



Designation: A466/A466M – 07 (Reapproved 2020)

Standard Specification for Weldless Chain¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A466/A466M; 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 specification covers weldless chain suitable for applications where a light and flexible chain is required. The material may be steel, brass, or bronze.

1.2 Seven classes of chain are covered:

1.2.1 *Class SL*—Single-loop chain.

1.2.2 *Class DL*—Double-loop chain.

1.2.3 *Class SH*—Sash chain.

1.2.4 *Class SF*—Plumbers' chain.

1.2.5 *Class SJ*—Single-jack chain.

1.2.6 *Class DJ*—Double-jack chain.

1.2.7 *Class RG*—Register chain.

1.3 The values stated in either SI units or in other units shall be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system are not necessarily exact equivalents; therefore, to ensure conformance with the standard, each system shall be used independently of the other, and values from the two systems shall not be combined.

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.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

[A29/A29M Specification for General Requirements for Steel Bars, Carbon and Alloy, Hot-Wrought](#)

[A366/A366M Specification for Commercial Steel \(CS\)](#)

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 A01.27 on Steel Chain.

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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.

[Sheet, Carbon, \(0.15 Maximum Percent\) Cold-Rolled \(Withdrawn 2000\)](#)³

[A569/A569M Specification for Steel, Carbon \(0.15 Maximum, Percent\), Hot-Rolled Sheet and Strip Commercial \(Withdrawn 2000\)](#)³

[B248 Specification for General Requirements for Wrought Copper and Copper-Alloy Plate, Sheet, Strip, and Rolled Bar](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 *breaking force, minimum, n*—minimum force in pounds or newtons at which the chain, during manufacture, has been found by representative testing to break when a constantly increasing force is applied in direct tension.

3.1.1.1 *Discussion*—This test is a manufacturer's attribute acceptance test and shall not be used as criteria for service.

3.1.2 *lot, n*—for the purpose of acceptance testing, a lot shall consist of 3000 ft [1000 m] or fraction, thereof, of the same grade and size chain. If a continuous length of chain exceeds 3000 ft, it shall also be considered a lot.

3.1.3 *working load limit (WLL), n*—maximum combined static and dynamic load in pounds or kilograms that shall be applied in direct tension to an undamaged straight length of chain.

4. Ordering Information

4.1 It shall be the responsibility of the purchaser to specify all requirements that are necessary for material ordered under this specification. Such requirements to be considered include, but are not limited to, the following:

4.1.1 Product to conform to Specification A466/A466M and year of issue,

4.1.2 Class of chain,

4.1.3 Material size or trade size of chain,

4.1.4 Material of chain (steel, brass, or bronze),

4.1.5 Quantity of chain in feet [metres],

4.1.6 Length of each piece, if required,

4.1.7 Finish, if required,

³ 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

- 4.1.8 Certification of test(s), if required, and
- 4.1.9 Acceptance of inspection by purchaser, if required.

5. Materials and Manufacture

5.1 The selection of the base material is left to the judgment of the individual chain manufacturer provided that the chain complies with the requirements contained within this specification.

5.2 The methods utilized to produce the chain are left to the judgment of the individual chain manufacturer provided the chain complies with the requirements contained within this specification.

6. Dimensional Requirements

6.1 The chain shall conform to the dimensional requirements as specified in **Tables 1-7**. The tolerance is $\pm 7\%$ from the specified nominal dimensions for all chain classes except Class SF. Class SF has a maximum length criterion. The inside length dimension can be measured either by individual link or by measuring the span of 100 links and dividing by 100.

6.2 *Material Diameter/Thickness*—The diameter or thickness of the material from which the chain is manufactured shall be at least the dimension shown in **Tables 1-7**, subject to the normal commercial tolerances listed in Specifications **A29/A29M**, **A366/A366M**, **A569/A569M**, and **B248**. Oversized material may be used for all applications.

7. Finish

7.1 The manufacturers may apply a surface treatment or finish of their own choice for identification or corrosion resistance unless otherwise specified by the customer in the purchase order. The surface treatment or finish shall not alter the chain in a manner that would cause the chain to not meet the other provisions of this specification.

8. Mechanical Requirements

8.1 Breaking Force Test:

8.1.1 The breaking force test specimen shall consist of a length not less than 1 ft [0.3 m] from the lot of chain.

8.1.2 Fixtures for securing chain in a testing machine shall be properly designed to securely support the shoulder of the link. The opening in the fixture shall be not more than 25 % larger than the material diameter of the chain being tested. Links in the testing fixture shall not be considered part of the test specimen.

8.1.3 Test specimens shall conform to the minimum breaking requirements as prescribed in **Tables 1-7** for their respective sizes and classes.

8.1.4 *Number of Tests*—The manufacturer shall perform at least one test per lot of chain.

9. Retests

9.1 If the original test specimen fails to conform to the minimum breaking force requirements of 6.1.4, two additional test specimens from the same lot may be tested. If both additional specimens conform to the minimum breaking force requirements, the chain will be considered acceptable.

10. Rework and Retreatment

10.1 Materials that fail to comply to the requirements for dimensions and mechanical tests may be resubmitted after being reworked.

11. Inspection

11.1 Prior to testing and inspection at the manufacturer’s plant, the chain shall be free of paint or other coatings which would tend to conceal defects.

11.2 The manufacturer shall afford the purchaser’s inspector all reasonable facilities necessary to satisfy him that the material is being produced and furnished in accordance with this specification. Mill inspection by the purchaser shall not interfere unnecessarily with the manufacturer’s operations. All tests and inspections shall be made at the place of manufacture, unless otherwise agreed.

11.3 The purchaser may make tests to govern the acceptance or rejection of the material at his own laboratory or elsewhere. The tests shall be made at the expense of the purchaser.

TABLE 1 Single Loop Chain (Class SL)



Trade Size	Material Size, in. [mm]	Nominal Inside Length (P) in. [mm]	Approximate Weight per 100 ft [30.5 m], lb [kg]	Working Load Limit, lb [kg]		Minimum Breaking Force, lb [kN] ^A	
				Steel	Brass	Steel	Brass
2	0.091 [2.3]	1.08 [27.4]	10.0 [5]	155 [70]	110 [50]	620 [2.8]	440 [2.0]
1/0	0.120 [3.0]	1.29 [32.8]	17.0 [8]	265 [120]	185 [84]	1060 [4.7]	740 [3.3]
2/0	0.135 [3.4]	1.48 [37.6]	22.0 [10]	340 [154]	240 [109]	1360 [6.0]	960 [4.3]
3/0	0.148 [3.8]	1.63 [41.4]	26.0 [12]	405 [184]	285 [129]	1620 [7.2]	1140 [5.1]
4/0	0.162 [4.1]	1.80 [45.7]	31.0 [14]	485 [220]	340 [154]	1940 [8.6]	1360 [6.0]
5/0	0.177 [4.5]	2.15 [54.6]	35.0 [16]	580 [263]	405 [184]	2320 [10.3]	1620 [7.2]

^A The minimum breaking force values shall not be used as criteria for service or design purposes. (See Section 3.)