



## Standard Specification for Welded Ferritic Stainless Steel Feedwater Heater Tubes<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A 803/A 803M; 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 welded ferritic stainless steel feedwater heater tubes including those bent, if specified, into the form of U-tubes for application in tubular feedwater heaters.

1.2 The tubing sizes covered shall be  $\frac{5}{8}$  to 1 in. [15.9 to 25.4 mm] inclusive, in outside diameter, and average or minimum wall thicknesses of 0.028 in. [0.7 mm] and heavier.

1.3 The values stated in either inch-pound units or SI units are to be regarded separately as standard. Within the text, the SI units are shown in brackets. The values stated in each system are not exact equivalents; therefore, each system must be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in nonconformance with the specification. The inch-pound units shall apply unless the “M” designation of this specification is specified in the order.

### 2. Referenced Documents

#### 2.1 ASTM Standards:

- A 450/A450M Specification for General Requirements for Carbon, Ferritic Alloy, and Austenitic Alloy Steel Tubes<sup>2</sup>
- A 763 Practices for Detecting Susceptibility to Intergranular Attack in Ferritic Stainless Steels<sup>3</sup>
- A 941 Terminology Relating to Steel, Stainless Steel, Related Alloys, and Ferroalloys<sup>4</sup>

### 3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—For definitions of terms used in this specification, refer to Terminology A 941.

### 4. Ordering Information

4.1 Orders for material under this specification should include the following as required to adequately describe the desired material:

- 4.1.1 Quantity (length or number of pieces),
- 4.1.2 Material description,
- 4.1.3 Dimensions (outside diameter, wall thickness (minimum or average wall), and length),

<sup>1</sup> This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee A-1 on Steel, Stainless Steel, and Related Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee A01.10 on Steel Tubing.

Current edition approved Sept. 10, 1998. Published February 1999. Originally published as A 803 – 82. Last previous edition A 803/A 803M – 96.

<sup>2</sup> *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 01.01.

<sup>3</sup> *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 01.03.

<sup>4</sup> *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 01.02.

4.1.4 Grade (chemical composition) (Table 1), and  
4.1.5 U-bend requirements, if order specifies bending, U-bend schedules or drawings shall accompany the order.

4.2 *Optional Requirements*—Purchaser shall specify whether annealing of the U-bends is required or whether tubes are to be hydrotested or air-tested (see 10.5).

4.3 *Supplementary Requirements*—Purchaser shall specify on this purchase order if material is to be eddy-current tested in accordance with Supplementary Requirement S1 or S2, and if special test reports are required, under Supplementary Requirement S3.

### 5. General Requirements

5.1 Material furnished to this specification shall conform to the applicable requirements of the latest published edition of Specification A 450/A 450M unless otherwise provided herein.

### 6. Materials and Manufacture

6.1 The tube shall be made from flat-rolled steel by an automatic welding process with no addition of filler metal.

6.2 Materials employed in the manufacture of stainless steel strip or tubing that may come in contact with the stainless steel shall be selected to avoid low melting point alloys or materials containing copper, lead, mercury, or sulfur.

### 7. Cleaning Before Annealing

7.1 All lubricants or coatings used in the manufacture of straight-length tube or in the bending shall be removed from all surfaces prior to any annealing treatments. U-bends on which a lubricant had been applied to the inside surface during bending shall have the cleanness of their inside surface confirmed by blowing close-fitting acetone-soaked felt plugs through 10 % of the tubes of each bend radius. Dry, oil-free air or inert gas shall be used to blow the plugs through the tubes. If the plugs blown through any tube show more than a light gray discoloration, all tubes that have had a lubricant applied to the inside surface during bending shall be recleaned. After recleaning 10 % of the tubes of each bend radius whose inside surface had been subjected to bending, lubricants shall be retested.

### 8. Heat Treatment

8.1 All finished straight tubing or straight tubing ready for U-bending shall be furnished in the solution-annealed condition. The annealing procedure shall consist of heating the material to a temperature of 1200°F [650°C] or higher and

**TABLE 1 Chemical Requirements**

Grade	UNS S 40900 TP409	UNS S 43035 TP439	UNS S 44627 TP XM-27	UNS S 44626 TP XM-33	UNS S 44635 25-4-4	UNS S 44660 26-3-3	UNS S 44700 29-4	UNS S 44800 29-4-2	UNS S 44400 18-2	UNS S 44735 29-4C
Element	Composition, %									
C, max	0.08	0.07	0.01 <sup>A</sup>	0.06	0.025	0.030	0.010	0.010	0.025	0.030
Mn, max	1.0	1.00	0.40	0.75	1.00	1.00	0.30	0.30	1.00	1.00
P, max	0.045	0.040	0.02	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.025	0.025	0.040	0.040
S, max	0.045	0.030	0.02	0.020	0.030	0.030	0.020	0.020	0.030	0.030
Si, max	1.00	1.00	0.40	0.75	0.75	1.00	0.20	0.20	1.00	1.00
Ni	0.50 max	0.50 max	0.5 <sup>B</sup> max	0.50 max	3.5–4.5	1.00–3.50	0.15 max	2.0–2.5	1.00 max	1.00 max
Cr	10.50–11.75	17.00–19.00	25.0–27.5	25.0–27.0	24.5–26.0	25.0–28.0	28.0–30.0	28.0–30.0	17.5–19.5	28.0–30.0
Mo	...	...	0.75–1.50	0.75–1.00	3.5–4.5	3.0–4.0	3.5–4.2	3.5–4.2	1.75–2.50	3.60–4.20
Al	...	0.15 max	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cu	...	...	0.2 max	0.20 max	...	...	0.15 max	0.15 max	...	...
N	...	0.04 max	0.015 max	0.040 max	0.035	0.040 max	0.020 max <sup>C</sup>	0.020 max <sup>C</sup>	0.035 max	0.045 max
Ti	6 × C min; 0.75 max	0.20 + 4 (C + N) min; 1.10 max	...	7 × (C + N) but no less than 0.20 min;	(Ti + Cb) = 0.2 + 4 (C + N) min; 0.80	Ti + Cb = 6 × (C + N) but no less than 0.20 min;	...	...	(Ti + Cb) = 0.20 + 4 (C + N) min; 0.80	Ti + Cb = 6 × (C + N) but no less than 0.20 min; 1.00 max
Cb	...	...	0.05–0.20	1.00 max	max	1.00 max	...	...	max	...

<sup>A</sup>For small diameter or thin walls, or both, tubing, where many drawing passes are required, a carbon maximum of 0.015 % is necessary. Small outside diameter tubes are defined as those less than 0.500 in. [12.7 mm] in outside diameter and light wall tubes as those less than 0.049 in. [1.2 mm] in average wall thickness (0.040 in. [1 mm] in minimum wall thickness).

<sup>B</sup>Nickel + copper.

<sup>C</sup>Carbon + nitrogen = 0.025 max.

cooling (as appropriate for the grade) to meet the requirements of this specification.

8.2 If heat treatment of U-bends is specified, it shall satisfy the annealing procedure described in 8.1 and shall be done as follows:

8.2.1 The heat treatment shall be applied to the U-bend area plus approximately 6 in. [150 mm] of each leg beyond the tangent point of the U-bend.

8.2.2 If the heat treatment specified in 8.2 is accomplished by resistance-heating methods wherein electrodes are clamped to the tubes, the clamped areas shall be visually examined for arc burns. Burn indications shall be cause for rejection unless they can be removed by local polishing without encroaching upon minimum wall thickness.

8.2.3 Temperature control shall be accomplished through the use of optical or emission pyrometers, or both. No temperature-indicating crayons, lacquers, or pellets shall be used.

8.2.4 The inside of the tube shall be purged with a protective or an inert gas atmosphere during heating and cooling to below 700°F [370°C] to prevent scaling of the inside surface. The atmosphere should be noncarburizing.

## 9. Chemical Composition

### 9.1 Product Analysis:

9.1.1 When requested in the purchase order, a product analysis shall be made by the supplier from one tube or coil of steel per heat. The chemical composition shall conform to the requirements shown in Table 1.

9.1.2 If the original test for product analysis fails, retests of two additional lengths of flat-rolled stock or tubes shall be made. Both retests, for the elements in question, shall meet the requirements of this specification; otherwise all remaining material in the heat or lot (Note 1) shall be rejected or, at the

option of the producer, each length of flat-rolled stock or tube may be individually tested for acceptance. Lengths of flat-rolled stock or tubes that do not meet the requirements of this specification shall be rejected.

NOTE 1—For product analyses and flange requirements, the term “lot” applies to 125 tube groupings, prior to cutting to length, of the same nominal size and wall thickness, produced from the same heat of steel and annealed in a continuous furnace.

## 10. Mechanical Requirements

### 10.1 Tensile Properties:

10.1.1 The material shall conform to the tensile properties shown in Table 2.

10.1.2 One tension test shall be made on a specimen for lots of not more than 50 tubes. Tension tests shall be made on specimens from two tubes for lots of more than 50 tubes (Note 2).

**TABLE 2 Tensile Requirements**

Grade	Tensile Strength, min, ksi [MPa]	Yield Strength, min, ksi [MPa]	Elongation <sup>A</sup> in 2 in. or 50 mm, min, %
TP 409	55 [380]	30 [205]	20
TP 439	60 [415]	30 [205]	20
TP XM-27	65 [450]	40 [275]	20
TP XM-33	68 [470]	45 [310]	20
25-4-4	90 [620]	75 [515]	20
26-3-3	85 [585]	65 [450]	20
29-4	80 [550]	60 [415]	20
29-4-2	80 [550]	60 [415]	20
18-2	60 [415]	35 [240]	20
29-4C	75 [515]	60 [415]	18

<sup>A</sup>For longitudinal strip tests, a deduction of 0.90 % for 29-4C and 1 % for all other grades shall be made from the basic minimum elongation for each 1/32 in. [0.8 mm] decrease in wall thickness below 5/16 in. [8 mm]. Table 3 gives the computed minimum values.

10.1.3 Table 3 gives the computed minimum elongation values for each 1/32in. [0.8 mm] decrease in wall thickness.

10.2 Hardness:

10.2.1 The tubes shall have a hardness number not to exceed those prescribed in Table 4. This hardness requirement is not to apply to the bend area of U-bend tubes which are not heat treated after bending.

10.2.2 Brinell or Rockwell hardness tests shall be made on specimens from two tubes from each lot (Note 2).

NOTE 2—For tension, hardness, and corrosion test requirements, the term “lot” applies to all tubes prior to cutting to length, of the same nominal diameter and wall thickness, produced from the same heat of steel and annealed in a continuous furnace at the same temperature, time at heat, and furnace speed.

10.3 Reverse Flattening Test—One reverse flattening test shall be made on a specimen from each 1500 ft [460 m] of finished tubing.

10.4 Flange Test—Flange tests shall be made on specimens from each end of one finished tube, not the one used for the flattening test, from each lot (Note 1).

10.5 Pressure Test—Each straight tube, or each U-tube after completion of the bending and post-bending heat treatment, shall be pressure-tested in accordance with one of the following paragraphs as specified by the purchaser:

10.5.1 Hydrostatic Test—Each tube shall be given an internal hydrostatic test in accordance with Specification A 450/A 450M.

10.5.2 Air Underwater Test—Each tube shall be air underwater tested in accordance with Specification A 450/A 450M.

11. Corrosion Resisting Properties

11.1 One full section sample 1 in. [25 mm] long from the center of a sample tube of the smallest radius bend that is heat

TABLE 3 Minimum Elongation Values<sup>A</sup>

Wall Thickness <sup>B</sup>		Elongation in 2 in. or 50 mm, min, %	
in.	mm	29-4C	All Other
5/16 (0.312)	8	18	20
3/32 (0.281)	7.2	17	19
1/4 (0.250)	6.4	16	18
7/32 (0.219)	5.6	15	17
3/16 (0.188)	4.8	14	16
5/32 (0.156)	4	13	15
1/8 (0.125)	3.2	13	14
3/32 (0.094)	2.4	12	13
1/16 (0.062)	1.6	11	12
0.062 to 0.035, excl	1.6 to 0.9	10	12
0.035 to 0.022, excl	0.9 to 0.6	10	11
0.022 to 0.015, excl	0.6 to 0.4	10	11

<sup>A</sup>Calculation elongation shall be rounded to the nearest whole number.

<sup>B</sup>Where the wall thickness lies between two values shown above, the minimum elongation value shall be determined by the following equation:

Grade	Equation
29-4C	E = 28.8t + 9.00 [E = 1.13t + 9.00]
All other	E = 32t + 10.00 [E = 1.25t + 10.00]

where:

E = elongation in 2 in. or 50mm, %, and  
t = actual thickness of specimen, in. [mm].

TABLE 4 Hardness Requirements

Grade	Brinell Hardness, max	Rockwell Hardness, B Scale, max
TP 409	207	95
TP 439	207	95
P XM-27	241	100
TP XM-33	241	100
25-4-4	270	27 <sup>A</sup>
26-3-3	265	25 <sup>A</sup>
29-4	241	100
29-4-2	241	100
18-2	217	95
29-4C	241	100

<sup>A</sup>Rockwell Hardness, C scale.

treated shall be tested in the heat treated condition in accordance with the appropriate practice in Practices A 763 for the specified grade, or as agreed upon for TP409.

11.2 One full-section sample 1 in. [25 mm] long from each lot (Note 2) of straight tubes shall be tested in the finished condition in accordance with the appropriate practice in Practices A 763 for the specified grade, or as agreed upon for TP409.

11.3 The appearance of any fissures or cracks in the test specimen, when evaluated in accordance with the Evaluation Sections of Practices A 763 indicating the presence of intergranular attack, shall be cause for rejection of that lot.

12. Permissible Variations in Dimensions (Fig. 1)

12.1 Permissible variations from the specified outside diameter shall be in accordance with Specification A 450/A 450M. Those tolerances do not apply to the bent portion of the U-tubes. At the bent portion of a U-tube for R = 2 × D or greater, neither the major nor minor diameter of the tube shall deviate from the nominal diameter prior to bending by more than 10 %. If less than 2 × D is specified, tolerances could be greater.

12.2 Permissible Variations from the Specified Wall Thickness:

12.2.1 Permissible variations from the specified minimum wall thickness shall not exceed +20 – 0 %.

12.2.2 Permissible variations from the specified average wall thickness are ±10 % of the nominal wall thickness.

12.2.3 The wall thickness of the tube in the U-bent section shall not be less than value determined by the equation:

$$t_f = \frac{4RT}{4R + D}$$

where:

- t<sub>f</sub> = wall thickness after bending, in. [mm],
- T = specified minimum tube wall thickness, in. [mm],
- R = centerline bend radius, in. [mm], and
- D = nominal outside tube diameter, in. [mm].

12.3 Permissible Variations from the Specified Length:

12.3.1 Straight Lengths—The maximum permissible variations for lengths 24 ft [7.3 m] and shorter shall be + 1/8 in. [+3 mm], –0; for lengths longer than 24 ft [7.3 m], an additional over tolerance of + 1/8 in. [+3 mm] for each 10 ft [3 m], or fraction thereof, shall be permitted up to a maximum of + 1/2 in. [+13 mm].