

Issued 1998-07
Revised 2011-08

Superseding AS81044

Wire, Electrical, Crosslinked Polyalkene, Crosslinked Alkane-Imide Polymer,
or Polyarylene Insulated, Copper or Copper Alloy

RATIONALE

Revised to incorporate all outstanding amendments.

NOTICE

This document has been taken directly from U.S. Military Specification MIL-W-81044B, Supplement 1A, Amendment 3 and contains only minor editorial and format changes required to bring it into conformance with the publishing requirements of SAE technical standards. The initial release of this document is intended to replace MIL-W-81044B, Supplement 1A, Amendment 3. Any part numbers established by the original specification remain unchanged.

The original Military Specification was adopted as an SAE standard under the provisions of the SAE Technical Standards Board (TSB) Rules and Regulations (TSB 001) pertaining to accelerated adoption of government specifications and standards. TSB rules provide for (a) the publication of portions of unrevised government specifications and standards without consensus voting at the SAE Committee level, and (b) the use of the existing government specification or standard format.

Under Department of Defense policies and procedures, any qualification requirements and associated qualified products lists are mandatory for DOD contracts. Any requirement relating to qualified products lists (QPL's) has not been adopted by SAE and is not part of this technical report.

SAENORM.COM : Click to view the full PDF of AS81044A

SAE Technical Standards Board Rules provide that: "This report is published by SAE to advance the state of technical and engineering sciences. The use of this report is entirely voluntary, and its applicability and suitability for any particular use, including any patent infringement arising therefrom, is the sole responsibility of the user."

SAE reviews each technical report at least every five years at which time it may be reaffirmed, revised, or cancelled. SAE invites your written comments and suggestions.

Copyright © 2011 SAE International

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of SAE.

TO PLACE A DOCUMENT ORDER: Tel: 877-606-7323 (inside USA and Canada)
Tel: +1 724-776-4970 (outside USA)
Fax: 724-776-0790
Email: CustomerService@sae.org
http://www.sae.org

SAE WEB ADDRESS:

**SAE values your input. To provide feedback
on this Technical Report, please visit
<http://www.sae.org/technical/standards/AS81044A>**

1. SCOPE

1.1 Scope

This specification covers single conductor electric wires made as specified in the applicable specification sheet with tin-coated, silver-coated, or nickel-coated copper or copper alloy conductors insulated with crosslinked polyalkene, crosslinked alkane-imide polymer, or polyarylene. The crosslinked polyalkene, crosslinked alkane-imide polymer, or polyarylene may be used alone or in combination with other insulation materials as specified in the specification sheet.

1.2 Classification

The wires shall be as described in the applicable military specification sheet.

1.2.1 Part numbers: Part numbers under this specification are coded as in the following example:

<u>M81044/1</u>	-	<u>22</u>	-	<u>9</u>
Applicable specification sheet		Wire size		Insulation color designator or designators

1.2.2 Temperature rating of finished wire: The maximum conductor temperature of the finished wire for continuous use shall be as specified in the applicable military specification sheet (6.1.1).

2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

The following publications form a part of this document to the extent specified herein. The latest issue of SAE publications shall apply. The applicable issue of the other publications shall be the issue in effect on the date of the purchase order. In the event of conflict between the text of this document and references cited herein, the text of this document takes precedence. Nothing in this document, however, supersedes applicable laws and regulations unless a specific exemption has been obtained.

2.1 U.S. Government Publications

Available from the Document Automation and Production Service (DAPS), Building 4D, 700 Robbins Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094, Tel: 215-697-9495, <https://assist.daps.dla.mil/quicksearch/>.

SPECIFICATIONS

Federal

TT-I-735 Isopropyl Alcohol

Military

MIL-PRF-5606 Hydraulic Fluid, Petroleum Base; Aircraft, Missile, and Ordnance

MIL-DTL-5624 Turbine Fuel, Aviation, Grades JP-4 and JP-5

MIL-DTL-12000 Cable, Cord, and Wire, Electric; Packaging of

MIL-PRF-23699 Lubricating Oil, Aircraft Turbine Engine, Synthetic Base

MIL-DTL-29606 Wire, Electrical, Stranded, Uninsulated Copper, Copper Alloy, or Aluminum, or Thermocouple Extension, General Specification For

MIL-DTL-83133 Turbine Fuel, Aviation, Kerosene Types, NATO F-34 (JP-8) and NATO F-35

P-D-410 Type I, Dishwashing Compound, Hand

SD-6 Provisions Governing Qualification

STANDARDS

Federal

FED-STD-228 Cable and Wire, Insulated; Methods of Testing

Military

MIL-STD-104 Limits for Electrical Insulation Color

MIL-STD-129 Marking for Shipment and Storage

MIL-STD-202 Test Methods for Electronic and Electrical Component Parts

MIL-STD-681 Identification Coding and Application of Hookup and Lead Wire

PUBLICATIONS

Defense Logistics Information Service

Available at <http://www.dlis.dla.mil/hseries.asp>.

H4/H8 Commercial And Government Entity

(Copies of specifications, standards, drawings, and publications required by suppliers in connection with specific procurement functions should be obtained from the procuring activity or as directed by the contracting officer.)

2.2 Other Publications

The following documents form a part of this specification to the extent specified herein. Unless otherwise indicated, the issue in effect on date of invitation for bids or request for proposal shall apply:

2.2.1 ASQ Publications

Available from American Society for Quality, 600 North Plankinton Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53203, Tel: 800-248-1946 (United States or Canada) or +1-414-272-8575 (International), www.asq.org.

ASQC Z1.4 Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes

2.2.2 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.

B33-71 Standard Specification for Tinned Soft or Annealed Copper Wire for Electrical Purposes

B298-70a Standard Specification for Silver-Coated Soft or Annealed Copper Wire

B355-69 Standard Specification for Nickel-Coated Soft or Annealed Copper Wire

ANSI/ASTM D 3032 Standard Test Methods for Hookup Wire Insulation

3. REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Specification Sheets

The requirements for the individual wires under this specification shall be as specified herein and in accordance with the applicable specification sheet. In the event of any conflict between the requirements of this specification and those of the specification sheet, the requirements of the specification sheet shall govern except as follows:

- a. All specification sheet references to tape abrasion or resistance to propellants shall be considered as cancelled.
- b. All specification sheet requirements for blocking shall be at the rated temperature of the wire of that specification sheet (for example: the blocking test temperature of MIL-W-81044/12 shall be 150°C in lieu of 225°C).

3.2 Classification of Requirements

The applicable requirements are classified herein as follows:

<u>Requirement</u>	<u>Paragraph</u>
Qualification	3.3
Materials	3.4
Construction	3.5
Finished Wire	3.6

3.3 Qualification

The wire furnished under this specification shall be a product which is qualified for listing on the applicable qualified products list at the time set for opening of bids (see 4.3 and 6.3). The provisions of 4.6 for retention of qualification are included in this requirement.

3.4 Materials

3.4.1 Conductor Material: All strands used in the manufacture of the conductors shall be tin-coated, silver-coated, or nickel-coated soft annealed copper conforming to ANSI/ASTM B33-71, B298-70a, or B355-69, as applicable, or shall be silver-coated or nickel-coated high strength copper alloy. Strands shall be free from lumps, kinks, splits, scraped or corroded surfaces and skin impurities. In addition, the strands shall conform to the following requirements as applicable.

3.4.1.1 Tin-coated Copper Strands: No additional requirements. The tin coating shall be as specified in ANSI/ASTM B33-71.

3.4.1.2 Silver-coated Copper Strands: The strands shall have a coating thickness of not less than 40 micro-inches of silver when tested in accordance with ANSI/ASTM B298-70a.

3.4.1.3 Nickel-coated Copper Strands: The strands shall have a coating thickness of not less than 50 micro-inches of nickel when tested in accordance with ANSI/ASTM B355-69. Adhesion of the nickel coating shall be such that, after subjection to the procedures of 4.7.2.1, the strands shall still pass the continuity of coating test in ANSI/ASTM B355-69.

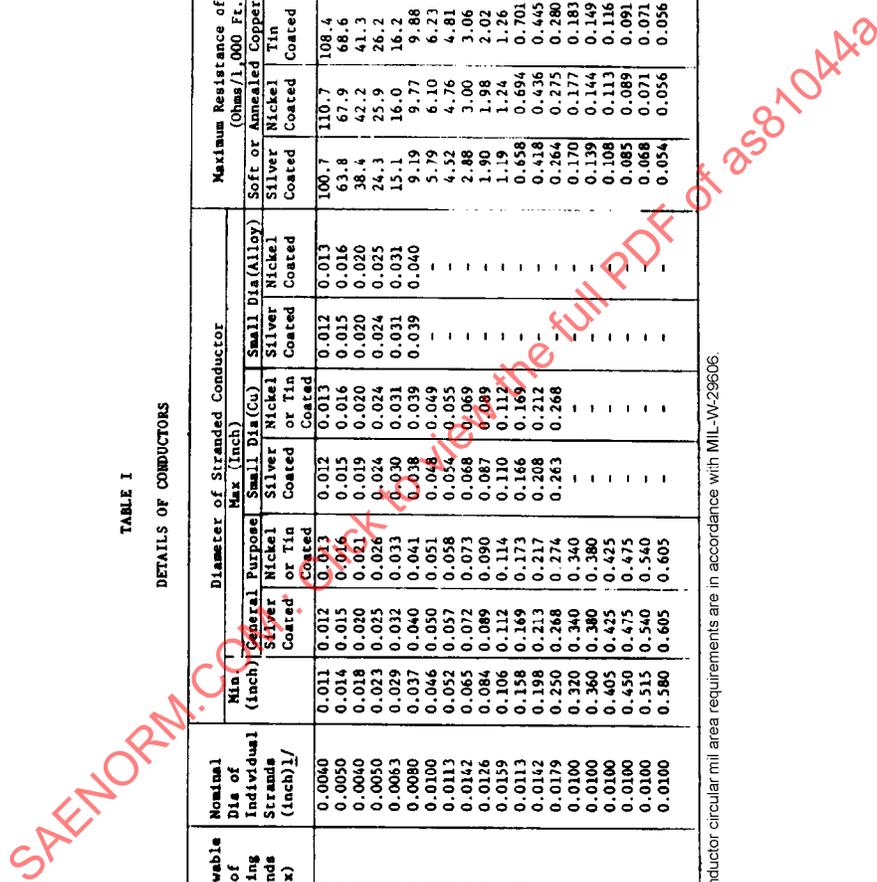
3.4.1.4 High Strength Copper Alloy: The strands shall be of the applicable AWG gage specified in Table 1 and of such tensile properties that the conductor from the finished wire conforms to the requirements of 3.5.1.3.2 for elongation and tensile strength. The strands shall be silver-coated or nickel-coated in accordance with 3.4.1.2 or 3.4.1.3 as applicable.

TABLE 1 – DETAILS OF CONDUCTORS

TABLE 1
DETAILS OF CONDUCTORS

Size Designation	Nominal Conductor Area (Cir. Mils) $\frac{1}{2}$	Stranding (No. of Strands x Strands x AWG Gage of Strands)	Allowable No. of Missing Strands (Max)	Nominal Dia. of Individual Strands (Inch) $\frac{1}{2}$	Diameter of Stranded Conductor										Maximum Resistance of Finished Wire (Ohms/1,000 Ft. at 20°C)				Breaking Strength, Alloy Conductor (lbs)(min)
					Min (Inch)		General Purpose		Silver Nickel or Tin Coated		Small Dia (Cu)		Small Dia (Alloy)		Soft or Annealed		High Str		
					Silver Coated	Nickel Coated	Silver Coated	Nickel Coated	Silver or Tin Coated	Nickel or Tin Coated	Small Silver Coated	Small Nickel Coated	Tin Coated	Copper Coated	Nickel Coated	Silver Coated	Nickel Coated		
30	112	7 x 38	0	0.0040	0.011	0.012	0.013	0.012	0.013	0.012	0.013	0.012	0.013	0.012	0.013	117.4	129.6	5.17	
28	175	7 x 36	0	0.0050	0.014	0.015	0.016	0.015	0.016	0.015	0.016	0.015	0.016	0.015	0.016	174.4	179.0	8.16	
26	304	19 x 38	0	0.0060	0.018	0.020	0.021	0.019	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	284.8	294.4	14.2	
24	475	19 x 36	0	0.0050	0.023	0.025	0.026	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	352.4	361.6	22.4	
22	734	19 x 34	0	0.0063	0.029	0.032	0.033	0.030	0.031	0.031	0.031	0.031	0.031	0.031	0.031	448.4	467.6	35.8	
20	1,216	19 x 32	0	0.0080	0.037	0.040	0.041	0.038	0.039	0.039	0.039	0.039	0.039	0.039	0.039	568.4	597.6	58.1	
18	1,900	19 x 30	0	0.0100	0.046	0.050	0.051	0.048	0.049	0.049	0.049	0.049	0.049	0.049	728.4	767.6			
16	2,426	19 x 29	0	0.0113	0.052	0.057	0.058	0.054	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	898.4	947.6			
14	3,831	19 x 27	0	0.0142	0.065	0.072	0.073	0.068	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.069	1,128.4	1,187.6			
12	5,874	37 x 28	0	0.0126	0.084	0.089	0.090	0.087	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.088	1,328.4	1,397.6			
10	9,354	37 x 26	0	0.0159	0.106	0.112	0.114	0.110	0.112	0.112	0.112	0.112	0.112	0.112	1,528.4	1,607.6			
8	16,983	133 x 29	0	0.0113	0.138	0.149	0.153	0.146	0.149	0.149	0.149	0.149	0.149	0.149	1,928.4	2,027.6			
6	26,818	133 x 27	0	0.0142	0.198	0.213	0.217	0.208	0.212	0.212	0.212	0.212	0.212	0.212	2,328.4	2,437.6			
4	42,615	133 x 25	0	0.0179	0.250	0.268	0.274	0.263	0.268	0.268	0.268	0.268	0.268	0.268	2,728.4	2,847.6			
2	66,500	665 x 30	2	0.0100	0.320	0.340	0.340	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,128.4	3,257.6			
1	81,700	817 x 30	2	0.0100	0.360	0.380	0.380	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,528.4	3,667.6			
0	104,500	1,045 x 30	3	0.0100	0.405	0.425	0.425	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,928.4	4,077.6			
00	133,000	1,330 x 30	3	0.0100	0.450	0.475	0.475	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,328.4	4,487.6			
000	166,500	1,665 x 30	4	0.0100	0.515	0.540	0.540	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,728.4	4,897.6			
0000	210,900	2,109 x 30	5	0.0100	0.580	0.605	0.605	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,128.4	5,307.6			

$\frac{1}{2}$ Nominal values are for information only. Conductor circular mill area requirements are in accordance with MIL-W-29606.



3.4.2 Insulating Material: All primary insulation shall be crosslinked polyalkene, crosslinked alkane-imide polymer, or polyarylene, as specified in the applicable specification sheet. Insulation coatings or jackets, if present, shall also be of the material specified in the specification sheet. All insulating materials, including primary insulation and coating or jacket, shall be certified virgin material (3.4.2.1) containing no additives except those required as pigmentation for colors, lubricants used in extrusion and stabilizers. The physical properties of the materials shall be such that, when tested in accordance with 4.7.5.7 after extrusion on the finished wire, the insulation will meet the elongation and tensile strength requirements set forth in the specification sheet.

3.4.2.1 Virgin Material: For purposes of this specification, virgin material shall be 100 percent new material which has been through only the processes essential to its manufacture and its application to the wire and has been through these essential processes one time only. Any material which has previously been processed in any other manner is considered nonvirgin material. This requirement shall apply to the manufacture of all ingredients and components used.

3.5 Construction

Construction of the wire shall be as specified herein and in the applicable military specification sheet.

3.5.1 Conductor

3.5.1.1 Stranding

3.5.1.1.1 Concentric Lay Stranding: The conductors of wire sizes 30 through 10 shall be concentric-lay conductors constructed as specified in Table 1. Concentric lay shall be interpreted to be a central strand surrounded by one or more layers of helically wound strands. It is optional for the direction of lay of the successive layers to be alternately reversed (true concentric lay) or to be in the same direction (unidirectional lay). The strands shall be assembled in a geometric arrangement of concentric layers, so as to produce a smooth and uniform conductor, circular in cross-section and free of any crossovers, high strands, or other irregularities. The direction of lay of the individual strands in the outer layer of the concentrically stranded conductors of finished wire shall be left hand. The length of lay of the outer layer shall not be less than 8 nor more than 16 times the maximum conductor diameter as specified in the applicable military specification sheet.

3.5.1.1.2 Rope Lay Stranding: The conductors of wire sizes 8 through 0000 shall be rope-lay as specified in Table 1 and in (a) and (b) below.

a. Rope-lay stranded conductors shall be laid up concentrically with a central member surrounded by one or more layers of helically wound members. It is optional for the direction of lay of successive layers to be alternately reversed (true concentric lay), or to be in the same direction (unidirectional lay). The length of lay of the outer layer of rope-lay stranded members forming the conductor shall not be less than 10 or more than 14 times the outside diameter of the completed conductor. The direction of lay of the outside layer shall be either left or right hand.

b. Members of rope-lay stranded conductors: The length of lay of the wires composing the stranded members shall be not greater than 16 times the outside diameter of the member. Stranding of the individual members may be either concentric or bunch.

3.5.1.2 Splices: Splices in individual strands or members shall be butt brazed. There shall not be more than one strand-splice in any two lay lengths of a stranded concentric-lay conductor or in any two lay lengths of any member in a rope lay conductor, except that not more than one splice of an entire member shall be permitted in any two lay lengths of a rope lay conductor. Splices in members of a rope lay construction shall be so finished that the conductor diameter is not increased at the point of brazing. In no case shall the whole conductor be spliced at one point.

3.5.1.3 Elongation and Tensile Strength of Conductor

3.5.1.3.1 Soft or Annealed Copper: The individual strands removed from finished wires with soft or annealed copper conductors, wire sizes 20 and larger, or the whole soft or annealed copper conductor removed from finished wire, sizes 22 and smaller, shall have the following minimum elongation when tested in accordance with 4.7.5.6.1:

Sizes 24 and smaller - 6 percent (minimum)

Sizes 22 and larger - 10 percent (minimum)

There shall be no tensile strength requirements for soft or annealed copper conductors.

3.5.1.3.2 High Strength Copper Alloy: The whole conductor removed from finished wires with high strength copper alloy conductors shall exhibit elongation of 6 percent, minimum, and a tensile breaking strength conforming with Table 1, when tested in accordance with 4.7.5.6.2.

3.5.1.4 Conductor Diameter: The diameter of the conductor shall be as specified in Table 1. Applicability of the "general purpose" or of the "small diameter" Table 1 requirements for maximum conductor diameter shall be as indicated in the military specification sheet.

3.5.2 Insulation: The insulation shall be constructed as specified in the applicable specification sheet. All insulation shall be readily removable by conventional wire stripping devices without damage to the conductor.

3.5.3 Flaws Test of Primary Insulation: One hundred percent of the wire shall be inspected for dielectric flaws after application of the primary insulation and prior to the application of any other material to the wire. This inspection shall be made by either the chain electrode spark test of 4.7.4 or the impulse dielectric test of 4.7.5.1, at the option of the supplier, using the test voltages specified for primary insulation in the applicable specification sheet.

3.6 Finished Wire

The finished wire shall conform to the requirements of Table 2 and those of the applicable military specification sheet. The requirements of 3.6.1 through 3.6.9 also apply.

3.6.1 Impulse Dielectric Test: One hundred percent of the finished wire shall pass the impulse dielectric test of 4.7.5.1, which test shall be made during the final winding of the wire on shipment spools or reels.

TABLE 2 - PROPERTIES OF FINISHED WIRE

EXAMINATION OR TEST	REQUIREMENT	METHOD
Conductor stranding	Table 1 and 3.5.1.1	4.7.1
Conductor diameter	Table 1 and 3.5.1.4	4.7.1
Finished wire diameter	Specification sheet	4.7.1
Construction of insulation	Specification sheet	4.7.1
Removability of insulation	3.5.2	4.7.1
Impulse dielectric test	3.6.1	4.7.5.1
Insulation resistance	Specification sheet	4.7.5.2
Color	3.6.2	4.7.1
Color striping or banding durability	3.6.2	4.7.5.3
Identification of product	3.6.3	4.7.1
Durability of identification	3.6.3.1	4.7.5.3
Finished wire weight	Specification sheet	4.7.5.4
Conductor resistance	Table 1	4.7.5.5
Conductor elongation and tensile strength	3.5.1.3	4.7.5.6
Insulation elongation and tensile strength	Specification sheet	4.7.5.7
Wrap test (as applicable)		
"Wrap back" test	3.6.4.1	4.7.5.8.1
Mandrel wrap test	3.6.4.2	4.7.5.8.2
Insulation thickness	Specification sheet (also 3.6.5)	4.7.5.9
Concentricity	70 percent (min) (also 3.6.6)	4.7.5.10
Blocking	3.6.7	4.7.5.11
Workmanship	3.6.8	4.7.1
Polyimide cure test (Modified imide polymer coated constructions, sizes 10 and smaller)	No cracking	4.7.5.12
Shrinkage	Specification sheet	4.7.5.13
Wicking	Specification sheet	4.7.5.14

TABLE 2 - PROPERTIES OF FINISHED WIRE (CONT'D)

Low temperature (cold bend)	No cracking; no dielectric breakdown	4.7.5.16
Thermal shock resistance	Specification sheet	4.7.5.17
Flammability	Specification sheet	4.7.5.18
Life cycle	No cracking in bend test	4.7.5.19.2
	No dielectric breakdown	4.7.5.19.3
	No pitting of conductor	4.7.5.19.1
Accelerated aging	No cracking in bend test	4.7.5.20
	No dielectric breakdown	
	No pitting of conductor	
	Product identification shall remain legible	
Immersion tests	Diameter increase, 5 percent max	4.7.5.21
	No cracking on bending	
	No dielectric breakdown	
Humidity resistance	Specification sheet	4.7.5.22
Surface resistance	Specification sheet	4.7.5.23
Smoke test	Specification sheet	4.7.5.24
Continuous lengths	3.6.9	4.7.5.26
Solderability (when applicable)	3.6.10	4.7.5.27

3.6.2 Color: The color of the finished wire shall be as specified in the procurement contract or order in accordance with this paragraph. The preferred colors are as indicated in the individual specification sheets. All solid colors and the colors of all striping or banding shall be in accordance with MIL-STD-104, Class 1. Striping or banding, if used, shall conform to MIL-STD-681, except that the background insulation color and the colors of the stripes or bands shall be as indicated in the part number of the wire and not necessarily in accordance with the preferred colors specified in MIL-STD-681. Striping or banding shall be capable of withstanding the striping durability test of 4.7.5.3 for the number of strokes and with the weight specified in the applicable specification sheet. This test shall not be required if the striping or banding is under a clear jacket.

3.6.3 Identification of Product: Except as otherwise specified in the procurement contract or in the applicable specification sheet, the finished wire shall be identified by a printed marking applied to the outer surface of the wire or visible through the outer surface. When the wire is to be used in an end item for the Government, omission of the identification of product shall be permissible only when so stated in the specification sheet for the wire or the Government contract for the end item. The printed identification shall consist of the following, at intervals of 9 inches to 60 inches, as measured from the beginning of one complete marking to the beginning of the succeeding complete marking

Specification sheet part number, except that inclusion of the color code portion of the part number is not required. At the option of the supplier, the color code portion of the part number may be included but, if included, it shall be included in full, not in part.

Manufacturer's code designation in accordance with publications H4-1 and H4-2

The printing shall be green in color in accordance with MIL-STD-104, Class 1, except that when the wire is solid green or any other solid color against which green is difficult to distinguish, the printing shall be white. The identification mark shall not be applied by hot stamp marking or other methods which significantly penetrate the insulation. Identification printing shall be applied with the vertical axes of the printed characters lengthwise of the wire when the nominal diameter of the finished wire is 0.050 inch or smaller. The vertical axes of the printed characters may be either crosswise or lengthwise of the wire when the nominal diameter of the wire exceeds 0.050 inch. All printed characters shall be complete and legible.

- 3.6.3.1 Durability and Resistance to Accelerated Aging of Identification: Identification printing, when applied to the outer surface of the finished wire, shall be capable of withstanding the durability test specified in 4.7.5.3 for the number of cycles and with the weight specified in the applicable specification sheet. This test shall not be required when the identification marking is under a clear jacket. The identification marking shall also be legible after the accelerated aging of 4.7.5.20.
- 3.6.4 Wrap Test
- 3.6.4.1 "Wrap Back" Test: Wire sizes 10 and smaller of this specification with insulation comprising an extruded primary of crosslinked alkane-imide polymer and an insulation coating of modified imide polymer shall show no cracking of the insulation when tested in accordance with 4.7.5.8.1.
- 3.6.4.2 Mandrel Wrap Test: Wire of this specification with insulation comprising an extruded crosslinked polyalkene primary and an extruded polyvinylidene fluoride jacket or with insulation composed entirely of polyarylene shall show no cracking of insulation and no dielectric breakdown when tested in accordance with 4.7.5.8.2. This requirement shall also be applicable to wire, sizes 8 and larger, with insulation comprising an extruded primary of crosslinked alkane-imide polymer and an insulation coating of modified imide polymer.
- 3.6.5 Insulation Thickness: The requirement for thickness of insulation shall apply to the total insulation wall when the specification sheet specifies a value for this characteristic and shall also apply to any part of the total insulation (e.g., primary insulation, insulation coating, or jacket) for which the specification sheet specifies a value.
- 3.6.6 Concentricity: The concentricity requirement shall apply to both the primary insulation and the finished wire.
- 3.6.7 Blocking: Adjacent turns or layers of the wire shall not stick to one another when tested as specified in 4.7.5.11 at the temperature specified in the applicable specification sheet.
- 3.6.8 Workmanship: All details of workmanship shall be in accordance with high grade aircraft wire manufacturing practice. The insulation shall be free of cracks, splits, irregularities, and imbedded foreign material.
- 3.6.9 Continuous Lengths: Unless otherwise specified in the contract or order, the individual continuous lengths of wire in each inspection lot shall be of such footage that the inspection lot shall conform to Table 3 when examined in accordance with 4.7.5.26. Unless otherwise specified in the contract or order, the footage of the individual continuous lengths in each spool or reel shall be marked on the spool or reel in the sequence in which the lengths will be unwound by the user.

TABLE 3 - MINIMUM CONTINUOUS WIRE LENGTHS

WIRE SIZE (RANGE)	REQUIRED MINIMUM PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL INSPECTION LOT FOOTAGE IN CONTINUOUS LENGTHS GREATER THAN		
	1000 feet	500 feet	100 feet
30 - 16	50%	80%	100%
14 - 10	30%	50%	100%
8 - 4	-	50%	100%
2 - 0000	-	-	100%

3.6.10 Solderability: Conductors of finished wires that have tin coated copper strands, silver coated copper strands, or silver coated high strength copper alloy strands shall be tested for solderability as specified in 4.7.5.27. The requirement for acceptable solder coverage of the stranded conductor shall be as defined in MIL-STD-202, Method 208. The test is not applicable to finished wires with nickel coated copper strands or nickel coated high strength alloy strands.

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS

4.1 Responsibility for Inspection

Unless otherwise specified in the contract or purchase order, the supplier is responsible for the performance of all inspection requirements as specified herein. Except as otherwise specified in the contract or order, the supplier may use his own or any other facilities suitable for the performance of the inspection requirements specified herein, unless disapproved by the Government. The Government reserves the right to perform any of the inspections set forth in the specification where such inspections are deemed necessary to assure that supplies and services conform to prescribed requirements.

4.2 Classification of Inspections

The examinations and tests of wires under this specification shall be divided into the following classifications:

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Paragraph</u>
Qualification inspection	4.3
Quality conformance inspection	4.4
Process control inspection	4.5
Periodic qualification re-evaluation	4.6

4.3 Qualification Inspection

Qualification inspection shall consist of all the tests of this specification. Only the qualifying activity is designated to perform those tests specified in Table 4 and Table 6 for initial qualification and retention of qualification. The qualifying activity shall provide the data package to the supplier. The supplier is not required to perform the tests.

4.3.1 Sampling for Qualification Inspection: Except as provided in 4.3.1.1, a finished wire sample of the required length shall be submitted for each range of wire sizes for which qualification is desired. The sample may be any size wire within the specified size range. Ten linear feet of the coated conductor strand used in the manufacture of the finished wire sample shall be submitted with the finished wire sample.

<u>WIRE SIZE RANGE</u>	<u>REQUIRED LENGTH OF SAMPLE (FEET)</u>
30 through 26	150
24 through 16	150
14 through 10	150
8 through 6	100
4 through 0000	100

4.3.1.1 Optional Qualification Samples: In cases where two or more specification sheets cover wires identical in materials and construction except for conductor (i.e., the specified conductor may be silver coated copper, nickel coated copper, tin coated copper, silver coated alloy, or nickel coated alloy in the different specification sheets), the finished wire sample and conductor strand sample in accordance with 4.3.1 may be submitted for any one of the specification sheets for which qualification is desired. In addition, 10-foot samples of conductor strand only, applicable to the same wire size range or ranges as the finished wire sample, may be submitted for any of the other specification sheets which differ from the finished sample only in conductor. Approval of the finished wire qualification sample shall also qualify the same wire size range or ranges in each of the other specification sheets for which conductor strand samples have been submitted and approved. (Note: For purposes of determining identity of construction in specification sheets under this provision, small differences in specified finished wire diameter or weight which are obviously due to differences in the specified conductor shall not be considered as constituting differences in construction of the wires.)

- 4.3.2 Forwarding of Qualification Samples: Samples and the manufacturer's certified test reports shall be forwarded to the testing laboratory designation in the letter of authorization from the activity responsible for qualification (see 6.3), plainly identified by securely attached, durable tags marked with the following information:

Sample for qualification test

WIRE, ELECTRIC, CROSSLINKED POLYALKENE INSULATED,* COPPER**

Specification sheet part number

Manufacturer's name and code number (Publications H4-1 and H4-2)

Manufacturer's part number

Comprehensive description and prime manufacturer's name and formulation number of the base materials from which the product is made. (This information will not be divulged by the Government.)

Place and date of manufacture of sample

Submitted by (name) (date) for qualification tests in accordance with the requirements of MIL-W-81044B under authorization (reference authorizing letter).

* or "CROSSLINKED ALKANE-IMIDE POLYMER INSULATED" or "POLYARYLENE INSULATED", as applicable

** or "COPPER ALLOY", as applicable

4.4 Quality Conformance Inspection

Quality conformance inspection shall consist of the examinations and tests listed in Table 4 and described under "Test Methods" (4.7). Quality conformance inspection shall be performed on every lot of wire procured under this specification.

SAENORM.COM : Click to view the full PDF of as81044A

TABLE 4 - QUALITY CONFORMANCE INSPECTION

EXAMINATION OR TEST	REQUIREMENT	METHOD
<u>Group I Characteristics</u>		
Conductor stranding	Table 1 and 3.5.1.1	4.7.1
Conductor diameter <u>1/</u>	Table 1 and 3.5.1.4	4.7.1
Finished wire diameter <u>1/</u>	Specification sheet	4.7.1
Construction of insulation	Specification sheet	4.7.1
Removability of insulation	3.5.2	4.7.1
Insulation resistance	Specification sheet	4.7.5.2
Color	3.6.2	4.7.1
Color striping or banding durability	3.6.2	4.7.5.3
Identification of product	3.6.3	4.7.1
Durability of identification <u>1/</u>	3.6.3.1	4.7.5.3
Workmanship	3.6.8	4.7.1
Finished wire weight	Specification sheet	4.7.5.4
Conductor resistance	Table 1	4.7.5.5
Conductor elongation and tensile strength	3.5.1.3	4.7.5.6
Insulation elongation and tensile strength	Specification sheet	4.7.5.7
<u>Group II Characteristics</u>		
Wrap test (as applicable) <u>1/</u>		
"Wrap back" test	3.6.4.1	4.7.5.8.1
Mandrel wrap test	3.6.4.2	4.7.5.8.2
Insulation thickness	Specification sheet (also 3.6.5)	4.7.5.9
Concentricity	70 percent (min) (also 3.6.6)	4.7.5.10
Polyimide cure test <u>1/</u> (Modified imide polymer coated constructions, sizes 10 and smaller)	No cracking	4.7.5.12
Shrinkage	Specification sheet	4.7.5.13
Wicking	Specification sheet	4.7.5.14
Low temperature (cold bend) <u>1/</u>	No cracking; no dielectric breakdown	4.7.5.16
Thermal shock resistance	Specification sheet	4.7.5.17
Flammability	Specification sheet	4.7.5.18
Accelerated aging <u>1/</u>	Table 2	4.7.5.20
Solderability (Tin plated conductors only)	3.6.10	4.7.5.27
<u>Group III Characteristic</u>		
Impulse dielectric test	3.6.1	4.7.5.1
<u>Group IV Characteristic</u>		
Continuous lengths	3.6.9	4.7.5.26

1/ Test performed by the qualifying activity for qualification (see 4.3). Supplier is still required to perform the tests as part of quality conformance

4.4.1 Sampling for Quality Conformance Inspection: MIL-STD-109 shall apply for definitions of inspection terms used herein. For purposes of this specification, the following shall apply:

4.4.1.1 Lot: The inspection lot shall include all wire of one part number subjected to inspection at one time.

- 4.4.1.2 Unit of Product: The unit of product for determining lot size for sampling shall be one continuous length of wire as offered for inspection.
- 4.4.1.3 Sample Unit (Groups I and II tests): The sample unit for Groups I and II tests, except for the Group I insulation resistance test, shall consist of a single piece of finished wire chosen at random from the inspection lot and of sufficient length to permit all applicable examinations and tests. Unless otherwise specified, the length of the sample unit for Group I tests of Table 4, other than insulation resistance, shall be 20 feet and the length of the sample unit for Group II tests shall be 25 feet. Not more than one sample unit for each group of tests shall be taken from a single unit of product.
- 4.4.1.3.1 Sample Unit for Insulation Resistance Test (Group I): The sample unit for the Group I insulation resistance test shall be a specimen at least 26 feet in length selected at random from finished wire which has passed the Group III impulse dielectric test. It is optional whether the specimen is tested on the reel or removed from the reel for the test, provided the length of the specimen can be determined.
- 4.4.1.4 Inspection Levels and Acceptable Quality Levels (AQL) (Groups I and II tests): For Group I characteristics, including the insulation resistance test, the inspection level shall be S-2 and the AQL shall be 6.5 percent defective units in accordance with ANSI/ASQC Z1.4. For Group II characteristics, the inspection level shall be S-3 and the AQL shall be 1.5 percent defective units. Major and minor defects shall be defined herein (see 6.5).
- 4.4.1.5 Sampling and Acceptance for the Group III (impulse dielectric) Test: The sample for the Group III impulse dielectric test shall be 100 percent of the finished wire and every length of the wire shall be subjected fully to the test. Insulation breakdowns resulting from the test and ends or portions not subjected to the test shall be marked or cut out of the finished wire (4.7.5.1.3).
- 4.4.1.6 Sampling and Acceptability Levels for Group IV (continuous lengths) Examination: The inspection level and acceptable quality level for this examination shall be as required for the applicable procedure of 4.7.5.26.
- 4.4.2 Nonconforming Inspection Lots: Disposition of inspection lots found unacceptable under initial quality conformance inspection shall be in accordance with ANSI/ASQC Z1.4.

4.5 Process Control Inspection

This inspection comprises tests and examinations of such a nature that they cannot be performed on the finished wire as submitted for inspection and therefore must be conducted at the most appropriate stage of the manufacturing operations. The process control tests shall consist of the tests listed in Table 5. Process control inspection shall be performed on every lot of wire procured under this specification.

4.5.1 Sampling for Process Control Inspection:

- 4.5.1.1 Conductor Material: From each week's production of individual coated strands or from every 1000 pounds of such strands, whichever is less, three ten-foot lengths of strand shall be selected in such a manner as to be representative of the material to be used in the finished wire.
- 4.5.1.2 Insulation Material: If process control tests of the insulating material are required (4.7.3), three wire lengths, adequate for testing and representative of the insulating material to be used in each lot of wire, shall be selected after extrusion of the insulation on the wire.

TABLE 5 - PROCESS CONTROL INSPECTION

EXAMINATION OR TEST	REQUIREMENT	METHOD
Conductor material <u>1/</u>	3.4.1	4.7.2
Insulating material	3.4.2	4.7.3, 4.7.5.7
Conductor splices	3.5.1.2	4.7.1
Flaws test of primary insulation (as applicable)		
Spark test	3.5.3	4.7.4
Impulse dielectric test	3.5.3	4.7.5.1

1/ Except adhesion of nickel coating. See Table 6.

- 4.5.1.3 Conductor Splices: The manufacturer's method of splicing individual strands and entire members shall be observed at the discretion of the Government representative.
- 4.5.1.4 Flaws Test of Primary Insulation: The sample for this test (3.5.3) shall be one hundred percent of the wire after application of the primary insulation and prior to the application of any other material. One hundred percent of the wire shall be subjected to either the spark test or the dielectric impulse test at this stage in production. Portions showing dielectric breakdown shall be cut out or removed and testing of the balance of production shall be resumed.
- 4.5.2 Rejection and Retest in Process Control Inspection: When a sample selected from a production run fails to meet the specified tests (except flaws test of primary insulation, see 4.5.1.4), no items still on hand or later produced shall be accepted until the extent and cause of the failure have been determined. After investigation, the contractor shall advise the Government of the action taken and, after corrections have been made, shall repeat all the process control tests. Rejection after corrective action will require that the contractor advise the procuring activity of the details surrounding the retest and cause for rejection. Nonconformities of primary insulation in the flaws test shall be handled as provided in 4.5.1.4.
- 4.5.2.1 Effect of Process Control Failure on Quality Conformance Testing: Quality conformance testing may be continued during the investigation of the failure of a process control sample, but final acceptance of the material shall not be made until it is determined that the lot meets all the process control requirements and quality conformance requirements of the specification.

4.6 Retention of Qualification

Periodic qualification re-evaluations shall be made at two-year intervals after the date of the letter of notification of the product's acceptability for qualification. Materials from current production shall be evaluated against the requirements of Table 6 in addition to the quality conformance requirements and process control requirements of Table 4 and Table 5.

TABLE 6 - TESTS APPLICABLE ONLY TO QUALIFICATION INSPECTION AND QUALIFICATION RE-EVALUATION

TEST	REQUIREMENT	METHOD
Adhesion of nickel coating	3.4.1.3	4.7.2.1
Blocking <u>1/</u>	3.6.7	4.7.5.11
Life cycle <u>1/</u>	Table 2	4.7.5.19
Immersion tests	Table 2	4.7.5.21
Humidity resistance	Specification sheet	4.7.5.22
Surface resistance	Specification sheet	4.7.5.23
Smoke test	Specification sheet	4.7.5.24
Solderability	3.6.10	4.7.5.25
(Silver plated conductors)		

1/ Test performed by the qualifying activity for qualification (see 4.3). Supplier is still required to perform the tests as part of quality conformance

4.6.1 Re-evaluation Procedure: It shall be the responsibility of the qualified supplier to furnish to the Government, at two-year intervals, the data necessary to establish the continued conformity of the product to all qualification requirements. These data should preferably be complete test results of a sample representative of current production, tested against all the requirements of the specification. At the discretion of the qualifying activity, test records from current production may be accepted for the re-evaluation to the extent they are available and samples from current production need be subjected to only the tests for which no production test records are available. The qualifying activity shall be notified of the test results. If a failure occurs, no wire represented by the sample nor any other wire manufactured with the same materials and processes, which has not already been submitted for quality conformance inspection, shall be offered for acceptance until the cause for failure has been determined and concurred in by the qualifying activity as not affecting the ability of the wire to pass qualification inspection requirements. In the event the date for re-evaluation has passed and no current production materials or data are available for re-evaluation, the supplier shall still be eligible for contract award, but final acceptance of material from such a supplier is contingent upon his material meeting all the qualifying requirements of the specification.

4.7 Test Methods

4.7.1 Examination of Product: All samples shall be examined carefully to determine conformance to this specification and to the applicable specification sheets with regard to requirements not covered by specific test methods.

4.7.2 Conductor Material: Conductor strands, prior to use in the conductor, shall be tested for conformity to ANSI/ASTM Standards B33-71, B298-70a, or B355-69, as applicable. Thickness of silver or nickel coating shall also be determined by the methods of ANSI/ASTM Standards B298-70a and B355-69.

4.7.2.1 Adhesion of Nickel Coating: Two 6-inch specimens shall be cut from the sample of nickel-coated strand. One specimen shall be wrapped over its own diameter for eight close turns. The second specimen shall remain in its straight form. Both specimens shall then be subjected to ten continuous cycles of temperature change. Each cycle of temperature change shall consist of 4 hours at 250 ± 3 °C (482 ± 5.4 °F) followed by 4 hours at room temperature. Upon completion of the thermal cycling, the straight specimen shall be wrapped over its own diameter for eight close turns in a manner identical to that of the first specimen. Both wrapped specimens shall then be tested for continuity of coating in accordance with the procedure given in ANSI/ASTM Standard B355-69.

4.7.3 Insulation Material: Unless otherwise specified in the procurement contract or order (6.2), certification of conformity by the wire supplier shall be acceptable in lieu of process control tests of the insulation material. Such certification, however, shall not relieve the supplier's product from the necessity of passing all tests required of the finished wire including those relative to insulation. If the contract or order requires process control tests of the insulation material, samples selected in accordance with 4.5.1.2 shall be tested as specified in 4.7.5.7.

4.7.4 Spark Test of Primary Insulation (when applicable, 3.5.3): The wire, after application of the primary insulation and prior to the application of any other material, shall be passed through a chain electrode spark test device using the voltage and frequency specified in the applicable specification sheet. The electrode shall be of a suitable bead chain or fine mesh construction that will give intimate metallic contact with practically all the wire insulation surface. Electrode length and speed of wire movement shall be such that the insulation is subjected to the test voltage for a minimum of 0.2 second. Any portion showing insulation breakdown shall be cut out of the wire including at least 2 inches of wire on each side of the failure.

4.7.5 Finished Wire: Methods of test of the finished wire (and of unfinished wire also, when so specified) shall be as follows:

4.7.5.1 Impulse Dielectric Test

4.7.5.1.1 Test Equipment: The electrode head through which the wire is passed in the impulse dielectric test shall be of a suitable bead chain construction such that the electrode will give intimate metallic contact with practically all of the wire insulation surface. The characteristics of the test impulse and of the equipment auxiliary to the electrode head shall be as follows:

- a. Test impulse - The wave form of the voltage supplied to the electrode head shall consist of a negative pulse, the peak magnitude of which shall be as specified in the applicable specification sheet, followed by a damped oscillation. The rise time of the negative impulse wave front from zero magnitude to 90 percent of the specified peak voltage shall be not more than 75 microseconds. The peak value of the first positive overshoot and each of the subsequent damped oscillations shall be smaller than the initial negative pulse. The time during which each pulse and accompanying damped oscillation (positive and negative) remains at an absolute potential of 80 percent or greater of the specified peak voltage shall be 20 to 100 microseconds. The pulse repetition rate shall be 200 to 250 pulses per second, inclusive. Except for the final peak voltage adjustment (4.7.5.1.3), conformity to these test impulse parameters shall be determined with no capacitive load impressed upon the electrode.
- b. Capacitive tolerance - The tolerance of the equipment to change in capacitive load shall be such that the peak output voltage shall not be reduced by more than 12 percent in the event of an increase of capacitive load, between electrode and ground, from an initial load of 12.5 picofarads per inch to 25 picofarads per inch of electrode length.
- c. Instrument voltmeter - Connected to the electrode head, there shall be a peak reading voltmeter indicating continually the potential of the electrode. The voltmeter shall show full deflection at a potential not exceeding 15 kilovolts and shall have a minimum accuracy of ± 4 percent at the specified test impulse potential.
- d. Failure detection circuit. There shall be a failure detection circuit to give a visible or audible indication of insulation failure, automatically deenergize the electrode head, and stop progress of the wire through the electrode. The detecting circuit shall be sufficiently sensitive to indicate a fault at 75 percent of the specified test voltage when the electrode is arced to ground through a 20 kilohm resistor and shall be capable of detecting a fault which lasts for the duration of only one impulse.

4.7.5.1.2 Calibration of Equipment: The instrument voltmeter shall be calibrated by comparison with an external standard voltmeter capable of detecting the peak potential at the electrode head with or without auxiliary circuitry. In performing the calibration, the standard voltmeter shall be connected to one of the electrode beads directly or through a calibrated attenuator circuit. The impulse generator shall be energized and the voltage control of the impulse generator shall be adjusted until the reading on the standard voltmeter is the specified potential, at which point the reading on the instrument voltmeter shall be observed and recorded. This calibration shall be repeated for each peak potential at which it is intended to operate the equipment. An alternative procedure is by means of a calibrated oscilloscope connected to the bead electrode through a suitable attenuator. The peak magnitude of the negative pulse can then be read directly from the waveform display. An oscilloscope connected to the electrode head at suitable test points shall also be used to verify conformance to the other waveform parameters specified in 4.7.5.1.1(a).

- 4.7.5.1.3 Test Procedure: The finished wire or unfinished wire (3.5.3), as applicable, shall be threaded through the electrode head and the conductor shall be grounded at one or both ends. The electrode shall be energized to the specified peak potential and, after final adjustment of the voltage with wire in the electrode head, the wire shall be passed from the pay-off spool through the electrode and onto the take-up spool. The speed of passage of the wire through the electrode shall be such that the wire is subjected to not less than 3 nor more than 100 pulses at any given point. Any dielectric failures which occur shall be cut out or marked for later removal along with at least 2 inches of wire on each side of the failure. During all parts of the test, including string-up of new lengths, every effort shall be made to test the entire length, including ends of the wire, in accordance with this procedure. All ends or other portions of the wire not so tested shall be removed subsequent to the test. When specified in contract or order (6.2), in tests of finished wire, the dielectric failures, untested portions of wire, or portions which have been exposed to fewer or more than the specified number of pulses may be marked by stripping the insulation or by other suitable method of marking as specified in the contract in lieu of being cut out of the wire.
- 4.7.5.1.4 Alternative to Impulse Test Method: Impulse testing may also be performed in accordance with ASTM D3032, Section 13, Method B, with the following changes:
- As a minimum, subject the wire or cable to no less than 6 positive and negative crests of supply voltage (ASTM D3032 requires a minimum of 18 positive and negative crests).
 - Use 0.25mm +/- 0.005mm for a spacing between the plate and the wire (ASTM D3032 uses 0.15mm)
- 4.7.5.2 Insulation Resistance: The ends of a wire specimen at least 26 feet in length shall be connected electrically to a DC terminal. The specimen shall be immersed in a water bath, at 25 ± 5 °C (77 ± 9 °F), containing 0.5 to 1.0 percent of an anionic wetting agent, except that the electrical contacts and approximately six inches of insulated wire at each end of the specimen shall protrude above the surface of the water. After 4 hours minimum of immersion, the specimen shall be subjected to a potential of 250 to 500 volts applied between the conductor and the water bath, which serves as the second electrode. The insulation resistance of the specimen shall be determined after one minute of electrification at this potential and shall be calculated to megohms for 1000 feet as follows:
- $$\text{Megohms for 1000 feet} = \frac{\text{Specimen resistance (megohms)} \times \text{immersed length (feet)}}{1000}$$
- 4.7.5.3 Durability of Color Markings: The durability of product identification or color markings applied to the wire for coding shall be evaluated at 20 to 25 °C (68 to 77 °F) as follows:
- 4.7.5.3.1 Durability Testing Apparatus: The markings durability tester shall be designed to hold a short specimen of finished wire firmly clamped in a horizontal position with the upper longitudinal surface of the specimen fully exposed. The instrument shall be capable of rubbing a small cylindrical steel mandrel (usually a needle), 0.025 inch in diameter, repeatedly over the upper surface of the wire, in such position that the longitudinal axes of the mandrel and the specimen are at right angles to each other with cylindrical surfaces in contact. A weight affixed to a jig above the mandrel shall control the thrust exerted normal to the surface of the insulation. A motor driven, reciprocating cam mechanism and counter shall be used to deliver an accurate number of abrading strokes in a direction parallel to the axis of the specimen. The length of the stroke shall be 3/8 inch and the frequency shall be 120 strokes (60 stroking cycles) per minute.
- 4.7.5.3.2 Durability Testing Procedure: In performing the test, a specimen of wire shall be mounted in the specimen clamp and the weight specified in the applicable specification sheet shall be applied through the abrading mandrel to the marked surface. The counter shall be set at zero and the drive motor started. The specimen shall be observed throughout the progress of the test and, as soon as the mandrel has developed a continuous line of erasure or obliteration through all applicable markings contacted in its strokes, the number of abrading cycles shall be recorded. Three specimens from each sample unit shall be tested and the results averaged.

- 4.7.5.4 Wire Weight: The weight of each lot of finished wire shall be determined by Procedure I (4.7.5.4.1). Lots failing to meet the wire weight requirement of the applicable specification sheet when tested in accordance with Procedure I shall be subjected to Procedure II (4.7.5.4.2). All reels or spools failing to meet the requirements of the specification sheet when tested by Procedure II shall be rejected. The sampling plans of 4.4.1 are not applicable in Procedure II.
- 4.7.5.4.1 Procedure I: The length and weight of a specimen at least 10 feet long shall be accurately measured and the resultant measurements converted to pounds per 1000 feet.
- 4.7.5.4.2 Procedure II: The net weight of the finished wire on each reel or spool shall be obtained by subtracting the tare weight of the reel or spool from the gross weight of the reel or spool containing the finished wire. The net weight of wire on each reel or spool shall be divided by the accurately determined length of finished wire on that reel or spool and the resultant figure shall be converted to pounds per 1000 feet. When wood or other moisture absorbent materials are used for reel or spool construction, tare weight and gross weight shall be determined under substantially the same conditions of relative humidity.
- 4.7.5.5 Conductor Resistance: The DC resistance of the conductor shall be measured in accordance with Method 6021 of FED-STD-228 except that the wire shall be tested dry without immersion.
- 4.7.5.6 Conductor Elongation and Tensile Strength
- 4.7.5.6.1 Soft or Annealed Copper: Elongation tests of soft or annealed copper conductors shall be performed in accordance with Method 3211 of FED-STD-228. For wire sizes 20 and larger, the tests shall be performed upon individual strands taken from the conductor of the finished wire. For sizes 22 and smaller, the tests shall be performed upon the whole conductor removed from the finished wire and the elongation shall be measured when the first strand of the conductor breaks. For wire sizes 20 and larger, only the values obtained with individual strands shall be considered and, for wire sizes 22 and smaller, only the values obtained with the whole conductor shall be considered, in determining the conformance of soft or annealed copper conductors to elongation requirements of this specification.
- 4.7.5.6.2 High Strength Copper Alloy: Elongation and tensile strength tests of high strength alloy conductors shall be performed in accordance with Method 3211 of FED-STD-228, except that the rate of travel of the power-actuated grip shall be $2 \pm 1/2$ inches per minute and that the tensile strength shall be reported as the tensile breaking strength of the conductor rather than in pounds per square inch. The tests shall be performed upon the whole conductor removed from the finished wire. Conductor elongation shall be measured when the first strand of the conductor breaks, and the total tensile force indicated by the testing machine at break of that strand shall be regarded as the breaking strength of the conductor. Only the values thus obtained with the whole conductor shall be considered in determining the conformity of high strength alloy conductors to the elongation and tensile strength requirements of this specification.
- 4.7.5.7 Insulation Elongation and Tensile Strength: When the specification sheet specifies test of the primary insulation alone, specimens of the finished wire shall have the jacket or coating, if present, carefully removed from the primary insulation. When the specification sheet specifies test of the entire insulation, there shall be no removal of jacket or coating from the specimens. The primary insulation or entire insulation, as applicable, shall then be carefully removed from the conductor and tested for elongation and tensile strength by Methods 3031 and 3021, respectively, of FED-STD-228, utilizing one inch bench marks and one inch initial jaw separation. The rate of travel of the power-actuated jaw of the test instrument shall be in accordance with the applicable method of FED-STD-228 unless otherwise specified in the specification sheet.
- 4.7.5.8 Wrap Test
- 4.7.5.8.1 "Wrap Back" Test (see 3.6.4.1 for applicability): A 12-inch specimen of finished wire shall be bent back on itself at the mid-portion, on a radius not less than the radius of the wire, and one end of the specimen shall be wound tightly around the other end as a mandrel for a total of four close turns. The specimen shall then be examined visually, without the aid of magnification, for cracks.

- 4.7.5.8.2 Mandrel Wrap Test (see 3.6.4.2 for applicability): A specimen of finished wire, with a length of 12 inches plus the additional length required for winding on the mandrel, shall be wound tightly for two close turns around a mandrel of the diameter specified in the applicable specification sheet. The winding may be accomplished manually and shall be in the middle portion of the specimen so that 6 inches of each end shall remain straight. The specimen shall then be removed from the mandrel, examined for cracks visually without aid of magnification, and subjected to the dielectric test of 4.7.5.19.3.
- 4.7.5.9 Insulation Thickness: All insulation thickness measurements shall be made on cross sections of the wire at suitable magnification. A wall thickness of the primary insulation or of the finished wire shall be the shortest distance, at the point of measurement, between the outer rim of the primary insulation or finished wire, as applicable, and the outer rim of the outermost strand of the conductor. For the coating or jacket, the thickness shall be the shortest distance, at the point of measurement, between the inner and outer surfaces of the coating or jacket. When a minimum thickness is specified in the specification sheet, the specimen shall be considered as meeting the requirement, if the smallest thickness measurement present in the cross section equals or exceeds the specified minimum. If a thickness range is specified in the specification sheet, the specimen shall be considered as meeting the requirement if both the smallest individual thickness measurement and the largest individual thickness measurement present in the cross section fall within the specified thickness range.
- 4.7.5.10 Concentricity: The concentricity of the primary insulation and of the finished wire shall be determined in accordance with the procedures of 4.7.5.10.1 and 4.7.5.10.2 as applicable. All wall thickness measurements shall be made on cross sections of the wire under suitable magnification. A wall thickness shall be the shortest distance between the outer rim of the primary insulation or finished wire, as applicable, and the outer rim of the outermost strand of the conductor.
- 4.7.5.10.1 Concentric-lay Wires: The concentricity of the primary insulation or of the finished wire shall be determined by first locating and recording the minimum wall thickness measured on a cross section of the primary insulation or finished wire. The maximum wall thickness of this same cross section of the primary insulation or finished wire shall also be located and recorded. For concentric-lay wires, 100 times the ratio of the minimum wall thickness to the maximum wall thickness shall define the percent concentricity.
- 4.7.5.10.2 Rope-lay Wires: The concentricity of the primary insulation or of the finished wire shall be determined by first locating and recording the minimum wall thickness measured on a cross section of the primary insulation or of the finished wire. From this point on the outer rim of the primary insulation or finished wire at which the minimum wall thickness was measured, three more reference points 90 degrees apart on the outside rim of the primary insulation or finished wire shall be established. At each of these three reference points the nearest member of the rope-lay conductor shall be selected and the minimum wall thickness between that member and the outer rim of the primary insulation or finished wire shall be measured. The average of the four readings shall be considered to be the average wall thickness. For rope-lay wires, 100 times the ratio of the minimum wall thickness to the average wall thickness shall define the percent concentricity.
- 4.7.5.11 Blocking: One end of a piece of finished wire, of sufficient length to perform the test, shall be affixed to a metal spool of the barrel diameter specified for the applicable wire size in Table 7. The wire shall then be wound helically on the spool for at least three turns, with the succeeding turns in close contact with one another. The tension for winding shall be equal to the test load specified for the cold bend test of the same size wire in the applicable specification sheet. The winding shall be continued until there are at least three closely-wound layers of such helical turns on the spool. The free end of the wire shall then be affixed to the spool or shall continue to be weighted with the winding tension load so as to prevent unwinding or loosening of the turns or layers and the spool and wire shall be placed for 24 hours in an air oven at the rated temperature specified (see 3.1) on the applicable specification sheet. At the end of the 24-hour period, the spool and wire shall be removed from the oven and allowed to cool to room temperature. After cooling, the wire shall be unwound manually, meanwhile being examined for evidence of adhesion (blocking) of adjacent turns or layers.

- 4.7.5.12 Polyimide Cure Test: Two hundred milliliters of distilled water together with a few boiling chips or beads shall be placed in a 1 liter Erlenmeyer flask and the flask shall be closed by a rubber stopper fitted with a water cooled reflux condenser. The flask shall be heated by hot plate or heating mantle until the water is boiling and condensate is returning from the reflux condenser. One end of an approximately 12 inch length of the wire to be tested shall be inserted into the flask by passing it between the rubber stopper and the side of the flask or through a snugly fitting hole in the stopper, so that 5 inches of the wire length extends into the vapor phase inside the flask. The portion of the wire inside the flask shall be essentially straight and shall not be in contact with the glass sides of the flask or condenser, the layer of liquid water in the bottom of the flask, or the liquid condensate returning from the condenser. Heating of the flask shall be resumed, with stopper and reflux condenser again in place. The portion of wire inside the flask shall be exposed to the vapor phase above the boiling water for 1 hour \pm 5 minutes and shall then be removed from the flask. A 4 inch specimen shall be cut from the vapor-exposed portion of the wire, avoiding the one inch which was nearest the rubber stopper during vapor exposure. The 4 inch specimen shall be allowed to cool at room temperature for a minimum of fifteen minutes, after which it shall be wrapped in a tight spiral for six turns or the full length of the specimen, whichever is lesser, around a mandrel which for wire sizes 18 and smaller shall be the specified maximum diameter of the wire and for wire sizes 16 and larger shall be three times the specified maximum diameter of the wire. The specimen shall then be inspected visually for cracks without the aid of magnification.
- 4.7.5.13 Shrinkage: A 12-inch specimen of the finished wire shall be cut so that the insulation and conductor are flush at both ends. The specimen shall be placed in an air-circulating oven and maintained for a period of 6 hours at the temperature specified in the applicable specification sheet. The velocity of air past the specimen location in the oven shall be between 100 and 200 feet per minute as determined at room temperature. At the end of the 6-hour period, the specimen shall be removed from the oven and allowed to return to room temperature. Shrinkage of the insulation shall be measured as the greatest distance which any layer of the insulation, including jacket if present, has receded from either end of the conductor; that is, the measurement obtained at the end showing the greater shrinkage shall be considered the shrinkage of the specimen.
- 4.7.5.14 Wicking: A specimen of each finished wire size to be tested shall be cut $6 \pm 1/16$ inches with square ends. The specimen shall be vertically immersed for two inches of its length in a fluorescent dye solution contained in an open test tube and shall be conditioned thus for 24 hours at room temperature in a draft-free room. The fluorescent dye solution shall be prepared by dissolving 0.02 gram of Rhodamine B dye in 30 mls of ethyl alcohol and diluting with 2 liters of distilled water containing 3 mls of an anionic wetting agent, Specification P-D-410. After this conditioning, the specimen shall be removed from the fluorescent dye solution and excess solution on the surface shall be removed immediately from the two inches immersed by wiping gently with a clean, dry, lint-free cloth. The jacket shall be removed from the specimen and the outside of the primary insulation and the inside of the jacket shall be examined under ultraviolet illumination for evidence of fluorescent dye. The distance that the dye has traveled, between jacket and primary insulation, from the end of the specimen shall be recorded as the distance of wicking.
- 4.7.5.15 This section has been omitted from the original specification per Amendment 3.
- 4.7.5.16 Low Temperature (cold bend): One end of a wire specimen 36 inches in length shall be secured to a rotatable mandrel in a cold chamber and the other end to the load weight specified in the applicable specification sheet. The diameter of the mandrel shall be as specified in the specification sheet. Provision shall be made for rotating the mandrel by means of a handle or control located outside the chamber. The specimen of wire and the mandrel shall be conditioned for 4 hours at a temperature of $-65 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ ($-85 \pm 3.6^{\circ}\text{F}$). At the end of this period and while both mandrel and specimen are still at this low temperature, the specimen shall be wrapped helically, for its entire length or for 20 turns whichever is the lesser number of turns, around the mandrel without opening the chamber. The bending shall be accomplished at a uniform rate of 2 ± 1 RPM. At the completion of this test the specimen shall be removed from the cold box and from the mandrel without straightening. The specimen shall be examined for cracks in the insulation. The insulation shall then be removed for a distance of 1 inch from each end of the specimen and the specimen shall be subjected to the dielectric test specified in 4.7.5.19.3 with the bent portion submerged.

4.7.5.17 Thermal Shock Resistance

4.7.5.17.1 Preparation of Specimen: A specimen of wire, five feet long shall be prepared by carefully removing 1 inch of insulation from each end of the wire. (For purposes of this test, insulation is defined as all layers of non-conducting material covering the electrical conductor, e.g., primary insulation, all tapes and braids, and the jacket.) A razor blade or equivalent, held perpendicular to the axis of the wire, shall be used to cut the insulation for the removal operation. The length of exposed conductor at each end of the specimen shall be measured to the nearest 0.01 inch. The specimen shall be formed into a loose coil not less than 1 foot in diameter and shall be laid on a wire screen for handling throughout the test.

4.7.5.17.2 Test Procedure: The specimen shall be placed for 30 minutes in a preheated air circulating oven at the temperature specified in the applicable specification sheet. The specimen shall then be removed from the oven and, within two minutes, placed in a chamber which has been precooled to $-55 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ ($-67 \pm 3.6^{\circ}\text{F}$). It shall be exposed to this temperature for 30 minutes, after which it shall be removed and allowed a minimum of 30 minutes to return to room temperature, 20 to 25°C (68 to 77°F). At the conclusion of this cycle, the distance from the end of each layer of insulation to the end of the conductor shall be measured to the nearest 0.01 inch. This thermal shock cycle and the measurements shall be repeated for an additional three cycles (a total of four cycles). Any measurement varying from the original measurement by more than the amount specified in the applicable specification sheet shall constitute failure. Any flaring of any layer shall also constitute failure.

4.7.5.18 Flammability

4.7.5.18.1 Apparatus: The test shall be performed within a test chamber approximately one foot square by two feet in height, open at top and front to provide adequate ventilation for combustion but to prevent drafts. The specimen holder shall be so designed that the lower end of a 24-inch wire specimen is held by a clamp, while the upper end of the specimen passes over a pulley and can be suitably weighted to hold the specimen taut at an angle of 60 degrees with the horizontal, in a plane parallel to and approximately 6 inches from the back of the chamber. The test flame shall originate from a Bunsen type gas burner with a 1/4 inch inlet, a needle valve in the base for gas adjustment, a bore of 3/8 inch nominal, and a barrel length of approximately 4 inches above the air inlets. The burner shall be adjusted to furnish a 3 inch conical flame with an inner cone approximately 1 inch in length and a flame temperature not less than 954°C (1749°F) at its hottest point, as measured with an accurate thermocouple pyrometer. A sheet of facial tissue conforming to UU-T-450 shall be suspended taut and horizontal 9-1/2 inches below the point of application of the flame to the wire specimen and at least 1/2 inch from the chamber floor, so that any material dripping from the wire specimen shall fall upon the tissue.

4.7.5.18.2 Procedure: A 24-inch specimen of wire shall be marked at a distance of 8 inches from its lower end to indicate the point for flame application and shall be placed in the specified 60 degree position in the test chamber. The lower end of the specimen shall be clamped in position in the specimen holder and the upper end shall be passed over the pulley of the holder and weighted with the weight specified for life cycle test of the same wire in the applicable specification sheet. With the burner held perpendicular to the specimen and at an angle of 30 degrees from the vertical plane of the specimen, the hottest portion of the flame shall be applied to the lower side of the wire at the test mark. The period of test flame application shall be 30 seconds for all sizes of wire and the test flame shall be withdrawn immediately at the end of that period. The distance of flame travel upward along the specimen from the test mark and the time of burning after removal of the test flame shall be recorded; also the presence or absence of flame in the facial tissue due to incendiary drip from the specimen. Charred holes or charred spots in the tissue shall be ignored in the absence of actual flame. Breaking of the wire specimens in sizes 24 and smaller shall not be considered as failure provided the requirements for flame travel limits, duration of flame, and absence of incendiary dripping are met.