PATENT CLAIMS

1. An aluminum alloy strip or sheet, which is fabricated via hot and/or cold rolling, and consists of a type AA 5182, AA 6xxx or AA 8xxx aluminum alloy,
characterized in that,
after degreasing, the finished-rolled aluminum alloy strip exhibits an increase in the luminance value L* ($\Delta$L) in relation to the rolled-greasy state of more than 5 while measuring the color of the surface in the CIE L*a*b* color space using a standard illuminant D65 and an observation angle of 10°, excluding direct reflection in 45°/0° geometry, achieved by degreasing with an alkaline pickle and a subsequent acid rinse of the aluminum alloy strip.

2. The aluminum alloy strip or sheet according to claim 1, characterized in that
the aluminum alloy strip consists of a type AA 5182 aluminum alloy, and reaches a luminance value L* of greater than 40 while measuring the color of the surface in the CIE L*a*b* color space using a standard illuminant D65 and an observation angle of 10°, excluding direct reflection in 45°/0° geometry.

3. The aluminum alloy strip or sheet according to claim 1 or 2,
characterized in that
the aluminum alloy strip is intermediately and/or finally annealed.

4. The aluminum alloy strip or sheet according to one of claims 1 to 3,

characterized in that
the aluminum alloy strip exhibits a thickness of 0.05 mm to 0.9 mm.

5. The aluminum alloy strip or sheet according to one of claims 1 to 4,
characterized in that
the degreased aluminum alloy strip is surface passivated and/or varnished.

6. A method for manufacturing an aluminum alloy strip with an improved surface optics, in particular an aluminum alloy strip according to one of claims 1 to 5, in which the aluminum alloy strip is fabricated out of a type AA 5182, AA 6xxx or AA 8xxx aluminum alloy, and exposed at least to cold rolling with the use of a rolling oil,
characterized in that
the finished-rolled aluminum alloy strip is subjected to degreasing with the use of an alkaline pickle, after which the aluminum alloy strip goes through an acid rinse and the alkaline pickle encompasses the following constituents: at least 1.5 to 3 wt% of a mixture of 5 to 40 wt% sodium tripolyphosphate, 3 to 10 wt% sodium gluconate, 3 to 8 wt% nonionic and anionic surfactant, optionally 0.5 to 70 wt% sodium carbonate, preferably 30 to 70 wt% sodium carbonate, wherein caustic soda lye is added to the aqueous solution, so that the caustic soda lye concentration measures 0.2 to 2.5 wt%, wherein the pickling rate is adjusted to the desired degree of brightness for the surface of the aluminum alloy strip, wherein an increase in the luminance value L* ($\Delta$L) in relation to the rolled-greasy state of more than 5 is achieved while measuring the color of the surface in the

CIE L*a*b* color space using a standard illuminant D65 and an observation angle of 10°, excluding direct reflection in 45°/0° geometry.

7. The method according to claim 6, characterized in that the aluminum alloy strip is subjected to intermediate or final annealing during or after rolling.

8. The method according to claim 6 or 7, characterized in that the retention time of the aluminum alloy strip in the degreasing medium measures 1 to 8 s, preferably 2 to 6 s.

9. The method according to one of claims 6 to 8, characterized in that the temperature of the degreasing medium measures 65°C to 75°C.

10. The method according to one of claims 6 to 9, characterized in that the acid rinse takes place using a nitric acid or sulfuric acid.

11. The method according to one of claims 6 to 10, characterized in that degreasing and rinsing are followed by surface passivation.

12. The method according to one of claims 6 to 11, characterized in that the aluminum alloy strip is varnished after degreasing.

13. Use of an aluminum alloy strip according to one of claims 1 to 5,
characterized in that
the aluminum alloy strip is used to manufacture packaging, cans, can lids, blister packaging, skylights, shutter wands and panels, composites, valve disk lids and containers.