



Designation: A488/A488M – 24

Standard Practice for Steel Castings, Welding, Qualifications of Procedures and Personnel¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A488/A488M; 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 practice covers the qualification of procedures, welders, and operators for the fabrication and repair of steel castings by electric arc welding.

1.1.1 Qualifications of a procedure and either or both the operator or welder under Section IX of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code shall automatically qualify the procedure and either or both the operator or welder under this practice. P-number designations in the ASME grouping of base metals for qualification may be different than the category numbers listed in [Table 1](#). Refer to [Appendix X1](#) for a comparison of ASTM category numbers with the corresponding ASME P-number designations.

1.2 Each manufacturer or contractor is responsible for the welding done by his organization and shall conduct the tests required to qualify his welding procedures, welders, and operators.

1.3 Each manufacturer or contractor shall maintain a record of welding procedure qualification tests ([Fig. 1](#)), welder or operator performance qualification tests ([Fig. 2](#)), and welding procedure specification ([Fig. 3](#)), which shall be made available to the purchaser's representative on request.

1.4 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. 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 nonconformance with the standard.

1.4.1 *SI Units*—Within the text, the SI units are shown in brackets.

1.5 *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 appro-*

priate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

1.6 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization 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:²

- [A27/A27M Specification for Steel Castings, Carbon, for General Application](#)
- [A128/A128M Specification for Steel Castings, Austenitic Manganese](#)
- [A148/A148M Specification for Steel Castings, High Strength, for Structural Purposes](#)
- [A216/A216M Specification for Steel Castings, Carbon, Suitable for Fusion Welding, for High-Temperature Service](#)
- [A217/A217M Specification for Steel Castings, Martensitic Stainless and Alloy, for Pressure-Containing Parts, Suitable for High-Temperature Service](#)
- [A297/A297M Specification for Steel Castings, Iron-Chromium and Iron-Chromium-Nickel, Heat Resistant, for General Application](#)
- [A351/A351M Specification for Castings, Austenitic, for Pressure-Containing Parts](#)
- [A352/A352M Specification for Steel Castings, Ferritic and Martensitic, for Pressure-Containing Parts, Suitable for Low-Temperature Service](#)
- [A356/A356M Specification for Steel Castings, Carbon, Low Alloy, and Stainless Steel, Heavy-Walled for Steam Turbines](#)
- [A370 Test Methods and Definitions for Mechanical Testing of Steel Products](#)

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee A01 on Steel, Stainless Steel and Related Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee A01.18 on Castings.

Current edition approved March 1, 2024. Published April 2024. Originally approved in 1963. Last previous edition approved in 2018 as A488/A488M – 18. DOI: 10.1520/A0488_A0488M-24.

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

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



A488/A488M – 24

TABLE 1 Categories of Base Materials

Category Number	Material Description	ASTM Specification	Grades
1	Carbon steel (carbon less than 0.35 %, tensile strength less than or equal to 70 ksi [485 MPa])	A27/A27M	All grades
		A216/A216M	WCA, WCB
		A352/A352M	LCB, LCA
		A356/A356M	1
		A732/A732M	1A, 2A
		A757/A757M	A1Q
		A958/A958M	SC 1020, SC 1025, SC 1030, CLASSES 65/35, 70/36
2	Carbon steel (tensile strength greater than 70 ksi [485 MPa])	A148/A148M	80-40
	Carbon-manganese steel (tensile strength equal to or greater than 70 ksi [485 MPa]) but less than 90 ksi [620 MPa])	A216/A216M	WCC
		A352/A352M	LCC
		A732/A732M	2Q, 3A
		A757/A757M	A2Q
		A958/A958M	SC 1030, SC 1040, SC 1045, CLASSES 80/40, 80/50
3	Carbon and carbon-manganese steel (tensile strength equal to or greater than 90 ksi [620 MPa])	A732/A732M	3Q, 4A, 4Q, 5N
		A958/A958M	SC 1045, CLASSES 90/60, 105/85, 115/95
4	Low-alloy steel (annealed, normalized, or normalized and tempered)	A148/A148M	80-50
	Tensile strength less than 85 ksi [585 MPa])	A217/A217M	WC1, WC4, WC5, WC6, WC9
		A352/A352M	LC1, LC2, LC3, LC4
		A356/A356M	2, 5, 6, 8
		A389/A389M	C23, C24
		A487/A487M	11A, 12A, 16A
		A757/A757M	B2N, B3N, B4N
		A958/A958M	SC 4130, SC 4140, SC 8620, SC 8625, SC 8630, CLASSES 65/35, 70/36, 80/40, 80/50
5	Low-alloy steel (annealed, normalized, or normalized and tempered)	A148/A148M	90-60, 105-85
	Tensile strength equal to or greater than 85 ksi [585 MPa])	A217/A217M	C5, C12, C12A, WC11
		A356/A356M	9, 10, 12
		A487/A487M	1A, 1C, 2A, 2C, 4A, 4C, 6A, 8A, 9A, 9C, 10A, 13A
		A732/A732M	6N, 15A
		A757/A757M	D1N1, D1N2, D1N3, E2N1, E2N2, E2N3
		A958/A958M	SC 4340, CLASSES 90/60, 105/85
6	Low-alloy steel (quenched and tempered)	A148/A148M	90-60, 105-85, 115-95, 130-115, 135-125, 150-135, 160-145, 165-150, 165-150L, 210-180, 210-180L, 260-210, 260-210L
		A352/A352M	LC2-1, LC1, LC2, LC3, LC4, LC9
		A487/A487M	1B, 1C, 2B, 2C, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 6B, 7A, 8B, 8C, 9A, 9B, 9C, 9D, 9E, 10B, 11B, 12B, 13B, 14A
		A732/A732M	7Q, 8Q, 9Q, 10Q, 11Q, 12Q, 13Q, 14Q
		A757/A757M	B2Q, B3Q, B4Q, C1Q, D1Q1, D1Q2, D1Q3, E1Q, E2Q1, E2Q2, E2Q3
		A958/A958M	SC 4140, SC 4130, SC 4340, SC 8620, SC 8625, SC 8630, CLASSES 115/95, 130/115, 135/125, 150/135, 160/145, 165/150, 210/180
7	Ferritic stainless steel	A743/A743M	CB30, CC50
8	Martensitic stainless steel	A217/A217M	CA15
		A352/A352M	CA6NM
		A356/A356M	CA6NM