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**Zinc coatings — Guidelines and  
recommendations for the protection  
against corrosion of iron and steel in  
structures —**

**Part 2:  
Hot dip galvanizing**

*Revêtements de zinc — Lignes directrices et recommandations  
pour la protection contre la corrosion du fer et de l'acier dans les  
constructions —*

*Partie 2: Galvanisation à chaud*

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ISO copyright office  
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8  
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva  
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11  
Fax: +41 22 749 09 47  
Email: [copyright@iso.org](mailto:copyright@iso.org)  
Website: [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

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 documents 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](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 107, *Metallic and other inorganic coatings*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Hot dip coatings (galvanized, etc.)*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 14713-2:2009), which has been technically revised. The main changes compared with the previous edition are as follows:

- minor technical changes have been made and two new notes have been added to [Table 1](#);
- improvements have been made to the clarity of recommendations throughout [Clause 6](#);
- extensive revisions have been made to the figures in [Annex A](#);
- [Tables A.1, A.2](#) and [A.3](#) have been added in [Annex A](#).

A list of all parts in the ISO 14713 series can be found on the ISO website.

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](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

## Introduction

The protection afforded by the hot dip galvanized coating to the article will depend upon the method of application of the coating, the design of the article and the specific environment to which the article is exposed. The hot dip galvanized article can be further protected by the application of additional coatings (outside the scope of this document), such as organic coatings (paints or powder coatings). When applied to hot dip galvanized articles, this combination of coatings is often known as a “duplex system”.

Specific product-related requirements, for which specific standards could exist (e.g. for hot dip galvanized coatings on tubes or fasteners), take precedence over these general recommendations.

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# Zinc coatings — Guidelines and recommendations for the protection against corrosion of iron and steel in structures —

## Part 2: Hot dip galvanizing

### 1 Scope

This document gives guidelines and recommendations for the general principles of design appropriate to articles to be hot dip galvanized after fabrication (e.g. in accordance with ISO 1461) for the corrosion protection of, for example, articles that have been manufactured in accordance with EN 1090-2.

This document does not apply to hot dip galvanized coatings applied to continuous wire or sheet (e.g. to EN 10346).

### 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 8044, *Corrosion of metals and alloys — Basic terms and definitions*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 8044 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

#### 3.1

##### **hot dip galvanizing**

formation of a coating of zinc and/or zinc-iron alloys on iron and steel products by dipping prepared steel or cast irons in the zinc melt

#### 3.2

##### **hot dip galvanized coating**

coating obtained by *hot dip galvanizing* (3.1)

Note 1 to entry: The term “hot dip galvanized coating” is subsequently referred to as the “coating”.

#### 3.3

##### **duplex system**

*hot dip galvanized coating* (3.2) with an additional paint or powder coating

## 4 Design for hot dip galvanizing

### 4.1 General

It is essential that the design of any article required to be galvanized should take into account not only the function of the article and its method of manufacture, but also the limitations imposed by the finish. [Annex A](#) illustrates some of the important design features, some of which are specific to hot dip galvanizing.

Some internal stresses in the articles to be galvanized will be relieved during the hot dip galvanizing process and this can cause deformation or damage to the coated article. These internal stresses arise from the finishing operations at the fabrication stage, such as cold forming, welding, oxy-cutting or drilling, and from the residual stresses inherited from the rolling mill.

The purchaser should seek the advice of the galvanizer before designing or making a product that is subsequently to be hot dip galvanized, as it can be necessary to adapt the construction of the article for the hot dip galvanizing process.

### 4.2 Surface preparation

The design and the materials used should permit good surface preparation. This is essential for the production of a high-quality coating (see [6.4](#)).

Graphite exposed at the surface of iron castings interferes with wetting by molten metal and those castings that have been annealed can have silica particles in the surface layers that have to be removed in order to obtain a good-quality coating. Grit blasting is recommended both before and after annealing.

### 4.3 Procedures related to design considerations

The hot dip bath and associated plant should be of adequate capacity to process the articles to be hot dip coated with zinc. Preferably, articles should be designed to enable coating in a single dipping operation. Articles that are too large for the available baths may be partially immersed and then reversed for length or depth, so that a complete coating is obtained. Partial immersion (and then dipping for a second time to complete the coating) is less common than the single, complete immersion operation.

All work is secured during immersion in the baths. Arrangements for lifting and handling should be made before articles are delivered to the galvanizer. When necessary, the customer should consult the galvanizer and advise of any limitations (e.g. on the use of existing holes). Lifting lugs are often incorporated to assist general handling.

Articles may be held in racks or jigs. Some contact marks can be visible after hot dip galvanizing in such cases. The dipping operation involves vertical movement out of the bath, but the parts being withdrawn may be inclined at an angle.

The processing sequence requires the circulation of air, pretreatment liquids and zinc to all surfaces of the article. Air pockets prevent local surface preparation and give uncoated surfaces. Liquids in enclosed air vaporize at the hot dip galvanizing temperature of about 450 °C and the force generated can cause buckling or explosions. Excess zinc can adhere poorly, can look unattractive and is wasteful.

Suitable articles, e.g. heat exchangers and gas cylinders, can, if required, be hot dip galvanized on the outside only. This involves special techniques and equipment (e.g. to push the article into the bath against the buoyancy of the molten zinc) and a specialist galvanizer should be consulted in advance.

Hot dip galvanizing of hollow sections ensures protection of both internal and external surfaces. Small amounts of trapped zinc ash can be unavoidable within hollow sections and, for certain shapes and designs, cannot be removed.



#### 4.4 Design features

Preferred design features for articles to be hot dip galvanized are shown in [Annex A](#).

**WARNING — It is essential that sealed compartments be avoided or be vented, otherwise there is a serious risk of explosion that could cause serious injury to operators. This aspect of design shall be given careful consideration and is essential in order to maintain satisfactory standards of health and safety for operators.**

In addition to provision for venting and draining of tubular fabrications, holes also allow a coating to be formed on the inside surfaces and therefore ensure better protection for the article. Occasionally, at sufficiently high levels of residual stress in the article, stress relief can occur at the hot dip galvanizing temperature. This is one of the main causes of unexpected distortion or cracking of the steel article. Symmetrical sections are preferred and, as far as possible, large variations in thickness or cross-section, e.g. thin sheet welded to thick angles, should be avoided. Welding and fabrication techniques should be chosen to minimize the introduction of unbalanced stresses. Differential thermal expansion should be minimized during welding and processing. Heat treatment can be desirable before hot dip galvanizing.

The purchaser should discuss with the galvanizer the requirements for coating and assembly of fabricated articles before galvanizing. Compact sub-assemblies (which occupy minimum bath space) are the most economical to galvanize. Welding is preferable before hot dip galvanizing, to ensure a continuous hot dip galvanized coating over the weld.

Articles should be designed so as to assist the access and drainage of molten metal and so that air locks are avoided. A smooth profile, avoiding unnecessary edges and corners, assists hot dip galvanizing. This, combined with bolting after galvanizing, improves long-term corrosion resistance.

Holes that are necessary in structures for the hot dip galvanizing process are preferably made before assembly and by cutting or grinding off corners of sections; this facilitates the absence of “pockets” in which excess molten zinc can solidify. When already assembled, burning could be the optimum method of producing holes, as the space available for drilling may not allow the hole to be close enough to the edge or corners.

Internal venting of hollow sections should be avoided. If internal venting is unavoidable, it should be agreed in advance with the galvanizer [see also ISO 1461:2009, A.2, e)] and the customer should ensure that:

- a) the holes are of maximum possible size;
- b) provision for internal venting is adequately documented (e.g. by photography) before assembly.

#### 4.5 Tolerances

The thickness of the coating is determined mainly by the nature and thickness of the steel. On mating surfaces and at holes, extra tolerance should be provided to allow for the thickness of the coating metal. For coatings on flat surfaces, an allowance of at least 1 mm has been found satisfactory. See ISO 1461 for definitions of significant surfaces and acceptance criteria for the coating. For threaded work, for example, for hot dip galvanized and centrifuged nuts and bolts, current practices differ according to the country. See [7.1](#).

### 5 Design for storage and transport

Hot dip galvanized articles should be stacked securely so that the articles can be handled, stored and transported safely.

Where there is a specific need to minimize the development of wet-storage staining (primarily basic zinc oxide and zinc hydroxide, formed on the surface of the galvanized coating during storage of articles in humid conditions), this should be communicated by the purchaser to the galvanizer at the time of ordering and any relevant control measures should be agreed upon.

Such measures can include, for example, storage of articles such that free movement of air across the surfaces of the article is allowed, the use of spacers to minimize contact areas on the work, chemical post-treatment or avoidance of close nesting of work (where the design allows this). Shrink wrapping can lead to water retention within the articles and subsequent wet-storage staining.

In accordance with ISO 1461, the presence of wet-storage staining is not a cause for rejection, provided the coating thickness remains above the specified minimum requirements at the time of acceptance inspection.

## 6 Effect of article condition on quality of hot dip galvanizing

### 6.1 General

Most steels can be hot dip galvanized in accordance with ISO 1461. This includes unalloyed carbon steels (see, e.g., EN 10025-2), fine-grained steels (see, e.g., EN 10025-3 and EN 10025-4), quenched and tempered steels, hollow sections that are hot finished (see, e.g., EN 10210-1), hollow sections that are cold finished (see, e.g., EN 10219-1), reinforcement steels (see, e.g., EN 10080 and EN 10348-2), fastener grade steels [see, e.g., ISO 898 (all parts)], grey cast iron (see, e.g., EN 1561) and malleable cast iron (see, e.g., EN 1562). Where other ferrous metals are to be galvanized, adequate information or samples should be provided by the purchaser for the galvanizer to decide whether these steels can be satisfactorily galvanized. Sulfur-containing free-cutting steels are normally unsuitable. Stainless steels are unsuitable.

### 6.2 Material composition

Certain elements, in particular silicon (Si) and phosphorus (P), in the steel surface can affect hot dip galvanizing by prolonging the reaction between iron and molten zinc. Therefore, certain steel compositions can achieve more consistent coatings with regard to appearance, thickness and smoothness. The prior history of the steel (e.g. whether hot rolled or cold rolled) can also affect its reaction with molten zinc. Where aesthetics are important or where particular coating thickness or surface smoothness criteria exist, specialist advice on steel selection should be sought prior to fabrication of the article or hot dip galvanizing.

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**Table 1** gives simplified guidance on steel compositions that are associated with certain typical coating characteristics when galvanizing is carried out at temperatures of 440 °C to 460 °C.