



Designation: **B778—19 B778 – 22**

## Standard Specification for Shaped Wire Compact Concentric-Lay-Stranded Aluminum Conductors (AAC/TW)<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B778; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

### 1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers shaped wire compact concentric-lay-stranded aluminum conductor (AAC/TW) and its component wires for use as overhead electrical conductors (Explanatory [Note 1](#) and [Note 2](#)).

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard with the exception of temperature and resistivity. The SI equivalents of inch-pound units may be approximate.

NOTE 1—AAC/TW is designed to increase the aluminum area for a given diameter of conductor by the use of trapezoidally shaped wires (TW). The conductors consist of a central core of one round aluminum wire or a seven-strand compact round core surrounded by two or more layers of trapezoidal aluminum 1350-H19 wires. For the purposes of this specification, the sizes listed are tabulated on the basis of the finished conductor having an area equal to that of specific sizes of standard AAC ([Table 1](#)) or in fixed diameter increments ([Table 2](#)) so as to facilitate conductor selection.

NOTE 2—The aluminum and temper designations conform to ANSI Standard H 35.1. Aluminum 1350 corresponds to Unified Numbering System (UNS) A91350 in accordance with Practice [E527](#).

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

#### 2.2 ASTM Standards:<sup>2</sup>

[B230/B230M](#) Specification for Aluminum 1350–H19 Wire for Electrical Purposes

[B263B263/B263M](#) Test Method for Determination of Cross-Sectional Area of Stranded Conductors

[B354](#) Terminology Relating to Uninsulated Metallic Electrical Conductors

[B1006](#) Specification for Electrical Overhead Conductor Code Word Names

[E29](#) Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications

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

<sup>1</sup> This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [B01](#) on Electrical Conductors and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [B01.07](#) on Conductors of Light Metals.

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<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.

**TABLE 1 Construction Requirements for Shaped Wire Compact Concentric-Lay-Stranded Aluminum Conductors Sized to Have Areas Equal to AAC Size**

Code Word <sup>A</sup>	AAC/TW Conductor size		Nominal Outside Diameter		Number of Aluminum Wires	Number of Layers	Nominal Mass		Rated Strength	
	kcmil	mm	in.	mm			lb/1000 ft	kg/km	1000 lbf	kN
Tulip/TW	336.4	170	0.612	15.5	17	2	315.3	469.4	6.02	26.8
Canna/TW	397.5	201	0.661	16.8	17	2	372.6	554.7	6.96	31
Cosmos/TW	477.0	242	0.720	18.3	17	2	447.1	665.6	8.36	37.2
Zinnia/TW	500.0	253	0.736	18.7	17	2	468.7	697.7	8.76	39
Mistletoe/TW	556.5	282	0.775	19.7	17	2	521.6	776.5	9.75	43.4
Meadowsweet/TW	600.0	304	0.803	20.4	17	2	562.4	837.2	10.52	46.8
Orchid/TW	636.0	322	0.825	21.0	17	2	596.1	887.4	11.1	49.4
Verbena/TW	700.0	355	0.864	21.9	17	2	656.1	976.7	12.3	54.7
Nasturtium/TW	750.0	380	0.893	22.7	17	2	702.1	1045	13.1	58.3
Arbutus/TW	795.0	403	0.919	23.3	17	2	745.1	1109	13.6	60.5
Cockscomb/TW	900.0	456	0.990	25.1	31	3	843.6	1256	15.4	68.5
Magnolia/TW	954.0	483	1.018	25.9	31	3	894.2	1331	16.4	72.9
Hawkweed/TW	1000.0	507	1.041	26.4	31	3	937.3	1395	17.1	76.1
Bluebell/TW	1033.5	524	1.057	26.8	31	3	968.7	1442	17.7	78.7
Marigold/TW	1113.0	564	1.095	27.8	31	3	1043.2	1553	19.1	85.0
Hawthorn/TW	1192.5	604	1.132	28.8	31	3	1117.7	1664	20.4	90.7
Narcissus/TW	1272.0	644	1.168	29.7	31	3	1192.2	1775	21.8	97.0
Columbine/TW	1351.5	685	1.202	30.5	31	3	1266.3	1885	23.2	103
Carnation/TW	1431.0	725	1.236	31.4	31	3	1341.3	1997	24.0	107
Coreopsis/TW	1590.0	805	1.315	33.4	49	4	1490.3	2219	27.0	120
Jessamine/TW	1750.0	887	1.377	35.0	49	4	1640.3	2442	29.7	132
Cowslip/TW	2000.0	1013	1.468	37.3	49	4	1893.0	2818	33.9	151
Lupine/TW	2500.0	1266	1.648	41.9	71	5	2366.2	3522	41.9	186
Trillium/TW	3000.0	1520	1.799	45.7	71	5	2839.5	4227	50.3	224

<sup>A</sup> Code words shown in this column are obtained from Specification B1006. They are provided for information only.

**TABLE 2 Construction Requirements for Shaped Wire Compact Concentric-Lay-Stranded Aluminum Conductors, in Fixed-Diameter Increments**

Code Word <sup>A</sup>	AAC/TW Conductor Size		Nominal Outside Diameter		Number of Aluminum Wires	Number of Layers	Nominal Mass		Rated Strength	
	kcmil	mm	in.	mm			lb/1000 ft	kg/km	1000 lbf	kN
Logan/TW	322.5	163	0.60	15.2	17	2	302.3	450	5.88	26.2
	384.5	195	0.65	16.5	17	2	360.4	536.5	6.74	30
Wheeler/TW	449.4	228	0.70	17.8	17	2	421.2	627	7.88	35.1
	521.7	264	0.75	19.1	17	2	489.0	728	9.14	40.7
Robson/TW	595.8	302	0.80	20.3	17	2	558.4	831.3	10.44	46.4
	678.2	344	0.85	21.6	17	2	635.7	946.3	11.88	52.8
McKinley/TW	761.5	386	0.90	22.9	17	2	713.7	1062.5	13.07	58.1
	854.2	433	0.95	24.1	17	2	800.6	1191.8	14.86	66.1
Rainer/TW	918.8	465	1.00	25.4	31	3	861.2	1282	15.76	70.1
	1020.0	517	1.05	26.7	31	3	956.0	1423.2	17.50	77.8
Helens/TW	1123.1	569	1.10	27.9	31	3	1052.7	1567.1	19.26	85.7
	1234.2	625	1.15	29.2	31	3	1156.8	1722.1	21.17	94.2
Mazama/TW	1346.8	682	1.20	30.5	31	3	1262.3	1879.1	23.10	102.7
	1467.9	744	1.25	31.8	31	3	1375.9	2048.2	24.65	109.6
Hood/TW	1583.2	802	1.30	33	34	3	1483.9	2209	26.59	118.3
	1682.7	852	1.35	34.3	49	4	1577.5	2348.4	28.55	127
Whitney/TW	1812.7	918	1.40	35.6	49	4	1699.0	2529.2	30.74	136.7
	1954.3	990	1.45	36.8	49	4	1832.1	2727.4	33.16	147.5
Powell/TW	2093.6	1061	1.50	38.1	49	4	1981.6	2949.9	35.51	157.9
	2245.4	1137	1.55	39.4	49	4	2125.7	3164.4	37.30	165.9
Jefferson/TW	2388.1	1210	1.60	40.6	52	4	2260.3	3364.8	39.67	176.5
	2514.8	1274	1.65	41.9	71	5	2379.5	3542.3	42.17	187.6
Shasta/TW	2667.2	1351	1.70	43.2	71	5	2524.5	3758.1	44.74	199
	2844.5	1441	1.75	44.5	71	5	2692.2	4007.8	47.70	212.2
Adams/TW	3006.2	1523	1.80	45.7	71	5	2873.0	4276.9	50.43	224.3

<sup>A</sup> Code words shown in this column are obtained from Specification B1006. They are provided for information only.

2.3 *Other Documents:*

ANSI H35.1 American National Standard Alloy and Temper Designation Systems for Aluminum<sup>3</sup>  
 NBS Handbook 100 — Copper Wire Tables<sup>4</sup>

### 3. Ordering Information

3.1 Orders for material under this specification shall include the following information:

- 3.1.1 Quantity of each size,
- 3.1.2 Conductor size: kcmil area and diameter (Table 1 and Table 2),
- 3.1.3 Special tension test, if required (see 8.2),
- 3.1.4 Place of inspection (Section 15),
- 3.1.5 Package size and type (see 15.1),
- 3.1.6 Special package markings, if required (Section 15), and
- 3.1.7 Heavy wood lagging, if required (see 15.3).

### 4. Requirement for Wires

4.1 Before stranding, the trapezoidal aluminum wires shall conform to the requirements of Specification B230/B230M except for shape and diameter tolerance. The tensile strength and elongation requirements of trapezoidal wires shall be the same as for round wires of equal area. The area tolerances shall be such that the finished conductor conforms to Section 11.

### 5. Joints

5.1 Electric-butt welds, electric-butt cold-upset welds, or cold-pressure welds may be made in the individual aluminum wires during the stranding process. No weld shall occur within 50 ft (15 m) of any other weld in the completed conductor (Explanatory Note 3).

### 6. Lay <https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/9f4949ef-93a5-459b-8c69-abd9258fac58/astm-b778-22>

6.1 The preferred length of lay of the outside layer of aluminum wires of shaped wire aluminum conductors, having multiple layers of aluminum wires ~~is 11 times the outside diameter of the conductor but the lay shall not be less than 10 nor more than 14 times that the outside diameter~~ (Explanatory of Note 1): that layer.

6.2 The preferred length of lay of the layer immediately beneath the outside layer of aluminum wires ~~is 13 times the outside diameter of such layer but the lay shall be not shall not be less than 10 nor more than 16 times that diameter.~~ the outside diameter of that layer.

6.3 The length of lay of the inner layers of aluminum wires shall ~~be not be~~ be not be less than 10 nor more than 17 times the outside diameter of ~~such that~~ that layer.

6.4 In a conductor having multiple layers of aluminum wires, the length of lay of any aluminum layer shall not be less than the length of lay of the aluminum layer immediately beneath it.

6.5 The direction of lay of the outside layer of aluminum wires shall be right-hand.

6.6 The direction of lay of the aluminum wires shall be reversed in successive layers.

<sup>3</sup> Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.

<sup>4</sup> Available from National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), 100 Bureau Dr., Stop 1070, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-1070, <http://www.nist.gov>.

6.6 For the purpose of this specification the lay factor is the length of lay of a given layer divided by its outside diameter.

6.7 In a conductor having multiple layers of aluminum wires, the lay ratio of any aluminum layer shall not be greater than the lay ratio of the aluminum layer immediately beneath it.

## 7. Construction

7.1 The nominal aluminum cross-sectional area, the outside diameter, the nominal number of aluminum wires, the number of layers, the linear density, and the rated strength, of the shaped wire compact concentric-lay-stranded aluminum conductors, shall be as shown in [Table 1](#) and [Table 2](#).

NOTE 3—Exception to [7.1](#). Because the final design of a shaped wire compact conductor is contingent on several factors such as layer diameter, wire width and thickness, and the like, the actual configuration of a given size may vary between manufacturers. This might result in a slight variation in the number of wires and number of layers, from that shown in [Table 1](#) and [Table 2](#), and also in the dimensions of the individual wires.

## 8. Rated Strength of Conductor

8.1 The rated strength of a conductor, as shown in [Table 1](#) and [Table 2](#), shall be taken as the percentage, indicated in [Table 3](#), in accordance with the number of aluminum layers, of the sum of the wire strengths calculated from the specified diameter of the round wires having the same area as the trapezoidal wires used in the manufacture of the conductor, and the appropriate minimum average tensile strength given in Specification [B230/B230M](#).

8.1.1 The rated strengths of conductors calculated in accordance with [8.1](#) and [8.3](#) are listed in [Table 1](#) and [Table 2](#).

8.2 Tests to confirm that the rated strength of the conductor is met are not required by this specification, but shall be made if agreed upon between the manufacturer and the purchaser at the time of placing an order. When tested, the breaking strength of the conductor shall be not less than the rated strength if failure occurs in the free length at least 1 in. (25 mm) beyond the end of either gripping device, or shall be not less than 95 % of the rated strength if failure occurs inside or within 1 in. of the end of either gripping device (Explanatory [Note 24](#)).

8.3 Rated strength and breaking strength values shall be rounded to three significant figures in the final value only, in accordance with Practice [E29](#).

## 9. Density

9.1 For the purpose of calculating mass per unit length, cross-sections, and etc., the like, the density of aluminum 1350 shall be taken as  $0.0975 \text{ lb/in.}^3$  ( $2705 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ) at  $20^\circ\text{C}$ .

## 10. Mass and Electrical Resistance

10.1 The mass per unit length and electrical resistance of a unit length of stranded conductor are a function of the length of lay. The approximate linear density and electrical resistance of a stranded conductor may be determined using the standard increments shown in [Table 4](#). When greater accuracy is desired, the increment based on the actual lay of the conductor may be calculated (Explanatory [Note 35](#)).

## 11. Variations in Area

11.1 The area of cross-section of the aluminum wires of the conductor shall be not less than 98 % nor more than 102 % of the area specified in column 1 of [Table 1](#) and [Table 2](#). The total area of the aluminum wires in the conductor shall be determined by

**TABLE 3 Rating Factors**

Number of Layers	Rating Factor, %
2	0.93
3	0.91
4	0.90
5 and above	0.89