Lally Pipe & Tube
Division of LB Industries,Inc.

Steel Pipe & Tube Industry Terminology

- AAR – Association of American Railroads
- AGA – American Gas Association
- AISI – American Iron & Steel Institute
- ANSI – American National Standards Institute (Formerly ASA)
- API – American Petroleum Institute
- ASA – American Standard Institute (Now known as ANSI)
- ASM – American Society for Metals
- ASME – American Society of Mechanical Engineers
- ASTM – American Society for Testing Materials
- AWWA – American Water Works Association
- BALES – Banded lifts of pipe.
- BAR MILL – Rolling mill where blooms are processed to form billets.
- BESS – Bessemer
- BEVEL – The angle formed between the prepared edge of the pipe and a plane perpendicular to the surface. Standard line pipe bevel is 30 degrees.
- BILLET – Round, solid bar of steel which is pierced to form a seamless tube or pipe.
- BLK – Black. Term used when O.D. surface of pipe is protected with varnish type oil. Also applies to bare pipe to denote not galvanized.
- BLOOM – A semi finished hot rolled product produced on a blooming mill.
- B.O.F. – Basic Oxygen Furnace
- B.O.P. – Basic Oxygen Process
- BRIGGS STANDARD – A standard of thread dimensions. Same as American Standard.
- B.T.U. – British Thermal Unit
- BLDS – Bundles. Practice of packaging pipe. Pieces per bundle vary with size of pipe.
- BURST TEST – A destructive hydraulic test to determine actual yield strength and ultimate strength of seamless and welded pipe.
- B.W. – Butt Weld Pipe
- B.W.G. – Birmingham Wire Gauge
- CASING – Pipe used as a structural retainer for the walls of a water, gas, or oil well.
- C.D. – Cold Drawn. Drawing pipe or tubing through a die to reduce diameter and wall to obtain closer tolerances, a better finish, or higher physical properties.
- CHAMFER – A beveled surface to eliminate an otherwise sharp corner. A finishing operation prior to threading.
- CHEMICAL PROPERTIES – Normally associated with a limited number of chemical elements. Minimum or maximum limits are established in most ASTM and API specifications.
- CUT LENGTH – Pipe cut to a specific length as ordered.
- CON CAST – Continuous Cast
- CONDUIT – Pipe serving as a duct for electrical wiring. Usually supplied in 10 foot length threaded and coupled. Pipe used is normally galvanized, slightly lighter than standard weight with a smooth interior surface.
- CPLG – Coupling. Threaded sleeve used to connect two length of pipe.

- C.W. – Continuous Weld. Method of producing pipe normally from ½" to 4" nominal pipe.
- CU – Copper
- C.W.T. – Per hundred weight
- DIA – Diameter
- DIE STAMPING – Permanent marking placed on pipe as required in some specifications.
- DOUBLE EXTRA HEAVY – Also known as double extra strong. Available from NPS ½" to NPD 8". Wall thickness is twice as heavy as extra heavy with the exception of 8" nominal diameter.
- DRL – Double Random Length (35' minimum average)
- DRIFTED – Attaining a certain minimum I.D. clearance by pushing a mandrel through pipe or tubing.
- DRIVE PIPE – Pipe used for driving into ground in water well applications. Supplied with drive coupling.
- DUCTILITY – The ability of a material to deform plastically without fracturing. Measured by elongation in a tensile test.
- ERW – Electric Resistance Weld Pipe. Method of producing pipe normally in sizes from 2-3/8" O.D. through 22" O.D.
- E.U.E. – External Upset Ends. Used in API tubing and drill pipe.
- EXPANDED PIPE – Pipe which has been enlarged circumferentially by mechanical or hydraulic pressure.
- EXTRA HEAVY – Also known as Extra Strong. Pipe with walls heavier than standard weight. Same as schedule 80 in sizes NPS 1/8" to NPS 8".
- F.O.B – Free On Board
- FRT – Freight
- GALV – Galvanizing. Coating pipe with a protective coating of zinc.
- GRADE A OR B – Designations used to indicate minimum yield and tensile strengths of steel in seamless and welded pipe.
- G.T. – Gross Ton (2,240 pounds)
- HYDROSTATIC TESTING – High pressure water test to determine pressures as required by specifications.
- I.D. – Inside Diameter. The O.D. measurement less double the wall thickness is the I.D. measurement of a pipe or tube.
- INGOT – Usually first form of steel. Suitable for reworking or remelting.
- I.P.S. – Iron Pipe Size. Same as nominal size from 1/8" to 12".
- JOINT – Term used to refer to one length of pipe.
- LGTH – Length
- L.T.C. – Long threads and coupling (OCTG)
- LARGE O.D. PIPE – Pipe NPS 14" and larger.
- L.W. – Lap Weld. Old method of producing pipe 5" diameter and over. Has not been produced for over 30 + years.
- MECHANICAL PROPERTIES – Tensile strength, elongation, hardness, and fatigue limit of steel.
- MID-WELDS – Two or more joints welded to form one long joint.
- MINIMUM WALL – Minimum thickness permissible calculated by subtracting minus tolerance from nominal wall.
- MN – Manganese
- N.B.S. – National Bureau of Standards
- NI – Nickel

- NIPPLE – Short length of pipe 12” and under normally threaded both ends.
- NOM – Nominal. Name given to standard pipe designations 1/8” through 12”. Does not indicate actual I.D. measurements. Wall thickness is also expressed as nominal.
- N.T. – Net Ton (2,000 pounds)
- O.D. – Outside Diameter
- O.H. – Open Hearth
- PCS – Pieces
- P.E. – Plain Ends
- PERC – Plain End Roller Cut
- PESC – Plain End Square Cut, saw cut, or machine cut.
- PICKLING – Pipe immersed in acid bath to remove scale, oil, dirt, etc.
- PROTECTOR – Sleeve with threads to protect threads.
- PSI – Pounds per Square Inch
- RANGE – Allowable lengths in oil field casing and tubing. Expressed as Range 1 (20’ R/L), Range 2 (30’ R/L), and Range 3 (40’ R/L).
- R/L – Random Length. Varying lengths of pipe.
- R&D – Reamed and Drifted. Commonly used in water wells to guarantee I.D. clearance.
- SAW – Submerged Arc Weld. A method of producing very large O.D. pipe.
- SCALE – An oxide of iron which forms on the surface of steel.
- SCHEDULE NUMBERS – ANSI numbers assigned to pipe to designate wall thickness.
- SKELP – Long narrow strips of plate of correct thickness and width to produce CW or ERW pipe.
- SMLS – Seamless. Pipe without a seam or weld in the circumference.
- SPEC – Specification
- SRL – Single Random Lengths. Usually 16’ to 22’. Minimum average of 17’-6”.
- S.T.C. – Short Thread & Coupled (OCTG)
- STD – Standard. Same as Schedule 40, NPS 1/8” to NPS 10”.
- STENCIL – Identification painted on pipe. Specification, size, wall, grade, test pressure, method of manufacture, and mill identification are usually indicated.
- STRAND(S) – Product of Continuous Cast Process
- STRETCH REDUCE – A technique employed in the manufacture or CW pipe in which one or several master sizes of pipe are produced, then stretched reduced through a number of roll to achieve a variety of pipe diameters. Also used in certain instances in seamless and ERW manufacturing.
- TBE – Thread Both Ends
- T & C – Threaded and Coupled
- TOE – Threaded One End
- TENSILE STRENGTH – Ultimate bursting strength to resist being pulled apart. Expressed in P.S.I.
- TUBE ROUND – Billet
- VICTAULIC JOINT – Pipe is grooved near ends to accommodate a Victaulic coupling.
- YIELD STRENGTH – The tensile stress required to produce a total elongation of 0.5 percent of the gauge length as determined by an extensometer. Expressed in P.S.I.
- XHY – Extra Heavy (Extra Strong)
- XXHY – Double Extra Heavy (Double Extra Strong)