SOUTH QUALITY

PROFICIENCY TESTING PROVIDER

REPORT No 11671

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ISO 9227

SALT SPRAY TEST

Neutral Salt Spray (NSS)

Program: SQO-M1 Round 15

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Prepared by:	Reviewed by:	Approved by:
cn=Mateo Giovanni, o=PT SOUTH QUALITY SAS, ou=SOUTH QUALITY, email=tech@ptsouthquality.com, c=AR 2026.04.22 11:48:53 -03'00'	cn=ERIKA BREST, o=PT SOUTH QUALITY SAS, ou=SOUTH QUALITY, email=ebrest@ptsouthquality.com, c=AR 2026.04.23 09:58:17 -03'00'	cn=Emiliano Medina, o=SOUTH QUALITY, ou=PT SOUTH QUALITY SAS, email=quality@ptsouthquality.com, c=ES 2026.04.23 13:41:40 -03'00'
Mateo Giovanni Assistant Technician	**Eng. Erika Brest** Chemistry expert	**Eng. Emiliano Medina** Quality Assurance Lead

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1. FOREWORD

This report summarizes the results of the **SQO-M1 (Round 15)** proficiency testing program on the determination of corrosion resistance of metallic materials. This program is carried out under a simultaneous participation format, as described in clause A.2.2 of ISO/IEC 17043: 2023 (Types of PT schemes).

South Quality conducted the testing program from February to April 2026. The aim of the program was to assess laboratory ability to competently perform the nominated tests.

2. ORGANIZATION

Program Coordinator:	Eng. Erika Brest
Assistant Technician:	Mateo Giovanni
Statistics:	Lic. Manuel Tozaki
Supervision:	Eng. Emiliano Medina

3. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this proficiency testing program is to determine corrosion resistance of metallic materials using the following standard:

Standard
ISO 9227: 2022 + AMD 1: 2024 Neutral Salt Spray (NSS)

To verify this, batches of metallic sheets and bolts have been chosen.

Participants in this program have not been previously informed of the time or time range for the appearance of the first signs of corrosion, nor of the expected mass change of the samples they receive.

As part of the standard practice in this program, three types of shipments are sent to participants during the annual rounds, which may take the following form:

i. Sample A (Corrosion-resistant) + Sample B (Corrosion-resistant).
ii. Sample A (Corrosion-resistant) + Sample B (Corrosion- susceptible).
iii. Sample A (Corrosion- susceptible) + Sample B (Corrosion- susceptible).

4. PARTICIPANTS

In the present round, 22 laboratories have participated with the following details:

CODE	Country	ISO 17025 accredited	Results delivered
01	Malaysia	Yes	Yes
02	Argentina	Yes	No
03	Germany	Yes	Yes
04	South Africa	No	Yes
05	Italy	Yes	Yes
06	Vietnam	Yes	No
07	Hong Kong	Yes	Yes
08	Australia	Yes	Yes
09	Japan	Yes	Yes
10	Colombia	Yes	Yes
11	Spain	Yes	Yes
12	Netherlands	Yes	No
13	Spain	No	Yes
14	Germany	Yes	Yes
15	France	Yes	Yes
16	Peru	No	Yes
17	France	Yes	Yes
18	Chile	Yes	Yes
19	Belgium	Yes	Yes
20	Romania	Yes	Yes
21	Brazil	No	Yes
22	England	Yes	No

5. HOMOGENEITY

Several batches were prepared identically by the staff at South Quality.

Then, a homogeneity study was carried out, verifying the time elapsed to the **first sign of corrosion** (**FSC**) and the **change in mass**, with an ISO/IEC 17025 accredited laboratory.

The control process followed ISO 33405: 2024, clauses 7.4.1.1 / 7.4.1.2. Stratified random sampling was applied, and the samples were selected using random-number-generation software.

The results of this test appear below:

Size of each batch: **100 samples** Tested samples from each batch: **20 samples**

DETERMINATION	HOMOGENEITY OF RESULTS IN THE ANALYZED SAMPLES - STEEL SHEET -		
	BATCH: LM3512	BATCH: LM3513	BATCH: LM3514
FSC	YES	YES	YES
Change in mass	YES	YES	YES

DETERMINATION	HOMOGENEITY OF RESULTS IN THE ANALYZED SAMPLES - BOLTS -		
	BATCH: LM3720	BATCH: LM3721	BATCH: LM3722
FSC	NO	YES	YES
Change in mass	NO	YES	YES

Samples for this program are taken from selected batches identified as **LM3514** and **LM3721**.

Analysis of this testing data indicated that samples were sufficiently homogeneous for the program and, therefore, any participant results identified as outliers cannot be attributed to sample variability.

6. SAMPLE INFORMATION

The following samples were sent for testing (Participant **Code 21**):

Batch:	LM3514
Sample ID:	09 + 62 + 73
Characteristics:	Steel sheet (SAE 1010) - 150 x 100 x 0.7 mm

Batch:	LM3721
Sample ID:	21
Characteristics:	Steel bolt (Metallic coated) - 5/16” x 2 1/4” - 5 units

7. IMAGES

SAMPLES



8. ASSIGNED VALUES

The assigned values are obtained from the results reported by all participants (**Consensus values**).

9. PARTICIPANTS RESULTS

LABORATORY CODE	LM3514			LM3721		
	SAMPLE	FSC - AVG (h)	CHANGE IN MASS AVG (g/m²)	SAMPLE	FSC - AVG (h)	CHANGE IN MASS AVG (%)
01	26 + 39 + 67	24	-23.45	01	24	-0.60
03	30 + 45 + 77	24	-26.45	03	48	-0.65
04	10 + 41 + 96	24	-19.25	04	48	-0.44
05	05 + 61 + 97	24	-21.56	05	36	-0.31
07	24 + 37 + 91	24	-26.02	07	20	-0.39
08	19 + 35 + 68	24	-20.98	08	24	-0.75
09	04 + 47 + 79	24	-21.09	09	30	-0.32
10	28 + 64 + 69	48	-18.75	10	72	-0.28
11	31 + 48 + 100	24	-19.80	11	18	-0.38
13	32 + 57 + 83	24	-23.12	13	24	-0.49
14	23 + 52 + 70	24	-21.21	14	48	-0.56
15	11 + 59 + 88	24	-25.03	15	24	-0.54
16	02 + 66 + 71	24	-36.80	16	82	-0.58
17	16 + 44 + 84	24	-24.12	17	22	-0.34
18	22 + 36 + 80	24	-16.32	18	48	-0.06
19	25 + 38 + 82	6	-20.96	19	19	-
20	12 + 51 + 98	-	-22.08	20	-	-0.56
21	09 + 62 + 73	25	57.44	21	25	0.28

ASSIGNED VALUES			
PROPERTY	**LM3514**	**PROPERTY**	**LM3721**
FSC (h):	24	**FSC (h):**	25
CHANGE IN MASS (g/m²):	-21.39	**CHANGE IN MASS (%):**	-0.44
CHANGE IN MASS (SD):	3.98	**CHANGE IN MASS (SD):**	0.22

10. STATISTICS

The results must be treated as qualitative and quantitative.

According to B.4.1.3 of ISO/IEC 17043: 2023, the appropriate technique is to compare participant results with the assigned values

a) For the variable **FSC** the comparison is made through the difference ***D*** (B.1 – ISO/IEC 17043: 2023).

$$D = (x - X)$$

x is the participant's result

X is the assigned value

The performance evaluation is carried out with the following criteria:

$\|D\| \leq$ **12 h**	**indicates "satisfactory" performance and generates no signal;**
12 h $< \|D\| \leq$ **24 h**	**indicates "questionable" performance and generates a warning signal;**
$\|D\| >$ **24 h**	**indicates "unsatisfactory" performance and generates an action signal;**

In those samples where there is no degradation of the material, the result is treated as qualitative and must match with the assigned value to be considered **satisfactory**, otherwise, it is evaluated as **unsatisfactory**.

b) For the variable **CHANGE IN MASS** the comparison is made through z **score** (B.3 – ISO/IEC 17043: 2023).

$$z = \frac{x - X}{\hat{\sigma}}$$

x is the participant's result

X is the assigned value

$\hat{\sigma}$ is the standard deviation

The performance evaluation is carried out with the following criteria:

$\|z\| \leq$ **2.0**	**indicates "satisfactory" performance and generates no signal;**
2.0 $< \|z\| <$ **3.0**	**indicates "questionable" performance and generates a warning signal;**
$\|z\| \geq$ **3.0**	**indicates "unsatisfactory" performance and generates an action signal;**

11. EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE

LABORATORY CODE	LM3514		LM3721	
	FSC - AVG (h / Unaffected)	$\|D\|$	FSC - AVG (h / Unaffected)	$\|D\|$
01	24	**0**	24	**1**
03	24	**0**	36	**11**
04	24	**0**	48	**23**
05	24	**0**	36	**11**
07	24	**0**	20	**5**
08	24	**0**	24	**1**
09	24	**0**	30	**5**
10	48	**24**	72	**47**
11	24	**0**	18	**7**
13	24	**0**	24	**1**
14	24	**0**	48	**23**
15	24	**0**	24	**1**
16	24	**0**	82	**57**
17	24	**0**	22	**3**
18	24	**0**	48	**23**
19	6	**18**	19	**6**
20	-	-	-	-
21	25	**1**	25	**0**

LABORATORY CODE	LM3514		LM3721	
	CHANGE IN MASS - AVG (g/m^2)	| z score |	CHANGE IN MASS - AVG (%)	| z score |
01	-23.45	**0.5**	-0.60	**0.7**
03	-26.45	**1.3**	-0.65	**1.0**
04	-19.25	**0.5**	-0.44	**0**
05	-21.56	**0**	-0.31	**0.6**
07	-26.02	**1.2**	-0.39	**0.2**
08	-20.98	**0.1**	-0.75	**1.4**
09	-21.09	**0.1**	-0.32	**0.5**
10	-18.75	**0.7**	-0.28	**0.7**
11	-19.80	**0.4**	-0.38	**0.3**
13	-23.12	**0.4**	-0.49	**0.2**
14	-21.21	**0**	-0.56	**0.5**
15	-25.03	**0.9**	-0.54	**0.5**
16	-36.80	**3.9**	-0.58	**0.6**
17	-24.12	**0.7**	-0.34	**0.5**
18	-16.32	**1.3**	-0.06	**1.7**
19	-20.96	**0.1**	-	**-**
20	-22.08	**0.2**	-0.56	**0.5**
21	57.44	**19.8**	0.28	**3.3**

Laboratory **Code 01**: The laboratory obtained **SATISFACTORY** results in the determination of all parameters.

Laboratory **Code 02**: The laboratory did not submit the results before the deadline.

Laboratory **Code 03**: The laboratory obtained **SATISFACTORY** results in the determination of all parameters.

Laboratory **Code 04**: The laboratory obtained **QUESTIONABLE** results in the determination of FSC for the LM3721 batch; however, the results for the remaining parameters were **SATISFACTORY**.

Laboratory **Code 05**: The laboratory obtained **SATISFACTORY** results in the determination of all parameters.

Laboratory **Code 06**: The laboratory did not submit the results before the deadline.

Laboratory **Code 07**: The laboratory obtained **SATISFACTORY** results in the determination of all parameters.

Laboratory **Code 08**: The laboratory obtained **SATISFACTORY** results in the determination of all parameters.

Laboratory **Code 09**: The laboratory obtained **SATISFACTORY** results in the determination of all parameters.

Laboratory **Code 10**: The laboratory obtained **QUESTIONABLE** results in the determination of FSC for the LM3514 batch and **UNSATISFACTORY** results in the determination of FSC for the LM3721 batch; however, the results for the change in mass were **SATISFACTORY**.

Laboratory **Code 11**: The laboratory obtained **SATISFACTORY** results in the determination of all parameters.

Laboratory **Code 12**: The laboratory did not submit the results before the deadline.

Laboratory **Code 13**: The laboratory obtained **SATISFACTORY** results in the determination of all parameters.

Laboratory **Code 14**: The laboratory obtained **QUESTIONABLE** results in the determination of FSC for the LM3721 batch; however, the results for the remaining parameters were **SATISFACTORY**.

Laboratory **Code 15**: The laboratory obtained **SATISFACTORY** results in the determination of all parameters.

Laboratory **Code 16**: The laboratory obtained **UNSATISFACTORY** results in the determination of change in mass for the LM3514 batch and **UNSATISFACTORY** results in the determination of FSC for the LM3721 batch; however, the results for the remaining parameters were **SATISFACTORY**.

Laboratory **Code 17**: The laboratory obtained **SATISFACTORY** results in the determination of all parameters.

Laboratory **Code 18**: The laboratory obtained **QUESTIONABLE** results in the determination of FSC for the LM3721 batch; however, the results for the remaining parameters were **SATISFACTORY**.

Laboratory **Code 19**: The laboratory obtained **QUESTIONABLE** results in the determination of FSC for the LM3514 batch; however, the results for the remaining parameters were **SATISFACTORY**, except for the change in mass of the LM3721 batch, which was not reported.

Laboratory **Code 20**: The laboratory obtained **SATISFACTORY** results in the determination of change in mass for both batches; however, FSC results were not reported because this parameter is not determined in their laboratory.

Laboratory **Code 21**: The laboratory obtained **UNSATISFACTORY** results in the determination of change in mass for both batches (LM3514 and LM3721); however, the results for FSC were **SATISFACTORY**.

Laboratory **Code 22**: The laboratory did not submit the results before the deadline.

12. CONCLUSIONS

The overall performance on this **SQO-M1 (Round 15)** program from the participating laboratories, based on expected results, are the following:

- Laboratory Codes **01, 03, 05, 07, 08, 09, 11, 13, 15, 17,** and **20** have obtained a **SUFFICIENT** performance in accordance with the expected results and should not take action;

- Laboratory Codes **04, 14, 18,** and **19** have obtained an **ALMOST SUFFICIENT** performance in accordance with the expected results and must evaluate whether corrective action is necessary;

- Laboratory Codes **10, 16** and **21** have obtained an **INSUFFICIENT** performance in accordance with the expected results and must take corrective action (See Appendix B).

The criteria used for the evaluation of the overall performance are as follows:

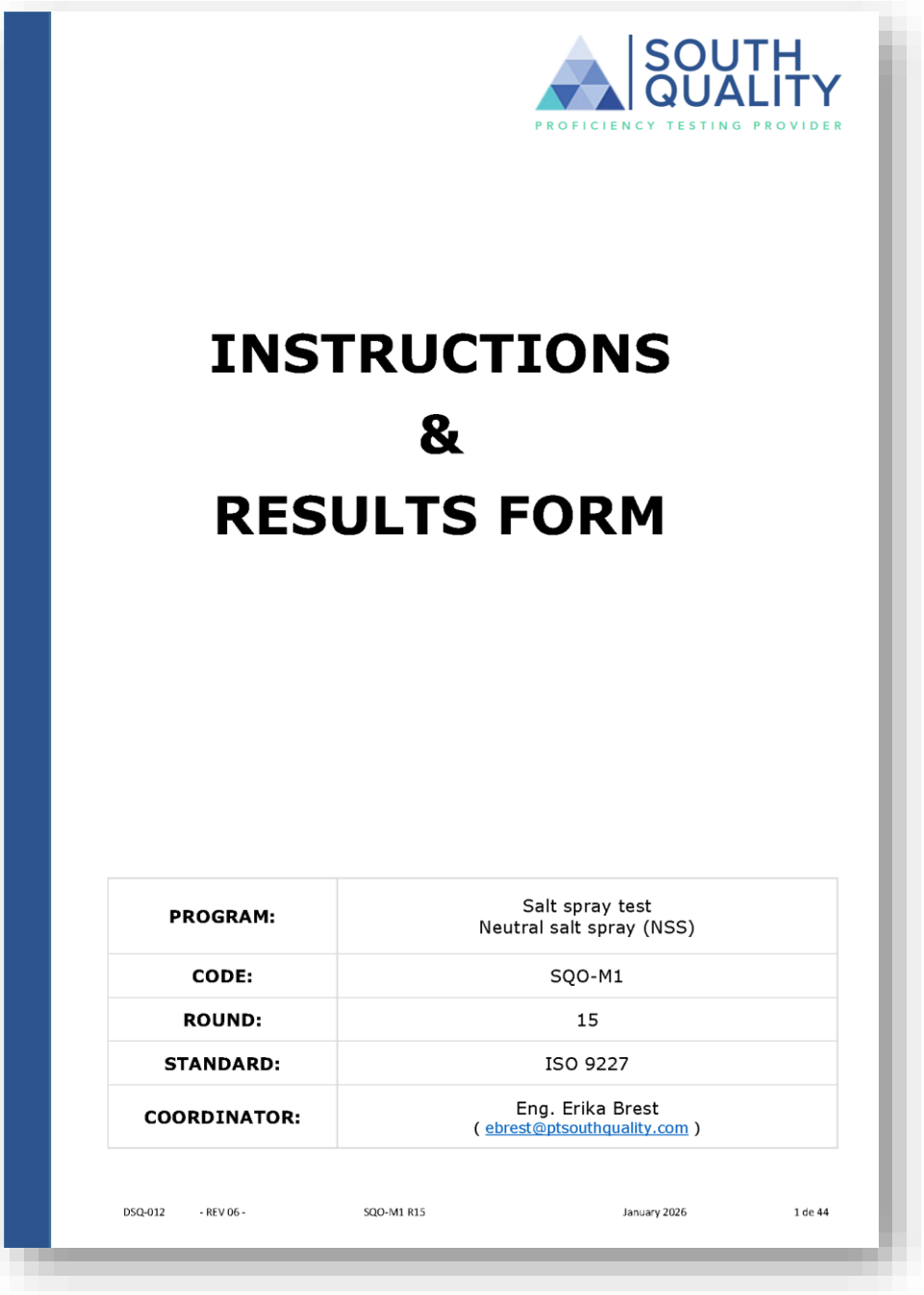
- **SUFFICIENT** performance: No unsatisfactory or questionable results were obtained.
- **ALMOST SUFFICIENT** performance: No unsatisfactory results were obtained, but one questionable result was found.
- **INSUFFICIENT** performance: At least one unsatisfactory result or two questionable results were obtained.

APPENDIX A

A1 - PARTICIPANT DATA

Company:	**Luxparts S.A.**
Laboratory:	**Laboratório de ensaios Lightlabs**
Country:	Brazil
Client ID:	E494
Contact person:	Elisabete Minussi - Laboratory Analist - Team leader (engenhariadetestes4pradolux@gmail.com)

A2 - PARTICIPANT RESULTS



INSTRUCTIONS
&
RESULTS FORM

PROGRAM:	Salt spray test Neutral salt spray (NSS)
CODE:	SQO-M1
ROUND:	15
STANDARD:	ISO 9227
COORDINATOR:	Eng. Erika Brest (ebrest@ptsouthquality.com)

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1 - General

This document is intended to be filled with the results of the **SQO-M1 (Round 15)** program.

Results must be typed, not handwritten.

2 - Standard

ISO 9227: 2022 + AMD1: 2024

3 - Participant

LUXPARTS S.A. Laboratório de ensaios Lightlabs	**CODE 21**

4 - Tests involved

TEST
Assessment of corrosion resistance of metallic materials

5 - Samples

CODE	CHARACTERISTICS	QUANTITY
LM3514-XX	Metallic coated sheet - 150 x 100 x 0.7 mm	3
LM3721-21	Steel bolt (Metallic coated) - 5/16" x 2 1/4 "	5

6 - Notes

a) The deadline for the delivery of results is **March 20, 2026**
b) The tables in this document may be modified by the participant, if desired, to include data or observations.
c) The samples must be kept until the end of the program, which concludes with the submission of the final report.
d) The samples are to be handled as routine lab samples, with all testing, documentation, and reporting adhering to **ISO 9227**.
e) Samples **LM3514-XX** are identified on their back side.
f) To review the results, the submission of images of the tests is appreciated. These images can be attached at the end of this document or sent via email.
g) Upon completion of this document, please convert it to a PDF file and send it to the program coordinator.

7 - **Preparation of tests specimens**

A) Samples shall be properly cleaned, ensuring they are not recontaminated after cleaning due to excessive or careless handling.

B) **(For LM3514-XX samples only)** - Weigh the samples to the nearest 1 mg (**m1**).

C) **(For LM3514-XX samples only)** - The back side and cut edges must be adequately protected by coating them with a suitable material that remains stable under test conditions, such as paint, wax, or adhesive tape. The protective edges on the front face must be straight and parallel to the sample edges, leaving a rectangular area of the material exposed.

D) **(For LM3514-XX samples only)** - Determine the exposed material area (**A**) in cm^2.

8 - **Test conditions**

Procedure:	According to standard
Duration of test:	168 h
Inspection frequency:	24 h
Parameter to determine:	First sign of corrosion (**FSC**) - Red or with rust
Final measurement:	Weigh the specimens to the nearest 1 mg (**m2**), without protective coatings

9 - **Test results**

ID	A (cm^2)	m1 (mg)	m2 (mg)	FSC (h)
LM3514-09	75,36	87,611	92,053	25:35 (1° inspection)
LM3514-62	95,34	85,406	90,771	25:35 (1° inspection)
LM3514-73	88,99	90,260	95,342	25:35 (1° inspection)

ID	SAMPLE	m1 (mg)	m2 (mg)	FSC (h)
LM3721-21	**I**	23,8354	23,8836	25:35 (1° inspection)
	II	23,8579	23,9404	25:35 (1° inspection)
	III	23,8464	23,9215	25:35 (1° inspection)
	IV	23,9194	24,0006	25:35 (1° inspection)
	V	23,8947	23,9670	25:35 (1° inspection)

10 - **Information and observations (According Clause 14.2)**

Cl.	Information
b)	**Type and purity of salt and water used** **Salt:** Analytical grade sodium chloride (NaCl) (CAS No. 7647-14-5), with the following specifications: • pH (5% solution at 25 °C): 7.00 • Copper (Cu) content: max. 0.001% • Nickel (Ni) content: max. 0.001% • Lead (Pb) content: max. 0.003% • Iodide, bromide, and fluoride: max. 0.1% • Total impurities: max. 0.3% • Free from anti-caking agents **Water Used:** Deionized water
e)	**Preparation of the test specimen, including any cleaning treatment applied and any protection given to edges or other special áreas** No cleaning treatment was applied to the samples prior to testing. The specimens were received properly packaged and were handled using gloves to prevent contamination. The metallic coated sheets were prepared in accordance with the applicable instruction, with the edges protected using red adhesive tape, resulting in a quadrilateral exposure area.
h)	**Method used to clean test specimens after the test with, where appropriate, an indication of the loss in mass resulting from the cleaning operation** The cleaning procedure was carried out in accordance with the test standard instructions. The specimens were removed from the chamber and placed on clean trays to avoid contamination. They were then allowed to dry for 50 minutes. After this period, the samples were carefully rinsed with running water, ensuring that corrosion products were not removed. Following rinsing, the specimens were dried using low-pressure compressed air to prevent damage to both the samples and the corrosion products.
i)	**Angle at which the tested surfaces were inclined** The specimens were mounted on nylon mesh supports installed in a vertical arrangement. An inclinometer was placed adjacent to the specimens to verify their positioning angle. Measured angles ranged from 20° to 21° for the metallic coated sheet and from 18° to 19° for the steel bolt.
m)	**Test temperature** The temperature inside the test chamber was maintained at approximately 35 °C throughout the duration of the test, with minor variations as shown in the table below. The environmental conditions of the room where the equipment is installed were also controlled and monitored at the time of verification, yielding the following results:

Equipment Internal Temperature (°C)	Ambient Temperature (°C)	Ambient Relative Humidity (%)	Atmospheric Pressure (hPa)
35,04	24,00	42,80	873,00
34,83	23,80	53,30	874,00
35,01	22,50	65,70	872,00
34,99	23,00	57,50	873,00
35,00	23,30	57,00	875,00
34,98	23,00	51,10	875,00
35,00	21,30	63,90	873,00

n)

Volume of the collected solution

The volume of collected solution at each verification and the corresponding collection rate are presented in the table below.

Verification	Cycle time	Collected Solution Graduated Cylinder 1 (mL)	Collected Solution Graduated Cylinder 2 (mL)	Average Collection Rate (mL/h)
1	25:35	15,60	22,50	1,49
2	47:47	20,70	18,70	1,77
3	72:00	19,50	26,00	1,88
4	95:50	22,00	23,30	1,90
5	120:01	22,00	23,50	1,88
6	144:01	21,00	25,00	1,92
7	168:00	22,50	22,00	1,86

o)

pH of the test solution and the collected solution

Test solution	pH
1	6,79
2	6,84
3	7,02
4	6,82
5	6,70
6	7,06
7	6,93
8	7,11
9	6,60
10	6,87

Collected solution	pH
1	7,01
2	7,09
3	7,15
4	7,06
5	7,12
6	7,10
7	7,16

p)

Salt concentration or density of the collected solution

Collected Solution	Concentration
1	4,55
2	4,60
3	4,55
4	4,55
5	4,60
6	4,60
7	4,55

r)

Any deviations or incident occurring during the entire test procedure

The only deviation observed was previously reported to Ms. Brest: samples LM3514-09, LM3514-62, and LM3514-73 were received with visible signs of corrosion, as shown in the images included in this report.
An increase in corrosion was observed within the first 24 hours of exposure. Following communication with Ms. Brest, it was agreed that the report should state that the corrosion occurred within the first 24 hours.

s)

Intervals of inspection

The specimens were inspected and the test parameters were verified at approximately 24-hour intervals. The cycle time for each inspection is presented in the table below.

Verification	Cycle time	Intervals of inspection
1	25:35	25:35
2	47:47	22:12
3	72:00	24:13
4	95:50	23:50
5	120:01	24:11
6	144:01	24:00
7	168:00	23:59

OBSERVATIONS

Observations on Test Specimens

Samples LM3514-09, LM3514-62, and LM3514-73

- These samples exhibited similar behavior throughout the test and, consequently, after the removal of superficial corrosion products. A high level of corrosion and significant degradation were observed, with a predominance of red corrosion, as indicated by brown, reddish, and orange tones. Dark regions were also observed, indicating the presence of black corrosion.
- The attack on the exposed area was severe and continuous, resulting in an irregular and non-uniform surface appearance.

Samples LM3721-21

- These samples also exhibited similar behavior throughout the test and after the removal of superficial corrosion products. A moderate level of corrosion was observed, mainly localized on the screw threads and heads, with small spots along the shank. The corrosion was predominantly black, with a smaller presence of white corrosion.
- Steel bolt sample 3 exhibited a localized spot of red corrosion. This spot was attributed to contamination from corrosion products originating from the metallic coated sheet and was therefore not considered in the sample evaluation. No progression of this corrosion spot was observed throughout the subsequent inspections.

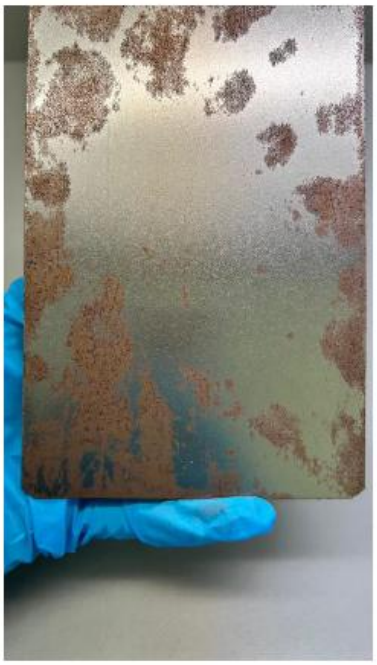
Equipment Used

The equipment used is listed along with the laboratory internal control code (DMM) and the respective calibration certificate.

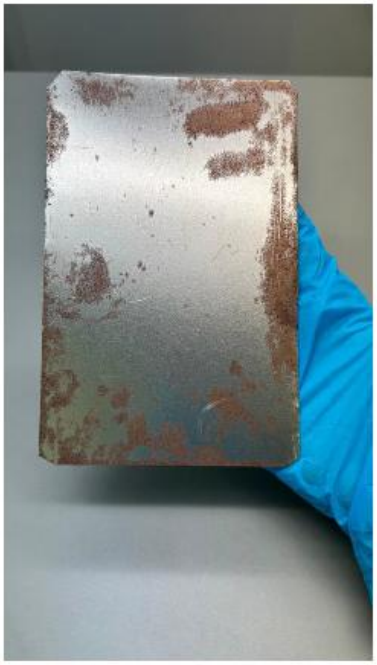
Euipment	DMM	Calibration Certificate
Salt Spray Chamber	DMM 602	SQA202407250019
Deionizer	DMM 606	Verified Internally
Semi-Analytical Balance	DMM 506	Verified Internally
Analytical Balance	DMM 508	Verified Internally
pH Meter (Electrode and Probe)	DMM 607	AK5966/2024 and AK5967/2024
Thermo-Hygro-Barometer	DMM 614	53039/25and 52436/25
5 L Volumetric Flask	DMM 604 and DMM 605	Verified Internally
Graduated Cylinder	DMM 653	5654/25

PHOTOGRAPHS

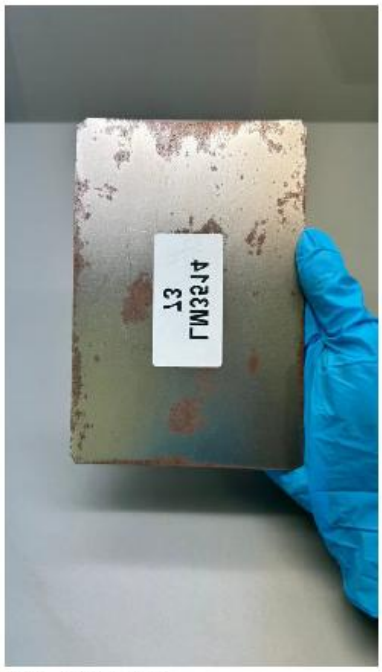
Images of Samples as Received at the Laboratory

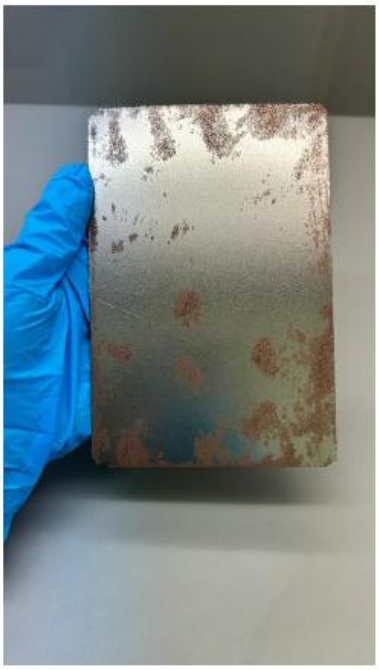


Sample 1 – LM3514-09



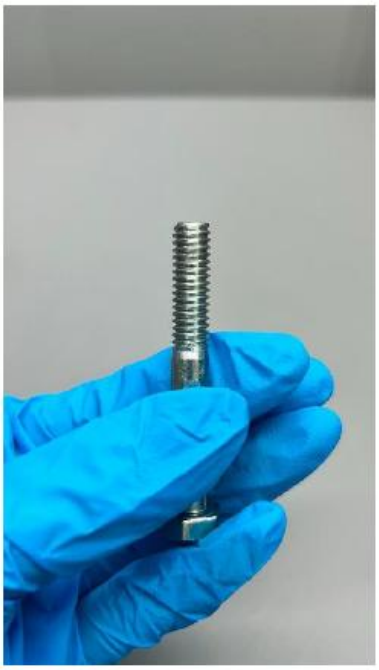
Sample 2 – LM3514-62





Sample 3 – LM3514-73

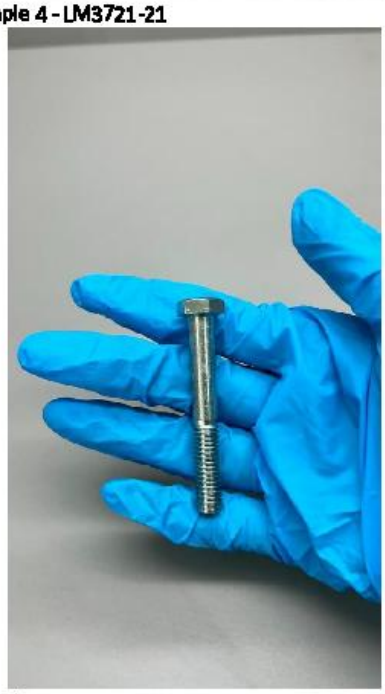
Sample 1 - LM3721-21



Sample 2 - LM3721-21

Sample 3 - LM3721-21

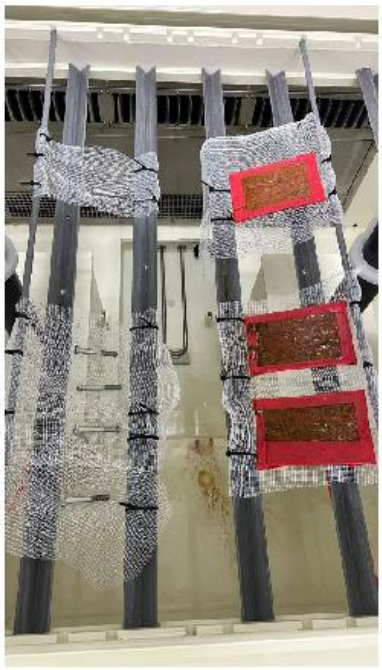
Sample 4 - LM3721-21



Sample 5 - LM3721-21

Results of the First Inspection

Significant corrosion was observed on the metallic coated sheets, while the steel bolts exhibited initial signs of corrosion.

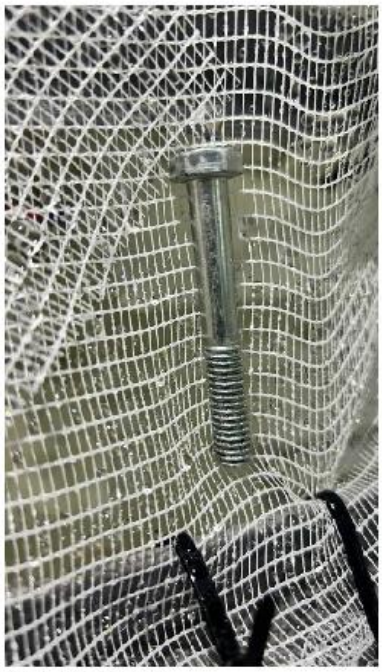


Sample 1 - LM3514-09

Sample 2 - LM3514-62

Sample 3 - LM351473

Sample 1 - LM3721-21



Sample 2 - LM3721-21

Sample 3 - LM3721-21

Sample 4 - LM3721-21

Sample 5 - LM3721-21

Results of the Second Inspection

In all subsequent inspections, an increase in corrosion was observed on the specimens. The steel bolts showed progression of corrosion across the surface, with new areas being affected that had not previously exhibited corrosion.

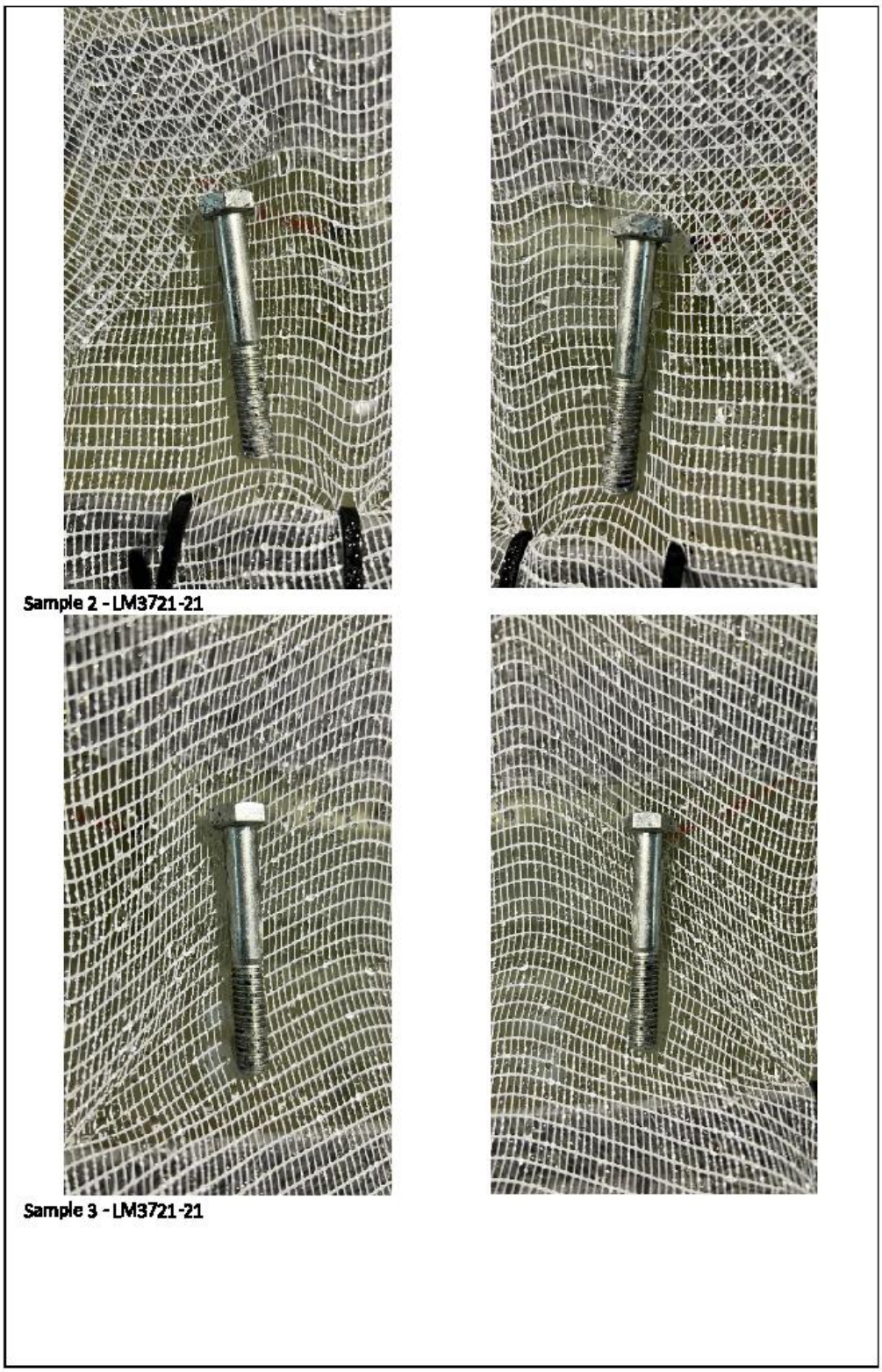
For the metallic coated sheets, the progression was characterized by an increase in the thickness of the corrosion layer, which became progressively more pronounced over the course of the inspections.

Sample 1 - LM3514-09

Sample 2 - LM3514-62

Sample 3 - LM351473

Sample 1 - LM3721-21



Sample 2 - LM3721-21

Sample 3 - LM3721-21

Sample 4 - LM3721-21

Sample 5 - LM3721-21

Results of the Third Inspection

Sample 1 - LM3514-09

Sample 2 - LM3514-62

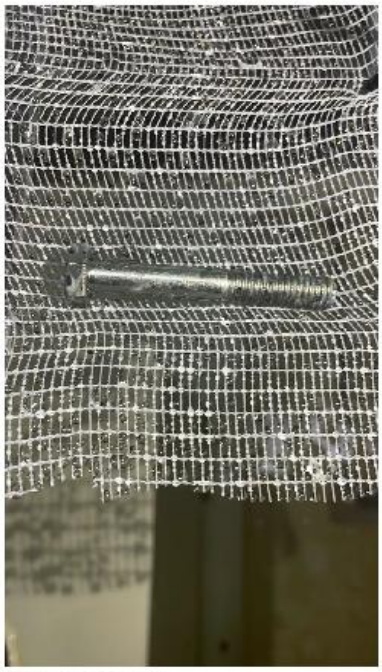
Sample 3 - LM351473

Sample 1 - LM3721-21

Sample 2 - LM3721-21

Sample 3 - LM3721-21

Sample 4 - LM3721-21



Sample 5 - LM3721-21

Results of the Fourth Inspection

Sample 1 - LM3514-09

Sample 2 - LM3514-62

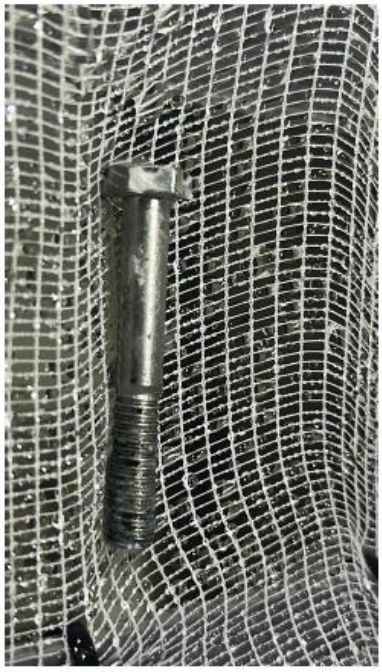
Sample 3 - LM351473

Sample 1 - LM3721-21

Sample 2 - LM3721-21

Sample 3 - LM3721-21

Sample 4 - LM3721-21



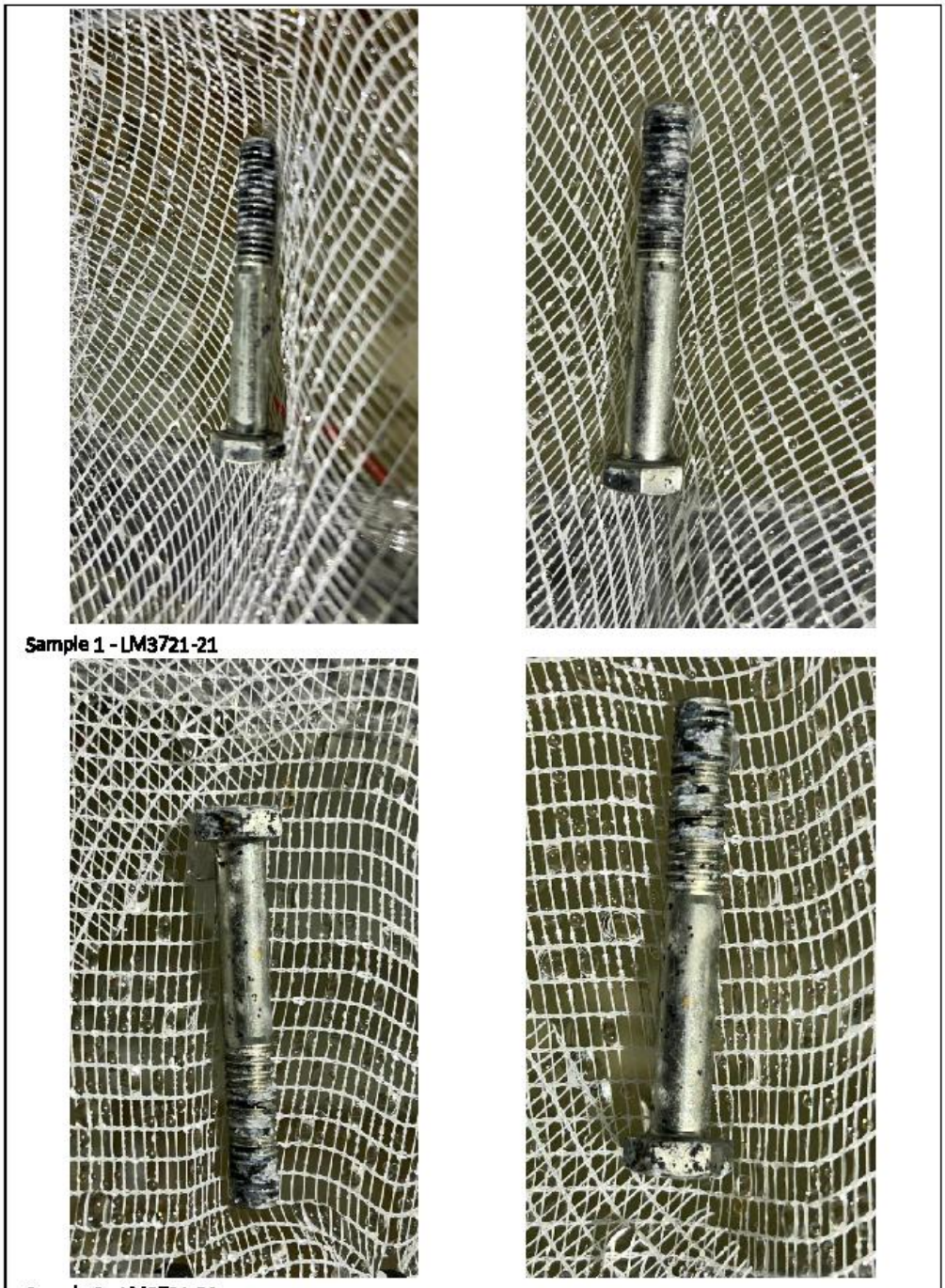
Sample 5 - LM3721-21

Results of the Fifth inspection

Sample 1 - LM3514-09

Sample 2 - LM3514-62

Sample 3 - LM351473



Sample 1 - LM3721-21

Sample 2 - LM3721-21

Sample 3 - LM3721-21

Sample 4 - LM3721-21

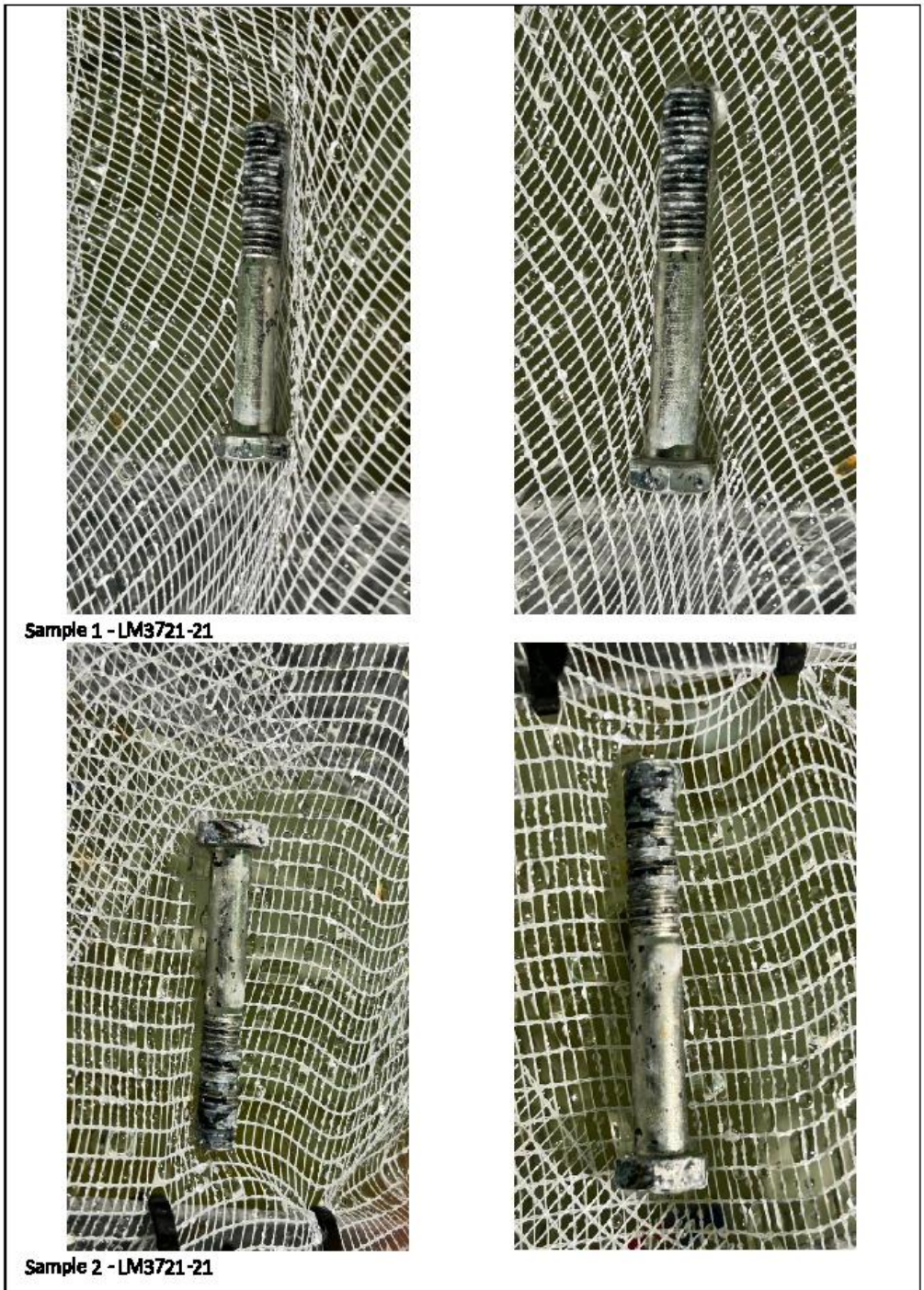
Sample 5 - LM3721-21

Results of the Sixth Inspection

Sample 1 - LM3514-09

Sample 2 - LM3514-62

Sample 3 - LM351473



Sample 1 - LM3721-21

Sample 2 - LM3721-21

Sample 3 - LM3721-21

Sample 4 - LM3721-21

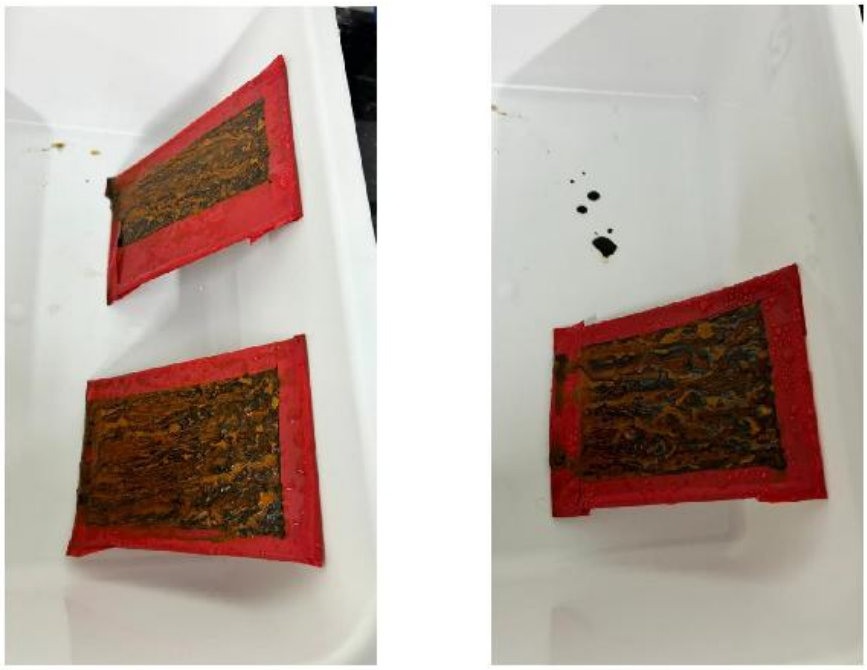
Sample 5 - LM3721-21

Results of the Seventh Inspection – Final Inspection

Sample 1 - LM3514-09

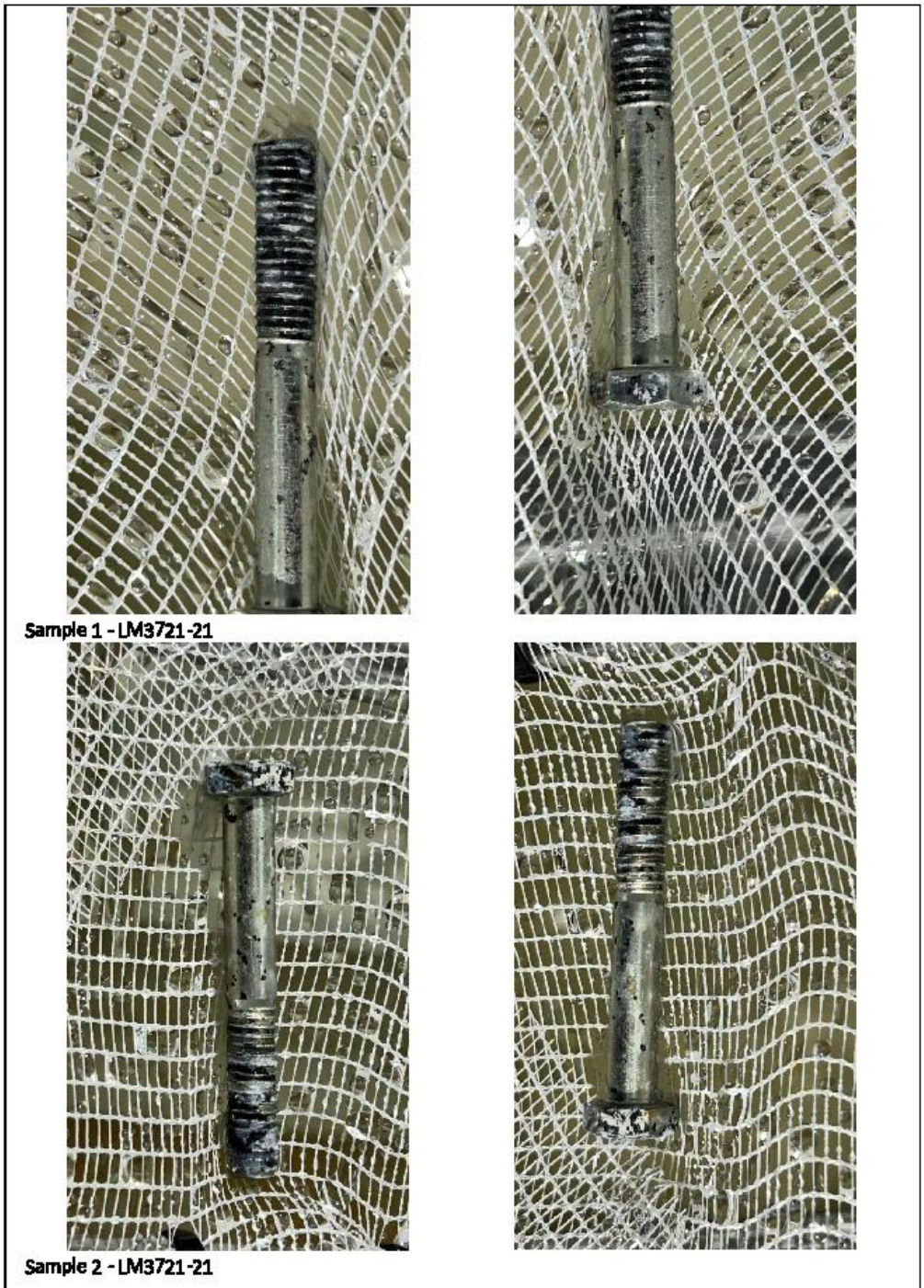
Sample 2 - LM3514-62

Sample 3 - LM351473



Metallic coated sheets removed from the salt spray chamber

Sample 1 - LM3721-21



Sample 1 - LM3721-21

Sample 2 - LM3721-21

Sample 2 - LM3721-21

Sample 3 - LM3721-21

Sample 3 - LM3721-21

Sample 4 - LM3721-21

Sample 4 - LM3721-21

Sample 5 - LM3721-21

Sample 5 - LM3721-21

Steel bolts after removal from the salt spray chamber

APPENDIX B

FINDINGS

When an interlaboratory comparison is conducted, findings are derived from the evaluation of practices, procedures, and results reported by all participating laboratories.

Any identified differences in the application of the test method may be documented in this report.

Where unsatisfactory or discrepant results are identified, participating laboratories are expected to address the relevant areas for improvement to ensure compliance with the applicable standard (ISO 9227) and to maintain the reliability of future results.

Laboratories are therefore requested to implement appropriate corrective actions to enhance their performance in subsequent rounds.

The following differences were observed for participant **code 21**:

Clause	Laboratory **CODE 21**	Most participants (*)
(h)	Rinsed with water, without removing corrosion products	Removed corrosion residues by chemical cleaning according to ISO 8407 (Table A.1)

(*) Participants with insufficient performance are excluded from the evaluation.

The findings described above refer exclusively to observed differences among the results submitted by participants. They do not imply, in any way, that the participant's result is directly attributable to these differences.

The participant is expected to conduct an internal analysis of any deviations that may have occurred during testing and to take appropriate corrective measures.

----- END OF REPORT -----