



Designation: A403/A403M – 26a

Standard Specification for Wrought Austenitic Stainless Steel Piping Fittings¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A403/A403M; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers wrought stainless steel fittings for pressure piping applications.²

1.2 Several grades of austenitic stainless steel alloys are included in this specification. Grades are designated with a prefix, WP or CR, based on the applicable ASME or MSS dimensional and rating standards, respectively.

1.3 For each of the WP stainless grades, several classes of fittings are covered, to indicate whether seamless or welded construction was utilized. Class designations are also utilized to indicate the nondestructive test method and extent of nondestructive examination (NDE). **Table 1** is a general summary of the fitting classes applicable to all WP grades of stainless steel covered by this specification. There are no classes for the CR grades. Specific requirements are covered elsewhere.

1.4 This specification is expressed in both inch-pound units and in SI units. However, unless the order specifies the applicable “M” specification designation (SI units), the material shall be furnished to inch-pound units.

1.5 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. Within the text, the SI units are shown in brackets. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

1.6 This specification does not apply to cast steel fittings. Austenitic stainless steel castings are covered in Specifications **A351/A351M**, **A743/A743M**, and **A744/A744M**.

1.7 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standard-*

ization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:³

A351/A351M Specification for Castings, Austenitic, for Pressure-Containing Parts

A743/A743M Specification for Castings, Iron-Chromium, Iron-Chromium-Nickel, Corrosion Resistant, for General Application

A744/A744M Specification for Castings, Iron-Chromium-Nickel, Corrosion Resistant, for Severe Service

A751 Test Methods and Practices for Chemical Analysis of Steel Products

A960/A960M Specification for Common Requirements for Wrought Steel Piping Fittings

E112 Test Methods for Determining Average Grain Size

E165/E165M Practice for Liquid Penetrant Testing for General Industry

G48 Test Methods for Pitting and Crevice Corrosion Resistance of Stainless Steels and Related Alloys by Use of Ferric Chloride Solution

2.2 ASME Standards:⁴

ASME B16.9 Factory-Made Wrought Steel Butt-Welding Fittings

ASME B16.11 Forged Steel Fittings, Socket-Welding and Threaded

2.3 MSS Standards:⁵

MSS SP-25 Standard Marking System for Valves, Fittings, Flanges, and Unions

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **A01** on Steel, Stainless Steel and Related Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **A01.22** on Steel Forgings and Wrought Fittings for Piping Applications and Bolting Materials for Piping and Special Purpose Applications.

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² For ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code applications see related Specification SA-403 in Section II of that Code.

³ For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at www.astm.org/contact. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

⁴ Available from American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), ASME International Headquarters, Two Park Ave., New York, NY 10016-5990, <http://www.asme.org>.

⁵ Available from Manufacturers Standardization Society of the Valve and Fittings Industry (MSS), 127 Park St., NE, Vienna, VA 22180-4602, <http://www.mss-hq.com>.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard



TABLE 1 Fitting Classes for WP Grades

Class	Construction	Nondestructive Examination
S	Seamless	None
W	Welded	Radiography or Ultrasonic
WX	Welded	Radiography
WU	Welded	Ultrasonic

MSS SP-43 Standard Practice for Light Weight Stainless Steel Butt-Welding Fittings

MSS SP-79 Socket-Welding Reducer Inserts

MSS-SP-83 Steel Pipe Unions, Socket-Welding and Threaded

MSS SP-95 Swage(d) Nipples and Bull Plugs

MSS-SP-97 Integrally Reinforced Forged Branch Outlet Fittings—Socket Welding, Threaded and Buttwelding Ends

2.4 ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code:⁴

Section III

Section VIII Division I

Section IX

2.5 AWS Standards:⁶

A5.4/A5.4M Specification for Corrosion-Resisting Chromium and Chromium-Nickel Steel Covered Welding Electrodes

A5.9/A5.9M Specification for Corrosion-Resisting Chromium and Chromium-Nickel Steel Welding Rods and Bare Electrodes

A5.11/A5.11M Specification for Nickel and Nickel-Alloy Welding Electrodes for Shielded Metal Arc Welding

A5.14/A5.14M Specification for Nickel and Nickel-Alloy Bare Welding Rods and Electrodes

A5.22/A5.22M Specification for Stainless Steel Electrodes for Flux Cored Arc Welding and Stainless Steel Flux Cored Rods for Gas Tungsten Arc Welding

A5.39/A5.39M Specification for Flux and Electrode Combinations for Submerged Arc and Electroslag Joining and Surfacing of Stainless Steel and Nickel Alloys

2.6 ASNT:⁷

SNT-TC-1A (1984) Recommended Practice for Nondestructive Testing Personnel Qualification and Certification

3. Common Requirements and Ordering Information

3.1 Material furnished to this specification shall conform to the requirements of Specification A960/A960M including any supplementary requirements that are indicated in the purchase order. Failure to comply with the common requirements of Specification A960/A960M constitutes nonconformance with this specification. In case of conflict between this specification and Specification A960/A960M, this specification shall prevail.

3.2 Specification A960/A960M identifies the ordering information that should be complied with when purchasing material to this specification.

⁶ Available from American Welding Society (AWS), 550 NW LeJeune Rd., Miami, FL 33126, <http://www.aws.org>.

⁷ Available from American Society for Nondestructive Testing (ASNT), P.O. Box 28518, 1711 Arlinggate Ln., Columbus, OH 43228-0518, <http://www.asnt.org>.

4. Material

4.1 The material for fittings shall consist of forgings, bars, plates, or seamless or welded tubular products that conform to the chemical requirements in Table 2. See Table 3 for a list of common names.

4.2 The steel shall be melted by one of the following processes:

4.2.1 Electric furnace (with separate degassing and refining optional),

4.2.2 Vacuum furnace, or

4.2.3 One of the former followed by vacuum or electroslag-consumable remelting.

4.3 If secondary melting is employed, the heat shall be defined as all ingots remelted from a primary heat.

4.4 Grain Size—Annealed Alloys UNS N08810 and UNS N08811 shall conform to an average grain size of ASTM No. 5 or coarser.

5. Manufacture

5.1 Forming—Forging or shaping operations may be performed by hammering, pressing, piercing, extruding, upsetting, rolling, bending, fusion welding, machining, or by a combination of two or more of these operations. The forming procedure shall be so applied that it will not produce injurious defects in the fittings.

5.2 All fittings shall be heat treated in accordance with Section 6.

5.3 Grade WP fittings ordered as Class S shall be of seamless construction and shall meet all requirements of ASME B16.9, ASME B16.11, MSS SP-79, MSS SP-83, MSS SP-95, or MSS SP-97.

5.4 Grade WP fittings ordered as Class W shall meet the requirements of ASME B16.9 and:

5.4.1 Shall have all pipe welds made by mill or the fitting manufacturer with the addition of filler metal radiographically examined throughout the entire length in accordance with the Code requirements stated in 5.5, and,

5.4.2 Radiographic inspection is not required on single longitudinal seam welds made by the starting pipe manufacturer if made without the addition of filler metal; and

5.4.3 Radiographic inspection is not required on longitudinal seam fusion welds made by the fitting manufacturer when all of the following conditions have been met:

5.4.3.1 No addition of filler metal,

5.4.3.2 Only one welding pass per weld seam, and,

5.4.3.3 Fusion welding from one side only.

5.4.4 In place of radiographic examination, welds made by the fitting manufacturer may be ultrasonically examined in accordance with the Code requirements stated in 5.6.

5.5 Grade WP fittings ordered as Class WX shall meet the requirements of ASME B16.9 and shall have all welds, whether made by the fitting manufacturer or the starting material manufacturer, radiographically examined throughout their entire length in accordance with Paragraph UW-51 of Section VIII, Division I, of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code.