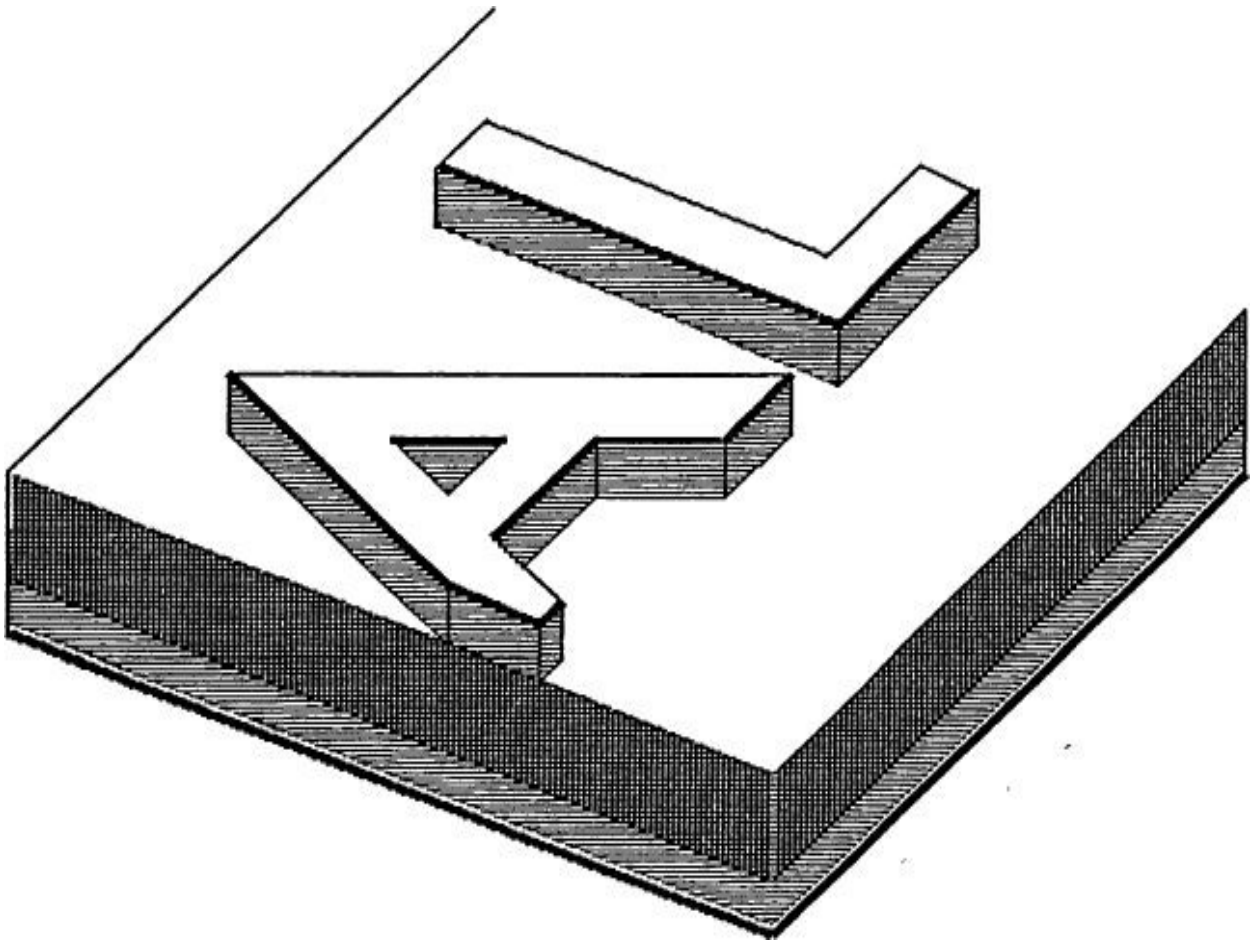
Original Bungard

Alucorex

Instructions for Use



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Preface

Due to the process of waltzing the aluminium in the factory has ALUCOREX (like all aluminum plates) a preference page. This is marked with chalk lines.

The B-side is also usable and photo-coated, but the gloss of the aluminum may have small irregularities.

Preparation

To make your ALUCOREX front plate, you need the following:

A place with subdued daylight or yellow illumination

An offset film artwork

An UV exposure set, preferably equipped with vacuum.

A developing tray

The special ALUCOREX developer

A sponge or a soft brush

Water for rinsing the plates

Protective gloves (Please read the provided security information)

To prepare the developer,dissolve the contents of 1 bag in 1 liter of water (approx. 20°C). Stir thoroughly.

You will also need water to rinse the plates and paper tissue to dry them.

Exposure

A positive film artwork will give you black (or coloured) images on an aluminium background, a negative will result in aluminium writing on a black background.

Remove the protective foil from the side of the plate which is marked by writing or labels. This side is the "good" one, the other can be used for a "second chance".

Put your film artwork on the plate.Pay attention to provide a close contact between the film and the plate (Vacuum). For finest line definition, the emulsion side of the film must face the board.

The exposure time depends on the intensity of the UV source. For units equipped with superactinic tubes, the range of exposure time is from one to four minutes. Good layout film assumed, over-exposure is not critical.

Developing

To obtain best results, you should use only our special developer for ALUCOREX.

The exposed side facing up, put the cliche into the tray filled with developer.

After a few seconds, the exposed image will appear. You should then take the brush and slightly sweep the plate until all exposed parts appear in a metallic silver. Small gas bubbles will appear after about 3 to 4 minutes, indicating that developing has been completed successfully.

After having finished the developing, you should rinse thoroughly with plenty of water. Please use paper tissue or similar to dry it.

Finish

At the last step, please remove the remaining photoresist from the sheet using a solvent like aceton or spirit (alcohol). This is in order to remove the (coloured) photoresist from the anodized surface.

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Developer

The special developer is a white granulate shipped in small plastic bags. One bag must be entirely dissolved in 1 litre of water. You may store the fresh made developer solution in a tightly closed plastic or glass bottle. Kept in an open tray for some hours, the solution will become inactive.

Do not pour used developer back to fresh solution. Use only as much of fresh developer as instantly required. Used up developer makes it hard to do correct developing. Following these hints will help you saving costs and will give best results.

Safety

To avoid any risk of damage to your health, please pay attention to the following safety rules:

Avoid any contact of the chemicals to skin and eyes. Wear plastic gloves when handling the developer. Immediately change any contaminated clothes and wash with plenty of water. Keep the chemicals out of the reach of children. When swallowed, drink plenty of water and immediately seek medical advice.

Troubleshooting

Making your own ALUCOREX plate is quick and easy. If you encounter any problem, though, please follow the hints given below.

- The image appears but will not clearly develop:
  - → Exposure time was too short.
- Loss of fine lines:
  - → No good contact between artwork and plate.
- Developing takes too long:
  - → Developer has expired, is too weak or too cold.
  - → Exposure time was too short.
- Bright spots on the black surface:
  - → Developing exceeded 5 to 6 minutes.
  - → Developer is too strong or not well stirred.
  - → Film is not opaque.

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