



Designation: B918/B918M – 17

Standard Practice for Heat Treatment of Wrought Aluminum Alloys ¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B918/B918M; 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 practice is intended for use in the heat treatment of wrought aluminum alloys for general purpose applications.

1.1.1 The heat treatment of wrought aluminum alloys used in specific aerospace applications is covered in AMS 2772.²

1.1.2 Heat treatment of aluminum alloy castings for general purpose applications is covered in Practice **B917/B917M**.

1.2 Times and temperatures appearing in the heat-treatment tables are typical for various forms, sizes, and manufacturing methods and may not provide the optimum heat treatment for a specific item.

1.3 Some alloys in the 6xxx series may achieve the T4 temper by quenching from within the solution temperature range during or immediately following a hot working process, such as upon emerging from an extrusion die. Such alternatives to furnace heating and immersion quenching are indicated in Table 2, by Footnote *L*, for heat treatment of wrought aluminum alloys. However, this practice does not cover the requirements for a controlled extrusion press or hot rolling mill solution heat treatment. (Refer to Practice B807 for extrusion press solution heat treatment of aluminum alloys and to Practice B947 for hot rolling mill solution heat treatment of aluminum alloys.)³

1.4 *Units*—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.

1.5 *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.*

1.6 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 The following documents, of the issue in effect on the date of material purchase, form a part of this specification to the extent referenced herein:

2.2 *ASTM Standards:*³

B557 Test Methods for Tension Testing Wrought and Cast Aluminum- and Magnesium-Alloy Products

B881 Terminology Relating to Aluminum- and Magnesium-Alloy Products

B917/B917M Practice for Heat Treatment of Aluminum-Alloy Castings from All Processes

G69 Test Method for Measurement of Corrosion Potentials of Aluminum Alloys

2.3 *American National Standard:*

H35.1/H35.1(M) Alloy and Temper Designation Systems for Aluminum⁴

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Refer to Terminology **B881** for definitions of product terms used in this practice.

3.2 *Definition of Pyrometry Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2.1 *control sensor, n*—sensor connected to the furnace temperature controller, which may or may not be recording.

3.2.2 *load sensor, n*—sensor that is attached to the production material or a representation of production material, that supplies temperature data of the production material to process instrumentation.

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B07 on Light Metals and Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B07.03 on Aluminum Alloy Wrought Products.

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² Available from SAE International, 400 Commonwealth Dr., Warrendale, PA 15096-0001, <http://www.sae.org>.

³ 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.

⁴ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.

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



TABLE 1 Tests Required

Product Form	Tensile Properties ^A	Heat-treat-induced Porosity ^B [Periodic Test]	Intergranular Corrosion ^C [Periodic Test]	Diffusion (Alclad Only) ^D [Periodic Test]	Eutectic Melting [Periodic Test]
Plate and sheet	X	X	X ^E	X	X
Wire, rod, bar, and profiles	X	X	X	...	X
Forgings	X	X	X	...	X
Tubing	X	X	...	X	X
Rivets, fastener components	X	X	X	...	X

^A Those specified in the applicable procurement material specification for lot release.

^B Applicable only to material solution heat-treated in air furnaces.

^C Applicable to the most quench-sensitive alloys-tempers in the following order of preference: (1) 2xxx in -T3 or -T4 and (2) 7xxx in -T6 temper. No test is required if 2xxx-T3 or -T4 or 7xxx-T6, was not solution heat-treated during the period since the prior verification test.

^D Not applicable for thicknesses less than 0.020 in.

^E Applicable to periodic testing of sheet product only.

3.2.3 *monitoring sensor, n*—sensor connected to the monitoring instrument.

3.2.4 *test sensor, n*—sensor used in conjunction with a test instrument to perform a system accuracy test or temperature uniformity survey.

4. Equipment

4.1 *Heating Media*—Aluminum alloys are typically heat-treated in air chamber furnaces or molten salt baths; however, lead baths, oil baths, or fluidized beds, may be used. The use of uncontrolled heating is not permitted. Whichever heating means are employed, careful evaluation is required to ensure that the alloy being heat-treated responds properly to heat-treatment and is not damaged by overheating or by the heat-treatment environment.

4.1.1 Air chamber furnaces may be oil- or gas-fired or may be electrically heated. Furnace components that are significantly hotter than the metal should be suitably shielded for metal less than 0.250 in. [6.35 mm] thick to prevent adverse radiation effects. The atmosphere in air chamber furnaces must be controlled to prevent potential porosity resulting from solution heat treatment (see Note 1). The suitability of the atmosphere in an air-chamber furnace can be demonstrated by testing, in accordance with 7.4.2.1, that products processed in that furnace are free from heat-treat induced porosity.

NOTE 1—Heat-treat induced porosity may lower mechanical properties and commonly causes blistering of the surface of the material. The condition is most likely to occur in furnaces in which the products of combustion contact the work, particularly if the gases are high in water vapor or contain compounds of sulfur. In general, the high-strength wrought alloys of the 2xxx and 7xxx series are most susceptible. Low-strength and Alclad (two sides) products are practically immune to this type of damage. Anodic films and proprietary heat-treat coatings are also useful in protecting against porosity resulting from solution heat treatment. Surface discoloration is a normal result of solution heat treatment of aluminum alloys and should not be interpreted as evidence of damage from overheating or as heat-treat induced porosity (see 7.4.2.1).

4.1.2 Salt baths heat the work rapidly and uniformly. The temperature of the bath can be closely controlled, an important consideration in solution heat treatment of wrought aluminum alloys. High-temperature oxidation of aluminum is not a problem in salt baths.

4.2 *Furnace Temperature Uniformity and Calibration Requirements:*

4.2.1 After establishment of thermal equilibrium or a recurrent temperature pattern, the temperature in the working (soaking) zone, for all furnace control and test sensors, shall maintain temperature in the working (soaking) zone within the following allowable ranges:

4.2.1.1 50°F [28°C] range for furnaces used only for full annealing at 825°F [441°C] and higher, except 20°F [12°C] range if the annealing temperature is within 15°F [8°C] of the middle of the solution heat treating temperature range specified in Table 2.

4.2.1.2 30°F [17°C] range for furnaces used only for solution heat treatment of those 6xxx alloys for which Table 2 specifies a range from 30°F [17°C] or more.

4.2.1.3 20°F [12°C] range for furnaces used for other solution heat treatment specified in Table 2 and any aging heat treatment.

4.2.2 *Temperature-Measuring System Accuracy Test*—The accuracy of temperature-measuring system shall be checked weekly under operating conditions. This check should be made by inserting a calibrated test temperature-sensing element adjacent to the furnace temperature-sensing element and reading the test temperature-sensing element with a calibrated test potentiometer. When the furnace is equipped with dual potentiometer measuring systems which are checked daily against each other, the preceding checks may be conducted every three months rather than every week. The test temperature-sensing element, potentiometer, and cold junction compensation combination shall have been calibrated against National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) or equivalent national standard primary or secondary certified temperature-sensing elements, within the previous three months, to an accuracy of 6 2°F [6 1.1°C].

4.3 *Furnaces and Salt Baths Temperature Uniformity Surveys*—A temperature uniformity survey shall be performed for each furnace and salt bath to ensure compliance with temperature uniformity requirements (see 4.2) and the requirements presented herein.

4.3.1 A new temperature uniformity survey shall be made after any modification, repair, adjustment (for example, to power controls, or baffles), or re-build which alters the temperature uniformity characteristics of the furnace or salt bath and changes the effectiveness of the heat treatment.



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TABLE 2 Recommended Heat Treatment for Wrought Aluminum Alloys

Product	Solution Heat Treatment			Precipitation Heat Treatment ^B		
	Metal Temperature, ^{C,D} ±10°F [±6°C]	Quench Temperature, ^E °F [°C]	Temper	Metal Temperature, ±10°F [±6°C]	Time at Temperature, h	Temper
2011 Alloy^A						
Cold-finished wire, rod, and bar	945–995 [507–535]	110 [43] max	T3 ^F T4 T451 ^G	320 [160]	14	T8 ^F
Drawn tube	[524]	110 [43] max	T3 ^F T4511 ^G	[160] ...	14 ...	T8 ^F ...
2014 Alloy^A						
Flat sheet, bare or Alclad	925–945 [496–507] 935 [502]	110 [43] max	T3 ^F T42	... 320 [160]	... 18–20	... T62
Coiled sheet, bare or Alclad	925–945 [496–507] [502]	110 [43] max	T4 935 T42	320 [160] 320 [160]	18 18–20	T6 T62
Plate, bare or Alclad	925–945 [496–507] 935 [502]	110 [43] max	T451 ^G T42	320 [160] 350 [177]	18 8–9	T651 ^G T62
Cold-finished wire, rod, and bar	925–945 [496–507] 935 [502]	110 [43] max	T4 T451 ^H T42	350 [177] 350 [177] 350 [177]	9 9 8–9	T6 T651 ^H T62
Extruded wire, rod, bar, profiles, and tube	925–945 [496–507] 935 [502]	110 [43] max	T4 T4510 ^H T4511 ^H T42	350 [177] 350 [177] 350 [177] 350 [177]	9 9 9 8–9	T6 T6510 ^H T6511 ^H T62
Drawn tube	925–945 [496–507] [502]	110 [43] max	T4 935 T42	350 [177] 350 [177]	9 8–9	T6 T62
Die forgings	925–945 [496–507]	140–180 [60–82]	T4	350 [177]	9	T6
Hand forgings and rolled rings	925–945 [496–507] [502]	140–180 [60–82]	T4 935, T452	350 [177] 350 [177]	9 10	T6 T652 ^I
2017 Alloy^A						
Cold-finished wire, rod, and bar	925–950 [496–510]	110 [43] max	T4 T451 ^H T42	.........	.........	.........
2018 Alloy^A						
Die forgings	940–970 [504–521]	212 [100]	T4	340 [171]	10	T61
2024 Alloy^A						
Flat sheet, bare or Alclad	910–930 [488–499] [493]	110 [43] max	T3 920 ^F T361 T42 T42	375 [191] 375 [191] 375 [191] 375 [191]	12 8 9–10 16–18	T81 ^F T861 ^J T62 T72 [–]
Coiled sheet, bare or Alclad	930 [488–499] 920 [493]	110 [43] max	T4 T42 T42	375 [191] 375 [191] 375 [191]	9–10 9 16–18	T6 T62 T72 [–]
Plate, bare or Alclad	930 [488–499] 920 [493]	110 [43] max	T351 T361 ^J T42	375 [191] 375 [191] 375 [191]	12 8 9–10	T851 ^G T861 ^J T62 [–]
Cold-finished wire, rod, and bar	930 [488–499] 920 [493]	110 [43] max	T351 T36 ^J T4 T42 [–]	375 [191] ... 375 [191] 375 [191]	12 ... 12 12–13	T851 ^H ... T6 T62 [–]
Extruded wire, rod, bar, profiles, and tube	910–930 [488–499] 920 [493]	110 [43] max	T3 ^F T3510 ^H T3511 ^H T42 [–]	375 [191] 375 [191] 375 [191] 375 [191]	12 12 12 12–13	T81 ^F T8510 ^H T8511 ^H T62 [–]
Drawn tube	910–930 [488–499] [493]	110 [43] max	T3 920 ^F T42	375 [191] 375 [191]	12 9–10	T8 ^F T62 [–]
Die Forgings	930 [488–499]	110 [43] max	T3 ^F	375 [191]	11	T81 ^F
2025 Alloy^A						
Die forgings	950–970 [510–521]	140–160 [60–71]	T4	350 [177]	9	T6
2117 Alloy^A						
Cold-finished, wire or rod	925–950 [496–510]	110 [43] max	T4



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TABLE 2 *Continued*

Product	Solution Heat Treatment			Precipitation Heat Treatment ^B		
	Metal Temperature, ±10°F [±6°C] ^{C,D}	Quench Temperature, °F [°C] ^E	Temper	Metal Temperature, ±10°F [±6°C]	Time at Temperature, h	Temper
2124 Alloy ^A						
Plate	910–930 [488–499]	110 [43] max	T3 ^F	375 [191]	12	T8 ^F
			T31 ^G	370 [188]	12	T8151 ^G
	920 [493]		T4	375 [191]	9	T6
			T3 ^F	375 [191]	12	T82 ^F
2218 Alloy ^A						
Die forgings	940–960 [504–516]	212 [100]	T4	340 [171]	10	T61
			T4	460 [238]	6	T7
	950 [510]		T4	340 [171]	10	T62
			T4	460 [238]	6	T72
2219 Alloy ^A						
Flat sheet, bare or Alclad	985–1005 [529–541]	110 [43] max	T31 ^F	350 [177]	18	T81 ^F
	995 [535]		T37 ^K	325 [163]	24	T87 ^K
			T42	375 [191]	17–19	T62 --
Plate	985–1005 [529–541]	110 [43] max	T37 ^K	325 [163]	17–19	T87 ^K
	995 [535]		T351 ^G	350 [177]	18	T851 ^G
			T42	375 [191]	35–37	T62
Cold-finished wire, rod, and bar	985–1005 [529–541]	110 [43] max	T4	375 [191]	18	T6
			T351 ^H	375 [191]	18	T851 ^H
Extruded wire, rod, bar, profiles, and tube	985–1005 [529–541]	110 [43] max	T31 ^F	375 [191]	18	T81 ^F
			T3510 ^H	375 [191]	18	T8510 ^H
			T3511	375 [191]	18	T8511
	995 [535]		T42	375 [191]	35–37	T62
			T3	375 [191]	17–19	T82 --
Die forgings and rolled 995 [335]	985–1005 [529–541]	110 [43] max T42	T4 rings	375 [191]	26	T6
			T352 ^I	375 [191]	25–27	T62 ^I
			T352	350 [177]	17–19	T82
Hand forgings	985–1005 [529–541]	110 [43] max	T4	375 [191]	26	T6
			T42 ^I	375 [191]	25–27	T62 ^I
	995 [335]		T352	350 [177]	17–19	T852
2618 Alloy ^A						
Die, hand, and rolled ring forgings	975–995 [524–535]	212 [100]	T4	390 [199]	20	T61
	985 [529]		T42	390 [199]	19–21	T62
4032 Alloy						
Die forgings	940–970 [504–521]	140–180 [60–82]	T4	340 [171]	10	T6
	955 [513]		T42	340 [171]	9–11	T62
6005 Alloy						
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	...	...	T1	350 [177]	8	T5
6005A Alloy						
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	...	...	T1	350 [177]	8	T5
			T4	350 [177]	8	T61
6013 Alloy ^A						
Sheet, bare	1045–1065 [563–574]	110 [43] max	T4	375 [191] or 345 [174]	4 8	T6
	1000 [538]		T42	375 [191]	4–5	T62 --
bare	1020–1050 [549–566]	110 [43] max	Plate,	...	8–16	T651 ^G
			Cold-	...	...	T651 ^H
finished wire, rod, and bar	1040–1060 [560–571]	110 [43] max	...	375 [191]	4	T651 ^F
			...	375 [191]	4	T8
6020 Alloy ^A						
Rod, bar & extrusion	1010–1050 [543–566]	110 [43] max	W ^U	355 [176]	8–10	T6511 ^H
Wire, rod, & bar	1010–1050 [543–566]	110 [43] max	W ^U	355 [176]	8–10	T8 ^F
		
6053 Alloy						
Cold-finished wire and rod	960–980 [516–527]	110 [43] max	T4	355 [179]	8	T61
forgings	960–980 [516–527]	110 [43] max	Die	...	...	...
			T4	340 [171]	10	T6
	970 [521]		T42	340 [171]	10	T62
6061 Alloy ^A						
Sheet, bare or Alclad	960–1075 [516–579] 985 [529]	110 [43] max	T4	320 [160]	18	T6
			T42 ^Z	350 [177] ^Z	8–10 ^Z	T62 ^Z
			T42	320 [160]	17–19	T62



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TABLE 2 *Continued*

Product	Solution Heat Treatment			Precipitation Heat Treatment ^B		
	Metal Temperature, ±10°F [±6°C] ^{C,D}	Quench Temperature, °F [°C] ^E	Temper	Metal Temperature, ±10°F [±6°C]	Time at Temperature, h	Temper
6061 Alloy ^A (Continued)						
Plate	960–1075 [516–579] 985 [529]	110 [43] max	T451 ^G T42	320 [160] 350 [177]	18 18	T651 ^G T62
Tread Sheet and Plate ^{N,O}	960–1075 [516–579]	110 [43] max	T4	320 [160]	18	T6
Cold-finished wire, rod, and bar	960–1075 [516–579]	110 [43] max ^P	T4	350 [177] or 320 [160]	8 18	T6 T89 ^{Q,R}
			T3 ^F	340 [171] or 320 [160]	8 18	T89 ^{Q,R}
			T4	350 [177]	8	T94 ^S
			T451 ^H	350 [177]	8	T651 ^H
	985 [529]		T42	350 [177]	8–10	T62 --
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	960–1075 [516–579] ^L	110 [43] max ^P	T1 T4 ^H T4510 ^H T4511 T42	350 [177] 350 [177] 350 [177] 350 [177] 350 [177]	8 8 8 8 8–10	T51 T6 ^H T6510 ^H T6511 T62 --
Structural profiles	960–1075 [516–579] ^L	110 [43] max ^P	T4	350 [177]	8	T6
Pipe	960–1075 [516–579] ^L	110 [43] max ^P	T4	350 [177]	8	T6
Drawn tube	1075 [516–579]	110 [43] max	T4	320 [160] or 340 [171]	18 8	T6 T62 --
	985 [529]		T42	340 [171]	8	T62 --
Die and hand forgings	1075 [516–579]	110 [43] max	T4	350 [177] or 340 [171]	8 10	T6
Rolled rings	1075 [516–579]	110 [43] max	T4 ^T	350 [177]	8	T6 ^T
	985 [529]		T452	350 [177]	8–10	T652
6063 Alloy						
Extruded rod, bar, tube, and profiles	...	...	T1	400 [204] or 360 [182]	1–2 3	T5
			T1	400 [204] or 360 [182]	1–2 3	T52
	960–1010 [516–543] ^L	110 [43] max ^P	T4	350 [177] or 360 [182]	8 6	T6 T62 --
	985 [529]		T42	350 [177]	8–10	T62 --
Drawn tube	1010 [516–543]	110 [43] max	T4 ^F	350 [177]	8	T6 ^R
			T3 ^F	350 [177]	8	T83 ^R
			T3 ^F	350 [177]	8	T831 ^R
			T3 ^F	350 [177]	8	T832
			T31	...	...	...
	985 [529]		T42	350 [177]	8–10	T62 --
Pipe	960–1010 [516–543] ^L	110 [43] max ^P	T4	360 [182] or 350 [177]	6 8	T6
6066 Alloy						
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	960–1010 [516–543]	110 [43] max	T4 ^H T4510 ^H T4511 T42	350 [177] 350 [177] 350 [177] 350 [177]	8 8 8 8–10	T6 ^H T6510 ^H T6511 T62 --
Die forgings	1010 [516–543]	110 [43] max	T4	350 [177]	8	T6
6070 Alloy						
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	1015 [546] ^L	110 [43] max	T4 T42	320 [160] 320 [160]	18 18	T6 T62
6082 Alloy						
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	980 [527] ^L	...	T4 ^H T4511	350 [177] 350 [177]	8 8	T6 ^H T6511
6101 Alloy						
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	970 [521] ^L	110 [43] max	T4 T4 T4 T4 T4	390 [199] 440 [227] 410 [210] 535 [279] 430 [221]	10 5 9 7 3	T6 T61 T63 T64 T65



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TABLE 2 *Continued*

Product	Solution Heat Treatment			Precipitation Heat Treatment ^B			
	Metal Temperature, ±10°F [±6°C] ^{C,D}	Quench Temperature, °F [°C] ^E	Temper	Metal Temperature, ±10°F [±6°C]	Time at Temperature, h	Temper	
6105 Alloy							
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	...	...	T1	350 [177]	8	T5
			T4	350 [177]	8	T6	
6110 Alloy							
Cold-finished wire, rod, and bar	980–1050 [527–566]	110 [43] max	T4 ^S	380 [193]	8	T9 ^S	
6151 Alloy							
Die forgings	950–980 [510–527]	110 [43] max	T4	340 [171]	10	T6	
----- 110							
Rolled rings	960 [516]	[43] max	T4	340 [171]	10	T6	
			T452 ^I	340 [171]	10	T652 ^I	
6162 Alloy							
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	...	...	T1	350 [177]	8	T5
			T1510	350 [177]	8	T5510	
			T1511	350 [177]	8	T5511	
			T4	350 [177]	8	T6	
			T4510	350 [177]	8	T6510	
	980 [527] ^L	...	T45111	350 [177]	8	T6511	
6201 Alloy							
Wire	950 [510]	110 [43] max	T3	320 [160]	4	T81 ^R	
6262 Alloy							
Cold-finished wire, rod, and bar	960–1050 [516–566]	110 [43] max	T4	340 [171]	8	T6	
			T4 ^H	340 [171]	8	T9 ^S	
			T451 ^H	340 [171]	8	T651 ^H	
			T42	340 [171]	8	T62	
----- 110							
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	960–1050 [516–566] ^L	[43] max	T4	350 [177]	12	T6	
			T4510 ^H	350 [177]	12	T6510 ^H	
			T4511 ^H	350 [177]	12	T6511 ^H	
			T42	350 [177]	11–13	T62	
----- 110							
Drawn tube	960–1050 [516–566]	[43] max	T4	340 [171]	8	T6	
			T4 ^S	340 [171]	8	T9	
			T42	340 [171]	8	T62	
6351 Alloy							
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	...	...	T1	350 [177]	8	T5
				350 [177]	8	T51	
			T11	250 [121]	10	T54	
				or 350 [177]	8		
	960–1010 [516–543] ^L	110 [43] max ^P	T4	350 [177]	8	T6	
6463 Alloy							
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	...	...	T1	400 [204]	1	T5
				or 360 [182]	3		
			T4	350 [177]	8	T6	
	970 [521] ^L	110 [43] max ^P		or 360 [182]	6		
7005 Alloy							
Extruded rod, bar, and profiles	...	...	T1	room temperature 225 [107] 300 [149]	72 plus 8 plus 16	T53
7049 Alloy ^A							
Extruded rod, bar, and profiles	860–900 [460–482]	110 [43] max	W511 ^{H,U}	room temperature 250 [121] 375 [163]	48 plus 24 plus 13	T76511 ^H	
			W511 ^{H,U}	room temperature 250 [121] 330 [166]	48 plus 24 plus 17	T73511 ^H	
			----- 140-----				
			W	room temperature	48 plus	T73	
				250 [121]	8–24		
	340 [171]	6–16					
	W51 ^{I,U}	room temperature	8–24 plus	T7351			
	250 [121]	8–24 plus					
	335 [168]	6–16					
	W52 ^{I,U}	room temperature	24 plus	T7352			
	250 [151]	8–24 plus					
	330 [166]	6–16					
	W ^U	room temperature	48 min	T732			
		24 min					
		13–14					



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TABLE 2 *Continued*

Product	Solution Heat Treatment			Precipitation Heat Treatment ^B		
	Metal Temperature, ±10°F [±6°C] ^{C,D}	Quench Temperature, °F [°C] ^E	Temper	Metal Temperature, ±10°F [±6°C]	Time at Temperature, h	Temper
7050 Alloy						
Plate	880–900 [471–482]	110 [43] max	W51 ^{G,U}	250 [121] 350 [177]	4–24 plus 8–16	T7351 ^G
			W51 ^{G,U}	250 [121] 325 [163]	3–6 plus 24–30	T7451 ^G
			W51 ^{G,U}	250 [121] 325 [163]	3–6 plus 12–15	T7651 ^G
	890 [477]		W51 ^{G,U}	250 [121] 350 [177]	6–8 plus 6–8	T742
			W51 ^{G,U}	250 [121] 350 [177]	6–8 plus 6.5–7	T762
finished wire, rod	880–900 [471–482]	110 [43] max	W ^U	250 [121] 350 [177]	4–24 plus 6–12	T7 ^{Cold-}
Extruded rod, bar, profiles	880–900 [471–482]	110 [43] max	W510 and ^{H,U}	250 [121] 350 [177]	24 plus 12–15	T73510 ^H
			W510 ^{H,U}	250 [121] 340 [171]	24 plus 8–12	T74510 ^H
			W510 ^{H,U}	250 [121] 325 [163]	3–8 plus 15–18	T76510 ^H
			W511 ^{H,U}	250 [121] 350 [177]	24 plus 12–15	T73511 ^H
			W511 ^{H,U}	250 [121] 340 [171]	24 plus 18–12	T74511 ^H
			W511 ^{H,U}	250 [121] 325 [163]	3–8 plus 15–18	T76511 ^H
	890 [477]		W ^U	250 [121] 350 [177]	6–8 plus 11.5–12.5	T732
			W ^U	250 [121] 350 [177]	6–8 plus 6–8	T742
			W ^U	250 [121] 350 [177]	6–8 plus 3.5–4.5	T762
& hand forgings	880–900 [471–482]	140–160 [60–71]	W	250 [121]	3–6 plus 6–12	T74 ^{Die forgings}
			W51 ^{I,U}	250 [121] 350 [177]	3–6 plus 6–10	T7451
			W52 ^{I,U}	250 [121] 350 [177]	3–6 plus 6–10	T7452
			W ^U	room temperature 250 [121]	72 plus 48	T6
	890 [477]		W ^U	250 [121] 350 [177]	6–8 plus 6–8	T742
			W ^U	250 [121] 350 [177]	6–8 plus 3.5–4.5	T762
7075 Alloy ^A						
Sheet, bare or Alclad	860–930 [460–499] ^V	110 [43] max	W ^U	250 [121]	24	T6
			W ^U	225 [107] 325 [163]	6–8 plus 24–30	T73 ^X
				or 225 [107] 335 [168] ^W	6–8 plus 14–18	
			W ^U	250 [121] 325 [163]	3–5 plus 15–18	T76 ^X
	870 [466] ^{V,Y}		W ^U	250 [121]	23–25	T62
Plate, bare or Alclad	860–930 [460–499] ^{V,Y}	110 [43] max	W51 ^{G,U}	250 [121] or 205 [96] 315 [157]	24 4 plus 8	T651 ^G
			W51 ^{G,U}	225 [107] 325 [163]	6–8 plus 24–30	T7351 ^{G,X}
				or 225 [107] 335 [168] ^W	6–8 plus 14–18	
			W51 ^{G,U}	250 [121] or 250 [121] 325 [163]	24 3–5 plus 15–18	T7651 ^{G,X}
	870 [466] ^{V,Y,AA}		W ^U	250 [121] or 205 [96] 315 [157]	23–25 4 plus 8	T62



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TABLE 2 *Continued*

Product	Solution Heat Treatment			Precipitation Heat Treatment ^B		
	Metal Temperature, ±10°F [±6°C] ^{C,D}	Quench Temperature, °F [°C] ^E	Temper	Metal Temperature, ±10°F [±6°C]	Time at Temperature, h	Temper
7075 Alloy ^A (Continued)						
Hand forgings	860–900 [460–482] 870 [466] ^{V,Y}	140–160 [60–71]	W ^U	250 [121]	24	T6
			W ^U	225 [107]	6–8 plus	T73 ^X
				350 [177]	8–10	
			W51 ^{I,U}	225 [107]	6–8 plus	T7351 ^{I,X}
				350 [177]	6–8	
			W52 ^{I,U}	225 [107]	6–8 plus	T7352 ^{I,X}
				350 [177]	6–8	
			W ^U	225 [107]	6–8 plus	T74
				350 [177]	6–8	
			W52 ^{I,U}	250 [121]	23–25	T652 ^I
			W ^U	250 [121]	23–25	T62
			W ^U	225 [107]	6–7 plus	T732
	350 [177]	8–10				
		6–7 plus	T7362			
		325 [163]	16–18			

Rolled rings	860–900 [460–482] 870 [466] ^{V,Y}	110 [43] max	W ^U	250 [121]	24	T6
			W52 ^{I,U}	250 [121]	24	T652 ^I
7116 Alloy ^A						
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	... ^L	...	W ^U	215 [102]	5 plus	T5
				330 [166]	5	
7129 Alloy ^A						
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	... ^L 900 [482] ^L	...	W ^U	215 [102]	5 plus	T5
				320 [160]	5	
			W ^U	215 [102]	5 plus	T6
		110 [43] max		320 [160]	5	
7175 Alloy ^A						
Extruded rod, bar, profiles, and tube	880–910 [471–488]	...	W ^U	225 [107]	6–8 plus	T74
				350 [177]	6–8	

Die and hand forgings	880–910 [471–488]	180 [82]	W ^U	225 [107]	6–8 plus	T74
				350 [177]	6–8	
			W52 ^{I,U}	225 [107]	6–8 plus	T7452 ^I
				350 [177]	6–8	
			W ^U	250 [151]	24	T6
7475 Alloy ^A						
Sheet	880–970 [471–521]	140–160 [60–71]	W ^U	250 [121]	3 plus	T61
				320 [160]	3	
			W ^U	250 [121]	3 plus	T761
				325 [163]	8–10	

Alclad Sheet	880–970 [471–521] ^{AB}	140–160 [60–71]	W ^U	280 [138]	3	T6
				Plate		

880–970 [471–521]	140–160 [60–71]	W		250 [121]	24	T6
			W51 ^{G,U}	240 [116]	24	T651 ^G
			W51 ^{G,U}	250 [121]	6–8 plus	T7351 ^{G,X}
				325 [163]	24–30	
			W51 ^{G,U}	250 [121]	4–8 plus	T7651 ^{G,X}
			310 [154]	26–32		

880–970 [471–521]	140–160 [60–71]	W		250 [121]	3 plus	T62
					325 [163]	3

^A For specific aerospace applications, refer to SAE-AMS heat-treating and material specifications. ²

^B Typical or nominal time at temperature. Actual practice may vary depending on material requirements.

^C Recommended soaking times to achieve specified metal temperature appear in Table 3.

^D Where a temperature range exceeding 20°F [12°C] is shown, a temperature within that range shall be selected and adhered to within the ±10°F [±6°C] limits. For solution heat treatment of those 6xxx alloys for which the table specifies a range of 30°F [17°C] degrees or more, a range of 30°F [17°C] may be used. Limits thus derived must lie totally within the range specified.

^E Unless otherwise indicated, when material is quenched by total immersion in water, the water should be at room temperature and suitably cooled to remain below 110°F [43°C] during the quenching cycle.

^F Cold-worked in the solution heat-treated condition, prior to precipitation heat treatment to obtain specified mechanical properties.

^G Stress-relieved by cold stretching to a permanent set of 1 1/2 to 3 % in the solution heat-treated condition.

^H Stress-relieved by cold stretching to a permanent set of 1 to 3 % in the solution heat-treated condition for wire, rod, bar, profiles, and extruded tube, and 3 % for drawn tubular products.

^I Stress relieved by cold compressing 1 to 3 % after solution heat treatment.

^J Approximately 6 % cold-worked in the solution heat-treated condition.

^K Approximately 7 % cold-worked in the solution heat-treated condition.

^L With suitable control of extruding temperature and quench rate, product may be quenched upon emerging from an extrusion press instead of being furnace heat treated.

^M For Alclad sheet the maximum temperature is 1000°F [538°C].

^N "Tread Plate" is a generic term and includes thicknesses below 0.250 in. [6.35 mm].

^O Unused to avoid confusion.

^P Upon exiting the solution heat treating furnace, spray quenching may be used on thin sections where substantiated by test results.



^Q Unused to avoid confusion.

^R Cold-worked in the solution heat-treated condition sufficient to produce the properties specified for this temper upon subsequent precipitation heat treatment.

^S Cold-worked after precipitation heat treatment sufficient to produce the properties specified for this temper.

^T Stress-relieved by 1 to 5 % cold reduction in the solution heat-treated condition.

^U The "W" (as-quenched) condition is an unstable temper and at room temperature will change due to precipitation hardening.

^V Under some conditions melting can occur when heating 7075 alloy above 900°F [482°C] and caution should be exercised to avoid this potential.

^W A heat-up rate to 335°F [168°C] should be 25°F/h [14°C/h].

^X The aging of aluminum alloys 7075 and 7178 from any temper to the T73 (applicable to alloy 7075 only) or T76 temper series requires closer than normal controls on aging practice variables such as time, temperature, heating-up rates, and so forth, for any given item. In addition to the preceding, when aging material in the T6 temper series to the T73 or T76 temper series, the specific condition of the T6 temper material (such as its property level and other effect of processing variables) is extremely important and will affect the capability of the re-aged material to conform to the requirements specified for the applicable T73 or T76 temper series.

^Y For plate, rod, or bar over 4 in. in thickness or diameter, heat-treat 860 to 910°F [460 to 488°C].

^Z Alternate for sheet under 0.064" [0.16 mm].

^{AA} For alclad sheet, 0.020" [0.51 mm] and under in thickness, minimum temperature of 850°F [454°C] is permissible; for alclad sheet over 0.020" [0.51 mm] in thickness should not exceed 900°F [482°C].

^{AB} Alclad sheet maximum temperature of 945°F [507°C].

4.3.2 The initial temperature survey shall be made at the maximum and minimum temperature of solution heat treatments and precipitation heat treatments for which each furnace is to be used. There shall be at least one test location for each 25 ft [0.69³ m³] of air furnace volume up to a maximum of 40 test locations, with a minimum of nine test locations, one in each corner and one in the center. For salt-bath furnaces, one test location is required for each 40 ft [1.1³ m³] of volume.

4.3.3 After the initial survey, each furnace shall be surveyed monthly thereafter, except as provided in 4.3.8 and 4.3.9. The monthly survey shall be at one operating temperature for solution heat treatment and one operating temperature for precipitation heat treatment.

4.3.4 During furnace temperature uniformity surveys, separate test sensors shall be used to determine actual temperature distribution and uniformity. The furnace control sensor(s), in the working (soaking) zone(s), shall not be used to determine the temperature of the test. There shall be at least one test sensor for each 40 ft [1.1³ m³] of load volume, with a minimum of nine test sensors, one in each corner and one in the center. For furnaces of 10 ft [0.28³ m³] or less, the temperature uniformity survey may be made with a minimum of three test sensors, one each in the front, center, and rear, or one each at the top, center, and bottom of the furnace. Use of a load sensor in small furnaces is recommended.

4.3.5 *Batch Furnace Temperature Uniformity Surveys*—The temperature uniformity surveys shall reflect the normal operating characteristics of the furnace. If the furnace is normally charged after being stabilized at the correct operating temperature, the test sensors shall be similarly charged. If the furnace is normally charged cold, the test sensors shall be charged cold. After insertion of the test sensors, readings should be taken frequently enough to determine when the temperature of the hottest region of the furnace approaches the bottom of the temperature range being surveyed. From that time until thermal equilibrium is reached, the temperature of all test locations should be determined at a maximum of 2-min intervals in order to detect any overshooting. After thermal equilibrium is reached, readings should be taken at a maximum of 5-min intervals, for not less than 30 min, to determine the recurrent temperature pattern. The results of these surveys shall demonstrate that: (1) the maximum temperature variation (from the coldest to the hottest reading) between all test sensors and furnace control sensor(s), is within the applicable temperature uniformity range defined in 4.2; and, (2) all test sensor

readings are within the specified heat-treating temperature range being surveyed.

4.3.6 *Continuous Furnace Temperature Uniformity Surveys*—The type of survey and the procedures for performing surveys on continuous furnaces shall be established for each particular furnace involved. The types of continuous heat-treating furnaces vary considerably, depending upon the product form and sizes involved. For some types and sizes of furnaces, the only practical way to survey the furnace is to perform an extensive mechanical property survey of the limiting product sizes to verify conformance with the specified mechanical properties for such sizes and to verify conformance with Table 1. Monthly furnace temperature uniformity surveys should be performed, when physically practical, using a minimum of two test sensors attached to the material being heat treated. The surveys should reflect the normal operating characteristics of the furnace. The results of these surveys shall demonstrate that: (1) the maximum temperature variation (from the coldest to the hottest reading) between all test sensors and furnace control sensor(s) is within the applicable temperature uniformity range defined in 4.2; and (2) all test sensor readings are within the specified heat treating temperature range being surveyed.

4.3.7 *Salt Bath Temperature Uniformity Surveys*—The temperature uniformity in salt bath may be determined by using a test sensor enclosed in a suitable protection tube. The test sensor should be held in one position until thermal equilibrium has been reached and a reading made. The test sensor should then be placed in a new location and the procedure repeated. These operations should be repeated until the temperature distribution in all parts of the bath has been determined. The results of these surveys shall demonstrate that: (1) the maximum temperature variation (from the coldest to the hottest reading) is within the applicable temperature uniformity range defined in 4.2; and (2) all test sensor readings within the bath are within the specified heat treating temperature range being surveyed.

4.3.8 *Extended Survey Time Intervals for Solution Heat-Treating Furnaces*—Time between surveys may be extended to six months after the successful completion of six consecutive monthly surveys (including the initial survey, as outlined in 4.3.2, provided that all the following conditions are met:

4.3.8.1 The previous furnace temperature uniformity surveys have shown a history of satisfactory performance for a period of at least six consecutive months, and



4.3.8.2 In addition to each furnace zone's control sensor, the furnace or bath is equipped with a permanent multipoint recording instrument, with at least one additional furnace temperature monitoring sensor in each zone, or with one or more load monitoring sensors to measure actual metal temperature in each zone, and

4.3.8.3 Each zone's control sensor and load monitoring sensor(s) shall be installed so as to record the temperature of the heated media (air, salt, lead, and so forth) and actual metal temperature(s).

4.3.9 *Extended Survey Time Interval for Precipitation (Aging) Furnaces*—Survey frequency, for furnaces used only for precipitation treatment, may be reduced to six months after the successful completion of six consecutive monthly surveys (including the initial survey as outlined in 4.3.2), provided that either of the following conditions are met:

4.3.9.1 The furnace utilizes a multipoint recorder for continuous recording of furnace temperature data; or,

4.3.9.2 One or more load monitoring sensor(s) are employed to measure and record actual metal temperature(s).

4.4 *Calibration of control and recording instruments*—Instruments used to control, monitor, and record furnace temperature shall be calibrated before first use and at least annually thereafter. Calibration shall be performed with an instrument that has been calibrated within the previous twelve months against instruments traceable to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) or equivalent national standard, to an accuracy of 6 2°F [6 1.1°C].

4.4.1 Calibration of controlling, monitoring, or recording instruments shall be performed to the manufacturer's instructions or, if the manufacturer's instructions are not used, a minimum of three simulated sensor inputs shall be used at the minimum, midpoint, and maximum of the furnace Qualified Operating Temperature Range.

4.4.1.1 Calibration of furnace controlling, monitoring, or recording instrument(s) may be performed with a load in process (for a single temperature range) if the furnace temperature remains within the processing tolerance and the furnace temperature record is appropriately annotated to indicate that a calibration occurred, including time and date.

4.4.1.2 Calibration limits are 6 2°F [6 1.1°C] or 6 0.3 % of the maximum survey temperature of the equipment, whichever is greater.

5. Preparation for Heat Treatment

5.1 *Racking and Spacing*—Product shall be supported or hung and spaced to permit free flow and circulation of the quenchant over all surfaces to ensure that the entire product receives an adequate quench and will meet the requirements of the material specification.

5.1.1 *Small Sized Product Heat Treated in Baskets*—Product load arrangement shall ensure that quenching media has access to all surfaces for each piece of product. Batch furnace loading of baskets containing small sized product, such as rivets or forgings, shall be controlled by limiting the depth of product in each layer and by maintaining minimum spacing between layers to preclude steam generated in any portion of the load from degrading the quench in another part of the load. Periodic

product testing (see Table 1) shall be performed to ensure that small-sized product, immersion quenched in baskets, exhibits no greater susceptibility to intergranular corrosion than product separately and individually quenched without baskets.

5.2 *Cleanliness*—Prior to heat treating, product shall be free from surface contaminants which might have a detrimental effect.

6. Heat Treatment Procedures

6.1 *Solution Heat Treatment*—Recommended temperature ranges, for various heat-treatable wrought aluminum alloys, are defined in Table 2.

6.2 *Soak Time*—Recommended soaking times are indicated in Table 3 and reflect the minimum time periods generally required to achieve proper solution of alloying constituents for the respective thicknesses of wrought alloy product.

6.3 *Quenching* is typically performed by immersion of wrought products in a cold-water bath, although some forgings are quenched in hot-water. Immersion in an aqueous polymer solution may also be used (see Note 2). Quench delay shall be minimized and maximum quench delays are defined in Table 4 (see Note 3). Tanks must be of adequate size for the expected work load and must have the means of providing adequate circulation of the quenching media about the work load. Means for heating or cooling the quench water should be available when needed. For immersion quenching in water, the quenchant temperature shall not exceed 100°F [38°C] at the start of quench and 110°F [43°C] at the completion of quench. If the quenchant is an aqueous solution of polymer, the quenchant temperature shall not exceed 130°F [54°C] at the completion of quench. For hot-water quenching of forgings, the quenchant temperature shall not exceed 170°F [77°C] at the completion of quench. Quench baths for salt bath facilities require drain and fresh water inlets to prevent the accumulation of dissolved heat-treat salts. An additional rinse tank is desirable as a means of removing any salt bath residue carried from the quench tank.

NOTE 2—Quenching may be performed by alternative means such as total immersion in an aqueous polymer solution, liquefied gas, cold water, hot water, or boiling water, or by air blast or fog to minimize distortion provided samples from the material so quenched will conform to: (1) the mechanical properties; (2) other requirements of the applicable material specification; and (3) not exhibit greater intergranular corrosion susceptibility than if the metal was immersion quenched in cold water. The use of a water spray or high-velocity, high-volume jets of water in which the material is thoroughly and effectively flushed is satisfactory for quenching wrought alloys. Alternative quenching means are frequently contingent on the type of product (sheet, parts, forgings, and so forth).

NOTE 3—During quenching, it is important that cooling proceeds rapidly through the 750 to 500°F [399 to 260°C] range in order to avoid the type of precipitation detrimental to tensile properties and corrosion resistance. Maximum quench delay times for wrought alloys sensitive to quench delay appear in Table 4. Although other alloys are not as sensitive, in general, quench delay time should not exceed 45 s.

6.4 *Restrictions on Heat Treating*—Alclad products shall not be re-solution heat-treated more than the number of times specified in Table 5.

NOTE 4—*Heat-treating Restrictions Applicable to 6xxx Alloys* : 6061 and Alclad 6061 (and other 6xxx alloys) may be incapable of achieving T42 mechanical properties after re-solution heat treatment due to recrystallization and grain growth associated with small amounts of cold work



TABLE 3 Recommended Soaking Time for Solution Heat-treatment of Wrought Aluminum Alloys

Thickness, in. ^B	Thickness, [mm] ^B	Soaking Time in Minutes ^A			
		Salt Bath ^C		Air Furnace ^D	
		Minimum	Maximum ^E (Clad Only)	Minimum	Maximum ^E (Clad Only)
0.016 and under	[Up to 0.41]	10	15	20	25
0.017 to 0.020	[Over 0.41 thru 0.51]	10	20	20	30
0.021 to 0.032	[Over 0.51 thru 0.81]	15	25	25	35
0.033 to 0.063	[Over 0.81 thru 1.60]	20	30	30	40
0.064 to 0.090	[Over 1.60 thru 2.29]	25	35	35	45
0.091 to 0.124	[Over 2.29 thru 3.15]	30	40	40	50
0.125 to 0.250	[Over 3.15 thru 6.35]	35	45	50	60
0.251 to 0.500	[Over 6.35 thru 12.70]	45	55	60	70
0.501 to 1.000	[Over 12.70 thru 25.40]	60	70	90	100
1.001 to 1.500	[Over 25.40 thru 38.10]	90	100	120	130
1.501 to 2.000	[Over 38.10 thru 50.80]	105	115	150	160
2.001 to 2.500	[Over 50.80 thru 63.50]	120	130	180	190
2.501 to 3.000	[Over 63.50 thru 76.20]	135	155	210	220
3.001 to 3.500	[Over 76.20 thru 88.90]	150	160	240	250
3.501 to 4.000	[Over 88.90 thru 101.60]	165	175	270	280
over 4.000	[Over 101.60]	add 15 min/0.500 in. [12.7 mm]		add 30 min/0.500 in. [12.7 mm]	

^A Longer soaking times may be necessary for specific forgings. Shorter soaking times are satisfactory when the soak time is accurately determined by thermocouples attached to the load or when other metal temperature-measuring devices are used.

^B Soaking time in salt-bath furnaces should be measured from the time of immersion, except when, owing to a large charge, the temperature of the bath drops below the specified minimum; in such cases, soaking time should be measured from the time the bath reaches the specified minimum.

^C Soaking time in air furnaces should be measured from the time all furnace control instruments indicate recovery to the minimum of the process range.

^D The thickness is the minimum dimension of the thickest section.

^E For Alclad materials, the maximum recovery time (time between charging furnace and recovery of furnace instruments) should not exceed 30 min for thicknesses through 0.102 in. [2.59 mm], 1 h for thicknesses over 0.102 through 1.000 in. [over 2.59 through 25.40 mm], and 1.5 h for thicknesses over 1.000 through 2.000 in. [over 25.40 through 50.80 mm]. Somewhat longer periods may be required for thicker sections.

TABLE 4 Maximum Quench Delay (for Immersion Quenching of All Alloys)

NOTE 1—Quench delay time shall begin when the furnace door begins to open or when the first corner of a load emerges from a salt bath, and shall end when the last corner of the load is immersed in the quenchant. The maximum quench delay times may be exceeded (for example, with extremely large loads or long lengths) provided samples of the material so quenched conform to the expected mechanical properties and other characteristics of satisfactorily heat-treated material. For 2219 alloy the metal temperature should be above 900°F [482°C] at the time of quenching. For other alloys the metal temperature should be above 775°F [413°C].

Nominal Thickness, in.	[mm]	Maximum Quench Delay Time, s
Up to 0.016, incl	[Up to 0.41]	5
0.017 to 0.031, incl	[Over 0.41 thru 0.84]	7
0.032 to 0.090, incl	[Over 0.84 thru 2.29]	10
0.091 and over	[Over 2.29]	15

introduced during flattening or straightening following to the original solution heat treatment.

6.5 Precipitation Heat Treating (Artificial Aging):

6.5.1 Recommended times and temperatures for precipitation heat-treating various heat-treatable wrought aluminum alloys appear in **Table 2**.

6.5.2 At completion of precipitation time-at-temperature, the product shall be removed from the furnace and cooled to room temperature.

6.6 *Annealing*—Recommended times and temperatures for annealing of wrought alloys appear in **Table 6**.

NOTE 5—Heat-treated wrought alloys may be partially annealed to facilitate moderate forming by heating to 650 to 750°F [343–399°C]

TABLE 5 Restrictions for Reheat Treatment of Alclad Products

Thickness, in.	[mm]	Maximum Number of Reheat Treatments Permissible
Under 0.020	[Under 0.51]	0
0.020 to 0.125	[0.51 to 3.18]	1 ^A
Over 0.125	[Over 3.18]	2 ^A

^A One additional reheat treatment is permitted if the heat-up rate is fast enough, such as is achieved in a salt bath or continuous air furnace.

(never exceed 775°F [413°C]) and holding at temperature until a uniform temperature is achieved, followed by either ambient air cooling or furnace cooling. If severe forming is to be performed, a full anneal in accordance with **Table 6** should be used.

7. Quality Assurance

7.1 *Responsibility for Inspection and Tests*—The heat treater is responsible for the performance of all inspections and test requirements, unless otherwise specified in the contract.

7.1.1 The heat treater may use any suitable facilities for the performance of specified inspection and test requirements.

7.2 *Records* shall be maintained for a minimum of three years after the inspection or test.

7.2.1 Furnace records shall include all applicable production parameters including the following: furnace number or

**TABLE 6 Recommended Annealing Treatments for Wrought Aluminum Alloys^A**

Alloy	Metal Temperature, ±10°F [±6°C]	Time at Temperature, h	Temper Designation
1060	650 [343]	^B	-O
1100 ^A	650 [343]	^B	-O
1350	650 [343]	^B	-O
2014 ^A	760 [404] ^C	2 to 3	-O
2017 ^A	760 [404] ^C	2 to 3	-O
2024 ^A	760 [404] ^C	2 to 3	-O
2117 ^A	760 [404] ^C	2 to 3	-O
2219 ^A	760 [404] ^C	2 to 3	-O
3003 ^A	775 [413]	^B	-O
3004	650 [343]	^B	-O
3105	650 [343]	^B	-O
5005	650 [343]	^B	-O
5050	650 [343]	^B	-O
5052 ^A	650 [343]	^B	-O
5056 ^A	650 [343]	^B	-O
5083 ^A	650 [343]	^B	-O
5086	650 [343]	^B	-O
5154	650 [343]	^B	-O
5254	650 [343]	^B	-O
5454	650 [343]	^B	-O
5456	650 [343]	^B	-O
5457	650 [343]	^B	-O
5652	650 [343]	^B	-O
6053	765 [407] ^C	2 to 3	-O
6061 ^A	765 [407] ^C	2 to 3	-O
6063	765 [407] ^C	2 to 3	-O
6066	765 [407] ^C	2 to 3	-O
7001	765 [407] ^D	2 to 3	-O
7050 ^A	765 [407] ^D	2 to 3	-O
7075 ^A	765 [407] ^D	2 to 3	-O
7178 ^A	765 [407] ^D	2 to 3	-O

^A For specific aerospace applications, refer to SAE-AMS heat treating and material specifications.

^B Time in the furnace need not be longer than necessary to bring the entire load to the prescribed temperature. Rate of cooling is unimportant.

^C Intended for removal of solution heat treatment (full annealing). Cooling must be performed at a rate of 50°F/h [28°C/h] to 500°F [260°C]. Partial annealing of heat-treated material or removal of effects of cold work may be accomplished by heating to 650°F [343°C] and cooling in air at an uncontrolled rate.

^D Intended for full annealing to remove the effects of solution heat treatment. Treatment requires cooling in still air to 400°F [204°C] or less followed by reheating to 450°F [232°C] for 4 h and cooling in still air. Partial annealing of heat-treatment material or removal of effects of cold work may be accomplished by heating to 650°F [343°C] and cooling in air at an uncontrolled rate.

description; size; temperature range of usage; whether used for solution heat treatment or precipitation heat treatment, or both; temperature(s) at which uniformity was surveyed; dates of each survey, number and locations of thermocouples used; and dates of major repairs or alterations.

7.3 Qualification, Testing, and Periodic Verification of Equipment and Process:

7.3.1 Effectiveness of Quench—A monitoring plan shall be developed and utilized for all modes of quenching for all products covered by this practice. The plan should include monitoring of process (for example, quench delay time; agitation of quenchant or product, or both; quenchant temperature, velocity, and distribution). The plan should also incorporate surveying the uniformity of product conductivity or hardness to determine the uniformity of the quench, or both. Areas having substantially higher conductivity or lower hardness than other areas of similar thickness in the lot shall be investigated to ensure that the requirements of the material specification are met.

7.3.2 Testing Requirements—Heat-treating equipment, operated in accordance with documented procedures, shall have a demonstrated capability of producing material and components meeting the tensile and physical properties specified for each alloy heat-treated.

7.3.3 Periodic Tests—Required periodic tests are shown in **Table 1** and are required for each product to verify the continued acceptability of the heat treatment.

7.3.3.1 Frequency of Tests—Tests shall be made once each month or more frequently as may be required (for example, determination of tensile properties is typically a lot release test). Testing one load per furnace per month shall constitute conformance with the requirements of this paragraph. If the monthly workload includes plate and sheet as well as other material forms, the load to be tested in accordance with **Table 1** shall be a plate and sheet load. If this product form was not heat treated during the month, the test load shall be that for which **Table 1** requires the maximum number of tests.

7.3.3.2 Use of Production Test Results—Results of tests made to determine conformance of heat-treated material to the requirements of the respective material specifications are acceptable as evidence of the properties being obtained with the equipment and procedure employed.

7.4 Testing Requirements:

7.4.1 Tensile Properties—Representative test samples from each lot of production material shall exhibit tensile strength, yield strength, and elongation properties not less than those specified in applicable procurement specifications or detail drawings.

7.4.1.1 The effectiveness of heat treatment shall also be demonstrated by tensile tests after any modification, repair, adjustment (for example, to power controls, or baffles), or rebuild which might alter the temperature uniformity characteristics of the furnace or salt bath and reduce the effectiveness of the heat treatment. Some examples of modifications for which the need for testing should be evaluated include: furnace baffling; furnace fans; reduction of spacing between pieces; nozzle size change; manifold size change; pump size change; and quenchant change. After any repair or alteration which could reduce the effectiveness of the heat treatment, or re-build of the furnace, or change to the heat-treat practice, a minimum of nine suitably distributed samples shall be tensile tested. This requirement may be waived if other approved testing procedures are used. Tensile specimens shall be taken from production material. They should be selected from the largest and smallest sections of the piece so as to represent the portions of the load receiving the least drastic quench and subjected to the highest and lowest temperatures. The test specimen with the lowest yield strength shall be used for the intergranular corrosion test specified in **7.4.2.2**. When taking specimens from production material is impractical, tensile specimens shall be taken from samples heat-treated with a production load. The thickness and alloy of such samples and their location in the load shall be selected so as to represent material heat-treated during the previous month which received the least drastic quench and to represent material which was subjected to the highest and lowest solution heat-treating temperatures.



7.4.2 *Metallurgical Properties*—The following tests shall be performed on production product from each solution heat-treating furnace initially and monthly thereafter and after any modification of the equipment which could affect the metallurgical properties of the product.

7.4.2.1 *Eutectic Melting (see Note 6) and Heat-Treat-Induced Porosity*—Specimens shall be free from: (1) heat-treated-induced porosity, evidenced by multiple voids in grain boundaries near the surface which are visible in more than two fields of view; and (2) eutectic melting, evidenced by rosettes or eutectic structure at grain boundary triple points.

NOTE 6—Micrographs illustrating typical eutectic melting (in alloys 2014 and 7075) may be found in *Metals Handbook*, 8th Ed., Vol. 7 (Micrograph Numbers 2018 and 2073), published by the ASM International.⁵

7.4.2.2 *Intergranular Corrosion (see Note 7) and Alclad Diffusion*—There shall be no evidence of excessive intergranular corrosion or Alclad diffusion. Consideration shall be given to size and thickness of the material in deciding whether the intergranular corrosion is excessive as compared to typical product. Alclad sheet in all alloys and thicknesses less than 0.020 in. generally contain areas of diffusion into the cladding, even though heat-treated in accordance with 6.4 and all other requirements of this practice. Degree of susceptibility to intergranular corrosion and degree of Alclad diffusion shall be not greater than normally experienced when following this practice.

NOTE 7—Micrographs illustrating typical pitting type, intergranular, and branched-type intergranular stress-corrosion cracks may be found in *Metals Handbook*, 8th Ed., Vol 7 (Micrograph Numbers 2092, 2093, and 2098), published by the ASM International.⁵

7.4.3 *Test Reports*—Test reports shall be identified to the equipment and heat-treated lots of material associated with the tests and shall be retained and readily retrievable for a minimum of three years.

7.4.4 *Rejection and Reheat Treatment*—Materials heat-treated in the furnace since the time of the previous satisfactory tests and determined as unsatisfactory shall be rejected or reheat-treated (beginning with the solution heat treatment) in an acceptable furnace. Materials in which eutectic melting, heat treat induced porosity, or excessive diffusion of alloying elements from the core material into the Alclad is found, shall be rejected and no reheat-treatment permitted. Materials that fail for reasons other than those enumerated above may be reheat-treated up to the limit of the permissible number of times specified in Table 5.

7.5 Testing Methods and Procedures:

7.5.1 Tensile properties shall be determined by tensile testing in accordance with Test Methods B557 and shall meet specified requirements.

7.5.2 Metallurgical Testing:

7.5.2.1 *Eutectic Melting and Heat-Treat-Induced Porosity*—After sectioning and polishing to appropriate fineness, the un-etched surface shall be examined at 500× magnification, with a metallurgical microscope, to detect evidence of heat

treat induced porosity (7.4.2.1). The sections may then be mildly etched (approximately 2 s in an etchant) to reveal evidence of eutectic melting. Keller's Etch has been found satisfactory for this purpose.

7.5.2.2 *Intergranular Corrosion Test*—Corrosion tests shall be conducted in accordance with the following procedure. For Alclad alloys, the cladding shall be removed from both sides of the sample by filing or by other suitable means. Prior to the corrosion test, each sample (see Note 8) shall be immersed for 1 min in an etching solution at 200°F [93°C] to produce a uniform surface condition.

Etching cleaner shall be prepared as follows: To 945 mL of reagent water add 50 mL of nitric acid (70 %) and 5 mL of hydrofluoric acid (48 %).

(Warning—Care should be exercised in handling and mixing strong acids to avoid personal injury and damage to apparatus. Care should include use of personal protective equipment and use of appropriate apparatus and procedures for particular acids.)

After this etching treatment, the sample shall be rinsed in distilled or deionized water, immersed for 1 min in concentrated nitric acid (70 %) at room temperature to remove any metallic copper that may have been plated out on the specimen, rinsed in distilled or deionized water, and allowed to dry. The sample shall be corroded by immersion in a solution of the following composition for 6 h at 86 ± 5°F [30 ± 3°C].

Test solution shall be prepared as follows: 57 grams of sodium chloride and 10 mL of hydrogen peroxide (30 % added just prior to initiation of exposure) diluted to 1.0 L with reagent water.

All chemicals shall be reagent grade and the solution shall be prepared immediately before use. A minimum of 30 mL of solution per in.² [5 mL per cm²] of surface area shall be used for the test.

NOTE 8—More than one sample of the same alloy may be corroded in a container, provided that at least 30 mL of solution are used for each 1 in. [5 mL per cm²] of specimen surface and provided that the specimens are electrically insulated from each other.

7.5.2.3 *Examination with a Metallurgical Microscope*—At the end of the immersion period, the sample shall be removed from the solution, washed, and dried. A cross-section specimen, which shall be at least ¼ in. long (whenever the size of the sample permits), shall be cut from the sample and mounted for examination between 200 and 500× magnification with a metallurgical microscope. Examination shall be made of the specimen both before and after etching. The etching shall be done by immersion for 6 to 20 s in a solution (Keller's etch); all chemicals shall be reagent grade. Metallographic etchant (Keller's etch) shall be prepared as follows: To 95 mL of reagent water add 2.5 mL of nitric acid (70 %) and 1.5 mL of hydrochloric acid (37 %) and 1.0 mL of hydrofluoric acid (48 %).

7.5.2.4 *Alclad Diffusion Test*—Diffusion in Alclad products shall be evaluated by microscopic examination of sections through specimens cut from Alclad products or parts representative of a lot or furnace charge. This examination shall establish the extent of diffusion of the alloying constituents into the cladding. For material thicknesses under 0.020 in., this test

⁵ Available from Materials Information Society (ASM International), 9639 Kinsman Rd., Materials Park, OH 44073-0002, <http://www.asminternational.org>.



will not apply. Examination shall be made at 100× magnification, with a metallurgical microscope, after etching, as specified in 7.5.2.3. An approved method for corrosion potential evaluation for Alclad diffusion is an acceptable alternative and is described in Test Method G69.

7.5.3 Interpretation of Results and Acceptance Criteria—Test specimens prepared in accordance with 7.5.1 and 7.5.2, as representative of material, heat-treated in accordance with the applicable parts of Section 6, shall meet the requirements specified in Section 7. Failure to meet the specified tensile or metallurgical requirements is reason to disqualify the heat-treating equipment and associated process until the reason for the failure is determined and appropriate corrective action completed and documented.

8. Precision and Bias

8.1 No information is presented about either precision or bias of metallurgical testing for evaluation of eutectic melting and heat-treat-induced porosity (7.5.2.1), intergranular corrosion (7.5.2.2), or alclad diffusion (7.5.2.4), since the test results are nonquantitative.

9. Keywords

9.1 aluminum alloys; annealing; precipitation heat treatment; solution heat treatment

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