

METKON Application Note

Metallographic preparation of sensor (for exhausting gas)



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Automotive oxygen sensors, colloquially known as O_2 sensors, make modern electronic fuel injection and emission control possible. They help determine, in real time, if the air-fuel ratio of a combustion engine is rich or lean. Since oxygen sensors are located in the exhaust stream,

they do not directly measure the air or the fuel entering the engine but when information from oxygen sensors is coupled with information from other sources, it can be used to indirectly determine the air-fuel ratio. Closed loop feedback-controlled fuel injection varies the fuel injector output according to real-time sensor data rather than operating with a predetermined (open-loop) fuel map. In addition to enabling electronic fuel injection to work efficiently, this emissions control technique can reduce the amounts of both unburnt fuel and oxides of nitrogen entering the atmosphere. Unburnt fuel is pollution in the form of air-borne hydrocarbons, while oxides of nitrogen (NO_x gases) are a result of combustion chamber temperatures exceeding 1,300 Kelvin due to excess air in the fuel mixture and contribute to smog and acid rain.

The sensor does not actually measure oxygen concentration, but rather the difference between the amount of oxygen in the exhaust gas and the amount of oxygen in air. Rich mixture causes an oxygen demand. This demand causes a voltage to build up, due to transportation of oxygen ions through the sensor layer. Lean mixture causes low voltage, since there is an oxygen excess.

In this application, sensor (for exhausting gas from automobile) sample will cut with longitudinal direction.



Sample and cutting direction:





	Order Code	Description			
Equipment Used	17 06	MICRACUT 201			
	GR 0825	Manual X-axis positioning unit			
Clamping Device	GR 0453	Fastener vise for longitudinal sectioning			
Cooling Fluid 19 905		METCOOL II Cooling Fluid, 1 It.			
Cutting Disc	19-150	DIMOS Ø150 mm			



	Order Code	Description		
Equipment Used	25 07	ECOPRESS 100		
	26 06-02	Mould Assembly, 40mm		
Mounting Powder	29-010	NET 1kg.		



	Order Code	Description			
Equipment Used	45 03	DIGIPREP 251			
Accessories	31 22	Aluminum Disc, 250 mm			
	31 63	Splash Guard, 250 mm			
	39-003-250	Ø 250 mm, Special Magnetic Foil			
	39-093-250	Ø 250 mm, Thin Metal Plate(5 pcs)			
Sample Holder	33 01	Sample holder, 6 x Ø40 mm			

Samples clamped with the GR 0453 Fastener vise and fix to the MICRACUT 201 table with the help of GR 0825 Manual X-axis positioning unit.

First, plastic connector was cut.



In the second cutting, sample was cut with longitudinal direction.











Cutting parameters are: Feed rate: 50 μ /sec. RPM: 3000 r/min.

Sample mounted with ECOPRESS 100 Automatic mounting press.





Mounting parameters;

Heating Temperature	: 180°C
Pressure	: 250 bar
Heating Time	: 3 mins.
Cooling Type	: Slow cooling Open:5 Close:30
Cooling Temperature	: 35°C

Samples have been prepared with the parameters below;

	Surface	Abrasive	Lubricant	Force per sample(N)	Time(min.)	Disk speed(rpm)	Head speed(rpm)
Grind. Step 1	<i>DEMPAX</i> [38-040-320]	320 grit SiC	Water	20 N	Until Plane.	250 CW	100 CW
Grind. Step 2	<i>DEMPAX</i> [38-040-600]	600 grit SiC	Water	20 N	2 min.	250 CW	100 CW
Grind. Step 3	<i>DEMPAX</i> [38-040-1200]	1200 grit SiC	Water	20 N	2 min.	250 CW	100 CW
Polishing Step 1	<i>Metapo-P</i> [39-013-250]	<i>DIAPAT-M 6µ</i> [39-430-M]	<i>DIAPAT</i> [39-502]	25 N	4 min.	150 CW	75 CCW
Polishing Step 2	<i>Metapo-B</i> [39-033-250]	DIAPAT-M 3µ [39-420-M]	<i>DIAPAT</i> [39-502]	25 N	2 min.	150 CW	75 CCW
Polishing Step 3	FEDO-1 [39-065-250]	DIAPAT-M 1µ [39-410-M]	<i>DIAPAT</i> [39-502]	20 N	1 min.	150 CW	50 CCW



Sample photos from under the microscope.





200x



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