Designation: F 945 – 01

# Standard Test Method for Stress-Corrosion of Titanium Alloys by Aircraft Engine Cleaning Materials[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 945; 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.

## INTRODUCTION

Chemical solutions and compounds used for preinspection cleaning or for preservation of titanium alloy aircraft turbine engine parts shall be subject to qualification requirements of this test method.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This test method establishes a test procedure for determining the propensity of aircraft turbine engine cleaning and maintenance materials for causing stress corrosion cracking of titanium alloy parts.

1.2 The evaluation is conducted on representative titanium alloys by determining the effect of contact with cleaning and maintenance materials on tendency of prestressed titanium alloys to crack when subsequently heated to elevated temperatures.

1.3 Test conditions are based upon manufacturer's maximum recommended operating solution concentration.

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.* For specific precautionary statements, see 5.3 and 5.6.

## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*

D 740 Specification for Methyl Ethyl Ketone[2]

D 841 Specification for Nitration Grade Toluene[2]

D 1193 Specification for Reagent Water[3]

2.2 *SAE Aerospace Material Specifications:*

AMS 4911 Sheet, Strip and Plate-6AL-4V Annealed[4]

AMS 4916 Sheet, Strip, and Plate-8AL 1MO 1V, Duplex Annealed[4]

## 3. Significance and Use

3.1 Because of the tendency of prestressed titanium alloy parts to crack if heated while in contact with certain chemical reagents, it is necessary to ensure that cleaning and maintenance materials will not initiate stress corrosion of titanium alloys under controlled conditions. For test specimens, two common titanium alloys are selected, one that is very susceptible (AMS 4916) and one that is not very susceptible (AMS 4911) to stress corrosion cracking.

## 4. Apparatus

4.1 *Measuring Device* capable of linear measurement with a ±0.01-in. (±0.25-mm) tolerance.

4.2 *Press Forming Apparatus*[5] with 0.56-in. (14-mm) diameter mandrel capable of producing approximately 65° bends in 0.050-in. (1.25-mm) titanium alloy sheet specimens.

4.3 *Beakers or Small Tanks* for containment of cleaning, rinsing, and test solutions, appropriately lined to prevent contamination of the solutions by container materials.

4.4 *Vise,*[6] capable of precise manipulation at jaw opening of 0.65 in. (16.5 mm).

4.5 *Air Circulation Furnace*[7] capable of operating at 900°F (480°C) with control to ±20°F (10°C).

4.6 *Magnifier*[8] capable of 20-diameters magnification.

4.7 *Microscope*[9] capable of 500-diameters magnification.

4.8 *Bolt*, stainless steel, 0.25-in. (6-mm) diameter with stainless steel washers and nut.

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[1] This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F07 on Aerospace and Aircraft and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F07.07 on Qualification Testing of Aircraft Cleaning Materials.

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[2] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards,* Vol 06.04.

[3] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards,* Vol 11.01.

[4] Available from Society of Automotive Engineers, 400 Commonwealth Dr., Warrendale, PA 15096.

[5] A laboratory bench hydraulic press ENER PAC Model No. P-39 manufactured by Black Hawk Industrial Products, Butler, WI, has been found satisfactory.

[6] A standard sheet metal worker's vise with a 3-in. jaw has been found satisfactory.

[7] A Blue M Electric Co. POM-6680F-1 furnace has been found satisfactory.

[8] A Bausch and Lomb Stereo Zoom 4 Model KVB-73 has been found satisfactory.

[9] A Bausch and Lomb Micro Zoom Catalog No. 31-19-30-02 has been found satisfactory.

4.9 *Test Specimens, AMS 4911 and AMS 4916 Titanium Alloys*—with specimens prepared from the same sheet stock for each alloy and cut parallel to the rolling direction to the dimensions of Fig. 1. The specimen edges shall not be deburred or otherwise relieved before testing.

4.10 *Cotton Gloves*, white.

4.11 *Volumetric Flask of Low Sodium Glass with Ground Glass Stopper*, 1000 and 100 mL.

4.12 *Volumetric Pipette*, 10 mL.

4.13 *Volumetric Flask with Ground Glass Stopper*, 100 mL.

## 5. Reagents and Materials

5.1 *Purity of Reagent*—Reagent grade chemicals shall be used in all cases. Unless otherwise indicated, it is intended that all reagents shall conform to the specifications of the Committee on Analytical Reagents of the American Chemical Society, where such specifications are available.[10] Other grades may be used, provided it is first ascertained that the reagent is of sufficiently high purity to permit its use without lessening the accuracy of analysis.

5.2 *Purity of Water*—Unless otherwise indicated, references to water shall be understood to mean reagent water conforming to Specification D 1193 Type IV.

5.3 *Cleaning Solution*, mix 35 volume % nitric acid (42 Be′) (**Warning**—See Annex A1.2) and 3 volume % hydrofluoric acid (70 %) (**Warning**—See Annex A1.3) with reagent water.

5.4 *2–Propanol (Isopropanol)*, HPLC grade.

5.5 *Salt Solutions*:

5.5.1 100–ppm sodium chloride solution in 2–propanol.

5.5.1.1 *Preparation of 1000–ppm NaCl in 2–Propanol Stock Solution (Shelf Life Three Months in Flask, see* 4.11*)*—Weigh 1.0000–g NaCl ± 0.001 g into a 1000–mL volumetric flask. Add 250- ± 25-mL reagent water and stir to dissolve. Fill to the mark with 2–propanol and mix.

5.5.1.2 *Preparation of 100–ppm NaCl Test Solution (Shelf Life Seven Days in Flask, see* 4.11*)*—Pipette 10 mL of the stock solution into a 100–mL volumetric flask. Fill to the mark with 2-propanol and mix.

5.5.2 *Preparation of 3 Weight % Sodium Chloride in 2–Propanol (Shelf Life Three Months)*—Weight 3.00–g NaCl into a 100–mL volumetric flask (see 4.13). Add about 50 mL of reagent water and stir to dissolve. Fill to the mark with 2–propanol and mix.

5.6 *Solvent*, toluene conforming to Specification D 841 or methyl ethyl ketone conforming to Specification D 740. (**Warning**—See Annex A1.1).

NOTE 1—The use of 2–propanol is important to ensure an even distribution of the salt by evaporating quickly. This decreases the effect of a "drop" at the bottom of the specimens.

## 6. Precleaning Test Specimens

6.1 Handling contamination and shop soils may be removed by washing in a solvent. Dry thoroughly.

## 7. Specimen Fabrication

7.1 With the short specimen axis as the bend axis, press form the specimen around an approximately 0.45-in. (14-mm) diameter mandrel in one operation so that an unrestrained preform angle of approximately 65° is obtained. See Fig. 2.

7.2 Clean the specimen preform by immersing in cleaning solution of 5.3 for 15 ± 5 s. Rinse in clean water, then in reagent water. Air dry with the bend zone up. Use white cotton gloves when handling specimens and do not touch the bend zone after cleaning.

7.3 Final U-bend configuration shall be accomplished by bending the free ends of the preform together in a vise until the distance between the free ends is reduced to 0.65 in. ± 0.05 (16.5 ± 1 mm). See Fig. 3.

7.4 Restrain the test specimen with sides approximately parallel by fastening the ends with a clean 0.25-in. (6-mm) diameter stainless steel bolt with washers. Unplated steel nuts may be used. See Fig. 1.

7.5 Load the specimen by tightening the bolt until the legs are 0.535 ± 0.005 in. (13.6 ± 0.10 mm) apart. See Fig. 3.

NOTE 2—Before acquiring titanium alloy sheet for the fabrication of test panels, notably AMS 4916, it is recommended to establish that susceptibility for SCC is present according to Section 8, using the appropriate salt solutions. If no cracking is exhibited, the test must be repeated using another lot of AMS 4916 titanium alloy.

[10] *Reagent Chemicals, American Chemical Society Specifications*, American Chemical Society, Washington, DC. For suggestions on the testing of reagents not listed by the American Chemical Society, see *Analar Standards for Laboratory Chemicals*, BDH Ltd., Poole, Dorset, U.K., and the *United States Pharmacopeia and National Formulary*, U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention, Inc. (USPC), Rockville, MD.

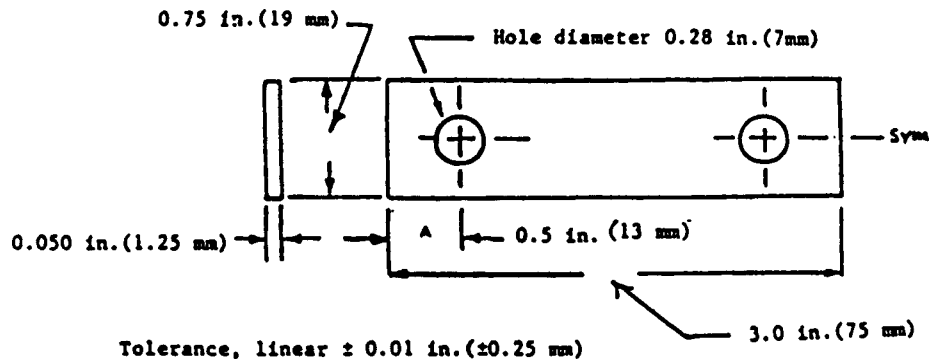


FIG. 1 U-Bend Specimen Dimensions