SPECIFICATION FOR ZIRCONIUM AND ZIRCONIUM ALLOY BAR AND WIRE

SB-550/SB-550M

(Identical with ASTM Specification B550/B550M-07(R12).)
Standard Specification for Zirconium and Zirconium Alloy Bar and Wire

1. Scope
1.1 This specification covers three grades of zirconium and zirconium alloy bar and wire.

1.2 Unless a single unit is used, for example corrosion mass gain in mg/dm$^2$, the values stated in either inch-pound or SI units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system are not exact equivalents; therefore each system must be used independently of the other. SI values cannot be mixed with inch-pound values.

1.3 The following precautionary caveat pertains only to the test methods portions of this specification. This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

2. Referenced Documents
2.1 ASTM Standards:
E8 Test Methods for Tension Testing of Metallic Materials
E29 Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications

3. Terminology
3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:
3.1.1 annealed, $n$—denotes material that exhibits a recrystallized grain structure.

3.2 Lot Definitions:
3.2.1 bar and wire, $n$—a lot shall consist of a material of the same size, shape, condition, and finish produced from the same ingot or powder blend by the same reduction schedule and the same heat treatment parameters. Unless otherwise agreed between manufacturer and purchaser, a lot shall be limited to the product of an 8 h period for final continuous anneal, or to a single furnace load for final batch anneal.

3.2.2 Forms:
3.2.2.1 bar, $n$—a hot rolled, forged, or cold worked semi-finished solid section product whose cross sectional area is equal to or less than 16 in.$^2$ [10 323 mm$^2$]; rectangular bar must be less than or equal to 10 in. [254 mm] in width and greater than 0.1875 in. [4.8 mm] in thickness.
3.2.2.2 wire, $n$—rounds, flats, or special shapes less than or equal to 0.1875 in. [4.8 mm] in thickness or major dimension.

4. Classification
4.1 The bar or wire is to be furnished in three grades as follows:
4.1.1 Grade R60702—Unalloyed zirconium.
4.1.2 Grade R60704—Zirconium-tin.
4.1.3 Grade R60705—Zirconium-niobium.

5. Ordering Information
5.1 Orders for material under this specification should include the following information:
5.1.1 Quantity (weight or number of pieces),
5.1.2 Name of material (zirconium bar or wire) (Table 1),
5.1.3 Grade number (see 4.1),
5.1.4 Standard designation and year of issue, for example ASTM Specification B550/B550M-07, and
5.1.5 Additions to the specification as required.

Note 1—A typical ordering description is as follows: 1000 lb [500 kg] zirconium cold drawn bar, 0.35 in. [10 mm] in diameter by 10 ft [3 m] in length, ASTM B550 - 01, Grade R60702.

6. Materials and Manufacture
6.1 Bar and wire covered by this specification shall be formed with conventional fabrication methods and equipment found in primary ferrous and nonferrous metal plants.

6.2 The products covered include the sections and sizes shown in Table 1.

6.3 Bar and wire will be supplied in the conditions prescribed in Table 2.
7. Chemical Composition

7.1 The material shall conform to the requirements as to chemical composition prescribed in Table 3.

7.2 The manufacturer’s ingot analysis shall be considered the chemical analysis for bar and wire, except for hydrogen and nitrogen, which shall be determined on the finished product.

7.3 When requested by the purchaser and stated in the purchase order, a product analysis for any elements listed in Table 3 shall be made on the finished product.

7.3.1 The manufacturer’s analysis shall be considered as verified if the check analysis confirms the manufacturer’s reported values within the tolerances prescribed in Table 4.

8. Mechanical Properties

8.1 The annealed material shall conform to the requirements for mechanical properties, at room temperature, as prescribed in Table 5. Wire supplied for welding applications shall be furnished with a temper suitable for uniform feeding in semiautomatic or automatic welding equipment.

9. Permissible Variations in Dimensions

9.1 Unless otherwise specified, all bar or wire shall conform to the permissible variations in dimensions prescribed in Tables 6-14, as follows:

9.1.1 Table 6, Dimensional Tolerances for Hot-Finished Rounds, Squares, Octagons, and Hexagons.

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### TABLE 1 Product Sections and Size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bars:</td>
<td>Hot-finished round, squares, octagons, and hexagons</td>
<td>¼ in. [6.4 mm] and over in diameter or size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hot-finished flats</td>
<td>¼ in. [6.4 mm] to 10 in. [250 mm], incl. in width, and ¼ in. [3.2 mm] and over in thickness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cold-finished rounds, squares, octagons, hexagons, and shapes</td>
<td>Over ¼ in. [13 mm] in diameter or size⁴</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cold-finished flats</td>
<td>⅛ in. [9.5 mm] and over in width,⁵ and ⅛ in. [3.2 mm] and over in thickness⁶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wire:</td>
<td>Cold-finished rounds, squares, octagons, hexagons, and shapes</td>
<td>⅛ in. [1.6 mm] to under ⅛ in. [9.5 mm] in width, and 0.010 in. [0.25 mm] to under ⅛ in. [4.8 mm] in thickness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cold-finished flats</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

⁴ Sizes ¼ in. [13 mm] and under are wire when in coils, and cut wire when finished in straight lengths.
⁵ Widths less than ⅛ in. [9.5 mm] and thicknesses less than ⅛ in. [4.8 mm] are generally described as flat wire.
⁶ Thickness ¼ in. [3.2 mm] to under ⅛ in. [4.8 mm] can be cold-rolled strip as well as bar.

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### TABLE 2 Condition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form</th>
<th>Condition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bars</td>
<td>hot finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>hot finished and annealed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cold finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cold finished and annealed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wire</td>
<td>cold finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cold finished and annealed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### TABLE 3 Chemical Requirements⁴

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Grades R60702</th>
<th>Grades R60704</th>
<th>Grades R60705</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zirconium + hafnium, min</td>
<td>99.2</td>
<td>97.5</td>
<td>95.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hafnium, max</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron + chromium</td>
<td>0.2 max</td>
<td>0.2 to 0.4</td>
<td>0.2 max</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tin</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>1.0 to 2.0</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrogen, max</td>
<td>0.005</td>
<td>0.005</td>
<td>0.005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrogen, max</td>
<td>0.025</td>
<td>0.025</td>
<td>0.025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon, max</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niobium</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxygen, max</td>
<td>0.16</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>0.18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

⁴ By agreement between the purchaser and the manufacturer, analysis may be required and limits established for elements and compounds not specified in the table of chemical composition.

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### TABLE 4 Permissible Variation in Check Analysis Between Different Laboratories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Permissible Variation in Product Analysis, %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydrogen</td>
<td>0.002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrogen</td>
<td>0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon</td>
<td>0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hafnium</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron + chromium</td>
<td>0.025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tin</td>
<td>0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niobium</td>
<td>0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxygen</td>
<td>0.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### TABLE 5 Tensile Requirements⁴

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Tensile Strength, min, ksi (MPa)</th>
<th>Yield Strength, min, ksi (MPa)</th>
<th>Elongation in 2 in. or 50 mm min, %⁵</th>
<th>( ^{\text{a}} )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R60702</td>
<td>55 [380]</td>
<td>30 [205]</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R60704</td>
<td>60 [415]</td>
<td>35 [240]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R60705</td>
<td>80 [550]</td>
<td>55 [380]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

⁴ For bar only:
⁵ When a sub-size specimen is used, the gage length shall be as specified in Test Methods E8 for the specimen.
9.1.2 Table 7, Dimensional Tolerances in Hot-Rolled Flat Bars.

9.1.3 Table 8, Permissible Variations in Sectional Dimensions for Cold-Finished Bars in Rounds, Hexagons, Octagons, and Squares.

9.1.4 Table 9, Permissible Variations in Width and Thickness for Cold-Finished Bars in Squares.

9.1.5 Table 10, Permissible Variations in Sectional Dimensions for Wire.

9.1.6 Table 11, Permissible Variations in Thickness and Width for Cold-Finished Flat Wire.

9.1.7 Table 12, Permissible Variations in Length for Hot-Finished or Cold-Finished Bars.
10.1.1 Not descaled,
10.1.2 Mechanically descaled,
10.1.3 Mechanically descaled and pickled, and
10.1.4 Turned (round bars only).

10.2 Bars and wire in cold-finished condition that will conform to the tolerances prescribed in Tables 8-12, shall be furnished with one of the following finishes as designated on the purchase order.

10.2.1 Cold drawn or cold rolled, or swaged,
10.2.2 Turned (round bars only),
10.2.3 Centerless ground (round bars only), and
10.2.4 Polished (round bars only).

10.3 Bars or wire shall be free of cracks, seams, slivers, blisters, burrs, and other injurious imperfections in accordance with standards of acceptability agreed upon between the manufacturer and the purchaser.

11. Significance of Numerical Limits

11.1 For the purpose of determining compliance with the specified limits for requirements of the properties listed in the following table, an observed value or a calculated value shall be rounded as indicated in accordance with the rounding methods of Practice E29.

12. Number of Tests and Retests

12.1 One longitudinal tension test shall be made from each lot of bar and rod, see 13.1.

12.2 One chemistry test for hydrogen and nitrogen content shall be made from each lot of finished product, see 13.2.

12.3 Retests:
12.3.1 If any sample or specimen exhibits obvious surface contamination or improper preparation disqualifying it as a truly representative sample, it shall be discarded and a new sample or specimen substituted.
12.3.2 If the results of any tests of any lot do not conform to the requirements specified, retests shall be made on additional samples from the same lot, each of which shall conform to the requirements specified.

13. Test Methods

13.1 Tension Tests—The tension test shall be conducted in accordance with Test Methods E8. Determine the yield strength by the offset (0.2 %) method. Determine the tensile properties using a strain rate of 0.003 to 0.007 in./in. [mm/mm]/min through the yield strength. After the yield strength has been exceeded, the cross-head speed may be increased to approximately 0.05 in./in. [mm/mm]/min to failure.

13.2 Chemical Tests—The chemical analyses shall be conducted by the standard techniques normally used by the manufacturer.

14. Inspection

14.1 The manufacturer shall inspect the material covered by this specification prior to shipment. If so specified in the purchase order, the purchaser or his representative may witness the testing and inspection of the material at the place of manufacture. In such cases the purchaser shall state in his purchase order which tests he desires to witness. The manufacturer shall give ample notice to the purchaser as to the time and place of the designated tests. If the purchaser’s representative does not present himself at the time agreed upon for the testing, the manufacturer shall consider the requirement for purchaser’s inspection at the place of manufacture to be waived.

14.2 The manufacturer shall afford the inspector representing the purchaser, without charge, all reasonable facilities to satisfy him that the material is being furnished in accordance with this specification. This inspection shall be so conducted as not to interfere unnecessarily with the operation of the works.

15. Rejection

15.1 Rejection for failure of the material to meet the requirements of this specification shall be reported to the manufacturer. Unless otherwise specified, rejected material may be returned to the manufacturer at the manufacturer’s expense, unless the purchaser receives, within three weeks of the notice of rejection, other instructions for disposition.

16. Certification

16.1 A producer or supplier shall furnish the purchaser with a certificate that the material was manufactured, sampled, tested, and inspected in accordance with this specification and has been found to meet the requirements. The certificate shall include a report of the test results.

17. Referee

17.1 In the event of disagreement between the manufacturer and the purchaser on the conformance of the material to the requirements of this specification or any special test specified by the purchaser, a mutually acceptable referee shall perform the tests in question. The results of the referee’s testing shall be used in determining conformance of the material to this specification.

18. Product Marking

18.1 Each bundle, box, or coil shall be marked or tagged legibly and conspicuously with the purchase order or contract number, manufacturer’s private identification mark, the ASTM designation, the grade, size, ingot number, and gross, net, and tare weights.

19. Packaging and Package Marking

19.1 All material shall be boxed, crated, banded on skids, or bundled in such a manner as to assure safe delivery to its destination when properly transported by common carrier.

20. Keywords

20.1 bar; wire; zirconium; zirconium alloy