



SURFACE VEHICLE RECOMMENDED PRACTICE	J2329™	OCT2024
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Categorization and Properties of Low-Carbon Automotive Sheet Steels		

RATIONALE

J2329 has been updated to reflect changes in Tables 1, 2, and 3.

FOREWORD

- a. **Categorization** - Mechanical property, surface quality, and manufacturing requirements for automotive sheet steels, together with improvements in steel manufacturing and processing techniques, have made earlier methods of categorizing sheet steel obsolete. Classification of steel quality by deoxidation process is no longer appropriate. Uniformity of material properties is of major importance. This SAE Recommended Practice furnishes a categorization procedure to aid in selecting low-carbon sheet steel for identified parts and fabrication processes.

It is necessary for both the steel user and producer to know the mechanical properties and the range in these properties. There is a wide variety of parts within the automotive industry, and different levels of specific mechanical properties, e.g., r_m value, n value, yield strength, and total elongation, may be required for specific applications. With the recent advent of computer simulation of the steel deformation process during die design, it is vitally important that certain minimum levels of formability exist within a particular category or grade of steel. It is suggested that the steel user and steel supplier consult early in the part and die design process to determine specific grade requirements. In the past, yield strength has been chosen as a major discriminator of the categorization system since this property has meaning to both automotive and steel engineers; this document builds on that rationale but also addresses certain minimum elongation and n value and r_m value discriminators. In this document, low-carbon sheet steel is classified by five grade levels with yield strength, tensile strength, elongation, r_m value, and n value requirements. In addition, surface quality and/or aging characteristics are an important consideration. Thus, the categorization system is as follows:

1. The first two alphabetic characters will designate hot-rolled or cold-rolled method of manufacture.
2. The third numeric character defines grade based on yield strength range, minimum tensile strength, minimum percent elongation, minimum r_m value, and minimum n value.
3. The fourth alphabetic character classifies the steel type with regard to surface quality and/or aging character.
4. An optional fifth alphabetic character may restrict the carbon content to a minimum of 0.015%.

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- b. **Properties** - The mechanical properties of the substrate (ductility, work hardening, and plastic anisotropy) determine the ability of the steel to withstand strain in various modes of forming (such as stretching and deep drawing). Mechanical properties are important to the formability of uncoated and coated steels, both cold rolled and hot rolled. Compared with uncoated steel sheets, hot-dip and electroplated coated steels have different characteristics, which may affect automotive manufacturing operations such as stamping, welding, and painting. Material-related factors greatly influence the formability of coated sheets. Coating characteristics, although less important to forming than the substrate, can have a significant influence on forming because the coating can affect metal flow over tool and die surfaces.

Definition of steel sheet properties is contained in Appendix A.

1. SCOPE

This SAE Recommended Practice establishes mechanical property ranges for low-carbon automotive hot-rolled sheet, cold-rolled sheet, and metallic-coated sheet steels. It also contains information that explains the different nomenclature used with these steels.

2. REFERENCES

2.1 Applicable Publications

The following publications form a part of this specification to the extent specified herein. Unless otherwise indicated, the latest issue of SAE publications shall apply.

2.1.1 SAE Publications

Available from SAE International, 400 Commonwealth Drive, Warrendale, PA 15096-0001, Tel: 877-606-7323 (inside USA and Canada) or +1 724-776-4970 (outside USA), www.sae.org.

SAE J416 Tensile Test Specimens

SAE J863 Methods for Determining Plastic Deformation in Sheet Metal Stampings

SAE J1392 Steel, High Strength, Hot Rolled Sheet and Strip, Cold Rolled Sheet, and Coated Sheet

SAE J1562 Selection of Zinc and Zinc-Alloy (Hot-Dipped and Electrodeposited) Coated Steel Sheet

2.1.2 ASTM Publications

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

ASTM A370 Standard Test Methods and Definitions for Mechanical Testing of Steel Products

ASTM E8 Standard Test Methods of Tension of Metallic Materials

ASTM E517 Standard Test Method for Plastic Strain Ratio for Sheet Metal

ASTM E646 Standard Test Method for Tensile Strain-Hardening Exponents (n value) of Metallic Sheet Materials

2.1.3 ASM Publications

Available from ASM International, Attn: MSC/Book Order, P. O. Box 473, Novelty, OH 44072-9901.

ASM Metals Handbook, Vol. 1 (9th ed.) (1978). American Society for Metals.

2.2 Related Publications

The following publications are provided for information purposes only and are not a required part of this SAE Technical Report.

2.2.1 SAE Publications

Available from SAE International, 400 Commonwealth Drive, Warrendale, PA 15096-0001, Tel: 877-606-7323 (inside USA and Canada) or +1 724-776-4970 (outside USA), www.sae.org.

SAE J810 Classification of Common Imperfections in Sheet Steel

SAE J940 Glossary of Carbon Steel Sheet and Strip Terms

SAE J1058 Standard Sheet Steel Thickness and Tolerances

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.

ASTM A366/A366M Specification for Steel, Sheet, Carbon, Cold-Rolled, Commercial Quality

ASTM A568/A568M Specification for Steel, Sheet, Carbon, and High Strength, Low Alloy, Hot-Rolled and Cold-Rolled, General Requirements for

ASTM A569/A569M Specification for Steel, Carbon (0.15 Maximum, Percent), Hot-Rolled Steel and Strip, Commercial Quality

ASTM A619A/619M Specification for Steel, Sheet, Carbon Cold-Rolled Drawing Quality

ASTM A620/A620M Specification for Steel, Sheet, Carbon, Drawing Quality, Special Killed, Cold-Rolled

ASTM A621/A621M Specification for Steel, Sheet and Strip, Carbon, Hot-Rolled, Drawing Quality

ASTM A622/A622M Specification for Steel, Sheet and Strip, Carbon, Drawing Quality, Special Killed, Hot-Rolled

ASTM A642/A642M Specification for Steel Sheet, Zinc-Coated (Galvanized by the Hot-Dip Process, Drawing Quality, Special Killed)

ASTM A653/A653M Steel Sheet, Zinc Coated (Galvanized) or Zinc-Iron Alloy Coated (Galvannealed) by the Hot-Dip Process

ASTM A924/A924M General Requirements for Steel Sheet, Metallic Coated by the Hot-Dip Process

2.2.3 Other Publications

Steel Products Manual, Sheet Steel. (1988). Iron and Steel Society.

3. GRADES

The specific grades are identified by a maximum of five characters. The first two characters will be letters defining method of manufacture of steel: "HR" for hot rolled and "CR" for cold rolled. The third character will consist of a single-digit number defining the chemical and forming characteristics as specified in Tables 1 through 3. The fourth character, an alphabetic character, will define the type of steel as outlined in Section 4. An additional fifth suffix character, C, may be added if restriction to low-carbon steelmaking is desired by the purchaser. The single-digit number specifies the mechanical requirements for yield and tensile strength in MPa, elongation %, r_m value, and n value.

Table 1 - Cold-rolled steel sheet, coated and uncoated, mechanical properties^(1, 2)

SAE J2329 Designation	Yield Strength (MPa) at 0.2% Offset	Tensile Strength (MPa) Min	Total % Elongation in 50 mm Min	r _m value ⁽³⁾ Min	n Value ⁽⁴⁾ Min
Grade 1	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
Grade 2	140 to 260	270	34	N/R	0.16
Grade 3	140 to 205	270	38	1.5	0.18
Grade 4	140 to 185	270	40	1.6	0.20
Grade 5	110 to 170	270	42	1.7	0.22

⁽¹⁾ N/R = Not required.

⁽²⁾ ASTM A370, test parameters in longitudinal and transverse orientations relative to the rolling direction.

⁽³⁾ ASTM E517, parameter for r calculated at 17% strain, r_m calculation by $(r_0 + r_{90} + 2r_{45})/4$. The r_m value can be up to 0.2 lower for thickness greater than 1.4 mm and/or Galvanneal products.

⁽⁴⁾ ASTM E646, n value calculated from 10 to 20% strain or 10% to end of uniform elongation when uniform elongation is less than 20%.

Table 2 - Hot-rolled steel sheet, coated and uncoated, mechanical properties^(1, 2)

SAE J2329 Designation	Yield Strength (MPa) at 0.2% Offset	Tensile Strength (MPa) Min	Total % Elongation in 50 mm Min	n Value ⁽³⁾ Min
Grade 1	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
Grade 2	180 to 290	270	34	0.16
Grade 3	180 to 240	270	38	0.18

⁽¹⁾ N/R = Not required.

⁽²⁾ ASTM A370, test parameters in longitudinal and transverse orientations relative to the rolling direction.

⁽³⁾ ASTM E646, n value calculated from 10 to 20% strain or 10% to end of uniform elongation when uniform elongation is less than 20%.

Table 3 - Hot-rolled and cold-rolled steel sheet, low-carbon, chemical composition⁽¹⁾

SAE J2329 Designation	Carbon % Max ⁽²⁾	Manganese Max %	Phosphorus Max %	Sulfur Max %	Aluminum Min %
Grade 1	0.13	0.60	0.035	0.035	--
Grade 2	0.10	0.50	0.035	0.030	0.02
Grade 3	0.10	0.50	0.030	0.030	0.02
Grade 4	0.08	0.40	0.025	0.025	0.02
Grade 5	0.02	0.30	0.025	0.025	0.02

⁽¹⁾ Ladle or heat analysis

⁽²⁾ Carbon minimum requirement of 0.015% if suffix C is used. C cannot be specified for Grade 5.

Under certain circumstances, particular parts may require steel properties that do not conform exactly to the specific grades defined herein. These deviations should be resolved through agreement between the steel user and the steel producer.

Cold-rolled and metallic-coated cold-rolled coated steels specified to a 180 MPa or greater minimum yield strength are considered high-strength steels.

Hot-rolled and metallic-coated hot-rolled steels specified to a 260 MPa or greater minimum yield strength are considered high-strength steels.

Titanium, niobium, and other alloy elements can be used in combination if fully stabilized product is required. Stabilization elements must be reported on chemical certification.

4. TYPES

There are several types of cold-rolled/coated steels and hot-rolled steels that result from differences in steel manufacturing processes and automotive stamping operations. The types of steels are referred to by letter code that follows the class designation.

4.1 Cold-Rolled and Metallic-Coated Cold-Rolled Sheet Steel

Two types of these steels are produced. These types are based on surface quality.

4.1.1 Type E is intended for the most critical exposed applications where surface appearance is of primary importance. This type of steel will meet requirements for controlled surface texture, surface quality, and flatness.

4.1.2 Type U is intended for unexposed applications and may also have special use where improved ductility over a temper-rolled product is desired. Type U can be produced without temper rolling; this type of steel may be expected to exhibit coil breaks, fluting, and stretcher straining. Standard tolerances for flatness and surface texture are not applicable. In addition, surface imperfections are more prevalent and severe than with Type E.

4.2 Hot-Rolled and Metallic-Coated Hot-Rolled Sheet Steel

Four types of hot-rolled steel are available.

4.2.1 Type R is an as-hot-rolled coiled product typically known as Hot Roll Black Band. Therefore, it has not been processed in any way (i.e., pickled, oiled, temper-rolled, side trimmed, rewound, or cut back) to establish thickness and width tolerances. Yield strength range classes apply only to material that has been cut back to established thickness and width tolerances. Processed coils may have had any or all of the processing steps listed in the previous paragraph performed subsequent to hot rolling. Ends of coils are cut back to establish width and thickness tolerances.

4.2.2 Type F has been processed and is available in coils or cut lengths. This material is susceptible to coil breaks and aging.

4.2.3 Type N has been processed and is available in coils or cut lengths. This material is non-aging at room temperature but is susceptible to coil breaks.

4.2.4 Type M has been processed and is available in coils or cut lengths. This material is free from coil breaks and does not strain age at room temperature.

Some of the product characteristics available for each type of hot-rolled steel are listed in Table 4.

Table 4 - Product characteristics of hot-rolled steel⁽¹⁾

Type	Freedom from Coil Breaks	Non-Aging	Pickle and Oil	Cut Edge	Special Surface
R	No	No	n	n	n
F	No	No	a	a	n
N	No	Yes	a	a	n
M	Yes	Yes	a	a	a

⁽¹⁾ a = available but not required; n = not available

5. EXAMPLES

As previously discussed, categorization is made by commodity, grade, and type.

CR2E: Cold-rolled sheet steel with chemical requirements of Table 3 - Grade 2, minimum mechanical properties as specified in Table 1 - Grade 2 and of critical exposed surface quality.

HR3MU: Hot-rolled sheet steel with chemical requirements of Table 3 - Grade 3, minimum mechanical properties as specified in Table 2 - Grade 3, unexposed, M product characteristics as specified in Table 4.

For metallic-coated sheet products, SAE J1562 is used to designate coatings of hot-dipped and electrodeposited zinc. SAE J1562 should be referenced for full explanation of the nomenclature and product characteristics.

CR4C EG60G60GE: Cold-rolled sheet steel with the chemical requirements of Table 3 - Grade 4, minimum mechanical properties as specified in Table 1 - Grade 4, critical exposed surface quality, 0.015% minimum carbon, and two side electrogalvanized coated to 60 g/m² each side.

HR2M 45A45AU: Hot-rolled sheet steel with the chemical requirements of Table 3 - Grade 2, minimum mechanical properties as specified in Table 2 - Grade 2, unexposed, M product characteristic as specified in Table 4, two side galvanized coated to 45 g/m² each side.

6. SAMPLING PROCEDURE

When questions arise as to steel meeting the minimum or maximum criteria, the following procedure applies. When tested as outlined in the following section, tests must fall within the ranges for the grade specified; otherwise, the lift of blanks, cut lengths, or coil can be considered unacceptable.

7. YIELD STRENGTH DETERMINATION

The procedures given in SAE J416, ASTM E8, and ASTM A370 shall be followed in determining tensile properties. However, within these specifications, latitude exists in determining yield strength/yield point. For this document, the following procedures apply:

7.1 Specimen Geometry

The 12.5-mm (0.5-inch) wide sheet type specimen will be used. The width of the grip section will be approximately 20 mm (3/4 inch).

7.2 Speed of Testing

ASTM A370 - 87c Section 11.4.1 applies with the addition that the speed change from a maximum of 1.6 mm (1/16 inch) per minute per millimeter (inch) of gauge length shall not be made until achieving a minimum of 2% elongation if yield point elongation is present or a minimum of 1% elongation if yield point elongation is not present.

7.3 Discontinuous Yielding

For material showing discontinuous yielding, the lower yield point shall be considered to be the yield strength. The lower yield point is defined as the lowest stress at which an increase in strain occurs without an increase in stress. For steels with continuous yielding, the 0.2% offset method shall be used to determine the yield strength.

8. NOTES

8.1 Revision Indicator

A change bar (|) located in the left margin is for the convenience of the user in locating areas where technical revisions, not editorial changes, have been made to the previous issue of this document. An (R) symbol to the left of the document title indicates a complete revision of the document, including technical revisions. Change bars and (R) are not used in original publications, nor in documents that contain editorial changes only.

APPENDIX A

A.1 INTRODUCTION

Problems associated with the evaluation of formability or deep drawability of sheet metals are complex and may be difficult to solve due to the number of variables involved. As long ago as 1940, the AISI Technical Committee on Sheet Steel reviewed this problem. Volume 1 of the Ninth Edition of the *ASM Metals Handbook* contains sections on “Low Carbon Steel Sheet and Strip” and “Formability of Steel Sheet” that provide suggestions to help evaluate parts and select materials. The purpose of this document is to summarize the sheet metal characteristics that are commonly used when attempting to predict the formability of sheet metal.

A.2 TENSION TEST

Data from tension tests can give a more complete measurement of formability; ASTM A370 and ASTM E8 describe testing procedures.

NOTE: Any taper in the width of the bar between the gauge marks could affect the total elongation adversely.

A.2.1 Yield Strength

The measured strength depends on both the steel and the conditions under which the prepared specimen is loaded. This term is applicable to those materials having an engineering stress-strain diagram in the transition from elastic to plastic strain, which is a smooth curve, as well as to those that exhibit an upper yield point or sharp knee. In reporting yield strength, the method by which it was determined should be stated (0.2% offset method, 0.5% extension under load method, half of the pointer, or from a stress-strain diagram). Refer to ASTM E8 for a description of these methods.

In forming sheet metal, the upper yield point has to be overcome before any deformation occurs in the flat blank. Experience has indicated that when the upper yield point is high in relation to the lower yield and approaches the ultimate strength, the material will have a greater tendency to split than material that has an upper yield point only slightly higher than the lower yield point. A low yield strength is preferred when formability is the major consideration.

A.2.2 Tensile Strength

The strength at the highest load reached during the tension test is the tensile strength. It is calculated in psi or MPa units using the specimen cross-sectional area measured before testing.

A.2.3 Yield to Tensile Ratio

The yield strength divided by the tensile strength expressed as a decimal value is the elastic ratio. Steels with low yield to tensile ratios have a greater capacity for being formed due to the greater separation between the yield load and the ultimate load during which forming can take place.

A.2.4 Total Elongation

The total elongation is the percent increase of a gauge length on the tension test specimen. For low-carbon sheet steel, a 50-mm (2-inch) gauge length and a 12.5-mm (0.5-inch) gauge width is normally used. Steels with a higher percent elongation will stretch further before failure. This elongation is a direct measure of ductility and represents an important consideration in evaluating formability. Caution must be used, however, in comparing elongation values since they depend on specimen preparation and testing procedure. Total elongation also may vary with sample orientation in relation to the sheet rolling direction.

A.2.5 Uniform Elongation

The amount of deformation that can occur before any measurable localized necking of the tension specimen starts is known as uniform elongation. This is designated as e_u and will usually vary between 20 and 28% for low-carbon steel.

A.2.6 Yield Point Elongation

The yield point elongation indicates the intensity of stretcher strains that can develop in certain low-carbon steels in lightly formed areas. It is caused by interstitial elements such as carbon and nitrogen or, in the case of certain high-strength steels, a very fine grain size. The tendency to strain can be minimized by temper rolling at the producing mill. However, in grades subject to aging, the effect of temper rolling is only temporary, and it is necessary for the user to properly roller level the sheet immediately before forming a shape. Sheet steels are available that will not exhibit yield point elongation.

A.2.7 Mechanical Properties

Mechanical properties have not been typically used in specifications unless special structural properties are required in the part; this has changed due to the process control methods now used by automotive manufacturing facilities. Due to the range of properties possible, the expected distribution can overlap among the various grades. The ranges are broader for hot-rolled sheets than for cold-rolled sheets.

A.3 SPECIAL TESTS OF FORMABILITY

During the late 1960s, new test methods more directly related to the actual mechanism of deformation began to be developed and accepted. These tests are used to obtain a more complete characterization of sheet steel formability.

A.3.1 Plastic Strain Ratio (r_m Value)

This is a measure of a sheet metal's resistance to thinning as controlled by the crystallographic orientation of its structure, which is dependent on the chemistry and processing of the material. When a tensile test specimen from a sheet of ductile metal having isotropic mechanical properties is stretched 20%, the width and thickness will each contract 10%. This is essentially true for steel in the as-hot-rolled condition or for a normalized low-carbon sheet steel. If the sheet has been cold reduced and annealed subcritically by conventional methods, it will have a degree of anisotropic mechanical properties. In that case, a tensile test specimen stretched 20% will exhibit a different amount of contraction in the thickness than in the width. The degree of anisotropy is measured by the plastic strain ratio, r . The procedure for determining r can be found in ASTM E517. For anisotropic materials, the r value changes with test direction, and for convenience, it is measured in directions longitudinal (0 degrees), diagonal (45 degrees), and transverse (90 degrees) to the rolling direction. An average value, r_m , is usually reported.

Higher r values indicate greater resistance to thinning and are directly related to an increased ability of the sheet to be formed by deep drawing.

The plastic strain ratio can also be measured by the MODUL- r method. This device measures Young's modulus from a vibrating beam. Small strips are blanked at 0 degrees, 45 degrees, and 90 degrees to the rolling direction to use as test samples. The MODUL- r employs a simple feedback system called a magnetostrictive oscillator, which consists of a measuring head, an amplifier, and an electronic counter. The measuring head consists of three coils that form the sample chamber. When a sample is inserted and the test button depressed, an alternating field is created by the current passing through the coil network, producing cyclical longitudinal expansion and contraction in the sample through a process called magnetostriction.

These vibrations match a characteristic velocity of sound for that particular sample, or resonant frequency. This frequency is displayed on the front of the unit, and an empirical graph converts the readings to r_m and Δr values.

A.3.2 Strain Hardening Exponent (n Value)

The strain hardening exponent, known as the n value, is defined as the exponent of the power law relationship of true stress (σ) to true strain (ϵ), $\sigma = K\epsilon^n$, where K is a strength coefficient. True stress and true strain are based on the instantaneous cross-section area rather than the initial area used for engineering stress and strain. Determination of n from load elongation curves is described in ASTM E646. A higher n value indicates a capability for the metal to strain harden in areas that have been cold worked by deformation processes and, in turn, cause further straining to occur in less cold-worked areas. This capacity to transfer strain contributes to a better response to biaxial stretch deformation modes.

A.3.3 Strain Rate Hardening (m Value)

The m value is a measure of the change of the flow stress as the rate of strain is changed. It becomes important beyond uniform elongation, when a tension test specimen necks down by a diffuse and finally localized reduction of cross section prior to fracture. A generalized description of strain-rate sensitivity shows that $\sigma = K \cdot \epsilon^n \cdot \dot{\epsilon}^m$, where the material's flow stress (σ) is a function of the strain (ϵ), strain-rate ($\dot{\epsilon}$), material constant (K), and strain-rate sensitivity factor (m). Since the m value is strain-rate dependent, its determination requires loading control based on changes in the strain. In general, higher positive m values are desired. For low-carbon steels, the m value is positive and generally in the range of 0.006 to 0.012. Its significance is apparent in that it accounts for the total elongation being on the order of two times the uniform elongation for most low-carbon, high-ductility sheet steels.

A.3.4 Cup Drawing Tests

Deep draw biaxial deformation cupping tests, in which metal is allowed to be drawn-in from the flange area of the test blank, are considered distinct from clamped flange stretch tests such as the previously described Ball Punch Deformation Test. Referring to the severity curve of SAE J863, these tests generally develop negative e_2 strains in the cup side wall near the flange.

A.3.4.1 Swift Cup

Either a flat-bottomed or a round-bottomed punch is used to draw a suitably lubricated circular blank into a straight-walled cup shape of 50-mm (2-inch) outside diameter over an approach radiused hold-down die. The punch diameter, die radius, and pressure are optimized for the gauge and strength level of the sheet metal under test. Blanks of increasing diameter are tested until a diameter is reached with which the cup bottom is punched out rather than forming a straight-walled cylindrical cup shape. The reported value is the limiting draw ratio (LDR), which is determined by dividing the largest blank diameter that will make a straight-walled shape by the punch diameter. A value of 2 to 2.5 is generally expected for low-carbon sheet steel. The LDR has been found to correlate with the r value in that material with a higher r_m will form a cup from a larger blank. The round bottom swift cup is considered a combination stretch and deep-draw test.

A.3.4.2 Fukui Conical Cup

The Fukui test does not employ a hold-down force on the flange. This eliminates a difficult to control variable. A 60-degree approach angle conical die is used to form a cup shape by a ball punch, forcing a suitably lubricated circular blank into the die until the ball ruptures the conical form. The ball diameter and blank diameter depend on the thickness of the sheet metal being tested. For low-carbon steel, a 60-mm-diameter blank is frequently used. A larger diameter tends to collapse in the circumference rather than form a cup. The base diameter of the formed cup is measured in as many directions as necessary to determine the average, usually longitudinal, diagonal, and transverse to the rolling direction. This value may be reported, or a reduction of blank diameter can be calculated for a percent diameter reduction value. Other modifications are possible, but the test has limited usefulness due to the small amount of material being tested. It has been found to relate to both r and n of low-carbon steel. Some of the more recently developed steels, such as the interstitial-free with extremely high r_m values, do not rupture in the Fukui cup test.

A.3.4.3 Hole Expansion Test

There are several versions of this test. In one, a cup is made using a blank with a punched or machined hole in the center, which is stretched to failure as the flange is securely clamped. The test is useful in evaluating edge tearing tendencies as well as the sheet metal ductility. For heavier-gauge sheets, such as hot-rolled, a drilled and reamed hole of 13-mm (0.5-inch) diameter is prepared, and a 30-degree conical punch is forced into it until it ruptures. The ratio of the final diameter to the 13-mm (0.5-inch) initial diameter is reported.

A.3.4.4 Limiting Dome Height

The most severe forming condition, as shown in the severity curve of SAE J863, is when the e_2 strain is near 0% while the e_1 strain is high. The observed minimum e_1 strain develops between 0% and +5% e_2 . This test is designed to duplicate this strain condition in a repeatable manner for comparison of sheet materials. A 102-mm (4-inch) diameter punch acts against a 127-mm (5-inch) wide strip of sheet metal that is securely clamped by a hold-down ring. The test value is the height of punch travel at the instant of local neck-down prior to fracture as determined by observation or by drop in punch load.