Designation: A768/A768M – 05 (Reapproved 2015)

Standard Specification for Vacuum-Treated 12 % Chromium Alloy Steel Forgings for Turbine Rotors and Shafts [1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A768/A768M; 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.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers vacuum-treated 12 % chromium steel forgings for turbine rotors and shafts.

1.2 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.

1.3 *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]

A275/A275M Practice for Magnetic Particle Examination of Steel Forgings

A370 Test Methods and Definitions for Mechanical Testing of Steel Products

A418/A418M Practice for Ultrasonic Examination of Turbine and Generator Steel Rotor Forgings

A472/A472M Specification for Heat Stability of Steam Turbine Shafts and Rotor Forgings

A788/A788M Specification for Steel Forgings, General Requirements

3. Ordering Information

3.1 In addition to the ordering information required by Specification A788/A788M, the purchaser shall include with the inquiry and order a detailed drawing, sketch, or written description of the forging, including the mechanical test specimen location.

4. General Requirements

4.1 Material supplied to this specification shall conform to the requirements of Specification A788/A788M which outlines additional ordering information, manufacturing requirements, testing and retesting methods and procedures, marking, certification, product analysis variations, and additional supplementary requirements.

4.2 If the requirements of this specification are in conflict with the requirements of Specification A788/A788M, the requirements of this specification shall prevail.

5. Manufacture

5.1 The melting processes of Specification A788/A788M shall be applicable except that the open-hearth or basic oxygen methods of primary melting shall not be used, and the molten steel shall be vacuum degassed prior to or during pouring of the ingot.

5.1.1 If the ESR process is used, then the electrodes shall have been produced from vacuum degassed primary heat(s).

5.2 In addition to the requirements of Specification A788/A788M, it is important to maintain the axial center of the forging in common with the axial center of the original ingot.

5.3 *Heat Treatment:*

5.3.1 The heat treatment for mechanical properties shall consist of quenching and tempering.

5.3.1.1 The preliminary heat treatment shall consist of normalizing well above the transformation temperature range. This operation may be performed before preliminary machining (see 5.4.1).

5.3.1.2 The quenching treatment shall be from above the transformation range but below the normalizing temperature described in 5.3.1.1. This treatment shall be performed after preliminary machining (see 5.4.1). Austenitizing temperatures shall be in accordance with Table 1.

5.3.1.3 The final tempering temperature shall be in accordance with Table 1.

[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 A01.06 on Steel Forgings and Billets.

Current edition approved March 1, 2015. Published March 2015. Originally approved in 1979. Last previous edition approved in 2010 as A768/A768M – 05 (2010). DOI: 10.1520/A0768_A0768M-05R15.

[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.

TABLE 1 Heat Treating Temperature, °F [°C], Requirements

Grade	Austenitizing	1st Tempering, min	2nd Tempering
1	1725–1825 [940–995]	1125 [605]	1100 [595]
2	1900–1940 [1035–1060]	1040 [560]	1010–1040 [545–560]
3	1700–1800 [925–980]	1120 [605]	1100 [595]
4	1700–1800 [925–980]	975 [525]	950 [510]

5.3.1.4 After heat treatment and subsequent rough machining and boring (see 5.4.2 and 5.4.3), the forging shall be stress-relieved at a temperature not more than 100°F [55°C] below the final tempering temperature, but not less than 1100°F [595°C].

5.3.1.5 With the prior approval of the purchaser, the stress-relief temperature may approach, equal, or slightly exceed the final tempering temperature as a means of adjusting final strength or toughness. If the stress relief temperature is within 25°F [15°C] of the final tempering temperature, or higher, additional tension tests must be obtained (see 7.1.3).

5.3.1.6 The method of cooling during quenching and from the final tempering and stress relieving temperatures shall be reported.

5.4 *Machining:*

5.4.1 *Preliminary Rough Machining*—All exterior surfaces of the forging shall be machined prior to heat treatment for mechanical properties.

5.4.2 *Second Rough Machining*—After heat treatment for mechanical properties, all surfaces of the forging shall be rough machined prior to stress relief and the stability test.

5.4.3 *Boring:*

5.4.3.1 Forgings shall be bored to permissible bore size and tolerance when required by the purchaser's drawing.

5.4.3.2 Forgings may be bored to limits agreed to by the purchaser or indicated on the purchaser's drawing, to remove objectionable center conditions revealed by ultrasonic inspection.

5.4.3.3 Unless otherwise specified by the purchaser, the manufacturer may bore the forging at any time prior to stress relief (see Supplementary Requirement S1).

5.4.4 *Machining to Purchaser's Requirements for Shipment*—The forging as shipped shall conform to the finish and dimension requirements specified on the purchaser's drawing or order.

6. Chemical Composition

6.1 The steel shall conform to the requirements for chemical composition prescribed in Table 2.

6.2 *Product Analysis*—The manufacturer shall make a product analysis from each forging. The chemical composition thus determined shall not vary from the requirements specified in Table 1 by more than the amounts prescribed in Specification A788/A788M.

7. Mechanical Properties

7.1 *Tension Test:*

7.1.1 The steel shall conform to the tensile requirements of Table 3.

7.1.2 The number and location of tension test specimens shall be as specified on the forging drawings furnished by the purchaser.

7.1.3 Final acceptance tests shall be made after heat treatment of the forging for mechanical properties prior to stress relief, unless the stress relief temperature is within 25°F [15°C] of the tempering temperature, or higher, in which case check tests shall be made after the stress relief treatment and reported to the purchaser. The purchaser may require check tests after completion of all heating cycles, including stress relief and the heat stability tests.

7.1.4 The yield strength prescribed in Table 3 shall be determined by the offset method of Test Methods and Definitions A370.

7.2 *Impact Test:*

7.2.1 The steel shall conform to the requirements for notch toughness (both transition temperature and room temperature impact values) prescribed in Table 3.

7.2.2 The notch toughness specimens shall be machined from radial bars taken from the main body of the forging, as shown in the forging drawing. The specimens shall be Charpy V-notch, Type A, as shown in Test Methods and Definitions A370. The notch direction of the Charpy bars shall be tangential.

TABLE 2 Chemical Requirements

Composition, %	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Carbon	0.15 max	0.08–0.15	0.10–0.16	0.05–0.07
Manganese	1.0 max	0.50–0.90	0.25–1.00	0.70–1.00
Phosphorus	0.018 max	0.02 max	0.015 max	0.015 max
Sulfur	0.015 max	0.015 max	0.012 max	0.012 max
Silicon	0.35 max	0.30 max	0.15–0.45	0.30–0.50
Nickel	0.40–0.75	2.0–3.0	0.75 max	3.5–4.25
Chromium	11.5–13.0	11.0–13.0	11.0–13.0	11.25–12.25
Molybdenum	0.50 max	1.5–2.0	0.20 max	0.30–0.50
Vanadium	...	0.25–0.40	...	0.03 max
Columbium	...	...	0.15 min	...
Aluminum	...	...	...	0.03 max
Nitrogen	...	0.06 max	...	...