



Standard Specification for High Load Rotational Spherical Bearings for Bridges and Structures¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers bridge bearings that consist of a spherical rotational element, where a stainless steel convex surface slides against a concave carbon steel plate covered with woven or sheet polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE). The function of the bearing is to transfer loads and to accommodate any relative movement, including rotation between a bridge superstructure and its supporting structure, or both.

1.2 This specification covers the requirements of spherical bearings with a standard horizontal load (a maximum of 10 % of vertical).

1.3 The requirements stated in this specification are the minima necessary for the manufacture of quality bearing devices. It may be necessary to increase these minimum values due to other design conditions.

1.4 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

1.5 The following safety hazards caveat pertains only to the test method portion, Section 7, 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 establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

A36/A36M Specification for Carbon Structural Steel

A167 Specification for Stainless and Heat-Resisting

Chromium-Nickel Steel Plate, Sheet, and Strip (Withdrawn 2014)³

A240/A240M Specification for Chromium and Chromium-Nickel Stainless Steel Plate, Sheet, and Strip for Pressure Vessels and for General Applications

A572/A572M Specification for High-Strength Low-Alloy Columbium-Vanadium Structural Steel

A588/A588M Specification for High-Strength Low-Alloy Structural Steel, up to 50 ksi [345 MPa] Minimum Yield Point, with Atmospheric Corrosion Resistance

A709/A709M Specification for Structural Steel for Bridges

D638 Test Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics

D792 Test Methods for Density and Specific Gravity (Relative Density) of Plastics by Displacement

D1457 Specification for Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) Molding and Extrusion Materials (Withdrawn 1996)³

D1777 Test Method for Thickness of Textile Materials

D2256 Test Method for Tensile Properties of Yarns by the Single-Strand Method

2.2 AASHTO Standard:⁴
AASHTO Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges

2.3 AWS Standards:⁵
C.2.2-67 Metalizing with Aluminum and Zinc for Protection of Iron and Steel

D.1.5 ANSI/AASHTO/AWS Bridge Welding Code

3. Classification

3.1 The bearings are furnished in three types, as follows:

3.1.1 *Fixed Spherical Bearing*—Rotation only.

3.1.2 *Uni-Directional Sliding Spherical Bearing*—Rotation plus movement in one direction.

3.1.3 *Multi-Directional Sliding Spherical Bearing*—Rotation plus movement in all directions.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D04 on Road and Paving Materials and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D04.32 on Bridges and Structures.

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² 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.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

⁴ Available from American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), 444 N. Capitol St., NW, Suite 249, Washington, DC 20001, <http://www.transportation.org>.

⁵ Available from American Welding Society (AWS), 550 NW LeJeune Rd., Miami, FL 33126, <http://www.aws.org>.