Paints and varnishes — Corrosion protection of steel structures by protective paint systems —

Part 4: Types of surface and surface preparation

Peintures et vernis — Anticorrosion des structures en acier par systèmes de peinture —
Partie 4: Types de surface et de préparation de surface
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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 35, Paints and varnishes, Subcommittee SC 14, Protective paint systems for steel structures.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 12944-4:1998), which has been technically revised.

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

— the terms and definitions which were not used in the main part of the standard have been deleted;
— the normative references have been updated;
— 5.6 “Surfaces with chemical treatment” has been included;
— 6.2.8 “Chemical treatment” has been included;
— Annex C has been restructured to contain two tables for distinction between “extraneous layers and foreign matter” and “native layers and contaminants”;
— the bibliography has been updated;
— the text has been editorially revised.

A list of all parts in the ISO 12944 series can be found on the ISO website.
Introduction

Unprotected steel in the atmosphere, in water and in soil is subjected to corrosion that can lead to damage. Therefore, to avoid corrosion damage, steel structures are normally protected to withstand the corrosion stresses to which they will be subjected during the service life required of the structure.

There are different ways of protecting steel structures from corrosion. ISO 12944 (all parts) deals with protection by paint systems and covers, in the various parts, all features that are important in achieving adequate corrosion protection. Additional or other measures are possible but require particular agreement between the interested parties.

In order to ensure effective corrosion protection of steel structures, owners of such structures, planners, consultants, companies carrying out corrosion protection work, inspectors of protective coatings and manufacturers of coating materials need to have at their disposal state-of-the-art information in concise form on corrosion protection by paint systems. It is vital that such information is as complete as possible, unambiguous and easily understandable to avoid difficulties and misunderstandings between the parties concerned with the practical implementation of protection work.

ISO 12944 (all parts) is intended to give this information in the form of a series of instructions. It is written for those who have some technical knowledge. It is also assumed that the user of ISO 12944 (all parts) is familiar with other relevant International Standards, in particular those dealing with surface preparation.

Although ISO 12944 (all parts) does not deal with financial and contractual questions, attention is drawn to the fact that, because of the considerable implications of inadequate corrosion protection, non-compliance with requirements and recommendations given in ISO 12944 (all parts) can result in serious financial consequences.

ISO 12944-1 defines the overall scope of ISO 12944. It gives some basic terms and definitions and a general introduction to the other parts of ISO 12944. Furthermore, it includes a general statement on health, safety and environmental protection, and guidelines for using ISO 12944 (all parts) for a given project.

This document describes the different types of surface to be protected and gives information on surface preparation methods such as chemical and mechanical cleaning. It deals with surface preparation grades, surface profile (roughness), assessment of prepared surfaces, temporary protection of prepared surfaces, preparation of temporarily protected surfaces for further coatings, preparation of existing metal coatings, and environmental aspects. As far as possible, reference is made to the basic International Standards on the surface preparation of steel substrates before application of paints and related products.