

QUALITY STANDARD FOR

ECOFUSION[®]

GLASS COATINGS

ECOFUSION

1. SCOPE

This Standard specifies the quality requirements for the ECOFUSION[®] process for glass coating by vitreous enameling of panels intended for use in the construction of tanks for uses such as storage of moist whole grain or a mixture consisting wholly or mainly of excreta produced by livestock of a consistency that allows it to be pumped or discharged by gravity at any stage in the handling process.

This Standard applies to the enameling elements of the ECOFUSION[®] process, however, the quality criteria in Section 5.2 should apply to the tank as built. The ECOFUSION[®] glass coating has been developed with reference to International standard specifications for glass coatings on bolted steel panels for the construction of agricultural tanks for the storage of animal slurry above ground on farms, such as BS 7793: Part 1⁽¹⁾.

2. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Standard, the following definitions shall apply.

Glass coating: Any coating, commonly also referred to as vitreous enamel, based on silica Glass-Fused-to-Steel sheets by the ECOFUSION[®] process at temperatures sufficient to cause glass melting and chemical bonding to the substrate so as to form a composite glass/steel panel.

Supplier: Any company supplying Fusion Tanks and Silos with any materials for use in the ECOFUSION[®] process.

Defect: Any void, break, crack, thin spot, blister, foreign inclusion or contamination of the glass coating.

Discontinuity: Any defect which allows an electric current to pass through the glass coating when testing using the specified instrument operated in accordance with Section 5.2.2 of this Standard.

3. GENERAL

The inspection procedures specified in this Standard and the ECOFUSION[®] enameling process shall be carried out under quality management systems accredited to ISO 9001⁽²⁾.

4. RAW MATERIALS

4.1 The steel used shall have a specification as agreed between Fusion Tanks and Silos and the steel supplier having due regard to the requirements of the enameling process.

4.2 All other raw materials used in the production of the glass coated panels shall be inspected on receipt at Fusion Tanks and Silos' premises to ensure that they meet Fusion Tanks and Silos' specifications.

4.3 Where Fusion Tanks and Silos is not able to inspect raw material against any aspect of Fusion Tanks and Silos' specification or the specification according to Clause 5.1.1 (for example, chemical composition of steels, flow bead tests of glass etc.), Fusion Tanks and Silos shall require the supplier to carry out such inspections at the suppliers premises and provide Fusion Tanks and Silos with authorized copies of certificates for such inspections and record conformity of the raw materials in accordance with the Quality Specification, and make certified copies of those records available.

5. QUALITY

5.1 Glass Coating

Glass coated test samples shall be regularly tested to ensure that the properties of the glass coating meet the requirements of this Standard and Fusion Tanks and Silos' specification.

5.1.1 Quality Specification

Tests shall be carried out to ensure that the glass coating on the contact enamel surface meets the chemical resistance and physical property specifications set out in Table 1.

TABLE 1 - CHEMICAL RESISTANCE AND PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

	TEST STANDARD	QUALITY SPECIFICATION	MINIMUM TEST FREQUENCY
CHEMICAL RESISTANCE (Inside Surface)			
Citric acid at room temperature	EN 14483-1:2004 ⁽³⁾ Clause 9	Class A+	Monthly
Boiling citric acid	EN 14483-2:2004 ⁽⁴⁾ Clause 10	Maximum weight loss 4g/m ² after 2½ hours	Annually
Boiling distilled or demineralized water Liquid phase	EN 14483-2:2004 Clause 13	Maximum weight loss 5g/m ² after 48 hours	Annually
Hot sodium hydroxide	EN 14483-4:2004 ⁽⁵⁾ Clause 9	Maximum weight loss 7g/m ² after 24 hours	Annually
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES (Inside Surface)			
Impact	ISO 4532 ⁽⁶⁾ , 20N force.	Maximum cracking 2mm after 24 hours	Monthly
Adherence level	EN 10209: Annex D ⁽⁷⁾	Class 2	Monthly
Scratch hardness	EN 101 ⁽⁸⁾	Mohs 5	Monthly

5.2 Finished Panels

Finished panels shall be inspected following the enameling process, prior to packing and dispatch from Fusion Tanks and Silos' premises. Fusion Tanks and Silos shall carry out inspections on both the inside and the outside surfaces.

5.2.1 Inspection of the Outside Surface

The outside surface of all panels shall be inspected visually under good daylight or equivalent lighting for defects in the glass coating. Any panel having visible defects larger than 0.04" shall be rejected. Any panel having more than three visible defects per m² of the total panel area shall be rejected. All visible defects on the outside surface of accepted panels shall be repaired using a repair material approved by Fusion Tanks and Silos for this purpose and applied according to the repair material manufacturer's instructions.

5.2.2 Inspection of the Inside Surface

The inside panel surface shall be inspected using a low voltage wet swab tester approved by Fusion Tanks and Silos for this purpose and used in accordance with Method A of EN ISO 8289⁽⁹⁾ and Clause 5.2.2.1. Inspection shall be carried out

using a sampling procedure complying with ISO 2859: Part 1⁽¹¹⁾. Inspection shall be conducted in accordance with BS 7793: Part 1 and any panel not meeting the criteria shall be rejected.

5.2.2.1 The tester shall have an accuracy of ±1% and a test voltage of 9 volts shall be used. The tester shall have a valid calibration record.

5.2.3 Inspection of the Glass Thickness

The thickness of the glass shall be measured using an approved instrument suitable for a measurement range of 0-19.7 mils and used in accordance with EN ISO 2178⁽¹²⁾. Inspection shall be carried out using a sampling procedure complying with ISO 2859: Part 1.

The thickness of the glass on the inside surface of every panel shall be maintained in the range from 7.1 mils to 14.2 mils. The thickness of the glass on the outside surface of every panel shall be maintained in the range from 5.9 mils to 14.2 mils. Panels having a glass thickness outside these ranges shall be rejected. Panels having a glass thickness outside these ranges shall be rejected.

5.2.4 Inspection of Glass Color

The outside panel surface shall be inspected using a color comparator instrument and the color checked against standard limits set by Fusion Tanks and Silos. Inspection shall be carried out using a sampling procedure complying with ISO 2859: Part 1. Panels of a color outside these limits shall be rejected.

6. HANDLING AND PACKING

Prior to storage or packing panel edges shall be protected using a material approved by Fusion Tanks and Silos for this purpose and applied according to the edge protection material manufacturer's instructions. All panels shall be packed using a suitable membrane between the panels.

7. GUIDANCE NOTES FOR INSTALLATION AND USE

7.1 Care in Handling

Recommendations for the correct methods of handling outside the enameling premises are given in the *Fusion Tanks and Silos Construction Guide*.

8. REFERENCES

1. BS 7793:1995

Vitreous enamel coatings for use on bolted steel panels - Part 1: Specification for coatings on bolted steel panels for use in agricultural slurry tanks.

2. ISO 9001:2000

Quality management systems – Requirements for design, manufacture and installation of vitreous enameled tanks and silos for storage and processing of liquid and dry product and associated equipment.

3. EN 14483-1:2004

Vitreous and porcelain enamels – Determination of resistance to chemical corrosion – Part 1: Determination of resistance to chemical corrosion by acids at room temperature.

4. EN 14483-2:2004

Vitreous and porcelain enamels – Determination of resistance to chemical corrosion – Part 2: Determination of resistance to chemical corrosion by boiling acids, neutral liquids and/or their vapors.

5. EN 14483-4:2004

Vitreous and porcelain enamels – Determination of resistance to chemical corrosion – Part 4: Determination of resistance to chemical corrosion by alkaline liquids using a cylindrical vessel.

6. ISO 4532:1991

Vitreous and porcelain enamels - Determination of the resistance of enameled articles to impact - Pistol test.

7. EN 10209:1996

Annex D: Cold-rolled low carbon steel flat products for vitreous enameling.

8. EN 101:1991

Ceramic floor and wall tiles - Method for determination of scratch hardness of surface according to Mohs.

9. EN ISO 8289:2001

Vitreous and porcelain enamels - Low voltage test for detecting and locating defects.

10. ISO 2859-1:1999

Sampling procedure for inspection by attributes - Part 1: sampling schemes indexed by acceptance quality limit (AQL) for lot-by-lot inspection.

11. EN ISO 2178:1995

Non-magnetic coatings on magnetic substrates – Measurement of coating thickness – Magnetic method.