The World Standard
For over 50 years, Q-PANEL® brand test substrates have been recognized as the world standard for a consistent and uniform test surface.

Thousands of labs use millions of our steel and aluminum panels every year for color development, weathering exposures, salt spray and corrosion testing, physical properties testing and quality control. A wide range of panel sizes and types are available for immediate shipment from stock.

Steel and Aluminum Test Substrates
Q-PANEL brand test substrates from Q-Lab minimize metal variability as a source of bias in critical tests. They are clean, consistent, convenient, and economical. Your satisfaction is guaranteed.

Clean. The production process thoroughly cleans panels and removes any oil from the surface. Minimal handling assures that all panels are completely clean when they are packaged.

Consistent. Three factors assure consistent quality at low cost:
- Volume metal purchasing from selected mills.
- Automated production on a high-speed line.
- Rigorous inspection at several processing stages.

Convenient. Panels are supplied pre-cleaned, with a ¼” (6 mm) Q-shaped hole. For safety and ease of handling, the panels have rounded corners and deburred edges. Steel panels are packed in plastic with a vapor phase rust inhibitor, inside a sturdy cardboard carton, for a shelf life of up to 10 years.

Economical. Because of high volume production, our panels cost less than you might expect for a standardized surface. Purchasing clean, safe, standardized panels reduces the time lab personnel must spend cleaning and handling panels.

Panel Handling & Storage Tips
- Panels should be handled as little as possible. Always grasp them by the edges, to avoid fingerprints or smudging, and use clean white gloves whenever possible.

- In most cases the panels can be used right out of the box. However, for some critical applications it may be necessary to remove traces of the rust inhibitor with a distilled water or MEK wipe prior to coating the panel.

- Inventory panels in their original packaging in a dry, climate controlled area with minimal exposure to water, excessive dust, or pollution.
Standard Panels
Standard panels are available in a wide range of sizes and finishes.

Special Panels
In addition to our standard panels, we can also make types and sizes not shown on our regular price lists. These include specials from 1” (2.54 cm) circles to 15” x 24” (38 cm x 61 cm) formed automotive panels. Customers such as architectural firms specify aluminum panels to coat and use as sales samples.

Special panels may be ordered in a variety of shapes, sizes, alloys and finishes. These specials are most cost-effective when there are quantities sufficient to allow an economical production run, and when the material is available from our stock metal or readily available alloys.

Q-PANEL Brand Test Panels Are the World Standard in Research, Development & Quality Control
Labs around the world use our steel and aluminum panels for testing coatings, plating, adhesives, sealants and rust inhibitors. Since 1956, the Q-PANEL brand has set the standard for clean, consistent material quality and finishes at an affordable price.

Look for the Q-shaped hole.
It’s our trademark...
and your assurance of quality!