What Every Scrap Alloy Plant Needs To know **Jitimate Aluminum Alloy Sorting Guide**

Want productivity and accuracy?

You'll be amazed!

No, really.

one-second tests, all day long, lf you want 100% accuracy in Even Aluminum Alloys day after day, after day?

There's only one.

X-250 Scrapper

Designed specifically for the scrap industry

by the originators of handheld X-ray gun technology.

Schedule a demo today.

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Ultimate Aluminum Alloy Sorting Guide for Handheld XRF

There are traditionally two approaches to sort aluminum alloys with handheld X-ray. The value of these two approaches is determined by the desired testing speed, and how finely the aluminum grades need to be sorted.



SciAps X-250 provides an ultra-fine level of aluminum grade sorting, with the same speed (1-2 seconds) and simplicity as the basic units.

XRF

TECHNOLOGY



How do we do this? Two ways.

Our unique **X-ray tube design** optimizes fast measurement of magnesium (Mg) and silicon (Si), critical elements to aluminum sorting.

Our patent-pending **Aluminum App** takes a smarter approach to sorting even highly similar Al alloys.

Degree of Aluminum Sorting	XRF Type	Pros	Cons
Basic Sorting Sorting into most likely grade type. Examples: 2024 type, 7050/7075 type, 3003 type, mixed low coppers (MLCs).	PiN or SDD type guns. Most models will do this level of sorting in 1-2 seconds (SDD) or 3-5 seconds (PiNs).	 Fast, easy for basic Al sorting. Even least expensive X-ray guns can do this level of sorting. Minimal operator decision-making required. Anodized material generally has no impact on sorting result, since no magnesium (Mg) or silicon (Si) measurement. If your business only requires a basic level of sorting, this approach may be enough. 	No measurement of Si or Mg, so cannot reliably separate into more specific grades. Frequent mix-ups of common alloy and subsequent downgrades or rejections. For example: • 6063/1100 mixes, • Cannot separate between 3000 series grades like 3003/3004/3005/3105, • Calls every 5000 a 5052, • Mixes common 2000s like 2014/2024 and mixes in many cast grades, • Mixes 6000s and 3000s.
Advanced Sorting Measure Mg and Si, allowing for finer sorting by aluminum grade.	Only SDD type X-ray guns. SciAps X-250 sorts in 1-2 seconds. SciAps X-200 sorts in 6-8 seconds. All other X-ray gun brands require 15-60 seconds depending on magnesium (Mg) concentration in alloy.	 Easily sort grades that only differ by low levels of Mg or Si, if this makes sense economically. Eliminate 6063/1100 mix-ups forever, Sort within 2000s for higher pricing, 2014 from 2024, Sort within 3000s: 3003/3004/3005, A356 from A357 (only difference is 0.2% Mg), Sort cast aluminums by Si content, 3105 from 6061, and other 6000s like 6022, etc., Separate 5000 grades like 5052, 5083, 5005, etc. Many more – inquire with SciAps. 	Advanced sorting units cost more money, so is the faster, more advanced sorting worth the extra cost of the device? Somewhat higher level of operator training and aluminum alloy knowledge is preferred but not required. Sometimes operator may have to grind or wipe material since surface dirt often contains silicon (Si). Anodized aluminum requires grinding in order to measure Mg and Si.

Note: SciAps is the only XRF that detects the presence of anodized aluminum and warns operator!

