

# Tex-731-I, Sampling Cast Aluminum Railing Posts

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## **Section 1**

### **Overview**

Effective dates: August 1999–February 2008.

This method outlines the procedure for sampling cast aluminum railing posts.

#### **Units of Measurement**

The values given in parentheses (if provided) are not standard and may not be exact mathematical conversions. Use each system of units separately. Combining values from the two systems may result in nonconformance with the standard.

**Section 2**  
**Definitions**

The following term and definition is referenced in this test method:

- ◆ Heat or lot - Not more than 450 kg (1,000 lbs.) of trimmed castings, when produced from batch type furnaces, or 900 kg (2,000 lbs.) when produced from a continuous furnace during a period not exceeding eight consecutive hours.

**Section 3**  
**Sampling Information**

An authorized representative of TxDOT shall select samples.

Sampling shall be performed at the manufacturing plant or at the TxDOT project site.

## **Section 4**

### **Documentation**

All cast aluminum rail post samples shall be accompanied by mill test reports (MTRs) covering the heats or lots sampled. MTRs shall include the following information:

- ◆ heat or lot number
- ◆ chemical analysis of base metal
- ◆ physical properties of cast metal after tempering
- ◆ number of items per heat or lot.

## **Section 5**

### **Procedures**

Visually inspect the heat or lot during sampling for obvious defects, such as blowholes, cracks, warpage, shrinks, or other defects which would be detrimental to the end use of the post.

Check each post to insure that the heat or lot number is die-stenciled or molded on the top of the base or on the web.

Select one post from each heat or lot for testing.

## **Section 6**

### **Tagging/Labeling, Documenting, and Shipping**

Follow the 'General Requirements' as detailed in "Tagging/Labeling, Documenting, and Shipping General Requirements." In addition:

- ◆ place the TxDOT monogram on the web of each sample post without obscuring the heat or lot number
- ◆ include all information pertinent to each sample on [Form 202](#)
- ◆ securely attach Form 517 to the samples with wire or heavy cord
- ◆ package samples securely to prevent damage during transit.