
INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



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ISO general purpose metric screw threads — Tolerances — Principles and basic data

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FOREWORD

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards institutes (ISO Member Bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO Technical Committees. Every Member Body interested in a subject for which a Technical Committee has been set up has the right to be represented on that Committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work.

Draft International Standards adopted by the Technical Committees are circulated to the Member Bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

Prior to 1972, the results of the work of the Technical Committees were published as ISO Recommendations; these documents are now in the process of being transformed into International Standards. As part of this process, International Standard ISO 965/1 replaces ISO Recommendation R 965/1-1969 drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 1, *Screw threads*.

The Member Bodies of the following countries approved the Recommendation :

Argentina	France	Romania
Australia	Germany	South Africa, Rep. of
Austria	Greece	Spain
Belgium	India	Sweden
Brazil	Israel	Switzerland
Canada	Italy	Turkey
Chile	Japan	United Kingdom
Czechoslovakia	Korea, Rep. of	U.S.A.
Denmark	Netherlands	Yugoslavia
Egypt, Arab Rep. of	New Zealand	
Finland	Norway	

No Member Body expressed disapproval of the Recommendation.

This International Standard is one of a number of ISO publications determining tolerances for ISO metric screw threads. The complete set is made up as follows :

ISO 965/I, *ISO general purpose metric screw threads – Tolerances – Principles and basic data.*

ISO 965/II, *ISO general purpose metric screw threads – Tolerances – Limits of sizes for commercial bolt and nut threads – Medium quality.*

ISO 965/III, *ISO general purpose metric screw threads – Tolerances – Deviations for constructional threads.*

ISO/R 1501, *ISO miniature screw threads.*

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ISO general purpose metric screw threads — Tolerances — Principles and basic data

1 SCOPE AND FIELD OF APPLICATION

This International Standard specifies a tolerance system for screw threads conforming to ISO 261, *ISO general purpose metric screw threads — General plan*.

The tolerance system refers to the basic profile according to ISO 68, *ISO general purpose screw threads — Basic profile*.

2 STRUCTURE OF THE TOLERANCE SYSTEM

The system gives tolerances defined by tolerance grades and tolerance positions and a selection of grades and positions.

The system provides for :

- a) A series of *tolerance grades* for each of the four screw thread diameters, as follows :

	Tolerance grades
Minor diameter of nut threads (D_1)	4, 5, 6, 7, 8,
Major diameter of bolt threads (d)	4, 6, 8
Pitch diameter of nut threads (D_2)	4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Pitch diameter of bolt threads (d_2)	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Details of tolerance grades and combinations of tolerance grades for pitch and crest diameters according to tolerance quality and length of engagement group required, with an order of preference, are shown in section 11.

- b) Series of *tolerance positions*, G and H for nut threads and e, g and h for bolt threads. The established tolerance positions comply with the need of current coating thicknesses and with the demands of easy assembly.

- c) *Selection* of recommended combinations of grades and positions (*tolerance classes*) giving the commonly used tolerance qualities Fine, Medium and Coarse for the three groups of length of thread engagement Short, Normal and Long. Moreover a *further selection of tolerance classes* is given for commercial bolt and nut threads. Tolerance classes other than those shown in section 11 are not recommended and shall only be used for special cases.

3 TERMINOLOGY AND SYMBOLS

3.1 Terminology

The term “bolt threads” is used for external screw threads, the term “nut threads” for internal screw threads.

3.2 Symbols

The following symbols are used :

Symbol	Explanation
D	basic major diameter of nut thread
D_1	basic minor diameter of nut thread
D_2	basic pitch diameter of nut thread
d	basic major diameter of bolt thread
d_1	basic minor diameter of bolt thread
d_2	basic pitch diameter of bolt thread
P	pitch
R	bolt root radius
S	designation for thread engagement group Short
N	designation for thread engagement group Normal
L	designation for thread engagement group Long
T	tolerance
T_{D_1}, T_{D_2}	tolerances for D_1, D_2, d, d_2
T_d, T_{d_2}	
ei, EI	lower deviations
es, ES	upper deviations

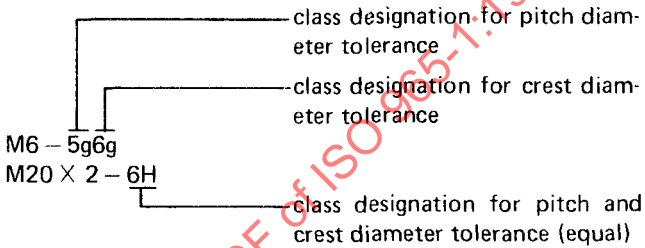
The tolerance class designation comprises a class designation for the pitch diameter tolerance followed by a class designation for the crest diameter tolerance.

Each class designation consists of

- a figure indicating the tolerance grade;
- a letter indicating the tolerance position, capital for nuts, small for bolts.

If the two class designations for a thread are equal, it is not necessary to repeat the symbols.

Examples :



If considered necessary, the designation for the group of length of thread engagement may be added to the class designation.

A fit between threaded parts is indicated by the nut thread tolerance class followed by the bolt thread tolerance class separated by a stroke.

Examples :

M6 - 6H/6g
M20 x 2 - 6H/5g6g

For coated threads, the tolerances apply to the parts *before* coating, unless otherwise stated. After coating, the actual thread profile shall not in any point transgress the maximum material limits for position H or h respectively.

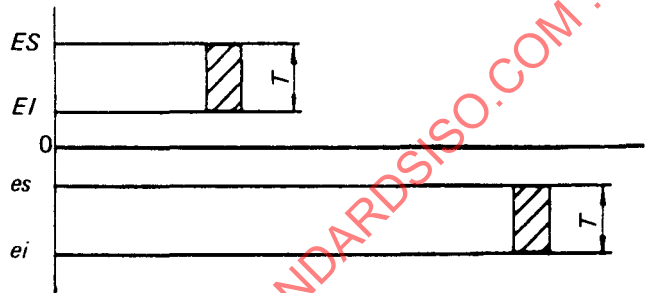


FIGURE 1 — Tolerance positions with respect to zero line (basic size)

4 DESIGNATION

The complete designation for a screw thread comprises a designation for the thread system and size and a designation for the thread tolerance class.

The thread designations appear in the International Standards for ISO general purpose metric screw threads.

5 TOLERANCE GRADES

For each of the two main elements, pitch diameter and crest diameter, a number of tolerance grades have been established. In each case, grade 6 shall be used for tolerance quality Medium and Normal length of thread engagement. The grades below 6 are intended for tolerance quality Fine and/or Short lengths of thread engagement. The grades above 6 are intended for tolerance quality Coarse and/or Long lengths of thread engagement. In some grades, certain tolerance values for small pitches are not shown because of insufficient thread overlap or the requirement that the pitch diameter tolerance shall not exceed the crest diameter tolerance.

6 TOLERANCE POSITIONS

The following tolerance positions are standardized :

- for nuts : G with positive fundamental deviation
H with zero fundamental deviation
- for bolts : e and g with negative fundamental deviation
h with zero fundamental deviation.

Tolerance position e is, however, limited to pitches 0,5 and coarser.

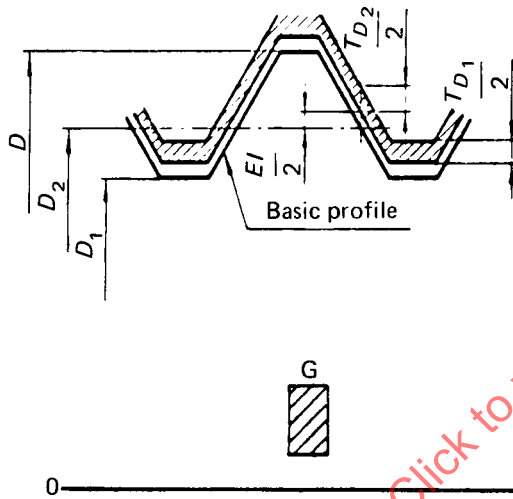


FIGURE 2 — Nut threads with tolerance position G

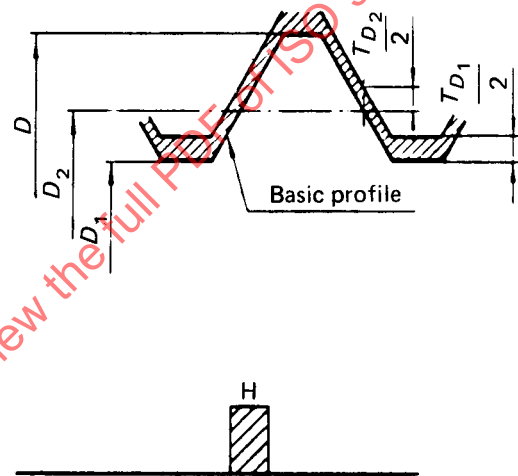


FIGURE 3 — Nut threads with tolerance position H

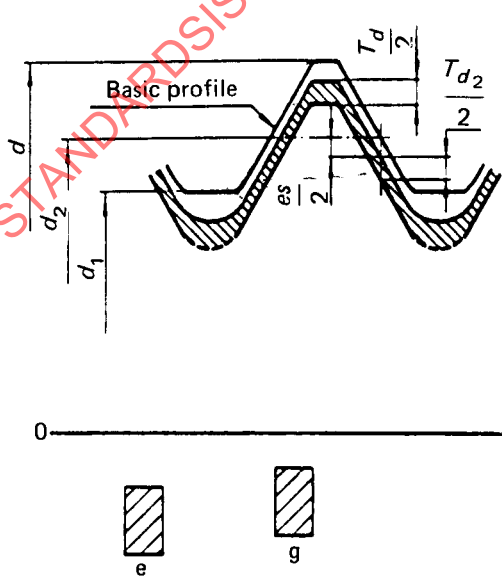


FIGURE 4 — Bolt threads with tolerance positions e and g

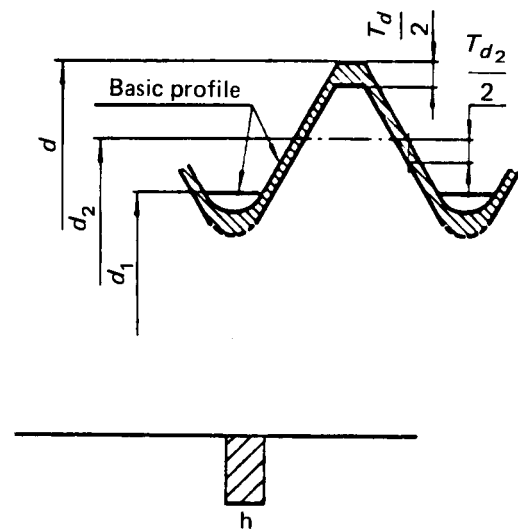


FIGURE 5 — Bolt threads with tolerance position h

7 LENGTHS OF THREAD ENGAGEMENT

The length of thread engagement is classified into one of three groups, S, N, or L, in accordance with Table 2.

TABLE 2 — Lengths of thread engagement

Dimensions in millimetres

TABLE 1 — Fundamental deviations for nut threads and bolt threads

Pitch <i>P</i>	Fundamental deviation				
	Nut thread <i>D</i> ₂ , <i>D</i> ₁		Bolt thread <i>d</i> , <i>d</i> ₂		
	G <i>EI</i>	H <i>EI</i>	e <i>es</i>	g <i>es</i>	h <i>es</i>
	mm	μm	μm	μm	μm
0,2	+ 17	0		− 17	0
0,25	+ 18	0		− 18	0
0,3	+ 18	0		− 18	0
0,35	+ 19	0		− 19	0
0,4	+ 19	0		− 19	0
0,45	+ 20	0		− 20	0
0,5	+ 20	0	− 50	− 20	0
0,6	+ 21	0	− 53	− 21	0
0,7	+ 22	0	− 56	− 22	0
0,75	+ 22	0	− 56	− 22	0
0,8	+ 24	0	− 60	− 24	0
1	+ 26	0	− 60	− 26	0
1,25	+ 28	0	− 63	− 28	0
1,5	+ 32	0	− 67	− 32	0
1,75	+ 34	0	− 71	− 34	0
2	+ 38	0	− 71	− 38	0
2,5	+ 42	0	− 80	− 42	0
3	+ 48	0	− 85	− 48	0
3,5	+ 53	0	− 90	− 53	0
4	+ 60	0	− 95	− 60	0
4,5	+ 63	0	− 100	− 63	0
5	+ 71	0	− 106	− 71	0
5,5	+ 75	0	− 112	− 75	0
6	+ 80	0	− 118	− 80	0

Basic major diameter <i>d</i>		Pitch <i>P</i>	Length of thread engagement			
			S	N		L
over	up to and incl.		up to and incl.	over	up to and incl.	over
0,99	1,4	0,2	0,5	0,5	1,4	1,4
		0,25	0,6	0,6	1,7	1,7
		0,3	0,7	0,7	2	2
1,4	2,8	0,2	0,5	0,5	1,5	1,5
		0,25	0,6	0,6	1,9	1,9
		0,35	0,8	0,8	2,6	2,6
		0,4	1	1	3	3
		0,45	1,3	1,3	3,8	3,8
2,8	5,6	0,35	1	1	3	3
		0,5	1,5	1,5	4,5	4,5
		0,6	1,7	1,7	5	5
		0,7	2	2	6	6
		0,75	2,2	2,2	6,7	6,7
		0,8	2,5	2,5	7,5	7,5
5,6	11,2	0,75	2,4	2,4	7,1	7,1
		1	3	3	9	9
		1,25	4	4	12	12
		1,5	5	5	15	15
11,2	22,4	1	3,8	3,8	11	11
		1,25	4,5	4,5	13	13
		1,5	5,6	5,6	16	16
		1,75	6	6	18	18
		2	8	8	24	24
		2,5	10	10	30	30
22,4	45	1	4	4	12	12
		1,5	6,3	6,3	19	19
		2	8,5	8,5	25	25
		3	12	12	36	36
		3,5	15	15	45	45
		4	18	18	53	53
		4,5	21	21	63	63
45	90	1,5	7,5	7,5	22	22
		2	9,5	9,5	28	28
		3	15	15	45	45
		4	19	19	56	56
		5	24	24	71	71
		5,5	28	28	85	85
		6	32	32	95	95
90	180	2	12	12	36	36
		3	18	18	53	53
		4	24	24	71	71
		6	36	36	106	106
180	355	3	20	20	60	60
		4	26	26	80	80
		6	40	40	118	118

8 CREST DIAMETER TOLERANCES

8.1 Minor diameter tolerance of nut thread (T_{D_1})

For the minor diameter tolerance of nut thread, T_{D_1} , there are five tolerance grades, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, in accordance with Table 3.

TABLE 3 – Minor diameter tolerances of nut thread (T_{D_1})

Pitch P	Tolerance grade				
	4	5	6	7	8
mm	μm	μm	μm	μm	μm
0,2	38	—	—	—	—
0,25	45	56	—	—	—
0,3	53	67	85	—	—
0,35	63	80	100	—	—
0,4	71	90	112	—	—
0,45	80	100	125	—	—
0,5	90	112	140	180	—
0,6	100	125	160	200	—
0,7	112	140	180	224	—
0,75	118	150	190	236	—
0,8	125	160	200	250	315
1	150	190	236	300	375
1,25	170	212	265	335	425
1,5	190	236	300	375	475
1,75	212	265	335	425	530
2	236	300	375	475	600
2,5	280	355	450	560	710
3	315	400	500	630	800
3,5	355	450	560	710	900
4	375	475	600	750	950
4,5	425	530	670	850	1 060
5	450	560	710	900	1 120
5,5	475	600	750	950	1 180
6	500	630	800	1 000	1 250

8.2 Major diameter tolerance of bolt thread (T_d)

For the major diameter tolerance of bolt thread, T_d , there are three tolerance grades, 4, 6 and 8, in accordance with Table 4.

The tolerance grades 5 and 7 do not exist for the major diameter of bolt threads.

TABLE 4 – Major diameter tolerance of bolt thread (T_d)

Pitch P	Tolerance grade		
	4	6	8
mm	μm	μm	μm
0,2	36	56	—
0,25	42	67	—
0,3	48	75	—
0,35	53	85	—
0,4	60	95	—
0,45	63	100	—
0,5	67	106	—
0,6	80	125	—
0,7	90	140	—
0,75	90	140	—
0,8	95	150	236
1	112	180	280
1,25	132	212	335
1,5	150	236	375
1,75	170	265	425
2	180	280	450
2,5	212	335	530
3	236	375	600
3,5	265	425	670
4	300	475	750
4,5	315	500	800
5	335	530	850
5,5	355	560	900
6	375	600	950

9 PITCH DIAMETER TOLERANCES

For the pitch diameter tolerance of nut thread, T_{D_2} , there are five tolerance grades, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, in accordance with Table 5.

TABLE 5 – Pitch diameter tolerance of nut thread (T_{D_2})

Basic major diameter <i>d</i>		Pitch <i>P</i>	Tolerance grade				
over	up to and incl.		4	5	6	7	8
mm	mm		μm	μm	μm	μm	μm
0,99	1,4	0,2	40	—	—	—	—
		0,25	45	56	—	—	—
		0,3	48	60	75	—	—
1,4	2,8	0,2	42	—	—	—	—
		0,25	48	60	—	—	—
		0,35	53	67	85	—	—
		0,4	56	71	90	—	—
		0,45	60	75	95	—	—
2,8	5,6	0,35	56	71	90	—	—
		0,5	63	80	100	125	—
		0,6	71	90	112	140	—
		0,7	75	95	118	150	—
		0,75	75	95	118	150	—
		0,8	80	100	125	160	200
5,6	11,2	0,75	85	106	132	170	—
		1	95	118	150	190	236
		1,25	100	125	160	200	250
		1,5	112	140	180	224	280
11,2	22,4	1	100	125	160	200	250
		1,25	112	140	180	224	280
		1,5	118	150	190	236	300
		1,75	125	160	200	250	315
		2	132	170	212	265	335
		2,5	140	180	224	280	355
22,4	45	1	106	132	170	212	—
		1,5	125	160	200	250	315
		2	140	180	224	280	355
		3	170	212	265	335	425
		3,5	180	224	280	355	450
		4	190	236	300	375	475
45	90	4,5	200	250	315	400	500
		1,5	132	170	212	265	335
		2	150	190	236	300	375
		3	180	224	280	355	450
		4	200	250	315	400	500
		5	212	265	335	425	530
90	180	5,5	224	280	355	450	560
		6	236	300	375	475	600
		2	160	200	250	315	400
		3	190	236	300	375	475
		4	212	265	335	425	530
		6	250	315	400	500	630
180	355	3	212	265	335	425	530
		4	236	300	375	475	600
		6	265	335	425	530	670

For the pitch diameter tolerance of bolt thread, T_{d_2} , there are seven tolerance grades, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, in accordance with Table 6.

TABLE 6 – Pitch diameter tolerance of bolt thread (T_{d_2})

Basic major diameter d		Pitch P	Tolerance grade						
over	up to and incl.		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
mm	mm	mm	μm	μm	μm	μm	μm	μm	μm
0,99	1,4	0,2	24	30	38	48	—	—	—
		0,25	26	34	42	53	—	—	—
		0,3	28	36	45	56	—	—	—
1,4	2,8	0,2	25	32	40	50	—	—	—
		0,25	28	36	45	56	—	—	—
		0,35	32	40	50	63	80	—	—
		0,4	34	42	53	67	85	—	—
		0,45	36	45	56	71	90	—	—
2,8	5,6	0,35	34	42	53	67	85	—	—
		0,5	38	48	60	75	95	—	—
		0,6	42	53	67	85	106	—	—
		0,7	45	56	71	90	112	—	—
		0,75	45	56	71	90	112	—	—
		0,8	48	60	75	95	118	150	190
5,6	11,2	0,75	50	63	80	100	125	—	—
		1	56	71	90	112	140	180	224
		1,25	60	75	95	118	150	190	236
		1,5	67	85	106	132	170	212	265
11,2	22,4	1	60	75	95	118	150	190	236
		1,25	67	85	106	132	170	212	265
		1,5	71	90	112	140	180	224	280
		1,75	75	95	118	150	190	236	300
		2	80	100	125	160	200	250	315
		2,5	85	106	132	170	212	265	335
22,4	45	1	63	80	100	125	160	200	250
		1,5	75	95	118	150	190	236	300
		2	85	106	132	170	212	265	335
		3	100	125	160	200	250	315	400
		3,5	106	132	170	212	265	335	425
		4	112	140	180	224	280	355	450
		4,5	118	150	190	236	300	375	475
45	90	1,5	80	100	125	160	200	250	315
		2	90	112	140	180	224	280	355
		3	106	132	170	212	265	335	425
		4	118	150	190	236	300	375	475
		5	125	160	200	250	315	400	500
		5,5	132	170	212	265	335	425	530
		6	140	180	224	280	355	450	560
90	180	2	95	118	150	190	236	300	375
		3	112	140	180	224	280	355	450
		4	125	160	200	250	315	400	500
		6	150	190	236	300	375	475	600
180	355	3	125	160	200	250	315	400	500
		4	140	180	224	280	355	450	560
		6	160	200	250	315	400	500	630

10 ROOT CONTOURS

For nut threads as well as bolt threads, the actual root contours shall not in any point transgress the basic profile.

For bolt threads, it is recommended to specify that the root profile should not present a radius of curvature R less than $0,1 P$ (see Table 7), which corresponds approximately to a maximum truncation of $3H/16$ for the upper limiting profile and a minimum truncation of $H/8$ for the lower limiting profile.

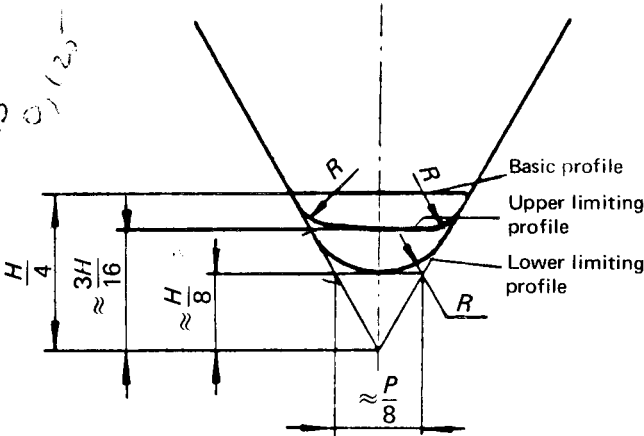


FIGURE 6 – Bolt root profile

TABLE 7 – Minimum root radii

Pitch P	R min.
mm	μm
0,2	20
0,25	25
0,35	35
0,4	40
0,45	45
0,5	50
0,6	60
0,7	70
0,75	75
0,8	80
1	100
1,25	125
1,5	150
1,75	175
2	200
2,5	250
3	300
3,5	350
4	400
4,5	450
5	500
5,5	550
6	600

11 RECOMMENDED TOLERANCE CLASSES

In order to reduce the number of gauges and tools, the tolerance classes should preferably be chosen from Tables 8 and 9.

The following general rules can be formulated for the choice of tolerance quality :

- Fine : for precision threads, when little variation of fit character is needed.
- Medium : for general use.
- Coarse : for cases where manufacturing difficulties can arise, for example when threading hot-rolled bars and long blind holes.

If the actual length of thread engagement is unknown (as in the manufacturing of standard bolts), group N is recommended.

TABLE 8 – Recommended tolerance classes for nuts

Tolerance quality	Tolerance position G			Tolerance position H		
	S	N	L	S	N	L
Fine				4H	5H	6H
Medium	5G	6G	7G	5H	6H	7H
Coarse		7G	8G		7H	8H

TABLE 9 – Recommended tolerance classes for bolts

Tolerance quality	Tolerance position e			Tolerance position g			Tolerance position h		
	S	N	L	S	N	L	S	N	L
Fine							3h4h	4h	5h4h
Medium		6e	7e6e	5g6g	6g	7g6g	5h6h	6h	7h6h
Coarse					8g	9g8g			

Tolerance classes in bold print are first choice.

Tolerance classes in ordinary print are second choice.

Tolerance classes in italic print are third choice; they are to be avoided.

Tolerance classes within frames are selected for commercial bolt and nut threads.