



Designation: F31 – 05 (Reapproved 2010)

Standard Specification for 42 % Nickel-6 % Chromium-Iron Sealing Alloy¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F31; 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 an iron-nickel-chromium alloy (UNS K94760) used primarily for glass-sealing applications in electronic devices.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.3 The following safety hazards caveat applies only to Section 13. *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

[E18 Test Methods for Rockwell Hardness of Metallic Materials](#)

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

[E38 Methods for Chemical Analysis of Nickel-Chromium and Nickel-Chromium-Iron Alloys \(Withdrawn 1989\)](#)³

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

[E228 Test Method for Linear Thermal Expansion of Solid Materials With a Push-Rod Dilatometer](#)

[F14 Practice for Making and Testing Reference Glass-Metal Bead-Seal](#)

[F140 Practice for Making Reference Glass-Metal Butt Seals and Testing for Expansion Characteristics by Polarimetric Methods](#)

[F144 Practice for Making Reference Glass-Metal Sandwich Seal and Testing for Expansion Characteristics by Polarimetric Methods](#)

3. Ordering Information

3.1 Orders for material under this specification shall include the following information:

3.1.1 Size,

3.1.2 Temper (Section 6),

3.1.3 Surface finish (Section 8),

3.1.4 Marking and packaging (Section 13), and

3.1.5 Certification if required.

4. Chemical Composition

4.1 The material shall conform to the requirements of [Table 1](#) as to chemical composition.

NOTE 1—The major constituents of this alloy may be adjusted by the manufacturer so that the alloy meets the requirement for thermal expansion.

5. Chemical Analysis

5.1 Chemical analysis shall be made, when desired, in accordance with Methods [E38](#).

6. Surface Lubricants

6.1 All lubricants used during cold-working operations such as drawing, rolling, or spinning, shall be capable of being removed readily by any of the common organic degreasing solvents.

7. Temper

7.1 The desired temper of the material shall be specified on the purchase order. Unless otherwise specified, wire, rod, and tubing shall be given a final bright anneal by the manufacturer. Strip and sheet shall be annealed properly to develop drawing properties. For deep drawing, the hardness shall not exceed Rockwell B90 when determined in accordance with Test Methods [E18](#).

8. Grain Size

8.1 Strip and sheet for deep drawing applications shall have an average grain size not larger than ASTM No. 5 ([Note 2](#)), with no more than 10 % of the grains larger than No. 5 when measured in accordance with Test Methods [E112](#). For materials

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F01 on Electronics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F01.03 on Metallic Materials.

Current edition approved Oct. 1, 2010. Published November 2010. Originally approved in 1963 as F31 – 63 T. Last previous edition approved in 2005 as F31 – 05. DOI: 10.1520/F0031-05R10.

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.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

TABLE 1 Chemical Composition

Element	Composition, %
Nickel, nominal	42.0
Chromium, nominal	5.6
Carbon, max	0.07
Manganese, max	0.25
Phosphorus, max	0.025
Sulfur, max	0.025
Silicon, max	0.30
Aluminum, max	0.20
Iron	remainder

less than 0.005 in. (0.13 mm) in thickness, the grain size shall be such that there are no less than 4 grains across the thickness.

NOTE 2—This corresponds to a grain size finer than 0.065 mm or 16 grains/in.² of image at 100 \times .

9. Dimensional Tolerances

9.1 *Cold-Rolled Strip*—Cold-rolled strip shall conform to the permissible variations in dimensions prescribed in [Table 2](#), [Table 3](#), and [Table 4](#).

9.2 *Round Wire and Rod*—Wire and rod shall conform to the permissible variations in dimension prescribed in [Table 5](#).

9.3 *Cold-Drawn Tubing*—Cold-drawn tubing, available either as seamless or welded, shall conform to the permissible variations prescribed in [Table 6](#).

10. Surface Finish

10.1 The standard surface finishes available shall be those resulting from the following operations:

- 10.1.1 Hot rolling,
- 10.1.2 Forging,
- 10.1.3 Centerless grinding (rod),
- 10.1.4 Belt polishing,
- 10.1.5 Cold rolling, and drawing, and
- 10.1.6 Wire drawing.

10.2 Care shall be taken to prevent the depletion of surface chromium during processing.

11. Thermal Expansion Characteristics

11.1 The average linear coefficient of thermal expansion shall be within limits specified in [Table 7](#).

12. Test Method for Thermal Expansion

12.1 Heat the specimen for 15 min at 1100°C in a hydrogen or cracked-ammonia atmosphere with a dew point of -40°C and cool to room temperature at a rate not exceeding 5°C/min.

12.2 Determine the thermal expansion characteristics in accordance with Test Method [E228](#).

12.3 The thermal expansion match between the alloy and a glass may be evaluated by preparing and testing an assembly in accordance with Practice [F14](#), Practice [F140](#), or Practice [F144](#).

13. Test Results

13.1 Observed or calculated values obtained from analysis, measurements, or tests shall be rounded off in accordance with the rounding-off method of Practice [E29](#), to the nearest unit in the last right-hand place of figures used in expressing the specified limit.

14. General Requirements

14.1 The material shall be commercially smooth, uniform in cross section, in composition, and in temper; it shall be free of scale, corrosion, cracks, seams, scratches, slivers, and other defects as best commercial practice will permit.

15. Packaging and Package Marking

15.1 Packaging shall be subject to agreement between the purchaser and seller.

15.2 The material as furnished under this specification shall be identified by the name or symbol of the manufacturer and by melt number. The lot size for determining compliance with the requirements of this specification shall be one heat.

16. Investigation of Claims

16.1 Where any material fails to meet the requirements of this specification, the material so designated shall be handled in accordance with the agreement mutually agreed upon between the purchaser and the seller.

17. Keywords

17.1 glass-to-metal sealing; iron-nickel-chromium alloy; UNS K94760