

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>SEASIDE</b>
<b>Proposal:</b>	<b>“Seaside” Working Group</b>
<b>QUALICOAT resolution:</b>	<b>Meeting in November 2006 (ratified on 21 June 2007)</b>
<b>Date of application:</b>	<b>July 2007</b>
<b>Amendments to the Specifications:</b>	<b>Sections 3.2.1, 5.1.8, 5.2 and 6.2.1</b>

### **3.2.1 Etching**

All pre-treatments for powder and liquid coatings must be preceded by an initial aluminium etching stage.

This etching stage consists of one or more steps, the last step preceding conversion coating always being an acid step.

Each step has an etching degree. The etching degree is measured by taking the weight of a test sample before and after etching. If a sample cannot be taken, the method used to measure the etching degree must be defined in agreement with the national association or directly with QUALICOAT in countries without a national association. Any new treatment line must be designed to allow sampling after each stage.

The etching degree is measured on sections of alloy AA6060 or AA6063.

An etching degree is not specified for rolled products or castings. Etching is optional for such products.

Two preliminary pre-treatments are defined:

- **Standard pre-treatment (compulsory)**

The etching degree obtained in all the etching steps together must be at least 1 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

- **SEASIDE pre-treatment**

- **Type A : simple acid etching**

The etching degree obtained in all the acid steps together must be at least 2 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

- **Type AA : dual etching (alkaline etching followed by acid etching)**

The etching degree obtained in the alkaline and acid steps together must be at least 2 g/m<sup>2</sup>. An etching degree of at least 0.5 g/m<sup>2</sup> must be obtained in each of the two steps.

- **Type OX : anodic pre-treatment**

As stipulated in section 3.2.3.

Coaters who wish to have the endorsement SEASIDE on their licence certificate must apply to their national association or directly to QUALICOAT in countries without a national association.

### **5.1.8 Final assessment for granting a licence**

The inspector submits the inspection report to the general licensee.

The inspection reports are assessed by the general licensee. Under the supervision of QUALICOAT, the general licensee decides whether or not to grant a licence.

- If the results of both inspections meet the requirements, a licence to use the quality label will be granted.

If the coater has applied for the endorsement SEASIDE and the test results comply with the specifications for SEASIDE pre-treatment as set out in section 3.2.1, the QUALICOAT certificate will state that the coater is able to produce coatings that meet the SEASIDE pre-treatment requirements.

- If the results of one of the two inspections do not meet the requirements, the coater will be informed that the licence to use the quality label cannot be granted for the time being, stating reasons. The coater must wait at least three months before making a new application for a licence.

## **5.2. Routine inspections of licensees**

Each licensed plant will be inspected at least twice but no more than five times a year. Routine inspections will be made without prior notice and must include:

- an inspection of materials
- an inspection of laboratory equipment
- an inspection of pre-treatment
- an inspection of finished products and test panels (an acetic acid salt spray test to be carried out at least once a year)
- a review of the registers
- The coating plant must check the accuracy of the oven's temperature indicator or have it checked at least twice a year. The results of this check are to be entered in a special register which is to be presented to the inspector when he makes the routine inspections.

### **Licences with the endorsement «SEASIDE»**

During the two annual inspections, the inspector will check compliance with the specifications for SEASIDE pre-treatment as set out in section 3.2.1 and review the in-house control results for pre-treatment. At least one inspection must be satisfactory during the validity period for which the certificate with the endorsement SEASIDE is held.

[...]

### **6.2.1 Testing the etching degree**

The degree of aluminium removal during etching must be measured at least once a week using the method described in section 3.2.1 on sections made of alloy AA 6060 or AA 6063.

If a licence has the endorsement «SEASIDE», the results obtained must meet the specifications for SEASIDE pre-treatment as set out in section 3.2.1.