
**Corrosion of metals and alloys —
Stress corrosion testing —**

**Part 10:
Reverse U-bend method**

*Corrosion des métaux et alliages — Essais de corrosion sous
contrainte —*

Partie 10: Méthode d'essai par cintrage en U inversé



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 156, *Corrosion of metals and alloys*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 262 *Metallic and other inorganic coatings, including for corrosion protection and corrosion testing of metals and alloys*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 7539-10:2013), which has been technically revised. The main changes compared with the previous edition are as follows:

- the specimen preparation, i.e. how RUB specimens are machined, bent and fastened, has been revised in [Clause 5](#) and [Annexes A](#) and [B](#);
- the experimental procedure of how specimens are tested in a multiple immersion test with different periods or in a serial immersion test has been revised in [Clause 6](#);
- the post-exposure evaluation of how specimens are observed has been revised in [Clause 7](#);
- information has been added for the test report in [Clause 8](#);
- [Figures A.1](#), [A.2](#) and [B.3](#) and [Table B.1](#) have been revised;
- new [Figures A.3](#) and [B.4](#) have been added to illustrate the RUB specimen before and after fastening.

A list of all parts in the ISO 7539 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Corrosion of metals and alloys — Stress corrosion testing —

Part 10: Reverse U-bend method

WARNING — This document can involve hazardous materials, operations and equipment. It is the responsibility of the user of this document to consult and establish appropriate safety and health practices and to determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

1 Scope

This document specifies procedures for designing, preparing and using reversed U-bend (RUB) test specimens for investigating the susceptibility of the metal to stress corrosion cracking. The term “metal” as used in this document includes alloys.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 7539-1, *Corrosion of metals and alloys — Stress corrosion testing — Part 1: General guidance on testing procedures*

ISO 8407, *Corrosion of metals and alloys — Removal of corrosion products from corrosion test specimens*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 7539-1 apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

4 Principle

The RUB test is a particularly severe test for assessing susceptibility to stress corrosion cracking. The test is intended primarily for application to metals with high corrosion resistance, such as Ni-based alloys, with the advantage, compared to methods such as the conventional U-bend test, of having significantly less stress relaxation. It is used primarily as a screening test for tubing, piping, plate, bar and other products including welded materials. It may also be used as an acceptance test for performance in service subject to agreement between the parties.

The principle of the test is to introduce very severe stresses in a high corrosion resistance metal, with minimum relaxation, in order to enhance the likelihood of inducing stress corrosion cracking.

The test involves exposing a piece of metal of a semi-circular section bent back on itself (i.e. reversed bent) into a U-shape to the corroding medium and holding it in a manner that ensures that there are initial tensile stresses in excess of the yield strength over a large proportion of the inner surface. The