



**International  
Standard**

**ISO 11997-1**

**Paints and varnishes —  
Determination of resistance to  
cyclic corrosion conditions —**

**Part 1:  
Wet (salt fog)/dry/humid**

*Peintures et vernis — Détermination de la résistance aux  
conditions de corrosion cyclique —*

*Partie 1: Brouillard salin/sécheresse/humidité*

**Fourth edition  
2026-05**

# Sample Document

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

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# Contents

	Page
<b>Foreword</b> .....	<b>iv</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>v</b>
<b>1 Scope</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Normative references</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>4 Principle</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>5 Salt fog test solution</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>6 Apparatus</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>7 Sampling</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>8 Test panels</b> .....	<b>4</b>
8.1 Material and dimensions.....	4
8.2 Preparation and coating of panels.....	4
8.3 Drying and conditioning.....	4
8.4 Thickness of coating.....	4
8.5 Preparation of scribe.....	5
<b>9 Method of exposure of test panels and other test components</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>10 Operating conditions</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>11 Procedure</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>12 Examination of test panels</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>13 Precision</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>14 Test report</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>Annex A (normative) Cycle A</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>Annex B (normative) Cycle B</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Annex C (normative) Cycle C</b> .....	<b>12</b>
<b>Annex D (normative) Cycle D</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>Annex E (informative) Considerations in the design and construction of salt spray cabinets</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>Bibliography</b> .....	<b>16</b>

## 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 document 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)).

ISO draws attention to the possibility that the implementation of this document may involve the use of (a) patent(s). ISO takes no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of any claimed patent rights in respect thereof. As of the date of publication of this document, ISO had not received notice of (a) patent(s) which may be required to implement this document. However, implementers are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information, which may be obtained from the patent database available at [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents). ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

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 35, *Paints and varnishes*, Subcommittee SC 9, *General test methods for paints and varnishes*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 139, *Paints and varnishes*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 11997-1:2017), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- the general warning and warnings for each chemical material have been added;
- a figure illustrating the scribe has been added to [8.5](#);
- the dry air supply for cycle C has been revised;
- guidance for salt spray humidification has been added;
- the normative references have been updated.

A list of all parts in the ISO 11997 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

Coatings of paints, varnishes and similar materials are exposed to one of four cycles of wet and dry conditions specified in this document (see [Annexes A, B, C and D](#)), using specified salt solutions in a cabinet in order to simulate, in the laboratory, processes occurring in aggressive outdoor conditions, such as marine environments. Generally, correlation between such outdoor weathering and laboratory testing cannot be expected because of the large number of factors influencing the breakdown process. Correlation can only be expected if the effect on the coating of important parameters (e.g. the nature of the pollutant, the spectral distribution of the incident irradiance in the relevant photochemical region, the temperature of the specimen, the type and cycle of wetting and relative humidity) is known. In contrast to outdoor weathering, laboratory testing in a cabinet is performed with a reduced number of variables which can be controlled, and therefore the effects are more reproducible. The method described can also give a means of checking that the quality of a paint or paint system is being maintained.

The method has been found to be useful in comparing the cyclic salt spray resistance of different coatings. It is most useful in providing relevant ratings for a series of coated panels exhibiting significant differences in cyclic salt spray resistance.

The test cycles included in this document have been used successfully, with documented evidence, in the industry for the assessment of performance. The cycles can be summarized as follows.

- Cycle A (see [Annex A](#)): This cycle is specified in Japanese Automobile Standards JASO M 609-91 and JASO M 610-92.
- Cycle B (see [Annex B](#)): This cycle is identical to VDA 621-415 (1982-02) and is widely used in Europe. It has also been shown to give good correlation with natural weathering for thermosetting paints in vehicle corrosion.
- Cycle C (see [Annex C](#)): This cycle was developed in the United Kingdom for use with water-dilutable and latex paint systems and has been shown to give good correlation with natural weathering.
- Cycle D (see [Annex D](#)): This cycle is specified in Japanese Standard JIS K 5621-2003.

ISO 11997-2 describes a method for determining the cyclic corrosion resistance of paints which includes UV exposure as part of the cycle. It has been found to give good correlation with natural weathering for industrial maintenance coatings.

ISO 11997-3 describes a method based on a cyclic corrosion test for testing the corrosion protection of automobiles using coating systems on aluminium, steel or galvanized steel. The test method uses corrosive conditions (temperature and humidity ramps and salt spray) to create realistic corrosion patterns. These corrosion patterns are typical for automobiles, and they are comparable in the case of sufficiently similar protective coating systems.

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# Paints and varnishes — Determination of resistance to cyclic corrosion conditions —

## Part 1: Wet (salt fog)/dry/humid

### 1 Scope

This document specifies a method for the determination of the resistance of coatings to one of four defined cycles of wet (salt fog)/dry/humid conditions using specified solutions.

### 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 1513, *Paints and varnishes — Examination and preparation of test samples*

ISO 1514, *Paints and varnishes — Standard panels for testing*

ISO 2808, *Paints and varnishes — Determination of film thickness*

ISO 3270, *Paints and varnishes and their raw materials — Temperatures and humidities for conditioning and testing*

ISO 4618, *Paints and varnishes — Vocabulary*

ISO 4628-1, *Paints and varnishes — Evaluation of degradation of coatings — Designation of quantity and size of defects, and of intensity of uniform changes in appearance — Part 1: General introduction and designation system*

ISO 4628-2, *Paints and varnishes — Evaluation of degradation of coatings — Designation of quantity and size of defects, and of intensity of uniform changes in appearance — Part 2: Assessment of degree of blistering*

ISO 4628-3, *Paints and varnishes — Evaluation of quantity and size of defects, and of intensity of uniform changes in appearance — Part 3: Assessment of degree of rusting*

ISO 4628-4, *Paints and varnishes — Evaluation of degradation of coatings — Designation of quantity and size of defects, and of intensity of uniform changes in appearance — Part 4: Assessment of degree of cracking*

ISO 4628-5, *Paints and varnishes — Evaluation of quantity and size of defects, and of intensity of uniform changes in appearance — Part 5: Assessment of degree of flaking*

ISO 4628-8, *Paints and varnishes — Evaluation of degradation of coatings — Designation of quantity and size of defects, and of intensity of uniform changes in appearance — Part 8: Assessment of degree of delamination and corrosion around a scribe or other artificial defect*

ISO 4628-10, *Paints and varnishes — Evaluation of quantity and size of defects, and of intensity of uniform changes in appearance — Part 10: Assessment of degree of filiform corrosion*

ISO 15528, *Paints, varnishes and raw materials for paints and varnishes — Sampling*