



Preliminary information for anodisers interested in the QUALANOD label



PROCEDURE FOR GRANTING A LICENCE TO ANODISERS

In order to obtain a licence to use the quality label each production plant shall conform to the following requirements:

a) Laboratory.

The anodising plant shall have laboratory facilities in which product and process controls as stipulated in the Specifications can be carried out. Each apparatus shall have an identification number. The following apparatus are required depending on the type of anodizing:

a.1 Instrument for measuring thickness.

The plant shall have at least two instruments to check the thickness using the eddy current method or one instrument for the eddy current method and one split-beam optical microscope.

a.2 Evaluation of the sealing quality.

a.2.1. Dye spot test (ISO 2143)

- Solution for the execution of the dye spot test.

a.2.1. Admittance (ISO 2931)

At least one instrument for measuring the admittance and a reference unit for checking the reading accuracy of the device.

Exception: *This instrument is not necessary if the plant only uses cold sealing.*

a.2.2. Mass loss test (ISO 3210)

- Analytical balance (precision 0.1 mg)
- Drying oven
- Desiccator
- Heating device
- Means of agitating the solution
- Chemical products

a.3 Materials for the surface abrasion resistance test (for coatings of class AA20 or thicker).

- Validated glass-coated abrasive paper to execute the control of the surface abrasion resistance (subclause 9.6).

a.4 Instruments for monitoring the baths.

At least one pH-meter and a minimum of two buffer solutions for calibration.

Furthermore it is important to know that

- The thickness class or thickness grade of the anodic coating should be specified by the customer. National standards, subclause 11.3 and the definition "significant surface" given in ISO 7583 serve as the criteria.
- The anodiser should have a system of in-house control as stipulated in the appendices of the Specifications.
- Where the anodiser works with a cold sealing solution it is necessary that the anodising line works with a second stage of treatment (see the appendices of the Specifications). Further details are available in the subclause 11.6.

HOW TO GET A QUALANOD LABEL

If the anodiser is working as prescribed he shall submit a written request (QCF) to a general licensee which can be a national association or, for countries without a national association, to QUALANOD.

The general licensee or QUALANOD may request more details and/or, if requested by the applicant, organise a visit to the plant (to be paid for by the applicant) and will also designate the testing institute responsible for the laboratory tests and inspections.

The applicant may also ask for a preliminary visit. The results of this preliminary visit cannot be used for granting a licence.

The applicant and the general licensee agree the licensable products for which the anodizing plant seeks to use the label.

For each licensable product, two inspections, carried out by qualified technical experts, which produce positive results are necessary for granting a licence for that type of anodizing. The date of the first inspection is agreed to ensure the presence of the responsible persons of the plant. If the results are positive a second inspection without prior notice is carried out.

During the inspection the inspector checks the conformity of products and processes including the instruments of the laboratory and the in-house control.

At the end of each inspection a report shall be produced in which possible nonconformities or remarks are listed and which will be the basis for the evaluation of the visit. Later, the inspection report for the visit with the final assessment is disseminated.

The QUALANOD licence certificates are prepared by the secretariat in Zurich. These certificates are recognised worldwide without further confirmation.

Renewal of the licence

The plant is inspected at least two times per year without prior notice and in accordance with the Specifications to check whether the requirements stipulated in the QUALANOD Specifications are respected.

**IN THE CASE OF DOUBT THE QUALANOD SECRETARIAT IS AVAILABLE FOR ANY
FURTHER INFORMATION.**

APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO USE THE QUALITY LABEL

To be sent to QUALANOD, P.O. Box 1507, CH-8027 Zürich

Name and address of the company headquarters Phone number Fax number
Address of the plant (if not the same as the headquarters) Phone number Fax number
TYPE OF PRODUCTS Architectural anodizing <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial anodizing <input type="checkbox"/> Decorative anodizing <input type="checkbox"/> Hard anodizing <input type="checkbox"/>
Name and position of the person responsible for quality

It is also stated that:

- The applicant is aware of the content of the technical Specifications.
- The applicant is aware of the content of the sublicense contract and the Regulations for the use of the quality label (clause 7).
- The plant has all the equipment for control of the products and that equipment is operational according to the reference standards or to the Specifications, and is available so that the designated inspector from the testing institute may carry out inspections without prior notice.
- The applicant is aware of the "Scale of Contribution".

DATE

STAMP OF THE COMPANY