

## QUALITY STANDARD FOR

# ECOFUSION<sup>®</sup>

## GLASS COATINGS

# ECOFUSION

### 1. SCOPE

This Standard specifies the quality requirements for the ECOFUSION<sup>®</sup> process for glass coating by vitreous enamelling 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 enamelling elements of the ECOFUSION<sup>®</sup> process, however, the quality criteria in Section 5.2 should apply to the tank as built. The ECOFUSION<sup>®</sup> 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<sup>(1)</sup>.

### 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<sup>®</sup> 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 Permastore with any materials for use in the ECOFUSION<sup>®</sup> 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<sup>®</sup> enamelling process shall be carried out under quality management systems accredited to ISO 9001<sup>(2)</sup>.

### 4. RAW MATERIALS

**4.1** The steel used shall have a specification as agreed between Permastore and the steel supplier having due regard to the requirements of the enamelling process.

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

**4.3** Where Permastore is not able to inspect raw material against any aspect of Permastore's specification or the specification according to Clause 5.1.1 (for example, chemical composition of steels, flow bead tests of glass etc.), Permastore shall require the supplier to carry out such inspections at the suppliers premises and provide Permastore with authorised 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 Permastore's 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

# ECOFUSION

**TABLE 1 - CHEMICAL RESISTANCE AND PHYSICAL PROPERTIES**

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

## 5.2 Finished Panels

Finished panels shall be inspected following the enamelling process, prior to packing and despatch from Permastore's premises. Permastore 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 1 mm shall be rejected. Any panel having more than three visible defects per m<sup>2</sup> 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 Permastore 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 Permastore for this

purpose and used in accordance with Method A of EN ISO 8289<sup>(9)</sup> and Clause 5.2.2.1. Inspection shall be carried out using a sampling procedure complying with ISO 2859: Part 1<sup>(10)</sup>. 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 0-500µm and used in accordance with EN ISO 2178<sup>(11)</sup>. Inspection shall be carried out using a sampling procedure complying with ISO 2859: Part 1.

The thickness of the glass on every panel shall be maintained in the range from 180µm to 360µm with a target thickness of 225µm. Panels having a glass thickness outside this range shall be rejected.

## 5.2.4 Inspection of Glass Colour

The outside panel surface shall be inspected using a colour comparator instrument and the colour checked against standard limits set by Permastore. Inspection shall be carried out using a sampling procedure complying with ISO 2859: Part 1. Panels of a colour 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 Permastore for this purpose and applied according to the edge protection material manufacturers 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 enamelling premises are given in the *Permastore 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 enamelled 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 vapours.

### 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 enamelled articles to impact - Pistol test.

### 7. EN 10209:1996

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

### 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.