



# AEROSPACE MATERIAL SPECIFICATION

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

## AMS 1526A

Superseding AMS 1526

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### CLEANER FOR AIRCRAFT EXTERIOR SURFACES Water-Miscible, Pressure-Spraying Type

#### 1. SCOPE:

- 1.1 Form: This specification covers a water-miscible, low-foaming cleaner in the form of a liquid.
- 1.2 Application: Primarily for removing soils from painted and unpainted exterior surfaces of aircraft by pressure spray or manual application.

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) and Aerospace Recommended Practices (ARP) 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 2470 - Anodic Treatment of Aluminum Alloys, Chromic Acid Process
- AMS 2475 - Protective Treatments, Magnesium Base Alloys
- AMS 2825 - Material Safety Data Sheets
- AMS 4037 - Aluminum Alloy Sheet and Plate, 4.4Cu - 1.5Mg - 0.60Mn (2024; -T3 Flat Sheet, -T351 Plate)
- AMS 4041 - Aluminum Alloy Sheet and Plate, Alclad, 4.4Cu - 1.5Mg - 0.60Mn (Alclad 2024 and 1-1/2% Alclad 2024-T3 Flat Sheet; 1-1/2% Alclad 2024-T351 Plate)
- AMS 4049 - Aluminum Alloy Sheet and Plate, Alclad, 5.6Zn - 2.5Mg - 1.6Cu - 0.26Cr (Alclad 7075; -T6 Sheet, -T651 Plate)
- AMS 4376 - Magnesium Alloy Plate, 3.0Al - 1.0Zn (AZ31B-H26)
- AMS 4911 - Titanium Alloy Sheet, Strip, and Plate (6Al - 4V), Annealed

#### 2.1.2 Aerospace Recommended Practices:

- ARP 1511 - Corrosion of Low-Embrittling Cadmium Plate by Aircraft Maintenance Chemicals
- ARP 1512 - Corrosion of Aluminum Alloys by Aircraft Maintenance Chemicals, Sandwich Test

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

- ASTM A 109 - Steel, Carbon, Cold-Rolled Strip
- ASTM D 56 - Flash Point by Tag Closed Tester
- ASTM D 1568 - Sampling and Chemical Analysis of Alkylbenzene Sulfonates
- ASTM D 2667 - Biodegradability of Alkylbenzene Sulfonates
- ASTM F 483 - Total Immersion Corrosion Test for Aircraft Maintenance Chemicals
- ASTM F 484 - Stress Cracking of Acrylic Plastics in Contact with Liquid or Semi-liquid Compounds
- ASTM F 485 - Effects of Cleaners on Unpainted Aircraft Surfaces
- ASTM F 502 - Determination of Effects of Cleaning and Chemical Maintenance Materials on Painted Aircraft Surfaces
- ASTM F 503 - Preparing Aircraft Cleaning Compounds, Liquid Type, for Storage Stability Testing
- ASTM F 519 - Hydrogen Embrittlement Testing of Aerospace Materials

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

2.3.1 Military Specifications:

MIL-P-25690 - Plastic, Sheets and Parts, Modified Acrylic Base, Monolithic, Crack Propagation Resistant

2.3.2 Military Standards:

MIL-STD-794 - Parts and Equipment, Procedures for Packaging and Packing of

3. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

3.1 Material: The composition of the cleaner shall be optional with the manufacturer but should contain water, biodegradable surfactants and/or soap builders, emulsifiers, and solvents to produce a low-foaming product completely miscible in water and meeting the requirements of 3.2.

3.2 Properties: The cleaner shall conform to the following requirements; tests shall be performed in accordance with specified test methods on the product supplied in concentrated form and at use dilution recommended by the manufacturer:

3.2.1 Corrosion of Metal Surfaces:

3.2.1.1 Sandwich Corrosion: Specimens, after test, shall show a rating not worse than 2, determined in accordance with ARP 1512.

3.2.1.2 Total Immersion Corrosion: The product shall neither show evidence of corrosion of the panels nor cause a weight change of any single test panel greater than the following, determined in accordance with ASTM F483:

Panel	Weight Change (mg/cm <sup>2</sup> )/24 hr
AMS 4037 Aluminum Alloy, anodized as in AMS 2470	0.3
AMS 4041 Aluminum Alloy (optional)	0.3
AMS 4049 Aluminum Alloy	0.3
AMS 4376 Magnesium Alloy, dichromate treated as in AMS 2475	0.2
AMS 4911 Titanium Alloy	0.1
ASTM A109, Temper No. 1, Carbon Steel	0.8

3.2.1.3 Low-Embrittling Cadmium Plate: Panels coated with low-embrittling cadmium plate shall not show a weight change greater than 0.3 (mg/cm<sup>2</sup>)/24 hr, determined in accordance with ARP 1511.

3.2.2 Hydrogen Embrittlement: The product shall be non-embrittling, determined in accordance with ASTM F519, Type 1a, 1c, or 2a.

3.2.3 Flash Point: Shall be not lower than 60°C (140°F), determined in accordance with ASTM D56.

3.2.4 Effect on Transparent Acrylic Plastics: There shall be no crazing or staining of stretched, MIL-P-25690 plastic, determined in accordance with ASTM F484.

3.2.5 Effect on Painted Surfaces: The product shall neither decrease the hardness of the paint film by more than two pencil hardness levels nor shall it produce any streaking, discoloration, or blistering of the paint film, determined in accordance with ASTM F502.

- 3.2.6 Effect on Unpainted Surfaces: The product, tested in accordance with ASTM F485, shall neither produce streaking nor leave any stains requiring polishing to remove.
- 3.2.7 Storage Stability: The product shall neither show separation from exposure to heat or cold nor show an increase in turbidity greater than a control sample equally diluted to use concentration with deionized water, determined in accordance with ASTM F503.
- 3.2.8 Biodegradability: Surfactants used shall be not less than 90% biodegradable, determined in accordance with ASTM D2667. The vendor of the cleaner shall furnish certification from the surfactant manufacturer of the percent biodegradability of the surfactants.
- 3.2.9 Performance: The product, when used in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations, shall remove normally accumulated soils from exterior surfaces of aircraft. No visible residue shall remain on any surface tested.
- 3.3 Quality: The cleaner, as received by purchaser, shall be homogeneous, uniform in color, and free from skins and lumps and from foreign materials detrimental to usage of the cleaner.

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS:

- 4.1 Responsibility for Inspection: The vendor of the cleaner shall supply all samples for vendor's tests 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 sample and to perform such confirmatory testing as he deems necessary to ensure that the cleaner conforms to the requirements of this specification.
- 4.2 Classification of Tests:
  - 4.2.1 Acceptance Tests: Tests to determine conformance to requirements for effect on transparent acrylic plastics (3.2.4), effect on unpainted surfaces (3.2.6), and quality (3.3) are classified as acceptance tests and shall be performed on each lot.
  - 4.2.2 Periodic Tests: Tests to determine conformance to requirements for corrosion of metal surfaces (3.2.1), hydrogen embrittlement (3.2.2), flash point (3.2.3), effect on painted surfaces (3.2.5), storage stability (3.2.7), biodegradability (3.2.8), and performance (3.2.9) are classified as periodic tests and shall be performed at a frequency selected by the vendor unless frequency of testing is specified by purchaser.
  - 4.2.3 Preproduction Tests: Tests to determine conformance to all technical requirements of this specification are classified as preproduction tests and shall be performed on the initial shipment of the product to a purchaser, when a change in material or processing requires reapproval as in 4.4.2, and when purchaser deems confirmatory testing to be required.
    - 4.2.3.1 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 ASTM D1568, unless otherwise specified by purchaser; a lot shall be all cleaner produced in a single production run from the same batches of raw materials under the same fixed conditions and submitted for vendor's inspection at one time.
- 4.4 Approval:
  - 4.4.1 Sample cleaner shall be approved by purchaser before cleaner for production use is supplied, unless such approval be waived. Results of tests on production cleaner shall be essentially equivalent to those on the approved sample.

- 4.4.2 Vendor shall use ingredients, manufacturing procedures, and methods of inspection on production cleaner which are essentially the same as those used on the approved sample cleaner. If any change is necessary in ingredients or in manufacturing procedures, the vendor shall submit for reapproval a statement of the proposed changes in material and/or processing and, when requested, sample cleaner. Production cleaner made by the revised procedure shall not be shipped prior to receipt of reapproval.
- 4.5 Reports: Unless waived by purchaser, the vendor of the cleaner shall furnish with each shipment three copies of a report showing the results of tests to determine conformance to the acceptance test requirements and, when performed, to the periodic test requirements and stating that the cleaner conforms to the other technical requirements of this specification. This report shall include the purchase order number, AMS 1526A, manufacturer's identification, lot number, and quantity.
- 4.5.1 A material safety data sheet conforming to AMS 2825 or equivalent shall be supplied to each purchaser prior to, or concurrent with, the report of preproduction tests results or, if preproduction testing be waived by purchaser, concurrent with the first shipment for production use. Each request for modification of product formulation shall be accompanied by a revised data sheet for the proposed formulation.
- 4.5.2 The vendor of the cleaner shall supply a certificate of compliance to biodegradability requirements (3.2.8).
- 4.6 Resampling and Retesting: If any sample used in the above tests fails to meet the specified requirements, disposition of the cleaner may be based on the results of testing three additional samples for each original nonconforming sample. Failure of any retest sample to meet the specified requirements shall be cause for rejection of the cleaner represented and no additional testing shall be permitted. Results of all tests shall be reported.
5. PREPARATION FOR DELIVERY:
- 5.1 Packaging and Identification:
- 5.1.1 The cleaner shall be packaged in suitable containers of a size agreed upon by purchaser and vendor.
- 5.1.2 Each container shall be legibly marked to show not less than AMS 1526A, purchase order number, manufacturer's identification, lot number, and quantity.
- 5.1.3 Containers of the cleaner shall be prepared for shipment in accordance with commercial practice and in compliance with applicable rules and regulations pertaining to the handling, packaging, and transportation of the cleaner to ensure carrier acceptance and safe delivery. Packaging shall conform to carrier rules and regulations applicable to the mode of transportation.
- 5.1.4 For direct U.S. Military procurement, packaging shall be in accordance with MIL-STD-794, Level A or Level C, as specified in the request for procurement. Commercial packaging as in 5.1.1 and 5.1.3 will be acceptable if it meets the requirements of Level C.
6. ACKNOWLEDGMENT: A vendor shall mention this specification number and its revision letter in all quotations and when acknowledging purchase orders.
7. REJECTIONS: Cleaner not conforming to this specification or to modifications authorized by purchaser will be subject to rejection.
8. NOTES:
- 8.1 Marginal Indicia: The phi (Ø) symbol is used to indicate technical changes from the previous issue of this specification.