

**activation (in electrochemical corrosion)**

The process of transition from the passive to the active state by removal of the passivating film.

A necessary condition for activation is an electrode potential negative to the equilibrium potential of formation of the passivating film. Activation is achieved by cathodic currents, by a reduced substance in the adjacent solution, or by contact with an electronic conductor having a suitably negative corrosion potential.

See also *passive state*, *active state*.

1989, 61, 21