



## Short Nickel Test

**Sheffield Assay Office/Analytical Services has seen a rise in demand, driven by the retail sector, for a faster Nickel test which can be used to complement the current range of accepted testing procedures.**

The Short Test, developed from an in-house verification, is available for our customers and should prove superior to PD CR 12471:2002 - *'Screening tests for nickel release from alloys and coatings in items that come into direct and prolonged contact with the skin'*.

The Short Test method and results are supported by extensive research work, the data correlating particularly well with that from identical samples tested using the BSEN 1811 / BSEN 12472 procedures. Whilst it is not an absolute confirmation of compliance, the Short Test is an excellent guide to the outcome of a BSEN 1811/ BSEN 12472 procedure and the EC Nickel Directive.

Although the Nickel Directive, and SI 2005:No 2001, demands the use of BSEN 1811 / BSEN 12472 for ultimate compliance, this Short Test can be requested as part of a Due Diligence or SAO Certificate of Conformity scheme. The cost is £25.00 (plus VAT) per article. It provides a fast and cost effective addition in support of the accepted testing procedures.

The Short test is a fast screening test procedure which can be reported within three working days. Each component will be reported.

On the report components are listed as 'Pass', 'Review' or 'Fail'; this being the expected result if the article had been tested to BSEN 1811 - *'Reference test method for release of nickel from products intended to come into direct and prolonged contact with the skin'*.

In some cases, where the probable outcome is not clear, a new article will require submitting for the BSEN12472/BSEN 1811 test.

### Notes:

The Short Test alone does not show compliance under the current EC Directive.

The Short test includes the simulated wear test from BSEN 12472 - 'Method for the simulation of wear and corrosion for the detection of nickel release from coated items', prior to the item being tested for nickel release.

The Nickel release part of the Short test is based upon PDCR 12471:2002 - combined with XRF screening techniques.

The Short test is not recommended for the testing of piercing post assemblies as there is a lower nickel release requirement of 0.2 micrograms of nickel per square centimetre per week.

Further information is available on our website  
[www.assayoffice.co.uk/Analytical-Services/Short\\_Nickel\\_Test.asp](http://www.assayoffice.co.uk/Analytical-Services/Short_Nickel_Test.asp)



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