



# AEROSPACE MATERIAL SPECIFICATION

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

## AMS 5121E

Superseding AMS 5121D

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STEEL STRIP  
(0.90 - 1.04C) (SAE 1095)

### 1. SCOPE:

1.1 Form: This specification covers a carbon steel in the form of strip.

1.2 Application: Primarily for heat treated springs, shims, spacers, and other applications where spring temper is required.

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 2232 - Tolerances, Carbon Steel Sheet, Strip, and Plate

AMS 2259 - Chemical Check Analysis Limits, Wrought Low-Alloy and Carbon Steels

AMS 2350 - Standards and Test Methods

AMS 2370 - Quality Assurance Sampling of Carbon and Low-Alloy Steels, Wrought Products  
Except Forgings and Forging Stock

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

ASTM A370 - Mechanical Testing of Steel Products

ASTM E112 - Estimating the Average Grain Size of Metals

ASTM E350 - Chemical Analysis of Carbon Steel, Low-Alloy Steel, Silicon Electrical Steel,  
Ingot Iron, and Wrought Iron

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 Standards:

MIL-STD-163 - Steel Mill Products, Preparation for Shipment and Storage

### 3. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

SAE Technical Board rules provide that: "All technical reports, including standards approved by the Board, are advisory only. Their use by anyone engaged in industry or trade is entirely voluntary. There is no agreement to adhere to any SAE standard recommended practice, and no commitment to conform to or be guided by any technical report. In formulating and approving technical reports, the Board and its Committees will not investigate or consider patents which may apply to the subject matter. Prospective users of the report are responsible for protecting themselves against liability for infringement of patents."

- 3.1 Composition: Shall conform to the following percentages by weight, determined by wet chemical methods in accordance with ASTM E350, by spectrographic methods in accordance with Federal Test Method Standard No. 151, Method 112, or by other approved analytical methods:

	min	max
Carbon	0.90	1.04
Manganese	0.30	0.50
Silicon	0.10	0.30
Phosphorus	--	0.040
Sulfur	--	0.050

- 3.1.1 Check Analysis: Composition variations shall meet the applicable requirements of AMS 2259.
- 3.2 Condition: Strip shall be supplied in the following condition; hardness shall be determined in accordance with ASTM A370:
- 3.2.1 Nominal Thickness Up to 0.063 In. (1.60 mm), Incl: Cold rolled and annealed, having hardness not higher than 85 HRB or equivalent.
- 3.2.2 Nominal Thicknesses Over 0.063 In. (1.60 mm): Cold rolled and annealed, or hot rolled, annealed, and descaled, having hardness not higher than 85 HRB or equivalent.
- 3.3 Properties: Strip shall conform to the following requirements; hardness and bend testing shall be performed in accordance with ASTM A370:
- 3.3.1 Grain Size: Predominantly 5 or finer with occasional grains as large as 3 permissible, ASTM E112.
- 3.3.2 Decarburization:
- 3.3.2.1 Specimens: Shall be the full thickness of the strip. Recommended specimen size is 1 x 4 in. or 25 x 100 millimetres.
- 3.3.2.2 Procedure: Specimens shall be hardened by austenitizing and quenching; preferably, they shall not be tempered but, if tempered, the tempering temperature shall be higher than 300°F (149°C). During heat treatment, specimens shall be protected by suitable atmosphere or medium or by suitable plating to prevent carburization or further decarburization. Protective plating, if used, shall then be removed and a portion of the specimen shall be ground to a depth of 0.050 in. (1.27 mm) or one-half thickness, whichever is less. At least three Rockwell hardness readings shall be taken on each prepared step and each group of readings averaged.
- 3.3.2.3 Allowance: Strip shall show no layer of complete decarburization, determined microscopically at a magnification not exceeding 100X. It shall also be free from partial decarburization to the extent that the difference in hardness between the original surface and the portion ground as in 3.3.2.2 shall be not greater than 2 units on the Rockwell Superficial 30N scale.
- 3.3.3 Bending: Strip shall withstand, without cracking, free bending through an angle of 180 deg (3.14 rad) around a diameter equal to twice the nominal thickness of the strip with axis of bend parallel to the direction of rolling. If the bend cannot be made with the axis parallel to the direction of rolling, bending shall be done with the axis perpendicular to the direction of rolling around a diameter equal to the nominal thickness of the strip.
- 3.4 Quality: Strip, as received by the 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 strip.
- 3.5 Tolerances: Unless otherwise specified, tolerances shall conform to all applicable requirements of AMS 2232.

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS:

- 4.1 Responsibility for Inspection: The vendor of strip 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 4.4. Purchaser reserves the right to perform such confirmatory testing as he deems necessary to ensure that the strip conforms to the requirements of this specification.
- 4.2 Classification of Tests: Tests to determine conformance to all technical requirements of this specification are classified as acceptance tests.
- 4.3 Sampling: Shall be in accordance with AMS 2370.
- 4.4 Reports:
- 4.4.1 The vendor of strip shall furnish with each shipment three copies of a report showing the results of tests for chemical composition of each heat and stating that the strip conforms to the other technical requirements of this specification. This report shall include the purchase order number, heat number, material specification number and its revision letter, size, and quantity from each heat.
- 4.4.2 The vendor of finished or semi-finished parts shall furnish with each shipment three copies of a report showing the purchase order number, material specification number and its revision letter, contractor or other direct supplier of strip, part number, and quantity. When strip for making parts is produced or purchased by the parts vendor, that vendor shall inspect each lot of strip to determine conformance to the requirements of this specification, and shall include in the report a statement that the strip conforms, or shall include copies of laboratory reports showing the results of tests to determine conformance.
- 4.5 Resampling and Retesting: Shall be in accordance with AMS 2370.

5. PREPARATION FOR DELIVERY:

- 5.1 Identification: Each strip shall be marked as in 5.1.1 unless purchaser permits a method from 5.1.2.
- 5.1.1 Each strip shall be marked on one face, in the respective location indicated below, with AMS 5121E, heat number, manufacturer's identification, and nominal thickness. The characters shall be of such size as to be clearly legible, shall be applied using a suitable marking fluid, and shall be removable in hot alkaline cleaning solution without rubbing. The markings shall have no deleterious effect on the strip or its performance and shall be sufficiently stable to withstand normal handling. The specification number, manufacturer's identification, and nominal thickness shall be continuously line marked; the heat number may be included in the line marking or may be marked at one location on each piece.
- 5.1.1.1 Flat Strip 6 In. (152 mm) and Under in Width: Shall be marked in one or more lengthwise rows of characters recurring at intervals of not greater than 3 ft (914 mm).
- 5.1.1.2 Flat Strip Over 6 In. (152 mm) in Width: Shall be marked in lengthwise rows of characters recurring at intervals not greater than 3 ft (914 mm), the rows being spaced not more than 6 in. (162 mm) apart and alternately staggered.
- 5.1.1.3 Coiled Strip: Shall be marked near both the outside and inside ends of the coil; the markings shall be applied as in 5.1.1 or shall appear on a durable tag or label attached to the coil and marked with the information of 5.1.1. When the inside end of the coil is inaccessible, as when the strip is wound on cores, the tag or label may be attached to the core.
- 5.1.2 When purchaser permits, each strip may be marked near one end, coils being marked near the outside end, with AMS 5121E, heat number, manufacturer's identification, and nominal thickness, using any suitable marking fluid. As an alternate method, individual pieces and bundles shall have attached a durable tag marked with the above information or shall be boxed and the box marked with the same information.