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**Anodizing of aluminium and its  
alloys — Visual determination of  
image clarity of anodic oxidation  
coatings — Chart scale method**

*Anodisation de l'aluminium et de ses alliages — Détermination de  
la netteté d'image sur couches anodiques — Méthode des échelles  
graduées*

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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)).

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For an explanation on 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 the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 79, *Light metals and their alloys*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Organic and anodic oxidation coatings on aluminium*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 10215:2010), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- the normative reference of ISO/TR 8125 has been deleted since it has been withdrawn;
- ISO/TR 8125:1984, Table 2 has been added as [Table 2](#);
- the specification of the test specimen has been revised.

## Introduction

Estimation of the image clarity of anodic oxidation coatings on aluminium and its alloys is normally carried out visually by observing the clearness of an image on the surface. However, the image can be observed at various angles and can be confused with the gloss level of a surface; and while the degree of image clarity is mainly influenced by the clearness of the coating, it is also affected by image distortion caused by surface irregularities and the haziness of the coating layer. Standardized methods of determining image clarity are therefore required.

This document specifies the use of a chart scale based on optical combs, together with a lightness scale to rank image clarity, and has been found to give good correlation with visual evaluation. A related document, ISO 10216, specifies an instrumental method of measuring image clarity, also by using optical combs. The instrumental method provides a more accurate measurement of image clarity than visual evaluation and should be used in cases of dispute.

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