AK Steel manufactures three enameled products to meet a variety of porcelain enameling and formability requirements: UNIVIT®, VIT-PLUS®, and I-F Enameling Steel. These products are manufactured specifically for use in appliances, plumbingware, barbecue grills, architectural panels, and other industries. They can be provided with different surface finishes depending on customer specifications or part requirements.
ENAMELING STEELS

Product Description

PRODUCT FEATURES

ENAMELABILITY
Enameling Steels can be readily coated with porcelain enameling systems.

EXCELLENT SURFACE APPEARANCE
Enameling Steels have manufacturing controls in place to allow consistent surface quality, before and after porcelain enameling.

FORMABILITY
Enameling Steels can be used to produce parts containing simple bends to parts with extreme deep drawing requirements.

WELDABILITY
Enameling Steels can be joined using accepted welding practices suitable for porcelain enameling operations.

DESCRIPTION
Porcelain enameling characteristics, formability, and mechanical properties of AK Steel’s Enameling Steels are developed by stringent controls of chemical composition, hot rolling parameters, cold reduction, annealing parameters, and temper rolling. AK Steel uses these control parameters to manufacture three uniquely different enameling steels: UNIVIT, VIT-PLUS, and I-F Enameling Steel. Each of these steels are manufactured from continuously cast slabs. I-F Enameling Steel is further processed at the melt stage to include vacuum degassing and the addition of titanium (Ti).

UNIVIT is a specialty enameling steel developed for applications where direct-on cover coat enameling is employed. It is equally well suited for those applications using ground coat, ground coat + cover coat, and two coat-one fire porcelain enameling systems. This product is free of porcelain enamel fishscale regardless of the enameling system employed. UNIVIT is described in ASTM A424 Type I.

VIT-PLUS is a controlled chemistry, nondecarburized steel. It has good strength-after-fire properties as shown in Figure 2. It is well suited for ground coat, ground coat + cover coat, and some two coat-one fire enameling systems. It is not recommended for direct-on cover coat porcelain enamel applications. Like the UNIVIT product, VIT-PLUS is free of porcelain enamel fishscale regardless of the enameling system employed. VIT-PLUS is described in ASTM A424 Type II.

I-F Enameling Steel is a vacuum degassed, titanium stabilized steel. I-F Enameling Steel can be used for ground coat, ground coat + cover coat, and two coat-one fire porcelain enameling systems. It is not recommended for use in direct-on, cover coat, enameling systems because the level of titanium in the base metal may interfere with the development of good porcelain-to-steel adherence. The porcelain enamel frit supplier should be made aware of the use of I-F Enameling Steel as minor formulation changes may be required depending on the particular enameling system. Fishscale will not be a hazard providing adequate porcelain enamel adherence and bubble structure are attained during the firing operation. Because of its excellent formability, it is most often used in the production of very difficult to form parts. I-F Enameling Steel can also be used where base metal sag during firing might be a problem (see Figure 1). I-F Enameling Steel is described in ASTM A424 Type III.

FIGURE 1 – BASE METAL SAG

FIGURE 2 – STRENGTH AFTER STRAIN & FIRE
ENAMELING STEELS

Product Description

SURFACE FINISH
Enameling Steels are manufactured with matte finishes obtained by rolling with specially roughened rolls on the cold mill and the temper mill. Different finishes can be provided to maintain effective lubrication during metal forming or to satisfy specific part/customer specifications.

SURFACE PROTECTION AND LUBRICATION
To prevent staining in transit, it is recommended that Enameling Steel be supplied with a rust preventative oil.

FORMABILITY AND MECHANICAL PROPERTIES
The formability of all steel products is a result of the interaction of many variables. These variables include: the mechanical properties of the steel, the forming system (tooling) used to manufacture parts, and the lubrication used during forming. Of these three, AK Steel can directly affect the mechanical properties of the steel.

UNIVIT and VIT-PLUS steels are produced to provide maximum formability and can be supplied as Commercial Steel (CS) for moderate forming or bending applications. For more stringent forming applications, Drawing Steel (DS), should be ordered. I-F Enameling Steel should be ordered for the most difficult to form parts.

Typical mechanical properties are shown in Table 1.

Spin forming and related fabrication techniques may affect the void structure of the enameling steel product which could compromise the fishscale resistance. This should be considered when evaluating this fabrication technique.

JOINING SYSTEMS
Porcelain Enameling Steels can be readily joined using a variety of joining processes, such as resistance welding, low heat input arc welding, laser welding, and mechanical fastening. Resistance spot, seam, and projection welding are commonly used for joining Enameling Steels due to the high production rate and low per weld cost characteristics of this group of processes. The effects of each of these on subsequent porcelain enameling operations must be thoroughly evaluated by the end user for each specific application. A material's physical and electrical properties directly affect welding processes. Therefore, welding parameters may need adjustment when changing grade of Enameling Steel, surface finish, or lubricant/oil.

APPLICATIONS
Enameling Steels are used for various applications requiring cleanability, thermal shock capability, chemical resistance, corrosion protection, weather resistance, certain mechanical or electrical properties, and where color or appearance is important. Some common applications include ranges, washers and dryers, barbecue grills, water heater tanks, plumbingware, cookware, chemical processing tanks, agricultural storage tanks, architectural panels, signs, and tanning beds.

SPECIFICATIONS
Enameling Steels are produced in conformance to the following specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specification</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASTM A424</td>
<td>Steel sheet for porcelain enameling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASTM A568</td>
<td>General requirements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For any specification not listed here, contact your AK Steel sales representative.

OUTSIDE PROCESSING
Tailored blanks, tension leveling, re-squaring, slitting, cut-to-length, and coil coating are just some of the services AK Steel can provide through arrangements with outside processors.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
AK Steel’s technical representatives can provide you with more detailed information concerning this product. They also are available to assist in reviewing any welding, forming, porcelain enameling, or other material selection issues.

MILL LIMITS
Enameling Steels are available in thicknesses from 0.019 – 0.085 in. (0.48 – 2.16 mm), and widths up to 80 in. (2032 mm) depending on dimension and product quality. For sizes outside these limits, please contact your AK Steel sales representative.

The standard coil inner diameter is 24 in. (609 mm). Thickness, width, and flatness tolerances are covered in ASTM A568.
ENAMELING STEELS

Tables

TABLE 1 – TYPICAL MECHANICAL PROPERTIES – STANDARD GRADES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>YS (ksi.)</th>
<th>MPa</th>
<th>UTS (ksi.)</th>
<th>MPa</th>
<th>Elong. %</th>
<th>n-Value</th>
<th>r_m</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNIVIT Drawing Steel (DS)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>&lt; 1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-F Enamel</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIT-PLUS DS</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>&lt; 1.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Typical properties produced by AK Steel for these grades. All properties are tested per ASTM A370.

TABLE 2 – TYPICAL CHEMISTRIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>Mn</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>S</th>
<th>Si</th>
<th>Cu</th>
<th>Al</th>
<th>Ti</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNIVIT</td>
<td>0.003</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-F Enamel</td>
<td>0.005</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIT-PLUS</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Chemistry listed is the typical product chemistry after mill processing. The carbon level is higher on heat analysis.

TABLE 3 – ENGINEERING PROPERTIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Young's Modulus of Elasticity</td>
<td>$200 \times 10^3$ MPa at 20 °C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Density</td>
<td>7.87 g/cm$^3$ at 20 °C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coefficient of Thermal Expansion</td>
<td>UNIVIT: 11.9 μm/m°C in 20 – 100 °C range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I-F Enamel: 12.9 μm/m°C in 20 – 100 °C range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VIT-Plus: 12.4 μm/m°C in 20 – 100 °C range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermal Conductivity</td>
<td>UNIVIT: 90 W/m°C at 20 °C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I-F Enamel: 93 W/m°C at 20 °C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VIT-Plus: 89 W/m°C at 20 °C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific Heat</td>
<td>481 J/kg°C in 50 – 100 °C range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical Resistivity</td>
<td>0.142 μΩm at 20 °C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MAKING INNOVATION HAPPEN

SAFETY | QUALITY | PRODUCTIVITY | INNOVATION

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AK Steel is a leading producer of flat-rolled carbon, stainless and electrical steel products, primarily for the automotive, infrastructure and manufacturing, electrical power generation and distribution markets. Through its subsidiaries, the company also provides customer solutions through carbon and stainless steel tubing products, die design and tooling, and hot and cold stamping. Headquartered in West Chester, Ohio (Greater Cincinnati), the company employs approximately 9,200 men and women at manufacturing operations across seven states (Alabama, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia), as well as Canada and Mexico. Additional information about AK Steel is available at www.aksteel.com.

The information and data in this document are accurate to the best of our knowledge and belief, but are intended for general information only. Applications suggested for the materials are described only to help readers make their own evaluations and decisions, and are neither guarantees nor to be construed as express or implied warranties of suitability for these or other applications.

Data referring to material properties are the result of tests performed on specimens obtained from specific locations of the products in accordance with prescribed sampling procedures; any warranty thereof is limited to the values obtained at such locations and by such procedures. There is no warranty with respect to values of the materials at other locations.