



Designation: B860 – 18 (Reapproved 2022)

Standard Specification for Zinc Master Alloys for Use in Hot Dip Galvanizing¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B860; 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 specification covers zinc master alloys which are used in hot dip galvanizing for the purpose of adjusting the concentration of certain alloying elements in the molten zinc bath. **Table 1** covers the chemical composition of these materials which include six master alloys of zinc-aluminum (brightener) and one master alloy of zinc-antimony.

ASTM	Common		UNS
Type A-1	90/10 Zn/Al	High Purity	Z30750
Type A-2	90/10 Zn/Al	Low Purity	Z31710
Type A-3	95/5 Zn/Al	High Purity	Z30503
Type A-4	95/5 Zn/Al	Low Purity	Z31510
Type A-5	96/4 Zn/Al	High Purity	Z31520
Type A-6	96/4 Zn/Al	Low Purity	Z30504
Type S-1	90/10 Zn/Sb		Z55710

NOTE 1—The master alloys in Specification B860 are intended to be used primarily in hot-dip galvanizing to adjust the concentration of certain elements in a molten zinc bath, and differ from the zinc-aluminum alloys in Specification B997 which are intended to be used primarily in molten zinc-aluminum.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.3 *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 become familiar with all hazards including those identified in the appropriate Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for this product/material as provided by the manufacturer, to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices, and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

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.*

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B02 on Nonferrous Metals and Alloys and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B02.04 on Zinc and Cadmium.

Current edition approved Oct. 1, 2022. Published November 2022. Originally approved in 1995. Last previous edition approved in 2018 as B860 – 18. DOI: 10.1520/B0860-18R22.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 The following documents of the issue in effect on date of order acceptance form a part of this specification to the extent referenced herein:

2.2 ASTM Standards:²

B897 Specification for Configuration of Zinc and Zinc Alloy Jumbo, Block, Half Block, and Slab Ingot

B899 Terminology Relating to Non-ferrous Metals and Alloys

B949 Specification for General Requirements for Zinc and Zinc Alloy Products

B997 Specification for Zinc-Aluminum Alloys in Ingot Form for Hot-Dip Coatings

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

E88 Practice for Sampling Nonferrous Metals and Alloys in Cast Form for Determination of Chemical Composition

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

E536 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Zinc and Zinc Alloys

2.3 ISO Standards:³

ISO 3815-1 Zinc and zinc alloys — Part 1: Analysis of solid samples by optical emission spectrometry

ISO 3815-2 Zinc and zinc alloys — Part 2: Analysis by inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry

3. Terminology

3.1 Terms defined in Terminology B899 shall apply unless defined otherwise in this standard.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *brightener bar, n*—brightener bar is a zinc alloy containing aluminum which is added to the galvanizing bath to adjust the aluminum content of the bath to: suppress the formation of iron-zinc alloy layers, increase the brightness and ductility of the galvanized coating, and improve the drainage of zinc from the work as it exits the bath; also called brightener.

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.

³ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.