



Designation: B 928 – 03

Standard Specification for High Magnesium Aluminum-Alloy Sheet and Plate for Marine Service¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers high magnesium (Note 1) marine application aluminum-alloy (Note 2), in those alloy-temperatures shown in Table 2 [Table 3], for flat sheet, coiled sheet, and plate, in the mill finish:

NOTE 1—The term high magnesium in the general sense includes those alloys containing 3 % or more nominal magnesium.

NOTE 2—Throughout this specification use of the term alloy in the general sense includes aluminum as well as aluminum alloy.

1.2 Alloy and temper designations are in accordance with ANSI H35.1 [H35.1M]. The equivalent Unified Numbering System alloy designations are those of Table 1 preceded by A9, for example, A95083 for 5083 in accordance with Practice E 527.

1.3 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore each system shall be used independently of each other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

1.4 For acceptance criteria for inclusion of new aluminum and aluminum alloys in this specification, see Annex A2.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 The following documents of the issue in effect on the date of material purchase, unless otherwise noted, form a part of this specification to the extent referenced herein:

2.2 ASTM Standards:

- B 557 Test Methods of Tension Testing Wrought and Cast Aluminum- and Magnesium-Alloy Products²
- B 557M Test Methods of Tension Testing Wrought and Cast Aluminum- and Magnesium-Alloy Products [Metric]²
- B 660 Practices for Packaging/Packing of Aluminum and Magnesium Products²
- B 666/B 666M Practice for Identification Marking of Aluminum and Magnesium Products²

B 881 Terminology Related to Aluminum- and Magnesium-Alloy Products²

E 3 Practice for Preparation of Metallographic Specimens³

E 29 Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications⁴

E 34 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Aluminum and Aluminum-Base Alloys⁵

E 55 Practice for Sampling Wrought Nonferrous Metals and Alloys for Determination of Chemical Composition⁵

E 407 Test Methods for Microetching Metals and Alloys³

E 527 Practice for Numbering Metals and Alloys (UNS)⁶

E 607 Test Method for Atomic Emission Spectrometric Analysis Aluminum Alloys by the Point-to-Plane Technique, Nitrogen Atmosphere⁵

E 716 Practices for Sampling Aluminum and Aluminum Alloys for Spectrochemical Analysis⁵

E 1251 Test Method for Optical Emission Spectrometric Analysis of Aluminum and Aluminum Alloys by the Argon Atmosphere, Point-to-Plane, Unipolar Self-Initiating Capacitor Discharge⁵

G 66 Test Method for Visual Assessment of Exfoliation Corrosion Susceptibility of 5xxx Series Aluminum Alloys (ASSET Test)⁷

G 67 Test Method for Determining the Susceptibility to Intergranular Corrosion of 5xxx Series Aluminum Alloys by Mass Loss After Exposure to Nitric Acid (NAMLT Test)⁷

2.3 ANSI Standards:

H35.1 Alloy and Temper Designation Systems for Aluminum⁸

H35.1(M) Alloy and Temper Designation Systems for Aluminum⁸

H35.2 Dimensional Tolerances for Aluminum Mill Products⁸

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B07 on Light Metals and Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B07.03 on Aluminum-Alloy Wrought Products.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 02.02.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 03.01.

⁴ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 14.02.

⁵ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 03.05.

⁶ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 01.01.

⁷ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 03.02.

⁸ Available in the Related Materials section (gray pages) of the *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 02.02.

TABLE 1 Chemical Composition Limits^{A,B,C}

Alloy	Silicon	Iron	Copper	Manganese	Magnesium	Chromium	Zinc	Titanium	Other Elements ^D		Aluminum
									Each	Total ^E	
5083	0.40	0.40	0.10	0.40 to 1.0	4.0 to 4.9	0.05 to 0.25	0.25	0.15	0.05	0.15	remainder
5086	0.40	0.50	0.10	0.20 to 0.7	3.5 to 4.5	0.05 to 0.25	0.25	0.15	0.05	0.15	remainder
5456	0.25	0.40	0.10	0.50 to 1.0	4.7 to 5.5	0.05 to 0.20	0.25	0.20	0.05	0.15	remainder

^A Limits are in weight percent maximum unless shown as a range or stated otherwise.

^B Analysis shall be made for the elements for which limits are shown in this table.

^C For purposes of determining conformance to these limits, an observed value or a calculated value attained from analysis shall be rounded to the nearest unit in the last right-hand place of figures used in expressing the specified limit, in accordance with the rounding-off method of Practice E 29.

^D Others include listed elements for which no specific limit is shown, as well as unlisted metallic elements, but doesn't include elements shown with composition limits in the footnotes. The producer may analyze samples for trace elements not specified in the specification. However, such analysis is not required and may not cover all metallic Others elements. Should any analysis by the producer or the purchaser establish that an Others element exceeds the limit of Each or that the aggregate of several Others elements exceeds the limit of Total, the material shall be considered nonconforming.

^E Other Elements—Total shall be the sum of unspecified metallic elements 0.010 % or more, rounded to the second decimal before determining the sum.

TABLE 2 Mechanical Property Limits, Inch-Pound Units^{A,B}

Temper	Specified Thickness, in.	Tensile Strength, ksi		Yield Strength (0.2 % offset), ksi		Elongation in 2 in. or 4× Diameter, min, %
		min	max	min	max	
Alloy 5083						
H116	0.063 to 0.499	44.0	...	31.0	...	10
	0.500 to 1.250	44.0	...	31.0	...	12
	1.251 to 1.500	44.0	...	31.0	...	12
	1.501 to 3.000	41.0	...	29.0	...	12
H321	0.188 to 1.500	44.0	56.0	31.0	43.0	12
	1.501 to 3.000	41.0	56.0	29.0	43.0	12
Alloy 5086						
H116	0.063 to 0.249	40.0	...	28.0	...	8
	0.250 to 0.499	40.0	...	28.0	...	10
	0.500 to 1.250	40.0	...	28.0	...	10
	1.251 to 2.000	40.0	...	28.0	...	10
Alloy 5456						
H116	0.063 to 0.499	46.0	...	33.0	...	10
	0.500 to 1.250	46.0	...	33.0	...	12
	1.251 to 1.500	44.0	...	31.0	...	12
	1.501 to 3.000	41.0	...	29.0	...	12
	3.001 to 4.000	40.0	...	25.0	...	12
H321	0.188 to 0.499	46.0	59.0	33.0	46.0	12
	0.500 to 1.500	44.0	56.0	31.0	44.0	12
	1.501 to 3.000	41.0	54.0	29.0	43.0	12

^A To determine conformance to this specification, each value for tensile strength and for yield strength shall be rounded to the nearest 0.1 ksi and each value for elongation to the nearest 0.5 %, both in accordance with the rounding method of Practice E 29.

^B The basis for establishment of mechanical property limits is shown in Annex A1.

H35.2(M) Dimensional Tolerances for Aluminum Mill Products⁸

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Refer to Terminology B 881 for definitions of product terms used in this specification.

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2.1 *exfoliation*—corrosion that proceeds laterally from the sites of initiation along planes parallel to the original rolling surface, generally at grain boundaries, forming corrosion products that force metal away from the body of the material, giving rise to a layered appearance.

3.2.2 *intergranular corrosion*—corrosion that preferentially occurs at, or adjacent to, the grain boundaries of a metal or alloy.

3.2.3 *sensitization*—the development of a continuous or nearly continuous grain boundary precipitate in 5xxx alloy-temper material, that causes the material to be susceptible to intergranular forms of corrosion.

3.2.4 *stress-corrosion cracking*—a cracking process that requires the simultaneous action of a corrodent, and sustained tensile stress. (This excludes corrosion-reduced sections, which fail by fast fracture. It also excludes intercrystalline or transcrystalline corrosion which can disintegrate an alloy without either applied or residual stress.)

4. Ordering Information

4.1 Orders for material to this specification shall include the following information:

- 4.1.1 This specification designation (which includes the number, the year, and the revision letter, if applicable),
- 4.1.2 Quantity in pieces or pounds [kilograms],
- 4.1.3 Alloy (see 7.1 and Table 1),
- 4.1.4 Temper (see 8.1 and Table 2 [Table 3]),
- 4.1.5 For sheet, whether flat or coiled, and
- 4.1.6 Dimensions (thickness, width, and length or coil size).

TABLE 3 Mechanical Property Limits [SI Units]^{A,B}

Temper	Specified Thickness, mm		Tensile Strength, MPa		Yield Strength (0.2 % offset), MPa		Elongation, min, % ^C	
	over	through	min	max	min	max	in 50 mm	in 5× Diameter (5.65 √A)
Alloy 5083								
H116	1.60	12.50	305	...	215	...	10	...
	12.50	30.00	305	...	215	...	...	10
	30.00	40.00	305	...	215	...	...	10
	40.00	80.00	285	...	200	...	...	10
H321	4.00	12.50	305	385	215	295	12	...
	12.50	40.00	305	385	215	295	...	10
	40.00	80.00	285	385	200	295	...	10
Alloy 5086								
H116	1.60	6.30	275	...	195	...	8	...
	6.30	12.50	275	...	195	...	10	...
	12.50	30.00	275	...	195	...	...	9
	30.00	50.00	275	...	195	...	...	9
Alloy 5456								
H116	1.60	12.50	315	...	230	...	10	...
	12.50	30.00	315	...	230	...	...	10
	30.00	40.00	305	...	215	...	...	10
	40.00	80.00	285	...	200	...	...	10
	80.00	110.00	275	...	170	...	...	10
H321	4.00	12.50	315	405	230	315	12	...
	12.50	40.00	305	385	215	305	...	10
	40.00	80.00	285	370	200	295	...	10

^A To determine conformance to this specification, each value for tensile strength and for yield strength shall be rounded to the nearest 1 MPa and each value for elongation to the nearest 0.5 %, both in accordance with the rounding method of Practice E 29.

^B The basis for establishment of mechanical property limits is shown in Annex A1.

^C Elongations in 50 mm apply for thicknesses up through 12.50 mm and in 5× diameter (5.65 √A) for thicknesses over 12.50 mm where A is the cross-sectional area of the specimen.

4.2 Additionally, orders for material to this specification shall include the following information when required by the purchaser:

4.2.1 Whether inspection or witness of inspection and tests by the purchaser's representative is required prior to material shipment (see 11.1),

4.2.2 Whether Practices B 660 applies and, if so, the levels of preservation, packaging, and packing required (see 15.3), and

4.2.3 Whether certification is required (see Section 13).

5. Responsibility for Quality Assurance

5.1 *Responsibility for Inspection and Tests*—Unless otherwise specified in the contract or purchase order, the producer is responsible for the performance of all inspection and test requirements specified herein. The producer may use his own or any other suitable facilities for the performance of the inspection and test requirements specified herein, unless disapproved by the purchaser in the order or at the time of contract signing. The purchaser shall have the right to perform any of the inspections and tests set forth in this specification where such inspections are deemed necessary to ensure that material conforms to prescribed requirements.

5.2 *Lot Definition*—An inspection lot shall consist of an identifiable quantity of material of the same mill form, alloy, temper, cast or melt lot and thickness, subjected to inspection at one time.

6. General Quality

6.1 Unless otherwise specified, the material shall be supplied in the mill finish, shall be uniform as defined by the

requirements of this specification and shall be commercially sound. Any requirement not so covered is subject to negotiation between producer and purchaser.

6.2 Each coil, sheet and plate shall be examined to determine conformance to this specification with respect to general quality and identification marking. On approval of the purchaser, however, the producer may use a system of statistical quality control for such examinations.

7. Chemical Composition

7.1 *Limits*—The sheet and plate shall conform to the chemical composition limits specified in Table 1. Conformance shall be determined by the producer, by the analysis of samples taken at the time the ingots are cast or samples taken from the finished or semifinished product. If the producer has determined the chemical composition of the material during the course of manufacture, additional sampling and analysis of the finished product shall not be required.

7.2 *Number of Samples*—The number of samples taken for determination of chemical composition shall be as follows:

7.2.1 When samples are taken at the time the ingots are cast, at least one sample shall be taken for each group of ingots cast simultaneously from the same source of molten metal.

7.2.2 When samples are taken from the finished or semifinished product, a sample shall be taken to represent each 4000 lb [2000 kg] or fraction thereof, of material in the lot, except that not more than one sample shall be required per piece.

7.3 *Methods of Sampling*—Samples for determination of chemical composition shall be taken in accordance with one of the following methods:

7.3.1 Samples for chemical analysis shall be taken by drilling, sawing, milling, turning, or clipping a representative piece or pieces to obtain a prepared sample of not less than 75 g. Sampling shall be in accordance with Practice E 55.

7.3.2 Sampling for spectrochemical analysis shall be in accordance with Practices E 716. Samples for other methods of analysis shall be suitable for the form of material being analyzed and the type of analytical method used.

7.4 *Methods of Analysis*—The determination of chemical composition shall be made in accordance with suitable chemical (Test Methods E 34), or spectrochemical (Test Methods E 607 and E 1251) methods. Other methods may be used only when no published ASTM method is available. In case of dispute, the methods of analysis shall be as agreed upon between the producer and purchaser.

8. Tensile Properties of Material as Supplied

8.1 *Limits*—The sheet and plate shall conform to the requirements for tensile properties as specified in Table 2 [Table 3].

8.1.1 Tensile property limits for sizes not covered in Table 2 [Table 3] shall be as agreed upon between the producer and purchaser and shall be so specified in the contract or purchase order.

8.2 *Number of Samples*—One sample shall be taken from each end of each parent coil, or parent plate, but no more than one sample per 2000 lb [1000 kg] of sheet or 4000 lb [2000 kg] of plate, or part thereof, in a lot shall be required. Other procedures for selecting samples may be employed if agreed upon between the producer and purchaser.

8.3 *Test Specimens*—Geometry of test specimens and the location in the product from which they are taken shall be as specified in Test Methods B 557 or B 557M.

8.4 *Test Methods*—The tension test shall be made in accordance with Test Methods B 557 or B 557M.

9. Exfoliation and Intergranular Corrosion Resistance

9.1 Only the Alloy-Tempers shown in Table 2 [Table 3] are manufactured and corrosion tested for intended use in marine hull construction or in marine applications where frequent or constant direct contact with seawater is expected. See Notes 3 and 4. (**Warning**—It is possible to meet the requirements of Test Method G 66 (ASSET) and fail the requirements of Test Method G 67 (NAMLT). Therefore both tests shall be performed for process qualification (see 9.4), for lot release, that is, in developing producer-established reference photomicrographs (see 9.5), and for surveillance (see 9.8).)

NOTE 3—Alloys 5083, 5086, and 5456 should not be used for service, which provides prolonged exposure to temperatures exceeding 150°F [65°C] (whether continuous exposure or discontinuous exposure) because of the risk of sensitization and the resulting susceptibility to intergranular corrosion and stress corrosion cracking. Cold forming also increases susceptibility to intergranular corrosion and stress corrosion cracking.

NOTE 4—*Background Information*—Aluminum-magnesium-alloy products that have a continuous or nearly continuous grain boundary precipitate are susceptible to intergranular forms of corrosion, (that is, IG, SCC or exfoliation corrosion). Examples of varying degrees of grain boundary precipitate are shown in Fig. 1. The term “sensitization” is used to describe the development of this susceptible microstructure. The type of corrosion that occurs in a sensitized 5xxx alloy will depend primarily on

the morphology of the grain structure and on the residual and applied stresses that are present. The extent of corrosion that will occur depends on the degree of continuity of the grain boundary precipitation and the corrosiveness of the environment. Re-crystallized 5xxx alloys that have been sensitized, are susceptible to intergranular corrosion, and when subjected to sustained tensile stress, may exhibit intergranular stress corrosion cracking. Un-re-crystallized 5xxx alloys that have been sensitized are susceptible to exfoliation corrosion.

9.2 *Exfoliation-Corrosion Resistance*—The alloy-tempers listed in Table 2 [Table 3] shall be capable of exhibiting no evidence of exfoliation corrosion and a pitting rating of PB or better when subjected to the test described in Test Method G 66 (ASSET).

9.3 *Intergranular-Corrosion Resistance*—The marine application alloy-tempers listed in Table 2 [Table 3] shall be capable of exhibiting resistance to intergranular corrosion in accordance with Test Method G 67 (NAMLT) and as shown below:

9.3.1 Interpretation of Test Method G 67 test results:

9.3.1.1 *Pass*—Samples with mass loss no greater than 100 mg/in.² [15 mg/cm²], shall be accepted.

9.3.1.2 *Fail*—Samples with mass loss greater than 160 mg/in.² [25 mg/cm²], shall be rejected.

9.3.1.3 *Questionable*—Samples with mass loss greater than 100 mg/in.² [15 mg/cm²] but less than 160 mg/in.² [25 mg/cm²] shall be questionable.

9.3.2 Test Method G 67 corroded test coupons testing “questionable,” shall be prepared, etched, and examined metallographically to determine if the loss of mass was a result of intergranular attack or general attack (see examples shown in Fig. 2):

9.3.2.1 *Pass*—Samples exhibiting general or pitting attack with no intergranular attack shall be accepted.

9.3.2.2 *Fail*—Samples exhibiting intergranular attack and the lots they represent, shall be rejected.

9.4 *Process Qualification* (see 9.1)—For material produced to this specification, the producer’s production process shall be qualified prior to production to this specification, by sampling and testing material to establish the relationship between microstructure and resistance to corrosion.

9.4.1 A reference photomicrograph, taken at 500×, shall be established for each of the alloy-tempers and thickness ranges shown in Table 2 [Table 3], and shall be taken from a sample within that thickness range.

9.4.1.1 The reference photographs shall be taken from samples, (see 9.5 and 9.6 for sample location and preparation) which have exhibited no evidence of exfoliation corrosion and a pitting rating of PB or better when subjected to the test described in Test Method G 66 (ASSET).

9.4.1.2 The samples from which the reference photomicrographs are taken shall also have exhibited resistance to intergranular corrosion at a mass loss no greater than 100 mg/in.² (15 mg/cm²), when subjected to the test described in Test Method G 67 (NAMLT).

9.4.2 Production practices shall not be changed after establishment of the reference photomicrograph except as provided in 9.8.

9.4.3 The producer shall maintain, at the producing facility, all records relating to the establishment of reference photomicrographs and production practices.