



Designation: A1078/A1078M – 12

Standard Specification for Epoxy-Coated Steel Dowels for Concrete Pavement¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A1078/A1078M; 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 plain steel dowel bars with protective fusion-bonded epoxy coating for use in concrete pavements.

1.2 This specification is applicable for orders in either inch-pound units (as Specification A1078) or in SI units (as Specification A1078M).

1.3 The values stated in either inch-pound or SI units are to be regarded separately as standard. Within the text, the SI units are shown in brackets. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with this specification.

1.4 *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.*

NOTE 1—The coating applicator is identified throughout this specification as the manufacturer.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

[A615/A615M Specification for Deformed and Plain Carbon-Steel Bars for Concrete Reinforcement](#)

[A775/A775M Specification for Epoxy-Coated Steel Reinforcing Bars](#)

[A934/A934M Specification for Epoxy-Coated Prefabricated Steel Reinforcing Bars](#)

[A1055/A1055M Specification for Zinc and Epoxy Dual-Coated Steel Reinforcing Bars](#)

[D4417 Test Methods for Field Measurement of Surface Profile of Blast Cleaned Steel](#)

2.2 *Society for Protective Coatings Specifications:*³

[SSPC-PA 2 Measurement of Dry Coating Thickness with Magnetic Gauges](#)

[SSPC-SP 10 Near-White Blast Cleaning](#)

[SSPC-VIS 1 Pictorial Surface Preparation Standards for Painting Steel Surfaces](#)

2.3 *Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute Documents:*⁴

[CRSI Voluntary Certification Program for Fusion Bonded Epoxy Coating Applicator Plants](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2 *epoxy powder coating, n*—a fusion-bonded epoxy coating product containing pigments, thermosetting epoxy resins, cross-linking agents, and other additives, which is applied in the form of a powder onto a clean, heated metallic substrate and fuses to form a continuous barrier coating.

3.3 *final coat, n*—the last application of the Type 1 or Type 2 coating.

3.4 *holiday, n*—discontinuity in a coating that is not discernible to a person with normal or corrected vision.

3.5 *patching material, n*—liquid two-part epoxy coating used to repair damaged or uncoated areas.

3.6 *plain bar, n*—steel bar without protrusions.

3.7 *pretreatment, n*—a preparation of the blast-cleaned steel surface prior to coating application that is formulated to pre-treat the metal to promote coating adhesion, reduce metal/coating reactions, improve corrosion resistance, and increase blister resistance.

3.8 *Type 1 coating, n*—epoxy powder coating meeting Annex A1 of Specification [A775/A775M](#) or Annex A1 of Specification [A1055/A1055M](#).

3.9 *Type 2 coating, n*—epoxy powder coating meeting Annex A1 of Specification [A934/A934M](#).

4. Ordering Information

4.1 It shall be the responsibility of the purchaser to specify all requirements that are necessary for the coated dowels under

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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 Available from Society for Protective Coatings (SSPC), 40 24th St., 6th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4656, <http://www.sspc.org>.

⁴ Available from Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute (CRSI), 933 N. Plum Grove Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60173-4758, <http://www.crsi.org>.

this specification. Such requirements to be considered include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 4.1.1 Quantity of dowels;
- 4.1.2 Specification for plain bars, if other than **A615/A615M**, and year of issue (5.1);
- 4.1.3 Diameter of dowels (5.3);
- 4.1.4 Length of dowels, if other than 18 in. (5.4);
- 4.1.5 Grade of steel if other than Grade 60 [420] (5.1)
- 4.1.6 Type of coating (5.5);
- 4.1.7 Test report for type of coating used, if desired (5.6);
- 4.1.8 Sample of epoxy powder (5.10);
- 4.1.9 Quantity of patching material (5.11);
- 4.1.10 Pretreatment of the abrasive blast-cleaned steel surface, if required (6.5);
- 4.1.11 Cutting of dowels with Type 2 coating, if permitted (7.6);
- 4.1.12 Requirements for patching (7.7);
- 4.1.13 Coating thickness, if other than greater than 8 mils [200 m] (8.1.1);
- 4.1.14 Place of testing, if other than manufacturer's plant (8.2.3);
- 4.1.15 Timing of holiday checks for Type 1 coatings, if other than before cutting (8.2.2);
- 4.1.16 Report on tests performed on the coated dowels being furnished, if required (8.3.3);
- 4.1.17 Specific requirements for number of tests and frequency of tests (Section 9);
- 4.1.18 Additional specimens to be provided to the purchaser for testing from the coated dowels being furnished, if required (12.2);
- 4.1.19 Patching of dowels prior to shipment, if waived (13.1);
- 4.1.20 Thickness of patching material, if other than as specified in Specifications **A775/A775M**, **A1055/A1055M**, or **A934/A934M** (13.3); and
- 4.1.21 Manufacturer qualification and certification requirements (if any).

NOTE 2—It is recommended that the coating application procedures and processes be audited by an independent certification program for epoxy coating applicator plants such as that provided by the CRSI Voluntary Certification Program, or equivalent.

5. Materials

5.1 Dowels shall consist of plain bars. Unless otherwise specified, the bars shall be Grade 60 [420] and conform to Specification A615 [Specification A615M]. The bars shall be free of contaminants such as oil, grease, paint or chlorides.

5.2 Incoming steel found to be salt contaminated shall be rejected.

5.3 Dowels shall be 1¼ in. [32 mm] or 1½ in. [38 mm] in diameter or as specified by the purchaser.

5.4 The coated dowels shall have an overall length of 18 in. [460 mm] or as specified by the purchaser.

5.5 The coating type shall be specified by the purchaser. Type 1 coatings shall be qualified in accordance with Annex A1 of Specification **A775/A775M** or Specification **A1055/**

A1055M. Type 2 coatings shall be qualified in accordance with Annex A1 of Specification **A934/A934M**.

5.6 Upon request, the purchaser shall be provided with the test report for coatings used.

5.7 A written certification shall be furnished to the purchaser that properly identifies the designation of each lot of epoxy powder coating used in the order, material quantity represented, date of manufacture, name and address of the epoxy powder coating manufacturer, and a statement that the supplied powder coating is the same composition as that qualified in accordance with 5.5.

5.8 The powder coating shall be stored in a temperature-controlled environment following the documented recommendations of the powder coating manufacturer until ready for use. At this point, if the storage temperature is below the plant ambient temperature, the powder coating shall be given sufficient time to reach a temperature that is within ±5°F [±2°C] of the plant ambient temperature.

5.9 The powder coating shall be used within the powder coating manufacturer's written recommended shelf life.

5.10 If specified in the order, a representative 8 oz [0.2 kg] sample of the epoxy powder coating shall be supplied to the purchaser from each batch. The sample shall be packaged in an airtight container and identified by lot number.

5.11 If specified in the order, patching material, compatible with the coating, inert in concrete and recommended by the coating manufacturer shall be supplied to the purchaser.

6. Surface Preparation

6.1 Blast media found to be salt contaminated from exposure to deicing salt, salt spray or the manufacturing process, shall not be used.

6.2 The surface of the steel to be coated shall be cleaned by abrasive blast-cleaning to near-white metal in accordance with SSPC-SP 10. The final surface condition shall be defined according to SSPC-VIS 1.

6.3 Average blast profile maximum roughness depth readings of 1.5 to 4.0 mils [40 to 100 µm] as determined by the use of a profilometer type surface measurement instrument that measures the peak count as well as the maximum profile depth, according to Test Methods **D4417** Method B, or as determined by replica tape measurements using Test Methods **D4417** Method C, shall be considered suitable as an anchor pattern.

6.4 Multidirectional, high-pressure, dry air knives shall be used after blast cleaning to remove dust, grit, and other foreign matter from the steel surface. The air knives shall not deposit oil on the steel.

6.5 Pretreatment of the blast-cleaned steel shall be applied when specified by the purchaser. The pretreatment shall be applied after abrasive cleaning and before coating, in accordance with the written application instructions specified by the pretreatment manufacturer. If compatible with the epoxy powder coating, additional steel pretreatments prior to coating with the epoxy may be specified by the purchaser.