



Standard Specification for Hot-Rolled and Cold-Finished Zirconium and Zirconium Alloy Bars, Rod, and Wire for Nuclear Application¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B 351/B 351M; 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 (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers four grades of wrought zirconium and zirconium alloy bars, rod, and wire as follows:

- 1.1.1 R60001—Unalloyed grade,
- 1.1.2 R60802—Zirconium-Tin alloy (Zircaloy 2),
- 1.1.3 R60804—Zirconium-Tin alloy (Zircaloy 4), and
- 1.1.4 R60901—Zirconium-Niobium alloy.

1.2 Unless a single unit is used, for example corrosion mass gain in mg/dm², the values stated in either inch-pound or SI units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system are not exact equivalents; therefore each system must be used independently of the other. SI values cannot be mixed with inch-pound values.

1.3 *The following precautionary caveat pertains only to the test method portions of this specification. 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 establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

- B 350/B 350M** Specification for Zirconium and Zirconium Alloy Ingots for Nuclear Application
- E 8** Test Methods for Tension Testing of Metallic Materials
- E 21** Test Methods for Elevated Temperature Tension Tests of Metallic Materials
- E 29** Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications
- E 114** Practice for Ultrasonic Pulse-Echo Straight-Beam Examination by the Contact Method

E 214 Practice for Immersed Ultrasonic Testing by the Reflection Method Using Pulsed Longitudinal Waves³

G 2/G 2M Test Method for Corrosion Testing of Products of Zirconium, Hafnium, and Their Alloys in Water at 680°F [360°C] or in Steam at 750°F [400°C]

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 *annealed, n*—denotes material that exhibits a recrystallized grain structure.

3.2 *Lot Definition:*

3.2.1 *lot, n*—material of the same size, shape, condition, and finish produced from the same ingot or powder blend by the same reduction schedule and the same heat treatment parameters. Unless otherwise agreed between manufacturer and purchaser, a lot shall be limited to the product of a 12 h period for final continuous anneal, or to a single furnace load for final batch anneal.

3.3 *Forms Definitions:*

3.3.1 *bar, n:*

3.3.1.1 *rounds, squares and hexagons, n*— $\frac{3}{8}$ in. (9.5 mm) and over in diameter or size.

3.3.1.2 *flats, n*— $\frac{1}{4}$ to 10 in. (6.4 to 250 mm) inclusive in width and $\frac{1}{8}$ in. (3.2 mm) and over in thickness. Thickness $\frac{1}{8}$ in. (3.2 mm) to under $\frac{3}{16}$ in. (4.8 mm) can be cold-rolled strip as well as bar.

3.3.2 *rod, n*—rounds in coils for subsequent reworking $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ in. (6.4 to 19 mm) in diameter.

3.3.3 *wire, n*—material less than $\frac{3}{8}$ in. (9.5 mm) in diameter or size, in round, hexagonal, or octagonal cross section, furnished in coils or on spools or reels.

4. Ordering Information

4.1 Orders for materials under this specification shall include the following information as applicable:

4.1.1 Grade (see Section 1),

4.1.2 Dimensions and form (see 3.3),

4.1.3 Chemical analysis of elements not listed (see 6.1.3),

4.1.4 Product analysis (see 6.1.1.1 and 6.2),

³ Withdrawn.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B10 on Reactive and Refractory Metals and Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B10.02 on Zirconium and Hafnium.

Current edition approved May 1, 2007. Published May 2007. Originally approved in 1960. Last previous edition approved in 2002 as B 351/B 351M – 02.

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.

- 4.1.5 Tensile test temperatures (7.1),
- 4.1.6 Metallurgical condition (see 9.1 and 9.2),
- 4.1.7 Ultrasonic test standard hole size (see 10.2.2),
- 4.1.8 Additional ultrasonic tests (see 10.2.4),
- 4.1.9 Material condition and finish (Section 13),
- 4.1.10 Workmanship standards and methods of inspection (Section 14),
- 4.1.11 Product marking (Section 20), and
- 4.1.12 Packaging and package marking (Section 21).

4.2 In addition to the data specified in 4.1, the following options and points of agreement between the manufacturer and the purchaser should be specified on the purchase order as required:

- 4.2.1 Tolerances (Section 10),
- 4.2.2 Workmanship standards (Section 13),
- 4.2.3 Special tests (Section 12),
- 4.2.4 Inspection (Section 17),
- 4.2.5 Corrosion visual standards (Section 9), and
- 4.2.6 Oxygen limits (see footnote A, Table 1).

5. Materials and Manufacture

5.1 Material covered by this specification shall be made from ingots that conform to Specification B 350/B 350M and that are produced by vacuum or plasma arc melting, vacuum electron-beam melting, a combination of these three methods or other melting processes conventionally used for reactive metals. All processes to be done in furnaces usually used for reactive metals.

5.2 The various mill products covered by this specification shall be formed with the conventional extrusion, forging, or rolling equipment normally found in primary ferrous and nonferrous plants.

6. Chemical Composition

6.1 The grades of zirconium and zirconium alloy metal covered by this specification shall conform to the chemical composition requirements prescribed in Table 1.

6.1.1 The elements listed in Table 1 are intentional alloy additions or elements that are inherent to the manufacture of sponge, ingot or mill product.

6.1.1.1 Elements other than those listed in Table 1 are deemed to be capable of occurring in the grades listed in Table 1 by and only by way of unregulated or unanalyzed scrap additions to the ingot melt. Therefore, product analysis for elements not listed in Table 1 shall not be required unless specified in the purchase order and shall be considered to be in excess of the intent of this specification.

6.1.2 Elements intentionally added to the melt must be identified, analyzed, and reported in the chemical analysis.

6.1.3 When agreed upon by producer and purchaser and requested by the purchaser in his written purchase order, chemical analysis shall be completed for specific residual elements not listed in this specification.

6.2 The manufacturer's ingot analysis shall be considered the chemical analysis, except for hydrogen, oxygen, and nitrogen content, which shall be determined on the finished

TABLE 1 Chemical Requirements

Element	Composition, Weight %			
	UNS R60001	UNS R60802	UNS R60804	UNS R60901
Tin	...	1.20–1.70	1.20–1.70	...
Iron	...	0.07–0.20	0.18–0.24	...
Chromium	...	0.05–0.15	0.07–0.13	...
Nickel	...	0.03–0.08	...	...
Niobium (columbium)	...	A ...	A ...	2.40–2.80
Oxygen	A	...	A	0.09–0.15
Iron + chromium + nickel	...	0.18–0.38	...	...
Iron + chromium	...	...	0.28–0.37	...
Maximum Impurities, Weight %				
Aluminum	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075
Boron	0.00005	0.00005	0.00005	0.00005
Cadmium	0.00005	0.00005	0.00005	0.00005
Calcium	...	0.0030	0.0030	...
Carbon	0.027	0.027	0.027	0.027
Chromium	0.020	...	...	0.020
Cobalt	0.0020	0.0020	0.0020	0.0020
Copper	0.0050	0.0050	0.0050	0.0050
Hafnium	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010
Hydrogen	0.0025	0.0025	0.0025	0.0025
Iron	0.150	...	...	0.150
Magnesium	0.0020	0.0020	0.0020	0.0020
Manganese	0.0050	0.0050	0.0050	0.0050
Molybdenum	0.0050	0.0050	0.0050	0.0050
Nickel	0.0070	...	0.0070	0.0070
Niobium	...	0.0100	0.0100	...
Nitrogen	0.0080	0.0080	0.0080	0.0080
Phosphorus	...	...	...	0.0020
Silicon	0.0120	0.0120	0.0120	0.0120
Tin	0.0050	...	...	0.010
Tungsten	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010
Titanium	0.0050	0.0050	0.0050	0.0050
Uranium (total)	0.00035	0.00035	0.00035	0.00035

^A When so specified in the purchase order, oxygen shall be determined and reported. Maximum, minimum, or both, permissible values should be specified in the purchase order.

product. Alternatively, the manufacturer may sample an intermediate or final size during processing with the same frequency and in the same positions relative to the ingot, as specified in Specification **B 350/B 350M**, to determine the composition, except for hydrogen, oxygen, and nitrogen, which shall be determined on the finished product.

6.3 Check Analysis:

6.3.1 Check analysis is an analysis made by the purchaser or the manufacturer of the metal after it has been processed into finished mill forms, and is either for the purpose of verifying the composition of a heat or lot or to determine variations in the composition within a heat or lot.

6.3.2 Check analysis limits shall be as specified in **Table 2**.

6.3.3 Check analysis tolerances do not broaden the specified heat analysis requirements but cover variations between laboratories in the measurement of chemical content.

6.3.4 The manufacturer shall not ship material that is outside the limits specified in **Table 1** for the applicable grade.

7. Mechanical Properties

7.1 The material, as represented by the test specimens, shall conform to the tensile properties prescribed in **Table 3** when tested at ambient temperature. Elevated temperature properties shall be used to determine compliance only when specified in the purchase order.

7.2 Requirements for mechanical properties do not apply to wire.

8. Condition

8.1 The grades of zirconium and zirconium alloy metal covered by this specification shall conform to the chemical composition requirements prescribed in **Table 1**.

8.2 Grade R60901 in sizes under 1 in. (25 mm) in minimum dimension furnished under this specification shall be in the cold-worked condition unless otherwise specified. Sizes 1 in. (25 mm) and over in minimum dimension shall be furnished in the annealed condition unless otherwise specified.

9. Metallurgical Properties

9.1 Unless otherwise stated in the purchase order, the materials supplied under these specifications shall be in the fully annealed condition, that is, at least 90 % recrystallized.

9.2 Other conditions, such as cold-worked or stress-relieved, can be specified as agreed upon between the purchaser and the manufacturer at the time of purchase.

10. Special Requirements

10.1 *Corrosion Properties:*

10.1.1 Two samples chosen at random from each 4000 lb (1800 kg) or fraction thereof shall be corrosion tested in steam at 750°F (400°C), 1500 psi (10.3 MPa), for 72 h or 336 h at the option of the manufacturer in accordance with Test Method **G 2/G 2M**.

10.1.2 *Acceptance Criterion:*

10.1.2.1 *Grades R60802 and R60804*—All coupons thus tested shall exhibit a continuous, black, lustrous oxide film and be free of white or brown corrosion product in excess of standards previously agreed upon between manufacturer and purchaser. Coupons shall exhibit a weight gain of not more than 22 mg/dm² in a 72-h test or 38 mg/dm² in a 336-h test.

10.1.2.2 *Grade R60901*—All coupons shall exhibit a continuous, uniform, dark gray oxide film. Coupons shall exhibit a weight gain of not more than 35 mg/dm² in a 72-h test or 60 mg/dm² in a 336-h test.

10.2 *Ultrasonic Inspection:*

10.2.1 In lieu of the ultrasonic test of the ingot as specified in Specification **B 350/B 350M**, the manufacturer may alternatively perform ultrasonic inspection at an intermediate size in accordance with Practices **E 114** and **E 214**, with the approval of the purchaser.

10.2.2 Unless otherwise specified by the purchaser, the reference standard shall consist of a 0.06 in. (1.5 mm) flat bottom hole drilled perpendicular to the longitudinal product axis to a depth of 0.5 in. (13 mm).

10.2.3 Any defect reflections greater than the indication from the reference standard should be rejected.

10.2.4 Additional tests may be specified in the purchase order. The test method and standards shall be agreed upon in advance between manufacturer and purchaser.

11. Significance of Numerical Limits

11.1 For the purpose of determining compliance with the specified limits for requirements of the properties listed in the following table, an observed value or a calculated value shall be rounded as indicated in accordance with the rounding methods of Practice **E 29**.

Property	Rounded Unit for Observed or Calculated Value
Chemical composition, and tolerances (when expressed as decimals)	nearest unit in the last right-hand place of figures of the specified limit
Tensile strength and yield strength	nearest 1000 psi (10 MPa)
Elongation	nearest 1 %

TABLE 2 Permissible Variations in Product Analysis

Alloying Elements	Permissible Variation from the Specified Range (Table 1), %
Tin	0.050
Iron	0.020
Chromium	0.010
Nickel	0.010
Iron + chromium	0.020
Iron + chromium + nickel	0.020
Niobium	0.050
Oxygen	0.020
Each Impurity Element	20 ppm or 20 % of the specified limit, whichever is smaller

12. Permissible Variations in Dimensions

12.1 **Table 4**, Permissible variations in sectional dimensions for hot-worked bars in rounds and squares.

12.2 **Table 5**, Permissible variations in hot-rolled flat bars or bars sheared from plate.

12.3 **Table 6**, Permissible variations in forged bars.

12.4 **Table 7**, Permissible variations in diameter for cold-finished bars.

12.5 **Table 8**, Permissible variations in diameter for round wire.

12.6 **Table 9**, Permissible variations in length for hot- or cold-finished bars.