

Thermocouple Alloys for Type K Thermocouple and Extension Wires

Nicro + & Nial -

IMI Scott Nicro and Nial alloys are available in solid wire, strip or tape and flexible bunch or strand constructions. Material can be ordered to all National or International emf standards as well as customer's own specifications.

Physical and Mechanical Properties (Values stated are nominal or typical.)

		Units	Nicro +	Nial -
Nominal composition		%	Ni 90 Cr 10	Ni 95 Al, Mn, Si+
Density at 20°C		g/cm ³ lb/in ³	8.72 0.315	8.60 0.310
Resistivity at 20°C		μΩcm Ω/cm ²	70 420	29 174
Coefficient of thermal expansion	20 – 100°C	1/K	17 x 10 ⁻⁶	17 x 10 ⁻⁶
	68 – 212°F	1/°F	9.4 x 10 ⁻⁶	9.4 x 10 ⁻⁶
Thermal conductivity at	20°C	W/mK	19.2	29.7
	68°F	Btu.in/ft ² .h.°F	135	210
Melting point (approx.)		°C	1430	1400
		°F	2610	2552
Magnetic properties			Non-Magnetic	Magnetic
Tensile strength R _m (0.5mm annealed wire)		N/mm ²	650	590
		lb/in ²	95000	85000

Type K thermocouple wire is recommended for use in oxidising or inert atmospheres. The larger the diameter the greater the longevity at elevated temperatures. Detrimental effects can occur in the following circumstances where the use of protective sheaths is recommended:

- 'Green rot' can develop on the Nicro+ due to the preferential oxidation of Chromium occurring in a reducing or mildly oxidising atmosphere where the partial pressure of oxygen is low. This causes Chromium Oxide (Cr₂O₃) to form instead of the protective Nickel-Chromium Oxide (NiO-Cr₂O₃). In severe circumstances the Chromium Oxide swells and cracks the surface of the wire, allowing internal oxidation to take place. The removal of Chromium from the alloy is accompanied by a significant emf drop, especially in the range 816 °C to 1038 °C, and the alloy becomes magnetic. The presence of carbonaceous gases will enhance the attack by the formation of

Chromium Carbide along the grain boundaries and oxidation becomes a progressive intercrystalline attack. This effect can also be observed in moist reducing atmospheres where there are no carbonaceous gases.

- Sulphur can act in a similar manner to carbonaceous gases, with the formation of chromium sulphide before oxidation in the Nicro+ and intercrystalline corrosion and cracking in the Nial-.
- In a vacuum the Chromium element will evaporate from Nicro+ causing the emf to drop.

Information contained within this technical data sheet is based upon the general experience of IMI Scott Ltd and is believed to be correct at the time of issue. No warranty is given or is to be implied from the details above. Customers are advised to carry out independent tests in order to determine the suitability of any IMI Scott Ltd product for an application.