

CIRCLE SYSTEMS, INC.

479 West Lincoln
P.O. Box 1228
Hinckley, IL 60520
Ph.: 815-286-3271
Fax: 815-286-3352
customerservice@circlesafe.com



TECHNICAL BULLETIN #223

Type A Magnetic Stripe Cards

The Type A Magnetic Stripe Card is a simple tool that assists in evaluating the sensitivity of wet method and dry method magnetic particle inspection materials. The stripe on the card contains a standardized pattern of magnetic lines across the length of the stripe. Particles are attracted to these lines and form visual indications. The card acts as a test piece and supplement to the ASTM D-96 settling tube, Ketos ring and other tests for magnetic particle inspection materials.

The Type A high coercivity card (3600 Oersted) is recommended to evaluate dry method particles and larger sized wet method particles.

Apply the material over the magnetic stripe. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO MAGNETIZE THE STRIPE IN ANY WAY.** Observe the indications under applicable visible or black light. Individual lines should appear smooth and uniform for an acceptable material. Lines that appear spotty or broken may indicate contamination, low concentration or other problems with the particles. For permanent documentation allow particle indications to completely dry and “lift off” the indications with transparent tape. Reattach the tape to Circle Systems Form 93-MSC-1 or other suitable reference document.

Contact Circle Systems or your Circle Systems representative with any questions regarding the use of magnetic stripe cards. Technical Bulletin #224 describes the magnetic properties of the Type A Card.

NOTE: Personal credit cards and bank cards should not be used to evaluate materials, at the risk of permanent damage to those cards.

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