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**Mechanical joining of sheet  
materials — Destructive testing of  
joints — Specimen dimensions and  
procedure for mechanized peel testing  
of single joints**

*Assemblage mécanique de tôles — Essais destructifs des assemblages  
— Dimensions des échantillons et procédure pour l'essai de pelage  
mécanisé des assemblages simples*

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Published in Switzerland

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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](http://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](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

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](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 44, *Welding and allied processes*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Resistance welding and allied mechanical joining*.

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](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

Official interpretations of ISO/TC 44 documents, where they exist, are available from this page: <https://committee.iso.org/sites/tc44/home/interpretation.html>.

# Mechanical joining of sheet materials — Destructive testing of joints — Specimen dimensions and procedure for mechanized peel testing of single joints

## 1 Scope

This document specifies the geometry of test specimens and the testing procedure for mechanized peel testing of single mechanical joints on single-lap test specimens up to a single sheet thickness of 4,5 mm.

The term “sheet”, as used in this document, includes extrusions and cast materials.

The purpose of the mechanized peel tests is to determine the mechanical characteristics and the failure modes of the joints made with different joining methods.

This document does not apply to civil engineering applications such as metal buildings and steel constructions which are covered by other application standards.

NOTE For mechanized peel testing of resistance spot, seam and embossed projection welds, see ISO 14270

## 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 7500-1, *Metallic materials — Calibration and verification of static uniaxial testing machines — Part 1: Tension/compression testing machines — Calibration and verification of the force-measuring system*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions 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/>

### 3.1

#### mechanized peel strength

##### MPS

$F_{\max}$

maximum peel force (3.2) obtained from mechanized peel testing

### 3.2

#### peel force

$F$

force/load which is applied to the test specimen during mechanized peel testing

### 3.3

#### slippage force

$F_{sl}$

peel force (3.2)/load at which slippage occurs if the phenomenon is observed during testing

**3.4  
specimen deformation**

$s$   
crosshead displacement during testing

**3.5  
specimen deformation at maximum load**

$s_{F_{\max}}$   
specimen deformation (3.4) at which the maximum peel force (3.2)/load  $F_{\max}$  is recorded

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 4](#) and [Figure 5](#)

**3.6  
specimen deformation at 0,3  $F_{\max}$**

$s_{0,3F_{\max}}$   
specimen deformation (3.4) at which  $0,3F_{\max}$  is recorded

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 4](#) and [Figure 5](#)

**3.7  
specimen deformation at fracture**

$s_{\text{fracture}}$   
specimen deformation (3.4) of at which fracture occurs

Note 1 to entry: See [Figure 4](#) and [Figure 5](#)

**3.8  
dissipated energy**

$W$   
amount of energy dissipated until a displacement point under the load-crosshead displacement curve

[SOURCE: ISO 12161:2006, 3.4.1]

**3.9  
dissipated energy up to  $F_{\max}$**

$W_{F_{\max}}$   
dissipated energy or work calculated by integrating the area under the crosshead displacement curve up to the point at which maximum peel load (MPS point) is recorded

$$W_{F_{\max}} = \int_0^{s_{F_{\max}}} F ds$$

**3.10  
dissipated energy up to 0,3  $F_{\max}$**

$W_{0,3F_{\max}}$   
dissipated energy or work calculated by integrating the area under the crosshead displacement curve up to the point where the peel force drops to 30 % of the MPS value,  $F_{\max}$

$$W_{0,3F_{\max}} = \int_0^{s_{0,3F_{\max}}} F ds$$

Note 1 to entry: See [Clause 6](#)

**3.11  
dissipated energy up to fracture**

$W_{\text{fracture}}$

dissipated energy calculated by integrating the crosshead displacement curve up to the point at which fracture occurs

$$W_{\text{fracture}} = \int_0^{s_{\text{fracture}}} F ds$$

#### 4 Test pieces and test specimens

[Table 1](#) and [Figure 1](#) give the dimensions and form of test coupons and test specimens for mechanized peel testing, and the location of mechanical joint. The positional accuracy of the mechanical joints on the test specimen shall be  $\pm 1$  mm in every direction.

**Table 1 — Test specimen dimensions and joint position**

Dimensions in millimetres

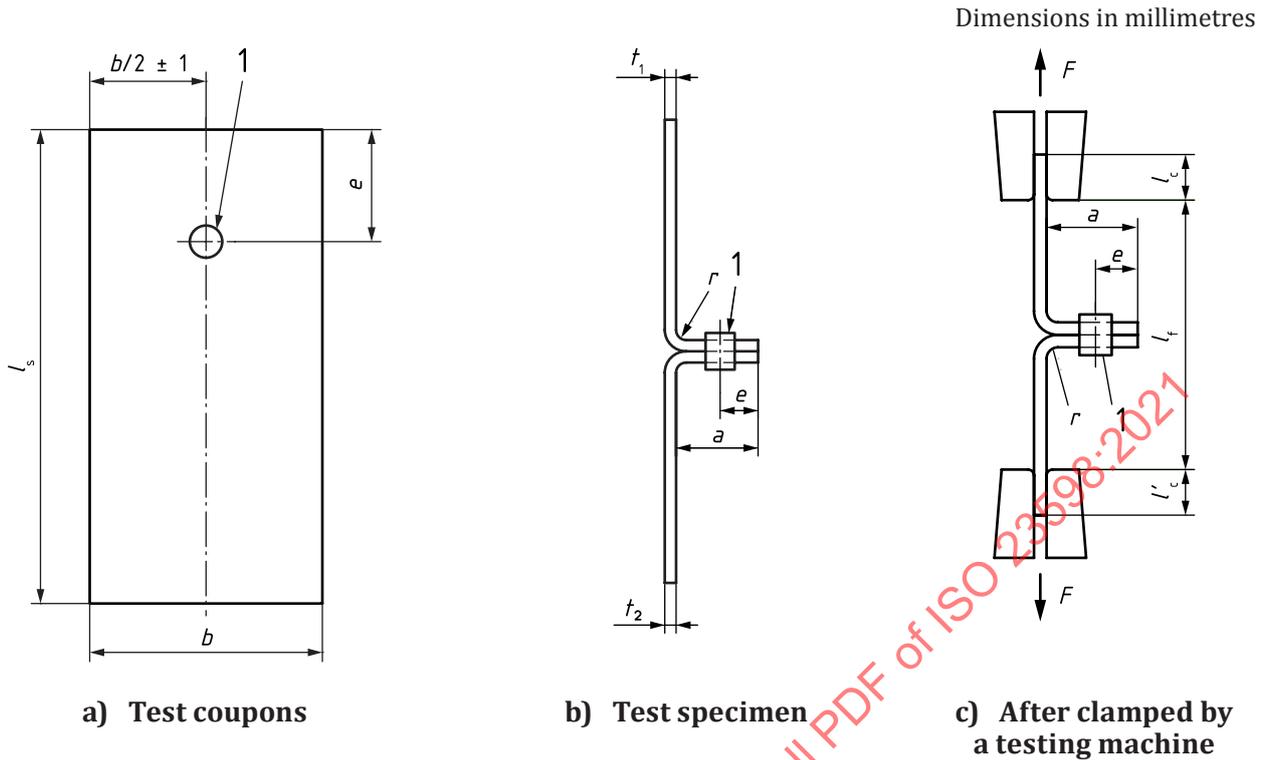
Thickness <i>t</i>	Flange length <i>a</i>	Specimen width <i>b</i>	Coupon length <sup>a</sup> <i>l<sub>s</sub></i>	Free length between clamps <sup>a</sup> <i>l<sub>f</sub></i>	Edge distance <i>e</i>
0,5 < <i>t</i> ≤ 4,5	50	50	100	30	25
			≥160	105	

<sup>a</sup> The shorter coupon length (before joining) is preferred but a longer specimen can be needed based on joining process limitations or for comparison with results from testing in accordance with ISO 14270.

The test specimen for mechanical joints shall be produced as a single joint specimen as shown in [Figure 1](#) b), which is made of two coupons shown in [Figure 1](#) a), and then the mechanized peel test specimen shall be mounted on a tensile test machine as shown in [Figure 1](#) c).

In the case of unequal sheet thicknesses, the test specimen dimensions shall be based on the thinner sheet. Mechanized peel testing shall be made by the procedure specified in [Clause 5](#) and [Clause 6](#).

The tolerances on the dimensions shall be in accordance with [Table 2](#).



**Key**

- 1 joint/fastener
- $l_s$  coupon length
- $l_f$  free length between clamps
- $l_c, l'_c$  clamping length
- $F$  applied force (load)
- $a$  flange length
- $r$  bending radius
- $b$  coupon/specimen width
- $e$  edge distance

**Figure 1 — Test coupons, test specimens and the clamping state for mechanized peel testing**

**Table 2 — Tolerances on dimensions for mechanized peel test specimens**

Dimensions in millimetres

Flange length $a$	Coupon/ specimen width $b$	Edge distance $e$	Coupon length $l_s$	Free length be- tween clamps $l_f$	Bend radius $r$
+1,0 0	+1 0	+0,5 0	0 -1	0 -1	$\pm 0,5t^a$

<sup>a</sup>  $t$  is the sheet thickness of each coupon.

## 5 Preparation of mechanized peel test specimens

### 5.1 General

The mechanized peel test specimens for mechanical joints are recommended to be made in the following sequence, so that the test specimens can be tested using a tensile test machine;

Bending → Mechanical joining → Mechanized peel testing

The sequence is called “joining-after-bending”.

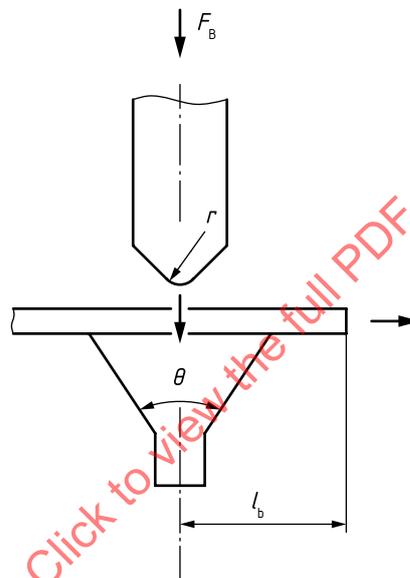
NOTE In resistance spot welding, the bending-after-welding process (Joining → Bending → Mechanized peel testing) can be used, but in the case of mechanical joining, some fasteners cannot be tested using this sequence as the fastener interferes with the clamping face for bending after joining, or the clamping device can influence the joint part properties.

## 5.2 Bending procedure for preparation of peel test specimens

The test coupons shall be bent before mechanical joining as shown in [Figure 2](#).

The recommended set-up conditions of jigs for bending with a press brake are shown in [B.1](#).

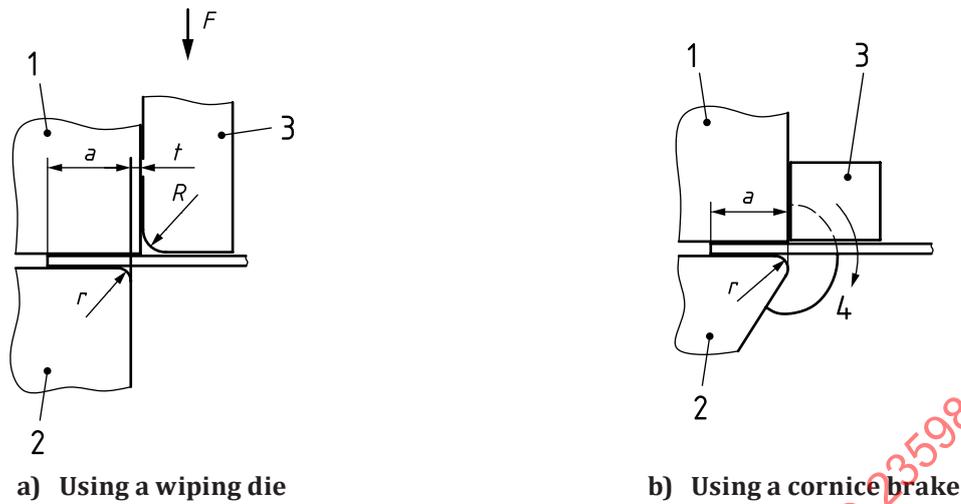
NOTE When setting the value  $l_b = a$  as shown in [Figure 2](#), the maximum error in the flange length is less than  $\pm 0,5$  mm if  $r = 2t$  and  $t \leq 4,5$  mm (see detail in [Annex C](#)).



### Key

$F_B$	bending force	$r$	radius of bent corner/bend radius
$l_b$	centre of bending (= $a$ , flange length, see <a href="#">Figure 1</a> )	$\theta$	angle

Figure 2 — Bending process with a press brake for test coupons



**Key**

1	upper jaw	$F$	force
2	lower jaw	$r$	radius of bent corner
3	die	$R$	edge radius of die
4	rotating	$a$	flange length

**Figure 3 — Examples of edge bending**

A mechanized press brake system is generally recommended for the bending although a manual press brake can be used to bend test coupons for soft and thinner test pieces. Other bending tools shown in [Figure 3](#) are also applicable to make the test coupons. The wiping die and cornice brake system can be used. An example of edge bending is shown in [Annex B](#).

**5.3 Dimensions and accuracy of bent radius**

The value of the inner radius,  $r$ , shall be set so that no large and deep cracking occurs during bending on the inner or outer surfaces of the bent corner. The radius value tested shall be recorded. The inner radius  $r$ , equal to approximately  $2t$  ( $t$ , plate thickness) is recommended. Tolerances shall be in accordance with [Table 2](#).

If any cracks are visible, with up to  $\times 5$  magnification, after bending in accordance with [5.2](#), new test specimens/coupons with larger inner radii shall be made. The value of the inner radius shall be increased until no cracking occurs on the outer side of the bend.

**6 Testing procedure and test equipment**

The test specimen is clamped in a tensile testing machine which satisfies the requirements of ISO 7500-1, such that the clamps are at the required distance from one another as shown in [Figure 1 c](#)). Force and crosshead displacement shall be measured simultaneously during testing, and the measuring accuracy shall be  $\pm 1\%$ . All tests shall be performed at room temperature until the joint fails.

If a special clamping device is used, the shape and size shall be specified in a joining procedure specification (JPS) document, and recorded.

The crosshead displacement rate of the testing machine shall be equal to 10 mm/min or less, and shall be kept constant during testing.

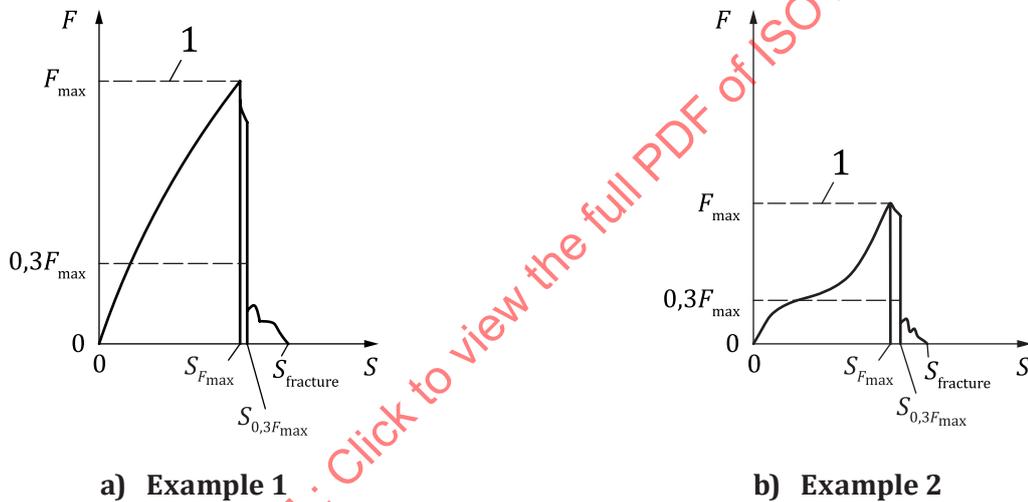
The specimen deformation shall be measured either as the crosshead displacement, or by using an appropriate displacement sensing device directly at the specimen. When using a signal from the crosshead position, it should be corrected for the stiffness of the testing machine. Results can only be compared when performed under similar displacement measuring conditions. The type of measurement and the initial measured length shall be noted in the test report.

The signals for load and specimen deformation during testing shall be recorded as shown in [Figure 4](#), so that at least the peak value of the maximum force is recorded as the MPS in the test report.

NOTE 1 If required, further characteristic data, e.g.  $W_{F_{max}}$ ,  $W_{0,3F_{max}}$  and  $W_{fracture}$ , etc. can be determined from the load-elongation curve (see [Figure 4](#)).

Test specimens for mechanized peel testing, as shown in [Figure 2b](#)), shall be made with a mechanical joining machine. The recommended set-up conditions of jigs for bending with a press brake are shown in [B.1](#).

NOTE 2 When setting the value  $l_b = a$  as shown in [Figure 2](#), the maximum error in the flange length is less than  $\pm 0,5$  mm if  $r = 2t$  and  $t \leq 4,5$  mm (see detail in [Annex C](#)).



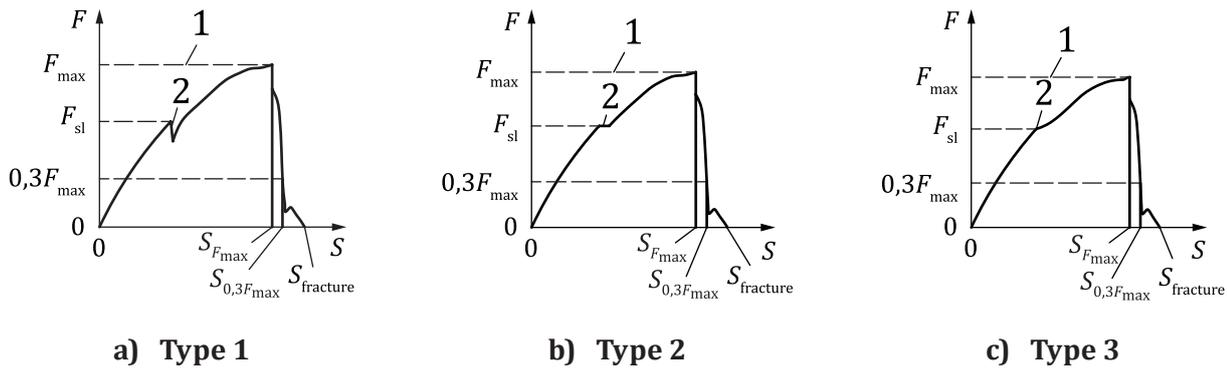
**Key**

1	mechanized peel strength	$S_{F_{max}}$	specimen deformation at maximum load
$F$	load /applied force	$S_{0,3 F_{max}}$	specimen deformation at $0,3 F_{max}$
$s$	elongation/crosshead displacement	$S_{fracture}$	specimen deformation of at which fracture occurs
$F_{max}$	mechanized peel strength		

**Figure 4** — Examples of load-elongation/crosshead displacement curves without slippage (not to scale)

If slippage occurs during the mechanized peel test (See [Figure 5](#)), the slippage load is also recorded in the test report.

NOTE 3 If slippage occurs, an accurate calculation of the dissipated energy is not possible with the formulae given in [3.9](#) to [3.11](#).



**Key**

1	mechanized peel strength	$F_{sl}$	slippage force
2	slippage	$S_{F_{max}}$	specimen deformation at maximum load
$F$	load/applied force	$0,3 F_{max}$	specimen deformation at $0,3 F_{max}$
$F_{max}$	mechanized peel strength	$S_{fracture}$	specimen deformation of at which fracture occurs
$s$	elongation/crosshead displacement		

**Figure 5 — Examples of possible slippage recorded on the load-elongation curves (not to scale)**

**7 Type of failure mode**

The type of failure mode after mechanized peel testing shall be classified in accordance with [Annex A](#), and recorded in the test report.

**8 Re-test**

If fracture occurs only from the bent corner of test specimens during mechanized peel testing in accordance with [Clause 6](#), all mechanized test results shall be disregarded, and new test specimens with larger inner radius shall be made and tested. The value of the inner radius shall be increased until no fracture occurs from the bent part, especially the location of cracks appearing on the bent corner of test specimens. When using larger radii, the radius value tested shall be recorded.

If slippage occurs during the peel test and the slippage load is lower than the required value, re-tests are required with new test specimens after a re-design of the joints, re-selection of the joining technology and/or an improved joining process.

**9 Test report**

The test report shall contain the following information:

- a) a reference to this document (i.e. ISO 23598);
- b) name of the examiner and/or the examining body;
- c) testing date, location and signature of the examiner and/or the examining body;
- d) joining technology/type of joints and description of fasteners used;
- e) joining parameters and type of joining equipment;
- f) material designation and dimensions of auxiliary materials;
- g) material designation of the joints part or the test coupons;

- h) the dimensions of the test piece and coupons/specimens;
- i) joining direction, stacking order and location of coted sides (if applicable);
- j) type of testing equipment and the setting;
- k) measuring method of elongation/crosshead displacement;
- l) value of bent radius of test coupons;
- m) individual values, mean value and standard deviation of the mechanized peel strength;
- n) measured diagram obtained by the mechanized peel testing (load – crosshead displacement diagram);
- o) individual values, mean value and standard deviation of the characteristic values, e.g. MPS, maximum displacement, slippage force, dissipate energy (if required);
- p) failure mode (pull out from bottom sheet, pull out from the fastener head, fastener failure, etc.); and
- q) special remarks, if any.

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## Annex A (normative)

### Type of joint failure in mechanized peel testing

Depending on the joining technology, different types of failure can occur. Some of these are specific to the joining technology employed and should be recorded in the test protocol. Typical failure modes for different joints are shown in [Figures A.1](#) to [A.7](#).

In addition to the failure modes shown below, non-permissible sheet separation or deformation may be defined as a failure criterion by the contracting parties.

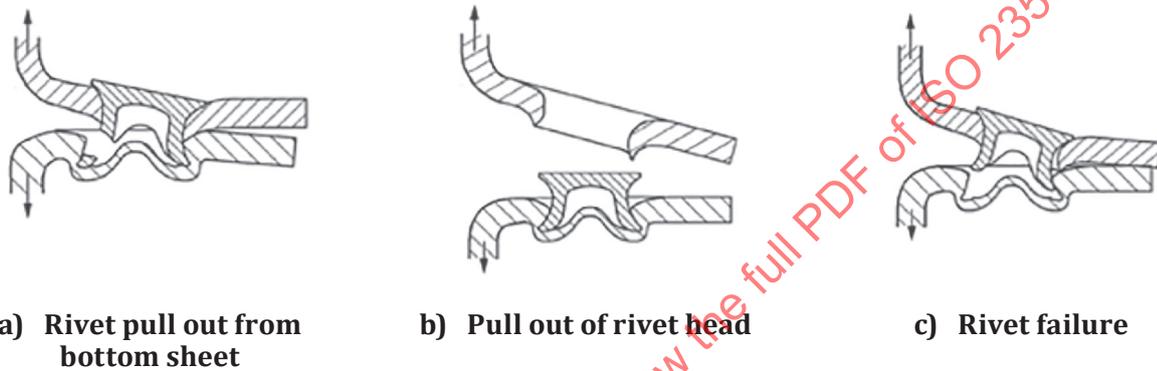


Figure A.1 — Typical failure modes of semi-tubular self-piecing rivet joints

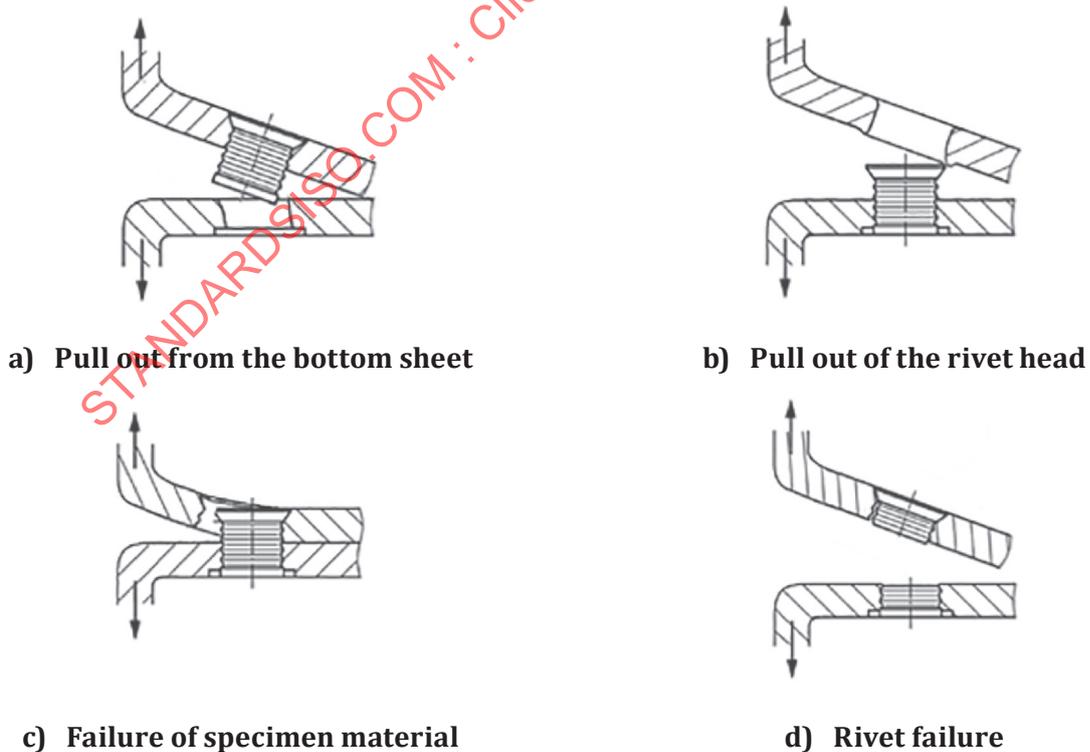


Figure A.2 — Typical failure modes of solid self-piecing rivet joints

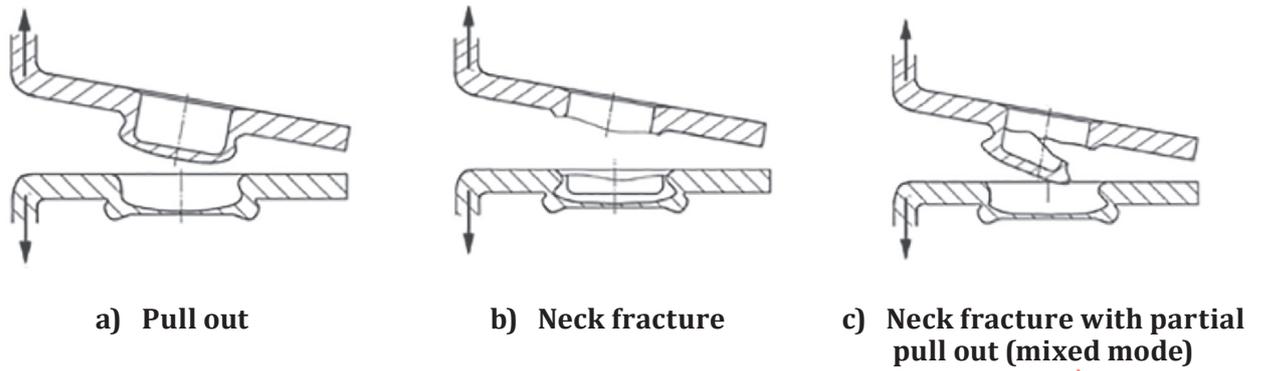


Figure A.3 — Typical failure modes of clinch joints

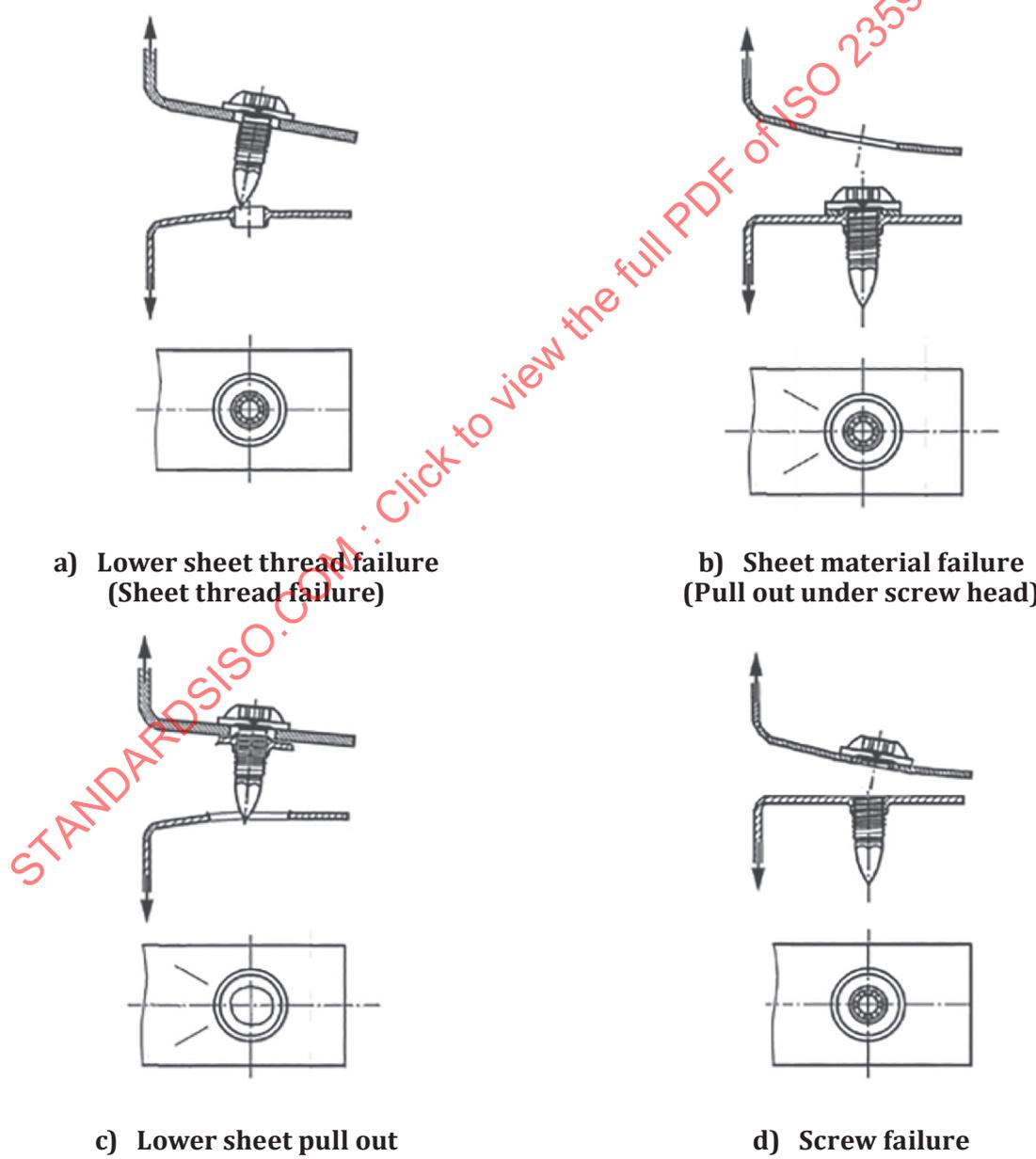
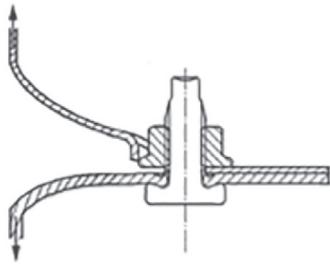
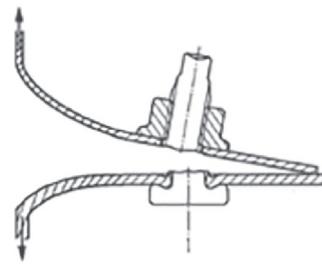


Figure A.4 — Examples of failure modes of screwed joints

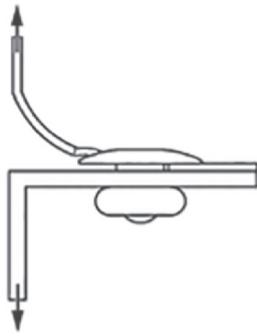


a) Pull out of weaker sheet material

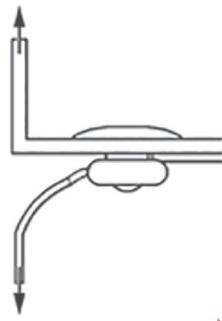


b) Shank failure

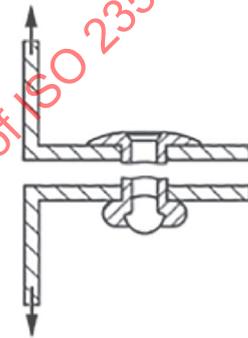
Figure A.5 — Typical failure modes of joints made with self-clinching stud



a) Sheet metal failure (Pull out)

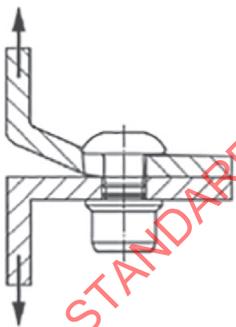


b) Closed head pull out in lower sheet

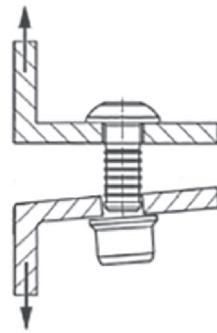


c) Rivet failure

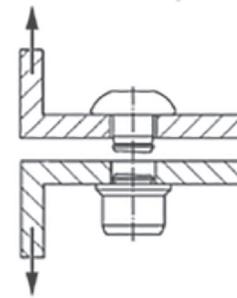
Figure A.6 — Typical failure modes of blind rivet joints



a) Sheet material pull out



b) Bolt collar failure



c) Bolt failure

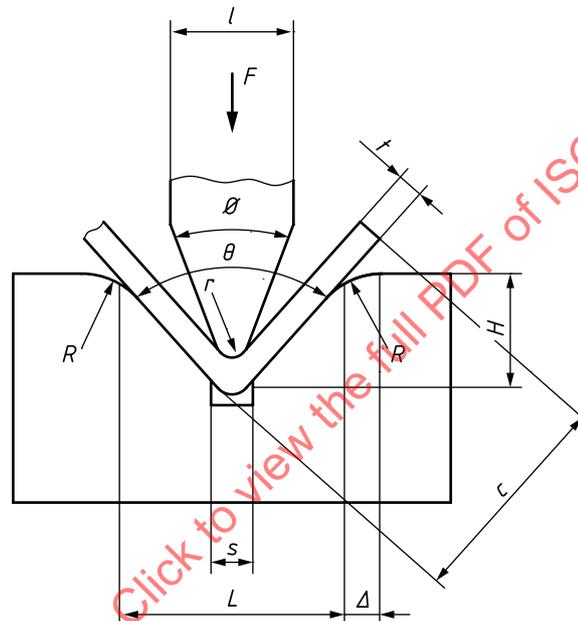
Figure A.7 — Typical failure modes of locked bolt joints

## Annex B (informative)

### Examples of bending tools

#### B.1 Recommended set-up conditions for the bending procedure with a press brake

An example of recommended bending condition is shown in [Figure B.1](#).



#### Key

$$r \approx 2t$$

$$L = 6t \sim 15t \quad (\text{where } L + 2\Delta < 2a \text{ and } a \text{ is as per } \text{Figure 1})$$

$$l = 0,5L \sim L$$

$$\theta = 86^\circ \sim 88^\circ$$

$$\varnothing = 80^\circ \sim 86^\circ$$

$$s \approx \sqrt{2}r + 0,5t$$

$$c = a + t \geq \sqrt{2}H \quad (\text{where } a \text{ is as per } \text{Figure 1})$$

$$R : 3\text{mm} \sim 8\text{mm}$$

Figure B.1 — Example of recommended dimensions of die and punch when using the press brake

#### B.2 Example of an edge bending tool

An example of tool for the edge bending of test coupons before joining is shown in [Figure B.2](#).