

**High Performance Metal Solutions** 

# Niobium C-103 Alloy for Space Exploration



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# Lift Off with H.C. Starck Solutions' C-103 Niobium Alloy

H.C. Starck Solutions' C-103 niobium alloy with niobiumhafnium-titanium is well-suited for rocket and jet propulsion applications utilized in spacecraft and launch vehicles. A key advantage of the niobium alloy is its high strength at temperatures up to 2700 °F (1482 °C), particularly in high performance rocket nozzle applications. H.C. Starck Solutions' C-103 niobium alloy also has excellent resistance to high frequency vibrations at cryogenic temperatures, as occur in many satellite applications, because of its low ductile-tobrittle transition temperature.

#### **Applications**

- > Orbital rocket chambers and nozzles
- > Reaction control nozzles for missiles
  - > Rockets
  - > Satellites
- > Jet engine afterburner liners
- > Burst disks for wind tunnels

#### Benefits

Capable of withstanding high stresses at elevated temperatures

- > Low ductile-to-brittle transition temperature for cryogenic applications
- > Formable after TIG welding
- > Excellent fabricability
- > Readily weldable

#### **Niobium Process**

- In-house expertise in forging, rolling, machining, cutting and fabrication
- Chemical, mechanical, and microstructure monitoring in-house
- > Expertise in thermal processing
- > Consistent grain size and texture properties



#### **Niobium Process**

# H.C. Starck Solutions' C-103 Niobium Alloy Forms, Thickness and Tolerances

#### **Available Forms and Fabrications**

H.C. Starck Solutions collaborates with customers to fabricate and machine components for aerospace, including build-toprint and design of niobium C-103 alloy components.

Niobium C103 Material	Dimensions inches	Dimensions cm
Bar and Rod	1.5 in. – 6.5 in. diameter	3.81 cm – 16.51 cm
Sheet	0.024 in. – 0.1875 in. thick, up to 24 in. width	.06 cm – .48 cm, up to 61 cm width
Plate	0.1875 in. – 1 in. thick, common widths	.06 cm – 2.54 cm
Ingots	up to 9.5 in. diameter	up to 24.1 cm
Slabs	as requested	
Niobium C-103 Powder	additive manufacturing	
Fabricated Parts	per customer specifications	

H.C. Starck Solutions' C-103 niobium alloy meets ASTM B652, B654, B655, AMS7852 and AMS7857 specification.

H.C. Starck Solutions' C-103 niobium alloy powders are available for additive manufacturing applications in both flake and spherical morphologies.

Thickness of Material (in)	Tolerance on Thickness A Width under 6 in	plus or minus (in) Width 6- 24 in	Tolerance on Width B (slit) Width under 6 in	plus or minus (in) Width 6- 24 in	Tolerance on Sheared Length 12 in and under	Lengths (in)	Tolerance on Sheared Length over 12 in	Lengths (in)
					Plus	Minus	Plus	Minus
0.005 - 0.010 excl	0.0005	0.001	0.012		1/16	0	3/32	0
0.010 - 0.015 excl	0.0007	0.001	0.015	0.015	1/16	0	3/32	0
0.015 - 0.020 excl	0.0008	0.0015	0.015	0.015	1/16	0	3/32	0
0.020 - 0.030 excl	0.0015	0.0025	0.020	0.025	1/16	0	3/32	0
0.030 - 0.060 excl	0.0025	0.0035	0.025	0.030	1/16	0	3/32	0
0.060 - 0.090 excl	0.004	0.005	0.025	0.035	1/16	0	3/32	0
0.090 - 0.125 excl	0.006	0.007			1/16	0	3/32	0
0.125 - 0.187 excl	0.010	0.010			1/16	0	3/32	0
0.187 - 0.250 excl	0.015	0.015			1/8	0	5/32	0
0.250 - 0.312 excl	0.020	0.020			1/8	0	5/32	0
0.312 - 0.375 excl	0.025	0.025			3/16	0	7/32	0

Thickness of Material (in)	Tolerance on Thickness A Width under 150 mm	plus or minus (in) Width 150-610 mm	Tolerance on Width B (slit) Width under 150 mm	plus or minus (in) Width 150-610 mm	Tolerance on Sheared Length 305 mm and under	Lengths (in)	Tolerance on Sheared Length over 305 mm	Lengths (in)
					Plus	Minus	Plus	Minus
0.13 - 0.25 excl	0.013	0.025	0.30		1.6	0	2.4	0
0.25 - 0.40 excl	0.018	0.025	0.4	0.4	1.6	0	2.4	0
0.40 - 0.50 excl	0.020	0.04	0.4	0.4	1.6	0	2.4	0
0.50 - 0.80 excl	0.04	0.06	0.5	0.6	1.6	0	2.4	0
0.80 - 1.5 excl	0.06	0.09	0.6	0.8	1.6	0	2.4	0
1.5 - 2.3 excl	0.010	0.013	0.6	0.9	1.6	0	2.4	0
2.3 - 3.2 excl	0.015	0.018			1.6	0	2.4	0
3.2 - 4.8 excl	0.025	0.25			1.6	0	2.4	0
4.8 - 6.4 excl	0.04	0.4			3.2	0	4.0	0
6.4 - 8.0 excl	0.05	0.5			3.2	0	4.0	0
8.0 - 9.5 excl	0.06	0.6			4.8	0	5.6	0

# USA

H.C. Starck Inc. 21801 Tungsten Road Euclid, OH 44117-1117 USA T +1 216 692 3990 F +1 216 692 0029

# **United Kingdom**

**H.C. Starck Ltd.** 1 Harris Rd. Calne, Wiltshire SN11 9PT UK T +44 1249 822 122 F +44 1249 823 800

## Korea

**CMT Co., Ltd.** 20, Gangnam-daero 47-gil, Seocho-gu, Seoul (Seocho-dong, 2F), 06729, Korea T +82 2 597 6207

## India

#### H.C. Starck (India) Pvt. Ltd.

Level 2 Raheja Centre Point 294 CST Road Near Mumbai University Off Bandra–Kurla Complex, Santacruz (E) Mumbai, Maharashtra 400 098 India T +91 72 5917 7599 F +91 22 6162 3086 H.C. Starck Inc. 45 Industrial Place Newton, MA 02461 USA T +1 617 630 5800 F +1 617 630 5879

# Germany

H.C. Starck Hermsdorf GmbH Robert-Friese-Straße 4 Hermsdorf, Germany 07629 T +49 36601 922 0 E +49 36601 922 111

#### Taiwan

H.C. Starck International Sales GmbH Room 1307, 13F, No. 88, Sec. 2, Zhongxiao E. Rd., Zhongzheng Dist., Taipei City 100, Taiwan ROC T +886 2 2393 3337 F +886 2 2393 2083

H.C. Starck (India) Pvt. Ltd., #148, Prestige Featherlite Tech Park, 2nd Phase, EPIP Zone, Whitefield, Bangalore – 560 066 T +91 7259177599 H.C. Starck Inc. 460 Jay Street Coldwater, MI 49036 USA T +1 517 279 9511 F +1 517 269 9512

## Japan

H.C. Starck Fabricated Products GK

3F Shiodome Building, 1-2-20 Kaigan, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0022 JAPAN T +81-3-6721-8177 F +81-3-6733-8896

# China

#### H.C. Starck Specialty Materials (Taicang) Co., Ltd.

Taicang Zhongyu Science Park No.111 N. Dongting Rd of Taicang Taicang City Jiangsu Province 215400 T +86 512 5318 8278 F +86 512 5318 8282

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info@hcstarcksolutions.com www.hcstarcksolutions.com