



Standard Specification for Seamless Nickel and Nickel Alloy Condenser and Heat- Exchanger Tubes¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B163; 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.

^{ε1} NOTE—Title was corrected editorially in November 2012.

^{ε2} NOTE—Yield strength heading for units in Table 3 was corrected editorially in March 2015.

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification² covers seamless tubes of nickel and nickel alloys, as shown in **Table 1**, for use in condenser and heat-exchanger service.

1.2 This specification covers outside diameter and average wall, or outside diameter and minimum wall tube.

1.2.1 The sizes covered by this specification are 3 in. (76.2 mm) and under in outside diameter with minimum wall thicknesses of 0.148 in. (3.76 mm) and under, and with average wall thicknesses of 0.165 in. (4.19 mm) and under.

1.3 Tube shall be furnished in the alloys and conditions as shown in **Table 2**. For small diameter and light wall tube (converter sizes), see **Appendix X2**.

1.4 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.5 The following safety hazards caveat pertains only to the test method portion, Section 12, of this specification. *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 become familiar with all hazards including those identified in the appropriate Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for this product/material as provided by the manufacturer, to establish appropriate safety and health practices, and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B02 on Nonferrous Metals and Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B02.07 on Refined Nickel and Cobalt and Their Alloys.

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² For ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code applications see related Specification SB-163 in Section II of that Code.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:³

B829 Specification for General Requirements for Nickel and Nickel Alloys Seamless Pipe and Tube

B880 Specification for General Requirements for Chemical Check Analysis Limits for Nickel, Nickel Alloys and Cobalt Alloys

E8 Test Methods for Tension Testing of Metallic Materials

E18 Test Methods for Rockwell Hardness of Metallic Materials

E29 Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications

E76 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Nickel-Copper Alloys (Withdrawn 2003)⁴

E112 Test Methods for Determining Average Grain Size

E140 Hardness Conversion Tables for Metals Relationship Among Brinell Hardness, Vickers Hardness, Rockwell Hardness, Superficial Hardness, Knoop Hardness, Scleroscope Hardness, and Leeb Hardness

E1473 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Nickel, Cobalt, and High-Temperature Alloys

2.2 Federal Standards:⁵

Fed. Std. No. 102 Preservation, Packaging and Packing Levels

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

Fed. Std. No. 182 Continuous Identification Marking of Nickel and Nickel-Base Alloys

2.3 Military Standard:⁵

MIL-STD-129 Marking for Shipment and Storage

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 The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

⁵ Available from Standardization Documents Order Desk, DODSSP, Bldg. 4, Section D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5098, <http://www.dodssp.daps.mil>.

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