



Standard Specification for High-Strength Low-Alloy Structural Steel, up to 50 ksi [345 MPa] Minimum Yield Point, with Atmospheric Corrosion Resistance¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A588/A588M; 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.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers high-strength low-alloy structural steel shapes, plates, and bars for welded, riveted, or bolted construction but intended primarily for use in welded bridges and buildings where savings in weight or added durability are important. The atmospheric corrosion resistance of this steel in most environments is substantially better than that of carbon structural steels with or without copper addition (see [Note 1](#)). When properly exposed to the atmosphere, this steel is suitable for many applications in the bare (unpainted) condition. This specification is limited to material up to 8 in. [200 mm] inclusive in thickness.

NOTE 1—For methods of estimating the atmospheric corrosion resistance of low-alloy steels, see [Guide G101](#).

1.2 When the steel is to be welded, a welding procedure suitable for the grade of steel and intended use or service is to be utilized. See Appendix X3 of Specification [A6/A6M](#) for information on weldability.

1.3 *Units*—This specification is expressed in both inch-pound units and in SI units; however, unless the purchase order or contract specifies the applicable M specification designation (SI units), the inch-pound units shall apply. The values stated in either inch-pound units or SI units are to be regarded separately as standard. Within the text, the SI units are shown in brackets. The values stated in each system are not exact equivalents; therefore, each system is to be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in nonconformances with the standard.

1.4 The text of this specification contains notes, footnotes, or both, that provide explanatory material. Such notes and

footnotes, excluding those in tables and figures, do not contain any mandatory requirements.

1.5 For structural products produced from coil and furnished without heat treatment or with stress relieving only, the additional requirements, including additional testing requirements and the reporting of additional test results, of Specification [A6/A6M](#) apply.

1.6 *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*:²

[A6/A6M Specification for General Requirements for Rolled Structural Steel Bars, Plates, Shapes, and Sheet Piling](#)
[G101 Guide for Estimating the Atmospheric Corrosion Resistance of Low-Alloy Steels](#)

3. General Requirements for Delivery

3.1 Product furnished to this specification shall conform to the requirements of Specification [A6/A6M](#), including any supplementary requirements indicated in the purchase order or contract. Failure to comply with the general requirements of Specification [A6/A6M](#) constitutes nonconformance with this specification. In case of conflict between the requirements of this specification and Specification [A6/A6M](#), this specification shall prevail.

3.2 Coils are excluded from qualification to this specification until they are processed into a finished structural product.

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 [A01.02](#) on Structural Steel for Bridges, Buildings, Rolling Stock and Ships.

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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.

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