**NICKEL CATALYSTS FOR HYDROGEN GENERATION** Gitana Valeckytė<sup>1</sup>, Zita Sukackienė<sup>1</sup>, Virginija Kepenienė<sup>1</sup>, Irena Stalnionienė<sup>1</sup>, Vitalija Jasulaitienė<sup>1</sup>, Jūratė Vaičiūnienė<sup>1</sup>, Loreta Tamašauskaitė Tamašiūnaitė<sup>1</sup>, Giedrius Stalnionis<sup>1</sup>, Eugenijus Norkus<sup>1</sup>

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During this work, Ni/Cu, NiCo/Cu, NiMn/Cu, NiCoMn/Cu catalysts were formed using the chemical method of metal deposition. The surface morphology, internal structure and chemical composition of the obtained catalysts were analyzed using field emission scanning electron microscopy, X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy and induced plasma optical emission spectroscopy. It was determined that the prepared coating particles consist of oval-shaped agglomerates with a size of 40 nm to 1.6 µm. The studies of the composition of the catalysts showed that the Ni loading ranges from 59.75 to 475.15  $\mu g/cm^2$ , Co – 549.5 to 614  $\mu g/cm^2$ , Mn – 0.06 to 0.745  $\mu g/cm^2$ . The catalytic properties of the formed catalysts for sodium borohydride hydrolysis reaction were investigated. The two-component NiCo coating was characterized by the highest catalytic activity. It was determined of this catalyst an activation energy of 56.4 kJ/mol and an H<sub>2</sub> evolution rate of 1.24 ml/min at 30 °C and 14.59 ml/min at 70 °C.