



Designation: A 231/A231M – 96

An American National Standard

Standard Specification for Chromium-Vanadium Alloy Steel Spring Wire¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A 231/A231M; 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 Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers round chromium-vanadium alloy steel spring wire having properties and quality intended for the manufacture of springs used at moderately elevated temperatures. This wire shall be either in the annealed and cold-drawn or oil-tempered condition as specified by the purchaser.

1.2 The values stated in either SI (metric) units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system are not exact equivalents; therefore, each system must be used independent of the other.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

A 370 Test Methods and Definitions for Mechanical Testing of Steel Products²

A 700 Practices for Packaging, Marking, and Loading Methods for Steel Products for Domestic Shipment³

A 751 Test Methods, Practices, and Terminology for Chemical Analysis of Steel Products²

A 752 Specification for General Requirements for Wire Rods and Coarse Round Wire, Alloy Steel²

E 29 Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications⁴

2.2 ANSI Standard:

B 32.4M Preferred Metric Sizes for Round, Square, Rectangle, and Hexagon Metal Products⁵

2.3 Military Standard:

MIL-STD-163 Steel Mill Products, Preparation for Shipment and Storage⁶

2.4 Federal Standard:

Fed. Std. No. 123 Marking for Shipment (Civil Agencies)⁶

2.5 AIAG Standard:

AIAGB-5 02.00 Primary Metals Identification Tag Application Standard⁷

3. Ordering Information

3.1 Orders for material under this specification should include the following information for each ordered item:

3.1.1 Quantity (mass),

3.1.2 Name of material (chromium-vanadium alloy steel wire),

3.1.3 Wire diameter (Table 1 and Table 2),

3.1.4 Packaging (Section 14),

3.1.5 Cast or heat analysis report (if requested) (5.2),

3.1.6 Certification or test report, or both, if specified (Section 13), and

3.1.7 ASTM designation and date of issue.

NOTE 1—A typical ordering description is as follows: 20 000 kg oil-tempered chromium-vanadium alloy steel wire, size 6.00 mm in 150-kg coils to ASTM A 231M dated_____, or for inch-pound units, 40 000 lb oil-tempered chromium-vanadium alloy steel spring wire, size 0.250 in. in 350-lb coils to ASTM A 231 dated_____.

4. Materials and Manufacture

4.1 The steel may be made by any commercially accepted steel-making process. The steel may be either ingot cast or strand cast.

4.2 The finished wire shall be free from detrimental pipe and undue segregation.

5. Chemical Composition

5.1 The steel shall conform to the requirements as to chemical composition specified in Table 3.

5.2 *Cast or Heat Analysis*—Each cast or heat of steel shall be analyzed by the manufacturer to determine the percentage of elements prescribed in Table 3. This analysis shall be made from a test specimen preferably taken during the pouring of the cast or heat. When requested, this shall be reported to the purchaser and shall conform to the requirements of Table 3.

5.3 *Product Analysis (formerly Check Analysis)*—An analysis may be made by the purchaser from finished wire

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee A-1 on Steel, Stainless Steel, and Related Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee A01.03 on Steel Rod and Wire.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 01.03.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 01.05.

⁴ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 14.02.

⁵ Available from American National Standards Institute, 11 West 42nd Street, 13th Floor, New York, NY 10036.

⁶ Available from Standardization Documents Order Desk, Bldg. 4 Section D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094, Attn: NPODS.

⁷ Available from the Automotive Industry Action Group, 26200 Lahser, Suite 200, Southfield, MI 48034.