



Standard Specification for Tracking and Traceability Encoding System of Natural Gas Distribution Components (Pipe, Tubing, Fittings, Valves, and Appurtenances)¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F2897; 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.

^{ε1} NOTE—Table 5 was editorially corrected in April 2013.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification defines requirements for the data used in the tracking and traceability base-62 encoding system and the format of the resultant code to characterize various components used in fuel gas piping systems.

1.2 The final output of this specification is a 16 digit alpha-numeric code that defines a standardized approach or methodology for encoding certain characteristics of components that have been established based on consensus recommendations from the respective stakeholder group members. The means of marking or affixing the code to the components, and the means of reading and/or transferring the data or codes are outside the scope of this specification.

NOTE 1—To facilitate compliance with this specification, a web based application has been developed to manage and maintain unique manufacturer identification numbers. The URL for the website is: <http://www.componentid.org>.

NOTE 2—Meters and regulators are excluded from this specification because traceability marking requirements for these products are defined in ANSI B109.

1.3 The web based application is only intended to serve as a useful resource for managing the respective manufacturer identification numbers, codes, and other identifiers as per this specification. Any changes to the contents of the web based application are contingent upon subsequent changes to this specification. This specification shall have primacy.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:²

D1600 Terminology for Abbreviated Terms Relating to Plastics

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F17 on Plastic Piping Systems and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F17.60 on Gas.

Current edition approved Nov. 1, 2011. Published December 2011. Originally approved in 2011. Last previous edition approved in 2011 as F2897–11. DOI: 10.1520/F2897–11AE01.

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.

D2513 Specification for Polyethylene (PE) Gas Pressure Pipe, Tubing, and Fittings

F412 Terminology Relating to Plastic Piping Systems

2.2 *ANSI Standards*:³

B31.8 Gas Transmission and Distribution Piping System

B1.20.1 1983 Pipe Threads, General Purpose, Inch B109

2.3 *CFR Standards*:⁴

49 CFR Part 192 Pipeline Safety Requirements

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Definitions are in accordance with Terminology F412, and abbreviations are in accordance with Terminology D1600, unless otherwise specified.

3.2 The gas industry terminology used in this specification is in accordance with ANSI B31.8 or 49 CFR Part 192, unless otherwise indicated.

3.3 *character, n*—an integer from zero (0) to nine (9) or a letter that is upper case and/or lower case from a to z or A to Z.

3.4 *component, n*—pipe, tubing, fittings, valves, and appurtenances unless specifically stated otherwise.

3.5 *digit, n*—an integer from zero (0) to nine (9).

3.6 *FPT, n*—internal taper thread as defined under ANSI/ASME B1.20.1, or commonly referred to as “female pipe thread”.

3.7 *MPT, n*—external taper thread as defined under ANSI/ASME B1.20.1, or commonly referred to as “male pipe thread”.

3.8 *traceability, n*—identify the origin of materials and parts used to manufacturer a given component; and/or the product processing or manufacturing history.

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

⁴ Available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington D.C. 20402.

3.9 *tracking*, *v*—knowing, documenting, and/or collecting information related to the distribution and location of a given component after delivery from the manufacturer or supplier.

4. Gas Distribution Component Traceability Identifier

4.1 *General*—The gas distribution component traceability identifier shall be comprised of sixteen (16) alphanumeric characters that specify respective attributes (data set) for a given component.

4.1.1 The specified number of characters and order for each data set shall conform to **Table 1**.

4.1.2 The specified number of characters shall be developed using the base-62 encoding system per section 4.9 and the initial input data requirements per Section 5.

4.1.3 The gas distribution component traceability identifier shall be in a format suitable for downloading the character codes into database systems owned and maintained by the end user.

NOTE 3—An illustrative example is provided in **Appendix X2**.

4.2 *Identification of Component Manufacturer*—Each component manufacturer shall be identified by a unique two character code which shall be assigned after completing the required registration and activated by the webmaster of the website <http://www.componentid.org>. The manufacturer identification code shall be unique to that particular company and can only be used by that respective manufacturer/supplier.

4.3 *Identification of Component Manufacturer's Lot Code*—The component manufacturer's lot code shall be identified by a four character code that is developed using the base-62 encoding system per 4.9. The four character code shall be unique in a manner to help ascertain information related to the origin of materials, product processing history, and other information that is agreed upon between the manufacturer and end user.

4.4 *Identification of Component Production Date*—The production date code shall be identified by a three character code that is developed using the base-62 encoding system per 4.9.

4.5 *Identification of Component Material*—The primary material used to manufacture the pipe or component shall be identified by a single character code per 5.4.

4.6 *Identification of Component Type*—Each component type shall be identified by a two character code per 5.5.

TABLE 1 Specified Number of Characters and Order for Gas Distribution Component Traceability Identifier

Data	Number of Character(s) ^A
Component manufacturer	2
Component manufacturer's lot code	4
Component production date	3
Component material	1
Component type	2
Component size	3
Base 62 Index	1

^A The total number of characters is based on the final resultant after applying the base-62 encoding system in this specification. For different initial input data, the requirements and format are in Section 5 of this specification.

4.7 *Identification of Component Size*—Each component size shall be identified by a three character code that is developed using the sizing calculation outlined in 5.6 and the base-62 encoding system per 4.9.

4.8 *Identification of Base 62 Index*—Each component type shall be identified by a single character code per 5.7.

4.9 Base-62 Encoding System:

4.9.1 The base-62 positional encoding system shall utilize integer values between zero and nine and both uppercase and lowercase alphabet characters with the assigned place values as shown in **Table 2**.

4.9.2 The assigned place values shown in **Table 2** shall be used to convert the initial input data into the final alphanumeric code.

NOTE 4—Detailed examples of converting an initial integer string to a corresponding base-62 alphanumeric character string and vice-versa can be found in **Appendix XI**.

NOTE 5—The positional value is the value corresponding to the respective character. For example, the positional value corresponding to the character "r" is 27. The positional value corresponding to the character "T" is 55.

5. Input Data String

5.1 *Component Manufacturer*—Each component manufacturer shall establish a unique two (2) digit identifier by completing the required registration and activated by the webmaster of the website <http://www.componentid.org>. The

TABLE 2 Positional Values for Base-62 Encoding System

Positional Value	Character	Positional Value	Character
0	0	36	A
1	1	37	B
2	2	38	C
3	3	39	D
4	4	40	E
5	5	41	F
6	6	42	G
7	7	43	H
8	8	44	I
9	9	45	J
10	a	46	K
11	b	47	L
12	c	48	M
13	d	49	N
14	e	50	O
15	f	51	P
16	g	52	Q
17	h	53	R
18	i	54	S
19	j	55	T
20	k	56	U
21	l	57	V
22	m	58	W
23	n	59	X
24	o	60	Y
25	p	61	Z
26	q		
27	r		
28	s		
29	t		
30	u		
31	v		
32	w		
33	x		
34	y		
35	z		

manufacturer identification code shall be unique to that particular company and can only be used by that company. In cases where the company undergoes a change in name, acquired, merged with another company, new two (2) digit identifier must be registered and activated if the “acquiring” or “merged with” company does not already have a registered identifier.

5.2 Component Manufacturer’s Lot Code—Each component manufacturer shall establish a unique seven (7) digit number for their lot code which shall be used as the input into the base-62 encoding system per 4.9. The 7 digit number shall consist of only integer values and cannot contain any other characters such as alphabetic or ASCII characters.

NOTE 6—The 7 digit code can be developed freely by the manufacturer to define individual production lots in a unique way. Elements of the 7 digit code may possibly include production site, extrusion line, injection molding equipment number, operator, shift, etc. The 7 digit code should be capable of providing pertinent traceability information upon request.

5.3 Component Production Date—Each component manufacturer shall provide the production date of the respective component consisting of five (5) digits as input into the base-62 encoding system per 4.9.

5.3.1 The first three digits shall correspond to the particular day of the year.

5.3.2 The final two digits shall correspond to the last two digits of the year.

NOTE 7—For example, the date input represented by 23410 implies the 234th day of 2010.

5.4 Component Material—Each component manufacturer shall assign a single character code for the primary material used to manufacture the respective component from Table 3.

NOTE 8—The list of material types will be managed by the webmaster of <http://www.componentid.org>. Additional code numbers are reserved for future use and will be activated upon revision of this specification.

5.4.1 For pipe and tubing made from a single material, the code shall be assigned from the list shown in Table 3.

5.4.2 For multi-layer pipe and tubing, the inner most layer which is in contact with the natural gas shall be assigned from the list shown in Table 3.

5.4.3 For factory assembled transition fittings and risers and transition tees intended to facilitate a change between metallic and non-metallic piping systems, the non-metallic portion shall be identified.

5.4.4 For all components other than factory assembled transition fittings and risers and transition tees, the material code shall correspond to the outer shell or body of the respective component regardless of the piping system to which it is intended to be installed.

5.4.5 For fittings intended to facilitate a change between PE to another thermoplastic piping systems, the material code shall correspond to the outer shell or body of the respective component connecting to the PE pipe.

NOTE 9—In previous editions of Specification various thermoplastic materials were approved for use under CFR Part 192 requirements. For those other materials which have subsequently deleted but still allowed to be used for repair purposes only, for example, PVC, then PE will take precedence.

5.5 Component Type—Each component manufacturer shall assign a two (2) character code for their respective component type from Table 4.

NOTE 10—The component type codes will be managed by the webmaster through the website <http://www.componentid.org>. Additional code numbers are reserved for future use and will be activated upon revision of this specification.

5.6 Component Size—Each component manufacturer shall develop a unique dimensional code, *D*, corresponding to the size of the respective item. The dimensional code shall be used as input into the base-62 encoding system per 4.9.

NOTE 11—A list of commonly used sizes is available on the website www.componentid.org. Future changes and amendments for special sizes not listed will be managed and assigned by the webmaster of the website <http://www.componentid.org> upon amendment of this specification.

5.6.1 The dimensional code shall be calculated using Eq 1 based on the factors from Tables 5-7 corresponding to the dimensions for a given component:

$$D = (C_1 * 378) + C_2 + 1 \quad (1)$$

where:

C_1 = factor corresponding to the first dimension, D_1 , and
 C_2 = factor corresponding to the second dimension, D_2 .

5.6.1.1 The second dimension, D_2 , shall always be the larger dimension for a given component as shown in Eq 2:

$$D_2 > D_1 \quad (2)$$

5.6.1.2 For the case of a pipe, tubing, or other in-line components where there is no dimensional change, then $D_1 = D_2$ and $C_1 = C_2$.

5.6.1.3 For components other than various risers and transition fittings or other using metallic parts, the second dimension, D_2 , shall be expressed by the connection to the main.

5.6.1.4 In the case of various types of risers and transition fittings or others using metallic parts, the second dimension, D_2 , shall be expressed by the metallic size, for example, MPT or FPT.

TABLE 3 List of Material Types

Type	Code
PE2406	A
PE2708	B
PE3408	C
PE3608	D
PE3708	E
PE3710	F
PE4608	G
PE4710	H
Poly (Vinyl Chloride) – PVC	J
Polyamide 11 – PA11	K
Polyamide 12 – PA12	L
Steel	M
Stainless Steel	N
Cast Iron	O
Copper	P
Brass	Q
Malleable Iron	R
Ductile Iron	S
Reinforced Epoxy Resin	T
Nylon	U
Glass Filled Nylon	V
Other	X

TABLE 4 List of Component Types

Category Type – General	Subcategory Type	Character	
Pipe	Other	10	
	Straight	11	
	Coiled	12	
	Casing	13	
Coupling	Other	20	
	Socket fusion	21	
	Socket fusion with EFV	22	
	Electrofusion	23	
	Electrofusion with EFV	24	
	Mechanical compression or nut follower	25	
	Mechanical compression or nut follower with EFV	26	
	Mechanical stab	27	
	Mechanical stab with EFV	28	
	Mechanical interference fit	29	
	Mechanical interference fit with EFV	2A	
	Welded	2B	
	Threaded	2C	
	Flanged	2D	
Adapter Coupling	Other	30	
	Compression by male pipe thread	31	
	Compression by female pipe thread	32	
	Compression by butt fusion	33	
	Compression by butt welded	34	
	Compression by solvent welded	35	
	Compression by stab	39	
	Stab by male pipe thread	36	
	Stab by female pipe thread	37	
	Stab by solvent welded	38	
	Other	40	
	Butt fusion	41	
	Socket fusion	42	
	Electrofusion	43	
Mechanical compression or nut follower	44		
Mechanical stab	45		
Mechanical interference fit	46		
Welded	47		
Threaded	48		
Elbows	Fabricated	49	
	Other	50	
	Butt fusion 90	51	
	Socket fusion 90	52	
	Electrofusion 90	53	
	Mechanical compression or nut follower 90	54	
	Mechanical stab 90	55	
	Mechanical interference fit 90	56	
	Welded 90	57	
	Threaded 90	58	
	Fabricated 90	59	
	Butt fusion 45	5A	
	Socket fusion 45	5B	
	Electrofusion 45	5C	
Mechanical compression or nut follower 45	5D		
Mechanical stab 45	5E		
Mechanical interference fit 45	5F		
Welded 45	5G		
Threaded 45	5H		
Fabricated 45	5J		
3-way tees	Other	60	
	Butt fusion	61	
	Socket fusion	62	
	Electrofusion	63	
	Mechanical compression or nut follower	64	
	Mechanical stab	65	
	Mechanical interference fit	66	
	Welded	67	
	Threaded	68	
	Fabricated	69	
	Reducer	Other	70
		Butt fusion	71
		Socket fusion	72
		Electrofusion	73
Mechanical compression or nut follower		74	

TABLE 4 *Continued*

Category Type – General	Subcategory Type	Character	
Tapping tees	Mechanical stab	75	
	Mechanical interference fit	76	
	Welded	77	
	Threaded	78	
	Fabricated	79	
	Other	80	
	Saddle heat fusion by butt fusion outlet	81	
	Saddle heat fusion by butt fusion outlet with EFV	82	
	Saddle heat fusion by socket outlet	83	
	Saddle heat fusion by socket outlet with EFV	84	
	Saddle heat fusion by mechanical compression outlet	85	
	Saddle heat fusion by mechanical compression outlet with EFV	86	
	Saddle heat fusion by stab outlet	87	
	Saddle heat fusion by stab outlet with EFV	88	
	Electrofusion by butt fusion outlet	89	
	Electrofusion by butt fusion outlet with EFV	8A	
	Electrofusion by socket outlet	8B	
	Electrofusion by socket outlet with EFV	8C	
	Electrofusion by mechanical compression outlet	8D	
	Electrofusion by mechanical compression outlet with EFV	8E	
	Electrofusion by stab outlet	8F	
	Electrofusion by stab outlet with EFV	8G	
	Mechanical by butt fusion outlet	8H	
	Mechanical by butt fusion outlet with EFV	8J	
	Mechanical by socket outlet	8K	
	Mechanical by socket outlet with EFV	8L	
	Mechanical by mechanical compression outlet	8M	
	Mechanical by mechanical compression outlet with EFV	8N	
	Mechanical by stab outlet	8P	
	Mechanical by stab outlet with EFV	8Q	
	Mechanical by mechanical interference fit	8R	
	Mechanical by mechanical interference fit with EFV	8S	
	Branch Saddle	Other	90
		Electrofusion by butt fusion	91
		Saddle heat fusion by butt fusion	92
		Mechanical by compression outlet	93
		Electrofusion by socket outlet	94
		Saddle heat fusion by socket outlet	95
		Mechanical by stab outlet	96
		Mechanical by mechanical interference fit	97
Other		B0	
Electrofusion		B1	
Saddle heat fusion		B2	
Mechanical		B3	
Mechanical saddle Service tee or Valve tee	No outlet	S1	
	Other	D0	
	Welded by welded	D1	
	Welded by butt fusion	D2	
	Welded by thread	D3	
	Welded by compression or nut follower	D4	
	Welded by mechanical interference fit	D5	
	Welded by stab	DD	
	Thread by welded	D6	
	Thread by compression or nut follower	D7	
	Thread by mechanical interference fit	DE	
	Thread by stab	DF	
	Thread by thread	DG	
	Thread by butt fusion	DH	
	Mechanical saddle by welded	D8	
Mechanical saddle by Butt fusion	D9		
Mechanical saddle by thread	DA		
Mechanical saddle by compression or nut follower	DB		

TABLE 4 *Continued*

Category Type – General	Subcategory Type	Character
Service saddles	Mechanical saddle by mechanical interference fit	DC
	Mechanical saddle by stab	DJ
	Other	E0
	Single strap	E1
Transition Fitting	Double strap	E2
	Other	T0
	Welded end	T1
Riser	Thread end	T2
	Flanged end	T3
	Other	R0
	Factory Assembled, Anodeless	R1
Valve	Factory Assembled, Anodeless, Flexible	R2
	Factory Assembled, Non-Anodeless	R3
	Field Assembled, Anodeless	R4
	Field Assembled, Anodeless, Flexible	R5
	Field Assembled, Non-Anodeless	R6
	Other	V0
	Ball valve	V1
	Butterfly valve	V2
Excess Flow Valve Meter set assembly and components	Check valve	V3
	Relief valve	V4
	Gate valve	V5
	Needle valve	V6
	Plug valve	V7
	Excess flow valve	EF
	Other	M0
	Meter set assembly	M3
	Meter bar	M4
	Meter swivel	M5
Filter	Meter nut	M6
	Other	F0
	Pilot	F1
Anode	Service and mains	F2
	Strainer	F3
	Other	A0
	Cast iron	A1
Pressure control fitting	Graphite	A2
	Magnesium	A3
	Zinc	A4
	Other	P0
	Split repair	P1
	Bottom out	P2
Repair clamp	Top tap	P3
	Non-insulated	U1
	Insulated	UX
	Other	C0
	Repair clamps	C1

NOTE 12—For the case of a 2" IPS SDR9.33 pipe, $D_1 = D_2$ and $C_1 = C_2 = 37$. Then from Eq 1, the resulting value for $D = (37 \cdot 378) + 37 + 1 = 14024$.

NOTE 13—For the case of a 2" IPS SDR9.33 \times 1/2" CTS 0.090 saddle fitting (electrofusion, molded saddle fusion, mechanical), $D_2 = 2$ " IPS with $C_2 = 37$; $D_1 = 1/2$ " CTS 0.090 with $C_1 = 4$. Then from Eq 1, the resulting value for $D = (4 \cdot 378) + 37 + 1 = 1550$.

5.7 *Base 62 Index*—The sixteenth character shall be a single character code per Table 8.

5.7.1 Unless otherwise specified, the sixteenth character shall be a null value of "0".

6. Keywords

6.1 base-62 encoding system; component; gas distribution; marking; pipe; traceability; tracking