



Standard Specification for Seamless, Welded, and Heavily Cold Worked Austenitic Stainless Steel Pipes¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A312/A312M; 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 (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification² covers seamless, straight-seam welded, and heavily cold worked welded austenitic stainless steel pipe intended for high-temperature and general corrosive service.

1.2 Grades TP304H, TP309H, TP309HCb, TP310H, TP310HCb, TP316H, TP321H, TP347H, and TP348H are modifications of Grades TP304, TP309Cb, TP309S, TP310Cb, TP310S, TP316, TP321, TP347, and TP348, and are intended for service at temperatures where creep and stress rupture properties are important.

1.3 Optional supplementary requirements are provided for pipe where a greater degree of testing is desired. These supplementary requirements call for additional tests to be made and, when desired, it is permitted to specify in the order one or more of these supplementary requirements.

1.4 **Table X1.1** lists the standardized dimensions of welded and seamless stainless steel pipe as shown in ASME B36.19. These dimensions are also applicable to heavily cold worked pipe. Pipe having other dimensions is permitted to be ordered and furnished provided such pipe complies with all other requirements of this specification.

1.5 Grades TP321 and TP321H have lower strength requirements for pipe manufactured by the seamless process in nominal wall thicknesses greater than $\frac{3}{8}$ in [9.5 mm].

1.6 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. Within the text, the SI units are shown in brackets. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard. The inch-pound units shall apply unless the “M” designation of this specification is specified in the order.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee A01 on Steel, Stainless Steel and Related Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee A01.10 on Seamless and Alloy Steel Tubular Products.

Current edition approved May 1, 2025. Published May 2025. Originally approved in 1948. Last previous edition approved in 2024 as A312/A312M – 24b. DOI: 10.1520/A0312_A0312M-25.

For ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code applications see related Specification SA-312 in Section II of that Code.

NOTE 1—The dimensionless designator NPS (nominal pipe size) has been substituted in this standard for such traditional terms as “nominal diameter,” “size,” and “nominal size.”

1.7 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:³

A262 Practice for Detecting Susceptibility to Intergranular Attack in Austenitic Stainless Steels

A370 Test Methods and Definitions for Mechanical Testing of Steel Products

A594 Terminology Relating to Steel, Stainless Steel, Related Alloys, and Ferroalloys

A999/A999M Specification for General Requirements for Alloy and Stainless Steel Pipe

A1016/A1016M Specification for General Requirements for Ferritic Alloy Steel, Austenitic Alloy Steel, and Stainless Steel Tubes

E112 Test Methods for Determining Average Grain Size

E381 Method of Macroetch Testing Steel Bars, Billets, Blooms, and Forgings

E527 Practice for Numbering Metals and Alloys in the Unified Numbering System (UNS)

2.2 ASME Standards:

B1.20.1 Pipe Threads, General Purpose

B36.10M Welded and Seamless Wrought Steel Pipe

B36.19 Stainless Steel Pipe

ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code : Section VIII⁴

³ For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at www.astm.org/contact. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard’s Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

⁴ Available from American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), ASME International Headquarters, Two Park Ave., New York, NY 10016-5990, <http://www.asme.org>.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard

2.3 AWS Standard:

A5.9 Corrosion-Resisting Chromium and Chromium-Nickel Steel Welding Rods and Electrodes⁵

2.4 Other Standard:

SAE J1086 Practice for Numbering Metals and Alloys (UNS)⁶

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 The definitions in Specification **A999/A999M** and Terminology **A941** are applicable to this specification.

4. Ordering Information

4.1 Orders for material to this specification shall conform to the requirements of the current edition of Specification **A999/A999M**.

5. General Requirements

5.1 Material furnished under this specification shall conform to the applicable requirements of the current edition of Specification **A999/A999M** unless otherwise provided herein.

6. Materials and Manufacture

6.1 Manufacture:

6.1.1 The pipe shall be manufactured by one of the following processes:

6.1.2 *Seamless (SML) pipe* shall be made by a process that does not involve welding at any stage of production.

6.1.3 *Welded (WLD) pipe* shall be made using an automatic welding process with no addition of filler metal during the welding process.

6.1.4 *Heavily cold-worked (HCW) pipe* shall be made by applying cold working of not less than 35 % reduction in thickness of both wall and weld to a welded pipe prior to the final anneal. No filler shall be used in making the weld. Prior to cold working, the weld shall be 100 % radiographically inspected in accordance with the requirements of ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section VIII, Division 1, latest revision, Paragraph UW-51.

6.1.5 Welded pipe and HCW pipe of NPS 14 and smaller shall have a single longitudinal weld. Welded pipe and HCW pipe of a size larger than NPS 14 shall have a single longitudinal weld or shall be produced by forming and welding two longitudinal sections of flat stock when approved by the purchaser. All weld tests, examinations, inspections, or treatments shall be performed on each weld seam.

6.1.6 At the option of the manufacturer, pipe shall be either hot finished or cold finished.

6.1.7 The pipe shall be free of scale and contaminating exogenous non particles. Pickling, blasting, or surface finishing is not mandatory when pipe is bright annealed. The purchaser is permitted to require that a passivating treatment be applied to the finished pipe.

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

⁶ Available from Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE), 400 Commonwealth Dr., Warrendale, PA 15096-0001, <http://www.sae.org>.

6.2 *Heat Treatment*—All pipe shall be furnished in the heat-treated condition in accordance with the requirements of **Table 2**. Alternatively, for seamless pipe, immediately following hot forming while the temperature of the pipes is not less than the minimum solution treatment temperature specified in **Table 2**, pipes shall be individually quenched in water or rapidly cooled by other means (direct quenched).

7. Chemical Composition

7.1 The steel shall conform to the requirements and chemical composition prescribed in **Table 1**.

8. Product Analysis

8.1 At the request of the purchaser, an analysis of one billet or one length of flat-rolled stock from each heat or two pipes from each lot shall be made by the manufacturer. A lot of pipe shall consist of the following number of lengths of the same size and wall thickness from any one heat of steel:

NPS Designator	Lengths of Pipe in Lot
Under 2	10 or fraction thereof
2 to 5	200 or fraction thereof
6 and over	100 or fraction thereof

8.2 The results of these analyses shall be reported to the purchaser or the purchaser's representative, and shall conform to the requirements specified in Section 7.

8.3 If the analysis of one of the tests specified in 8.1 does not conform to the requirements specified in Section 7, an analysis of each billet or pipe from the same heat or lot may be made, and all billets or pipe conforming to the requirements shall be accepted.

9. Permitted Variations in Wall Thickness

9.1 In addition to the implicit limitation of wall thickness for seamless pipe imposed by the limitation on weight in Specification **A999/A999M**, the wall thickness for seamless and welded pipe at any point shall be within the tolerances specified in **Table 3**, except that for welded pipe the weld area shall not be limited by the "Over" tolerance. The wall thickness and outside diameter for inspection for compliance with this requirement for pipe ordered by NPS and schedule number is shown in **Table X1.1**.

10. Tensile Requirements

10.1 The tensile properties of the material shall conform to the requirements prescribed in **Table 4**.

11. Mechanical Tests, Grain Size Determinations, and Weld Decay Tests Required

11.1 *Mechanical Testing Lot Definition*—The term *lot* for mechanical tests shall be as follows:

11.1.1 Where the final heat treated condition is obtained, consistent with the requirements of 6.2, in a continuous furnace or by quenching after hot forming, the term *lot* for mechanical tests shall apply to all pipes of the same specified outside diameter and specified wall thickness (or schedule) of the same heat, heat treated in the same furnace at the same temperature, time at heat, and furnace speed in the same production run, or all pipes of the same specified outside diameter and specified