

Design Stress Allowance

One of the advantages of nitrogen-enriched duplex stainless steels is their higher strength levels in comparison to conventional austenitic stainless steels. This allows for construction of units in thinner cross-sections. This weight savings can dramatically reduce the material and fabrication cost of a vessel.

ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code, Section VIII, Division 1, Allowable Stress Values, ksi

Alloy	200 °F	300 °F	400 °F	500 °F	600 °F
LDX 2101®	26.9	25.6	24.7	24.7	24.7
304L	20.0	18.9	18.3	17.5	16.6
316L	20.0	20.0	19.3	18	17
2205	25.7	24.8	23.9	23.3	23.1
2304	24.0	22.5	21.7	21.3	21
2507	33.0	31.2	30.1	29.6	29.4

Corrosion Properties

Duplex stainless steels provide a wide range of corrosion resistance across a broad spectrum of applications. Below is a brief description of their resistance in various process environments.

General Corrosion

General corrosion is characterized as a uniform attack on a surface in contact with a corrosive medium. The corrosion resistance is considered good if the corrosion rate is less than 0.1 mm/yr. Because of their high chromium content, duplex stainless steels offer excellent corrosion resistance in many process environments. LDX 2101 has, in most cases, better resistance than 304L and in some applications resistance comparable to 316L. 2304, in most cases, is equivalent to 316L, while 2205 and 2507 exhibit even better resistance than most conventional austenitic stainless steels.

Sulfuric Acid

The isocorrosion diagram for sulfuric acid is shown to the right. In sulfuric acid contaminated by chloride ions, 2205 shows much better resistance than 316L and has similar resistance to 904L.

Hydrochloric Acid

304L and 316L have very limited use in hydrochloric acid due to the risk of general and localized corrosion. 2507, and to some extent 2205, can be used in dilute hydrochloric acid.

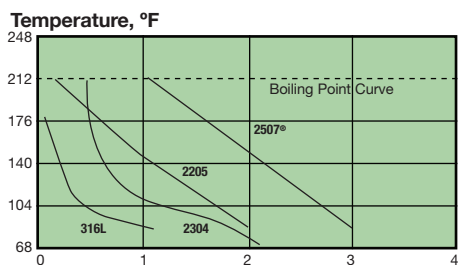
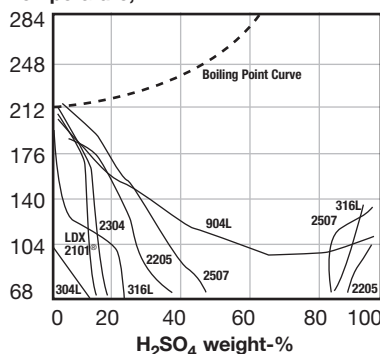


Fig. 4. Isocorrosion curves 0.1 mm/year, in hydrochloric acid.

Isocorrosion curves, 0.1 mm/year, in sulfuric acid
Temperature, °F



Chloride Pitting Resistance

The pitting resistance of stainless steel can be related directly to alloy composition, where chromium, molybdenum and nitrogen are a weight %. The Pitting Resistance Equivalent Number (PREN) uses the following formula – the higher the number the better the pitting resistance –

$$\text{PREN} = \%Cr + 3.3Mo + 30N$$

PREN values for different austenitic and duplex grades

Isocorrosion curves	PRE
304L	18
316L	24
LDX 2101®	26
2304	26
904L	34
2205	35
254 SMO®	43
2507	43

Stress-Corrosion Cracking Resistance

Austenitic stainless steels can be attacked by chloride stress-corrosion cracking at elevated temperatures. Duplex stainless steels are less susceptible to this form of corrosion. The results of a drop evaporation test indicate that duplex stainless steels are superior to conventional austenitic stainless steels.

Applied stress at rupture in % of $R_{p0.2}$ at 392°F

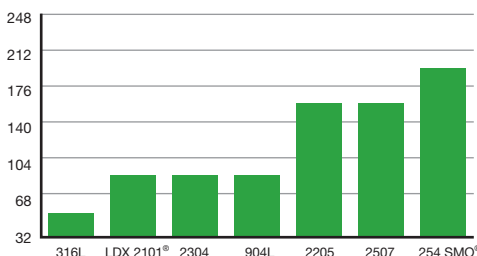


Fig. 7. Typical threshold stresses determined using the drop evaporation test.

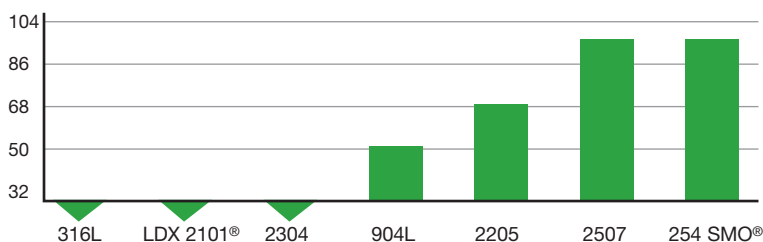
Nitric Acid

In strongly oxidizing acids, e.g. nitric acid, non-molybdenum alloys are often more resistant. LDX 2101 and 2304 are good alternatives because of their high chromium and low molybdenum content.

Crevice Corrosion Resistance

The Critical Crevice Corrosion Temperature (CCCT) test is often used to compare the crevice corrosion resistance of various alloys.

CCT, °F



Typical critical crevice corrosion temperature according to ASTM G48 Method F in 6%FeCl₃ + 1%HCl



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