Quality Assurance Plan for Atlas Raw Steel Sheets

BY

VICTOR GUARINO

Argonne National Laboratory
High Energy Physics Division
Argonne, IL 60439

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1.0 Introduction

As part of a collaborative experimental High Energy Physics experiment at the LHC Facility, CERN Laboratory, Geneva, Switzerland, a group of US institutions has accepted the responsibility for constructing a large portion of the calorimeter for this experiment. This device is referred to as the Tile Calorimeter. The Tile Calorimeter has three major elements, a large center section (Barrel), and two end sections (Extended Barrel). The US group will be responsible for the construction of one of these extended barrel sections. All of the components that are required to construct this device will be fabricated in the US over a period of three years commencing in 1998. Another similar element and the barrel element will be constructed in both eastern and western Europe by parallel groups.

The extended barrel is a cylindrical device approximately 8.5 meters (28 ft.) OD $\times$ 4.5 meters (14 ft.) ID, made up of 64 wedges. Each of these wedges is constructed by bolting submodules to a strongback girder. Each submodule is constructed of a series of sheets that are welded and glued together.

The purpose of this Quality Assurance document is to insure that the raw steel sheet meets the magnetic, strength, and stamping requirements for the Atlas Tile Calorimeter. In order to meet these requirements, a set of specifications has been developed and are described below. These specifications must be met by the steel supplier as well as an independent testing plan to be performed by Argonne National Laboratory (ANL). The independent testing is divided into three parts: on-site inspection of the cold rolling process and subsequent slitting of the coil into individual sheets; off-site tests on the magnetic properties of the steel sheet; off-site tests of the internal stress of the sheet.

2.0 Requirements of Steel Vendor

The requirements that must be met by the steel vendor are outlined in *Steel Specification for the ATLAS Calorimeter* (Appendix A). This document details the strength, size, thickness, and surface requirements of the steel sheet. In addition, it details various tests, standards and measurements that the vendor is required to meet in order to insure that these requirements are met.

3.0 On-Site Inspection of the Cold Rolling and Slitting Process

ANL is purchasing a total of 1,025 tons of steel sheet. It is important to have some immediate inspection of the steel sheet as it is being cold rolled and subsequently slit into individual sheets, so that potential problems are immediately caught and corrected before the entire production run is completed.

On-site inspection will consist of ANL personnel being present at the vendor's facility during the cold rolling and slitting of the first coil of raw steel. The quality of the surface of the sheets will be visually inspected. In addition, the quality tests that are required of the vendor (stated in Appendix A) will be witnessed by ANL personnel. If the quality of the surface of the sheets or the results of these tests do not satisfy ANL personnel, then the rolling and slitting process will be immediately stopped and the cause of the problems investigated and remedied with the vendor.

4.0 ANL Magnetic Property Quality Plan

In addition to the quality controls outlined in the steel specification, ANL will perform additional tests on the magnetic properties. While the specific value of the magnetic permeability of the steel sheets is not critical, it is important that not much variation occurs within a coil and that differences between coils are known. If a wide range of variation in the magnetic permeability is found between coils, then the master plates produced will have to be sorted by coil so that submodules can be constructed with steel from the same coil.

For every coil that the vendor will ship to ANL, there will be three sheets that represent the entire width of the coil, i.e. front, middle, and end. The magnetic permeability of these sheets will then be measured at ANL.

5.0 ANL Internal Stress Quality Plan

Once the magnetic tests are completed on the sheet samples from the vendor these same sheets will be slit into four pieces along both axes of symmetry in order to measure the internal stresses. The four pieces will then be put into contact along the lines of the cut and the displacements of the corresponding edges should not exceed 0.3mm.

6.0 Vendor Selection Process

The *Steel Specification for the Atlas Calorimeter* specifies tight thickness tolerances and flatness requirements with respect to steel industry standards. Therefore, the selection of the vendor to produce the steel sheet is very important. Price alone cannot be the sole criteria for selecting the steel vendor but the technical capability of the vendor must be considered as well.

The vendor's technical capability will be evaluated and selected using *Method of Selecting Steel Vendor for the Atlas Calorimeter*.

Steel Specification for the ATLAS Calorimeter

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VICTOR GUARINO

Argonne National Laboratory
High Energy Physics Division
Argonne, IL 60439

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1.0 Introduction

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The extended barrel is a cylindrical device approximately 8.5 meters (28 ft.) OD $\times$ 4.5 meters (14 ft.) ID, made up of 64 wedges. Each of these wedges (see Attachment 1) is constructed by bolting submodules to a strongback girder. Each submodule is constructed of a series of sheets that are welded and glued together. This document summarizes the characteristics and specifications of these steel sheets.

The Tile Calorimeter is the return path for the magnet flux of the ATLAS internal superconducting 2T solenoid, therefore its steel magnetic properties are important.

Details of the construction procedure and the design of the Tile Calorimeter can be found in the ATLAS Tile Calorimeter Technical Design Report (CERN/LHCC/96-42, December 15, 1996).

2.0 Applicable Documents

Reference is made in this specification to the documents below:

ASTM A6/A 6M (1996) Specification for General Requirements for Rolled Structural Steel Bars, Plates, Shapes, and Sheet Pilings.

ASTM E45-84 (1984) Standard Practice for Determining the Inclusion Content of Steel

ASTM E112-83 (1983) Standard Method for Determining Average Grain Size

ASTM A370 Test Methods and Definitions

3.0 Steel Characteristics

Thirty-eight thousand, six hundred (38,600) sheets of ordinary, low-carbon steel is required for further processing (precision stamping). The size of the sheet required is shown in Attachment 2.

3.1 Base Material

Ordinary low-carbon AISI 1010 cold rolled steel is required. The chemical composition of the steel will fall within the following parameters as defined by the AISI standards.

Element	Minimum	Maximum
C	0.08	0.13
P		0.04
S		0.05
Mn	0.30	0.60

These analyses refer to the final product. The chemical composition of the steel shall be determined as specified in ASTM A6/6M. In addition, a coupon should be removed from each coil, and a certified analysis of that coupon provided to Argonne National Laboratory as verification of chemical composition. This chemical analysis should also show the level of trace elements Al, Si, Ti, V, Cr, Ni, Cu, and Mo.

3.2 Production

The manufacture of the sheet shall occur in accordance to ASTM A6/6M. The manufacturer shall state the method of processing, the method of deoxidation and the type of casting. The sheets shall undergo:

- Hot-pickling
- Acid-pickling
- Annealing in a reducing atmosphere
- Cold-rolled skin pass (0.5-2% elongation)
- Protection against corrosion using an easily-removable oil

3.3 Metallurgical Properties

The steel shall be in the annealed condition and be ferritic-pearlitic. The grain size shall be less than or equal to 50um, measured in accordance with the standard ASTM E112-83.

The inclusions will be measured in accordance to ASTM E45-84, method A. The class of inclusion shall be at most 3.

3.4 Magnetic Properties

The normal magnetic properties of this type of steel will be accepted (magnetic coercivity of 200-250 Am⁻¹). The magnetic coercive forces should be measured transversely and longitudinally to the rolling direction.

3.5 Material Strength

The steel should have the minimum yield strength of 27 ksi (186Mpa) and tensile strength of 50 ksi (345Mpa) as defined by the AISI standards.

A certification of the material strength is required of each coil. The material strength shall be determined by the methods specified in ASTM A6/6M. All tests shall be conducted in accordance with ASTM A370.

3.6 Material Thickness

The sheet thickness that is required is .1969 inch $\pm$.0010. The average thickness of a batch (coil), as measured by continuous monitoring at the centerline in the direction of rolling during cold reduction, should deviate no more that $\pm$ 0.0010 inch from the nominal thickness of

.1969 inch. A copy of the centerline profile measurement taken during the final cold pass on the coil will be furnished to Argonne National Laboratory as part of this contract.

In addition, for each coil, sheets that are cut from the edge of the beginning, end, and middle of the coil will be measured, and these measurements will be recorded. The thickness range within a single sheet must be no more than ± 0.0012 inch when measured at the twelve points as shown in Attachment 3.

3.7 Surface Flatness

Surface flatness for this order is defined as sheet flatness. All sheets supplied as part of this order should meet the following flatness requirement. The maximum deviation from horizontal, when the plate is supported on a flat surface under its own weight, should be no more than 0.029 inch. The out of flatness should be confined to a single node, i.e. ripples in the plate, and will not be acceptable even if it does not exceed the aforementioned 0.029 inch. Argonne National Laboratory reserves the right to reject sheets that do not meet these requirements.

3.8 Surface Quality

The surface of the sheets must be free of scale, scratches, lamination defects or rust, and must be protected against corrosion as specified in ASTM A506 and ASTM A6. In the event of surface faults, the results shall be discussed with Argonne and the supplier. The roughness of the sheets shall be no more than RMS 500. Argonne reserves the right to reject sheets that do not meet this requirement.

4.0 Product Identification and Packing

Oil that is easily removable shall be applied to both sides of each sheet in order to protect against rust. Approximately 100 sheets will be stacked together on a pallet for shipping. Each pallet of sheets shall be marked in accordance to ASTM A6/6M with:

- Melt number
- Coil number
- Material certification

5.0 Transportation

The vendor shall be responsible for shipping the plates to the final destination as specified in ASTM A6/6M and in such a manner as to insure all of the flatness tolerances described above.

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