Effect of alloying elements on hardness after nitriding. In steels containing several alloying elements, higher hardness values are obtainable than if alloying elements are used separately. Base alloy: 0.35% C, 0.30% Si, 0.70% Mn. Source: Practical Nitriding and Ferritic Nitrocarburizing, David Pye, ASM International, 2003, p 127