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 if necessary print is applied to the external surfaces.
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.
How a General Line paint can is made

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 cans are passed through a flanger where the top and bottom of the can are flanged outwards to accept the ends.
10. Plain ends are fixed to the can bodies to close one end of every can.

11. A ring is fixed to the top flange of the can body to hold the lever lid which is pressed into place after the can is filled.
12. The finished can bodies are then transferred to the warehouse to be automatically palletised before despatch to the filling plant.