



Designation: B522 – 01 (Reapproved 2006)

# Standard Specification for Gold-Silver-Platinum Electrical Contact Alloy<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B522; 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 reapproval. A superscript epsilon ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

*This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the Department of Defense.*

## 1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers 69 % gold, 25 % silver, 6 % platinum alloy tubing, rod, wire, and sheet material for sliding electrical contacts.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The metric equivalents of inch-pound units may be approximate.

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 Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for this product/material as provided by the manufacturer; to establish appropriate safety and health practices, and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*<sup>2</sup>

**B476** Specification for General Requirements for Wrought Precious Metal Electrical Contact Materials

## 3. Manufacture

3.1 Raw materials shall be of such quality and purity that the finished product will have the properties and characteristics prescribed in this specification.

3.2 The material shall be finished by such operations (cold working, annealing, turning, grinding, pickling) as are required to produce the prescribed properties.

## 4. Chemical Composition

4.1 Material produced under the specification shall meet the requirements for chemical composition prescribed in **Table 1**.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

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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 Chemical Requirements

Element	Composition, weight %	
	Class I	Class II
Gold	68.0–70.0	68.5–69.5
Silver	23.5–26.5	24.5–25.5
Platinum	5.0–7.0	5.5–6.5
Selected base metals (Pb, Sb, Bi, Sn, As, Cd, Ge, Ti, and Ga), max	...	0.01
Sulfur, max	...	0.01
Total platinum group metal impurities, max	0.15	0.15
Total base metal impurities, max	0.20	0.1

## 5. Mechanical and Electrical Requirements

5.1 The contract or order may specify ultimate tensile strength, elongation, microhardness (Knoop or Vickers), hardness (Rockwell or Rockwell Superficial), or a combination of these mechanical properties as temper criterion. If the contract or order does not specify a temper criterion, then the criterion for temper designation will be ultimate tensile strength and elongation.

5.1.1 Knoop hardness indentations shall be made so that the long axis of the indenter is parallel to the rolling or drawing direction of the material.

5.2 Mechanical and electrical properties shall conform to the requirements of **Table 2** and **Table 3**.

5.3 All test specimens shall be the supplied size when practical.

5.4 All tests are to be conducted at room temperature (65 to 80°F) (18 to 27°C).

## 6. General Requirements

6.1 Specification **B476** shall apply to all materials produced to this specification.

## 7. Inspection and Testing

7.1 Material furnished under this specification shall be inspected by the manufacturer as follows:

7.1.1 Visual inspection of 10 $\times$ ,

7.1.2 Temper test (hardness or tensile),

7.1.3 Dimensional tests, and

7.1.4 Spectrographic or chemical analysis when indicated by the purchase order.