

AERONAUTICAL MATERIAL SPECIFICATION

Society of Automotive Engineers, Inc.
29 West 39th Street
New York City

AMS 6321

Issued 11-1-51

Revised

STEEL

0.4Cr - 0.3Ni - 0.1Mo - B (0.38-0.43C) (81B40)

1. ACKNOWLEDGMENT: A vendor shall mention this specification number in all quotations and when acknowledging purchase orders.
2. FORM: Bars, forgings, forging stock, and mechanical tubing.
3. APPLICATION: Parts with sections 0.375 in. or less in thickness at the time of heat treatment which require a through-hardening steel capable of developing hardness as high as Rockwell C 50 when properly hardened and tempered and also parts of greater thickness but requiring proportionately lower hardness.

4. COMPOSITION:

		Check Analysis	
		Under Min	or Over Max
Carbon	0.38 - 0.43	0.02	0.02
Manganese	0.75 - 1.00	0.04	0.04
Silicon	0.20 - 0.35	0.02	0.02
Phosphorus	0.040 max	--	0.005
Sulfur	0.040 max	--	0.005
Chromium	0.30 - 0.55	0.03	0.03
Nickel	0.20 - 0.40	0.03	0.03
Molybdenum	0.08 - 0.15	0.01	0.01
Boron	Present, but not exceeding 0.007		

5. CONDITION:

- 5.1 Bars: In a machinable condition having hardness not higher than Brinell 229 or equivalent, except that, if ordered cold finished, hardness may be as high as Brinell 241 or equivalent.
- 5.2 Tubing: In a machinable condition.
- 5.3 Forgings: As ordered.
- 5.4 Forging Stock: As ordered by the forging manufacturer.

6. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

- 6.1 Hardenability: The hardenability shall be J60=1 max and J50=5 min when determined by the standard end-quench test specimen in accordance with the SAE Method of Determining Hardenability published in the latest issue of the SAE Handbook, except that the steel shall be normalized at 1700 F + 10 and the test specimen austenitized at 1550 F + 10. The hardenability test is not required on a product which will not yield a suitable specimen but the steel from which the product is made shall conform to the hardenability specified in this paragraph.

Section 7C of the SAE Technical Board rules provides that: "All technical reports, including standards approved and practices recommended, are advisory only. Their use by anyone engaged in industry is entirely voluntary. There is no agreement to adhere to any SAE standard or recommended practice, and no commitment to conform to or be guided by 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."

6.2 Grain Size: Five or finer, ASTM E19-46, method a. A heat of steel predominantly five or finer with grains as large as three is permissible.

6.3 Decarburization:

6.3.1 Bars or tubing ordered ground, turned, or polished shall be free from decarburization on such ground, turned, or polished surfaces. Inside decarburization of such tubing shall not exceed the maximum depth specified in 6.3.4.

6.3.2 Allowable decarburization of bars or tubing ordered for redrawing or forging, or to definite microstructural requirements, shall be as agreed upon by purchaser and vendor.

6.3.3 Decarburization of bars to which 6.3.1 or 6.3.2 is not applicable shall be not greater than the following:

Nominal Diameter or Distance Between Parallel Sides Inches	Maximum Depth of Decarburization Inch
0.375 and under	0.010
Over 0.375 to 0.500, incl	0.012
Over 0.500 to 0.625, incl	0.014
Over 0.625 to 1.000, incl	0.017
Over 1.000 to 1.500, incl	0.020
Over 1.500 to 2.000, incl	0.025
Over 2.000 to 2.500, incl	0.030
Over 2.500 to 3.000, incl	0.035

6.3.4 Decarburization of tubing to which 6.3.1 or 6.3.2 is not applicable shall be not greater than the following:

Nominal Wall Thickness Inches	Maximum Depth of Decarburization, Inch	
	Inside	Outside
0.109 and under	0.008	0.015
Over 0.109 to 0.203, incl	0.010	0.020
Over 0.203 to 0.400, incl	0.012	0.025
Over 0.400 to 0.600, incl	0.015	0.030
Over 0.600 to 1.000, incl	0.017	0.035
Over 1.000	0.020	0.040

6.3.5 Unless otherwise agreed upon by purchaser and vendor, decarburization shall be measured by the microscopic method, or by Rockwell Superficial 30-N scale hardness method, or equivalent hardness testing method, on hardened specimens. Depth of decarburization, when measured by a hardness method, is defined as the distance measured from the nearest original surface to the point at which no increase in hardness is found.

7. QUALITY: Steel shall be aircraft quality. It shall be uniform in quality and condition, sound, and free from foreign materials and from internal and external defects detrimental to fabrication or to performance of parts.