



## Elektron<sup>®</sup> 21

Elektron 21 is a new high strength fully heat treatable magnesium based casting alloy for use at temperatures up to 200°C. This alloy has excellent corrosion resistance characteristics and castability.

### Applications

Luxfer MEL Technologies has developed this lightweight, high performance alloy for motorsport and aerospace applications. It is designed to provide superior mechanical properties and improved corrosion resistance together with good castability.

### Specifications

AMS 4429  
UNS M12310  
MMPDS  
ASTM B80  
ISO 16220 MC65410

### Chemical composition

Zinc	0.2 - 0.5%
Neodymium	2.6 - 3.1%
Gadolinium	1.0 - 1.7%
Zirconium	Saturated
Magnesium	Balance

### Heat treatment

Castings are given the following T6 heat treatment to obtain optimum mechanical properties.

Solution treat for 8 hours at 520°C (970°F), Hot water quench using water at 60 - 80°C (140 - 175°F) or polymer quench, Age for 16 hours at 200°C (400°F), Air cool.

### Physical properties

Specific gravity	1.82
Coefficient of thermal expansion	$26.3 \times 10^{-6} \text{K}^{-1}$
Thermal conductivity	$116 \text{Wm}^{-1}\text{K}^{-1}$
Specific heat	$1086 \text{Jkg}^{-1}\text{K}^{-1}$
Electrical resistivity	94.6 nΩm
Modulus of elasticity	$44.8 \times 10^3 \text{MPa}$
Poissons ratio	0.27
Melting range	545°C - 640°C
Brinell hardness	65 - 75

### Design data

Minimum specification tensile properties.	
0.2% proof stress	145 MPa
Tensile strength	248 MPa
Elongation	2%

### Other properties

#### Castability

Excellent castability as a consequence of low oxidation characteristics.  
Fine-grained microstructure.  
Pressure tight.

#### Pattern makers shrinkage factor

1.5%

#### Weldability

Weldable by the tungsten arc inert gas process (TIG) with a filler rod of a similar composition. Castings should be heat treated after welding to obtain optimum properties.

### Machining

Elektron 21 castings, like all magnesium alloy castings, machine faster than any other metal. Providing the geometry of the part allows, the limiting factor is the power and speed of the machine rather than the quality of the tool material. The power required per cubic centimetre of metal removed varies from 9 to 14 watts per minute depending on the operation.

### Surface treatment

All the normal chromating, anodising and finishing treatments are applicable.

### Corrosion resistance

ASTM B117 salt spray test corrosion rate for base metal:

- <1.14 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>/day
- <90 mpy

### Ambient temperature mechanical properties

#### Typical tensile properties

0.2% proof stress	170 MPa
Tensile strength	280 MPa
Elongation	5%

#### Typical compressive properties

0.2% proof stress	168 MPa
Ultimate strength	367 MPa

#### Typical shear properties

Ultimate stress	172 MPa
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#### Fracture toughness

K <sub>IC</sub>	15.5 MPa m <sup>1/2</sup>
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#### Fatigue properties

Pull-pull fatigue: R = 0.1	5 x 10 <sup>7</sup> cycles
115 - 120 MPa	

### Low temperature mechanical properties

#### Typical mechanical properties at -35 °C

Elongation	7%
Ultimate tensile strength	270 MPa
Impact value (notched)	1.7 J

### Elevated temperature mechanical properties

#### Typical tensile properties

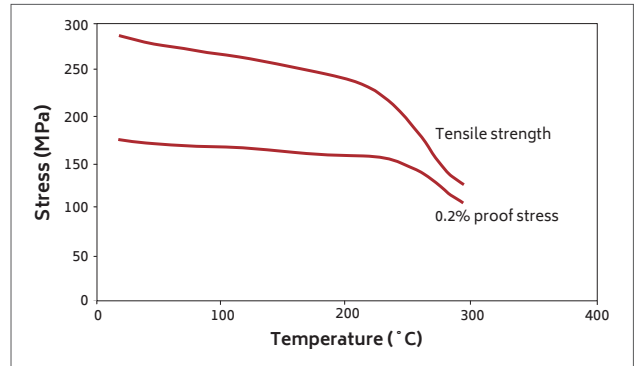


Figure 1. Effect of temperature on tensile properties.

### Creep properties

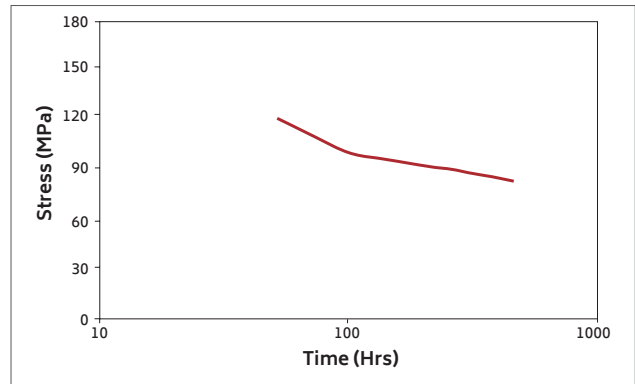


Figure 2. Stress /time relationship at 200 °C (0.1% creep strain).

Discover more at

[www.luxfermeltechnologies.com](http://www.luxfermeltechnologies.com)

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Certificate No. FM12677