

Electroplating, Anodizing & Metal Treatment Handbook

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Surface finishing is a broad range of industrial processes that alter the surface of a manufactured item to achieve a certain property. Currently, the trend is towards surface treatments. Surface engineering techniques are generally used to develop a wide range of functional properties, including physical, chemical, electrical, electronic, magnetic, mechanical, wear-resistant and corrosion-resistant properties at the required substrate surfaces. In general, coatings are desirable, or even necessary, for a variety of reasons including economics, material conservation, unique properties, or the engineering and design flexibility which can be obtained by separating the surface properties from the bulk properties. Surface engineered products thus increase performance, reduce costs, control surface properties independently of the substrate and medium, thus offering an enormous potential in the finishing Industry.

Electro depositing of metals is a very significant industrial process. Electroplating is both an art and science. It entailed adhering a thin metal coating to an object by immersing it into an electrically charged solvent containing the dissolved plating metal. Electroplating served a number of functions, such as protecting from corrosion and wear, decoration, and electrical shielding. Anodizing most closely resembles standard electroplating. Anodizing or anodizing is an electrolytic passivation process used to increase the thickness of the natural oxide layer on the surface of metal parts. Anodizing increases corrosion resistance and wears resistance, and provides better adhesion for paint primers and glues than bare metal. Anodic films are most commonly applied to protect aluminium alloys.

The aim of this handbook is to give the reader a perspective on several metal surface treatment techniques which are generally followed in the finishing Industry. This is a unique compilation and it draws together in a single source technical principles of surface science and surface treatments technologies of plastics, elastomers, and metals along with various formulae of bath solutions, current density, deposit thickness, manufacturing processes, various ingredients used in these processes. It is a very useful guide for the readers, engineers, scientists, practitioners of surface treatment, researchers, students, entrepreneurs and others involved in materials adhesion and processing.

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