



Designation: **A913/A913M – 14a** A913/A913M – 15

Standard Specification for High-Strength Low-Alloy Steel Shapes of Structural Quality, Produced by Quenching and Self-Tempering Process (QST)¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A913/A913M; 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 reappraisal. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers high-strength low-alloy structural steel shapes in Grades 50 [345], 60 [415], 65 [450] and 70 [485], produced by the quenching and self-tempering process (QST). The shapes are intended for riveted, bolted or welded construction of bridges, buildings and other structures.

1.2 The QST process consists of in line heat treatment and cooling rate controls which result in mechanical properties in the finished condition that are equivalent to those attained using heat treating processes which entail reheating after rolling. A description of the QST process is given in [Appendix X1](#).

1.3 Due to the inherent characteristics of the QST process, the shapes shall not be formed and post weld heat treated at temperatures exceeding 1100°F [600°C].

1.4 When the steel is to be welded, it is presupposed that a welding procedure suitable for the grade of steel and intended use or service will be utilized. See Appendix X3 of Specification [A6/A6M](#) for information on weldability.

1.5 The values stated in either inch-pound units 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 are not exact equivalents; therefore, each system must be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in nonconformance with this specification.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:²

[A6/A6M Specification for General Requirements for Rolled Structural Steel Bars, Plates, Shapes, and Sheet Piling](#)

[A673/A673M Specification for Sampling Procedure for Impact Testing of Structural Steel](#)

[A898/A898M Specification for Straight Beam Ultrasonic Examination of Rolled Steel Structural Shapes](#)

3. General Requirements for Delivery

3.1 Material furnished under this specification shall conform to the applicable requirements of the current edition of Specification [A6/A6M](#).

4. Materials and Manufacture

4.1 The shapes shall be produced by the quenching and self-tempering process (QST). ~~Self-tempering temperature shall be a minimum of 1100°F [600°C] and the self-tempering temperature for the material represented shall be~~ Following rapid quenching to achieve a surface temperature below the martensite start temperature, M_s , the shapes shall be allowed to auto-temper to a self-tempering temperature (STT) that shall be 1100°F [595°C] minimum and 1300°F [705°C] maximum. The STT shall be reported on the mill test report. See [Appendix X1](#) for Process Description.

4.2 For grades 60 [415], 65 [450], and 70 [485], the requirements for fine austenitic grain size in Specification [A6/A6M](#) shall be met.

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 A01.02 on Structural Steel for Bridges, Buildings, Rolling Stock and Ships.

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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.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard



5. Chemical Composition

5.1 The chemical analysis of the heat shall conform to the requirements prescribed in **Table 1**.

5.2 The steel shall conform on product analysis to the requirements prescribed in **Table 1** subject to the product analysis tolerances in Specification **A6/A6M**.

6. Mechanical Properties

6.1 *Tensile Properties*—The material as represented by the test specimens shall conform to the tensile properties given in **Table 2**.

6.2 Charpy V-notch tests shall be made in accordance with Specification **A673/A673M**, Frequency H:

6.2.1 The test results of full-size specimens shall meet an average value of 40 ft-lbf [54 J] at 70°F [21°C].

6.2.1.1 Test reports for every heat supplied are required.

6.2.2 Charpy V-notch test requirements exceeding the value specified in **6.2.1** or lower test temperatures are subject to agreement between the purchaser and the producer.

7. Maximum Carbon Equivalent Requirement

7.1 The carbon equivalent on heat analysis shall not exceed the limits listed in this section. The chemical analysis (heat analysis) of the elements that appear in the carbon equivalent formula and the actual carbon equivalent shall be reported.

Carbon equivalent limits
 Grade 50 [345]: 0.38 %
 Grade 60 [415]: 0.40 %
 Grade 65 [450]: 0.43 %
 Grade 70 [485]: 0.45 %

7.2 Calculate the carbon equivalent using the following equation:

$$CE = C + Mn/6 + (Cr + Mo + V)/5 + (Cu + Ni)/15$$

8. Keywords

8.1 high-strength low-alloy steel; QST; quenching and self-tempering process; steel shapes; structural shapes; structural steel

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TABLE 1 Chemical Requirements (Heat Analysis)

NOTE 1—Boron shall not be intentionally added. See Specification **A6/A6M**, Section 7.1.2 for additional guidance regarding boron.

Element	Maximum content in %			
	Grade 50 [345]	Grade 60 [415]	Grade 65 [450]	Grade 70 [485]
Carbon	0.12	0.14	0.16	0.16
Carbon	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12
Manganese	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60
Phosphorus	0.040	0.030	0.030	0.040
Phosphorus	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030
Sulfur	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.030
Silicon	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40
Copper	0.45	0.35	0.35	0.45
Nickel	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Chromium	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Molybdenum	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07
Columbium	0.05	0.04	0.05	0.05
Columbium	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
Vanadium	0.06	0.06	0.08	0.09



TABLE 2 Tensile Requirements

Grade	Yield Point, min.		Tensile Strength, min.		Elongation, min	
	ksi	[MPa]	ksi	[MPa]	8 in. [200 mm], %	2 in. [50 mm], %
50 [345]	50	[345]	65	[450]	18	21
60 [415]	60	[415]	75	[520]	16	18
65 [450]	65	[450]	80	[550]	15	17
70 [485]	70	[485]	90	[620]	14	16

SUPPLEMENTARY REQUIREMENTS

Supplementary requirements shall not apply unless specified in the purchase order or contract. Standardized supplementary requirements for use at the option of the purchaser are listed in Specification A6/A6M. Those that are considered suitable for use with this specification are listed by title:

- S1. Vacuum Treatment.
- S2. Product Analysis.
- S3. Simulated Post-Weld Heat Treatment of Mechanical Test Coupons.
- S5. Charpy V-Notch Impact Test.
- S18. Maximum Tensile Strength.
- S30. Charpy V-Notch Impact Test for Structural Shapes: Alternate Core Location.



ASTM A913/A913M-15

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ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTARY REQUIREMENTS

In addition, the following special supplementary requirements are also suitable for use with this specification:

S4. Additional Tension Test:

S4.1 One tension test shall be made per ingot or per bloom. The results obtained and the actual self-tempering temperature for the ingot or bloom represented shall be reported on the mill test report when such tests are required by the order.

S8. Ultrasonic Examination:

S8.1 Ultrasonic Examination in accordance with Specification A898/A898M.

S32. Single Heat Bundles:

S32.1 Bundles containing shapes or bars shall be from a single heat of steel.

S59. On purchaser's request and after contract, the manufacturer shall provide weldability data from tests on previous production. Base material tested shall be representative of material furnished (similar composition, melting and rolling practice). The type of test, test variables and acceptance criteria shall be as agreed between the manufacturer and the purchaser. Weldability