SAE Aerospace
An SAE International Group

AEROSPACE MATERIAL SPECIFICATION

AMS 4903A

Issued APR 2003
Revised JUN 2007

Superseding AMS 4903

Titanium Alloy Sheet, Strip, and Plate
6Al - 4V
Solution Heat Treated

(Composition similar to UNS R56400)

RATIONALE

AMS 4903A is a Review and update of this specification and to correct the headings of Table 1.

1. SCOPE

1.1 Form

This specification covers a titanium alloy in the form of sheet, strip, and plate.

1.2 Application

This material has been used typically for parts to be formed or machined in the solution heat treated condition and subsequently precipitation heat treated requiring high strength-to-weight ratio and stability up to 550 °F (288 °C) in the precipitation heat treated condition, but usage is not limited to such applications.

1.3 Certain processing procedures and service conditions may cause these products to become subject to stress-corrosion cracking; ARP982 recommends practices to minimize such conditions.

2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

The issue of the following documents in effect on the date of the purchase order forms a part of this specification to the extent supplied herein. The supplier may work to a subsequent revision of a document unless a specific document issue is specified. When the referenced document has been cancelled and no superseding document has been specified, the last published issue of that document shall apply.

2.1 SAE Publications

Available from SAE International, 400 Commonwealth Drive, Warrendale, PA 15096-0001, Tel: 877-606-7323 (inside USA and Canada) or 724-776-4970 (outside USA), www.sae.org.

AMS 2242	Tolerances, Corrosion and Heat Resistant Steel, Iron Alloy, Titanium, and Titanium Alloy Sheet, Strip, and Plate
AMS 2249	Chemical Check Analysis Limits, Titanium and Titanium Alloys
AMS 2631	Ultrasonic Inspection of Titanium Alloys
AMS 2809	Identification, Titanium and Titanium Alloy Wrought Products
AMS-H-81200	Heat Treatment of Titanium and Titanium Alloys
ARP982	Minimizing Stress-Corrosion Cracking in Wrought Titanium Alloy Products

TO PLACE A DOCUMENT ORDER: **Tel: 877-606-7323 (inside USA and Canada)**
Tel: 724-776-4970 (outside USA)
Fax: 724-776-0790
Email: CustomerService@sae.org
SAE WEB ADDRESS: **http://www.sae.org**

2.2 ASTM Publications

Available from ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, P.O. Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959, Tel: 610-832-9585, www.astm.org.

ASTM E 8	Tension Testing of Metallic Materials
ASTM E 112	Determining Average Grain Size
ASTM E 290	Bend Testing of Material for Ductility
ASTM E 384	Microindentation Hardness of Materials
ASTM E 539	X-Ray Emission Spectrometric Analysis of 6Al-4V Titanium Alloy
ASTM E 1409	Determination of Oxygen and Nitrogen in Titanium and Titanium Alloys by the Inert Gas Fusion Technique
ASTM E 1447	Determination of Hydrogen in Titanium and Titanium Alloys by the Inert Gas Fusion Thermal Conductivity/Infrared Detection Method
ASTM E 1941	Determination of Carbon in Refractory and Reactive Metals and Their Alloys
ASTM E 2371	Analysis of Titanium and Titanium Alloys by Atomic Emission Plasma Spectrometry

3. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Composition

Shall conform to the percentages by weight shown in Table 1; carbon shall be determined in accordance with ASTM E 1941, hydrogen in accordance with ASTM E 1447, oxygen and nitrogen in accordance with ASTM E 1409, and other elements in accordance with ASTM E 539 or ASTM E 2371. Other analytical methods may be used if acceptable to the purchaser.

TABLE 1 - COMPOSITION

Element	min	max
Aluminum	5.50	6.75
Vanadium	3.50	4.50
Iron	--	0.30
Oxygen	--	0.20
Carbon	--	0.08
Nitrogen	--	0.05 (500 ppm)
Hydrogen (3.1.3)	--	0.015 (150 ppm)
Yttrium (3.1.1)	--	0.005 (50 ppm)
Other Elements, each (3.1.1)	--	0.10
Other Elements, total (3.1.1)	--	0.40
Titanium	remainder	

3.1.1 Determination not required for routine acceptance.

3.1.2 Check Analysis

Composition variations shall meet the requirements of AMS 2249.

3.1.3 Sample size, when using ASTM E 1447, may be as large as 0.35 gram.

3.2 Melting Practice

3.2.1 Alloy shall be multiple melted; the final melting cycle shall be under vacuum. The first melt shall be made by consumable electrode, nonconsumable electrode, electron beam cold hearth, or plasma arc cold hearth melting practice. The subsequent melt or melts shall be made under vacuum using vacuum arc remelting (VAR) practice with no alloy additions permitted.

3.2.1.1 The atmosphere for non-consumable electrode melting shall be vacuum or shall be argon and/or helium at an absolute pressure not higher than 1000 mm of mercury.

3.2.1.2 The electrode tip for nonconsumable electrode melting shall be water-cooled copper.

3.3 Condition

The product shall be supplied in the following condition:

3.3.1 Sheet and Strip

Hot rolled, with or without subsequent cold reduction, solution heat treated, descaled, and leveled, having a surface appearance comparable to a commercial corrosion- resistant steel No. 2D finish (See 8.3).

3.3.2 Plate

Hot rolled, solution treated, and flattened, having a surface appearance comparable to a commercial corrosion-resistant steel No. 1 finish (See 8.3). Plate product shall be produced using standard industry practices designed strictly for the production of plate stock to the procured thickness. Bar, billet, forgings, or forging stock shall not be supplied in lieu of plate.

3.4 Heat Treatment

The product shall be solution heat treated in accordance with AMS-H-81200.

3.5 Properties

Product shall conform to the following requirements:

3.5.1 As Solution Heat Treated

3.5.1.1 Tensile Properties

Shall be as specified in Table 2, determined in accordance with ASTM E 8 with the rate of strain maintained at 0.003 to 0.007 inch/inch/minute (0.003 to 0.007 mm/mm/minute) through the yield strength and then increased so as to produce failure in approximately one additional minute. When a dispute occurs between purchaser and vendor over the yield strength values, a referee test shall be performed on a machine having a strain rate pacer; using a rate of 0.005 inch/inch/minute (0.005 mm/mm/minute) through the yield strength and a minimum cross head speed of 0.10 inch (2.5 mm) per minute above the yield strength.

TABLE 2A - TENSILE PROPERTIES, INCH/POUND UNITS (SEE 8.2)

Nominal Thickness Inch	Tensile Strength ksi	Yield Strength at 0.2% Offset ksi	Elongation in 2 inches or 4D %, min
Up to 0.032, excl	(See 3.5.1.1.1)	150 (max)	6 (See 3.5.1.1.2)
0.032 to 0.1875, excl	(See 3.5.1.1.1)	150 (max)	8

TABLE 2B - TENSILE PROPERTIES, INCH/POUND UNITS (SEE 8.2)

Nominal Thickness Millimeters	Tensile Strength MPa	Yield Strength at 0.2% Offset MPa	Elongation in 50.8 mm or 4D %, min
Up to 0.81, excl	(See 3.5.1.1.1)	1034 (max)	6 (See 3.5.1.1.2)
0.81 to 4.76, excl	(See 3.5.1.1.1)	1034 (max)	8

3.5.1.1.1 Spread between tensile strength and yield strength shall be 15 ksi (103 MPa) minimum.

3.5.1.1.2 For thickness under 0.025 inch (4.762 mm), elongation values shall be as agreed upon.

3.5.1.2 Bending

Product under 0.1875 inch (4.762 mm) in nominal thickness, shall have a test sample prepared nominally 0.750 inch (19.06 mm) in width, with its axis of bending parallel to the direction of rolling. The sample shall be bend tested in conformance with the guided bend test defined in ASTM E 290 through an angle of 105 degrees. The test fixture supports shall have a contact radius 0.010 minimum, and the plunger shall have a diameter equal to the bend factor shown in Table 3 times the nominal thickness. Examination of the bent sample shall show no evidence of cracking when examined at 15 to 25X magnification.

TABLE 3 - BEND FACTOR

Nominal OD Inches	Nominal OD Millimeters	Bend Factor
Up to 0.070, incl	Up to 1.78, incl	9
Over 0.70 to 0.1875, excl	Over 1.78 to 4.762, excl	10

3.5.1.3 Microstructure

Shall be that structure resulting from processing within the alpha-beta phase field. Microstructure shall conform to 3.5.1.3.1 or 3.5.1.3.2 (See 8.5).

3.5.1.3.1 Equiaxed and/or elongated primary alpha in a transformed beta matrix with no continuous network of alpha at prior beta grain boundaries.

3.5.1.3.2 Essentially complete field of equiaxed and/or elongated alpha with or without intergranular beta and with no continuous network of alpha at prior beta grain boundaries.

3.5.1.3.3 A microstructure showing a continuous network of alpha in prior beta grain boundaries is not acceptable.

3.5.1.4 Surface Contamination

The product shall be free of any oxygen-rich layer, such as alpha case, or other surface contamination, determined as in 3.5.1.4.1 or 3.5.1.4.2 or 3.5.1.4.3, or other method acceptable to purchaser.

3.5.1.4.1 The bend test of 3.5.1.2.

3.5.1.4.2 Microscopic examination at 400X minimum.

3.5.1.4.3 Hardness difference: a surface hardness more than 40 points higher than the subsurface hardness, determined in accordance with ASTM E 384 on the Knoop scale using a 200 gram load, being evidence of unacceptable surface contamination.

3.5.1.5 Average Grain Size

Shall be ASTM No. 6 or finer determined by comparison of a polished and etched specimen with the chart in ASTM E 112.

3.5.2 Response to Heat Treatment

Product shall conform to the following requirements after being precipitation heat treated in accordance with AMS-H-81200. Precipitation heat treatment shall precede final machining of specimens.

3.5.2.1 Tensile Properties

Shall be as shown in Table 4, determined in accordance with ASTM E 8 with the rate of strain maintained at 0.003 to 0.007 inch/inch/minute (0.003 to 0.007 mm/mm/minute) through the yield strength and then increased so as to produce failure in approximately one additional minute. When a dispute occurs between purchaser and vendor over the yield strength values, a referee test shall be performed on a machine having a strain rate pacer, using a rate of 0.005 inch/inch/minute (0.005 mm/mm/minute) through the yield strength and a minimum cross head speed of 0.10 inch (2.5 mm) per minute above the yield strength.

TABLE 4A - MINIMUM TENSILE PROPERTIES, INCH/POUND UNITS (SEE 8.2)

Nominal Thickness Inches	Tensile Strength ksi	Yield Strength at 0.2% Offset ksi	Elongation in 2 inches or 4D %
Up to 0.032, excl	160	145	3 (See 3.5.2.1.1)
0.032 to 0.049, excl	160	145	4
0.049 to 0.1875, excl	160	145	5
0.1875 to 0.750, excl	160	145	8
0.750 to 1.000, excl	150	140	6
1.000 to 2.000, incl	145	135	6

TABLE 4B - MINIMUM TENSILE PROPERTIES, SI UNITS (SEE 8.2)

Nominal Thickness mm	Tensile Strength MPa	Yield Strength at 0.2% Offset MPa	Elongation in 50.8 mm or 4D %
Up to 0.81, excl	1103	1000	3 (See 3.5.2.1.1)
0.81 to 1.24, excl	1103	1000	4
1.24 to 4.76, excl	1103	1000	5
4.76 to 19.05, excl	1103	1000	8
19.05 to 25.40, excl	1034	965	6
25.40 to 50.80, incl	1000	931	6

3.5.2.1.1 For thickness under 0.025, elongation values shall be as agreed upon.

3.6 Quality

The product, as received by purchaser, shall be uniform in quality and condition, sound, and free from “oil cans” (See 8.4) of depth in excess of the flatness tolerances, ripples, and foreign materials and from imperfections detrimental to usage of the product.

3.6.1 Ultrasonic Inspection

Plate 0.500 to 4.000 inch (12.70 to 101.60 mm) in nominal thickness shall meet Class A1 requirements of AMS 2631.

3.7 Tolerances

Shall conform to all applicable requirements of AMS 2242.

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS

4.1 Responsibility for Inspection

The vendor of the product shall supply all samples for vendor’s tests and shall be responsible for the performance of all required tests. Purchaser reserves the right to sample and to perform any confirmatory testing deemed necessary to ensure that the product conforms to specified requirements.

4.2 Classification of Tests

Tests for all technical requirements are acceptance tests and shall be performed on each heat or lot as applicable.

4.3 Sampling and Testing

Shall be in accordance with the following: a lot shall be all product of the same nominal size from the same heat processed at the same time and in the same heat treatment batch.