1. Steel strip arrives at the can manufacturing plant in large coils.

2. Steel strip is cut into large sheets.

3. Lacquer is applied to the side of the sheets that will become the internal surfaces of the finished cans and print is applied to decorate the external surface.
How a steel Aerosol can is made

4. The lacquered and printed sheets are dried in an oven

5. The large sheets are slit into small sheets, one for each can body.

6. Each small sheet is rolled into a cylinder.
7. The cylinder edges are welded by squeezing them together whilst passing an electric current through. This heats up the metal sufficient for a sound joint to be made.

8. The inside surface of the weld is sprayed with lacquer and then cured by blowing heated air onto the outside of the cans.

9. The can is passed through a necker / flanger machine where the diameter of the wall is reduced (necked-in) and the top & bottom of the can wall are flanged outwards to accept ends.
10. A cone top is fitted to the top of the can to accept the valve/spray mechanism which is fitted after filling with product.

A domed end is fitted to the can base to withstand the internal pressure.

11. Every can is tested at each stage of manufacture. At the final stage it passes through a pressure tester, which automatically rejects any cans with pinholes or fractures.

12. The finished can bodies are then transferred to the warehouse to be automatically palletised before despatch to the filling plant.