



Designation: B387 – 18

# Standard Specification for Molybdenum and Molybdenum Alloy Bar, Rod, and Wire<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B387; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

## 1. Scope\*

1.1 This specification covers unalloyed molybdenum and molybdenum alloy bar, rod, and wire as follows:

1.1.1 *Molybdenum 360*—Unalloyed vacuum arc-cast molybdenum.

1.1.2 *Molybdenum 361*—Unalloyed powder metallurgy molybdenum.

1.1.3 *Molybdenum Alloy 363*—Vacuum arc-cast molybdenum–0.5 % titanium–0.1 % zirconium (TZM) alloy.

1.1.4 *Molybdenum Alloy 364*—Powder metallurgy molybdenum–0.5 % titanium–0.1 % zirconium (TZM) alloy.

1.1.5 *Molybdenum 365*—Unalloyed vacuum arc-cast molybdenum, low carbon.

1.1.6 *Molybdenum Alloy 366*—Vacuum arc-cast molybdenum, 30 % tungsten alloy.

1.2 This specification covers wire no smaller than 0.020 in. (0.51 mm) in diameter or of equivalent cross-sectional area. Specification F289 covers diameters up to 0.020 in. (0.51 mm).

1.3 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.

1.4 The following precautionary caveat pertains only to the test method portions 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 establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

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.*

<sup>1</sup> This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B10 on Reactive and Refractory Metals and Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B10.04 on Molybdenum and Tungsten.

Current edition approved July 1, 2018. Published September 2018. Originally approved in 1962. Last previous edition approved in 2010 as B387 – 10. DOI: 10.1520/B0387-18.

## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:<sup>2</sup>

E8 Test Methods for Tension Testing of Metallic Materials [Metric] E0008\_E0008M

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

E92 Test Methods for Vickers Hardness and Knoop Hardness of Metallic Materials

E384 Test Method for Microindentation Hardness of Materials

E1941 Test Method for Determination of Carbon in Refractory and Reactive Metals and Their Alloys by Combustion Analysis

F289 Specification for Molybdenum Wire and Rod for Electronic Applications

## 3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 *bar and rod, n*—any straight product with a round, rectangular, hexagonal, or octagonal solid cross section, 4 in. (101.6 mm) in diameter or less, or of equivalent cross-sectional area.

3.1.2 *wire, n*—any product furnished in coils or on spools or reels.

3.2 *Lot Definition:*

3.2.1 *for chemical composition, n*—the product of a single blend of powder or a single vacuum melted ingot.

3.2.2 *for mechanical property measurement, n*—the product manufactured from ingots sintered from either a single powder lot in a single sintering run in the same furnace or a single ingot, processed through the same processing equipment in a single uninterrupted run, using the same thermomechanical process to reach the same final size.

## 4. Ordering Information

4.1 Orders for material under this specification shall include the following information as applicable:

<sup>2</sup> 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

- 4.1.1 Material number and temper designation (Section 1 and Table 3),
- 4.1.2 Product form (Section 3),
- 4.1.3 Chemical requirements (Table 1 and Table 2),
- 4.1.4 Metallurgical condition (Section 7),
- 4.1.5 Mechanical requirements (Section 8),
- 4.1.6 Thermal stability (Section 9),
- 4.1.7 Tolerances (Section 10 and Section 11 and Table 4),
- 4.1.8 Workmanship and quality level requirements (Section 12),
- 4.1.9 Disposition of rejected material (Section 14),
- 4.1.10 Certification and reports (Section 15),
- 4.1.11 Marking (Section 16), and
- 4.1.12 Packaging (Section 17).

## 5. Materials and Manufacture

5.1 The various molybdenum mill products covered by this specification shall be manufactured with the conventional extrusion, forging, swaging, rolling, and drawing equipment normally found in primary ferrous and nonferrous plants. The ingot metal for Molybdenum 360 and 365 and Molybdenum Alloys 363 and 366 is vacuum arc-melted in furnaces of a type suitable for reactive, refractory metals. For Molybdenum 361 and 364 the metal is consolidated by powder metallurgy methods.

## 6. Chemical Composition

6.1 The molybdenum and molybdenum alloy ingots and billets for conversion to finished products covered by this specification shall conform to the requirements of the chemical composition prescribed in Table 1.

### 6.2 Heat Analysis:

6.2.1 Heat analysis is made by the manufacturer of the metal on a representative sample of powder from a single powder blend in the case of material made from pressed and sintered powder billets, or on a representative sample of a cast ingot or intermediate product from that ingot in the case of material made from cast ingot.

6.2.2 Heat analysis shall be as specified in Table 1.

6.2.3 The manufacturer shall not ship material that is outside the limits specified in Table 1 for the applicable type, with the exception of oxygen and nitrogen, whose percentage may vary with the method of fabrication.

### 6.3 Check Analysis:

**TABLE 2 Permissible Variations in Check Analysis**

Material No.	Check Analysis Limits, max or range, %	Permissible Variations in Check Analysis, %
C	361, 365	0.010
	360, 366	0.030
	363, 364	0.010–0.040
O	360, 365	0.0020
	366	0.0025
	363	0.0030
	361	0.0070
	364	0.050
N	360, 361, 363, 364, 365, 366	0.0020
Fe	360, 361, 363, 364, 365, 366	0.010
Ni	360, 363, 365, 366	0.002
	361, 364	0.005
Si	360, 361, 363, 364, 365, 366	0.010
Ti	363, 364	0.40–0.55
W	366	27.0–33.0
Zr	363, 364	0.06–0.12

6.3.1 Check analysis is made by the purchaser or the manufacturer of the metal after it has been processed into finished mill forms, and is either to verify the heat analysis of a heat or lot, or to determine variations in composition within a heat or lot.

6.3.2 Check analysis tolerances do not broaden the specified heat analysis requirements but cover variations between laboratories in the measurement of chemical content.

6.3.3 Check analysis limits shall be as specified in Table 2.

## 7. Metallurgical Condition

7.1 Products shall be furnished in the wrought and stress relieved condition unless otherwise stated on the purchase order.

## 8. Mechanical Properties

8.1 Material supplied under this specification shall conform to the mechanical property requirements given in Table 3 when tested in the longitudinal direction of working at test temperatures between 65 and 85°F (18.3 and 29.4°C).

**TABLE 1 Chemical Requirements**

Element	Composition, %					
	Material Number					
	360	361	363	364	365	366
C	0.030 max	0.010 max	0.010–0.040	0.010–0.040	0.010 max	0.030 max
O, max	0.0020	0.0070	0.0030	0.050	0.0020	0.0025
N, max	0.0020	0.0020	0.0020	0.0020	0.0020	0.0020
Fe, max	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010
Ni, max	0.0020	0.005	0.0020	0.005	0.0020	0.002
Si, max	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010
Ti	...	...	0.40–0.55	0.40–0.55	...	...
W	...	...	...	...	...	27–33
Zr	...	...	0.06–0.12	0.06–0.12	...	...
Mo	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance	balance