



Designation: A968/A968M – 96 (Reapproved 2014)

Standard Specification for Chromium, Chromium-Nickel, and Silicon Alloy Steel Bars and Shapes for Corrosion and Heat-Resisting Service¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A968/A968M; 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 hot- and cold-finished alloy steel bars having a chromium content equal to or less than 11.0 % including rounds, squares, hexagons, and hot-rolled or extruded shapes for use in corrosion and heat-resisting service.

1.2 Some steels covered by this specification, especially the high silicon-containing steels, because of their particular alloy content and specialized properties, may require special care in their fabrication and welding. Specific procedures are of fundamental importance, and it is presupposed that all parameters will be in accordance with approved test methods capable of producing the desired properties in the finished fabrication.

1.3 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. 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 the standard.

1.4 This specification and the applicable material specifications are expressed in both inch-pound and SI units. However, unless the order specifies the applicable “M” specification designation (SI units), the material shall be furnished in inch-pound units.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

[A484/A484M Specification for General Requirements for Stainless Steel Bars, Billets, and Forgings](#)

[A751 Test Methods, Practices, and Terminology for Chemical Analysis of Steel Products](#)

[E527 Practice for Numbering Metals and Alloys in the Unified Numbering System \(UNS\)](#)

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee A01 on Steel, Stainless Steel and Related Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee A01.17 on Flat-Rolled and Wrought Stainless Steel.

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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.

2.2 SAE Standard:

[SAE J 1086 Recommended Practice for Numbering Metals and Alloys](#)³

3. Ordering Information

3.1 It is the responsibility of the purchaser to specify all requirements that are necessary for material ordered under this specification. Such requirements may include, but are not limited to, the following:

3.1.1 Quantity (weight or number of pieces);

3.1.2 Dimensions, including diameter or thickness (and width), shape or form, applicable prints or sketches, length, and so forth;

3.1.3 Type or UNS designation (see [Table 1](#));

3.1.4 ASTM designation and edition year if other than latest edition;

3.1.5 Heat-treated condition (see [Section 5](#));

3.1.6 Finish (see Manufacture section of Specification [A484/A484M](#));

3.1.7 Supplementary requirements invoked for special services;

3.1.8 Whether bars are to be rolled as bars or cut from strip or plate;

3.1.9 Preparation for delivery (see Preparation for Delivery section of Specification [A484/A484M](#));

3.1.10 Marking requirements (see Marking section of Specification [A484/A484M](#));

3.1.11 Surface preparation of shapes (see Manufacture section of Specification [A484/A484M](#)); and

3.1.12 The intended use of the material, if the purchaser considers this useful information.

NOTE 1—A typical ordering description is as follows: 5000 lb [2000 kg]; 1.000-in. [25-mm] round bar by 10 to 12 ft [3 to 4 m]; UNS S70003; to Specification A XXX [A XXX]; annealed; centerless ground; plus any optional supplementary requirements; such as, for example, special marking instructions.

4. General Requirements

4.1 In addition to the requirements of this specification, all requirements of the current editions of Specification [A484/](#)

³ Available from Society of Automotive Engineers, 400 Commonwealth Drive, Warrendale, PA 15096.