The Aluminum Association Designation System for Anodized Aluminum Finishes

The Aluminum Association has developed a system of designations for finishes on aluminum. Three specific characteristics of finishes are each individually designated by a letter followed by a two or three digit number. The three finish components this system includes are mechanical finishing (M), chemical finishing (C) and coatings (A). The number which follows each of the above letters describes the type of treatment or end appearance desired. Most common category designations are as follows:

### Mechanical Finishes
- M10  Unspecified (no mechanical finishing)
- M22  Buffed to a specular finish
- M32  Medium satin directional textured

### Chemical Finishes
- C22  Medium matte sodium hydroxide etch
- C31  Highly specular chemical bright dip
- C32  Diffuse bright using both etch and bright dip

### Anodic Coatings
- A211 0.1 mil thick clear coating
- A212 0.2 mil thick clear coating
- A31 0.4 mil thick clear coating
- A33 0.4 mil thick dyed coating
- A34 0.4 mil thick with electrolytically deposited color
- A41 0.7 mil thick clear coating
- A43 0.7 mil thick dyed coating
- A44 0.7 mil thick with electrolytically deposited color

### Using the System
When all components of the designation for a desired anodized finish are determined, they are put together in a string, beginning with “AA-” to indicate that it is an Aluminum Association designation. For example, a matte champagne finish (AaCron finish #301M) would have the designation AA-M10C22A44.

### AaCron Finish  Aluminum Association Designation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AaCron Finish</th>
<th>Aluminum Association Designation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>101M</td>
<td>AA-M10C22A41 (Also called 215-R1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>102M</td>
<td>AA-M10C22A31 (Also called 204-R1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>103M</td>
<td>AA-M10C22A212 (Also called 202-R1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>201M thru 203M</td>
<td>AA-M10C22A43</td>
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<tr>
<td>300M thru 307M</td>
<td>AA-M10C22A44</td>
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<tr>
<td>321M thru 366M</td>
<td>AA-M10C22A44A43</td>
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For any bright finish, substitute the C22 with C31. For example, a bright champagne finish (AaCron finish #301B) would have the designation AA-M10C31A44.

Assistance with this system is available from AaCron’s Technical Service experts.