



Standard Specification for Additive Manufacturing Stainless Steel Alloy (UNS S31603) with Powder Bed Fusion¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers additive manufacturing of UNS S31603 components by means of laser and electron beam-based full melt powder bed fusion processes. The components produced by these processes are used typically in applications that require mechanical properties similar to machined forgings and wrought products. Components manufactured to this specification are often, but not necessarily, post processed via machining, grinding, electrical discharge machining (EDM), polishing, and so forth to achieve desired surface finish and critical dimensions.

1.2 This specification is intended for the use of purchasers or producers, or both, of additively manufactured UNS S31603 components for defining the requirements and ensuring component properties.

1.3 Users are advised to use this specification as a basis for obtaining components that will meet the minimum acceptance requirements established and revised by consensus of the members of the committee.

1.4 User requirements considered more stringent may be met by the addition to the purchase order of one or more supplementary requirements, which may include, but are not limited to, those listed in Supplementary Requirements S1–S16.

1.5 The compositional requirements specified in this specification do not meet the compositional requirements for surgical implant grade UNS S31673.

1.6 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. Other units are included only for informational purposes.

1.7 *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.*

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F42 on Additive Manufacturing Technologies and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F42.05 on Materials and Processes.

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2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- A262 Practices for Detecting Susceptibility to Intergranular Attack in Austenitic Stainless Steels
- A276/A276M Specification for Stainless Steel Bars and Shapes
- A479/A479M Specification for Stainless Steel Bars and Shapes for Use in Boilers and Other Pressure Vessels
- A484/A484M Specification for General Requirements for Stainless Steel Bars, Billets, and Forgings
- A751 Test Methods, Practices, and Terminology for Chemical Analysis of Steel Products
- A1080 Practice for Hot Isostatic Pressing of Steel, Stainless Steel, and Related Alloy Castings
- B213 Test Methods for Flow Rate of Metal Powders Using the Hall Flowmeter Funnel
- B214 Test Method for Sieve Analysis of Metal Powders
- B243 Terminology of Powder Metallurgy
- B311 Test Method for Density of Powder Metallurgy (PM) Materials Containing Less Than Two Percent Porosity
- B769 Test Method for Shear Testing of Aluminum Alloys
- B855 Test Method for Volumetric Flow Rate of Metal Powders Using the Arnold Meter and Hall Flowmeter Funnel
- B964 Test Methods for Flow Rate of Metal Powders Using the Carney Funnel
- D3951 Practice for Commercial Packaging
- E3 Guide for Preparation of Metallographic Specimens
- E8/E8M Test Methods for Tension Testing of Metallic Materials
- E9 Test Methods of Compression Testing of Metallic Materials at Room Temperature
- E10 Test Method for Brinell Hardness of Metallic Materials
- E11 Specification for Woven Wire Test Sieve Cloth and Test Sieves
- E18 Test Methods for Rockwell Hardness of Metallic Materials

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.

E21 Test Methods for Elevated Temperature Tension Tests of Metallic Materials

E23 Test Methods for Notched Bar Impact Testing of Metallic Materials

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

E238 Test Method for Pin-Type Bearing Test of Metallic Materials

E353 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Stainless, Heat-Resisting, Maraging, and Other Similar Chromium-Nickel-Iron Alloys

E384 Test Method for Microindentation Hardness of Materials

E399 Test Method for Linear-Elastic Plane-Strain Fracture Toughness K_{Ic} of Metallic Materials

E407 Practice for Microetching Metals and Alloys

E466 Practice for Conducting Force Controlled Constant Amplitude Axial Fatigue Tests of Metallic Materials

E606 Test Method for Strain-Controlled Fatigue Testing

E647 Test Method for Measurement of Fatigue Crack Growth Rates

E1019 Test Methods for Determination of Carbon, Sulfur, Nitrogen, and Oxygen in Steel, Iron, Nickel, and Cobalt Alloys by Various Combustion and Fusion Techniques

E1086 Test Method for Analysis of Austenitic Stainless Steel by Spark Atomic Emission Spectrometry

E1417 Practice for Liquid Penetrant Testing

E1450 Test Method for Tension Testing of Structural Alloys in Liquid Helium

E1479 Practice for Describing and Specifying Inductively-Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrometers

E1742 Practice for Radiographic Examination

E1820 Test Method for Measurement of Fracture Toughness

E2368 Practice for Strain Controlled Thermomechanical Fatigue Testing

F2924 Specification for Additive Manufacturing Titanium-6 Aluminum-4 Vanadium with Powder Bed Fusion

F2971 Practice for Reporting Data for Test Specimens Prepared by Additive Manufacturing

F3049 Guide for Characterizing Properties of Metal Powders Used for Additive Manufacturing Processes

F3122 Guide for Evaluating Mechanical Properties of Metal Materials Made via Additive Manufacturing Processes

2.2 ISO/ASTM Standards:²

52900 Standard Terminology for Additive Manufacturing—General Principles—Terminology

52915 Specification for Additive Manufacturing File Format (AMF) Version 1.1

52921 Terminology for Additive Manufacturing—Coordinate Systems and Test Methodologies

2.3 ASQ Standard:³

ASQ C1 Specification of General Requirements for a Quality Program

2.4 ISO Standards:⁴

ISO 148-1 Metallic materials—Charpy pendulum impact test—Part 1: Test method

ISO 1099 Metallic materials—Fatigue testing—Axial force-controlled method

ISO 4545 Metallic materials—Knoop hardness test—Part 2: Verification and calibration of testing machines

ISO 6506-1 Metallic materials—Brinell hardness test—Part 1: Test method

ISO 6507-1 Metallic materials—Vickers hardness test—Part 1: Test method

ISO 6508 Metallic materials—Rockwell hardness test—Part 1: Test method (scales A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, K, N, T)

ISO 6892-1 Metallic materials—Tensile testing at ambient temperature

ISO 6892-2 Metallic materials—Tensile testing—Part 2: Method of test at elevated temperature

ISO 9001 Quality management system—Requirements

ISO 9044 Industrial woven wire cloth—Technical requirements and testing

ISO 12108 Metallic materials—Fatigue testing—Fatigue crack growth method

ISO 12111 Metallic materials—Fatigue testing—Strain-controlled thermomechanical fatigue testing method

ISO 12135 Metallic materials—Unified method of test for the determination of quasistatic fracture toughness

ISO 12737 Metallic materials—Determination of plane-strain fracture toughness (withdrawn)

ISO 13485 Medical devices—Quality management systems—Requirements for regulatory purposes

ISO 19819 Metallic materials—Tensile testing in liquid helium

2.5 SAE Standards:⁵

AMS 2248 Chemical Check Analysis Limits, Corrosion and Heat-Resistant Steels and Alloys, Maraging and Other Highly-Alloyed Steels, and Iron Alloys

AMS 2759 Heat Treatment of Steel Parts General Requirements

AS 9100 Quality Systems—Aerospace—Model for Quality Assurance in Design, Development, Production, Installation and Servicing

2.6 ASME Standard:⁶

ASME B46.1 Surface Texture

2.7 NIST Standard:⁷

IR 7847 CODEN:NTNOEF

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 Terminology relating to additive manufacturing in Terminology ISO/ASTM 52900 shall apply.

⁴ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.

⁵ Available from SAE International (SAE), 400 Commonwealth Dr., Warrendale, PA 15096, <http://www.sae.org>.

⁶ Available from American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), ASME International Headquarters, Two Park Ave., New York, NY 10016-5990, <http://www.asme.org>.

⁷ Available from National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), 100 Bureau Dr., Stop 1070, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-1070, <http://www.nist.gov>.

³ Available from American Society for Quality (ASQ), 600 N. Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53203, <http://www.asq.org>.

3.1.2 Terminology relating to coordinate systems in Terminology ISO/ASTM 52921 shall apply.

3.1.3 Terminology relating to powder bed fusion in Specification F2924 shall apply.

3.1.4 Terminology relating to powder metallurgy in Terminology B243 shall apply.

4. Condition

4.1 Unless otherwise specified herein, all Conditions shall meet the requirements in each section of this standard. Conditions are not listed sequentially.

4.1.1 Condition A components shall be stress relieved or solution annealed in accordance with Section 12.

4.1.2 Condition B components shall be solution annealed in accordance with Section 12.

NOTE 1—Stress relieving in 4.1.1 refers to the thermal post-processing of dimensional stabilization to remove or reduce internal/residual stresses, and solution annealing in 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 refers to the thermal post-processing of heating the component to the minimum annealing temperature, holding for a sufficient time to permit grain boundary carbides to enter into solution, and cooling rapidly enough to prevent unacceptable grain boundary carbide precipitation.

4.1.3 Condition C components shall be hot isostatically pressed in accordance with Section 13.

4.1.4 Condition D—Not Used.

4.1.5 For Condition E components, all thermal post-processing shall be optional.

NOTE 2—Prototype parts may be classified as Condition E.

4.1.6 Condition F—Not Used.

5. Ordering Information

5.1 Orders for components compliant with this specification shall include the following to describe the requirements adequately:

5.1.1 This specification designation,

5.1.2 Description or part number of product desired,

5.1.3 Quantity of product desired,

5.1.4 Condition,

5.1.5 SI or SAE units,

5.1.5.1 *Discussion*—The STL file format used by many powder bed fusion machines does not contain units of measurement as metadata. When only STL files are provided by the purchaser, ordering information should specify the units of the component along with the electronic data file. More information about data files can be found in ISO/ASTM 52915.

5.1.6 Dimensions and tolerances (Section 14),

5.1.7 Mechanical properties (Section 11),

5.1.8 Methods for chemical analysis (Section 9),

5.1.9 Sampling plans as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser, including any supplementary requirements (see 1.4),

5.1.10 Post-processing sequence of operations,

5.1.11 Thermal post-processing,

5.1.12 Component marking such as labeling the serial or lot number in the CAD file prior to the build cycle, or product tagging,

5.1.13 Packaging and shipping requirements,

5.1.14 Certification,

5.1.15 Disposition of rejected material (Section 15), and

5.1.16 Other supplementary requirements as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser such as allowable porosity (see 1.4).

6. Manufacturing Plan

6.1 Condition A, B, C, and E components manufactured to this specification shall have a manufacturing plan that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

6.1.1 A machine, manufacturing control system, and qualification procedure as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser;

NOTE 3—Qualification procedures typically require qualification build cycles in which mechanical property test specimens are prepared and measured in accordance with Section 11 or other applicable standards. Location, orientation on the build platform, number of test specimens for each machine qualification build cycle, and relationship between specimen test results and component quality shall be agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

6.1.2 Feedstock that meets the requirements of Section 7;

6.1.3 The machine identification, including machine software version, manufacturing control system version (if automated), build chamber environment, machine conditioning, and calibration information of the qualified machine;

6.1.4 Predetermined process as substantiated by the qualification procedure;

6.1.5 Safeguards to ensure traceability of the digital files, including design history of the components;

6.1.6 All the steps necessary to start the build process, including build platform selection, machine cleaning, and powder handling;

6.1.7 The requirements for approving/qualifying machine operators;

6.1.8 Logging of machine build data files, upper and lower limits of the parameters affecting component quality and other process validation controls;

6.1.9 The number of components per build cycle, their orientation and location on the build platform, and support structures, if required;

6.1.10 Process steps including, but not limited to, Section 8;

6.1.11 Post-processing procedure, including sequence of the post-processing steps and the specifications for each step;

6.1.12 Thermal post-processing including stress relieve, furnace anneal, hot isostatic pressing, and heat treat; and

6.1.13 Inspection requirements as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser, including any supplementary requirements.

7. Feedstock

7.1 The feedstock for this specification shall be metal powder, as defined in Terminology B243, that has the powder type, size distribution, shape, density, and flow rate acceptable for the process as determined by the component supplier.

7.2 The metal powder shall be free from detrimental amounts of inclusions and impurities, and its chemical composition shall be adequate to yield, after processing, the final chemical composition listed in Table 1.

TABLE 1 Chemical Composition (wt %)

Element	Min	Max
Carbon	–	0.030
Manganese	–	2.00
Phosphorus	–	0.045
Sulfur	–	0.030
Silicon	–	1.00
Chromium	16.0	18.0
Nickel	10.0	14.0
Molybdenum	2.00	3.00
Iron ^A	Balance	

^A The percentage of Iron content by difference is not required to be determined or certified.

7.3 Powder blends are allowed unless otherwise specified between the component supplier and purchaser, as long as all powder used to create the powder blend meets the requirements in **Table 1** and lot numbers are documented and maintained.

7.4 Used powder is allowed unless otherwise specified between the component supplier and purchaser. The proportion of virgin powder to used powder shall be recorded and reported for each production run. The maximum number of times used powder can be used as well as the number of times any portion of a powder lot can be processed in the build chamber should be agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser for Condition A, B, and C. There are no limits on the number of build cycles of used powder for Condition E components. After a build cycle, any remaining used powder may be blended with virgin powder to maintain a powder quantity large enough for next build cycle. The chemical composition of used powders shall be analyzed regularly, as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser. Powder not conforming to **Table 1** or **7.7** shall not be further processed in the machine to manufacture Condition A, B, and C components.

7.4.1 All used powder shall be sieved with a sieve having a mesh size appropriate for removing any agglomerates or contaminants from the build cycle.

7.5 All powder sieves used to manufacture Condition A, B, and C components shall have a certificate of conformance that they were manufactured to ISO 9044 or all powder sieving shall be in conformance with Specification **E11**.

7.6 Sieve analysis of used powder or powder lots during incoming inspection or in-process inspection shall be made in accordance with Test Method **B214** or as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser. **F3049** provides guidance on particle size measurement.

7.7 The maximum percentage of any element in **Table 1** may be increased for virgin powder, used powder and powder blends as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser. When the component supplier and purchaser agree to an increase in the maximum percentage of any element, **9.2** shall apply.

7.8 Any powder lot or powder blend containing any used powder shall be considered used powder.

8. Process

8.1 Processing shall be conducted in accordance with applicable standards or as agreed upon by the component supplier

and purchaser according to an approved manufacturing plan as described in Section **6**.

8.1.1 Test specimens for quality assurance may be required to be built and tested in accordance with Section **11** with each build cycle or before and after a production run as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

NOTE 4—In addition to tension test specimens, fatigue test specimens may be required by the purchaser to be built with the components at the beginning and end of each production run. Fatigue testing is described in Supplementary Requirement S6.

8.2 Permissible parameter, process changes and extent of external intervention during the build cycle shall be identified in the manufacturing plan. All process changes shall be monitored and recorded. When agreed to by the purchaser, minor changes to the manufacturing plan are permissible without machine requalification.

8.3 The powder distribution system should be non-contaminating to the feedstock for Condition A, B, and C components. What constitutes non-contaminating shall be agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

8.4 Condition and finish of the components shall be agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

8.5 Post-processing operations may be used to achieve the desired shape, size, surface finish, or other component properties. The post-processing operations shall be agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser for Condition A, B, and C components.

9. Chemical Requirements

9.1 Except for Condition E, chemical composition of as-built components shall conform to the requirements specified in **Table 1**. Methods and practices relating to chemical analysis required by this specification shall be in accordance with **A751**, **E353**, **E1086**, **E1479**, or **E1019**, or combination thereof, as appropriate. Other analytical methods may be used if agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

9.1.1 Analysis for elements not listed in **Table 1** is not required to certify compliance with this specification.

9.2 Chemical check (product) analysis limits shall be as shown in **Table 2** (that is, per AMS 2248 or Specification **A484/A484M**). Chemical check analysis tolerances do not broaden the requirements in **Table 1** for the powder or component supplier, but cover variations between laboratories in the measurement of chemical content. The component

TABLE 2 Check Analysis Limits (Tolerances) (wt %)

Element	Permissible Variation In Check Analysis
Carbon	±0.005
Manganese	±0.04
Silicon	±0.05
Phosphorus	±0.010
Sulfur	±0.005
Chromium	±0.20
Molybdenum	±0.10
Nickel	±0.15

supplier shall not certify components to this specification, if the component chemistry is outside the requirements specified in [Table 1](#).

9.3 The chemical composition requirements in this specification for UNS S31603 components are the same as Specification [A276/A276M](#) and Specification [A479/A479M](#) for wrought alloy.

10. Microstructure

10.1 The microstructural requirements and frequency of examinations shall be mutually agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser. Specimen preparation shall be in accordance with Guide [E3](#) and Practice [E407](#).

11. Mechanical Properties

11.1 Build platform coordinates and build platform location for test specimens shall be used in accordance with ISO/ASTM 52921.

11.2 Tension test specimens shall be prepared in accordance with Test Method E8, described in [E8/E8M](#), either before or after thermal post-processing as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

NOTE 5—[F3122](#) provides guidance on evaluating mechanical properties.

11.3 Specimens used for tension testing shall be machined from bulk deposition, machined from bars or taken from near net shape specimens and built in X, Y, Z orientations in accordance with ISO/ASTM 52921, or other orientations as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

NOTE 6—Mechanical properties of the test specimens may vary because of factors such as the location of the sample on the build platform, the test specimen orientation, and the number of parts on the build platform (delay time between beam exposures). Whether or not the test specimens are near net shape or machined from larger blocks is to be agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

11.4 Tensile properties on test specimens shall conform to [Table 3](#), as determined in accordance with Test Method [E8/E8M](#) (or alternatively ISO 6892).

11.5 Reporting of tension tests results shall be in accordance with Specification [F2971](#).

12. Thermal Post-Processing

12.1 When required, Condition A components shall be stress relieved or solution annealed as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser. Stress relief is optional for all other Conditions.

NOTE 7—Stress relief may be performed while the components are attached to the build platform. AMS 2759 provides stress relief guidance. Some residual stress may remain depending on the stress relief processing. Components processed to [12.1](#) may require further thermal post-processing. Hot isostatic pressing can be used as the stress relief prior to removing parts from the build platform.

NOTE 8—When the powder bed fusion process provides an intrinsic stress relief, for example, due to an elevated powder bed temperature, components produced under such processing conditions may not require a stress relief procedure and may therefore be classified as Condition A when agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

12.2 Condition B components shall be solution annealed in accordance with AMS 2759 or Specification [A484/A484M](#).

12.3 Condition D—Not Used.

12.4 For Condition E components, all thermal post-processing shall be optional.

NOTE 9—As-Built components may be classified as Condition E.

12.5 Condition F—Not Used.

13. Hot Isostatic Pressing

13.1 Hot isostatic pressing (HIP) is required for Condition C components, and optional for all other Conditions.

13.1.1 Process components under inert atmosphere at not less than 100 MPa (14.5 ksi) within the range of 1120 to 1163°C (2050 to 2125°F); hold at the selected temperature within ±14°C (±25°F) for 240 ± 60 min and cool under inert atmosphere to below 427°C (800°F), or to parameters agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

13.2 Hot isostatic pressing shall, at a minimum, conform to the requirements of Practice [A1080](#).

NOTE 10—Proper heat treatment of Condition C components may be necessary to enhance corrosion and environmental cracking resistance. When specified by the purchaser, the component supplier shall test the material in its final condition in accordance with Supplementary Requirement S16.

14. Dimensions and Permissible Variations

14.1 Tolerances on as-built components shall be agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

14.2 As-built components may be machined to meet dimensional requirements.

14.3 Component repair by welding shall be approved by the purchaser.

TABLE 3 Minimum Tensile Requirements^A

Room Temperature Condition	Tensile Strength, MPa (ksi), X and Y Directions	Tensile Strength, MPa (ksi), Z Direction	Yield Strength at 0.2% Offset, MPa (ksi), X and Y Directions	Yield Strength at 0.2% Offset, MPa (ksi), Z Direction	Elongation in 50 mm (2 in.) or 4D, (%), X and Y Directions	Elongation in 50 mm (2 in.) or 4D, (%), Z Direction	Reduction of Area, %, X and Y Directions	Reduction of Area, %, Z Direction
A - Stress Relieved ^B	515 (75)	515 (75)	205 (30)	205 (30)	30	30	40	40
A - Solution Annealed	515 (75)	515 (75)	205 (30)	205 (30)	30	30	30	30
B	515 (75)	515 (75)	205 (30)	205 (30)	30	30	30	30
C	515 (75)	515 (75)	205 (30)	205 (30)	30	30	30	30
E	no requirement	no requirement	no requirement	no requirement	no requirement	no requirement	no requirement	no requirement

^A A gauge length corresponding to ISO 6892 may be used when agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

^B Mechanical properties conform to Specification [A479/A479M](#).

15. Retests

15.1 If the results of any chemical or mechanical property test or any inspection method, including S1–S15, on a component are not in conformance with the requirements of this specification, the component may be retested at the option of the component supplier.

15.1.1 The frequency of the retest will be double the initial number of tests. If the results of the retest conform to the requirement, then the retest values will become the test values for certification.

15.2 All test results including the original test results and the conforming retest results shall be reported to the purchaser.

15.3 If any of the results for the retest fail to conform with the requirements of this specification, the material shall be rejected in accordance with Section 17.

16. Inspection

16.1 Inspection criteria shall be agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

17. Rejection

17.1 Components not conforming to this specification, or modifications to this specification that are not authorized by the purchaser, will be subject to rejection.

17.2 All rejected components shall be quarantined and reported to the component purchaser.

18. Certification

18.1 A certificate of conformance, including a test certificate, shall be provided by the component supplier at the time of shipment stating that the components were manufactured and tested in accordance with this specification.

18.2 If the component supplier and purchaser are one and the same, equivalent internal documentation shall be acceptable in lieu of certification.

19. Product Marking and Packaging

19.1 Each component shall be identified as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

19.2 Unless otherwise specified, components purchased under this specification shall be packaged in accordance with the component supplier's standard practice or Practice D3951.

20. Quality Program Requirements

20.1 The component supplier and its metal powder supplier shall maintain a quality program as defined in ASQ C1 or other recognized quality management systems such as ISO 9001, AS 9100, or ISO 13485 for Condition A, B, and C components.

NOTE 11—To ensure full component and feedstock traceability, the component purchaser should require the component supplier to use and maintain a comprehensive manufacturing control system except for Condition E components. What constitutes a comprehensive manufacturing control system shall be agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

21. Significance of Numerical Limits

21.1 All observed or calculated values shall be rounded to the nearest unit in the last right hand digit used in expressing the specification limit, in accordance with the rounding method of Practice E29.

22. Keywords

22.1 additive manufacturing; electron beam melting; metal laser sintering; selective laser melting

SUPPLEMENTARY REQUIREMENTS

S1. Furnace Anneal

S1.1 Furnace anneal shall be performed to specifications as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

S2. Liquid Penetrant

S2.1 Testing shall be performed on component surfaces after machining only.

S2.2 Fluorescent penetrant inspection in accordance with Practice E1417 with the sensitivity level agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser shall be performed on all components.

S3. Radiographic Examination

S3.1 Components shall be subject to radiographic examination in accordance with Practice E1742, with test methods agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser. Acceptance criteria and sampling plan other than 100 % inspection shall be agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

S4. Hardness Test

S4.1 Hardness tests shall be performed in accordance with the requirements of Test Method E10 or Test Method E18 as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

S5. Fracture Toughness

S5.1 Static fracture toughness shall be tested in accordance with Test Method E399 or Test Method E1820. Dynamic fracture toughness shall be tested in accordance with Test Methods E23. Use of other relevant methods requires prior agreement between the component supplier and purchaser.

S6. Fatigue Testing

S6.1 It is recommended that users evaluate fatigue properties for powder bed fusion components that experience dynamic loads in service. Fatigue testing shall be in accordance with Practice E466, Test Method E606, or other relevant methods and performed as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

S7. Feedstock Flow Rate

S7.1 In powder bed fusion machines, the feedstock should have a flow rate that is optimized for each process. The powder flow rate shall be measured in accordance with Test Methods **B964**, **B213** or **B855**.

NOTE 12—Physical characteristics such as inter-particle friction and particle size of UNS S31603 powder can vary significantly depending upon the process used to produce the powder. These physical variations subsequently lead to variations in powder flow characteristics. These powder flow variations can be critical in additive manufacturing powder bed fusion machines, and if not addressed properly, may lead to defects such as porosity in the components. Thus, changes in feedstock vendors may require revalidation of the process.

S8. Component Density

S8.1 Component density shall be measured in accordance with Test Method **B311**.

S9. Surface Finish

S9.1 As built surface finish can vary significantly depending on process, machine, and material parameters and orientation. Surface finish should be agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser as measured in accordance with ASME B46.1 or other relevant methods.

S10. Compression

S10.1 Compression shall be tested in accordance with Test Method **E9**.

S11. Shear

S11.1 Shear shall be tested in accordance with Test Method **B769**.

S12. Bearing

S12.1 Pin-type bearing shall be tested in accordance with Test Method **E238**.

S13. Crack Growth

S13.1 Crack growth shall be determined by Test Method **E647** or as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

S14. Other Supplemental Requirements

S14.1 Other tests may be performed on components as agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

S15. Quality Assurance

S15.1 When specified in the purchase order or contract:

S15.1.1 The components as received by the purchaser shall meet engineering tolerances and notes and other requirements of the purchase order.

S15.1.2 Components shall be free from cracks, defects, discontinuities, foreign material, inclusions, imperfections, and porosity detrimental to the usage of the component.

S15.1.3 When agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser, a first-article inspection shall be performed on one component for each part number.

S15.1.3.1 Multiple components may be included in a first-article production run.

S15.1.3.2 The first-article inspection shall include verification of the requirements of the engineering drawing and all test results.

S15.1.4 Manufacturing lot inspection shall be performed in accordance with the manufacturing plan. Inspection criteria shall be agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser.

S15.1.5 The inspection and sequence of operations shall be carried out as listed in the manufacturing plan.

S15.1.6 Manufacturing lots rejected on the basis of a sampling plan, regardless of the inspection method, may be resubmitted for 100 % inspection and unacceptable components removed from the lot.

S15.1.7 Individual component rejection shall apply in those instances in which 100 % inspection is required in the manufacturing plan and any individual component fails an inspection method. Only unacceptable components need to be rejected when the balance of the components in the manufacturing lot meet inspection requirements.

S16. Susceptibility to Intergranular Corrosion

S16.1 This supplementary requirement is to be imposed when optimum corrosion and environmental cracking resistance is required for the 316L components. If testing to demonstrate the absence of detrimental phases (such as carbide precipitates) is required, the test method(s) and acceptance criteria, including any solution annealing heat treatment to eliminate detected detrimental phases, shall be agreed upon by the component supplier and purchaser. Practice E of Practices **A262** provides guidance on intergranular corrosion (IGC) tests for 316L, and Specification **A484/A484M** provides guidance on solution annealing conditions.

APPENDIX
(Nonmandatory Information)
X1. ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING OF METALS IN POWDER BED FUSION

X1.1 Commercially available full-melt, powder bed additive manufacturing systems have two main heat sources: laser and electron beam. Although both heat sources produce UNS S31603 components with nearly no porosity and good mechanical properties, the technologies differ significantly in their implementation, which upon examination can show differences in microstructure and the need for furnace annealing. The purchaser should be educated as to the differences in the processes and enforce additional requirements where appropriate.

X1.2 The commercially available powder bed fusion systems that fully melt metal powders to create components are machines that typically allow the operator much latitude in terms of process parameters. Adjustments by the operator or from other sources to the process parameters can have a dramatic effect on surface finish, internal porosity, mechanical properties, and chemical composition. Therefore, the manufacturing control system will contain safeguards to prevent changes of the validated digital component files and of the process parameters and track the planned versus real process parameters. It is also a recommendation that Condition A, B, and C components have tension test specimens built and tested as part of the machine validation process. Components built with a robust manufacturing plan are likely to have similar properties to the test specimens. Additionally, this specification allows the purchaser to require tension test samples to be included with each component build cycle; however, this

requirement should only be enforced when lot testing is not adequate or when each process cycle has significantly different components in terms of geometry.

X1.3 Suppliers of UNS S31603 powder bed fusion components should use a validated, fixed process that takes into account and minimizes machine to machine and operator variability. The component supplier and purchaser should agree upon what constitutes a validated process and ensure the manufacturing plan is accurate, comprehensive, adequate, monitored and continuously recorded for the components being procured.

X1.4 In order for this standard to be accepted internationally, ISO and ASTM reference standards were cited where applicable. In 2012 the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) published an internal report, IR 7847, called Mechanical Properties Testing for Metal Parts Made via Additive Manufacturing: A Review of the State of the Art of Mechanical Property Testing. In this internal report, the authors compared ISO and ASTM testing methods for determining properties of metal materials. The following chart shows the equivalent and significantly similar test methods between ISO and ASTM as determined by IR 7847. Care should be taken when substituting test methodology and there should be agreement between the component supplier and purchaser on all test methods.

TABLE X1.1 Comparison of Similar ASTM and ISO Test Methods for Metals

ASTM Spec	ISO Spec	Notes
E8/E8M	6892-1	tension test 10°C-38°C
E21	6892-2	tension test >38°C
E1450	19819	tension test <-196°C
E10	6506-1	Brinell hardness 10°C-35°C
E18	6508	Rockwell B, C hardness
E384	4545-1	Knoop Hardness
E384	6507-1	Vickers Hardness
E606	1099	fatigue test 10°C-35°C, strain controlled
E647	12108	crack growth
E2368	12111	fatigue, thermomechanical, strain controlled
E399	12737	fracture toughness, plane-strain
E1820	12135	fracture toughness
E23	148-1	Charpy and Izod tests

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