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BSI Standards Publication

**Anodizing of aluminium and its alloys —  
Instrumental determination of image clarity of  
anodic oxidation coatings — Instrumental method**

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## National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of ISO 10216:2017. It supersedes BS ISO 10216:2010 which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee STI/33, Electrodeposited and related coatings.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

© The British Standards Institution 2017  
Published by BSI Standards Limited 2017

ISBN 978 0 580 92452 1

ICS 25.220.20

**Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.**

This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 31 October 2017.

### Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
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Third edition  
2017-10-15

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## **Anodizing of aluminium and its alloys — Instrumental determination of image clarity of anodic oxidation coatings — Instrumental method**

*Anodisation de l'aluminium et de ses alliages — Détermination de la netteté d'image sur couches anodiques — Méthode instrumentale*



Reference number  
ISO 10216:2017(E)

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 79, *Light metals and their alloys*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Organic and anodic oxidation coatings on aluminium*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 10216:2010 ), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- the tolerance of the width of the slit has been revised;
- the figures have been revised;
- a combed sliding shutter figure has been added;
- information about the test specimen has been added.

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## Introduction

Estimation of the image clarity of anodic oxidation coatings on aluminium and its alloys is normally carried out visually by observing the clearness of an image on the surface. However, the image can be observed at various angles and be confused with the gloss level of a surface, and while the degree of image clarity is mainly influenced by the clearness of the coating, it is also affected by image distortion caused by surface irregularities and the haziness of the coating layer. Standardized methods of determining image clarity are therefore required.

This document specifies the use of an instrumental method for measuring image clarity using an optical comb. A related document, ISO 10215, specifies the use of a chart scale also based on an optical comb together with a lightness scale to rank image clarity.

**NOTE** This instrumental method provides more accurate measurements of image clarity than visual evaluation and can be used in cases of dispute.

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# Anodizing of aluminium and its alloys — Instrumental determination of image clarity of anodic oxidation coatings — Instrumental method

## 1 Scope

This document specifies an instrumental method for determining the image clarity of anodic oxidation coatings on aluminium and its alloys by measuring reflection from the surface with the help of a sliding combed shutter.

The test can only be applied to a flat surface which can reflect the image onto the limited combed shutter and photo-receiver. This method can also be used to measure the optical evenness of anodic oxidation coatings on aluminium and its alloys.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 7583, *Anodizing of aluminium and its alloys — Terms and definitions*

ISO 7668, *Anodizing of aluminium and its alloys — Measurement of specular reflectance and specular gloss of anodic oxidation coatings at angles of 20°, 45°, 60° or 85°*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 7583 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

### 3.1

#### image clarity

$C_n$

ability of the surface of an anodic oxidation coating to produce a clear image of an object facing the surface

Note 1 to entry: Image clarity is expressed as a percentage.

### 3.2

#### optical evenness

$E$

degree of evenness (surface irregularities) given by the ratio of the longitudinal and transverse values of the *image clarity* (3.1)

### 3.3

#### dispersion of light

$D$

degree of dispersion of reflected light by the test specimen