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Superseding AMS 4212F

ALUMINUM ALLOY CASTINGS, SAND
5.0Si - 1.2Cu - 0.50Mg (355.0-T6)
Solution and Precipitation Heat Treated

UNS A03550

1. SCOPE:

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

1.2 Application: Primarily for components requiring high strength at room and elevated temperatures.

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

2.1 SAE Publications: Available from SAE, 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 2694 - Repair Welding of Aerospace Castings
- AMS 2804 - Identification, Castings

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2.2 ASTM Publications: Available from ASTM, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

- ASTM B 557 - Tension Testing Wrought and Cast Aluminum- and Magnesium-Alloy Products
- ASTM B 557M - Tension Testing Wrought and Cast Aluminum- and Magnesium-Alloy Products (Metric)
- ASTM B 660 - Packaging/Packing of Aluminum and Magnesium Products
- ASTM E 10 - Brinell Hardness of Metallic Materials
- ASTM E 34 - Chemical Analysis of Aluminum and Aluminum Alloys
- ASTM E 155 - Reference Radiographs for Inspection of Aluminum and Magnesium Castings

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-H-6088 - Heat Treatment of Aluminum Alloys

3. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

3.1 Composition: Shall conform to the following percentages by weight, determined by wet chemical methods in accordance with ASTM E 34, by spectrochemical methods, or by other analytical methods acceptable to purchaser:

	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	

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. 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 conforms to 3.1.

3.3.1 A melt shall be the metal withdrawn from a batch-furnace charge of 2000 pounds (907 kg) or less as melted for pouring castings or, when permitted by purchaser, a melt shall be 4000 pounds (1814 kg) or less of metal withdrawn from one continuous furnace in not more than eight consecutive hours.

3.3.2 A lot shall be all castings poured from a single melt in not more than eight consecutive hours and solution and precipitation heat treated in the same heat treatment batch.

3.4 Cast Test Specimens: Chemical analysis specimens and tensile specimens shall be cast as follows:

3.4.1 Chemical Analysis Specimens: Shall be cast from each melt and shall be of any suitable size and shape.

3.4.2 Tensile Specimens: Shall be cast with each lot of castings, shall be of standard proportions conforming to ASTM B 557 or ASTM B 557M with 0.500 inch (12.70 mm) diameter at the reduced parallel gage section, and shall be cast to size in molds made of the regular foundry mix of sand, without using chills. 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. The temperature of the metal during pouring of the specimens shall be not lower than that during pouring of the castings.

3.5 Heat Treatment: Castings, integrally-cast coupons, and separately-cast tensile specimens shall be solution and precipitation heat treated in accordance with MIL-H-6088; at least one set of tensile 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 three hours.

3.6 Properties: Castings, integrally-cast coupons, and separately-cast tensile specimens produced in accordance with 3.4.2 shall conform to the following requirements:

3.6.1 Tensile Properties: Shall be as follows, determined in accordance with ASTM B 557 or ASTM B 557M; conformance to the requirements of 3.6.1.1 shall be used as basis for acceptance of castings except when purchaser specifies that 3.6.1.2 applies:

3.6.1.1 Separately-Cast Specimens:

Tensile Strength, minimum	32,000 psi (221 MPa)
Yield Strength at 0.2% Offset, minimum	20,000 psi (138 MPa)
Elongation in 4D, minimum	2.0%

3.6.1.2 Specimens Cut from Castings or from Integrally-Cast Coupons: Shall be as follows, determined on not less than 4, and preferably 10, specimens cut from thick and thin sections of a casting or castings or from integrally-cast coupons:

Tensile Strength, minimum	24,000 psi (165 MPa)
Yield Strength at 0.2% Offset, minimum	15,000 psi (103 MPa)
Elongation in 4D, minimum	0.5%

3.6.1.2.1 When properties other than those of 3.6.1.2 are required, tensile specimens taken from locations indicated on the drawing, from a casting or castings 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 of Castings: Castings, except at sprue and riser locations, should have hardness of 65 - 105 HB/10/500 or 70 - 105 HB/10/1000, determined in accordance with ASTM E 10, but castings shall not be rejected on the basis of hardness if the tensile property requirements of 3.6.1.2 are met.

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 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. 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.

3.7.4 Radiographic, fluorescent penetrant, and other quality standards shall be as agreed upon by purchaser and vendor. ASTM E 155 may be used to define radiographic acceptance standards.

3.7.5 Castings shall not be reworked by peening, plugging, welding, impregnation 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 reworked by welding in accordance with AMS 2694.

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS:

4.1 Responsibility for Inspection: The vendor of castings 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 any confirmatory testing deemed necessary to ensure that the castings conform to the requirements of this specification.

4.2 Classification of Tests:

4.2.1 Acceptance Tests: Except as specified in 4.2.1.1, tests for composition (3.1), tensile properties of separately-cast specimens (3.6.1.1) or, when specified, tensile properties of specimens cut from castings or from integrally-cast coupons (3.6.1.2), and quality (3.7) are acceptance tests and shall be performed to represent each melt or lot as applicable.

4.2.1.1 Tensile properties of specimens cut from castings or from integrally-cast coupons shall be determined only when specified by purchaser or when separately-cast specimens are not available. Tensile properties of separately-cast specimens need not be determined when tensile properties of specimens cut from castings or from integrally-cast coupons are determined.

4.2.2 Periodic Tests: Tests for hardness (3.6.2) are 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 all technical requirements are preproduction tests and shall be performed prior to or on the first-article shipment of a casting to a purchaser, when a change in ingredients and/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, contracting officer, or request for procurement.

4.3 Sampling and Testing: Shall be in accordance with the following; the number of specimens to be sampled shall be the minimum number of specimens tested:

4.3.1 At least one chemical analysis specimen in accordance with 3.4.1 from each melt, a casting from each lot, or both.

- 4.3.2 Three separately-cast tensile specimens in accordance with 3.4.2
Ø representing each lot except when purchaser specifies use of specimens cut from castings or from integrally-cast coupons.
- 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
Ø specimens machined from castings or not less than four tensile specimens machined from integrally-cast coupons. Specimens shall conform to ASTM B 557 or ASTM B 557M and shall be either 0.500 inch (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 3.6.1.2.1, 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.
- 4.3.4.1 When permitted by purchaser, tensile specimens conforming to ASTM B 557
Ø or ASTM B 557M machined from integrally-cast coupons may be used in lieu of specimens cut from castings. In such case, the number, location, and size of integrally-cast coupons shall be as designated by purchaser.

4.4 Approval:

- 4.4.1 Sample castings from new or reworked patterns and the casting procedure shall be approved by purchaser before castings for production use are supplied, unless such approval be waived by purchaser.
- 4.4.2 Vendor shall establish for production of sample castings of each part number parameters for the process control factors which will produce acceptable castings; these shall constitute the approved casting procedure and shall be used for producing production castings. If necessary to make any change in parameters for the process control factors, vendor shall submit for reapproval a statement of the proposed changes in processing and, when requested, test specimens, sample castings, or both. Production castings incorporating the revised operations shall not be shipped prior to receipt of reapproval.
- 4.4.2.1 Control factors for producing castings include, but are not limited to, the following:

Type of furnace
Furnace atmosphere
Fluxing or deoxidation procedures
Gating and risering practices
Metal pouring temperature; variation of $\pm 50^{\circ}\text{F}$ ($\pm 28^{\circ}\text{C}$) from the established limit is permissible
Solidification and cooling procedures
Solution and precipitation heat treatment cycles
Cleaning operations
Methods of inspection