



Designation: B491/B491M – 23

Standard Specification for Aluminum and Aluminum-Alloy Extruded Round Tubes for General-Purpose Applications¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B491/B491M; 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.

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers aluminum and aluminum-alloy extruded round tubes either in coils or straight lengths, for general purpose applications such as refrigeration service, gas lines, oil lines, and instrument lines, in the alloys (**Note 2**) and tempers shown in Table 2 [Table 3], in outside diameters of 0.250 in. through 0.750 in. [6.00 mm through 20.00 mm]. For diameters over 0.500 in. through 0.750 in. [over 12.50 mm through 20.00 mm], the diameter and wall-thickness tolerances and eddy-current test parameters, if required, shall be agreed upon by the producer and the purchaser. Only tubes in aluminum 1200-H111 and 1235-H111 are sized after extrusion to minimize ovalness.

1.2 Alloy and temper designations are in accordance with ANSI H35.1/H35.1(M). The equivalent Unified Numbering System alloy designations are those of Table 1 preceded by A9 (for example, A91050 for aluminum 1050), in accordance with Practice **E527**.

NOTE 1—For extruded tubes see Specifications **B221** or **B221M**, and for drawn tubes for general-purpose applications see Specification **B483/B483M**.

NOTE 2—Throughout this specification the term *alloy* in the general sense includes aluminum as well as aluminum alloy.

NOTE 3—For inch-pound orders specify B491; for metric orders specify B491M. Do not mix units.

1.3 For acceptance criteria for inclusion of new aluminum and aluminum alloys in this specification, see **Annex A2**.

1.4 The values stated in either inch-pound or SI units are to be regarded separately as standards. The SI units are shown either in brackets or in separate tables. The values stated in each system are not exact equivalents; therefore, each system must be used independently of the other. Combining values from two systems will result in nonconformance with the specification.

1.5 *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 The following documents of the issue in effect on the date of material purchase form a part of this specification to the extent referenced herein:

2.2 ASTM Standards:²

B221 Specification for Aluminum and Aluminum-Alloy Extruded Bars, Rods, Wire, Profiles, and Tubes

B221M Specification for Aluminum and Aluminum-Alloy Extruded Bars, Rods, Wire, Profiles, and Tubes (Metric)

B483/B483M Specification for Aluminum and Aluminum-Alloy Drawn Tube and Drawn Pipe for General Purpose Applications

B557 Test Methods for Tension Testing Wrought and Cast Aluminum- and Magnesium-Alloy Products

B557M Test Methods for Tension Testing Wrought and Cast Aluminum- and Magnesium-Alloy Products (Metric)

B660 Practices for Packaging/Packing of Aluminum and Magnesium Products

B666/B666M Practice for Identification Marking of Aluminum and Magnesium Products

B881 Terminology Relating to Aluminum- and Magnesium-Alloy Products

B945 Practice for Aluminum Alloy Extrusions Press Cooled from an Elevated Temperature Shaping Process for Production of T1, T2, T5 and T10-Type Tempers

B985 Practice for Sampling Aluminum Ingots, Billets, Castings and Finished or Semi-Finished Wrought Aluminum Products for Compositional Analysis

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

E215 Practice for Standardizing Equipment and Electromagnetic Examination of Seamless Aluminum-Alloy Tube

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **B07** on Light Metals and Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **B07.03** on Aluminum Alloy Wrought Products.

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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



E527 Practice for Numbering Metals and Alloys in the Unified Numbering System (UNS)

E716 Practices for Sampling and Sample Preparation of Aluminum and Aluminum Alloys for Determination of Chemical Composition by Spark Atomic Emission Spectrometry

E1251 Test Method for Analysis of Aluminum and Aluminum Alloys by Spark Atomic Emission Spectrometry

2.3 *ANSI Standards*:³

H35.1/H35.1(M) Alloy and Temper Designation Systems for Aluminum

H35.2 Dimensional Tolerances for Aluminum Mill Products

H35.2M Dimensional Tolerances for Aluminum Mill Products (Metric)

2.4 *Federal Standard*:⁴

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

2.5 *Military Standard*:⁴

MIL-STD-129 Marking for Shipment and Storage

2.6 *CEN Standard*:⁵

EN 14242 Aluminium and Aluminium Alloys—Chemical Analysis—Inductively Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectral Analysis

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Refer to Terminology **B881**.

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard*:

3.2.1 *capable of*—The term *capable of* as used in this specification means that the test need not be performed by the producer of the material; however, should testing by the purchaser establish that the material does not meet these requirements, the material shall be subject to rejection.

4. Ordering Information

4.1 Orders for material to this specification shall include the following information:

4.1.1 This specification designation (which includes the number, the year, and the revision letter, if applicable),

NOTE 4—For inch-pound orders specify B491, for metric orders specify B491M. Do not mix units.

4.1.2 Quantity in pieces or pounds [kilograms],

4.1.3 Alloy (Section 7),

4.1.4 Temper (Section 8),

4.1.5 Cross-sectional dimensions (outside diameter and wall thickness, or inside diameter and wall thickness),

4.1.6 Length, random or specific,

4.1.7 Nominal inside diameter of coils, and weight or maximum outside diameter, if applicable (**18.3**),

4.2 Additionally, orders for material to this specification shall include the following information when required by the purchaser:

4.2.1 Whether testing for leaks is required (Section 10), and frequency of testing required,

4.2.2 For aluminum 1200-H111 and 1235-H111, whether inside cleanliness test is required (**11.2**), and frequency of testing required,

4.2.3 Whether inspection or witness of inspection and tests by the purchaser's representative is required prior to material shipment (Section 14),

4.2.4 Whether certification is required (Section 16),

4.2.5 Whether marking for identification is required (Section 17), and

4.2.6 Whether Practices **B660** apply and, if so, the levels of preservation packaging, and packing required (**18.4**).

5. Manufacture

5.1 The tubes covered by this specification shall be produced by the hot-extrusion method. The tube ends shall be crimped or otherwise sealed to avoid contamination during shipping. When sized tube in aluminum 1200-H111 or 1235-H111 is required the extruded tube may be lightly cold drawn.

6. Responsibility for Quality Assurance

6.1 *Responsibility for Inspection*—Unless otherwise specified in the contract or purchase order, the producer is responsible for the performance of all inspection and test requirements specified herein. Except as otherwise specified in the contract or order, the producer may use his own or any other suitable facilities for the performance of the inspection and test requirements specified herein, unless disapproved by the purchaser. The purchaser shall have the right to perform any of the inspections and tests set forth in this specification where such inspections are deemed necessary to assure that material conforms to prescribed requirements.

6.2 *Lot Definition*—An inspection lot shall be defined as follows:

6.2.1 For heat-treated tempers, an inspection lot shall consist of an identifiable quantity of material of the same mill form, alloy, temper, and nominal dimensions traceable to a heat-treated lot or lots, and subjected to inspection at one time.

6.2.2 For nonheat-treated tempers, an inspection lot shall consist of an identifiable quantity of material of the same mill form, alloy, temper, and nominal dimensions subjected to inspection at one time.

7. Chemical Composition

7.1 *Limits*—The extrusions shall conform to the chemical composition limits in **Table 1**. Conformance shall be determined by the producer, by taking samples in accordance with Practices **E716** when the ingots are poured and analyzing those samples in accordance with Test Methods **E1251** or EN 14242. At least one sample shall be taken for each group of ingots poured simultaneously from the same source of molten metal. If the producer has determined the chemical composition during pouring of the ingots, they shall not be required to sample and analyze the finished product.

NOTE 5—It is standard practice in the United States aluminum industry to determine conformance to the chemical composition limits prior to further processing of ingots into wrought products. Due to the continuous

³ Available from Aluminum Association, Inc., 1400 Crystal Drive, Suite 430, Arlington, VA 22202, <http://www.aluminum.org>.

⁴ Available from Standardization Documents Order Desk, DODSSP, Bldg. 4, Section D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5098.

⁵ Available from European Committee for Standardization (CEN), Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000, Brussels, Belgium, <http://www.cen.eu>.