



Standard Specification for Carbon Steel Wire for Wire Rope¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers uncoated and four classes of round, metallic coated, cold-drawn, carbon steel wire for wire rope in five strength levels. This specification specifies:

- 1.1.1 Dimensional tolerances,
- 1.1.2 Mechanical characteristics,
- 1.1.3 Chemical composition requirements,
- 1.1.4 Coating requirements (if applicable), and
- 1.1.5 Packaging requirements.

1.2 The values stated for metric equivalents are provided for informational purposes only.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 This specification incorporates, by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at their appropriate place in the text and the publications are listed. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this specification only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references, the latest edition of the publication referred to would apply.

2.2 ASTM Standards:

- A 90/A 90M Test Method for Weight (Mass) of Coating on Iron or Steel Articles with Zinc or Zinc-Alloy Coatings²
- A 510 Specification for General Requirements for Wire Rods and Coarse Round Wire, Carbon Steel-Coated³
- A 938 Test Method for Torsion Testing of Wire³
- B 6 Specification for Zinc (Slab Zinc)⁴
- B 750 Specification for Zinc-5 % Aluminum Mischmetal Alloy (UNS Z38510) in Ingot Form for Hot-Dip Coatings⁴
- E 8 Test Methods of Tension Testing of Metallic Materials⁵
- IEEE/ASTM-SI-10 Standard for Use of the International

System of Units (SI): The Modern Metric System⁶

2.3 ISO/EN Standards:

EN 10264-1.2 Steel Wire and Wire Products—Steel Wire for Wire Rope⁷

2.4 Industry Standard:

API 9A Specification for Wire Rope⁸

2.5 Industry References:

AIME/ISS Carbon Steel, Wire and Rods⁹

AIAG 02.00 Primary Metals Identification Tag Application⁹

2.6 Non-Referenced Industry Applicable Standards:

ISO Std. 2232 Drawn Wire for General Purpose Non-Alloy Steel Wire Ropes⁷

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *actual diameter*—the arithmetic mean of the minimum and maximum diameter measurements in one location on the wire.

3.1.2 *breaking force level (Levels 1,2,3,4 or 5)*—a wire strength based on the minimum load carrying capability of a designated wire.

3.1.3 *drawn-galvanized*—a zinc coating that is applied to the wire prior to the final cold drawing operation by either an electro-deposition or hot-galvanizing process.

3.1.4 *drawn-Zn5 Al-MM*—a zinc-aluminum alloy (misch-metal) coating that is applied to the wire prior to the final cold drawing operation by a molten coating process.

3.1.5 *final-coated Zn5 Al-MM*—a zinc-aluminum alloy (misch-metal) coating that is applied to the wire after the final cold drawing operation by a molten coating process.

3.1.6 *final-galvanized*—a zinc coating that is applied to the wire after the final cold drawing operation by either an electro-deposition or hot-galvanizing process.

3.1.7 *nominal diameter*—the diameter of the wire expressed in inches (millimetres) and specified by the user to designate

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² Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 01.06.

³ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 01.03.

⁴ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 02.04.

⁵ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 03.01.

⁶ Available from ASTM International headquarters.

⁷ Available from American National Standards Institute, 11 W. 42nd St., 13th Floor, New York, NY 10036.

⁸ Available from American Petroleum Institute, 1801 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20226.

⁹ Available from Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG), 26200 Lahser Road, Suite 200, Southfield, MI 48034–7100.

the wire size. It is the basis for the determination of the values of all characteristics of the wire for acceptance purposes.

3.1.8 *ovality*—the arithmetic difference between the maximum diameter and the minimum diameter in one location on the wire; it shall not be greater than half the tolerance specified in the respective tables referred to in the following parts of this specification.

3.1.9 *uncoated wire*—the surface of a wire furnished with a residual lube film as a result of cold-drawing said wire.

4. Ordering Information

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

- 4.1.1 Quantity (mass),
- 4.1.2 Name of material (drawn steel wire for wire rope),
- 4.1.3 Wire type (uncoated, drawn- or final-galvanized/Zn5 Al-mm coated),
- 4.1.4 Wire diameter,
- 4.1.5 Wire strength grade (Level 1 through 5),
- 4.1.6 Packaging (Section 15),
- 4.1.7 Cast or heat analysis; if requested,
- 4.1.8 Certification or test report; if requested, and
- 4.1.9 ASTM designation and date of issue.

5. Materials and Manufacture

5.1 The base metal rod used in the manufacture of rope wire shall be rolled from good commercial quality steel. The steel may be either ingot cast or strand cast.

5.2 A sufficient discard shall be made to ensure freedom from detrimental piping and undue segregation.

5.3 The wire shall be cold-drawn to produce the desired properties.

5.4 The wire shall be furnished in one of five types, as specified:

- 5.4.1 Uncoated,
- 5.4.2 Drawn-galvanized,
- 5.4.3 Final-galvanized,
- 5.4.4 Drawn Zn5/Al-MM, and
- 5.4.5 Final coated Zn5/Al-MM.

5.5 Uncoated, drawn-galvanized and drawn-Zn5 Al-MM wire can be furnished in Levels 1 through 5. Final-galvanized and final-coated Zn5 Al-MM wire is usually furnished in Levels 1 through 4.

5.6 The method utilized in the production of either drawn- or final-galvanized wire types may be by an electro-deposition or hot-dip galvanizing process at the option of the producer.

5.6.1 The slab zinc used in galvanized zinc coatings shall be as specified in Specification B 6.

5.7 The method utilized in the production of Zn5 Al-MM wire types may be either a continuous hot-dip alloy coating or two step coating where the first coating is zinc followed by a final bath having an aluminum content up to 7.2 % to prevent depletion of the aluminum content of the bath.

5.7.1 The bath metal used in continuous hot-dip Zn-5 Al-MM alloy coating shall meet the chemical composition limits specified in Specification B 750.

6. Chemical Composition

6.1 Upon agreement with the purchaser, the wire manufacturer shall apply a steel of suitable chemical composition that will satisfy the properties of the material ordered.

6.2 A quantitative analysis of each cast or heat shall be made by the steel producer or his representative to determine the percentage of the elements specified. The analysis shall be made from a test sample preferably taken during the pouring of the cast or heat. The chemical composition thus determined shall be reported, if required, to the purchaser or his representative.

6.3 An analysis may be made by the purchaser from the finished wire. The chemical composition thus determined as to the elements required shall conform to the product analysis requirements specified in Table 3 of Specification A 510 or as agreed upon between the purchaser and the manufacturer.

7. Wire Diameter

7.1 The wire shall be measured using a micrometer with a minimum accuracy of 0.0001 in. (0.002 mm) for all diameters.

7.2 All diameter values measured in one location along the wire shall be within the tolerance limits given in Table 1 for uncoated and drawn-galvanized or drawn-Zn5 Al-MM rope wire or Table 2 for final-galvanized or final-coated Zn5 Al-MM rope wire.

8. Tensile Properties

8.1 Tensile Test Procedure:

8.1.1 *Standard Testing Method*—The tensile test shall be carried out in accordance with Test Methods E 8. The distance between the grips of the testing machine shall not be less than 8 in. (203 mm). The speed of the movable head of the testing machine, under no load, shall not exceed 1 in./min (0.4 mm/s). Any specimen breaking within 1 in. (25.4 mm) of the jaws may be disregarded and a retest performed.

8.1.2 *Alternate Testing Method*—The tensile test shall be carried out in accordance with Test Methods E 8. The loading

TABLE 1 Wire Diameter Tolerances Uncoated and Drawn-Galvanized or Zn5 Al-MM Rope Wire

Diameter Range, in.	Diameter Range, mm	Tolerance, in.		Tolerance, mm	
		Minus	Plus	Minus	Plus
0.010 to 0.025 incl.	0.25 to 0.64 incl.	0.0003	0.0007	0.01	0.02
Over 0.025 to 0.060 incl.	Over 0.64 to 1.50 incl.	0.0005	0.001	0.01	0.03
Over 0.060 to 0.093 incl.	Over 1.50 to 2.36 incl.	0.001	0.001	0.03	0.03
Over 0.093 to 0.142 incl.	Over 2.36 to 3.61 incl.	0.001	0.0015	0.03	0.04
Over 0.142 to 0.200 incl.	Over 3.61 to 5.08 incl.	0.0015	0.002	0.04	0.05
Over 0.200 to .250 incl.	Over 5.08 to 6.35 incl.	0.002	0.002	0.05	0.05

breakage. One jaw shall be fixed axially and the other jaw movable axially and arranged for applying tension weights to wire under test. Tests in which breakage occurs within $\frac{1}{8}$ in. (3.18 mm) of the jaw may be disregarded.

9.2 Torsional Response Values—The minimum number of twists for bright (uncoated) or drawn galvanized wire of the grades and sizes listed in Table 3 shall be the number of 360° (6.28 rad) revolutions in an 8-in. (203 mm) length that the wire must withstand before breakage occurs. When the distance between the jaws of the testing machine is different than 8 in. (203-mm), as permitted by 9.1, the minimum number of twists shall be adjusted in direct proportion to the change in jaw spacing as determined by the following formula:

$$T_A = \frac{(T_L \times L_\Delta)}{L_L} \quad (1)$$

where:

T_A = minimum number of twists for the adjusted spacing,
 T_L = minimum number of twists for 8 in. (203 mm) jaw spacing for size and grade.

L_Δ = distance between testing machine jaws for adjusted spacing, inches (mm).

L_L = 8 in. (203 mm).

Torsion testing of final-galvanized or final coated Zn5 Al-MM rope wire is not required but can be produced to the torsional requirements of Table 3 for uncoated rope wire, subject to the following reduced values.

Wire over 0.120 in.	30 % of Table 3 minimum
Wire 0.080—0.120 in.	40 % of Table 3 minimum
Wire 0.035—0.079 in.	50 % of Table 3 minimum

9.3 Torsion Test Loading—During the torsion test, a minimum pound force as shown in Table 4 shall be applied to the wire being tested.

TABLE 4 Applied Load (Pound Force) for Torsion Testing

Diameter of Wire		Minimum Applied Load ^A	
in.	mm	Pounds force (lbf)	Newtons (N)
Over 0.010 to 0.016	Over 0.25 to 0.41	0.5	4
Over 0.016 to 0.020	Over 0.41 to 0.51	1	5
Over 0.020 to 0.030	Over 0.51 to 0.76	2	9
Over 0.030 to 0.040	Over 0.76 to 1.02	3	14
Over 0.040 to 0.050	Over 1.02 to 1.28	4	18
Over 0.050 to 0.060	Over 1.28 to 1.53	5	20
Over 0.060 to 0.070	Over 1.53 to 1.79	6	25
Over 0.070 to 0.080	Over 1.79 to 2.04	7	29
Over 0.080 to 0.090	Over 2.04 to 2.30	8	36
Over 0.090 to 0.100	Over 2.30 to 2.55	9	43
Over 0.100 to 0.110	Over 2.55 to 2.80	10	47
Over 0.110 to 0.120	Over 2.80 to 3.06	11	51
Over 0.120 to 0.130	Over 3.06 to 3.31	12	56
Over 0.130 to 0.140	Over 3.31 to 3.57	13	58
Over 0.140 to 0.150	Over 3.57 to 3.82	14	62
Over 0.150 to 0.160	Over 3.82 to 4.07	15	67
Over 0.160 to 0.170	Over 4.07 to 4.33	16	71
Over 0.170 to 0.180	Over 4.33 to 4.58	17	76
Over 0.180 to 0.190	Over 4.58 to 4.84	18	80
Over 0.190 to 0.200	Over 4.84 to 5.09	19	85
Over 0.200 to 0.210	Over 5.09 to 5.34	20	89
Over 0.210 to 0.220	Over 5.34 to 5.60	21	94
Over 0.220 to 0.230	Over 5.60 to 5.85	22	98
Over 0.230 to 0.240	Over 5.85 to 6.10	23	103
Over 0.240 to 0.250	Over 6.10 to 6.35	24	107

^A Weights shall not exceed twice the minimums listed.

10. Wrap Testing

10.1 All metallic coated wire produced to this specification must meet a wrap test as a measure of steel ductility. The wrapping may be done by any hand or power device that will coil the wire in a closely wound helix about a mandrel equal to twice the nominal diameter of the material being tested for six complete turns without wire fracture.

10.2 All metallic coated wire produced to this specification must meet a wrap test as a measure of coating adherence. The wrapping may be done by any hand or power device that will coil the wire in a closed helix about a mandrel for six complete turns without the coating of the wire flaking or cracking. The mandrel diameter for drawn coatings (either galvanized or mischmetal) is as listed in Table 5. The mandrel for final-galvanized wire and final-coated Zn5/Al-MM is as listed in Table 6.

11. Metallic Coatings for Rope Wire

11.1 Drawn-galvanized and drawn-Zn5 Al-MM rope wire shall be made having a tightly adherent, uniform, and continuous coating. The minimum weight of zinc or zinc-alloy coating tested in accordance with Specification A 90/A 90M shall be as specified in Table 5. The mandrel diameter shall be as specified in Table 5.

11.2 Final-galvanized and final-coated Zn5 Al-MM rope wire shall be made having a tightly adherent, uniform and continuous coating. The minimum weight of zinc or zinc-alloy coating tested in accordance with Specification A 90/A 90M shall be as specified in Table 6. The mandrel diameter shall be as specified in Table 6.

12. Workmanship, Finish and Appearance

12.1 The surface of the wire shall be free from rust and excessive scale. The wire surface shall be smooth and free from detrimental discontinuities such as seams, pits, and die marks.

12.2 Each coil or spool of wire shall be one continuous length properly coiled and firmly tied.

13. Sampling

13.1 Material testing shall be carried out by the supplier in accordance with a method approved by the purchaser. The number of test specimens taken from the end of a given package vary with the quality control procedures and the facilities of each manufacturer, but is generally not less than 10 % of the coils produced.

TABLE 5 Weight of Coating-Mandrel Diameter Drawn-Galvanized or Drawn Zn5 Al-MM Rope Wire

Diameter of Wire		Adherence Test	Minimum Weight of Coating	
in.	mm	Mandrel Diameter ^A	oz/ft ²	kg/m ²
0.010 to 0.015	0.25 to 0.38	1D	0.05	0.015
0.018 to 0.028	0.46 to 0.71	2D	0.10	0.03
0.029 to 0.060	0.74 to 1.52	3D	0.20	0.06
0.061 to 0.090	1.55 to 2.29	4D	0.30	0.09
0.091 to 0.140	2.31 to 3.56	5D	0.40	0.12

^A Where: D = nominal diameter of wire being tested.

TABLE 6 Weight of Coating-Mandrel Diameter Final-Galvanized or Final Coated Zn5 Al-MM Rope Wire

Diameter of Wire	Adherence Test	Minimum Weight of Coating		
in.	mm	Mandrel Diameter ^A	oz/ft ²	kg/m ²
0.025 to 0.047	0.64 to 1.19	2D	0.20	0.06
0.048 to 0.054	1.22 to 1.37	2D	0.40	0.12
0.055 to 0.063	1.40 to 1.60	2D	0.50	0.15
0.064 to 0.079	1.63 to 2.01	2D	0.60	0.18
0.080 to 0.092	2.03 to 2.34	3D	0.70	0.21
0.093 to 0.192	2.36 to 4.88	3D	0.80	0.24
0.193 and larger	4.90 and larger	3D	0.90	0.27

^A Where: D = nominal diameter of wire being tested.

13.2 The purchaser may elect to have incoming acceptance testing performed. To ensure representative sampling, the samples shall be taken at random from the coil or spool ends.

14. Retesting

14.1 If non-complying results are obtained, the purchaser may reject the entire lot, reclassify the material or perform

further testing to establish material acceptability. This additional testing shall be based solely on the non-complying characteristic.

15. Package Marking

15.1 The coil or spool mass, dimensions, and protective covering shall be agreed upon between the manufacturer and purchaser.

15.2 The wire size, purchaser order number, ASTM specification number, heat number and manufacturer identification shall be on a tag securely attached to each package.

15.3 Bar coding of each package is acceptable as a supplementary identification method on the wire identification tag. If bar coding is used, the coding shall be consistent with the AIAG Standard 02.00, Primary Metals Identification Tag Application.

16. Keywords

metallic coated; rope; wire

APPENDIXES

(Nonmandatory Information)

X1. IMPERIAL (ENGLISH) WIRE MATERIALS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH CRITERIA SET FORTH IN EN 10264-1.2)

X1.1 Definitions of Terms Relating to Sampling and Acceptance:

X1.1.1 *batch*—a defined quantity of wire of the same diameter, the same grade, and the same finish presented for inspection and manufactured in conditions assumed to be identical and uniform.

X1.1.2 *unit (wire package)*—A variable or fixed quantity supplied in a:

X1.1.2.1 coil of a single length or mass of wire, or

X1.1.2.2 *bobbin (reel)*—A single length or mass of wire wound on a reel, spool or bobbin, or

X1.1.2.3 *flat coil (spoolless core)*—A single length or mass of wire wound on a cardboard center drum, or

X1.1.2.4 other wire packaging as agreed between supplier and purchaser.

X1.1.3 *base unit for sampling (m₁)*—a mass expressed in pounds (lb) conventionally with a value equal to 100d, where d is the diameter of the wire expressed in inches.

X1.1.4 *size of batch (N)*: number given by the following formula:

$$N = \frac{m}{2.8 \times 10^{-2} \times m_1} \quad (\text{X1.1})$$

where:

m = batch mass, tons, and

m₁ = base unit mass, lb.

Knowing that conventionally:

$$m_1 = 100 d \quad (\text{X1.2})$$

where:

d = nominal wire diameter, in.,
it follows that:

$$N = \frac{m}{2.8 \times 10^{-2} \times 100d} \quad (\text{X1.3})$$

or:

$$N = \frac{0.357 m}{d} \quad (\text{X1.4})$$

X1.1.5 *sample for testing*—a sufficient length of wire for measurement of an individual characteristic.

X1.1.6 *sampling length*—a sufficient length of wire to produce the necessary samples for testing all characteristics.

X1.1.7 *sampling*—taking all necessary samples to supply information on the batch.

X1.1.8 *sample size, n*—number of samples for tests.

X1.1.9 *non-conformance*—result of a test not complying with the requirements for a characteristic.

X1.2 Definitions of Terms Relating to Sampling and Acceptance:

X1.2.1 *batch*—a defined quantity of wire of the same diameter, the same grade, and the same finish presented for inspection and manufactured in conditions assumed to be identical and uniform.

X1.2.2 *unit (wire package)*—a variable or fixed quantity supplied in a:

X1.2.2.1 coil of a single length or mass of wire, or

X1.2.2.2 *bobbin (reel)*—A single length or mass of wire wound on a reel, spool or bobbin, or

X1.2.2.3 *flat coil (spoolless core)*—A single length or mass of wire wound on a cardboard center drum, or

X1.2.2.4 other wire packaging as agreed between supplier and purchaser.

X1.2.3 *base unit for sampling (m_1)*—a mass expressed in (kilograms) conventionally with a value equal to $100d$, where d is the diameter of the wire expressed in (millimetres).

X1.2.4 *size of batch (N)*—number given by the formula:

$$N = \frac{m}{10^3 \times m_1} \quad (\text{X1.5})$$

where:

m = batch mass, tonnes, and

m_1 = base unit mass, kg.

Knowing that conventionally:

$$m_1 = 100 d \quad (\text{X1.6})$$

where:

d = nominal wire diameter (mm),
it follows that:

$$N = \frac{m}{10^{-3} \times 100d} \quad (\text{X1.7})$$

or:

$$N = \frac{10m}{d} \quad (\text{X1.8})$$

X1.2.5 *sample for testing*—a sufficient length of wire for measurement of an individual characteristic.

X1.2.6 *sampling length*—a sufficient length of wire to produce the necessary samples for testing all characteristics.

X1.2.7 *sampling*—taking all necessary samples to supply information on the batch.

X1.2.8 *sample size, n*—number of samples for tests.

X1.2.9 *non-conformance*—result of a test not complying with the requirements for a characteristic.

X2. METRIC WIRE MATERIALS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH CRITERIA SET FORTH IN eN 10264-1.2)

X2.1 *Definition of Terms Relating to Sampling and Acceptance:*

X2.1.1 *batch*—a defined quantity of wire of the same diameter, the same grade, and the same finish presented for inspection and manufactured in conditions assumed to be identical and uniform.

X2.1.2 *unit (wire package)*—a variable or fixed quantity supplied in a:

X2.1.2.1 coil of a single length or mass of wire, or

X2.1.2.2 *bobbin (reel)*—a single length or mass of wire wound on a reel, spool or bobbin, or

X2.1.2.3 *flat coil (spoolless core)*—a single length or mass of wire wound on a cardboard center drum, or

X2.1.2.4 other wire packaging as agreed between supplier and purchaser.

X2.1.3 *base unit for sampling (m_1)*—a mass expressed in (kilograms) conventionally with a value equal to $100 d$, where d is the diameter of the wire expressed in (millimetres).

X2.1.4 *size of batch (N)*: number given by the formula:

$$N = \frac{m}{10^{-3} \times m_1} \quad (\text{X2.1})$$

where:

m = batch mass, tonnes, and
 m_1 = base unit mass, kg.

Knowing that conventionally:

$$m_1 = 100 d \quad (\text{X2.2})$$

where:

d = nominal wire diameter, mm,
it follows that:

$$N = \frac{m}{10^{-3} \times 100d} \quad (\text{X2.3})$$

or:

$$N = \frac{10m}{d} \quad (\text{X2.4})$$

X2.1.5 *sample for testing*—a sufficient length of wire for measurement of an individual characteristic.

X2.1.6 *sampling length*—a sufficient length of wire to produce the necessary samples for testing all characteristics.

X2.1.7 *sampling*—taking all necessary samples to supply information on the batch.

X2.1.8 *sample size, n*—number of samples for tests.

X2.1.9 *non-conformance*—result of a test not complying with the requirements for a characteristic.

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