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Standard Specification for Refined Rhodium¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers refined rhodium as sponge and powder in three grades as follows:

1.1.1 *Grade 99.80*—Rhodium having a purity of 99.80 %,

1.1.2 *Grade 99.90*—Rhodium having a purity of 99.90 %, and

1.1.3 *Grade 99.95*—Rhodium having a purity of 99.95 %.

1.1.4 For the purposes of determining conformance with this specification, an observed value obtained from analysis shall be rounded to the nearest unit in the last right-hand place of figures used in expressing the limiting value, in accordance with the rounding method of Practice [E29](#).

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 *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.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

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

[B542 Terminology Relating to Electrical Contacts and Their Use](#)

[B899 Terminology Relating to Non-ferrous Metals and Alloys](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 For definitions of the terms pertaining to this standard, reference shall be made to Terminology [B542](#) and [B899](#).

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [B02](#) on Nonferrous Metals and Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [B02.05](#) on Precious Metals and Electrical Contact Materials and Test Methods.

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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.

4. Manufacture

4.1 The material may be produced by any refining process that yields a product capable of meeting the chemical requirements of this specification. The purchaser, upon request, shall be informed of the refining process used.

5. Chemical Requirements

5.1 The material should conform to the requirements for chemical composition as prescribed in [Table 1](#).

5.2 Analysis shall be made using the manufacturer's standard methods. In the event of disagreement as to the chemical composition of the metal, methods of chemical analysis for reference purposes shall be determined by a mutually acceptable laboratory.

6. Sampling

6.1 The value of this material is such that special attention must be paid to sampling procedures. The purchaser and manufacturer shall agree upon sampling procedures used.

6.2 *Lot Size*—Sampling lots shall consist of the following:

6.2.1 *Sponge*—A single refining lot and

6.2.2 *Powder*—A single refining lot.

7. Rejection and Rehearing

7.1 Material that fails to conform to the requirements of this specification may be rejected. Rejection should be reported to the producer or supplier promptly and in writing. In case of dissatisfaction with the results of the test, the producer or supplier may make claim for a rehearing.

TABLE 1 Chemical Requirements

Element ^A	Composition, %		
	Grade 99.80	Grade 99.90	Grade 99.95
Rhodium, min (by difference)	99.80	99.90	99.95
Platinum, max	0.10	0.05	0.02
Iridium, max	0.10	0.05	0.02
Palladium, max	0.05	0.05	0.005
Ruthenium, max	0.05	0.05	0.01
Lead, max	0.01	0.01	0.005
Tin, max	0.01	0.01	0.003
Zinc, max	0.01	0.01	0.003
Arsenic, max	0.01	0.005	0.003
Bismuth, max	0.01	0.005	0.005
Cadmium, max	0.01	0.005	0.005
Iron, max	0.01	0.01	0.003
Silicon, max	—	0.01	0.005
Silver, max	—	0.02	0.005
Gold, max	—	0.01	0.003
Copper, max	—	0.01	0.005
Nickel, max	—	0.01	0.003
Tellurium, max	—	0.01	0.005
Magnesium, max	—	0.01	0.005
Calcium, max	—	0.01	0.005
Aluminum, max	—	0.01	0.005
Chromium, max	—	0.01	0.005
Manganese, max	—	0.005	0.005
Antimony, max	—	0.005	0.003
Cobalt, max	—	0.005	0.001
Boron, max	—	0.005	0.001

^A By agreement between manufacturer and purchaser, analyses may be required and limits established for elements or compounds not specified in this table.