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Micrographics — Inspection of silver-gelatin microforms for evidence of deterioration

Micrographie — Inspection des microformes en argent-gélatine pour mise en évidence de détérioration

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Foreword

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ISO/TR 12031 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 171, *Document imaging applications*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Quality*.

Introduction

The purpose of this Technical Report is to provide a uniform method of selecting and inspecting silver-gelatin microforms for evidence of deterioration. Improper processing, handling, and storage conditions have long been known to promote biological attack and various other kinds of image degradation. Examination of some large collections of microfilmed records within the last decade has revealed a number of instances of spot blemishes. This may be influenced by the number of years and by the number of different processing conditions used. These instances serve to focus attention on the fact that, although film may be processed and stored in the best available conditions, the only assurance that such records are being well maintained is a systematic programme of careful inspection. Silver-gelatin microforms which have been manufactured, exposed, developed, and stored according to existing standards and which have a long life expectancy may not require extensive inspection.