



Standard Practice for Identification of Standard Electrical Steel Grades in ASTM Specifications¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A 664; 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.

1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers the procedure for designating (within ASTM specifications) standard grades of flat-rolled electrical steels made to specified maximum values of core loss. This practice applies to magnetically soft irons and steel (low-carbon steels and alloys of iron with silicon, aluminum, and so forth) where a core loss measurement at a stated peak value of alternating induction and a stated frequency, such as 15 kG [1.5 T] and 60 Hz, is normally used to grade the material. This practice also applies when some other property is specified (or a different induction or frequency, or both) as the limiting characteristic, provided the material also meets all the requirements of the ASTM specification.

1.2 Individual specifications that are in conformity with this practice are Specifications A 677, A 677M, A 683/A 683M, A 726, A 840, A 840M, and A 876/A 876M.²

1.3 The values stated in either customary (cgs-emu and 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 shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in nonconformance with this practice.

1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

A 340 Terminology of Symbols and Definitions Relating to Magnetic Testing³

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee A06 on Magnetic Properties and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee A06.02 on Material Specifications.

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² The existing metric companion specifications are being eliminated in favor of combined units standards. The elimination of such specifications will be done as they become due for review. Because of this change, the reader is urged not to use the metric companion documents.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 03.04.

A 677 Specification for Nonoriented Electrical Steel Fully Processed Types³

A 677M Specification for Nonoriented Electrical Steel, Fully Processed Types (Metric)³

A 683/A 683M Specification for Nonoriented Electrical Steel, Semiprocessed Types³

A 726 Specification for Cold-Rolled Magnetic Lamination Quality Steel, Semiprocessed Types³

A 840 Specification for Fully Processed Magnetic Lamination Steel³

A 840M Specification for Fully Processed Magnetic Lamination Steel (Metric)³

A 876/A 876M Specification for Flat-Rolled Grain-Oriented, Silicon-Iron, Electrical Steel, Fully Processed Types³

A 976 Classification of Insulating Coatings by Composition, Relative Insulating Ability and Application³

3. Terminology

3.1 The terms and symbols used in this practice are defined in Terminology A 340.

4. Procedure

4.1 *General Requirements of the Core-Loss-Type Designations*—The core-loss-type designations to be used for ordering purposes and for identification of the shipped material in ASTM specifications for electrical steels shall be a six-character identification (for example, 36F145) comprised of the following basic elements:

4.1.1 *First Two Digits*—The first two digits of the grade designation shall represent the nominal decimal thickness of the material in millimetres. For instance, the number 36 represents a thickness of 0.36 mm or 0.014 in. Refer to Appendix X1 for the relationship between Electrical Sheet Gage Number and thickness.

4.1.2 *Code Letters*—A code letter shall designate the general category of magnetic material and the standard sampling and testing practices that apply. The precise conditions of sampling and testing are given in the ASTM specification covering each class of material. The code letter to be used and the sampling and testing conditions associated with that letter shall be as follows:

