

**ANODIZING TYPE DECISION TREE**

<b>Architectural anodizing</b>							
Anodizing to produce an architectural finish to be used in permanent, exterior and static situations where both appearance and long life are important. This may be applied to other products that are used in other outdoor applications where both appearance and long life are important, eg automotive ones. Coating thickness, sealing quality and anodizing quality are particularly important.							
<b>Industrial anodizing</b>							
Anodizing to produce a coating where wear resistance is important but protection of the finish or against corrosion of the aluminium substrate might also be required. Coating thickness, sealing quality, wear resistance and sometimes final dimensional tolerances are particularly important.							
<b>Decorative anodizing</b>							
Anodizing to produce a decorative finish with a uniform or aesthetically pleasing appearance as the primary characteristic. Sealing quality and light reflection properties are particularly important.							
<b>Hard anodizing</b>							
Anodizing to produce a coating where high wear resistance or microhardness is its primary characteristic. Coating thickness, wear resistance and sometimes final dimensional tolerances are particularly important.							
<b>Is the primary characteristic of the product.....</b>		<b>Anodizing type</b>	<b>Is the secondary characteristic of the product.....</b>		<b>Anodizing type</b>	<b>Is the tertiary characteristic of the product.....</b>	<b>Anodizing type</b>
Appearance and the long term preservation of appearance outdoors? High quality appearance of the product which will be used close-up?	Yes Yes	Architectural Decorative					
Wear (abrasion) resistance or microhardness?	Yes	Industrial or hard	Wear (abrasion) resistance or microhardness? Protection against corrosion of the aluminium substrate? Lubricity by impregnation into the unsealed coating? Electrical breakdown (insulation)? Appearance?	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes	Hard Industrial (sealed) Hard Hard Industrial (sealed)		
Protection against corrosion of the aluminium substrate?	Yes	Architectural or industrial	Is the product an aluminium alloy that is effectively resistant to pitting corrosion, such as those used in building applications?	Yes No	Architectural Industrial		
Light reflection properties?	Yes	Decorative					
Light fastness? Resistance to ultraviolet radiation and heat?	Yes	Architectural or decorative	Appearance and the long term preservation of appearance outdoors?	Yes No Yes	Architectural Decorative Architectural		
Resistance to cracking by deformation? (Material that is deformed after anodizing such as rolled products)	Yes	Architectural, industrial or decorative	Appearance and the long term preservation of appearance outdoors? High quality appearance of the product which will be used close-up?	No Yes No	Decorative or industrial Decorative Industrial	High quality appearance of the product which will be used close-up?	Yes No Decorative Industrial
Coating continuity (Anodized material that has been deformed such as that produced by coil anodizing or material anodized to less than 5 µm)	Yes	Architectural, industrial or decorative	Appearance and the long term preservation of appearance outdoors? High quality appearance of the product which will be used close-up?	Yes No Yes No	Architectural Decorative or industrial Decorative Industrial	High quality appearance of the product which will be used close-up?	Yes No Decorative Industrial
Thermal craze resistance	Yes	Decorative					