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**Effectiveness of paper deacidification  
processes**

*Efficacité des procédés de désacidification du papier*

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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 on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 46, *Information and documentation*, Subcommittee SC 10, *Requirements for document storage and conditions for preservation*.

## Introduction

Archives, libraries and similar institutions store written and printed documents which they are obliged to retain on a permanent basis for cultural reasons and, in some cases, in order to meet legal requirements.

Often, the condition of these documents is endangered for a number of reasons. One of these is related to the manufacturing process used for more modern types of paper.

In the industrial age, paper-making processes underwent significant changes. One of the processes affected was sizing, which, in industrial processes, was achieved by mixing additives into the fibre suspension before shaping the sheets. These additives included acidic substances like aluminium sulfate. The reaction of the sizing agent eventually leads to formation of free acids. The acids act as a catalyst for the hydrolysis of cellulose, making the material brittle. Climatic influences aggravate this process, air pollution and cellulose degradation processes are a further source of acid in paper.

Another factor for paper stability is the raw material itself. For centuries, paper was made of textile fibres like linen, hemp or cotton rags which rather deliver stable, long-chain cellulose. The search for a more abundant raw material led to the invention to produce pulp out of wood by a grinding process. The resulting ground wood paper still contains most of the lignin and hemicelluloses, in addition to cellulose. The low pulp purity and the mechanical process causing a partial cutting of fibres lead to a much weaker paper. Compared to the older rag papers, ground wood paper is also less stable on the long run.

The problem of paper degradation due to acid has developed into a tremendous problem for archives and libraries. In addition to the processes for deacidifying single sheets, such processes having been used in conservation for a long time, the past few decades have seen new developments in technical processes which can be used on a large scale to retard the further decay of cultural assets as bound volumes and single sheets ("mass deacidification").

The aim of deacidification is to appreciably improve the life expectancy of paper. This is achieved by adding an alkaline substance to neutralize existing acid and slow down future acidic degradation for at least some time (buffering, alkaline reserve). Deacidification cannot improve the actual physical properties of the paper, but in combination with proper storage, it can slow down further decay.

Without validated analytical methods, it is not possible to assess whether a paper has been deacidified, or to what degree deacidification has been successful. This Technical Specification compiles the suitable measurements.

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# Effectiveness of paper deacidification processes

## 1 Scope

This Technical Specification defines test methods and minimum requirements for paper deacidification processes regarding their effectiveness and consistency.

It is applicable for all large scale processes which offer deacidification of acid documents made of printed or hand-written paper.

Possible negative side effects of deacidification processes on the treated objects are not the subject of this Technical Specification. However, some general recommendations for how to cope with these side effects are given in [Annex A](#).

It is not specified either, which types of paper objects can be treated by large scale deacidification methods. Whatever currently available deacidification method is used, some objects might be excluded from treatment to avoid mechanical damage to paper and bindings or other unwanted side effects. The provider of the deacidification treatment should inform the customer about the limitations of the chosen method.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 535, *Paper and board — Determination of water absorptiveness — Cobb method*

ISO 536, *Paper and board — Determination of grammage*

ISO 776, *Pulps — Determination of acid-insoluble ash*

ISO 5351:2010, *Pulps — Determination of limiting viscosity number in cupri-ethylenediamine (CED) solution*

ISO 5626, *Paper — Determination of folding endurance*

ISO 5630-5:2008, *Paper and board — Accelerated ageing — Part 5: Exposure to elevated temperature at 100 degrees C*

ISO 6588-1, *Paper, board and pulps — Determination of pH of aqueous extracts — Part 1: Cold extraction*

ISO 9184-1, *Paper, board and pulps — Fibre furnish analysis — Part 1: General method*

ISO 9184-4, *Paper, board and pulps — Fibre furnish analysis — Part 4: Graff "C" staining test*

ISO 10716, *Paper and board — Determination of alkali reserve*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

### 3.1

#### **accelerated ageing**

artificially induced ageing under laboratory condition by increasing temperature and sometimes changing humidity or exposure to light in order to accelerate chemical reactions in paper like hydrolysis or oxidation to simulate processes usually occurring under natural condition but at a much slower speed

**3.2**

**alkaline reserve**

compound like calcium or magnesium carbonate neutralizing acids in paper

**3.3**

**average degree of polymerisation**

average number of anhydroglucose units (monomers of cellulose) in the cellulose macromolecule

**3.4**

**batch process**

deacidification process for a definite quantity of documents

**3.5**

**continuous process**

deacidification process for an indefinite quantity of documents

**3.6**

**deacidification**

neutralization of the organic and inorganic acids in the paper and deposit of an alkaline reserve as buffer against any subsequent acidic activity on paper

**3.7**

**extract pH**

value obtained in a water extract after the paper has been extracted under defined condition.

Note 1 to entry: Value measured with a glass electrode immersed in a definite quantity of water in which paper is dispersed in small pieces.

**3.8**

**folding endurance**

common logarithm of the number of double folds required to cause rupture in a strip of paper

**3.9**

**mass deacidification**

process of paper deacidification on a large scale

**3.10**

**process validation**

securing an operation according to preset parameters determined at processed objects

**3.11**

**routine monitoring**

monitoring carried out at regular intervals during normal operations

**3.12**

**side effects**

any unintended consequence caused by the execution of a treatment process

**3.13**

**test paper**

paper with characteristics defined in this Technical Specification, which is deacidified together with original documents and then analysed

**3.14**

**uniformity of deacidification**

homogeneous distribution of the alkaline reserve and pH across the entire sheet and within whole book blocks

## 4 Principle

Specified uniform test papers are treated together with customer's documents in a deacidification process. Afterwards, the test papers are examined using standardized test methods. The test papers are acidic and similar in their properties to common paper qualities produced in the period from around 1870 onwards. The usage of such papers ensures reliable results and allows comparing different batches, deacidification methods and treatment plants.

**NOTE** It is to be emphasized that successful tests according to this Technical Specification cannot guarantee that all documents treated in the process are deacidified to the same degree as the test papers. The result of a deacidification treatment strongly depends on the properties of the treated object, such as porosity, thickness, sizing, coating and acidity of the paper, etc. Therefore, it is impossible to guarantee that certain pH levels and alkaline reserve amounts are achieved in each object by the deacidification treatment. A passing of the tests means, however, that there is a high percentage of successfully treated objects.

## 5 Requirements

### 5.1 General

This Technical Specification defines test methods for "process validation" (initial testing) and "routine monitoring". Process validation is used to prove that a technique fulfils its defined purpose. Routine monitoring is used to check that the effectiveness determined by process validation is being achieved in the course of the actual work. Routine monitoring, therefore, is based on process validation.

For "process validation", extended test procedures should be carried out before and after accelerated ageing of the samples, including measurements of pH value, alkaline reserve, uniformity of deacidification and degree of polymerisation.

For "routine monitoring", alkaline reserve of the test papers is examined.

### 5.2 Sampling

#### 5.2.1 Material

Both process validation and routine monitoring are performed using samples of test paper, some of which are deliberately not subjected to the deacidification process serving as a reference.

**Table 1 — Test paper**

	<b>Test paper (ground wood-free)</b>	<b>According to ISO standard</b>
Fibrous material	Fully bleached sulphite pulp with hemicelluloses	ISO 9184-1, ISO 9184-4
Kaolin filler	12 %–15 % kaolin	ISO 776
Grammage	80 g/m <sup>2</sup>	ISO 536
Surface finish	none	none
Sizing	approximately Cobb 60' 20 g/m <sup>2</sup>	ISO 535
Type of sizing	Alum rosin sizing Al <sub>2</sub> (SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	none
Surface sizing	none	none
Extract pH	approximately 5	ISO 6588-1
Optical brighteners	none	none
Acidity, given as negative alkaline reserve	approximately –0,3 % MgCO <sub>3</sub>	a

<sup>a</sup> Since no ISO standard is available, the German technical specification Zellcheming ZM IV/58/80 "Prüfung von Papier, Karton und Pappe..." can be applied. See Reference [2].

### 5.2.2 Procedure

All samples should be examined within four weeks after treatment has been completed (including post treatment measures).

Before the paper is examined, any loose residues occurring as a side effect of the deacidification process should be removed by brushing.

### 5.3 Process validation

#### 5.3.1 Frequency of sampling

A complete process validation is required every four years and, additionally, following

- changes to the process technology,
- changes of chemical components or their supplier, or
- changes of the test paper for routine monitoring.

The process validation is valid for all treatment devices of a production site that use the same process and technology.

#### 5.3.2 Sample quantities and preparation of samples

The process validation is performed using identical test papers (i.e. same production batch). A quantity of 32 (+4, if folding endurance is included) test sheets, size A5 or larger, is needed for the necessary testing (see [Table 2](#)) of one treated sample set. Four treated sample sets are necessary for the process validation. The untreated sample set included, the sum of test sheets for one complete process validation is therefore 148 (+20, if folding endurance is included).

**Table 2 — Tested qualities and numbers of test sheets needed**

Tested quality	untreated test paper (one untreated sample set)		treated test paper (one treated sample set)	
	unaged	aged	unaged	aged
pH value (cold extraction)	4	4	4	4
Alkaline reserve	4	4	4	4
Uniformity of deacidification			12	—
Cellulose DP	2	2	2	2
Folding endurance (optional)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)

For batch processes, the test papers should be placed into bound volumes which are thicker than 3 cm and feature a size of at least A5. For the first sample set, 32 (+4) test papers are placed evenly throughout the bound volume starting from page number 10.

The test papers should be centred vertically and placed as close to the spine as possible. The test papers should not extend outside the book block. The second sample set is prepared the same way, but placed in a different position in the treatment chamber. The third and fourth sample set should be treated on another day, and if applicable, in another treatment device. The positions of the samples in the chamber should be documented adequately.

NOTE Service providers can supply a constructional drawing of the deacidification device with the report and mark the positions of the books containing the test papers.

For continuous processes, the test papers of one sample set should be treated alternating with sheets of original items. After further treatment of 100 sheets of original items, the second sample set should be treated to the same pattern as the first. The third and fourth sample sets should be treated according to the first two sample sets, but on a different day, and, if applicable, in another device.

### 5.3.3 Test methods and minimum requirements

#### 5.3.3.1 Accelerated ageing

Perform accelerated ageing of 10 (+2) test sheets of each of the four sample sets and 10 (+2) untreated test sheets as described in ISO 5630-5:2008, Clause 4 to 9.2.

Test tubes selected for this study shall be perfectly gas-tight and large enough to accommodate paper strips pre-cut for further measurements. It is required to perform aging for all samples simultaneously, in the same laboratory oven, using one type of a glass tube for all samples.

NOTE To ensure perfect airtightness of testing tubes, the following steps could be taken:

- original tube caps supplied with glass tubes could be exchanged for caps made of material with higher resistance to mechanical and thermal stresses (e.g. polyphenylsiloxane);
- sealing material – PTFE or silicone gaskets and o-rings should be avoided, fluoroelastomers are advisable (e.g. Viton);
- tightening of the tube with the use of the dynamometric wrench equipped with a tube cap holder, to ensure good repeatability of obtained sealing.

#### 5.3.3.2 pH value

The pH value has to be measured in an aqueous extract as described in ISO 6588-1.

The average results and the average and the relative standard deviations should be given for treated paper with and without ageing, and the results should be expressed to two significant digits.

The measured pH of the paper following deacidification has to be higher than 6,5 (before accelerated ageing).

NOTE 1 The pH value of an aged sample will normally be lower compared to those of the non-aged sample. For a given paper, ageing after deacidification should only lead to a small reduction of its pH value. It is possible that the pH value measured after accelerated ageing will level out at around 6,5, even though an alkaline reserve is still present. This is particularly true of the pH value on the paper surface which is usually one unit lower than the pH value of the cold extract. Under these conditions, however, this kind of paper can still be described as being neutral.

The pH value discussed here applies solely to the described test papers. If original papers are examined as well, special agreements on an acceptable final pH value should be reached with the customer, as the achieved pH value depends very much on the original composition of the paper.

NOTE 2 In addition to this measurement of aqueous extract pH value, measurements of surface pH value are sometimes performed. The surface pH measurement is a faster method compared to extraction pH measurement to judge the pH value of a paper. If applied correctly (see Reference [3]), surface pH measurements also allow on-site measurements of original books and documents in libraries and archives and can also be used to follow the stability of deacidification on a longer timescale. However, surface pH measurement has its limits. It works well for acidic to neutral papers and also gives reasonable data until about pH 9. Usually, surface pH measurement has been successfully used with immersion treatments. Surface pH measurement may fail to give reliable results when larger amounts of alkaline reserve deposits are present at the paper surface and the solubility limit is reached.

#### 5.3.3.3 Alkaline reserve

Determine the quantity of alkaline reserve of each of the four sample sets as described in ISO 10716. For determination of the dry matter content, it is in deviation to ISO 10716 sufficient for the purpose of this Technical Specification to weigh about 1 g to the nearest 0,001 g.

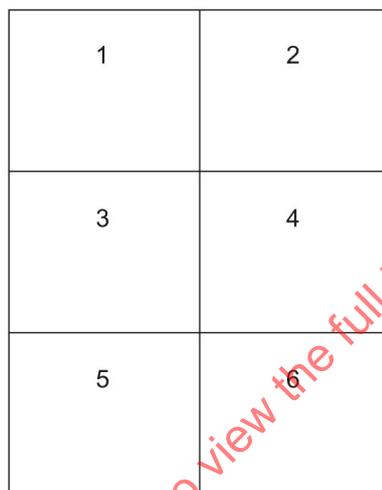
The results, the average and the relative standard deviation should be given for treated paper with and without ageing, and the results should be expressed to two significant digits.

The minimum alkaline reserve is 0,5 mass % expressed as MgCO<sub>3</sub>.

NOTE Part of the total amount of alkaline substance applied to the paper by deacidification treatment is chemically converted (“consumed”) by the neutralization reaction, and the remainder is the “alkaline reserve”. The alkaline reserve ensures that the paper is resistant to acids acting upon it due to environmental influences or degradation reactions occurring after the deacidification process.

### 5.3.3.4 Uniformity of deacidification

The uniformity of deacidification is measured by quantitative determination of the alkaline reserve, expressed as mass % MgCO<sub>3</sub>, at six different segments of a treated sample. [Figure 1](#) shows the cutting pattern for the segments.



**Figure 1 — Segments for the determination of alkaline reserve for uniformity test**

As one A5 sheet of test paper is not sufficient for analysing uniformity due to the limited sample amount (for alkaline reserve 1 g of sample is required per data point), the measurement of the alkaline reserve of the six treated paper samples is carried out as described in ISO 10716, with the following amendments: Three A5 test paper sheets are cut into six rectangular, numbered segments of equal size according to the pattern shown in [Figure 1](#). Then, the three pieces with same numbers are put together, divided into small pieces as described in ISO 10716, and the resulting pile is mixed well. About 1 g of pieces is weighed and treated as described in ISO 10716.

Alkaline reserve measured for each section should be not less than 0,5 % by weight calculated as MgCO<sub>3</sub> equivalent. In addition, the relative standard deviation of the six individual measured values is required to be less than 30 %. The lower the deviation calculated in this way, the better the uniformity of deacidification.

NOTE 1 The results of these measurements describe the distribution of the added alkaline substance over the entire surface area of the sheet of paper, not its homogeneous distribution across its thickness/cross section. For the latter, no standardized routine methods are available.

NOTE 2 Some alternative methods exist which are able to address the uptake of deacidification reagent, in most cases, the concentration of cations is analysed. However, these methods do not suffice as a full displacement of alkaline reserve determination, as most of them are not fully comparable with the actual amount of alkaline reserve. However, to estimate whether mass deacidification was homogeneous they can serve as alternative. Potential methods are based on inductively coupled plasma optical spectrometry (ICP/OES) after the alkaline reserve was extracted by acid from the paper segments, X-ray-Fluorescence scanning or FTIR/NIR and other methods which reliably report the uptake of deacidification reagent.

### 5.3.3.5 Degree of polymerisation

A pretreatment to remove the excess of alkaline reserve in the sample has to be performed as follows:

Disintegrate 1 g to 3 g of paper sample in a mixer for less than 30 s directly in 1,5 L, 0,1 M HCl at room temperature (for 3 g of paper sample with 2 % alkaline reserve this corresponds to >200 fold excess of acid when 1,5L are used). Rinse the sample thoroughly with water until washing water is neutral. Dry sample at room conditions according to ISO 5351:2010, Clause 8. The sample preparation should be adapted to the ingredients of the deacidification process.

NOTE 1 ISO 5351:2010, Clause 8 requires 10 g of material, but 1 g is sufficient for the DP sample preparation in the present case.

Determine the degree of polymerisation by measuring the viscosity average with CED as described in ISO 5351 before and after accelerated ageing. For determination of the dry matter content, it is in deviation to ISO 5351 sufficient for the purpose of this Technical Specification to weigh about 1 g to the nearest 0,001 g. The average results of the limiting viscosity number should be given for treated and untreated papers with and without ageing, and the results should be expressed in millilitres per gram.

After accelerated ageing, the limiting viscosity number of the treated paper has to be higher than that of the untreated paper.

NOTE 2 When looking at different deacidification treatments, the ratios of the limiting viscosity numbers of treated versus untreated papers after ageing can be compared if identical test papers are used.

For the calculation of DP, a  $[\eta]$ -DP relation for cellulose dissolved in CED is given in the formula below. The limiting viscosity number is converted to degree of polymerisation by  $DP = 0,9\sqrt{(1,65 \times [\eta])}$  (see Reference [5]).

NOTE 3 The degree of polymerisation describes the average chain length of a polymer, in case of paper that of the mixture of cellulose and hemicelluloses. As the stability of paper is directly related to the chain lengths of (hemi) cellulose (longer polymer chains usually give stronger papers) this parameter can be considered as very important for the entire integrity of paper. In addition, it is a sensitive measure of cellulose degradation and hence very useful to address changes upon aging before and after deacidification. The sample amount required for analysis ranges between 75 mg and 750 mg for a triple determination depending on the sample DP (samples of lower DP require higher sample amounts). DP analysis using CED is limited to samples with little or no lignin content. Excess alkaline reserve is removed prior to DP analysis with an HCl treatment step. This HCl treatment only removes alkaline reserve which can in some cases interfere with DP measurement. The treatment does not degrade cellulose.[4]

NOTE 4 For the determination of DP, also other standards (Cadoxen, Cuoxam, see Reference [1]), and more sophisticated methods like size exclusion chromatography (SEC) coupled to light scattering do exist. They are either less frequently used/offered or in case of SEC more expensive. They also yield reliable cellulose DP data.

### 5.3.3.6 Folding endurance (optional)

The machine direction folding endurance of the test papers shall be determined as described in ISO 5626 before and after accelerated ageing. The test instrument should be set with an appropriate tension to ensure that measurements give meaningful results.

NOTE For example, a typical setting for the MIT instrument would be to use a mass of 500 g for tension.

Mean folding endurance and fold number are to be determined as defined by ISO 5626.

After accelerated ageing, the fold number of the treated paper has to be higher than that of the untreated paper.

## 5.4 Routine monitoring

### 5.4.1 Frequency of sampling and sample quantities

For routine monitoring, test papers from the same batch used in process validation should be used. For batch processes, a test set consists of four test sheets A5 or larger which are placed in bound original volumes thicker than 3 cm before deacidification as described in [5.3.2](#). For continuous processes, the test papers of one test set should be treated alternating with sheets of original items.

The frequency of routine monitoring is one test set per production day and apparatus for batch processes and one test set per every five production days and apparatus for continuous processes.

The sheets are distributed randomly, but their position should be documented adequately.

### 5.4.2 Test methods and minimum requirements

#### 5.4.2.1 Alkaline reserve

The quantity of alkaline reserve shall be determined as described in ISO 10716.

The minimum requirement for alkaline reserve is 0,5 mass % expressed as  $\text{MgCO}_3$ . The greater of 0,5 mass % or 2/3 of the alkaline reserve obtained in process validation ([5.3.3.4](#)) should be reached in routine monitoring.

#### 5.4.2.2 pH measurement (optional)

The aqueous extract pH value has to be determined according to ISO 6588-1.

The pH value of the paper after deacidification has to be higher than 6,5. Additionally, it has to be at least as high as the pH value measured during the process validation ([5.3.3.2](#)) minus 0,5 pH units.

NOTE In addition to this measurement of aqueous extract pH, measurements of surface pH are sometimes performed. The surface pH is a faster method compared to extraction pH to judge the pH status of a paper. If applied correctly (see Reference [3]), surface pH measurements also allow on-site measurements in libraries and archives and can also be used to follow the stability of deacidification on a longer timescale. However, surface pH measurement has its limits. It works well for acidic to neutral papers and also gives reasonable data until about pH 9. Usually, surface pH measurement has been successfully used with immersion treatments. Surface pH measurement may fail when larger amounts of alkaline reserve deposits are present at the paper surface and the solubility limit is reached.

## 6 Report

During both process validation and routine monitoring the data should be documented in a way which is understandable for the customer. The testing laboratory shall include the following in the written report:

- a) the number and extent of the batch and/or order;
- b) the dates of treatment and period and final date of reconditioning;
- c) the date and place of testing;
- d) any other observation made directly related to the deacidified material (e.g. same batch or last examination before treatment of this respective customer) that may be of importance regarding deacidification treatment;
- e) any deviations from this Technical Specification and any circumstances that may have affected the results;
- f) for process validation: test results obtained when testing as specified in [5.3.3.2](#), [5.3.3.3](#), [5.3.3.4](#), [5.3.3.5](#) and [5.3.3.6](#) (optional), both on untreated test papers as well as on treated test papers.

In addition: test results obtained when testing as specified in [5.3.3.2](#), [5.3.3.4](#), [5.3.3.5](#) and [5.3.3.6](#) (optional), both on untreated test papers as well as on treated test papers, all of which have been subjected to accelerated ageing (in accordance with [5.3.3.1](#)). All data should be expressed as stated in this Technical Specification or in the relevant standard referred to.

For routine monitoring: Test results obtained when testing as specified in [5.4.2.1](#) and [5.4.2.2](#) (optional), both on untreated test papers and on treated test papers. The results obtained during process validation should be used as reference data. All data shall be expressed as stated in this Technical Specification or in the relevant standard referred to.

If the results of the first determination fail the limits of the used standard, a second determination is needed and should be denoted.

- g) for process validation: A statement that the tested deacidification process meets or fails to meet the requirements of this Technical Specification. In the latter case, the specific reason shall be stated.

For routine monitoring: A statement that the tested routine job meets or fails the requirements of this Technical Specification. In the latter case, the specific reason should be stated.

NOTE A sample test record form is given in [Annex B](#).

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## Annex A (informative)

### Negative side effects and insufficient deacidification

Large scale deacidification processes may lead to negative side effects like bleeding of colours (of stamps, inks, etc.), white deposits of deacidification particles on the surface of papers and bindings or slight colour changes of treated papers. The occurrence of such negative side effects is strongly dependent on the type of process and the nature of the treated objects.

Although providers of large scale deacidification treatments try to reduce the negative side effects as much as possible, it is impossible to totally avoid them within a mass treatment of very different paper objects. The same holds true for the deacidification itself which may be insufficient in some cases.

For this reason, providers of deacidification processes should indicate any process-specific side effects known to them and, before placing an order, the customer should examine these using suitable samples and weigh up risks and opportunities for each individual job, depending on the objectives of the measures. The customer then has to decide whether he considers the possible risks to be reasonable and acceptable, taking due consideration of the cultural and historical significance and/or where appropriate, the artistic value of the items.

Whatever the case may be, in addition to the methods of testing, test papers and books described here, every customer is, of course, free to carry out his own tests on any paper of his choice, preferably on original items wherever this is possible.

It goes without saying that any process for deacidifying paper should ensure the unconditional preservation of the information contained on the paper.

## Annex B (informative)

### Sample forms for documentation

#### B.1 Sample forms for documentation — Process validation test record

Table B.1 — General data

Contractor				
Process				
Process variant				
Type and quantity of treated material				
Batch number(s) (if applicable)				
Date of treatment (Sample set 1 and 2)				
Date of treatment (Sample set 3 and 4)				
Location of sample sets (only for batch processes)	Sample set 1	Sample set 2	Sample set 3	Sample set 4
Final date of reconditioning (if applicable)				
Test paper				
Year of production/batch number of test paper				
Test performed by (Lab, site)				
Date of last process validation				

Table B.2 — pH value (cold extraction) [\(5.3.3.2\)](#)

Extract pH value	Without accelerated ageing		With accelerated ageing	
	Value 1	Value 2	Value 1	Value 2
<b>Untreated</b>				
<b>Test Paper</b>				
<b>Deacidified</b>				
<b>Sample Set 1</b>				
<b>Sample Set 2</b>				
<b>Sample Set 3</b>				
<b>Sample Set 4</b>				

**Table B.3 — pH measurement:  
Mean value and relative standard deviation from four valid sample sets**

Extract pH value	Without accelerated ageing		With accelerated ageing	
	Untreated	Deacidified	Untreated	Deacidified
Minimum value				
Maximum value				
Mean value				
Relative standard deviation				

**Table B.4 — Alkaline reserve (5.3.3.3)**

% MgCO <sub>3</sub>	Without accelerated ageing		With accelerated ageing	
	Value 1	Value 2	Value 1	Value 2
	Untreated			
Test paper				
	Deacidified			
Sample set 1				
Sample set 2				
Sample set 3				
Sample set 4				

**Table B.5 — Alkaline reserve measurement:  
Mean value and relative standard deviation from four valid sample sets**

% MgCO <sub>3</sub>	Without accelerated ageing		With accelerated ageing	
	Untreated	Deacidified	Untreated	Deacidified
Minimum value				
Maximum value				
Mean value				
Relative standard deviation				

Table B.6 — Uniformity of deacidification (5.3.3.4)

% MgCO <sub>3</sub>	Without accelerated ageing									
	Deacidified									
			Sample set 1		Sample set 2		Sample set 3		Sample set 4	
			Value 1	Value 2						
Segment 1										
Segment 2										
Segment 3										
Segment 4										
Segment 5										
Segment 6										
<b>Mean value</b>										
<b>Standard deviation</b>										
<b>Relative deviation from mean value</b>										

Table B.7 — Uniformity measurement:  
Mean value, standard deviation and relative standard deviation from four valid sample sets

% MgCO <sub>3</sub>	Without accelerated ageing	
	—	Deacidified
Minimum value		
Maximum value	—	
Mean value	—	
Standard deviation	—	
Relative standard deviation	—	

Table B.8 — Degree of polymerisation (5.3.3.5)

Limiting viscosity number $[\eta]$ (ml/g)	Without accelerated ageing		With accelerated ageing	
	Value 1	Value 2	Value 1	Value 2
	Untreated			
Test paper				
	Deacidified			
Sample set 1				
Sample set 2				
Sample set 3				
Sample set 4				
	Untreated			
	Deacidified			
	Untreated			
	Deacidified			
	Untreated			
	Deacidified			
	Untreated			
	Deacidified			
	Untreated			
	Deacidified			

Table B.9 — DP measurement:  
Mean value and relative standard deviation from four valid sample sets

Degree of polymerisation	Without accelerated ageing		With accelerated ageing	
	Untreated	Deacidified	Untreated	Deacidified
Minimum value				
Maximum value				
Mean value				
Relative standard deviation				

Table B.10 — Folding endurance (5.3.3.6) (optional)

Fold number	Without accelerated ageing		With accelerated ageing	
	Mean value	Relative standard deviation	Mean value	Relative standard deviation
	Untreated			
Test paper				
	Deacidified			
Sample set 1				
Sample set 2				
Sample set 3				
Sample set 4				