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Standard Specification for Aluminum Jacketing for Insulation¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers aluminum jacketing for thermal and acoustical insulation operating at either above or below ambient temperatures and in both indoor and outdoor locations. It does not cover insulation jacketing made from other materials such as mastics, fiber reinforced plastic, PVC, or stainless steel nor does it cover the details of thermal or acoustical insulation systems.

1.2 This specification provides physical requirements for aluminum jacketing for thermal and acoustical insulation. Guide C1423 provides guidance in selecting jacketing materials and their safe use.

1.3 This is a material specification and does not imply any performance of the installed system using the materials specified herein. For information about installation of aluminum jacketing, see (1).²

1.4 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.

1.5 *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:³

B209 Specification for Aluminum and Aluminum-Alloy Sheet and Plate

C168 Terminology Relating to Thermal Insulation

C450 Practice for Fabrication of Thermal Insulating Fitting Covers for NPS Piping, and Vessel Lagging

C585 Practice for Inner and Outer Diameters of Thermal Insulation for Nominal Sizes of Pipe and Tubing

C835 Test Method for Total Hemispherical Emittance of Surfaces up to 1400°C

C1423 Guide for Selecting Jacketing Materials for Thermal Insulation

D3363 Test Method for Film Hardness by Pencil Test

E84 Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials

F1249 Test Method for Water Vapor Transmission Rate Through Plastic Film and Sheeting Using a Modulated Infrared Sensor

2.2 *ANSI Standard:*⁴

ANSI H35.2/H35.2(M) Dimensional Tolerances for Aluminum Mill Products

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Definitions in Terminology C168 apply to terms used in this specification.

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.3 *box rib*—aluminum sheet formed to have alternating parallel grooves and ridges with a cross section approximating a square wave

3.4 *cladding*—synonymous with jacketing

3.5 *crevice corrosion*—a type of corrosion occurring on metal jacketing caused by differences in oxygen concentration in the electrolyte in adjacent regions of the material. These differences lead to a concentration cell and the region on the metal jacketing which is oxygen-starved is subject to corrosion.

3.6 *cross crimped*—synonymous with $\frac{3}{16}$ in. corrugated

3.7 *deep corrugated*—aluminum sheet formed to have alternating parallel grooves and ridges with a cross section approximating a sine wave

3.8 *finish*—the texture of the aluminum surface

3.9 *gore*—jacketing for elbows, fittings, or other non-straight portions of the piping system made from a multitude of similar overlapping pieces

3.10 *lagging*—synonymous with jacketing

3.11 *moisture retarder (moister barrier)*—a layer of plastic film or other material applied to the inner side of metal

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² The boldface numbers in parentheses refer to a list of references at the end of this standard.

³ 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 Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, http://www.ansi.org.

jacketing to inhibit jacket corrosion by interfering with the formation of a galvanic cell between the dissimilar metals of the pipe and jacket or by preventing crevice corrosion.

3.11.1 *Discussion*—A moisture retarder is not an insulation system water vapor retarder and does not perform the same function.

3.12 *polykraft* —a multilayer composite film used as a moisture retarder on metal jacketing consisting of at least one layer of minimum 40 lb kraft paper and one or more layers of plastic film, usually polyethylene at a minimum thickness of 1.5 mils.

3.13 *polysurlyn*—a multilayer film used as a moisture retarder on metal jacketing consisting of at least one layer of ethylene/methacrylic acid copolymer and one or more layers of other polymers, usually polyethylene.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 This specification is used to specify material by physical property requirements that address the prerequisites in Sections 6 to 10. The designer of an insulation system, after determining the system requirements, shall use this specification to specify the appropriate aluminum jacketing.

5. Classification

5.1 Classification of aluminum jacketing is based on three factors:

5.1.1 *Outer surface treatment and emittance* (ϵ):

5.1.1.1 Type I = Bare surface, $\epsilon = 0.1$

5.1.1.2 Type II = Painted with pigmented paint, $\epsilon = 0.8$,

5.1.1.3 Type III = Painted with unpigmented paint, $\epsilon = 0.5$, and

5.1.1.4 Type IV = Plastic film coated surface, $\epsilon = 0.85$.

5.1.1.5 Paint systems for Types II and III must be factory applied and baked on.

5.1.1.6 Plastic film for Type IV must be factory applied and heat laminated to the surface.

5.1.2 *Alloy and Temper per Specification B209*:

5.1.2.1 Grade 1 = Alloy 3105 or 3003, half hard temper (H14,)

5.1.2.2 Grade 2 = Alloy 3105 or 3003, quarter hard temper (H12 - lock forming quality),

5.1.2.3 Grade 3 = Alloy 1100, dead soft temper,

5.1.2.4 Grade 4 = Alloy 3004, and

5.1.2.5 Grade 5 = Alloy Alclad 3004 (alloy 3004 clad both sides with alloy 7072 for improved corrosion resistance).

5.1.3 *Moisture Retarder*:

5.1.3.1 Class A = polysurlyn, 3 mil thick,

5.1.3.2 Class B = polysurlyn, 4.5 mil thick,

5.1.3.3 Class C = polykraft per section,

5.1.3.4 Class D = painted, and

5.1.3.5 Class E = no moisture retarder.

6. Materials and Manufacture

6.1 Aluminum jacketing materials are composed of a single material or a lamination of several components. The materials are supplied in the form of rolls or sheets or preformed to fit the surface to which they are to be applied. The materials are applied in the field or as a factory-applied composite with the insulation.

6.2 The primary material shall be aluminum and shall have a finish that is smooth, $\frac{3}{16}$ in. corrugated, or stucco embossed. The dimensions of corrugations (pitch and depth) must be agreed to by manufacturer and purchaser to achieve interchangeability, constant rigidity, and appearance.

6.3 In most cases, the inner surface of aluminum jacketing material is coated or covered with a moisture resistant film to retard possible galvanic or chemical corrosion, or both, of the jacketing.

6.4 For highly corrosive ambient conditions or to increase emittance, the purchaser shall specify that the outer surface of the aluminum be coated with a pigmented or unpigmented paint or with a plastic film.

6.5 The aluminum used in this jacketing, with the exception of box rib, shall be manufactured from Specification B209, alloys 3003, 3105, or 1100 with tempers of H14 (half hard), H12 (quarter hard), or dead soft – Grades 1, 2, or 3 per 5.1.2.

6.6 Aluminum jacketing shall be specified by the thickness of the aluminum layer which shall be in the range from 0.016 to 0.050 in. (0.41 to 1.27 mm)

6.7 Box rib aluminum jacketing pieces shall be manufactured from Specification B209, alloys 3004 or Alclad 3004 – Grades 4 and 5 per Section 5.1.2 and shall be 0.032 in. (0.8 mm), 0.040 in. (1.0 mm), or 0.050 in. (1.3 mm) thick.

NOTE 1—Typical box rib widths available are 45- $\frac{5}{8}$ in. (1159 mm), 38.5 in. (978 mm), and 27.5 in. (699 mm). Typical lengths available are 8, 10, and 12 ft (2.4, 3.0, and 3.7 m). The pattern of grooves and ridges typically repeats on 4 in. (102 mm) centers and the height of each rib is typically 1 in. (25 mm).

6.8 Deep corrugated aluminum jacketing pieces shall be 0.016 in. (0.4 mm), 0.020 in. (0.5 mm), 0.024 in. (0.6 mm), 0.032 in. (0.8 mm), or 0.040 in. (1.0 mm) thick.

NOTE 2—Typical deep corrugated width is 33 in. (838 mm) and typical length is 6 to 12 ft (1.8 to 3.7 m). Two repeating patterns are common – 1- $\frac{1}{4}$ in. (32 mm) on centers with a $\frac{1}{4}$ in. (6 mm) height and a 2- $\frac{1}{2}$ in. (64 mm) on centers with a $\frac{5}{8}$ in. (16 mm) height.

7. Physical Properties

7.1 Required physical properties are shown in Table 1 and Table 2.

7.2 All aluminum jacketing shall demonstrate a flame spread of 25 or less and smoke developed of 50 or less when testing the outer side (the side opposite that contacting the insulation) in accordance with 11.2.

NOTE 3—Aluminum jacketing is not typically considered a fire resistant material. If a higher level of fire resistance or protection is required, alternative jacketing materials usually based on steel, should be considered.

TABLE 1 Minimum Thickness for Pipe Jacketing

Outer Insulation Diameter (in.)	Minimum Allowable Aluminum Thickness (in.)	
	Rigid Insulation	Non-Rigid Insulation
≤ 8	0.016	0.016
over 8 thru 11	0.016	0.020
over 11 thru 24	0.016	0.024
over 24 thru 36	0.020	0.032
over 36	0.024	0.040

TABLE 2 Physical Properties

Type Grade	I All			II All			III All			IV All			
	Class	A, B and C	D	E	A, B and C	D	E	A, B and C	D	E	A, B and C	D	E
Emittance	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85
Surface Burning (flame/smoke)	25/50	25/50	25/50	25/50	25/50	25/50	25/50	25/50	25/50	25/50	25/50	25/50	25/50
Moisture retarder pinholes	≤5	≤5	n.a.	≤5	≤5	n.a.	≤5	≤5	n.a.	≤5	≤5	n.a.	n.a.
Moisture retarder WVTR (g/100 in ² /day)	≤0.1	n.a.	n.a.	≤0.1	n.a.	n.a.	≤0.1	n.a.	n.a.	≤0.1	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Outer Paint Thickness (mils)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0.7-0.8	0.7-0.8	0.7-0.8	0.3-0.4	0.3-0.4	0.3-0.4	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Outer Paint Pencil Hardness (min)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	H	H	H	H	H	H	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

7.3 Unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer, the emittance of the jacketing shall be considered to be:

7.3.1 Type I = 0.1 which is typical for a normally oxidized aluminum jacket in service,

7.3.2 Type II = 0.8 which is typical for a pigmented paint,

7.3.3 Type III = 0.5 which is typical of an unpigmented paint, and

7.3.4 Type IV = 0.85 which is typical of a plastic film surface.

NOTE 4—Testing of the emittance of Type I has yielded initial unoxidized values ranging from 0.03 to 0.05 and oxidized “in-service” values ranging from 0.1 to 0.31 (2, 3, 4, 5, 6). The use of an emittance of 0.1 is recommended here as being the most conservative value. 7.3 addresses the situation where a user of this standard wishes to consider a different emittance value.

7.4 Permissible thickness tolerances vary with nominal thickness and are shown in Table 3. Thickness is measured per 11.3.

7.5 Requirements for permissible pinholes in the moisture retarder when tested per 11.4 are shown in Table 2.

7.6 The moisture retarder shall have no visual defect that will affect performance and shall be free of laminated separations, holes, rips, tears, scratches, dents, non-uniform edges, or creases.

7.7 Requirements for water vapor transmission rate (WVTR) of the moisture retarders tested per 11.6 are shown in Table 2. Testing the WVTR of moisture retarders is not

possible after they are applied to the aluminum jacketing so this testing shall be done on the moisture retarders prior to application.

8. Dimensions and Permissible Variations

8.1 Dimensions for aluminum jacketing shall be as agreed to by purchaser and seller.

8.2 When cut into sheets for use as pipe insulation jacketing, the dimension of the aluminum jacketing sheet designed to accommodate the pipe insulation circumference shall be called the length and the other major dimension shall be identified as the width.

8.2.1 Typical length is equal to the outer circumference of the insulation plus 2 in. (51 mm).

8.2.2 Typical width is 36 in. (0.91 m), 48 in. (1.22 m), or 1 meter (39.4 in.).

8.2.3 Dimensions differing from these standards are possible but must be agreed to by purchaser and seller.

8.2.4 Tolerances for aluminum jacketing sheets shall be ± 1/8 in. (± 3mm) in width and length.

8.3 When cut into sheets for use as equipment and vessel insulation jacketing, the longer dimension of the box rib or corrugated aluminum jacketing sheet shall be called the length and the other (shorter) major dimension shall be identified as the width.

8.3.1 Typical width of deep corrugated aluminum sheet is 33 in. (84 mm).

TABLE 3 Permissible Thickness Tolerances

Nominal thickness in in. (mm)	Thickness tolerance in in. (mm) for	
	Up to 39.4 in. (1 m) wide jacketing and deep corrugated sheet	48 in. (1.22 m) wide jacketing and box rib sheet
over 0.010 thru 0.016 (over 0.254 thru 0.406)	0.0010 (0.0254)	0.0015 (0.0381)
over 0.016 thru 0.025 (over 0.406 thru 0.635)	0.0015 (0.0381)	0.0020 (0.0508)
over 0.025 thru 0.032 (over 0.635 thru 0.813)	0.0020 (0.0508)	0.0025 (0.0635)
over 0.032 thru 0.039 (over 0.813 thru 0.991)	0.0020 (0.0508)	0.0030 (0.0762)
over 0.039 thru 0.047 (over 0.991 thru 1.194)	0.0025 (0.0635)	0.0035 (0.0889)
over 0.047 thru 0.063 (over 1.194 thru 1.600)	0.0030 (0.0762)	0.0035 (0.0889)