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Standard Specification for Pure Aluminum (Unalloyed) Source Material for Vacuum Coating Applications¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers pure aluminum metal (unalloyed) for use as raw material for making evaporation sources, sputtering targets, and superconducting wires.

1.2 This specification sets purity grade levels, physical attributes, analytical methods, and packaging requirements.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:²

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

[E112 Test Methods for Determining Average Grain Size](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*:

3.1.1 *raw material lot*—a quantity of material that is melted, consolidated, or purified, or both, in one equipment run as a nominally uniform batch of metal.

4. Classification

4.1 Grades of aluminum are defined in [Table 1](#).

4.2 Purity and total metallic impurity levels are based upon elements listed in [Table 2](#).

5. Ordering Information

5.1 Orders for these products shall include the following:

5.1.1 Grade (see [4.1](#)).

5.1.2 Configuration (see [8.1](#)).

5.1.3 Whether or not certification is required (see [12.1](#)).

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F01 on Electronics and is under the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F01.17 on Sputter Metallization.

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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.

TABLE 1 Aluminum Grades

Grade	Purity, %	Maximum Total Metallic Impurity Level (by weight), ppm
4N5	99.995	50
4N	99.99	100
3N8	99.98	200
3N5	99.95	500

5.1.4 Whether or not a sample representative of the finished product is required to be provided by the supplier to the purchaser.

6. Impurities

6.1 The suite of metallic elements to be assayed for is defined in [Table 2](#). Acceptable analysis methods are specified in Section [12](#). Elements not detected will be counted and reported as present at the detection limit. Additional elements may be analyzed and reported, as agreed upon between supplier and purchaser, but these shall not be counted in defining the grade designation.

6.2 Acceptable concentration limits for individual elements and analytical techniques shall be agreed upon between the supplier and the purchaser.

7. Physical Properties

7.1 Grain size and measurement method for grain size shall be agreed upon between the supplier and the purchaser. When the grain morphology is equiaxed, refer to Practice [E112](#).

8. Dimensions

8.1 Each product shall conform to an appropriate engineering drawing.

8.2 Nominal dimensions, tolerances, and other attributes shall be agreed upon between the supplier and the purchaser.

9. Workmanship, Finish, and Appearance

9.1 Workmanship, finish, and appearance shall be agreed upon between the supplier and the purchaser.