Designation: F2897 – 21

An American National Standard

Standard Specification for
Tracking and Traceability Encoding System of Natural Gas Distribution Components (Pipe, Tubing, Fittings, Valves, and Appurtenances)[1]

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification defines requirements for the data used in the tracking and traceability base-62 encoding system and the format of the resultant code to characterize various components used in fuel gas piping systems.

1.2 The final output of this specification is a 16 digit alpha-numeric code that defines a standardized approach or methodology for encoding certain characteristics of components that have been established based on consensus recommendations from the respective stakeholder group members. The means of marking or affixing the code to the components, and the means of reading and/or transferring the data or codes are outside the scope of this specification.

NOTE 1—To facilitate compliance with this specification, a web based application has been developed to manage and maintain unique manufacturer identification numbers. The URL for the website is: http://www.componentid.org.

1.3 The web based application is only intended to serve as a useful resource for managing the respective manufacturer identification numbers, codes, and other identifiers as per this specification. Any changes to the contents of the web based application are contingent upon subsequent changes to this specification. This specification shall have primacy.

1.4 *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]

A53/A53M Specification for Pipe, Steel, Black and Hot-Dipped, Zinc-Coated, Welded and Seamless
A106/A106M Specification for Seamless Carbon Steel Pipe for High-Temperature Service
D1600 Terminology for Abbreviated Terms Relating to Plastics
D2513 Specification for Polyethylene (PE) Gas Pressure Pipe, Tubing, and Fittings
F412 Terminology Relating to Plastic Piping Systems

2.2 *API Standards:*[3]

API 5L Specification for Line Pipe

2.3 *ANSI Standards:*[4]

B31.8 Gas Transmission and Distribution Piping System
B1.20.1 1983 Pipe Threads, General Purpose, Inch
B109.1 Diaphragm-Type Gas Displacement Meters (Under 500 Cubic-feet-per-hour Capacity)
B109.2 Diaphragm-Type Gas Displacement Meters (500 Cubic-feet-per-hour Capacity)
B109.3 Rotary Type Gas Displacement Meters
B109.4 Self-Operated Diaphragm Type Natural Gas Service Regulators

2.4 *CFR Standards:*[5]

49 CFR Part 192 Pipeline Safety Requirements

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Definitions are in accordance with Terminology F412, and abbreviations are in accordance with Terminology D1600, unless otherwise specified.

3.2 The gas industry terminology used in this specification is in accordance with ANSI B31.8 or 49 CFR Part 192, unless otherwise indicated.

3.3 *character, n*—an integer from zero (0) to nine (9) or a letter that is upper case and/or lower case from a to z or A to Z.

---

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

3.4 *component, n*—pipe, tubing, fittings, valves, and appurtenances unless specifically stated otherwise.

3.5 *digit, n*—an integer from zero (0) to nine (9).

3.6 *FPT, n*—internal taper thread as defined under ANSI/ASME B1.20.1, or commonly referred to as "female pipe thread".

3.7 *MPT, n*—external taper thread as defined under ANSI/ASME B1.20.1, or commonly referred to as "male pipe thread".

3.8 *traceability, n*—identify the origin of materials and parts used to manufacturer a given component; and/or the product processing or manufacturing history.

3.9 *tracking, v*—knowing, documenting, and/or collecting information related to the distribution and location of a given component after delivery from the manufacturer or supplier.

4. Gas Distribution Component Traceability Identifier

4.1 *General*—The gas distribution component traceability identifier shall be comprised of sixteen (16) alphanumeric characters that specify respective attributes (data set) for a given component.

4.1.1 The specified number of characters and order for each data set shall conform to Table 1.

4.1.2 The specified number of characters shall be developed using the base-62 encoding system per section 4.9 and the initial input data requirements per Section 5.

4.1.3 The gas distribution component traceability identifier shall be in a format suitable for downloading the character codes into database systems owned and maintained by the end user.

NOTE 2—An illustrative example is provided in Appendix X2.

4.2 *Identification of Component Manufacturer*—Each component manufacturer shall be identified by a unique two character code which shall be assigned after completing the required registration and activated by the webmaster of the website http://www.componentid.org. The manufacturer identification code shall be unique to that particular company and can only be used by that respective manufacturer/supplier.

4.3 *Identification of Component Manufacturer's Lot Code*—The component manufacturer's lot code shall be identified by a four character code that is developed using the base-62 encoding system per 4.9. The four character code shall be

unique in a manner to help ascertain information related to the origin of materials, product processing history, and other information that is agreed upon between the manufacturer and end user.

4.4 *Identification of Component Production Date*—The production date code shall be identified by a three character code that is developed using the base-62 encoding system per 4.9.

4.5 *Identification of Component Material*—The primary material used to manufacture the pipe or component shall be identified by a single character code per 5.4.

4.6 *Identification of Component Type*—Each component type shall be identified by a two character code per 5.5.

4.7 *Identification of Component Size*—Each component size shall be identified by a three character code that is developed using the sizing calculation outlined in 5.6 and the base-62 encoding system per 4.9.

4.8 *Identification of Base 62 Index*—Each component type shall be identified by a single character code per 5.7.

4.9 *Base-62 Encoding System:*

4.9.1 The base-62 positional encoding system shall utilize integer values between zero and nine and both uppercase and lowercase alphabet characters with the assigned place values as shown in Table 2.

TABLE 1 Specified Number of Characters and Order for Gas Distribution Component Traceability Identifier

Data	Number of Character(s)[A]
Component manufacturer	2
Component manufacturer's lot code	4
Component production date	3
Component material	1
Component type	2
Component size	3
Base 62 Index	1

[A] The total number of characters is based on the final resultant after applying the base-62 encoding system in this specification. For different initial input data, the requirements and format are in Section 5 of this specification.

TABLE 2 Positional Values for Base-62 Encoding System

Positional Value	Character	Positional Value	Character
0	0	36	A
1	1	37	B
2	2	38	C
3	3	39	D
4	4	40	E
5	5	41	F
6	6	42	G
7	7	43	H
8	8	44	I
9	9	45	J
10	a	46	K
11	b	47	L
12	c	48	M
13	d	49	N
14	e	50	O
15	f	51	P
16	g	52	Q
17	h	53	R
18	i	54	S
19	j	55	T
20	k	56	U
21	l	57	V
22	m	58	W
23	n	59	X
24	o	60	Y
25	p	61	Z
26	q		
27	r		
28	s		
29	t		
30	u		
31	v		
32	w		
33	x		
34	y		
35	z		

4.9.2 The assigned place values shown in Table 2 shall be used to convert the initial input data into the final alphanumeric code.

NOTE 3—Detailed examples of converting an initial integer string to a corresponding base-62 alphanumeric character string and vice-versa can be found in Appendix X1.

NOTE 4—The positional value is the value corresponding to the respective character. For example, the positional value corresponding to the character "r" is 27. The positional value corresponding to the character "T" is 55.

5. Input Data String

5.1 *Component Manufacturer*—Each component manufacturer shall establish a unique two (2) digit identifier by completing the required registration and activated by the webmaster of the website http://www.componentid.org. The manufacturer identification code shall be unique to that particular company and can only be used by that company. In cases where the company undergoes a change in name, acquired, merged with another company, new two (2) digit identifier must be registered and activated if the "aquiring" or "merged with" company does not already have a registered identifier.

5.2 *Component Manufacturer's Lot Code*—Each component manufacturer shall establish a unique seven (7) digit number for their lot code which shall be used as the input into the base-62 encoding system per 4.9. The 7 digit number shall consist of only integer values and cannot contain any other characters such as alphabetic or ASCII characters.

NOTE 5—The 7 digit code can be developed freely by the manufacturer to define individual production lots in a unique way. Elements of the 7 digit code may possibly include production site, extrusion line, injection molding equipment number, operator, shift, etc. The 7 digit code should be capable of providing pertinent traceability information upon request.

5.3 *Component Production Date*—Each component manufacturer shall provide the production date of the respective component consisting of five (5) digits as input into the base-62 encoding system per 4.9.

5.3.1 The first three digits shall correspond to the particular day of the year.

5.3.2 The final two digits shall correspond to the last two digits of the year.

NOTE 6—For example, the date input represented by 23410 implies the 234th day of 2010.

5.4 *Component Material*—Each component manufacturer shall assign a single character code for the primary material used to manufacture the respective component from Table 3.

NOTE 7—Additional material code numbers are reserved for future use and will be activated upon revision of this specification.

NOTE 8—The "Grade" designation for steel materials will vary based on the standard to which it is manufactured. The user should verify the chemical and mechanical properties in accordance to the specific standard that they are utilizing before making their final selection.

5.4.1 For pipe and tubing made from a single material, the code shall be assigned from the list shown in Table 3.

5.4.2 For multi-layer pipe and tubing, the inner most layer which is in contact with the natural gas shall be assigned from the list shown in Table 3.

TABLE 3 List of Material Types

Type	Code
PE2406	A
PE2708	B
PE3408	C
PE3608	D
PE3708	E
PE3710	F
PE4608	G
PE4710	H
Poly (Vinyl Chloride) – PVC	J
Polyamide 11 – PA11	K
Polyamide 12 – PA12	L
Steel	M
Stainless Steel	N
Cast Iron	O
Copper	P
Brass	Q
Malleable Iron	R
Ductile Iron	S
Reinforced Epoxy Resin	T
Nylon	U
Glass Filled Nylon	V
Other	X
Steel – GRADE A	0
Steel – GRADE B	1
Steel – GRADE C	2
Steel – GRADE X42	3
Steel – GRADE X46	4
Steel – GRADE X52	5
Steel – GRADE X56	6
Steel – GRADE X60	7
Steel – GRADE X65	8
Steel – GRADE X70	9

5.4.3 For factory assembled transition fittings and risers and transition tees intended to facilitate a change between metallic and non-metallic piping systems, the non-metallic portion shall be identified.

5.4.4 For all components other than factory assembled transition fittings and risers and transition tees, the material code shall correspond to the outer shell or body of the respective component regardless of the piping system to which it is intended to be installed.

5.4.5 For fittings intended to facilitate a change between PE to another thermoplastic piping systems, the material code shall correspond to the outer shell or body of the respective component connecting to the PE pipe.

NOTE 9—In previous editions of Specification D2513 various thermoplastic materials were approved for use under CFR Part 192 requirements. For those other materials which have subsequently deleted but still allowed to be used for repair purposes only, for example. PVC, then PE will take precedence.

5.5 *Component Type*—Each component manufacturer shall assign a two (2) character code for their respective component type from Table 4.

NOTE 10—Additional component type code numbers are reserved for future use and will be activated upon revision of this specification.

5.6 *Component Size*—Each component manufacturer shall develop a unique dimensional code, *D*, corresponding to the size of the respective item. The dimensional code shall be used as input into the base-62 encoding system per 4.9.

5.6.1 The dimensional code shall be calculated using Eq 1 based on the factors from Tables 5-7 corresponding to the dimensions for a given component: