



Standard Specification for Silver-Molybdenum Electrical Contact Material¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers electrical contact components made from silver-molybdenum by powder metallurgical procedures.

1.2 This specification covers compositions within the silver-molybdenum system normally specified by users of contacts.

1.3 It is the responsibility of the user to become familiar with all hazards including those identified in the appropriate Material Safety Data Sheet for this product/material as provided by the manufacturer.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:

B 328 Test Method for Density, Oil Content, and Interconnected Porosity of Sintered Metal Structural Parts and Oil-Impregnated Bearings²

3. Ordering Information

3.1 Orders for this material under this specification shall include the following information:

3.1.1 Dimensions (see Section 10),

3.1.2 Chemical composition (see tables in the appendix as a guideline),

3.1.3 Physical properties (see Section 5 and the appendix as a guideline),

3.1.4 Certification (see Section 13), and

3.1.5 Other features as agreed upon between the manufacturer and purchaser.

4. Chemical Composition

4.1 The material shall conform to composition limits as agreed upon between the manufacturer and the purchaser.

4.2 The chemical analysis shall be made in accordance with the methods prescribed in the newest edition of Volume 01.02

of the *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* or by any other approved method agreed upon between the manufacturer and the purchaser.

5. Physical Properties

5.1 The manufacturer and the purchaser shall agree on qualification tests for determination of physical properties.

5.2 The tests shall be performed on production parts, wherever practical or applicable. (Small size contacts do not lend themselves to accurate conductivity measurement.)

5.3 The tests shall be determined after consideration of the function of the part.

5.4 The typical properties of two most common types of silver-molybdenum contacts are given in the appendix.

6. Finishing of Contacts

6.1 The material shall be finished by such operations as necessary to meet requirements agreed upon between the manufacturer and the purchaser of the contacts (brazing alloy backing, tumbling to polish surfaces, special surface finish, silver-rich surface layer, cleaning, etc.).

7. Dimensions, Mass and Permissible Variations

7.1 Permissible variations in dimensions shall be within the limits specified on drawings describing the contacts and accompanying the order; or shall be within the limits specified in the purchase order.

8. Workmanship, Finish, and Appearance

8.1 The parts shall be free of defects in material or processing that would seriously affect their performance.

9. Significance and Use

9.1 Proprietary methods for the manufacture of these materials vary significantly among suppliers, and these methods influence such properties as arc erosion, contact resistance, and the tendency to weld in service. Since the performance of contacts in a device depends on numerous factors outside the contact itself (opening speed, closing speed, contact pressure, contact bounce, environmental variations, assembly technique and variations, etc.), this specification cannot ensure performance control in the application. As part of the qualification on

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B02 on Nonferrous Metals and Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B2.05 on Precious Metals.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 02.05.