



CUSTOMER INFORMATION

RETROSPECTIVE CONFIRMATION OF PRODUCT PROPERTIES THROUGH INSPECTION DOCUMENTS IN CONFORMITY TO EN 10204

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Inspection certificates in conformity to EN 10204

The 2004 edition of EN 10204, "Metallic products - Types of inspection documents" defines various inspection documents:

- Certificates 2.1 and 2.2 with no statement of the results of specific tests on the product may be issued and confirmed only by the manufacturer.
- Inspection Certificates 3.1 and 3.2 with statement of the results of specific tests on the product may be issued and confirmed only by the manufacturer's authorized inspection representative, together - in the case of Inspection Certificates 3.2 - with the purchaser's authorized inspection representative or the inspector designated by the official regulations.

According to EN 10204, therefore, the conformity of the manufactured product with the product specification may be confirmed only by or with the manufacturer. The reason for this is the fact that only the manufacturer, thanks to his knowledge and handling of the production process, is capable of assuring adequate significance of the results of the random sample determined via the test for the complete product or the complete product batch.

Retrospective confirmation of product properties

In practice, it can occur that the user, after delivery of the product, requests additional properties which were not originally specified.

In many such cases, only retesting by a test institute, for example, is commissioned. The test report or test record is then intended to supersede the inspection certificate in conformity to EN 10204, which can be issued only by or with the manufacturer.

This procedure ("upgrading inspection", "upgrading") conflicts with EN 10204. In view of the lack of knowledge concerning the production process, retesting on one test object can in no way guarantee that the "tested" property is actually present in the entire product or product batch.

The content of any test report or test record issued by a test institute cannot be attributed to the manufacturer. Due to its lack of proprietary knowledge, the test institute cannot make any statement concerning the requirements specified in the order. Such knowledge is the precondition for the issue of an inspection certificate in accordance with EN 10204, however.

Contacts

For the reasons mentioned above, the manufacturer must be consulted by the direct business partner in cases in which the retrospective confirmation of an additional product property is required. The manufacturer is in a position to ascertain, by means of comparison of the TARGET data for the particular product property against the ACTUAL production process, whether the issue of a new inspection certificate, taking account of the property - which must now be re-tested - is possible.



The respective sales organizations are your contacts for Dillinger Hütte GTS heavy plate products. Your personal contact can be found on our Internet site (<http://www.dillinger.de/dh/kontakt/dillingen/index.shtml.en>).

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