



Designation: F 1580 – 01

Standard Specification for Titanium and Titanium-6 Aluminum-4 Vanadium Alloy Powders for Coatings of Surgical Implants¹

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1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers the requirements for unalloyed titanium and Ti-6Al-4V alloy powders for use in fabricating coatings on titanium alloy implants.

1.2 Powders covered under this specification may be used to form coatings by sintering or thermal spraying techniques.

1.3 This specification covers powder requirements only. It does not address properties of the coatings formed from them.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

B 214 Test Method Sieve Analysis of Granular Metal Powders²

B 215 Practices for Sampling Finished Lots of Metal Powders²

B 299 Specification for Titanium Sponge³

E 11 Specification for Wire-Cloth Sieves for Testing Purposes⁴

E 120 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Titanium and Titanium Alloys⁵

F 67 Specification for Unalloyed Titanium for Surgical Implant Applications⁶

F 981 Practice for Assessment of Compatibility of Biomaterials for Surgical Implants With Respect to Effect of Materials on Muscle and Bone⁶

F 1472 Specification for Wrought Ti-6Al-4V Alloy for Surgical Implant Applications⁶

2.2 American Society for Quality (ASQ) Standards:⁷

ASQ C1 General Requirements for a Quality Program

2.3 Aerospace Material Specifications:⁸

AMS 2249 Chemical Check Analysis Limits, Titanium and Titanium Alloys

AMS 4998A Powder, 6Al-4V, Premium Quality (noncurrent)

3. Methods of Manufacture

3.1 Powders may be manufactured by the plasma rotating electrode process, inert gas atomization, hydride-dehydride, or other method capable of producing powder meeting the requirements of this specification.

4. Chemical Requirements

4.1 The chemical analysis of the powder shall conform to the requirements set forth in **Table 1**. Analysis shall be performed before the addition of any processing aids.

4.1.1 Requirements for the major and minor elemental constituents for unalloyed titanium and Ti-6Al-4V alloy powders are listed in **Table 1**. Also listed are all important residual elements. Analysis for elements not listed in **Table 1** is not required to verify compliance with this specification.

4.2 The product analysis tolerance shall conform to the requirements set forth in **Table 2**.

4.3 For referee purposes, Test Methods **E 120** shall be used.

4.4 Intentional elemental additions other than those specified in **Table 1** are not permitted.

4.5 For powder that includes particle size fractions finer than 200 mesh (74 μm), the oxygen content limits shall be agreed upon between buyer and seller.

5. Particle Size and Shape

5.1 Powder shall be sieved to the customer's requirements with stainless steel screens conforming to Specification **E 11**. Analysis of sieved powder for conformance to the customer's particle size range requirements shall be in accordance with Test Method **B 214**.

5.2 Powder made from the plasma rotating electrode process and inert gas atomization tends to be spherical in shape,

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² Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 02.05.

³ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 02.04.

⁴ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 14.02.

⁵ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 03.05.

⁶ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 13.01.

⁷ Available from the American Society for Quality, 600 N. Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53203.

⁸ Available from Society of Automotive Engineers, 400 Commonwealth Dr., Warrendale, PA 15096-0001.

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

TABLE 1 Chemical Requirements

Element	Unalloyed Ti Powder Weight Percent		Ti-6Al-4V Powder Weight Percent	
	Min	Max	Min	Max
Al			5.50	6.75
V			3.50	4.50
O		0.40		0.20
Fe		0.50		0.30
C		0.10		0.08
H		0.05		0.015
N		0.05		0.05
Cu				0.10
Sn				0.10
Si		0.04		
Cl		0.20 ^A		
Na		0.19 ^A		
Ti	balance ^B		balance ^B	

^A Lower maximum chlorine and sodium contents may be agreed upon between buyer and seller.

^B The percentage of titanium is determined by difference and need not be measured.

TABLE 2 Product Analysis Tolerances^A

Element	Variation Under Min or Over Max
Aluminum	0.04
Vanadium	0.015
Oxygen	0.03 ^B
Oxygen	0.02 ^C
Iron	0.10
Hydrogen	0.002
Carbon	0.02
Nitrogen	0.02
Copper	0.05
Tin	0.15
Silicon	0.02

^ARefer to **AMS 2249**.

^BFor unalloyed Ti powder.

^CFor Ti-6Al-4V alloy powder.

powder made from the hydride-dehydride process tends to be angular in shape and sponge powder tends to be irregular in shape.

6. Cleanliness

6.1 Powder shall be handled at all times so as to ensure freedom from contamination with nonmetallic materials or other metal alloy powders or both.

6.2 Powder cleanliness shall be determined by examining a representative sample, per Practices **B 215** or as agreed upon

between buyer and seller, comprising at least 1 in.²(6.45 cm²) of a closely packed mono-layer of powder per lot at 20× magnification. No foreign material shall be visible under these conditions. Powder cleanliness shall be determined before the addition of any processing aids.

7. Special Requirements

7.1 Various materials known as processing aids may be added to the powder to provide enhanced processibility. The powder supplier shall identify the chemical composition and weight percentage of any added processing aids on the material certification.

7.2 Processing aids shall have no detrimental effect on the corrosion resistance or biocompatibility of the final coating.

NOTE 1—Finely divided titanium powder may be considered pyrophoric and should be handled in accordance with the appropriate guidelines in the Material Safety Data Sheet.

8. Certification

8.1 Powder shipped under this specification shall be accompanied by certification that includes:

8.1.1 ASTM designation and date of issue.

8.1.2 Quantity (weight).

8.1.3 Method of manufacture.

8.1.4 Chemical analysis per **4.1**.

8.1.5 Sieve analysis per **5.1**.

8.1.6 Powder cleanliness per **6.2**.

8.1.7 Special requirement per **7.2**.

8.1.8 Other requirements.

9. Quality Program Requirements

9.1 The producer shall maintain a quality program, such as that defined in the **ASQ C1**, for example.

9.2 The manufacturer of surgical implants shall be ensured of the producer's quality program for conformance to the intent of **ASQ C1** or other recognized programs.

10. Keywords

10.1 coatings; metallic; metals (for surgical implants titanium alloys); orthopaedic medical devices (titanium/titanium alloys); powder; porous coatings; titanium/titanium alloys (for surgical implants)

APPENDIXES

(Nonmandatory Information)

X1. RATIONALE

X1.1 Coatings formed from metallic powders have become widely used as a means of improving tissue attachment to uncemented orthopedic joint prosthesis. Such coatings have also been demonstrated to improve bonding of acrylic cement to prostheses. The method used to create the coatings can determine which powder size and shape is suitable for the specific application. Not all powder sizes or shapes are applicable for all coating processes.

X1.2 Chemical composition limits for O, Fe, C, and N in the unalloyed grade are taken from Specification **F 67**, Grade 4. Limits for Si, Cl, H, and Na are taken from Specification **B 299**, Grade SL.

X1.3 Chemical composition limits for Al, V, O, Fe, C, H, and N in the Ti-6Al-4V grade are taken from Specification **F 1472**. Limits for Cu and Sn are taken from **AMS 4998**.