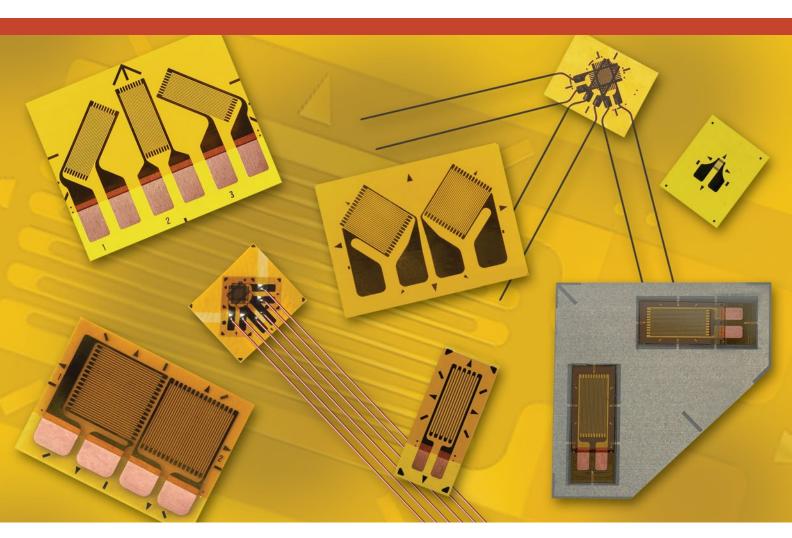
# Precision Strain Gages and Sensors

Databook



General Purpose Special Purpose Weldable Temperature Sensors Residual Stress



micro-measurements.com



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## Precision Strain Gages

## **General Information**



## **Stress Analysis Strain Gages**

#### HOW TO USE THE LISTINGS

General-use Micro-Measurements strain gages are listed in groups according to grid geometry:

- Linear patterns
  - Tee rosettes
  - Rectangular rosettes
- Delta rosettes
- Shear/torque patterns

For each of these grid geometries, those patterns most commonly used by our customers are listed first with complete specifications. Additional listings with partial specifications follow for the less commonly used patterns. In both listings, the gage patterns appear in alpha-numeric order, increasing from the shortest grid lengths to the longest.

Some seldom, if ever, ordered patterns listed in previous versions of this databook have been omitted. We will, of course, continue to make these patterns available upon request for customers presently using them. For details, contact the Applications Engineering Department at the Micro-Measurements sales office nearest you.

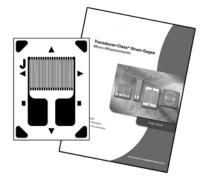
Separate listings are provided for special-use strain gages and sensors:

- Residual stress
- Magnetic fields
- Weldable gages
- High temperature gages
- Manganin pressure gages
- Shear modulus gages

- Embedment gages
- Temperature sensors
- Crack detection sensors
- Crack propagation sensors
- Displacement sensors

#### **ADVANCED SENSORS GAGES**

Customers whose application requires gages for the manufacture of precision commercial transducers are strongly encouraged to contact our Applications Engineering Department. They can provide assistance in the selection of the proper Advanced Sensor for your particular application.

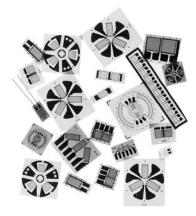


#### CUSTOM GAGES

Micro-Measurements maintains the most extensive variety of catalog strain gages available today. Whether for stress analysis, transducer manufacturing, or special-purpose applications, we have not only a wide selection, but also a large and varied inventory that is readily available for immediate delivery.

However, many of our customers have applications requiring gages that are manufactured to their individual specifications. While we believe our wide variety of standard catalog gages will satisfy most requirements, we recognize the need for custom products and are committed to serving it well.

To request a quotation for a custom gage, please contact our Applications Engineering Department.





## Stress Analysis Strain Gages

## **APPLICATIONS SUPPORT**

Micro-Measurements maintains an experienced and highly trained applications engineering staff. Our Applications Engineers are as close as your telephone, and we urge you to call them for recommendations in strain gage selection to satisfy your particular test requirements.

## **TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

Detailed technical information about the selection and application of strain gages can be found in the special series of Tech Notes, Tech Tips, and Instruction Bulletins on strain gage technology. Thorough familiarity with these publications will help ensure consistent success in the use of Micro-Measurements strain gages.

We also offer our customers an extensive assortment of additional product and technical literature, available in the strain gage technology knowledge base on our website at:

http://www.vishaypg.com/micro-measurements/stress-analysis-straingages/knowledge-base-list/.

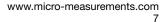
## STRAIN GAGE ACCESSORIES AND INSTRUMENTATION

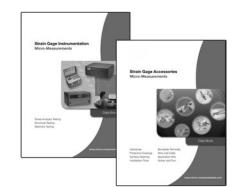
In addition to an extensive selection of strain gages, Micro-Measurements offers a complete range of complementary products. Strain gage accessories include surface preparation materials, adhesives, installation tools, protective coatings, leadwire, and a host of other application tools, hardware, and supplies. Instruments range from portable, digital strain indicators, to sophisticated computer-controlled systems for the acquisition, storage, and reduction of test data. Both static and dynamic measuring instruments are available-each uniquely designed to provide stable, accurate, and reliable strain measurement.

## **TRAINING PROGRAMS**

Training customers in the proper use of strain measurement techniques is an essential part of the Micro-Measurements philosophy. In support of this principle, Micro-Measurements conducts an extensive series of regularly scheduled technical seminars, workshops, and short courses. Course instructors are recognized authorities in their field. Training sessions are conducted at our facilities in the United States and Europe, as well as at hotels and educational institutions around the world. For schedules, go to:

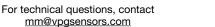
http://www.vishaypg.com/micro-measurements/training-programs/









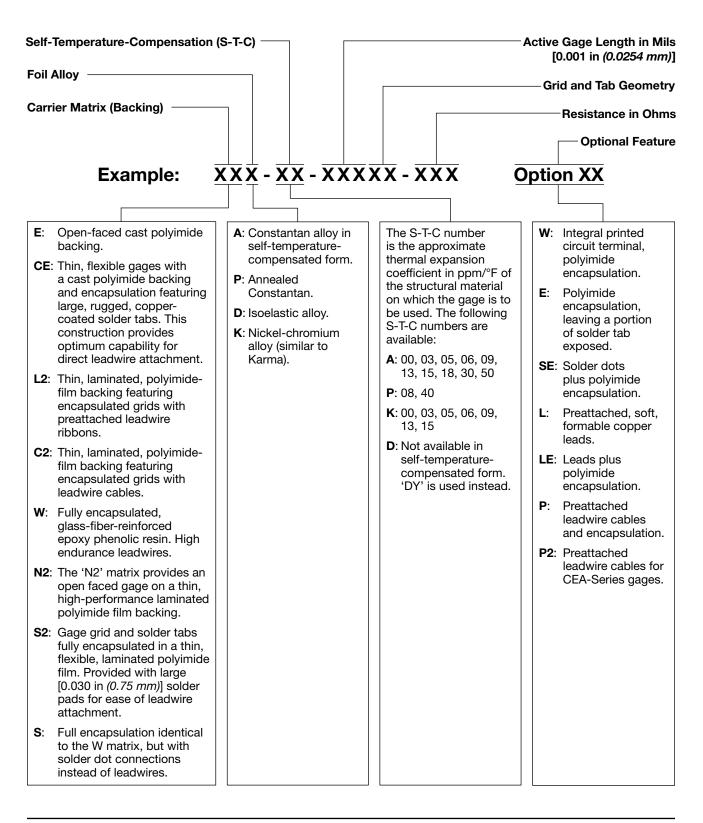






## **Stress Analysis Strain Gages**

The Strain Gage Designation System described below applies to Micro-Measurements General-Use Strain Gages.





## **Standard Stress Analysis Strain Gages**

| GAGE<br>SERIES | DESCRIPTION AND<br>PRIMARY APPLIATION  | TEMPERATURE<br>RANGE   | STRAIN<br>RANGE  | FATIGUE LIFE                           |   |
|----------------|--|--|--|--|---|
|                |  |  |  | STRAIN LEVEL<br>IN με                  | NUMBER<br>0F CYCLES                                   |
| EA             | Constantan foil in combination with a tough,<br>flexible, polyimide backing. Wide range of<br>options available. Primarily intended for<br>general-purpose static and dynamic stress<br>analysis. Not recommended for highest<br>accuracy transducers.   | Normal:<br>–100° to +350°F<br>(–75° to +175°C)<br>Special or short term:<br>–320° to +400°F<br>(–195° to +205°C) | ±3% for gage<br>lengths under<br>1/8 in (3.2 mm)<br>±5% for 1/8 in<br>and over   | ±1800<br>±1500<br>±1200                | 10 <sup>5</sup><br>10 <sup>6</sup><br>10 <sup>8</sup> |
| CEA            | Universal general-purpose strain gages.<br>Constantan grid completely encapsulated<br>in polyimide, with large, rugged copper-<br>coated tabs. Primarily used for general-   | Normal:<br>–100° to +350°F<br>(–75° to +175°C)<br>Stacked rosettes limited                                       | ±3% for gage<br>lengths under<br>1/8 in (3.2 mm)<br>±5% for 1/8 in               | ±1500<br>±1500<br>*Fatigue life        | •   |
| C2A            | purpose static and dynamic stress analysis.<br>General-purpose stress analysis strain<br>gages. Supplied with preattached cables<br>for direct connection to instrumentation.  | to +150°F (+65°C)<br>-60° to +180°F<br>(-50° to +80°C)   | and over<br>±3%  | using low-moc<br>±1700<br>±1500        | 10 <sup>5</sup><br>10 <sup>6</sup>                    |
| L2A            | General-purpose stress analysis strain gages. Supplied with preattached leadwire ribbons.  | –100° to +250°F<br>(–75° to +120°C)  | ±3%  | ±1700<br>±1500                         | 10⁵<br>10 <sup>6</sup>                                |
| N2A            | Open-faced constantan foil gages with a<br>thin, laminated, polyimide-film backing.<br>Primarily recommended for use in<br>precision transducers, the N2A Series is<br>characterized by low and repeatable creep<br>performance. Also recommended for stress<br>analysis applications employing large gage<br>patterns, where the especially flat matrix<br>eases gage installation. | Normal static<br>transducer service:<br>–100° to +200°F<br>(–75° to +95°C)                                       | ±3%  | ±1700<br>±1500                         | 10 <sup>6</sup><br>10 <sup>7</sup>                    |
| WA             | Fully encapsulated constantan gages with<br>high-endurance leadwires. Useful over<br>wider temperature ranges and in more<br>extreme environments than EA Series.<br>Option W available on some patterns, but<br>restricts fatigue life to some extent.  | Normal:<br>-100° to +400°F<br>(-75° to +205°C)<br>Special or short term:<br>-320° to +500°F<br>(-195° to +260°C) | ±2%  | ±2000<br>±1800<br>±1500                | 10 <sup>5</sup><br>10 <sup>6</sup><br>10 <sup>7</sup> |
| SA             | Fully encapsulated constantan gages with<br>solder dots. Same matrix as WA Series.<br>Same uses as WA Series but derated<br>somewhat in maximum temperature and<br>operating environment because of solder<br>dots.  | Normal:<br>-100° to +400°F<br>(-75° to +205°C)<br>Special or short-term:<br>-320° to +450°F<br>(-195° to +230°C) | ±2%  | ±1800<br>±1500                         | 10 <sup>6</sup><br>10 <sup>7</sup>                    |
| EP             | Specially annealed constantan foil with<br>tough, high-elongation polyimide backing.<br>Used primarily for measurements of large<br>post-yield strains. Available with Options<br>E, L, and LE (may restrict elongation<br>capability).  | –100° to +400°F<br>(–75° to +205°C)  | ±10% for gage<br>lengths under<br>1/8 in (3.2 mm)<br>±20% for 1/8 in<br>and over | ±1000<br>EP gages sho<br>under high-cy |   |
| ED             | Isoelastic foil in combination with tough,<br>flexible polyimide film. High gage factor and<br>extended fatigue life excellent for dynamic<br>measurements. Not normally used in static<br>measurements due to very high thermal-<br>output characteristics.   | Dynamic:<br>–320° to +400°F<br>(–195° to +205°C)   | ±2%<br>Nonlinear at<br>strain levels<br>over ±0.5%                               | ±2500<br>±2200                         | 10 <sup>6</sup><br>10 <sup>7</sup>                    |

## **Gage Series Selection Chart**



#### Standard Stress Analysis Strain Gages

| GAGE<br>SERIES |   | DESCRIPTION AND TEMPERATURE STRAIN<br>PRIMARY APPLIATION RANGE RANGE  | CTRAIN   | FATIGUE LIFE            |                                    |
|----------------|---|---|--|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                |   |   |  | STRAIN LEVEL<br>IN με   | NUMBER<br>0F CYCLES                |
| WD             | Fully encapsulated isoelastic gages<br>with high-endurance leadwires. Used in<br>wide-range dynamic strain measurement<br>applications in severe environments.  | Dynamic:<br>-320° to +500°F<br>(-195° to +260°C)  | ±1.5%<br>Nonlinear at<br>strain levels<br>over ±0.5% | ±3000<br>±2500<br>±2200 | 10⁵<br>107<br>108                  |
| SD             | Equivalent to WD Series, but with solder dots instead of leadwires.   | Dynamic:<br>-320° to +400°F<br>(-195° to +205°C)  | ±1.5%<br>Nonlinear at<br>strain levels<br>over ±0.5% | ±2500<br>±2200          | 10 <sup>6</sup><br>10 <sup>7</sup> |
| EK             | K-alloy foil in combination with a tough,<br>flexible polyimide backing. Primarily<br>used where a combination of higher<br>grid resistances, stability at elevated<br>temperature, and greatest backing flexibility<br>are required. Supplied with Option DP.  | Normal:<br>-320° to +350°F<br>(-195° to +175°C)<br>Special or short term:<br>-452° to +400°F<br>(-269° to +205°C) | ±1.5%  | ±1800                   | 10 <sup>7</sup>                    |
| wĸ             | Fully encapsulated K-alloy gages with high<br>endurance leadwires. Widest temperature<br>range and most extreme environmental<br>capability of any general-purpose gage<br>when self-temperature compensation is<br>required. Option W available on some<br>patterns, but restricts both fatigue life and<br>maximum operating temperature. | Normal:<br>-452° to +550°F<br>(-269° to +290°C)<br>Special or short term:<br>-452° to +750°F<br>(-269° to +400°C) | ±1.5%  | ±2200<br>±2000          | 10 <sup>6</sup><br>10 <sup>7</sup> |
| SK             | Fully encapsulated K-alloy gages with<br>solder dots. Same uses as WK Series,<br>but derated in maximum temperature and<br>operating environment because of solder<br>dots.   | Normal:<br>-452° to +450°F<br>(-269° to +230°C)<br>Special or short term:<br>-452° to +500°F<br>(-269° to +260°C) | ±1.5%  | ±2200<br>±2000          | 10 <sup>6</sup><br>10 <sup>7</sup> |
| S2K            | K-alloy foil laminated to 0.001 in (0.025 mm)<br>thick, high-performance polyimide backing,<br>with a laminated polyimide overlay fully<br>encapsulating the grid and solder tabs.<br>Provided with large solder dots for ease of<br>leadwire attachment.   | Normal:<br>-100° to +250°F<br>(-75° to +120°C)<br>Special or short term:<br>-300° to +300°F<br>(-185° to +150°C)  | ±1.5%  | ±1800<br>±1500          | 10 <sup>6</sup><br>10 <sup>7</sup> |

Notes:

The performance data given here are nominal, and apply primarily to gages of 0.125-in (3-mm) gage length or larger. Refer to Gage Series/Optional Feature data sheet for more detailed description and performance specifications.



## **Stress Analysis Strain Gages**

#### GAGE SELECTION

Many factors, such as test duration, strain range required, and operating temperature, must be considered in selecting the best strain gage/adhesive combination for a given test profile. These factors and others are addressed in Tech Note TN-505, "Strain Gage Selection—Criteria, Procedures, Recommendations."

#### SELF-TEMPERATURE COMPENSATION (S-T-C)

All gages with XX as the second code group in the gage designation are self-temperature-compensated for use on structural materials with specific thermal expansion

| S-T-C   | EXPAN<br>COEFFIC  |   | COMMON MATERIAL   |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| NO.   | per °F  | per °C  |   |  |  |
| 00  | 0.8<br>0.3<br>0.017   | 1.4<br>0.5<br>0.03  | Invar, Fe-Ni alloy<br>Quartz, fused<br>Titanium Silicate*, polycrystalline  |  |  |
| 03  | 3.0<br>2.7<br>2.4<br>3.1  | 5.4<br>4.9<br>4.3<br>5.6  | Alumina, fired<br>Molybdenum*, pure<br>Tungsten, pure<br>Zirconium, pure  |  |  |
| 05  | 5.1<br>5.5<br>4.8<br>4.9  | 9.2<br>9.9<br>8.6<br>8.8  | Glass, Soda-Lime-Silica<br>Stainless Steel, Ferritic (410)<br>Titanium, pure<br>Titanium Alloy, 6Al-4V*   |  |  |
| 06  | 6.4<br>6.0<br>7.0<br>6.7<br>7.5<br>6.6<br>6.3<br>6.7<br>6.0<br>5.7<br>5.0 | 11.5<br>10.8<br>12.6<br>12.1<br>13.5<br>11.9<br>11.3<br>12.1<br>10.8<br>10.3<br>9.0 | Beryllium, pure<br>Cast Iron, grey<br>Inconel, Ni-Cr-Fe alloy<br>Inconel X, Ni-Cr-Fe alloy<br>Monel, Ni-Cu alloy<br>Nickel-A, Cu-Zn-Ni alloy<br>Steel alloy, 4340<br>Steel, Carbon, 1008, 1018*<br>Steel, Stainless,<br>Age Hardenable (17-4PH)<br>Steel, Stainless,<br>Age Hardenable (17-7PH)<br>Steel, Stainless,<br>Age Hardenable (PH15-7Mo) |  |  |
| 09  | 9.3<br>10.2<br>9.2<br>9.6<br>8.0<br>8.9                                   | 16.7<br>18.4<br>16.5<br>17.3<br>14.4<br>16.0  | Beryllium Copper, Cu 75, BE 25<br>Bronze, Phosphor, Cu 90, Sn 10<br>Copper, pure<br>Steel, Stainless, Austenitic (304*)<br>Steel, Stainless, Austenitic (310)<br>Steel, Stainless, Austenitic (316)   |  |  |
| 13  | 12.9<br>11.1<br>13.0  | 23.2<br>20.0<br>23.4  | Aluminum Alloy,<br>2024-T4*, 7075 T6<br>Brass, Cartridge, Cu 70-Zn 30<br>Tin, pure  |  |  |
| 15  | 14.5  | 26.1  | Magnesium Alloy*, AZ-318  |  |  |
| <ul> <li>* Indicates type of material used in determining thermal output curves<br/>supplied with Micro-Measurements strain gages.</li> <li>** Nominal values at or near room temperature for temperature<br/>coefficient of expansion values.</li> </ul> |   |   |   |  |  |

coefficients. The table below lists S-T-C numbers and test specimen materials to which gages are thermally matched.

When ordering, replace the XX code group with the desired S-T-C number, which is the approximate thermal expansion coefficient of the structural material in ppm/°F. The Gage Designation System lists the available S-T-C numbers for specific grid alloys. The 06 and 13 values, available in A and K alloys, are most common and more likely to be in stock. When not otherwise specified, the 06 compensation is shipped.

#### GAGE RESISTANCE

Micro-Measurements strain gages are available in various resistance values that range from 30 to 5000 ohms.

Strain gages with resistances of 120 and 350 ohms are commonly used in experimental stress analysis testing. For the majority of applications, 120-ohm gages are usually suitable; 350-ohm gages would be preferred to reduce heat generation (for the same applied voltage across the gage), to decrease leadwire effects, or to improve signal-to-noise ratios in the gage circuit. Higher resistance gages are typically used in transducer applications and on composite materials.

### GAGE FACTOR

Gage Factor (GF) is the measure of sensitivity, or *output*, produced by a resistance strain gage. Gage factor is determined through calibration of the specific gage type, and is the ratio between  $\Delta R/R_o$  and  $\Delta L/L$  (strain), where  $R_o$  is the initial unstrained resistance of the gage. It is affected somewhat by pattern size, geometry, S-T-C number, and temperature. Each gage package is supplied with the GF as well as its tolerance and temperature sensitivity. Nominal gage factors for various alloys are: A = 2.05; K = 2.1; D = 3.2; P = 2.00.

#### TRANSVERSE SENSITIVITY

All gages are sensitive, to some degree, to strains transverse to the grid direction. The transverse sensitivity factor ( $K_t$ ) is given with the engineering data supplied with all gage types for which the data is relevant.

#### STRAIN GAGE ADHESIVE SELECTION

When selecting a strain gage, it is most important to consider the adhesive that will be used to bond the gage, since the adhesive becomes part of the gage system and correspondingly affects the performance of the gage. However, when the interaction of test characteristics becomes too complex for selecting the gage/adhesive combination in a straight forward manner, contact our Applications Engineering Department for recommendations.

## **Selection Criteria**



#### Stress Analysis Strain Gages

#### **CUSTOM GAGES**

Unusual applications occasionally require a strain gage which is neither listed in the catalog nor available by adding special optional features. Often a custom product can be designed to fit such needs.

Careful consideration is given to the backing, foil, S-T-C, gage length, pattern, resistance and resistance tolerance, operating temperature range, test duration, maximum strain, cyclic endurance, leads, encapsulation, and trim so that the custom gage is designed to properly meet the user's needs. Examples of custom gages include such features as unusual patterns, special trim dimensions, and nonstandard lead materials or length.

A special part number is normally assigned to each custom gage. Doing so ensures that the correct gage is produced each time it is ordered. A set-up charge and a minimum order will normally apply. For further information contact our Applications Engineering Department.



## **Strain Gage Dimensions**

Gage length is an important consideration in strain gage selection, and is usually the first parameter to be defined.

Dimensions listed for gage length (as measured inside the grid endloops) and grid width refer to active grid dimensions. Overall length and width refer to the actual foil pattern, not including alignment marks or backing.

The matrix size represents the approximate dimensions of the backing/matrix of the gage as shipped. Matrix dimensions are nominal, with a usual tolerance of  $\pm 0.015$  in ( $\pm 0.4$  mm). If the gages are encapsulated, the matrix may be smaller by as much as 0.01 in (0.25 mm). Most patterns also include trim marks, and, for use in a restricted area, the backing/matrix may be field-trimmed on all sides to within 0.01 in (0.25 mm) of the foil pattern without affecting gage performance.

