



## Contents

1	Ban on chromium (VI) – current situation	2
2	Powder symposium in Dresden, Germany – the industry meeting	3
3	PaintExpo, Karlsruhe, Germany	3
4	From the work of the Quality Committees	3
5	GSB Congress on 16 November 2016 in Gossau, Switzerland	5
6	Aluminium and Congress 2016 in Düsseldorf, Germany	6
7	General Meeting 2017 in Düsseldorf, Germany	6
8	Membership development	7
9	Training courses	7
10	GSB dates	7
11	Exhibitions and events	8
12	Seminars	8
13	Banner advertising and reference photos on the GSB website	8
14	List of experts	8
15	Material and member lists	8

## 1 Ban on chromium (VI) – current situation

The ban on the further use of chemicals containing chromium (VI) is final. As of 21 September 2017, the so-called sunset date, certain chemicals containing chromium (VI), such as chromium trioxide or chromates, may no longer be used or marketed. This also applies to existing stocks. Processes in which chromium (VI) is used must then cease operation and the respective production units closed down.

In order to keep open the possibility of continuing further use within the scope of the REACH regulation, applications for authorisation for further use had to be submitted by 21 March 2016.

Within the Chromium Trioxide Authorization Consortium (CTAC), represented by the law firm Jones Day, the companies Atotech Deutschland GmbH, Aviall Services Inc., Bondex Trading Ltd., Cromital Spa, Elementis Chromium, Enthone GmbH and Lanxess Deutschland GmbH have joined forces and submitted requests for authorisation for the following applications:

Application no.	Description of application	Period requested
0032-01	Formulations and production of mixtures	≥12 years
0032-02	Functional chrome plating	12 years
0032-03	Functional chrome plating of a decorative nature	7 years
0032-04	Conversion coatings for applications in the aerospace industry, without reference to applications of functional chrome plating and functional chrome plating of a decorative nature	12 years
0032-05	Conversion coatings (except ETP) for applications in various industries, namely the building sector, automotive industry, metalworking and mechanical engineering	7 years
0032-06	Passivation of galvanised steel - electrolytic tin plate (ETP)	4 years

On 27 June 2016 CTAC published the following press release about the current situation of the applications for authorizations (excerpt):

In their draft opinions, ECHA's RAC (Risk Assessment) and SEAC (Socio-Economic Analysis) support the AfA and will recommend that the six uses applied for shall be authorized by the European Commission, because the overall benefits of continued use of chromium trioxide for these uses outweigh the risks to human health.

This means that the direct and indirect customers of the seven CTACSub applicant companies will be allowed to continue using chromium trioxide for the six uses beyond the September 21, 2017 so-called sunset date (i.e. the date by which the use would have to be stopped unless the use is covered by a REACH authorization handed down either to the user or his upstream supplier).

RAC's and SEAC's draft opinions recommend the adoption by the European Commission of the following so-called review periods: Use 1: seven years; Use 2: seven years; Use 3: four years; Use 4: seven years; **Use 5: four years**; Use 6: four years ('bridging period' applied for). In the nomenclature of RAC and SEAC, 'seven years' constitutes the default 'normal' review period (absent perceived special circumstances).

Please find the complete press release:

<http://www.jonesdayreach.com/Press%20Release/Press%20Release%20CTACSub%20Consortium%20June%202016.pdf>

Further applications have been submitted including one from VECCO e.V., an association for maintaining the application and use of chromium trioxide and other chemicals in surface treatment which is represented by the consultancy Eupoc GmbH. This application relates to chrome plating. It was open to public consultation until 22 June 2016, i.e. comments and responses could be made via the Internet. An initial recommendation and a decision by the EU Commission are expected at a later date.

## 2 Powder symposium in Dresden, Germany – the industry meeting

GSB was again represented with a stand at the powder symposium held in Dresden in January. Together with Dr Herrmann, Mr Alfort gave a presentation on the topic of “Test methods for the evaluation of powder paints – possibilities, significance and evaluation limitations”.



In addition, a podium discussion on problems in the fabrication of metallic powder paints took place with representatives from the following member companies:

GSB International, Eko-Dekor Oberflächenveredelungs GmbH, Weinisch GmbH & Co. KG, TIGER Coatings GmbH & Co. KG, J. Wagner GmbH, IGP Pulvertechnik Deutschland GmbH

## 3 PaintExpo, Karlsruhe, Germany



For the first time, GSB was represented with a stand at PaintExpo in Karlsruhe. During the four days of the exhibition, our quality organisation was successfully presented to the visitors to our stand. They were delighted with the comprehensive and representative offer of information on the coating of metal. Numerous representatives from member companies used the stand as a meeting point.

Altogether, more than 10,000 trade visitors from 74 countries on all continents came to PaintExpo.

## 4 From the work of the Quality Committees

### 4.1 General

- Introduction of the rest potential analysis

Upon publication on the GSB website on 1 March 2016, the changes to the quality guidelines AL 631 and ST 663, which were presented and adopted by the members at the General Meeting in May 2015, have entered into force. In accordance with these, the rest potential analysis (RPA) is to be introduced as a test for pre-treatments, becoming mandatory from 1 January 2017. (Part V (Aluminium) and Part VI (Steel) coating businesses, section 5.9.4.2 process control).

In consultation with the quality committees, the GSB Board has decided to postpone the date for the mandatory introduction of the RPA. Nevertheless, the Aluminium and Steel Quality Committees and the GSB Board recommend that the coating businesses together with the suppliers and manufacturers of the pre-treatment chemicals use the measurement procedure.

GSB will offer corresponding information events and training courses in the first half of 2017 together with the ILF in Magdeburg, Germany and Piesslinger in Molln, Austria.

The RPA results for GSB members confirm the effectiveness of the method. The fact that the RPA allows a statement to be made about the corrosion resistance of the pre-treated workpieces within a few hours justifies the expense.

A reliable introduction requires a period of thorough familiarisation and trials.

- **Upgrading of licensed coating materials from Standard -> Master and Master -> Premium**

It is possible for a coating material that has already been licensed to be upgraded to the next class. A fresh approval is required for this.

- **Audits - second half of 2016**

The audits for the coating companies will be carried out by the following auditors:

Christoph Dreyer, ILF, Magdeburg, Germany  
Markus Witter, ILF, Magdeburg, Germany

Stefan Funk, FEM, Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany

Thomas Kurz, IFO, Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany  
Reinhard Sehon, IFO, Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany

Dr Monica Sallai, SLV, Duisburg, Germany  
Jürgen Buchholz, SLV, Duisburg, Germany

Dr Anton Grünberger, OFI, Vienna, Austria

Walther Mörth, Möwa Consulting e.U., Meinigen, Austria

Philipos Karatzas, Romka, Thessaloniki, Greece

Mr Dreyer from the ILF in Magdeburg is a new addition. Dr Gärtner from the IFO has assumed other tasks at the institute and will no longer carry out inspections for GSB.

## 4.2 Aluminium

- Pre-treated aluminium test samples

Chromium-free pre-treated test sheets and/or profiles can be obtained from the following companies:

- Chemetall GmbH

Oxsilan AL0510 and Gardobond X 4707 (alloys: EN AW-5005 and EN AW-6060)

Nicole Schmitt

Tel.: +49 69 7165 -3986

Fax: +49 69 7165 -3567

E-mail: [nicole.schmitt@chemetall.com](mailto:nicole.schmitt@chemetall.com)

Chemetall GmbH, Trakehner Str. 3, 60487 Frankfurt am Main, Germany

- NABU-Oberflächentechnik GmbH  
Nabutan 310 (alloy: EN AW-5005)

Stephanie Greber

Tel.: +49 (9435) 30065-40

Fax: +49 (9435) 30065-10

E-mail: [stephanie.greber@nabu-stulln.de](mailto:stephanie.greber@nabu-stulln.de)

NABU-Oberflächentechnik GmbH, Werksweg 2, 92551 Stulln, Germany

- Corrosion tests on their own initiative for holders of the additional seal “Sea Proof Plus”

The holders of the additional seal “Sea Proof Plus” (pre-anodising) must also meet the condition for the additional seal “Sea Proof” (chemical pre-treatment) (QR AL 631, Part V – 1.1.2).

The quality guidelines say that the holders of the additional seal “Sea Proof Plus” must prove that they have carried out a test for both “Sea Proof Plus” (pre-anodising) and “Sea Proof” (for the chemical pre-treatment) once a year. There must be an interval of 4 to 6 months between the tests.

The corrosion tests on their own initiative for the holders of the additional seal “Sea Proof Plus” are no longer required.

(GSB AL 631, Part V – Aluminium coating businesses, section 5.9.4.5)

- Corrosion tests on their own initiative for companies who only hold the additional seal “Sea Proof”

The quality guidelines say that the holders of the additional seal “Sea Proof” must prove that they have carried out a test for “Sea Proof” (for the chemical pre-treatment) in the first half of the year. The samples required for these corrosion tests are taken by the inspector in the course of the monitoring test during production.

In the second half of the year, the coater must carry out the corrosion tests on their own initiative. To this end, the samples are taken during the second monitoring test and made available to the coater.

(GSB AL 631, Part V – Aluminium coating businesses, section 5.9.4.5)

#### 4.3 Steel and the IQC

- IQC constant climate test

The following table of the results from the constant climate and salt spray tests carried out in the last few years shows that the constant climate (CC) test generally produces positive results. If it is negative then the neutral salt spray (NSS) test is always negative too.

It has therefore been decided that the CC test will no longer be carried out during third-party monitoring and will be indicated as optional in the table.

- Ball impact test, cupping index IE and mandrel bend test

These tests cannot be carried out on hot-dip galvanised test sheets, as the galvanised layer cracks in the process and the actual technological values for the powder coating are not measured. These tests must always be carried out on pre-galvanised strip test sheets.

## 5 GSB Congress on 16 November 2016 in Gossau, Switzerland

### NEW REQUIREMENTS AND DEVELOPMENTS FOR COATED COMPONENTS.

- What are the requirements for the coating of the future?
- What are the technologies for the coming years?
- How does Industry 4.0 change the coating process?

These and other questions will be answered for you by high-calibre speakers, who will highlight future developments, trends and success factors for you. The conference will provide you with the opportunity for a lively exchange as well as discussions with the speakers and the other participants.

For details regarding the programme and registration, visit [www.gsb-international.ch](http://www.gsb-international.ch)

## 6 Aluminium and Congress 2016 in Düsseldorf, Germany

### GSB International is a partner of ALUMINIUM 2016

- Trade fair grows with the megatrend of lightweight technologies
- Surface finish pavilion supported by GSB International

ALUMINIUM is looking forward to its 11th edition with optimism: 1000 exhibitors from more than 50 countries are expected from 29 November – 1 December 2016 for the world's largest conference for the aluminium industry in Düsseldorf. GSB International will be there once again as a partner of the trade fair.

Every two years, the ALUMINIUM World Trade Fair showcases new, pioneering solutions for greater efficiency in production and processing – from raw materials to semi-finished products and on to finished products from the application industries, and from machines, systems and accessories to surface treatment. In 2016, the trade fair will focus on the themes of lightweight technologies, resource efficiency and cost efficiency.

### Competence Centre Surface Technology

The exhibitors will display their technical solutions in six exhibition halls. This year, hall 12 is the focal point for the theme of surface treatment. With support from GSB International and the VOA, this is where the Competence Centre Surface Technology will be created once again. Specialists from the area of surface finish technology such as coaters and anodisers, chemical companies and system manufacturers will showcase their solutions here. 19 exhibitors have already registered for the surface finish pavilion five months before the start of the trade fair.

### GSB International is inviting you to ALUMINIUM 2016!

This is how to obtain your free trade fair ticket:

1. Please visit the website [www.aluminium-messe.com/gutschein](http://www.aluminium-messe.com/gutschein) and enter the following voucher code: **cjcd-2qcb-aeoo-e2x3**
2. Once your voucher code has been accepted, you can log in if you already have login details. Otherwise, register under "Registration".
3. Confirm that you agree with the terms and conditions.
4. You will receive your ticket via e-mail or will be able to download it directly. Print the ticket and bring it with you to ALUMINIUM 2016

## 7 General Meeting 2017 in Düsseldorf, Germany

The 21st Annual General Meeting of GSB International will be held on 24/25 April 2017 in Düsseldorf.

Please put these dates in your diary.



## 8 Membership development

We welcome the following coating companies as new members:

- KFK Tehnika d.o.o.
- Raycap S.A., Drama, Greece
- Salko Painting Oy, Finland
- Solarlux GmbH, Melle, Germany
- Zinkpower Coating Schopsdorf GmbH & Co.KG, Schopsdorf, Germany

The following coating companies have changed ownership:

- Kleinknecht Leichtmetallbau GmbH, Trappenkamp, Germany (formerly Hell)
- OOO In Color, St. Petersburg, Russia (formerly OOO Inlook)
- Wittstocker Oberflächentechnik GmbH & Co. KG, Wittstock, Germany (formerly Hell)

We welcome the following material manufacturers as members:

- Pulverit Polska Sp.z o.o.

## 9 Training courses

### Surface pre-treatment

Date: 4 October 2016  
 Location: Andernach, Germany

Unfortunately, this training course is already fully booked. There are plans to offer a second date.

The key areas in this training course are

- Quality guidelines AL 631 and ST 663
- Chromium-free pre-treatment
- Method-specific process requirements
- Conversion of an existing facility
- Rest potential analysis

In addition to receiving instruction on theoretical aspects, the participants will also carry out practical exercises in the laboratory.

### Coating steel

Date: 9 November 2016  
 Location: To be decided

## 10 GSB dates

- **Board - 3rd meeting**

Date: 18 October 2016  
 Location: To be decided

- **Aluminium Quality Committee and Working Group on Testing – 4th meeting**

Date: 25/26 October 2016  
 Location: To be decided

- **Steel Quality Committee – 2nd meeting**

Date: 24 October 2016  
 Location: Düsseldorf, Germany

- **Assessment of outdoor weathering tests in Florida**

Date: 25 October 2016  
 Location: To be decided

## 11 Exhibitions and events

- **GSB Congress, Switzerland**

Date: 16 November 2016  
 Location: Gossau, Switzerland

- **ALUMINIUM 2016 – World Trade Fair and Congress**

Date: 29 November – 1 December 2016  
 Location: Düsseldorf, Germany

## 12 Seminars

### GDA seminars ([www.aluinfo.de](http://www.aluinfo.de))

- **Technology of extruded aluminium profiles**

Date: 15 September 2016  
 Location: Düsseldorf, Germany

- **Aluminium and its alloys – an introduction for technicians and traders**

Date: 20 – 21 October 2016  
 Location: Clausthal-Zellerfeld, Germany

- **Surface treatment of aluminium**

Date: 2 – 3 November 2016  
 Location: Düsseldorf, Germany

- **Joining aluminium profiles and sheets**

Date: 14 – 15 March 2017  
 Location: Duisburg, Germany

## 13 Banner advertising and reference photos on the GSB website

Capacity permitting, we offer our members the opportunity to advertise on the GSB homepage. All we need for this is a logo as a JPEG file.

The cost is €150.00 for three months.

## 14 List of experts

The GSB Office has a list of experts complete with all contact details, which you are welcome to request via [info@gsb-international.de](mailto:info@gsb-international.de) if interested.

## 15 Material and member lists

The new website of GSB International has been online since the beginning of June 2013. The lists that used to be enclosed can be downloaded from the website. If there are changes, the lists are updated at the end of the month.

