

## URANUS® 2304

A 23Cr free Mo duplex stainless steel with PREN  $\geq 24$

URANUS® 2304 (UR 2304) is a 23% Cr, 4% Nickel, Mo free duplex stainless steel (2304). The alloy UR 2304 has a corrosion resistance similar to 316L. Furthermore, its mechanical properties i.e. yield strength, are twice those of 304/316 austenitic grades. This allows the designer to save weight, particularly for properly designed pressure vessel applications.

The alloy is particularly suitable for applications covering the  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}/+300^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $-58^{\circ}\text{F}/572^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) temperature range. Lower temperatures may also be considered, but are subject to restrictions, particularly for welded structures.

With its duplex microstructure, low nickel and high chromium contents, the alloy has improved stress corrosion resistance properties compared to 304 and 316.

### Standard

**EURONORM :** 1.4362 - X2 Cr Ni N 23-4  
**ASTM :** A240 - UNS S32304

### Chemical analysis

#### Typical values (weight %)

C	Cr	Ni	Mo	N
0.020	23	4	0.2	0.1

$$\text{PREN} = [\text{Cr \%}] + 3.3 [\text{Mo \%}] + 16 [\text{N \%}] \geq 24$$

### Mechanical properties

#### Tensile Properties (minimum values)

$^{\circ}\text{C}$	$R_{p0.2}$ MPa	$R_p$ 1.0 MPa	$R_m$ MPa	$^{\circ}\text{F}$	YS 0.2% KSI	YS 1.0% KSI	UTS KSI	A/EI%
20	400	440	600	68	58	64	87	25
100	330	365	570	212	48	53	83	25
200	280	310	530	392	41	45	77	20
300	230	260	490	572	33	38	71	20

Values obtained for hot rolled plates ( $t_h \leq 50$  mm). UR 2304 must not be used for a long time at temperatures higher than  $300^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $572^{\circ}\text{F}$ ), where precipitation hardening occurs.

### Toughness values (KCV minimum values)

Temp.	-50°C	+20°C	-60°F	+70°F
Single	75J/cm <sup>2</sup>	90J/cm <sup>2</sup>	54ft lbs	65ft lbs
Average (5)	90J/cm <sup>2</sup>	150J/cm <sup>2</sup>	65ft lbs	87ft lbs

### Hardness (Typical values)

Average (5)	HV <sub>10</sub> 180 - 230	HB : 180 - 230	HRC : ≤ 20
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Copper additions may be considered as UR 2304 Cu may be hardened by heat treatment to improve abrasion-corrosion resistance properties.

## Physical properties

### Density : 7,85kg/dm<sup>3</sup>

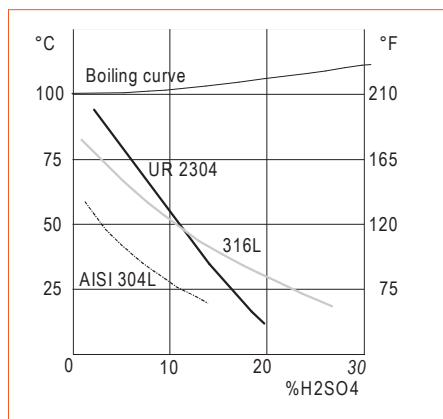
Internal Temper °C	Thermal expansion x10 <sup>-6</sup> K <sup>-1</sup>	°C	Resistivity (μΩcm)	Thermal conductivity (W m <sup>-1</sup> K <sup>-1</sup> )	Specific heat (J kg <sup>-1</sup> K <sup>-1</sup> )	Young modulus E (GPa)	Shear modulus G (GPa)
		20	80	17	450	200	75
20 - 100	13	100	92	18	500	190	73
20 - 200	13.5	200	100	19	530	180	70
20 - 300	14	300	105	20	560	170	67

## Structure

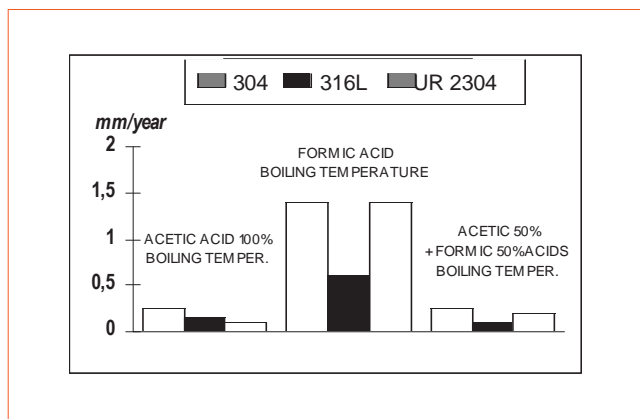
The chemical analysis of UR 2304 is optimised to obtain a typical 50 α / 50 γ microstructure after solution annealing treatment at 950°/1050°C (1742/1922°F).

The microstructure of UR 2304 duplex is very stable compared to molybdenum containing duplex stainless steels. Intermetallic phases (σ, χ) are present only after 10 hours holding time in the 750°/850°C (1382°/1562°F) temperature range. Copper additions to UR 2304 grade, when specified, increase the hardness of the steel after heat treatment in the 350/500°C (662/932°F) temperature range.

## Corrosion resistance



Corrosion resistance to stagnant sulfuric acid (0.3mm/year)



Corrosion resistance in different organic acids

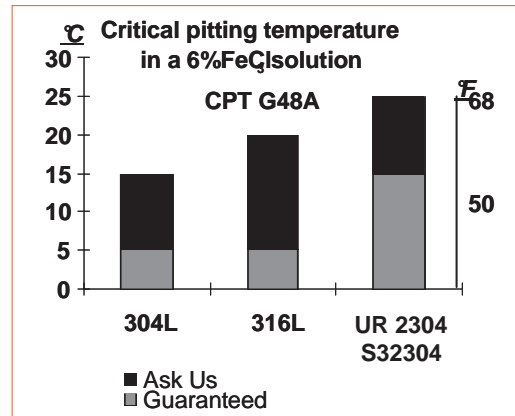
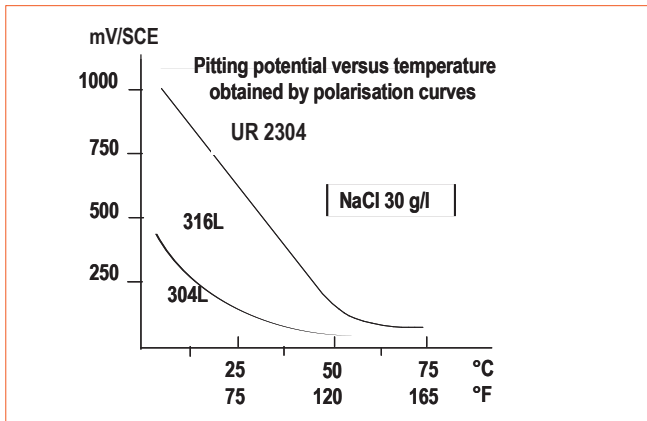
ISO-corrosion lines in stagnant sulfuric acid.

## General corrosion

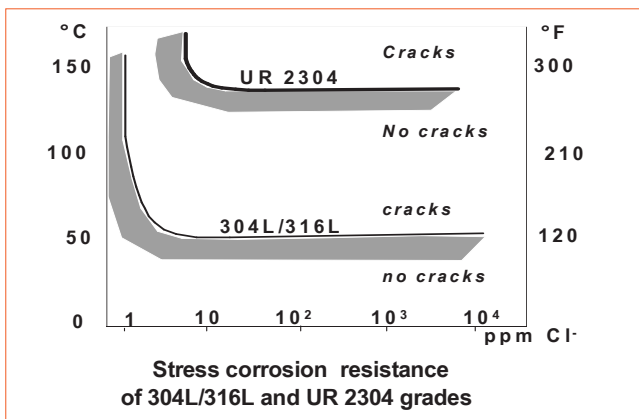
Because of its high chromium content (23%) the corrosion resistance of UR 2304 are almost equivalent to those of 316L.

## Localised corrosion resistance

The 23% chromium and 0.1N% additions explain why UR 2304 duplex stainless steel behaves much better than 316L grade when considering pitting and crevice corrosion.



## Stress corrosion resistance



Stress corrosion resistance test results in Chloride containing aqueous solutions (8ppm O<sub>2</sub>) pH = 7, > 1000h, applied stresses higher than the yield strength) show that UR 2304 outperforms 304L and 316L grades, thanks to its high Chromium additions and low nickel contents.

This is a typical feature of duplex stainless steels. UR 2205 outperforms UR 2304 in similar conditions.

## Other corrosion resistance properties

UR 2304 duplex stainless steel successfully passes most of the standard intercrystalline test procedures such as ASTM A262E and C tests. Its corrosion rate in boiling nitric acid (65%) is higher than that of 316. Due to its high yield strength, the alloy performs well in abrasion/corrosion applications.

## Processing

### Hot forming

Hot forming must be carried on in the 900/1150°C (1650/2100°F) temperature range.

After forming, a new solution annealing treatment is recommended in the 950/1050°C (1742/1922°F) temperature range to fully restore corrosion resistance properties and mechanical properties. Parts of UR 2304 must be supported carefully during heating to avoid creep deformation

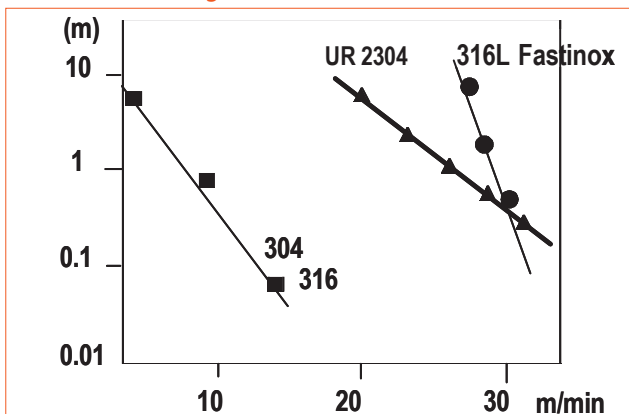
### Cold forming

UR 2304 may be cold formed without any problem. The same equipments as those used for the cold forming of 304 and 316 grades can be used. Due to its higher mechanical properties, including the yield strength, higher stresses are required for cold forming. A final solution annealing heat treatment is also recommended after cold forming in order to restore the mechanical and corrosion resistance properties, as described in 'hot forming'.

### Descaling

Use the same solutions and pastes as for 304/316L. The pickling time will be higher than for austenitic grades due to the corrosion resistance properties of the alloy.

## Machinability



UR 2304 duplex exhibits improved machinability particularly when considering drilling. Its behaviour is equivalent to that of 316L FASTINOX(\*). Furthermore UR 2304 has better corrosion resistance and cleanliness properties as no sulphur additions are necessary. Localised corrosion resistance behaviour is improved.

*\*316L FASTINOX is a 316L type grade with improved machinability properties*

Total drilling length versus speed

## Welding

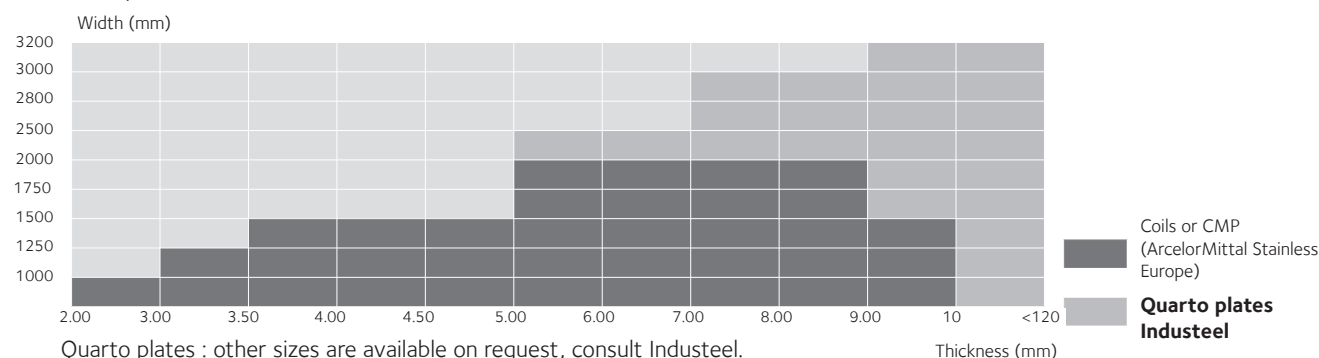
- UR 2304 can be successfully welded by the following processes :
  - ❖ TIG, manual and automatic
  - ❖ PLASMA, MIG, SMAW, SAW, FCAW...
- The duplex microstructure renders the alloy less sensitive to hot cracking.
- The welding parameters must be optimized to obtain a controlled ferrite level (20-70%). Typical recommended heat inputs are 10-25 kJ/cm with a 150°C (302°F) max interpass temperature. These conditions must be optimized taking into account the thickness of the products and welding equipments (Consult if necessary). We do not recommend pre or post-welding heat treatments. Only complete solution annealing heat treatment may be considered (please, contact us).

## Applications

- Generally where 304 and 316L are used
- Pulp and paper industry (chip storage tank, white and black liquor tanks...)
- Caustic solutions, organic acids (SCC resistance)
- Food industry
- Safety panels (high mechanical properties)
- Pressure vessels (weight savings...)
- Mining (abrasion/corrosion)

## Size range

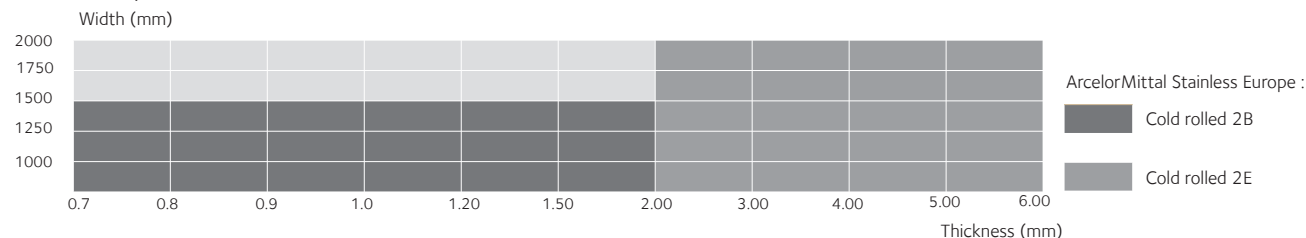
Hot rolled plates N° 1 (ASTM)/ N° 1D (EN)



Quarto plates : other sizes are available on request, consult Industeel.

2304 clad plates, consult Industeel Creusot.

## Cold rolled plates



For any information

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This technical data and information represent our best knowledge at the time of printing. However, it may be subject to some slight variations due to our ongoing research programme on corrosion resistant grades. We therefore suggest that information be verified at time of enquiry or order. Furthermore, in service, real conditions are specific for each application. The data presented here is only for the purpose of description, and may only be considered as guarantees when our company has given written formal approval.