



Designation: B166 – 24

Standard Specification for Nickel-Chromium-Aluminum Alloy, Nickel-Chromium-Iron Alloys, Nickel-Chromium-Cobalt-Molybdenum Alloy, Nickel- Iron-Chromium-Tungsten Alloy, and Nickel-Chromium- Molybdenum-Copper Alloy Rod, Bar, and Wire¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B166; 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 reappraisal. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

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

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification² covers nickel-chromium-aluminum alloy, nickel-chromium-iron alloys,³ nickel-chromium-cobalt-molybdenum alloy, nickel-iron-chromium-tungsten alloy, and nickel-chromium-molybdenum-copper alloy in the form of hot-finished and cold-worked rounds, squares, hexagons, rectangles, and cold-worked wire.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.3 The following precautionary caveat pertains only to the test methods portion, Section 12, 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 become familiar with all hazards including those identified in the appropriate Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for this product/material as provided by the manufacturer, to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.4 *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.*

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B02 on Nonferrous Metals and Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B02.07 on Refined Nickel and Cobalt and Their Alloys.

Current edition approved April 1, 2024. Published April 2024. Originally approved in 1941. Last previous edition approved in 2019 as B166 – 19. DOI: 10.1520/B0166-24.

² For ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code application see related Specification SB-166 in Section II of that Code.

³ Designation established in accordance with Practice E527 and SAE J1086, Practice for Numbering Metals and Alloys (UNS).

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:⁴

- B168** Specification for Nickel-Chromium-Aluminum Alloys (UNS N06699), Nickel-Chromium-Iron Alloys (UNS N06600, N06601, N06603, N06690, N06693, N06025, N06045, and N06696), Nickel-Chromium-Cobalt-Molybdenum Alloy (UNS N06617), Nickel-Iron-Chromium-Tungsten Alloy (UNS N06674), and
- B880** Specification for General Requirements for Chemical Check Analysis Limits for Nickel, Nickel Alloys and Cobalt Alloys
- B899** Terminology Relating to Non-ferrous Metals and Alloys
- E8/E8M** Test Methods for Tension Testing of Metallic Materials
- E18** Test Methods for Rockwell Hardness of Metallic Materials
- E29** Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications
- E38** Methods for Chemical Analysis of Nickel-Chromium and Nickel-Chromium-Iron Alloys (Withdrawn 1989)⁵
- E112** Test Methods for Determining Average Grain Size
- E140** Hardness Conversion Tables for Metals Relationship Among Brinell Hardness, Vickers Hardness, Rockwell Hardness, Superficial Hardness, Knoop Hardness, Scleroscope Hardness, and Leeb Hardness
- E527** Practice for Numbering Metals and Alloys in the Unified Numbering System (UNS)
- E1473** Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Nickel, Cobalt, and High-Temperature Alloys

⁴ 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.

⁵ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

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

2.2 Federal Standards:⁶

Fed. Std. No. 102 Preservation, Packaging and Packing Levels

Fed. Std. No. 123 Marking for Shipment (Civil Agencies)

Fed. Std. No. 182 Continuous Identification Marking of Nickel and Nickel-Base Alloys

2.3 Military Standard:⁶

MIL-STD-129 Marking for Shipment and Storage

3. Terminology

3.1 For definitions of terms used in this specification, refer to Terminology B899.

3.2 In case of conflict between the definitions of this specification and Terminology B899, this specification shall prevail.

3.3 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.3.1 *bar, n*—material of rectangular (flats), hexagonal, or square solid section up to and including 10 in. (254 mm) in width and 1/8 in. (3.2 mm) and over in thickness in straight lengths.

3.3.2 *rod, n*—material of round solid section furnished in straight lengths.

3.3.2.1 *Discussion*—Hot-worked rectangular bar in widths 10 in. and under may be furnished as hot-rolled plate with sheared or cut edges in accordance with Specification B168, provided the mechanical property requirements of this specification are met.

3.3.3 *wire, n*—a cold-worked solid product of uniform round cross section along its whole length, supplied in coil form.

4. Ordering Information

4.1 It is the responsibility of the purchaser to specify all requirements that are necessary for the safe and satisfactory performance of material ordered under this specification. Examples of such requirements include, but are not limited to, the following:

4.1.1 *Alloy Name or UNS Number*—see Table 1,

4.1.2 *ASTM Designation*, including year of issue,

4.1.3 *Section*—Rod (round), bar (square, hexagonal, or rectangular), or wire (round),

4.1.4 *Condition* (see Table 2 and Table 3),

4.1.5 *Finish*,

4.1.6 *Dimensions*, including length (see Tables 4-8),

4.1.7 *Quantity*—feet or number of pieces,

4.1.8 *Samples for Product (Check) Analysis*—State whether samples for product (check) analysis shall be furnished, and

4.1.9 *Purchaser Inspection*—If purchaser wishes to witness tests or inspection of material at place of manufacture, the purchase order must so state indicating which test or inspections are to be witnessed.

5. Chemical Composition

5.1 The material shall conform to the composition limits specified in Table 1.

5.2 If a product (check) analysis is performed by the purchaser, the material shall conform to the product (check) analysis variations in Specification B880.

6. Mechanical Properties and Other Requirements

6.1 *Mechanical Properties*—The material shall conform to the mechanical properties specified in Table 2 for rod and bar and Table 3 (UNS N06600 and N06690 only) for wire.

6.2 Grain Size:

6.2.1 Grain size for N06674 shall be 7 or coarser as determined in accordance with Test Methods E112.

7. Dimensions and Permissible Variations

7.1 *Diameter, Thickness, or Width*—The permissible variations from the specified dimensions as measured on the diameter or between parallel surfaces of cold-worked rod and bar shall be as prescribed in Table 4; of hot-worked rod and bar as prescribed in Table 5; and of wire as prescribed in Table 6.

7.2 *Out-of-Round*—Hot-worked rods and cold-worked rods (except “forging quality”) all sizes, in straight lengths, shall not be out-of-round by more than one half the total permissible variations in diameter shown in Table 4 and Table 5, except for hot-worked rods 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) in diameter and under, which may be out-of-round by the total permissible variations in diameter shown in Table 5. Cold-worked wire shall not be out-of-round by more than one-half the total permissible variations in diameter shown in Table 6.

7.3 *Corners*—Cold-worked bars will have practically exact angles and sharp corners.

7.4 *Machining Allowances for Hot-Worked Materials*—When the surfaces of hot-worked products are to be machined, the allowances prescribed in Table 7 are recommended for normal machining operations.

7.5 *Length*—The permissible variations in length of cold-worked and hot-worked rod and bar shall be as prescribed in Table 8.

7.5.1 Rods and bars ordered to random or nominal lengths will be furnished with either cropped or saw-cut ends; material ordered to cut lengths will be furnished with square saw-cut or machined ends.

7.6 *Straightness*—The permissible variations in straightness of cold-worked rod and bar as determined by the departure from straightness shall be as prescribed in Table 9.

7.6.1 The permissible variations in straightness of hot-worked rod and bar as determined by the departure from straightness shall be as specified in Table 10.

8. Workmanship, Finish, and Appearance

8.1 The material shall be uniform in quality and condition, smooth, commercially straight or flat, and free of injurious imperfections.

⁶ Available from Standardization Documents Order Desk, DODSSP, Bldg. 4, Section D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5098, <http://www.dodssp.daps.mil>.