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Second edition
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Metallic and other inorganic coatings — Electropolishing as a means of smoothing and passivating stainless steel

Revêtements métalliques et autres revêtements inorganiques — Polissage électrolytique comme procédé de lissage et de passivation des aciers inoxydables



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Foreword

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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 document 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).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 107, *Metallic and other inorganic coatings*, Subcommittee SC 8, *Chemical conversion coatings*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 262, *Metallic and other inorganic coatings*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 15730:2000), of which it constitutes a minor revision.

The main changes are as follows:

- the normative references, and the terms and definitions have been updated;
- editorial errors have been corrected.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

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Introduction

Electropolishing removes a small but finite amount of metal from the surface that, in addition to smoothing and brightening, produces a hygienically clean surface desirable for use by manufacturers of food processing and medical equipment.

In addition to improved passivation, electropolishing provides many other benefits. Some examples are surface stress relief, removal of surface carbon and oxides and reduction of friction. Hydrogen embrittlement of articles is not produced during the electropolishing process, which takes minutes to perform.

The quality of passivation depends on the type of stainless steel, the formulation of the electropolishing solution and the conditions of operation. Free iron on the surface of the stainless steel is removed resulting in improved corrosion resistance. No further chemical treatment is necessary in order to passivate the stainless steel surface. Surface smoothing obtained by electropolishing also improves passivation.