The Engineering Society For Advancing Mobility Land Sea Air and Space®
400 Commonwealth Drive, Warrendale, PA 15096-0001

AEROSPACE MATERIAL SPECIFICATION

An American National Standard

AMS 6421C

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Superseding AMS 6421B

STEEL BARS, FORGINGS, AND TUBING
0.80Cr - 0.85Ni - 0.20Mo - 0.003B (0.35 - 0.40C) (Modified 98B37)

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1. SCOPE:

1.1 Form: This specification covers an aircraft-quality, low-alloy steel in the form of bars, forgings, mechanical tubing, and forging stock.

1.2 Application: Primarily for parts, 0.875 inch (22.22 mm) and under in section thickness at time of heat treatment, requiring a through-hardening steel capable of developing hardness as high as 50 HRC when properly hardened and tempered and also parts of greater thickness requiring proportionately lower hardness.

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 2251 - Tolerances, Low-Alloy Steel Bars
MAM 2251 - Tolerances, Metric, Low-Alloy Steel Bars
AMS 2253 - Tolerances, Carbon and Alloy Steel Tubing
MAM 2253 - Tolerances, Metric, Carbon and Alloy Steel Bars
AMS 2259 - Chemical Check Analysis Limits, Wrought Low-Alloy and Carbon Steels
AMS 2301 - Aircraft Quality Steel Cleanliness, Magnetic Particle Inspection Procedure
AMS 2350 - Standards and Test Methods

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2.1.1 (Continued):

AMS 2370 - Quality Assurance Sampling of Carbon and Low-Alloy Steels, Wrought Products Except Forgings and Forging Stock
AMS 2372 - Quality Assurance Sampling of Carbon and Low-Alloy Steels, Forgings and Forging Stock
AMS 2806 - Identification, Bars, Wire, Extrusions, and Mechanical Tubing, Carbon and Alloy Steels and Heat and Corrosion Resistant Steels and Alloys
AMS 2808 - Identification, Forgings

2.1.2 Aerospace Standards:

AS1182 - Standard Machining Allowance, Aircraft Quality and Premium Quality Steel Products

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

ASTM A 255 - End-Quench Test for Hardenability of Steel
ASTM A 370 - Mechanical Testing of Steel Products
ASTM E 112 - Determining Average Grain Size
ASTM E 350 - Chemical Analysis of Carbon Steel, Low-Alloy Steel, Silicon Electrical Steel, Ingot Iron, and Wrought Iron
ASTM E 381 - Macroetch Testing, Inspection, and Rating Steel Products Comprising Bars, Billets, Blooms, and Forgings

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 Standards:

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

3. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:

3.1 Composition: Shall conform to the following percentages by weight, determined by wet chemical methods in accordance with ASTM E350, by spectrochemical methods, or by other analytical methods acceptable to purchaser:

	min		max
Carbon	0.35	-	0.40
Manganese	0.65	-	0.85
Silicon	0.15	-	0.35
Phosphorus	--		0.025
Sulfur	--		0.025
Chromium	0.70	-	0.90
Nickel	0.70	-	1.00
Molybdenum	0.15	-	0.25
Boron	0.0005	-	0.005
Copper	--		0.35

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3.1.1 Check Analysis: Composition variations shall meet the applicable requirements of AMS 2259.

3.2 Condition: The product shall be supplied in the following condition; hardness and tensile strength shall be determined in accordance with ASTM A 370:

3.2.1 Bars:

3.2.1.1 Bars 0.500 Inch (12.70 mm) and Under in Nominal Diameter or Distance Between Parallel Sides: Cold finished having tensile strength not higher than 130,000 psi (896 MPa).

3.2.1.2 Bars Over 0.500 Inch (12.70 mm) in Nominal Diameter or Distance Between Parallel Sides: Hot finished and annealed having hardness not higher than 229 HB, or equivalent, except that bars ordered cold finished may have hardness as high as 248 HB, or equivalent.

3.2.2 Forgings: As ordered.

3.2.3 Mechanical Tubing: Cold finished having hardness not higher than 25 HRC, or equivalent, except that tubing ordered hot finished and annealed shall have hardness not higher than 99 HRB, or equivalent.

3.2.4 Forging Stock: As ordered by the forging manufacturer.

3.3 Properties: The product shall conform to the following requirements; hardness testing shall be performed in accordance with ASTM A 370:

3.3.1 Macrostructure: Visual examination of transverse sections as in 4.3.3 from bars, billets, tube rounds or tubes, and forging stock, etched in accordance with ASTM E 381, shall show no pipe or cracks. Except as specified in 3.3.1.1, porosity, segregation, inclusions, and other imperfections shall be no worse than the following macrographs of ASTM E 381:

Section Size		
Square Inches	Square Centimetres	Macrographs
Up to 36, incl	Up to 232, incl	S2 - R1 - C2
Over 36 to 100, incl	Over 232 to 645, incl	S2 - R2 - C3
Over 100	Over 645	As agreed upon

3.3.1.1 If tubes are produced directly from ingots or large blooms, transverse sections may be taken from tubes rather than tube rounds. Macrostructure standards for such tubes shall be as agreed upon by purchaser and vendor.

3.3.2 Grain Size: Predominantly 5 or finer with occasional grains as large as 3 permissible, determined in accordance with ASTM E 112.

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3.3.3 Hardenability: Shall be J59=1 maximum and J50=10 minimum, determined on the standard end-quench test specimen in accordance with ASTM A 255 except that the steel shall be normalized at 1700°F ± 10 (927°C ± 6) and the test specimen austenitized at 1550°F ± 10 (843°C ± 6). The hardenability test is not required on a product that will not yield a suitable specimen but the steel from which the product is made shall conform to the hardenability specified.

3.3.4 Decarburization:

3.3.4.1 Bars and tubing ordered ground, turned, or polished shall be free from decarburization on the ground, turned, or polished surfaces. Decarburization on the tubing ID shall not exceed the maximum depth specified in Table II.

3.3.4.2 Allowable decarburization of bars, billets, and tube rounds ordered for redrawing or forging or to specified microstructural requirements shall be as agreed upon by purchaser and vendor.

3.3.4.3 Decarburization of bars to which 3.3.4.1 or 3.3.4.2 is not applicable shall be not greater than shown in Table I.

TABLE I

Nominal Diameter or Distance Between Parallel Sides, Inches	Depth of Decarburization Inch
Up to 0.375, incl	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
Over 3.000 to 4.000, incl	0.045

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TABLE I (SI)

Nominal Diameter or Distance Between Parallel Sides Millimetres	Depth of Decarburization Millimetres
Up to 9.52, incl	0.25
Over 9.52 to 12.70, incl	0.30
Over 12.70 to 15.88, incl	0.36
Over 15.88 to 25.40, incl	0.43
Over 25.40 to 38.10, incl	0.51
Over 38.10 to 50.80, incl	0.64
Over 50.80 to 63.50, incl	0.76
Over 63.50 to 76.20, incl	0.89
Over 76.20 to 101.60, incl	1.14

3.3.4.3.1 Limits for depth of decarburization of bars over 4.000 inches (101.60 mm) in nominal diameter or distance between parallel sides shall be as agreed upon by purchaser and vendor.

3.3.4.4 Decarburization of tubing to which 3.3.4.1 or 3.3.4.2 is not applicable shall be not greater than shown in Table II.

TABLE II

Nominal Wall Thickness Inches	Depth of Decarburization Inch	
	ID	OD
Up to 0.109, incl	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

TABLE II (SI)

Nominal Wall Thickness Millimetres	Depth of Decarburization Millimetres	
	ID	OD
Up to 2.77, incl	0.20	0.38
Over 2.77 to 5.16, incl	0.25	0.51
Over 5.16 to 10.16, incl	0.30	0.64
Over 10.16 to 15.24, incl	0.38	0.76
Over 15.24 to 25.40, incl	0.43	0.89
Over 25.40	0.51	1.02

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3.3.4.5 Decarburization shall be measured by the microscopic method or by Rockwell Superficial 30-N scale or equivalent hardness testing method on hardened but untempered specimens protected during heat treatment to prevent changes in surface carbon content. Depth of decarburization, when measured by a hardness method, is defined as the perpendicular distance from the surface to the depth under that surface below which there is no further increase in hardness. Such measurements shall be far enough away from any adjacent surface to be uninfluenced by any decarburization or lack of decarburization thereon.

3.3.4.5.1 When determining the depth of decarburization, it is permissible to disregard local areas provided the decarburization of such areas does not exceed the above limits by more than 0.005 inch (0.13 mm) and the width is 0.065 inch (1.65 mm) or less.

3.4 Quality:

3.4.1 Steel shall be aircraft quality conforming to AMS 2301.

3.4.2 The product, 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 product.

3.4.2.1 Bars and tubing ordered ground, turned, or polished shall be free from seams, laps, tears, and cracks open to the ground, turned, or polished surfaces.

3.4.2.2 Product ordered to surface conditions other than ground, turned, or polished shall, after removal of the standard machining allowance, be free from seams, laps, tears, cracks, and other defects exposed to the machined surfaces. Standard machining allowance shall be in accordance with AS1182.

3.4.2.3 Grain flow of die forgings, except in areas which contain flash-line end grain, shall follow the general contour of the forgings showing no evidence of re-entrant grain flow.

3.5 Sizes: Except when exact lengths or multiples of exact lengths are ordered, straight bars and tubing will be acceptable in mill lengths of 6 - 20 feet (1.8 - 6.1 m) but not more than 10% of any shipment shall be supplied in lengths shorter than 10 feet (3 m).

3.6 Tolerances: Shall conform to all applicable requirements of the following:

3.6.1 Bars: AMS 2251 or MAM 2251.

3.6.2 Mechanical Tubing: AMS 2253 or MAM 2253.

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4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS:

4.1 Responsibi1ity for Inspection: The vendor of the product 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 4.4. Purchaser reserves the right to sample and to perform any confirmatory testing deemed necessary to ensure that the product conforms to the requirements of this specification.

4.2 Classification of Tests: Tests for all technical requirements are 0 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; the number 0 of specimens to be sampled shall be the minimum number of specimens tested:

4.3.1 Bars and Mechanical Tubing: AMS 2370.

4.3.2 Forgings and Forging Stock: AMS 2372.

4.3.3 Samples for macrostructure rating (3.3.1) shall be full cross-sectional specimens obtained from the finished billet or suitable rerolled product representing the top and bottom of at least the first, middle, and last usable ingot of each heat.

4.4 Reports:

4.4.1 The vendor of bars, forgings, and mechanical tubing shall furnish with each shipment a report showing the results of tests for chemical composition, macrostructure, grain size, hardenability, and frequency-severity cleanliness rating of each heat. This report shall include the purchase order number, lot number, AMS 6421C, size, and quantity. If forgings are supplied, the part number and the size and melt source of stock used to make the forgings shall also be included.

4.4.2 The vendor of forging stock shall furnish with each shipment a report 0 showing the results of tests for chemical composition and frequency-severity cleanliness rating of each heat. The report shall include the purchase order number number, heat number, AMS 6421C, size and quantity.

4.5 Resampling and Retesting: Shall be in accordance with the following:

4.5.1 Bars and Mechanical Tubing: AMS 2370.

4.5.2 Forginqs and Forging Stock: AMS 2372.

5. PREPARATION FOR DELIVERY:

5.1 Identification: Shall be as follows:

5.1.1 Bars and Mechanical Tubing: In accordance with AMS 2806.

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