

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

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RECONFIRMATION

OF

AS 2331.3.10—2001

Methods of test for metallic and related coatings

Method 3.10: Corrosion and related property tests—Cracks and pores in chromium

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RECONFIRMATION NOTICE

Technical Committee MT-009 has reviewed the content of this publication and in accordance with Standards Australia procedures for reconfirmation, it has been determined that the publication is still valid and does not require change.

Certain documents referenced in the publication may have been amended since the original date of publication. Users are advised to ensure that they are using the latest versions of such documents as appropriate, unless advised otherwise in this Reconfirmation Notice.

Approved for reconfirmation in accordance with Standards Australia procedures for reconfirmation on 20 March 2017.

The following are represented on Technical Committee MT-009:

Australasian Institute of Surface Finishers  
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
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Australian Steel Institute  
Bureau of Steel Manufacturers of Australia  
Galvanizers Association of Australia  
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## Methods of test for metallic and related coatings

### Method 3.10: Corrosion and related property tests—Cracks and pores in chromium

AS 2331.3.10

#### 1 SCOPE

This Standard sets out two methods, the macro method and the micro method, for the assessment of the distribution of cracks and pores in electroplated coatings of chromium.

The macro method is suitable for a visual assessment of the crack pattern in microcracked coatings whereas the micro method enables an accurate count of very fine crack and pore patterns.

NOTE: The test procedures described in this Standard do not necessarily include all of the precautions required to satisfy health and safety aspects. Care should be taken to ensure that the procedures are carried out only by people who have received suitable training. Guidance in the handling and use of hazardous chemicals is given in AS/NZS 2243.1 and AS/NZS 2243.2.

#### 2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard.

##### AS/NZS

- 2243 Safety in laboratories  
2243.1 Part 1: General  
2243.2 Part 2: Chemical aspects

##### ISO

- 3696 Water for analytical laboratory use—Specification and test methods

#### 3 PRINCIPLE

Copper is electro-deposited from an acid sulfate solution, through cracks and pores present in a chromium deposit, onto the underlying metal, to obtain an outline of the distribution of these discontinuities.

#### 4 APPARATUS

The following apparatus is required:

- An optical microscope with a magnification of 100×, fitted with a stage micrometer and a filar eyepiece.
- Facilities for depositing copper at low current density (0.3 A/dm<sup>2</sup>).

#### 5 TEST SOLUTION

The following electroplating solution is recommended for the deposition of copper:

Copper sulfate.....	200 g/L
Sulfuric acid (ρ <sub>20</sub> 1840 kg/m <sup>3</sup> ).....	20 g/L

NOTE: Acid copper sulfate plating baths of other compositions may also be used.