



annual report 2016



architectural coatings



the

global

standard

for

architectural

aluminium

finishing

mission:

To provide the global construction industry with the best possible specification and methodology for performance coatings on architectural aluminium. By constant development in finish formulations, equipment selection and application to enable QUALICOAT to lead the development of quality architectural finishes worldwide.

To grant approvals to manufacturers of powder and liquid formulations and pre-treatment systems that meet the requirements of QUALICOAT members. To review and licence coating plants which exceed the QUALICOAT specification and to monitor the same to ensure consistent quality in supply.

To ensure the development and communication of the QUALICOAT standard is driven by the membership which continues to exceed country standards and regulations.

Mo Panam

President







Mo Panam

President

The association has, once again, had an extremely busy year, which has included the welcome move of the Head Office of the Association to new premises in Zurich and seen the appointment of Kornelia Lips, who will become a Senior Officer in the next few years. We welcome Kornelia, who has already shown herself to be a great asset to the team. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Senior Officers and Directors for their unwavering hard work always.

2016 saw our global labels of QUALICOAT and QUALIDECO celebrate milestone anniversaries of 30 years and 20 years. This was marked by a well attended Congress in London on the 17th & 18th May 2016. As independent quality labels, both have worked tirelessly to increase the quality of architectural aluminium surface treatment and are now recognised across the globe for their excellent work and this was the perfect opportunity to celebrate all that they have achieved. The event included a banquet dinner and Congress, held at the prestigious Millennium Hotel and an Architectural river journey and dinner on the Thames. We are grateful to our sponsors and all those who attended, from near and far, whose support helped make it the success that it was. You can read more about this on page 8.

Later in the report you will find details of the continuing effort to promote and develop our organisation and the large number of meetings that have been organised and Working Groups that have been attended all over the world. Also, presentations were given and events attended with General Licensees in Poland, Dubai on two occasions, China, Russia, Netherlands, Germany, Australia, Dusseldorf and UK. Our Managing Director carried out preliminary inspections in Bulgaria, Lithuania, Kazakhstan, Vietnam, Belgium, Germany and Turkey. Also, a visit was made to a powder manufacturer in the Philippines.

The newly designed QUALICOAT website, launched last year, is receiving many hits and continues to be updated regularly with improvements to the Specification. I remind you that it has a public section that provides more user-friendly navigation tools, as well as additional online information. There is also a private section that requires Login information and this is available from the Qualicoat secretariat.

I am very proud to be serving such an organisation of worldwide relevance, with the noble cause of improving the quality of the coated finishes in the aluminium industry.

We look forward to another busy year of meetings and improvements to our Specification. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to meeting you all during the year.

A Meetings of the QUALICOAT Committees and Working Groups

In 2016, the Executive Committee held three meetings, in March, May and November, while the Technical Committee met twice, in March and November. The meetings took place in Amsterdam, London and Zurich.

The Meeting of Association Members was held in London on 17 May 2016 during the Congress and an Extraordinary Meeting of Association Members took place in Zurich on 24 November 2016.

All the meetings of the various Working Groups (WGs), the QUALIDECO Committee and QUALISURFAL are shown in the table below:

Aluminium WG	Amsterdam 29.03.16
Future WG	Zurich 22.11.16
Florida WG	Madrid 28-30.06.16
In-House Control WG (ad hoc)	Paris 26.10.16
Laboratories WG	Paris 12.04.16 Novara 08.09.16
Powders WG	Barcelona 16/17.02.16 Madrid 01.07.16
Preanodising WG (ad hoc)	Amsterdam 27.01.16
Pretreatment WG	Amsterdam 28.01.16
QUALIDECO Committee	Barcelona 07.02.16 Novara 09.09.16
QUALIDECO Laboratories WG	Novara 07.09.16
QUALISURFAL Coating Section	Warsaw 27.09.16
Specifications WG	Barcelona 16.02.16 Paris 27.10.16
Statistics WG	Madrid 26.04.16

The proceedings of the various meetings, except for those of the Specifications WG, were recorded in minutes, which were sent to the General Licensees.

A meeting of the General Licensees' Secretaries and Managers was held in Amsterdam in March 2015.

B. Summary of the most important decisions and activities

1. Publication of the 14th Edition of the QUALICOAT Specifications and publication of several update sheets

Several new update sheets were issued in 2015:

Update Sheet (No.)	Application Date
DELTA E Limits (Appendix A7)	PERMANENT
LIST OF STANDARDS (Appendix A9)	PERMANENT
13. WITHDRAWAL OF CLASS 2 APPROVALS	1 September 2016
14. REVISED APPENDIX A3	1 September 2016
15. IMPROVED PROCEDURE FOR THE ACCELERATED WEATHERING TEST	1 January 2017
16. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION	1 January 2017
17. DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION OF INSPECTION REPORTS	1 January 2017
18. STORAGE STABILITY	1 July 2017
19. SEASIDE LOGO	1 January 2017
20. CURING INDEX	1 January 2017
21. MANDATORY TRAINING	1 January 2017

2. Results of the 2016 inspections carried out at licensees' plants

The Secretariat handled and evaluated 1,095 reports between November 2015 and November 2016.

3. Number of licensees and approved systems

	31.12.15	31.12.16	Difference
QUALICOAT Licensees	399	415	+16
Approved powders	478	518	40
Approved alternative pretreatment systems	75	75	0
QUALICOAT Licensees (decorators)	57	61	+4

Breakdown by region (QUALICOAT licences)

Year	Europe	Africa	Asia	Australia	Americas
2015	319	11	50	9	10
2016	331	13	52	9	10

4. QUALICOAT 30th and QUALIDECO 20th anniversary – Congress in London

Under the motto “We QUALICOAT and QUALIDECO the World”, the quality labels celebrated 30 years of coating and 20 years of decorating at their best. For this aluminium finishing event of the year, hosted at the prestigious Millennium Hotel London Mayfair on 17 and 18 May 2016, many well-known names and companies from all around the globe gathered together to celebrate and to discuss the future of the vast surface finishing industry.

The celebration opened on 17 May with a Gala Dinner, a moment to relax and enjoy the gourmet meals and the entertaining speeches by QUALICOAT President Mohammed Panam and Managing Director Josef Schoppig. They extended warm appreciation to the members and the sponsors of this event, which also followed tradition with a toast to Her Majesty the Queen, along with wishes of prosperity to the QUALICOAT and QUALIDECO labels. A highlight of the ceremony was a parade of flags of the nearly 50 countries where QUALICOAT is represented worldwide. The Congress itself gave all the participants an opportunity to enhance their knowledge, not only of coating and decoration, but also of many aspects of this industry. The stimulating topics started with the latest developments in sustainable and responsible raw aluminium production, presented by Chris Bayliss, Deputy Secretary General of the International Aluminium Institute, and Justin Furness, Technical Director of the Council for Aluminium in Buildings. Then Xuezhong Pan (President of the Chinese Association QUALISINO) and Ram Ramnath (Executive Committee Chairman of the Quali Middle East Association) gave fascinating insights into the exotic wonders and differences of the Chinese and Middle Eastern markets.

There was also time to learn through the eyes of Russel Deane, Global Specification Manager of Akzo Nobel Powder Coatings, how important it is to get architects to specify QUALICOAT and QUALIDECO, especially in a market that has been growing all over the world. As he stressed, “Any contact with any of these players is a chance to educate, and to improve the specification”.

Adrian Toon, Immediate Past President of FAECF (Federation of the European Window and Curtain Wall Manufacturer Associations, with various accredited laboratories), guided the audience through the importance of aluminium for the industry and the future of metal facades. Franck Derouen, Global Segment Director of Axalta Powder Coatings, and Cristobal Bernal, Chief Technical Officer of Bimetica, followed on by exploring the impact of BIM (Building Information Modelling) digital management on aluminium finishing. According to both, this process is “the most efficient manner of developing a construction project used today on an international scale”.

Juan Bernabé, Convenor of QUALIDECO, went on to show that

aluminium retains its strength and durability when decorated with finishes such as wood effect, with the quality assured by QUALIDECO. A vital factor for the decorative appearance and useful life of products with coated and finished surfaces for daily use in architectural applications is to maintain “value through sustainable cleaning methods”, as explained by Philipp Ambruch of Rudolf Ambruch Fassadenpflege GmbH.

The event closed with a special presentation by Professor Michael Stacey of Michael Stacey Architects on the longevity and sustainability of aluminium in architecture, illustrated during a Bateaux London cruise along the River Thames to view and admire the magnificent buildings with aluminium facades.

Besides gathering everyone together to celebrate the rise and importance of these quality labels, the Congress in London was a forum for knowledge sharing and social networking on an international level. And it really brought home to everyone the benefits of QUALICOAT and QUALIDECO and the value of holding these two labels in an international market where they are increasingly becoming a prerequisite to operate in a global supply chain.

5. Quality matters and investigations

Approval of Powders

The technical issues focussed on the development of new rules for the class 3 powders. The Powders WG prepared proposals regarding the list of critical colours, colour families and basic colours. The suppliers were invited to indicate which of the colours in the list they considered not to be critical. For class 3 the introduction of an EMAQUA exposure during 8 months that was equivalent to 3 years Florida exposure was investigated but no decisions had been taken so far.

An ongoing important topic was the correlation between accelerated and outdoor exposure for class 2 and 3. In order to define the conditions of the test, the QUALICOAT approved testing institutes had been asked to inform about the humidity conditions and the range of humidity content of their chambers.

The introduction of a water spot test was considered on the test method developed by the Italian testing institute QUALITAL. It was also entrusted to conduct an investigation on measurement methods and requirements and to write a test method.

Alternative pretreatment systems

Due to the increasing number of approved alternative pretreatment systems, the inspectors proposed to harmonise the methods to be used by the coaters for checking the conversion coating when using alternative pretreatment systems. Some chemical suppliers



were in favour of such a harmonisation since there were, for all products based on zirconium or titanium, qualitative methods which could be easily used by the coaters. The Pretreatment WG continued to tackle this issue.

Enhanced control of alternative pretreatment systems and the rules for withdrawing approvals.

Some approved systems had a relative high number of failures in acetic acid salt spray test. The suppliers would be directly alerted by the secretariat in case of failures. Systems with a certain percentage of failures would be cancelled.

6. Contacts with General Licensees

Mr. Schoppig attended the General Assembly of QUALIPOL in Warsaw in March.

Mr. Juan Bernabé, the Convenor of QUALIDECO, gave a presentation at an event organised by the QUALI MIDDLE EAST Association in Dubai in June.

Mr. Bernabé gave also a presentation at the QUALISINO General Assembly in Foshan in September 2016.

The President, Mr. Panam gave a presentation at a trade fair organised by the Russian RAEA in Moscow in October.

Mr. Schoppig attended a surface trade fair organised by QUALION in s'Hertogenbosch in October.

Mr. Panam, and Mr. Schoppig attended the 10th anniversary event of QMEA in Dubai in November.

7. Preliminary inspections and audits of powder manufacturers

The Managing Director carried out preliminary inspections in Bulgaria, Lithuania, Kazakhstan and Vietnam. A powder manufacturer in the Philippines was visited and audited..

8. PR Activities

Mr. Schoppig gave a presentation at an event of the German quality label for façade renovations in Kassel in March.

Mr. Schoppig attended the AusFenEx partially organised by QUALICOAT AUSTRALIA in Brisbane in August.

Mr. Schoppig gave a presentation at the Aluminium Congress in Dusseldorf in November.

Mr. Panam was a panellist at the 'Towards Sustainable Cities' symposium, at Kew Gardens, London, representing Qualicoat. This was organised by the International Aluminium Institute.

9. Coating Section of QUALISURFAL

The Coating Section of QUALISURFAL held its annual meeting in Warsaw on 27 October 2016. The inspectors and representatives of the testing laboratories were fully informed about the various decisions taken by the Technical and Executive Committees.

10. QUALICOAT and QUALIDECO Inspectors

In 2016, Mr. Schoppig accompanied new and existing inspectors performing inspections in Australia, Belgium, Germany, and Turkey and in the UAE

11. Accreditation matters

Mrs. Kornelia Lips took up employment by QUALICOAT as from 1 October 2016. She is an engineer with a master degree from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology and has experience in the field of quality management in various industries. She will be responsible for the implementation of the 17065 accreditation exclusively for QUALICOAT. The Executive Committee decided to maintain the AC-Treuhand AG accreditation further than September 2017 and as long as the own accreditation had not yet been achieved. Her addition to the team will enhance QUALICOAT's overall capabilities.

CONGRESS ORGANISERS



Congratulations Cake



Professor Michael Stacey



Juan Bernabé, Convenor QUALIDECO



Congress Reception



Thames Cruise Dinner



Mo Panam, QUALICOAT President and Pascale Bellot, Office Manager



Josef Schoppig, Managing Director



Chinese and German Delegates



Juan Serret, TC Convenor, Riccardo Boi, Technical Director, Mo Panam and Juan Bernabé

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