



AEROSPACE MATERIAL

Society of Automotive Engineers, Inc.
400 COMMONWEALTH DRIVE, WARRENDALE, PA. 15096

SPECIFICATION

AMS 4281D

Superseding AMS 4281C

Issued 7-1-45

Revised 1-15-78

UNS A03550

ALUMINUM ALLOY CASTINGS, PERMANENT MOLD
5.0Si - 1.2Cu - 0.50Mg (355.0-T6)

1. SCOPE:

1.1 Form: This specification covers an aluminum alloy in the form of permanent mold castings.

1.2 Application: Primarily for parts requiring moderate strength at temperatures up to 300° F (150° C).

2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS: The following publications form a part of this specification to the extent specified herein. The latest issue of Aerospace Material Specifications (AMS) shall apply. The applicable issue of other documents shall be as specified in AMS 2350.

2.1 SAE Publications: Available from Society of Automotive Engineers, Inc., 400 Commonwealth Drive, Warrendale, PA 15096.

2.1.1 Aerospace Material Specifications:

AMS 2350 - Standards and Test Methods
AMS 2360 - Room Temperature Tensile Properties of Castings
AMS 2635 - Radiographic Inspection
AMS 2645 - Fluorescent Penetrant Inspection
AMS 2646 - Contrast Dye Penetrant Inspection
AMS 2804 - Identification, Castings

2.2 ASTM Publications: Available from American Society for Testing and Materials, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

ASTM B557 - Tension Testing Wrought and Cast Aluminum and Magnesium Alloy Products
ASTM E10 - Brinell Hardness of Metallic Materials
ASTM E34 - Chemical Analysis of Aluminum and Aluminum-Base Alloys
ASTM E155 - Reference Radiographs for Inspection of Aluminum and Magnesium Castings, Series III

2.3 Government Publications: Available from Commanding Officer, Naval Publications and Forms Center, 5801 Tabor Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19120.

2.3.1 Federal Standards:

Federal Test Method Standard No. 151 - Metals; Test Methods

2.3.2 Military Specifications:

MIL-H-6088 - Heat Treatment of Aluminum Alloys

2.3.3 Military Standards:

MIL-STD-649 - Aluminum and Magnesium Products, Preparation for Shipment and Storage

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3. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

- 3.1 Composition: Shall conform to the following percentages by weight, determined by wet chemical methods in accordance with ASTM E34, by spectrographic methods in accordance with Federal Test Method Standard No. 151, Method 112, or by other approved analytical methods:

	min	max
Silicon	4.5	- 5.5
Copper	1.0	- 1.5
Magnesium	0.40	- 0.6
Iron (3.1.1)	--	0.6
Manganese (3.1.1)	--	0.50
Zinc	--	0.35
Titanium	--	0.25
Chromium	--	0.25
Other Impurities, each	--	0.05
Other Impurities, total	--	0.15
Aluminum	remainder	

- Ø 3.1.1 If iron content exceeds 0.45%, manganese content shall be not less than one half the iron content.

- 3.2 Condition: Solution and precipitation heat treated.

- 3.3 Casting: Castings shall be produced in lots from metal conforming to 3.1. Metal remelted from previously analyzed ingot may be poured directly into castings. Furnace or ladle additions of grain-refining elements or alloys are permissible. Unless otherwise agreed upon by purchaser and vendor, molten metal taken from alloying furnaces, with or without additions of foundry operating scrap (gates, sprues, risers, and rejected castings), shall not be poured into castings unless first converted to ingot, analyzed, and remelted or unless the composition of a sample taken after the last addition to the melt has been found to conform to 3.1.

- 3.3.1 A melt shall be the metal withdrawn from a batch-furnace charge of 2000 lb (908 kg) or less as melted for pouring castings or, when permitted by purchaser, a melt shall be 4000 lb (1816 kg) or less of metal withdrawn from one continuous furnace in not more than 8 consecutive hours.

- 3.3.2 A lot shall consist of castings poured from a single melt in not more than 8 consecutive hours.

- 3.4 Cast Test Specimens: Chemical analysis specimens and tensile test specimens shall be cast as follows and, when requested, shall be supplied with the castings:

- 3.4.1 Chemical Analysis Specimens: Shall be cast from each melt and shall be of the size and shape agreed upon by purchaser and vendor.

- 3.4.2 Tensile Test Specimens: Shall be cast with each lot of castings, shall be of standard proportions conforming to ASTM B557 with 0.500 in. (12.70 mm) diameter at the reduced parallel gage section, and shall be cast to size in permanent molds. Metal for the specimens shall be part of the melt which is used for the castings. If the metal for castings is given any treatment, such as fluxing or cooling and reheating, the metal for the specimens shall be a portion of the metal so treated and, during such treatment, shall be heated to the same maximum temperature and held for approximately the same time as the molten metal for the castings.

- 3.5 Heat Treatment: All castings and representative tensile test specimens shall be solution and precipitation heat treated in accordance with MIL-H-6088; at least one set of specimens shall, during each stage of heat treatment, be put into a batch-type furnace with each load of castings or into a continuous furnace at intervals of not longer than 3 hours.

3.6 Properties: Castings and representative tensile test specimens produced in accordance with 3.4.2 shall conform to the following requirements:

Ø 3.6.1 Tensile Properties: Shall be as follows, determined in accordance with ASTM B557:

3.6.1.1 Separately-Cast Specimens:

Tensile Strength, min	37,000 psi (255 MPa)
Yield Strength at 0.2% Offset, min	23,000 psi (159 MPa)
Elongation in 4D, min	1.5%

3.6.1.2 Specimens Cut from Castings:

3.6.1.2.1 When tensile properties of actual castings are determined for acceptance, the average of not less than 4, and preferably 10, specimens cut from thick and thin sections shall be as follows:

Tensile Strength, min	27,000 psi (191 MPa)
Yield Strength at 0.2% Offset, min	17,000 psi (117 MPa)
Elongation in 4D, min	0.4%

3.6.1.2.1.1 Conformance to the requirements of 3.6.1.2.1 may be used as a basis for acceptance of castings.

3.6.1.2.2 When specified, tensile test specimens taken from locations indicated on the drawing from a casting chosen at random to represent the lot, shall have the properties indicated on the drawing for such specimens. Property requirements may be designated in accordance with AMS 2360.

3.6.2 Hardness: Castings, except at sprue and riser locations, shall have hardness of 80 - 110 HB/10/500, 80 - 110 HB/14.3/1000, or 85 - 115 HB/10/1000, determined in accordance with ASTM E10.

3.7 Quality:

3.7.1 Castings, as received by purchaser, shall be uniform in quality and condition, sound, and free from foreign materials and from internal and external imperfections detrimental to usage of the castings.

3.7.1.1 Castings shall have smooth surfaces and shall be well cleaned.

3.7.2 Castings shall be produced under radiographic control, unless otherwise specified. This control shall consist of radiographic examination of castings in accordance with AMS 2635 until proper foundry technique, which will produce castings free from harmful internal imperfections, is established for each part number and of production castings as necessary to ensure maintenance of satisfactory quality.

3.7.3 When specified, castings shall be subjected to fluorescent penetrant inspection in accordance with AMS 2645 or to contrast dye penetrant inspection in accordance with AMS 2646.

3.7.4 Radiographic, fluorescent penetrant, contrast dye penetrant, and other quality standards shall be as agreed upon by purchaser and vendor. ASTM E155 may be used to define radiographic acceptance standards.

3.7.5 Castings shall not be repaired by peening, plugging, welding, or other methods without written permission from purchaser.

3.7.5.1 When permitted in writing by purchaser, defects in castings may be removed and the castings repaired by welding provided the weld repair area has properties comparable to those of the parent metal. Repair welds shall be subjected to the same inspection procedures and acceptance standards required of the casting. Weld repair areas shall be suitably marked to facilitate inspection. Repair welding shall be performed prior to any heat treatment and nondestructive testing specified herein.

3.7.6 Castings shall not be impregnated, chemically treated, or coated to prevent leakage, unless specified or allowed by written permission of purchaser, designating the method to be used.

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS:

4.1 Responsibility for Inspection: The vendor of castings shall supply all samples and shall be responsible for performing all required tests. Results of such tests shall be reported to the purchaser as required by 4.5. Purchaser reserves the right to perform such confirmatory testing as he deems necessary to ensure that the castings conform to the requirements of this specification.

4.2 Classification of Tests:

4.2.1 Acceptance Tests: Tests to determine conformance to all technical requirements of this specification are classified as acceptance tests except that tensile properties of specimens cut from castings shall be determined only when representative separately-cast test specimens are not available or when specified by purchaser.

4.2.2 Preproduction Tests: Tests to determine conformance to all technical requirements of this specification are classified as preproduction tests.

4.2.2.1 For direct U.S. Military procurement, substantiating test data and, when requested, preproduction test material shall be submitted to the cognizant agency as directed by the procuring activity, the contracting officer, or the request for procurement.

4.3 Sampling: Shall be in accordance with the following:

4.3.1 Two chemical analysis specimens in accordance with 3.4.1 and/or a casting from each lot.

4.3.2 Three tensile test specimens in accordance with 3.4.2 from each lot, when requested.

4.3.3 Two preproduction castings in accordance with 4.4.1 of each part number.

4.3.4 One or more castings from each lot, when properties are required from specimens machined from castings. Specimens shall conform to ASTM B557 and shall be either 0.500 in. (12.70 mm) diameter at the reduced parallel gage section, subsize specimens proportional to the standard, or standard sheet-type specimens. For determining conformance to the requirements of 3.6.1.2.2, if specimen locations are not shown on the drawing, not less than four tensile specimens, two from the thickest section and two from the thinnest section, shall be cut from a casting or castings from each lot.

4.4 Approval:

4.4.1 Sample castings from new or reworked molds and the casting procedure shall be approved by purchaser before castings for production use are supplied, unless such approval be waived.