



# Standard Specification for Threaded Couplings, Steel, Black or Zinc-Coated (Galvanized) Welded or Seamless, for Use in Steel Pipe Joints<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation A 865; 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 black or galvanized welded or seamless threaded steel couplings for use with steel pipe in NPS 1/8 to NPS 20 inclusive (Note 1). Couplings ordered under this specification are intended for the uses outlined in the pipe specifications referencing this specification.

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.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The metric values may be approximate.

## 2. Referenced Documents

### 2.1 ASTM Standards:

A 700 Practices for Packaging, Marking, and Loading Methods for Steel Products for Domestic Shipment<sup>2</sup>

B 6 Specification for Zinc<sup>3</sup>

E 376 Practice for Measuring Coating Thickness by Magnetic-Field or Eddy-Current (Electromagnetic) Test Methods<sup>4</sup>

### 2.2 ANSI Standard:

B 1.20.1 Pipe Threads<sup>5</sup>

### 2.3 API Standards:

5B Specification for Threading, Gaging, and Thread Inspection of Casing, Tubing, and Line Pipe Threads<sup>6</sup>

## 5L Specification for Line Pipe<sup>6</sup>

## 3. Ordering Information

3.1 Orders for material under this specification should include the following, as required, to describe the desired material adequately:

3.1.1 Specification number,

3.1.2 Quantity (pieces),

3.1.3 Name of material (steel pipe-couplings),

3.1.4 Method of manufacture (welded or seamless),

3.1.5 Finish (black or Type I or Type II) galvanized (see 8.1),

3.1.6 Size (NPS designator),

3.1.7 Standard or extra-strong classification,

3.1.8 Taper tapped-couplings for NPS 2 and smaller, either recessed or non-recessed, if desired, and

3.1.9 Certification (see 11.3), if required.

## 4. Process

4.1 The steel for both welded and seamless couplings shall be made by one or more of the following processes: open-hearth, electric-furnace, or basic-oxygen.

4.2 Welded couplings NPS 3 1/2 and under may be butt-welded, unless otherwise specified. Welded couplings over NPS 3 1/2 shall be electric-welded.

## 5. Chemical Composition

5.1 The steel shall conform to the chemical composition requirements as specified in Table 1.

## 6. Dimensions

6.1 Coupling dimensions are listed in Tables 2-4 and (see Figs. 1-3).

## 7. Permissible Variations in Dimensions

7.1 *Diameter*—For couplings NPS 1 1/2 and under, the outside diameter at any point shall not vary more than 1/64 in. (0.4 mm) over nor more than 1/32 in. (0.8 mm) under the

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<sup>2</sup> *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 01.05.

<sup>3</sup> *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 02.04.

<sup>4</sup> *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 03.03.

<sup>5</sup> Available from American National Standards Institute, 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036.

<sup>6</sup> Available from American Petroleum Institute, 1220 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005.

**TABLE 1 Chemical Requirements**

	Composition, max %	
	Phosphorus	Sulfur
All processes	0.14	0.35

standard specified. For couplings NPS 2 and over, the outside diameter shall not vary more than  $\pm 1\%$  from the standard specified.

**7.2 Threads**—The variation of the threads shall not exceed  $\pm 1\frac{1}{2}$  turns for straight tapped and  $\pm 1$  turn for taper tapped from nominal as determined using gages and the gaging practices in ANSI B 1.20.1.

## 8. Galvanized Couplings

**8.1** Galvanized couplings may be coated with zinc by either the hot-dipped (Type 1) or by the electrogalvanizing process. (Type II) as specified by the purchaser. The zinc used for the coating shall be any grade of zinc conforming to Specification B 6.

**8.2** Hot-dipped galvanized couplings are coated prior to threading.

**8.2.1** The minimum weight of the zinc coating on the outside surface of the hot-dipped galvanized couplings shall be equivalent to 1.6 oz/ft<sup>2</sup>.

**8.2.2** The weight of the zinc coating on the outside surface shall be determined by the use of a magnetic thickness gage, using the procedure in Practice E 376 or using another method that is mutually agreed upon between the purchaser and the manufacturer.

**8.3** Electrogalvanized couplings are coated either before or after threading.

**8.3.1** The weight of the zinc coating on the outside surface of the electrogalvanized couplings shall be equivalent to 0.18 oz/ft<sup>2</sup> (see also 8.2.2)

**8.4 Sampling**—Samples of couplings sufficient to determine their conformance with the requirements of this specification, shall be taken at random for each lot of couplings of the same size.

## 9. Threading

**9.1** The coupling threads shall be in accordance with ANSI B 1.20.1. The couplings shall be applied handling tight, unless power tight is specified on the order. Taper-tapped couplings shall be furnished on all weights of pipe 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. and larger. For sizes 2 in. and smaller, it is regular practice to furnish straight-tapped couplings for standard weight pipe and taper-tapped couplings for extra-strong and double-extra-strong pipe. Taper-tapped couplings may be specified for pipe sizes 2 in. and under. Taper-tapped couplings furnished for standard-weight pipe may be nonrecessed (see Table 3) or recessed (see Table 4). Couplings furnished for extra-strong and double-extra strong pipe are recessed. Recessed couplings (Table 4) conform to API Specification 5L.

## 10. Finish

**10.1** The finished couplings shall be free of defects.

**10.2** The zinc coating on galvanized couplings shall be free of voids or excessive roughness.

## 11. Inspection and Certification

**11.1** The inspector representing the purchaser shall have entry, at all times while work on the contract of the purchaser is being performed, to all parts of the manufacturer's works that concern the manufacture of the material ordered. The manufacturer shall afford the inspector all reasonable facilities to satisfy him that the material is being furnished in accordance with this specification. All tests and inspection shall be made at the place of manufacture prior to shipment, unless otherwise specified, and shall be so conducted as not to interfere unnecessarily with the operation of the works.

**11.2 Responsibility for Inspection**—Unless otherwise specified in the contract or purchase order, the manufacturer is responsible for the performance of all inspection and test requirements specified herein. Except as specified in the contract order, the producer may use his own or any other suitable facilities for the performance of the inspection and test requirements specified herein unless disapproved by the purchaser. The purchaser shall have the right to perform any of the inspections and tests set forth in this specification where such inspections are deemed necessary to assure that material conforms to prescribed requirements.

**11.3** The manufacturer or supplier shall upon request, furnish to the purchaser a certificate of inspection stating that the material has been sampled, tested, and inspected in accordance with this specification, and has been found to meet the requirements.

## 12. Rejection

**12.1** Each coupling received from the manufacturer may be inspected by the purchaser and, if it does not meet the requirements of this specification based upon the inspection, the coupling may be rejected and the manufacturer shall be notified. Disposition of rejected couplings shall be the matter of agreement between the manufacturer and the purchaser.

## 13. Product Marking and Packing

**13.1** Each coupling shall be marked with the trademark of the manufacturer by metal stamp or paint.

**13.2** The cartons in which the couplings are packed shall bear the manufacturer's name or trademark, the NPS designator, the finish (black or galvanized), and the number of pieces.

**13.3** When specified on the purchase order, packaging, marking, and loading for shipment shall be in accordance with Practice A 700.

**13.4 Bar Coding**—In addition to the requirements in 13.1, 13.2, and 13.3, bar coding is acceptable as a supplemental identification method. The purchaser may specify in the order a specific bar coding system to be used.

## 14. Keywords

**14.1** black steel pipe; seamless steel pipe; steel pipe; welded steel pipe; zinc coated steel pipe



TABLE 2 Coupling Thread Dimension—Straight-Tapped (NPSC) for Standard Weight Pipe

NPS	Threads/in.	Outside diameter, in. <i>W</i>	Coupling min length, in. <i>N<sub>L</sub></i>	Pitch diameter, in.	
				min	max
1/8	27	0.563	3/4	0.370	0.377
1/4	18	0.719	1 1/8	0.486	0.497
3/8	18	0.875	1 1/8	0.622	0.632
1/2	14	1.063	1 1/2	0.772	0.785
3/4	14	1.313	1 9/16	0.982	0.996
1	11 1/2	1.576	1 15/16	1.231	1.247
1 1/4	11 1/2	1.900	2	1.575	1.592
1 1/2	11 1/2	2.200	2	1.814	1.831
2	11 1/2	2.750	2 1/16	2.288	2.304
Outside diameter tolerances:			For sizes 1 1/2 in. and under	+0.015	–0.031 in.
			2 in. and over	±1 %	

TABLE 3 Coupling Thread Dimensions—Taper-Tapped (NPT) Non-Recessed for Standard-Weight Pipe

NPS	Threads/in.	Outside diameter, in. <i>W</i>	Coupling min length, in. <i>N<sub>L</sub></i>	Pitch diameter, in. ( <i>E<sub>i</sub></i> ) Handtight engagement	
				min	max
1/8	27	0.563	3/4	0.3736	
1/4	18	0.719	1 1/8	0.4916	
3/8	18	0.875	1 1/8	0.6270	
1/2	14	1.063	1 1/2	0.7784	
3/4	14	1.313	1 9/16	0.9889	
1	11 1/2	1.576	1 15/16	1.2386	
1 1/4	11 1/2	1.900	2	1.5834	
1 1/2	11 1/2	2.200	2	1.8223	
2	11 1/2	2.750	2 1/16	2.2963	
2 1/2	8	3.250	3 1/16	2.7622	
3	8	4.000	3 3/16	3.3885	
3 1/2	8	4.625	3 5/16	3.8888	
4	8	5.000	3 7/16	4.3871	
5	8	6.296	3 11/16	5.4493	
6	8	7.390	3 15/16	6.5060	
Outside diameter tolerances:			For 1 1/2 in. and under	+0.015	–0.031 in.
			2 in. and over	±1 %	

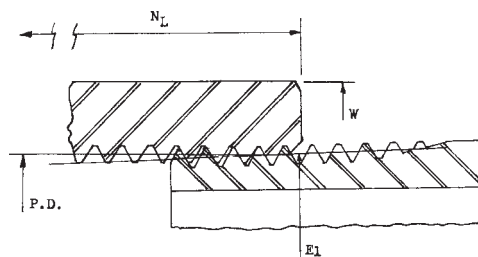
**TABLE 4 Coupling Thread Dimensions—Taper-Tapped (NPT) Recessed for Extra-Strong and Double-Extra-Strong Pipe (Dimensions conform to Line Pipe Couplings in accordance with API 5L)<sup>A</sup>**

NPS	Threads/in.	Outside diameter, in. <i>W</i>	Coupling min length, in. <i>N<sub>L</sub></i>	Pitch diameter in. ( <i>E<sub>1</sub></i> ) Handtight engagement
1/8	27	0.563	1 1/16	0.3736
1/4	18	0.719	1 5/8	0.4916
3/8	18	0.875	1 5/8	0.6270
1/2	14	1.063	2 1/8	0.7784
3/4	14	1.313	2 1/8	0.9889
1	11 1/2	1.576	2 5/8	1.2386
1 1/4	11 1/2	2.054	2 3/4	1.5834
1 1/2	11 1/2	2.200	2 3/4	1.8223
2	11 1/2	2.875	2 7/8	2.2963
2 1/2	8	3.375	4 1/8	2.7622
3	8	4.000	4 1/4	3.3885
3 1/2	8	4.625	4 3/8	3.8888
4	8	5.200	4 1/2	4.3871
5	8	6.296	4 5/8	5.4493
6	8	7.390	4 7/8	6.5060
8	8	9.625	5 1/4	8.5000
10	8	11.750	5 3/4	10.6209
12	8	14.000	6 1/8	12.6178
14	8	15.000	6 3/8	13.8726
16	8	17.000	6 3/4	15.8758
18	8	19.000	7 1/8	17.8750
20	8	21.000	7 5/8	19.8703

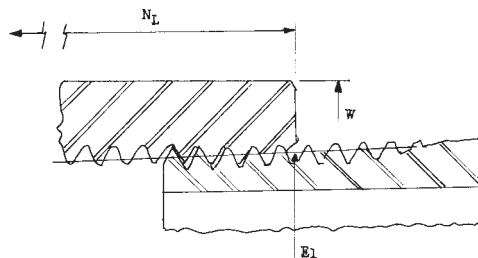
Outside diameter tolerances: For 1 1/2 in. and under +0.015    -0.031 in.  
2 in. and over ±1 %

Stand off tolerances: ±1 thread

<sup>A</sup> Refer to API 5B for Threading and Gaging Practice.



**FIG. 1 Straight-Tapped Coupling and Pipe (See Table 2 for Coupling Dimensions)**



**FIG. 2 Nonrecessed Taper-Tapped Coupling and Pipe (See Table 3 for Coupling Dimensions)**

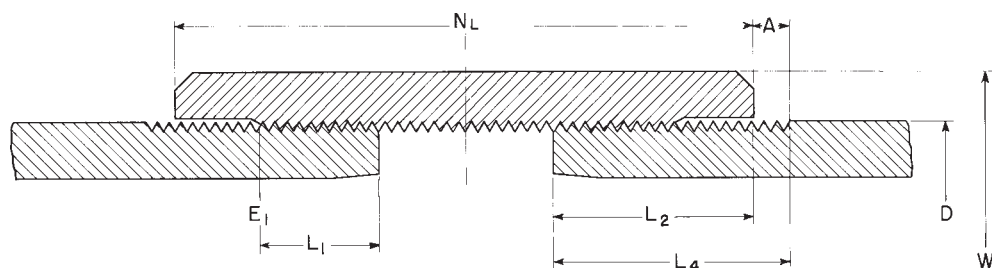


FIG. 3 Recessed Taper-Tapped Coupling and Pipe (See Table 4 for Coupling Dimensions)

## SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Committee A01 has identified the location of selected changes to this standard since the last edition (A 865-97(2002) ) that may impact the use of this standard (approved April 2003).

- (1) 2.1 was revised to delete A 90 and to add E 376. A 90 to E 376.
- (2) 8.2.2 was revised to change the reference procedure from

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