



# Standard Specification for Refined Rhodium<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B616; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers refined rhodium as sponge and powder in three grades as follows:

1.1.1 *Grade 99.80*—Rhodium having a purity of 99.80 %,

1.1.2 *Grade 99.90*—Rhodium having a purity of 99.90 %, and

1.1.3 *Grade 99.95*—Rhodium having a purity of 99.95 %.

1.1.4 For the purposes of determining conformance with this specification, an observed value obtained from analysis shall be rounded to the nearest unit in the last right-hand place of figures used in expressing the limiting value, in accordance with the rounding method of Practice E29.

1.2 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.

1.3 *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.*

## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:<sup>2</sup>

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

## 3. Manufacture

3.1 The material may be produced by any refining process that yields a product capable of meeting the chemical require-

ments of this specification. The purchaser, upon request, shall be informed of the refining process used.

## 4. Chemical Requirements

4.1 The material should conform to the requirements for chemical composition as prescribed in Table 1.

4.2 Analysis shall be made using the manufacturer's standard methods. In the event of disagreement as to the chemical composition of the metal, methods of chemical analysis for reference purposes shall be determined by a mutually acceptable laboratory.

## 5. Sampling

5.1 The value of this material is such that special attention must be paid to sampling procedures. The purchaser and manufacturer shall agree upon sampling procedures used.

5.2 *Lot Size*—Sampling lots shall consist of the following:

5.2.1 *Sponge*—A single refining lot and

5.2.2 *Powder*—A single refining lot.

## 6. Rejection and Rehearing

6.1 Material that fails to conform to the requirements of this specification may be rejected. Rejection should be reported to the producer or supplier promptly and in writing. In case of dissatisfaction with the results of the test, the producer or supplier may make claim for a rehearing.

6.2 *Investigation of Claims*—In a question of chemical composition, a new sample shall be drawn by representatives of both parties in accordance with Section 5. The properly mixed and quartered sample shall be separated into three parts, each of which shall be placed in a sealed package, one for the manufacturer, one for the purchaser, and one for an umpire, if necessary.

6.3 In the event of disagreement between the manufacturer and the purchaser on the conformance of the metal to the requirements of this specification by the purchaser, the umpire sample is to be submitted to a mutually acceptable laboratory for analysis. The results of the referee's analysis shall be used in determining conformance of the metal to this specification.

<sup>1</sup> This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B02 on Nonferrous Metals and Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B02.05 on Precious Metals and Electrical Contact Materials.

Current edition approved May 1, 2012. Published May 2012. Originally approved in 1977. Last previous edition approved in 2006 as B616 – 96 (2006). DOI: 10.1520/B0616-96R12.

<sup>2</sup> 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.



TABLE 1 Chemical Requirements

Element <sup>A</sup>	Composition, %		
	Grade 99.80	Grade 99.90	Grade 99.95
Rhodium, min (by difference)	99.80	99.90	99.95
Platinum, max	0.10	0.05	0.02
Iridium, max	0.10	0.05	0.02
Palladium, max	0.05	0.05	0.005
Ruthenium, max	0.05	0.05	0.01
Lead, max	0.01	0.01	0.005
Tin, max	0.01	0.01	0.003
Zinc, max	0.01	0.01	0.003
Arsenic, max	0.01	0.005	0.003
Bismuth, max	0.01	0.005	0.005
Cadmium, max	0.01	0.005	0.005
Iron, max	0.01	0.01	0.003
Silicon, max	—	0.01	0.005
Silver, max	—	0.02	0.005
Gold, max	—	0.01	0.003
Copper, max	—	0.01	0.005
Nickel, max	—	0.01	0.003
Tellurium, max	—	0.01	0.005
Magnesium, max	—	0.01	0.005
Calcium, max	—	0.01	0.005
Aluminum, max	—	0.01	0.005
Chromium, max	—	0.01	0.005
Manganese, max	—	0.005	0.005
Antimony, max	—	0.005	0.003
Cobalt, max	—	0.005	0.001
Boron, max	—	0.005	0.001

<sup>A</sup> By agreement between manufacturer and purchaser, analyses may be required and limits established for elements or compounds not specified in this table.

## 7. Product Marking

7.1 The material container shall be identified legibly by a label or tag with the following information: rhodium (Rh), Grade\_\_\_\_\_, lot number, and weight to the nearest 0.001 troy oz (0.03 g).

## 8. Keywords

8.1 refined rhodium; rhodium; sponge

*ASTM International takes no position respecting the validity of any patent rights asserted in connection with any item mentioned in this standard. Users of this standard are expressly advised that determination of the validity of any such patent rights, and the risk of infringement of such rights, are entirely their own responsibility.*

*This standard is subject to revision at any time by the responsible technical committee and must be reviewed every five years and if not revised, either reapproved or withdrawn. Your comments are invited either for revision of this standard or for additional standards and should be addressed to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee, which you may attend. If you feel that your comments have not received a fair hearing you should make your views known to the ASTM Committee on Standards, at the address shown below.*

*This standard is copyrighted by ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, PO Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959, United States. Individual reprints (single or multiple copies) of this standard may be obtained by contacting ASTM at the above address or at 610-832-9585 (phone), 610-832-9555 (fax), or service@astm.org (e-mail); or through the ASTM website (www.astm.org). Permission rights to photocopy the standard may also be secured from the ASTM website (www.astm.org/COPYRIGHT/).*