Designation: B438 – 13

Standard Specification for Bronze-Base Powder Metallurgy (PM) Bearings (Oil-Impregnated)[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B438; 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 specification covers porous metallic sleeve, flange, thrust and spherical bronze-base bearings that are produced from mixed metal powders utilizing powder metallurgy (PM) technology and then impregnated with oil to supply operating lubrication.

1.2 Included are the specifications for the chemical, physical and mechanical requirements of those bronze-base PM materials that have been developed and standardized specifically for use in the manufacture of these self-lubricating bearings.

1.3 This specification is applicable to the purchase of bronze-base bearings (oil-impregnated) that were formerly covered by military specifications and are intended for government or military applications. Those additional government requirements that only apply to military bearings are listed in the Supplementary Requirements section of this specification.

1.4 This specification accompanies Specification B439 that covers the requirements for Iron-Base Powder Metallurgy (PM) Bearings, (Oil-Impregnated).

1.5 Typical applications for bronze-base bearings are listed in Appendix X1.

1.6 Bearing dimensional tolerance data are shown in Appendix X2, while engineering information regarding installation and operating parameters of PM bearings is included in Appendix X3. Additional useful information on self-lubricating bearings can be found in MPIF Standard 35, ISO 5755 and the technical literature.[2]

1.7 With the exception of density values for which the g/cm^3 unit is the industry standard, 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.

1.8 *The following safety hazards caveat pertains only to the test methods described in 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 establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*[3]

B243 Terminology of Powder Metallurgy

B439 Specification for Iron-Base Powder Metallurgy (PM) Bearings (Oil-Impregnated)

B939 Test Method for Radial Crushing Strength, ***K***, of Powder Metallurgy (PM) Bearings and Structural Materials

B946 Test Method for Surface Finish of Powder Metallurgy (PM) Products

B962 Test Methods for Density of Compacted or Sintered Powder Metallurgy (PM) Products Using Archimedes' Principle

B963 Test Methods for Oil Content, Oil-Impregnation Efficiency, and Interconnected Porosity of Sintered Powder Metallurgy (PM) Products Using Archimedes' Principle

B966 Test Method for Permeability of Powder Metallurgy (PM) Bearings Using Nitrogen Gas

B970 Test Method for Cleanliness of Powder Metallurgy (PM) Bearings and Structural Parts

E9 Test Methods of Compression Testing of Metallic Materials at Room Temperature

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

[1] This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B09 on Metal Powders and Metal Powder Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B09.04 on Bearings.

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[2] *Machine Design Magazine*, Vol 54, #14, June 17, 1982, pp. 130-142.

[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.

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

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