



Standard Specification for Low Melting Point Alloys¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B 774; 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.

ϵ^1 NOTE—Paragraph 1.1 was corrected editorially in October 2008.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers low-melting point metal alloys and solders, including bismuth–tin, bismuth–lead, bismuth–tin–lead, bismuth–tin–lead–cadmium, bismuth–tin–lead–indium–cadmium, bismuth–tin–lead–indium, indium–lead, and indium–lead–silver, and indium–tin joining together two or more metals at temperatures below their melting points; blocking for support and removable borders; radiation shielding; fusible plugs; fuses; tube bending; and punch setting.

1.1.1 This specification shall include those alloys having a liquidus temperature not exceeding 361°F (183°C), the melting point of the tin lead eutectic.

1.1.2 This specification includes low-melting point alloys in the form of solid bars, ingots, powder and special forms, and in the form of solid ribbon and wire.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

~~1.3 The following precautionary caveat pertains only to the test method portion, Section 13, 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.*~~

~~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:²

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

E 88 Practice for Sampling Nonferrous Metals and Alloys in Cast Form for Determination of Chemical Composition

~~1.2.2 Military Standard: [catalog/standards/sist/c977150d-1a13-4909-b15a-f26b57454d89/astm-b774-002005e1](http://catalog.standards/sist/c977150d-1a13-4909-b15a-f26b57454d89/astm-b774-002005e1)~~

MIL-STD 129 Marking for Shipment and Storage³

2.3 Federal Standard:

Fed. Std. No. 123 Marking for Shipment (Civil Agencies)³

3. Terminology

3.1 Definition:

3.1.1 ~~producer~~ **producer, n**— the primary manufacturer of the material.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 ~~liquidus~~ **liquidus, n**—the lowest temperature at which an alloy is fully transformed from a solid to a liquid.

3.2.2 ~~lot~~ **lot, n**—the term “lot” as used in this specification shall be defined as follows: *for solid alloy metal*, a lot shall consist of all the metal of the same time designation, produced from the same batch of raw materials under essentially the same conditions, and offered for inspection at one time.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B-2B02 on Nonferrous Metals and Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B02.02 on Refined Lead, Tin, Antimony, and Their Alloys.

Current edition approved Feb. 15, 1995; Nov. 1, 2005. Published April 1995; February 2006. Originally published as B774-87; approved in 1987. Last previous edition B774-87(1993); approved in 2000 as B 774 - 00.

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, Vol 03.05, volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ Available from Standardization Documents Order Desk, DODSSP, Bldg. 4, Section D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094, Attn: NPODS; 19111-5098.

3.2.3 *lot number* lot number, n— the term “lot number” as used in this specification refers to a numerical designation for a lot that is traceable to a date of manufacture.

3.2.4 *solidus* solidus, n—The highest temperature at which an alloy is fully transformed from a liquid to a solid.

4. Classification

4.1 *Type Designation*—The type designation shall use the following symbols to properly identify the material:

4.1.1 *Alloy Composition*—The composition is identified by three numbers that relate to the melting point in degrees Fahrenheit where it is eutectic or six numbers where it is a range alloy.

4.1.2 *Form*—The form is indicated by a single letter in accordance with Table 1.

4.1.3 *Powder Mesh Size*—The powder mesh size is identified by a size symbol number (Table 2).

5. Ordering Information

5.1 Orders for material under this specification shall indicate the following information, as required, to adequately describe the desired material:

5.1.1 Type designation (see 4.1),

5.1.2 Detailed requirements for special forms,

5.1.3 Dimensions of ribbon and wire solder (see 9.2),

5.1.4 Unit weight,

5.1.5 Packaging (see Section 18),

5.1.6 Marking (see Section 17),

5.1.7 ASTM specification designation and year of issue, marked on the purchase order and on the package or spool, and

5.1.8 Special requirements, as agreed upon between supplier and purchaser.

6. Materials and Manufacture

6.1 The producer shall use care to have each lot of alloy as uniform in quality as practicable and of satisfactory appearance in accordance with the best industrial practices. Each bar, ingot, or other form in which the alloy is sold shall be uniform in composition within the entire lot.

7. Chemical Composition

7.1 The composition of the alloys covered by this specification shall be as shown in Fig. 1 Table 3.

NOTE 1—By mutual agreement between the supplier and the purchaser, analysis may be required and limits established for elements or compounds not specified in Table 3.

8. Physical and Performance Requirements

8.1 Alloy must freeze within 2°F of its solidus.

8.2 *Powder Mesh Size*—The powder mesh size shall be as specified in 5.1.1 and 4.1.3.

9. Dimensions and Unit Weight

9.1 *Bar and Ingot*—The dimensions and unit weight of bar and ingot shall be agreed between the supplier and purchaser.

9.2 *Wire (Solid)*—The dimensions and unit weight of wire alloys shall be as specified in 5.1.3 and 5.1.4. The tolerance on the specified outside diameter shall be ±5 % or ±0.002 in. (0.05 mm), whichever is greater.

9.3 *Other Forms*:

9.3.1 Dimensions for ribbon and special forms shall be as agreed between the supplier and purchaser.

9.3.2 The unit weight of alloy powder shall be as specified in 5.1.4.

10. Workmanship, Finish, and Appearance

10.1 All forms of the alloys shall be processed in such a manner as to be uniform in quality and free of defects that will affect life, serviceability, or appearance.

TABLE-2 1 Powder-Mesh-Size^m

Size-Symbol	Powder-Mesh-Size ^m
3	325
B	bar
2	200
I	ingot
+	+100 powder
P	powder
R	ribbon
S	special (includes pellets, preforms, shot, etc.
W	wire