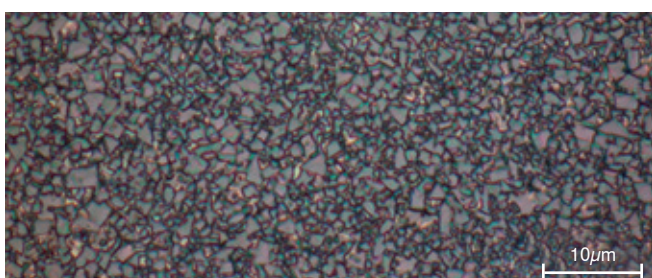
stick), however, decreases with the grain size and the cobalt content of the carbide used. The list of the mentioned interdependencies, which could be extended at will for other wear and failure mechanisms, show that it is only possible to choose the correct carbide grade following a systematic procedure and/or based on experience with similar applications.



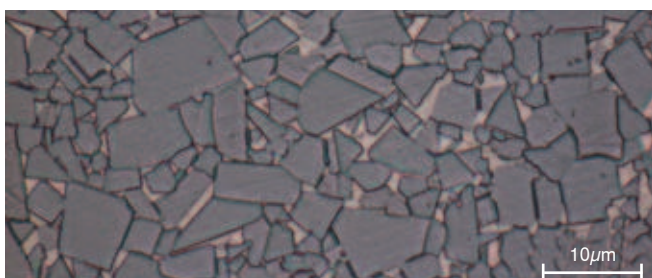
Ultrafine grades



Submicron grain



Fine / medium grain



Coarse grain

