



Designation: A957/A957M – 21

Standard Specification for Investment Castings, Steel and Alloy, Common Requirements, for General Industrial Use¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A957/A957M; 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.

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers a group of requirements that are mandatory for castings produced by the investment casting process to meet the metallurgical requirements of the following steel casting specifications issued by ASTM.

ASTM Designation	Title of Specification
A27/A27M	Steel Castings, Carbon, for General Application
A128/A128M	Steel Castings, Austenitic Manganese
A148/A148M	Steel Castings, High-Strength, for Structural Purposes
A297/A297M	Steel Castings, Iron-Chromium and Iron-Chromium-Nickel, Heat-Resistant, for General Application
A447/A447M	Steel Castings, Chromium-Nickel-Iron Alloy (25-12 Class), for High-Temperature Service
A494/A494M	Castings, Nickel and Nickel Alloy
A560/A560M	Castings, Chromium-Nickel Alloy
A732/A732M	Castings, Investment, Carbon and Low-Alloy Steel for General Application, and Cobalt Alloy for High Strength at Elevated Temperatures
A743/A743M	Castings, Iron-Chromium, Iron-Chromium-Nickel, Corrosion-Resistant, for General Application
A744/A744M	Castings, Iron-Chromium-Nickel, Corrosion Resistant, for Severe Service
A747/A747M	Steel Castings, Stainless, Precipitation Hardening
A890/A890M	Castings, Iron-Chromium-Nickel-Molybdenum Corrosion-Resistant, Duplex (Austenitic/Ferritic) for General Application
A915/A915M	Steel Castings, Carbon and Alloy, Chemical Requirements Similar to Standard Wrought Grades
A958/A958M	Steel Castings, Carbon and Alloy, with Tensile Requirements, Chemical Requirements Similar to Standard Wrought Grades
A1002	Castings, Nickel-Aluminum Ordered Alloy

1.2 This specification also covers a group of supplementary requirements that may be applied to the above specifications as indicated therein. These are provided for use when additional

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 A01.18 on Castings.

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testing or inspection is desired, and apply only when specified individually by the purchaser in the order.

1.3 When investment castings are ordered, the requirements stated in this specification form an integral part of the material specification. In cases of conflict, the requirements of this specification shall take precedence over the individual material specification requirements.

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.

1.5 *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
- A297/A297M** Specification for Steel Castings, Iron-Chromium and Iron-Chromium-Nickel, Heat Resistant, for General Application
- A370** Test Methods and Definitions for Mechanical Testing of Steel Products
- A380/A380M** Practice for Cleaning, Descaling, and Passivation of Stainless Steel Parts, Equipment, and Systems
- A447/A447M** Specification for Steel Castings, Chromium-Nickel-Iron Alloy (25-12 Class), for High-Temperature Service

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 Practice for Steel Castings, Welding, Qualifications of Procedures and Personnel

A494/A494M Specification for Castings, Nickel and Nickel Alloy

A560/A560M Specification for Castings, Chromium-Nickel Alloy

A609/A609M Practice for Castings, Carbon, Low-Alloy, and Martensitic Stainless Steel, Ultrasonic Examination Thereof

A732/A732M Specification for Castings, Investment, Carbon and Low-Alloy Steel for General Application, and Cobalt Alloy for High Strength at Elevated Temperatures

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

A747/A747M Specification for Steel Castings, Stainless, Precipitation Hardening

A751 Test Methods and Practices for Chemical Analysis of Steel Products

A800/A800M Practice for Estimating Ferrite Content of Stainless Steel Castings Containing Both Ferrite and Austenite

A890/A890M Specification for Castings, Iron-Chromium-Nickel-Molybdenum Corrosion-Resistant, Duplex (Austenitic/Ferritic) for General Application

A903/A903M Specification for Steel Castings, Surface Acceptance Standards, Magnetic Particle and Liquid Penetrant Inspection

A915/A915M Specification for Steel Castings, Carbon, and Alloy, Chemical Requirements Similar to Standard Wrought Grades

A941 Terminology Relating to Steel, Stainless Steel, Related Alloys, and Ferroalloys

A958/A958M Specification for Steel Castings, Carbon and Alloy, with Tensile Requirements, Chemical Requirements Similar to Standard Wrought Grades

A967/A967M Specification for Chemical Passivation Treatments for Stainless Steel Parts

A991/A991M Test Method for Conducting Temperature Uniformity Surveys of Furnaces Used to Heat Treat Steel Products

A997 Practice for Investment Castings, Surface Acceptance Standards, Visual Examination

A1002 Specification for Castings, Nickel-Aluminum Ordered Alloy

A1058 Test Methods for Mechanical Testing of Steel Products—Metric

A1067/A1067M Specification for Test Coupons for Steel Castings

A1080/A1080M Practice for Hot Isostatic Pressing of Steel, Stainless Steel, and Related Alloy Castings

E29 Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications

E94/E94M Guide for Radiographic Examination Using Industrial Radiographic Film

E125 Reference Photographs for Magnetic Particle Indications on Ferrous Castings

E165/E165M Practice for Liquid Penetrant Testing for General Industry

E186 Reference Radiographs for Heavy-Walled (2 to 4½ in. (50.8 to 114 mm)) Steel Castings

E192 Reference Radiographs of Investment Steel Castings for Aerospace Applications

E280 Reference Radiographs for Heavy-Walled (4½ to 12 in. (114 to 305 mm)) Steel Castings

E340 Practice for Macroetching Metals and Alloys

E353 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Stainless, Heat-Resisting, Maraging, and Other Similar Chromium-Nickel-Iron Alloys

E354 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of High-Temperature, Electrical, Magnetic, and Other Similar Iron, Nickel, and Cobalt Alloys

E446 Reference Radiographs for Steel Castings Up to 2 in. (50.8 mm) in Thickness

E709 Guide for Magnetic Particle Testing

E2660 Digital Reference Images for Investment Steel Castings for Aerospace Applications

2.2 SAE Standards:³

AMS 2750 Pyrometry

ARP 1341 Determining Decarburization and Carburization in Finished Parts of Carbon and Low-Alloy Steel

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 The definitions in Test Methods and Definitions A370, Test Methods, Practices, and Terminology A751, Terminology A941, and Test Methods A1058 are applicable to this specification and to those listed in 1.1.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *investment casting, n*—a metal casting that is produced in a mold obtained by investing (surrounding) an expendable pattern with a ceramic slurry that is allowed to solidify. The expendable pattern may consist of wax, plastic, or other material and is removed prior to filling the mold with liquid metal.

3.2.2 *master heat, n*—a quantity of metal processed in a single furnace or refining vessel at one time in such a manner as to produce the desired composition and properties.

3.2.3 *sub-heat, n*—a portion of a master heat remelted without additional processing for pouring into castings. Synonyms—*melt, production heat*.

4. Materials and Manufacture

4.1 When the purchaser imposes the requirements of this specification, the manufacturer is responsible for compliance with the specification requirements during the production and processing of the casting by themselves and any of their subcontractors.

4.2 *Melting Process*—Master heats shall be made by the electric furnace process, with or without separate refining such

³ Available from SAE International (SAE), 400 Commonwealth Dr., Warrendale, PA 15096, <http://www.sae.org>.