

Aluminium and aluminium alloys — Rolling ingots — Specifications

ICS 77.150.10

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 487:2009. It supersedes BS EN 487:1994 which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee NFE/35, Light metals and their alloys.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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Contents

Page

Foreword.....	3
1 Scope	4
2 Normative references	4
3 Terms and definitions	4
4 Ordering information	4
5 Requirements	5
5.1 Production and manufacturing processes	5
5.2 Chemical composition	5
5.3 Surface and internal quality.....	6
5.4 Tolerances on dimensions	6
5.5 Tolerances of form.....	7
5.6 Sawing	9
5.7 Scalping	9
6 Test procedures	9
6.1 Analysis of chemical composition.....	9
6.2 Inspection of physical and metallurgical properties.....	10
6.3 Other tests	10
7 Inspection documents.....	10
7.1 Certificate of mass and analysis.....	10
7.2 Inspection certificate	10
8 Marking	11
8.1 General.....	11
8.2 Edge marking	11
8.3 Top end marking	11
9 Packaging, transport and storage.....	11
10 Complaints	12
Bibliography	13

Foreword

This document (EN 487:2009) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 132 "Aluminium and aluminium alloys", the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by February 2010, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by February 2010.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN 487:1993.

Within its programme of work, Technical Committee CEN/TC 132 entrusted CEN/TC 132/WG 2 "Extrusion billets and rolling ingots" to revise EN 487:1993.

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1 Scope

This European Standard specifies the general requirements to be met by rolling ingots of aluminium or aluminium alloys obtained by semi-continuous vertical casting.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 573-1, *Aluminium and aluminium alloys — Chemical composition and form of wrought products — Part 1: Numerical designation system*

EN 573-2, *Aluminium and aluminium alloys — Chemical composition and form of wrought products — Part 2: Chemical symbol based designation system*

EN 573-3, *Aluminium and aluminium alloys — Chemical composition and form of wrought products — Part 3: Chemical composition*

EN 10204, *Metallic products — Types of inspection documents*

EN 12258-1:1998, *Aluminium and aluminium alloys — Terms and definitions — Part 1: General terms*

EN 14242, *Aluminium and aluminium alloys — Chemical analysis — Inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectral analysis*

EN 14726, *Aluminium and aluminium alloys — Chemical analysis — Guideline for spark optical emission spectrometric analysis*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN 12258-1:1998 and the following apply.

3.1
heat
quantity of liquid metal that has simultaneously undergone the same preparatory treatment in the furnace before the casting operation

4 Ordering information

The ordering information shall define the product required and shall contain the following:

- a) the form of the product (rolling ingot);
- b) the designation of the aluminium or aluminium alloy according to EN 573-1 and 573-2 (or the purchaser alloy designation after agreement between supplier and purchaser). Tighter limits than the composition limits stated in EN 573-3 may be specified as required;
- c) whether as cast or homogenized. The homogenizing parameters should be agreed between the supplier and the purchaser;

- d) the number of this European Standard;
- e) the dimensions and shape of the product:
 - 1) nominal thickness (expressed in millimetres);
 - 2) nominal width (expressed in millimetres);
 - 3) nominal length and tolerance if different from standard (expressed in millimetres);
 - 4) cross sectional profile details or drawing number (expressed in millimetres);
- f) sawing code (see 5.6.4);
- g) whether rolling ingots are to be supplied scalped or not;
- h) whether the rolling ingots are scalped or not before hot rolling;
- i) end use (e.g. foil, packaging) (see 5.1);
- j) quantity:
 - 1) mass (in metric tonnes) or number of pieces;
 - 2) quantity tolerances if required;
- k) any requirements for inspection documents (see Clause 7);
- l) any additional requirements agreed between supplier and purchaser (see Clause 7).

5 Requirements

5.1 Production and manufacturing processes

The product requirements as formulated in this clause normally are not sufficient for rolling ingots to meet the purchaser's requirements for rolled products. Therefore, the purchaser shall give the manufacturer full details concerning the end use requirements, so that the manufacturing conditions of the manufacturer may best be adjusted to fulfil the requirements.

It is recommended that trial quantities be produced to confirm that the end use requirements are met. It is also recommended that the purchaser asks the manufacturer to advise of any significant change in the manufacturing processes which may affect the quality of the final product.

It is recommended that a quality assurance system be implemented as described in EN ISO 9000 and EN ISO 9004.

5.2 Chemical composition

The chemical composition of the ingots shall conform to the compositions specified in EN 573-3.

It is recommended that tighter composition limits than those given in EN 573-3 be agreed between purchaser and supplier as required.

Control of alkali metals and other specific trace elements is recommended:

- a) sodium and calcium for magnesium alloys;

- b) lithium for foil end use alloys;
- c) beryllium.

The maximum hydrogen content and the related measuring method should be agreed between supplier and purchaser.

5.3 Surface and internal quality

To be suitable for rolling, after scalping or not as required, and subsequent processing, rolling ingots shall:

- a) have low level of casting surface defects, protruding metal, handling marks, oil, dirt and corrosion;
- b) have low level of inclusions, porosity, shrinkage cavities and cracks;
- c) have a suitable metallurgical structure (e.g. grain size, shell zone depth, fir-tree structure).

The level of quality should be agreed between purchaser and supplier.

5.4 Tolerances on dimensions

5.4.1 Cross-section

The shape of the cross-section is left to the discretion of the purchaser, who shall give the supplier a dimensional drawing.

5.4.2 Thickness

The thickness is measured on both sides of the ingot at a distance of 100 mm from the edges. The tolerance on the thickness thus measured is ± 5 mm excluding (see Figure 1):

- a) a distance from the bottom butt of the unsawn rolling ingot of 80 % of the nominal thickness (distance measured before sawing, if any);

NOTE For ingots more than 2 m wide, the distance is equal to the thickness.

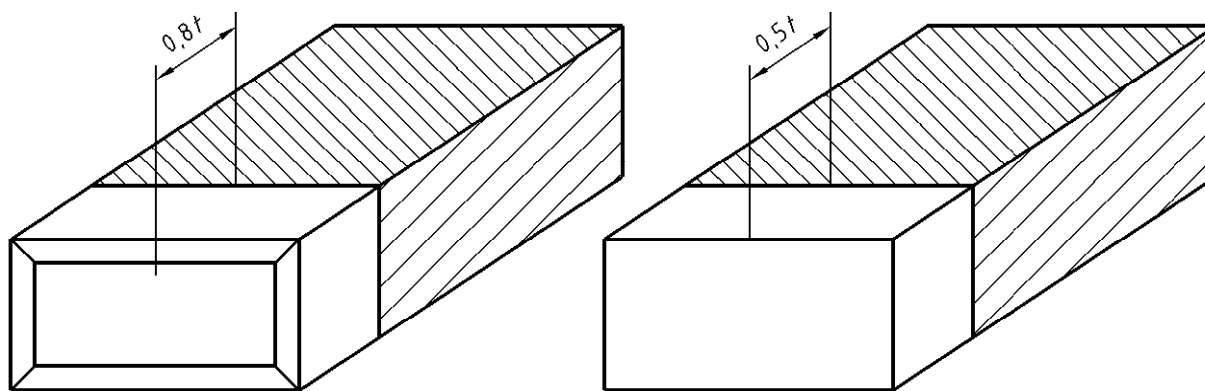
- b) a distance from the bottom end of the sawn rolling ingot of 50 % of the nominal thickness.

The tolerance on thickness in the zones defined above and measured at the centre of the cross-section is:

- c) 4 % of the nominal thickness for sawn ingots;
- d) to be agreed between the purchaser and the supplier for unsawn ingots.

Other tolerances and measuring positions can be specified between the supplier and the purchaser.

The difference between the thinnest and the thickest parts of the sawn ingot measured anywhere on the ingot at a distance greater than 100 mm from the edges shall not exceed 5 % of the nominal thickness.



a) Unawn rolling ingot

b) Sawn rolling ingot

Key

t nominal thickness

NOTE The hatching corresponds to the zone in which thickness, width and deflections are measured.

Figure 1 — Rolling ingot type

5.4.3 Width

The width is measured overall. The tolerance on width is $^{+10}_0$ mm excluding a distance from the bottom butt of the rolling ingot of 80 % of the nominal thickness (ingot with unawn butt) or 50 % of the nominal thickness (ingot with sawn butt) (see Figure 1).

Other tolerances may be agreed between the purchaser and the supplier as required.

5.4.4 Length

The length is measured overall. The tolerance on length is:

- a) ± 25 mm for sawn ingots;
- b) ± 50 mm for unawn ingots;

unless otherwise stated in the ordering information.

5.5 Tolerances of form

5.5.1 Lateral deflection

The lateral deflection is the deflection measured along an edge in the casting direction, at the middle of the edge.

The maximum permissible deflection on the length of the rolling ingot is 6 mm (see Figure 2).

5.5.2 Longitudinal deflection

The longitudinal deflection is the deflection measured along a rolling face in the casting direction, at 100 mm from one corner.

The maximum permissible deflection on the length of the ingot is 6 mm (see Figure 2).

5.5.3 Diagonal deflection

The diagonal deflection is the deflection measured along a diagonal line of a rolling face. It qualifies the twist of the rolling ingot.

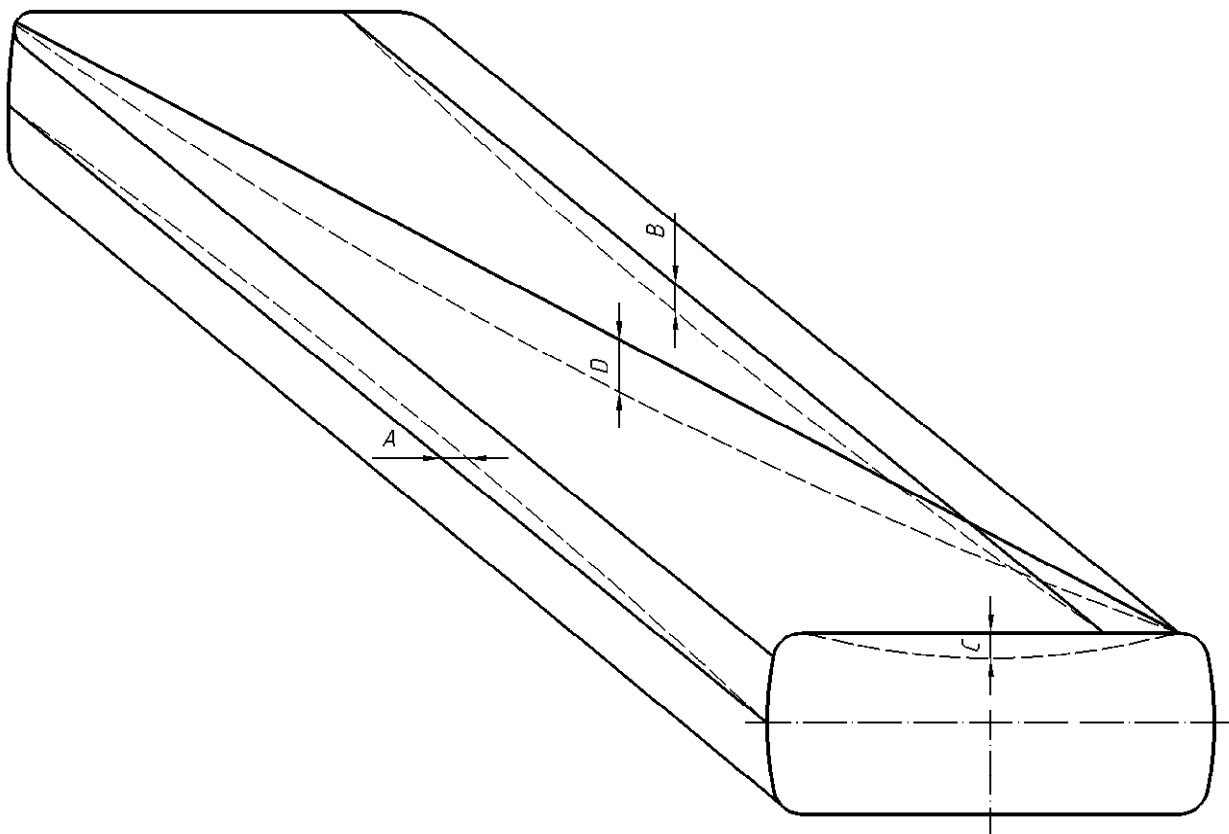
The maximum permissible deflection is 6 mm (see Figure 2).

5.5.4 Transverse deflection (concavity and convexity)

The transverse deflection is measured on a rolling face in the direction perpendicular to the casting direction. It measures the concavity or convexity of the ingot.

The maximum permissible transverse deflection is ± 3 mm (see Figure 2).

If the rolling ingot is not scalped before rolling, the maximum permissible transverse deflection is to be agreed between the purchaser and the supplier.



Key

- A lateral deflection
- B longitudinal deflection
- C transverse deflection
- D diagonal deflection

NOTE The lateral, longitudinal, diagonal and transverse deflections are measured on the length of the product excluding the bottom butt zone corresponding to a length equal to 80 % of the nominal thickness (unsawn butt) or 50 % of the nominal thickness (sawn butt) (see Figure 1).

Figure 2 — Deflection type

5.5.5 Squareness

The cuts shall be at $90^\circ \pm 1^\circ$ from any generating line of the rolling ingot (casting axis).

5.6 Sawing

5.6.1 General

The rolling ingots can be:

- a) as cast if the top and bottom butts do not have to be removed as described below; or
- b) sawn.

Sawing can be performed at the top and/or bottom butt.

5.6.2 Top butt sawing

Top butt sawing shall be sufficient to remove shrink cavity and any defective metal.

5.6.3 Bottom butt sawing

Bottom butt sawing shall give a rolling ingot within flatness tolerances and remove defective metal.

5.6.4 Sawing code

Table 1 gives the sawing code as a function of the type of sawing.

Table 1 — Sawing code function of sawing type

Top butt sawing	Bottom butt sawing	Code ^a
no	no	NS
yes	no	TS
no	yes	BS
yes	yes	DS
^a NS stands for not sawn. TS stands for top sawn. BS stands for bottom sawn. DS stands for double sawn (top and bottom).		

5.7 Scalping

Scalping parameters and special dimensional requirements for scalped ingots shall be agreed between the supplier and purchaser. They shall be covered under the additional requirements in the ordering information.

6 Test procedures

6.1 Analysis of chemical composition

The analytical samples shall be taken at the discretion of the manufacturer who shall use methods accepted at European level, EN 14242 and EN 14726, or at International level.

The analytical samples shall be taken during the cast, from the metal distribution system, after the grain refiner addition (if any).

The analytical samples shall be suitably machined and, when analysed by emission spectrometry, shall be subject to at least two determinations. The sample result is the arithmetic mean of the determinations.

The final result is the arithmetic mean of the results of the taken samples.

For cast acceptance, each sample shall meet the specified composition limits.

The manufacturer shall use analytical methods standardized at European or International level, e.g. SPC (Statistical Process Control). The choice of appropriate methods is at the discretion of the manufacturer.

6.2 Inspection of physical and metallurgical properties

6.2.1 Dimensional characteristics

The manufacturer shall employ adequate means to ensure that the dimensional characteristics and their tolerances, as described in 5.4, are complied with.

6.2.2 Process control and end use suitability

Process control shall be adequate to ensure attributes which cannot be directly verified are satisfactorily achieved.

Routine checks shall also be carried out to confirm desired attributes are achieved (e.g. grain size, shell zone depth, fir-tree structure, hydrogen content, metal cleanliness).

6.3 Other tests

If required, other tests should be specified in the order after agreement between the purchaser and the supplier.

7 Inspection documents

7.1 Certificate of mass and analysis

The supplier shall provide with each delivery a certificate of mass and analysis which shall contain the following information:

- a) the name and address of the supplying company and the name of the manufacturing plant;
- b) the name and address of the purchaser;
- c) the description of the product as described in 4 a), b), c), d), e), f) and g);
- d) the cast and piece numbers, the net mass of each piece and, for each cast, the actual analysis of the elements (silicon, iron, copper, manganese, magnesium, chromium, zinc, titanium and other elements specified in EN 573-3 or required in the order) in the sequence given in EN 573-3.

7.2 Inspection certificate

Unless otherwise indicated in the order, the supplier shall deliver an inspection certificate 3.1 according to EN 10204 with at least the result of chemical analysis.

8 Marking

8.1 General

Unless otherwise agreed between the purchaser and the supplier, ingots shall be marked:

- a) in ink or paint on at least one edge;
- b) by stamping at the top end.

8.2 Edge marking

The ink (or paint) employed shall withstand exposure to weather and heat (or to homogenizing) which precedes the hot rolling operation, and shall not contain lead.

The characters employed shall be at least 50 mm high. Higher characters shall be agreed between the purchaser and the supplier.

The following details shall be given:

- a) manufacturer identification which enables, if necessary, plants to be distinguished (e.g. logo, brand name);
- b) cast number;
- c) individual number in the cast;
- d) the designation of the aluminium alloy;
- e) nominal width;
- f) nominal thickness;
- g) nominal length;
- h) ingot net mass.

8.3 Top end marking

Top end marking by stamping is intended to provide a permanent identification in case of loss of the edge marking. It shall therefore provide the minimum information allowing clear identification of the rolling ingot.

The following details are the minimum that shall appear:

- a) manufacturer and, if necessary, plant identification (e.g. logo, brand name);
- b) cast number;
- c) individual ingot number in the cast.

The plant identification should be agreed between the purchaser and the supplier.

9 Packaging, transport and storage

Transport and storage conditions shall maintain the rolling ingots in a condition suitable for rolling without the necessity of further operations.

Packaging and transport methods shall be agreed between the purchaser and the supplier.

10 Complaints

External and internal defects shall give rise to complaints only if they affect the processing or the end use of the ingot.

The purchaser shall allow the supplier to check the grounds for complaint. For example, he shall present him with the following:

- a) a piece of the faulty ingot, with its complete identification; and/or
- b) a specimen of the finished product, or in an intermediate state, obtained from the faulty metal, with all the details allowing identification; and/or
- c) justification of the defect on the ingot or finished product; and/or
- d) details of conditions of processing and inspection in the intermediate stages.

The dispute may entail the services of a referee laboratory to perform examination and tests. The purchaser and the supplier shall agree on the laboratory and the examination and tests methods to be employed. Prior to start-up of regular deliveries, it is recommended that the supplier and purchaser agree about these items.

Bibliography

- [1] EN ISO 9000, *Quality management systems — Fundamentals and vocabulary (ISO 9000:2005)*
- [2] EN ISO 9004, *Quality management systems — Guidelines for performance improvements (ISO 9004:2000)*

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