

November 2020

## Storage time of our products

The storage of our blank and coated strip and stamped products (hereinafter referred to as "products") may influence their quality.

Insofar as the above mentioned products are stored at consistent room temperature in a dry atmosphere and in undamaged packaging, the following applies with regard to mechanical properties, surface condition and workability:

- 1) Mechanical properties
  - The mechanical product properties (including roughness) for our products are in any case given at least for the duration of the legally required warranty period; during this period, the layer thickness, verifiable using the X-ray fluorescence method, also remains the same.
- 2) Surface condition
  - Products protected „preserved“ with oil are protected against oxidation for up to three months.
  - Bare surfaces passivated with benzotriazole or other media are protected against oxidation for up to six months.
  - Finished surfaces oxidize in the Angstrom area and can increasingly develop a slightly yellowish to black layer. However, when processed within one year, this layer is regularly removed by the relative movement during plugging due to the contact forces applied.
- 3) Processing of products with coating
  - Solderability/wettability can be impaired by the diffusion-controlled growth of the intermetallic phases, especially with thin tin layers. For precious metal coatings (e.g. with silver or gold) of products, we would recommend passivation.
  - If the storage conditions described above are observed, perfect processing can be guaranteed for up to half a year, depending on the coating process. Beyond that, however, the manufacturer's specifications of the respective coater have priority.

For the purposes of completeness only, we would like to point out that the above-mentioned Information does not extend to further processed products. Influences resulting from further processing - at your site or in the further supply chain - do not fall within our area of responsibility and must be taken into account on your part.