MARKING OF GOLD FILLED AND ROLLED GOLD PLATE ARTICLES OTHER THAN WATCHCASES

COMMERCIAL STANDARD CS47-34

(Issued January 27, 1934)

Effective Date for new production January 1, 1934
Effective Date for clearance of existing stocks July 1, 1934

A RECORDED STANDARD OF THE INDUSTRY

Designated by the American Standards Association as American Standard Z31-1933

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1934
PROMULGATION STATEMENT

On September 21, 1933, at the instance of the interested manufacturers, a general conference of representative manufacturers, distributors, and users of gold filled and rolled gold plate articles other than watchcases, adopted Commercial Standard CS47-34 for these commodities. The industry has since accepted and approved for promulgation by the Department of Commerce through the Bureau of Standards the standard as shown herein.

The standard became effective for new production on January 1, 1934, and for clearance of existing stocks on July 1, 1934.

Promulgation recommended.

Promulgated.

Promulgation approved.

I. J. Fairchild,
Chief, Division of Trade Standards.

Lyman J. Briggs,
Director, Bureau of Standards.

Daniel C. Roper,
Secretary of Commerce.
MARKING OF GOLD FILLED AND ROLLED GOLD PLATE ARTICLES OTHER THAN WATCHCASES

COMMERCIAL STANDARD CS47-34

SCOPE

1. This standard covers the marking of gold-covered articles herein defined, other than watchcases, offered for sale in the United States of America.

NOMENCLATURE AND DEFINITIONS

2. “Apply” or “Applied” includes any method or means of application or attachment to, or of use on, or in conjunction with, or in relation to an article, whether such application, attachment or use is to, on, by, in, or with—

   (1) The article itself,
   (2) Anything attached to the article, or
   (3) Anything to which the article is attached, or
   (4) Anything in or on which the article is, or
   (5) Any bill, invoice, order, statement, letter, advertisement, or other writing so used or placed as to lend to a reasonable belief that the mark on said writing or writings is meant to be taken as a mark on the article itself.

3. “Gold” includes any alloy of the element gold of not less than 10-karat fineness.

4. “Mark” means any letter, figure, numeral, symbol, sign, or device, or any combinations thereof.

5. “Quality Mark” means any mark as herein defined indicating or purporting to indicate that any article contains gold, or the quality, fineness, quantity, weight, thickness, proportion, or kind of gold in an article.

6. A karat is 1/24th part by weight of fine gold in the gold alloy portion of the article. For example, “10-Karat Gold Filled” means that the gold alloy used on the surface or surfaces contains 10/24ths by weight of fine gold.

QUALITY MARKS

7. The quality mark “Gold Filled” and/or “Rolled Gold Plate” shall refer to articles made of base metal, upon one or more sides or surfaces of which base metal there is affixed by soldering, brazing, welding, or other mechanical means, a sheet or sheets or shell of karat gold, produced by alloying fine gold with other metals, said sheet or sheets or shell of gold being rolled, drawn, or pressed to the marked weight ratio before uniting with the base metal.
8. "Qualities" for "Gold Filled" and "Rolled Gold Plate" articles other than watch cases shall be designated by and have applied thereto marks which state in terms of fractions and karats the correct proportion of the weight of the alloyed gold to the weight of the entire metal in such articles and the actual karat fineness of the entire gold covering, thus, "1/10 12K Gold Filled", or "1/30 10K Rolled Gold Plate", as the case may be. For example, "1/10 12K Gold Filled" means that the article consists of base metal covered on one or more surfaces with a gold alloy of 12 karat fineness throughout the gold covering, the said covering of gold alloy comprising 1/10 part by weight of the metal in the entire article, exclusive of the exemptions as noted in paragraphs 12 (a) and 12 (b).

9. The fraction shall precede the fineness designation in every case, and the denominator of said fraction shall always be a multiple of five.

10. No article having a gold coating of less than 10K fineness shall have applied to it any quality mark. No article having an alloyed gold content of less than 1/20 shall be marked "Gold Filled". Articles manufactured in accordance with the definitions of paragraph 7, if marked "Rolled Gold Plate", shall be preceded by the fraction and the fineness designation, as specified in paragraphs 8 and 9.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

11. Tolerance.—The actual gold content of an article shall be not less than the gold content indicated by the quality marks by more than 10 percent.

12. Exemptions.—

12 (a). Exemptions recognized in the jewelry trade and not to be considered in any assay for quality include joints, catches, screws, pin stems, pins of scarf pins, hat pins, etc., posts and separable backs of lapel buttons, springs, and metallic parts completely and permanently encased in a nonmetallic covering.

12 (b). Exemptions recognized in the optical trade and not to be considered in any assay for quality shall include screws, dowels, cores and/or inner windings of comfort cable temples, metal parts when completely and permanently encased with zylonite or any equivalent plastic material, and, for oxfords, the handle and catch.

13. Trade mark.—Any gold covered article herein defined having applied thereto a quality mark, shall also have applied thereto immediately adjacent to such quality mark, and equally visible, legible, clear, and distinct therewith, the name or a trade mark duly applied for or registered under the laws of the United States, of the manufacturer or seller of such article. Initials shall not be used in lieu of a name unless registered as a trade mark as above provided.

14. Class, pattern, type, or style mark.—If a gold covered article herein defined has applied to it the name or a trade mark duly applied for or registered under the laws of the United States, of the manufacturer or seller of such article, and a quality mark conforming to the requirements of this standard, it may also have applied to it numerals or other indicia to identify the class, pattern, type, or style of the article, provided such numerals are not incorporated with the quality mark and are not placed or arranged so as to mislead or deceive.

15. In order that the consumer may become familiar with the significance of the quality marks herein defined, all gold covered
articles conforming to this standard may be accompanied by a certificate, tag, card, or other label, incorporating the following wording:

"The_________Company guarantees this Gold Filled (or Rolled Gold Plate) article to be marked for quality in strict accordance with the Commercial Standard CS47-34 as issued by the United States Department of Commerce, and approved by the American Standards Association."

16. An alternate wording, as follows, may be used:

"The_________Company guarantees the quality of this Gold Filled (or Rolled Gold Plate) article to be in strict accordance with the Commercial Standard CS47-34 as issued by the United States Department of Commerce, and approved by the American Standards Association."

HISTORY OF PROJECT

Following some preliminary discussions at the instance of the New England Manufacturing Jewelers' and Silversmiths' Association and the Rolled Gold Platers Association, the cooperation of the Bureau of Standards was requested on March 31, 1933, in the establishment of a Commercial Standard for Marking of Gold Filled and Rolled Gold Plate Articles. It was first proposed that the quality marks be on a basis of thickness of the gold coating, but this was found to be quite impracticable owing to the intricate shapes of many gold covered articles and the fact that thickness would normally be computed from an over-all assay of the gold content and the total area. Therefore, it was the consensus that the ratio of weight of the gold alloy coating to the entire weight of the article should be the basis for the quality mark.

Preliminary conferences were held June 16, 1933, at the Waldorf Astoria, New York, N.Y.; July 13, 1933, at the Providence Biltmore Hotel, Providence, R.I.; and on August 29, 1933, at the Waldorf Astoria, New York, N.Y., in order to harmonize the views of the various branches of the industry.

The general conference held at the United States Chamber of Commerce, Washington, D.C., on September 21, 1933, adjusted the proposed draft to the satisfaction of the distributors and users, and recommended that it be submitted to the industry for written acceptance. The general submittal for written acceptance was sent out by the Bureau of Standards on October 6, 1933, and the announcement of success of the project was issued December 1, 1933.

EFFECTIVE DATES

The standard became effective for new production on January 1, 1934, and for clearance of existing stocks on July 1, 1934.

STANDING COMMITTEE

The following were appointed to serve as a standing committee of the industry to consider revisions of the standard. Each association nominated its own representatives:

New England Manufacturing Jewelers' and Silversmiths' Association:
Edgar M. Docherty (chairman), William C. Greene Co.
Frederick A. Ballou, Sr., B. A. Ballou & Co.
Rolled Gold Platers Association:
  Clarence M. Dunbar, Cook, Dunbar, Smith Co.
  W. A. Cunningham, Horton Angell Co.
Better Vision Institute:
  Frank Shields, American Optical Co.
  Samuel Bouchard, Bausch & Lomb Optical Co.
American National Retail Jewelers Association:
  Wilson A. Streeter, Bailey, Banks & Biddle Co.
  Arthur J. Sundlun, A. Kahn, Inc.
American Association of Wholesale Opticians: Roy Martin.
Jewelers Vigilance Committee: G. H. Niemeyer.
General Federation of Women's Clubs: Mrs. Edgar B. Meritt.
T. A. Wright, Lucius Pitkin, Inc.

AMERICAN STANDARD

This commercial standard was approved as American Standard Z31–1933 by the American Standards Association on December 27, 1933.
ACCEPTANCE OF COMMERCIAL STANDARD

This sheet properly filled in, signed, and returned will provide for the recording of your organization as an acceptor of this commercial standard.

Date _______________________

DIVISION OF TRADE STANDARDS,
BUREAU OF STANDARDS,
Washington, D.C.

GENTLEMEN: Having considered the statements on the reverse side of this sheet, we accept the Commercial Standard CS47-34 as our standard of practice in the production, distribution, and use of Gold Filled and Rolled Gold Plate articles other than watch cases.

We will assist in securing its general recognition and use, and will cooperate with the standing committee to effect revisions of the standard when necessary.

Signature ______________________________________

(Kindly typewrite or print the following lines)

Title ______________________________________
Company ____________________________________
Street address ________________________________
City and State _________________________________

1 Please designate which group you represent by drawing lines through the other two. In the case of related interests, trade papers, colleges, etc., desiring to record their general approval, the words "In principle" should be added after the signature.
TO THE ACCEPTOR

The following points are given in answer to the usual questions arising in connection with the acceptance form:

1. Commercial standards are commodity specifications voluntarily established by mutual consent of the industry. They present a common basis of understanding between the producer, distributor, and consumer and should not be confused with any plan of governmental regulation or control. The Department of Commerce has no regulatory power in the enforcement of their provisions, but since they represent the will of the industry as a whole, their provisions through usage soon become established as trade customs.

2. The acceptor’s responsibility.—The purpose of commercial standards is to establish for specific commodities, nationally recognized grades or consumer criteria and the benefits therefrom will be measurable in direct proportion to their general recognition and actual use. Instances will occur when it may be necessary to deviate from the standard and the signing of an acceptance does not preclude such departures; however, such signature indicates an intention to follow the commercial standard where practicable, in the production, distribution, or consumption of the article in question.

3. The Department’s responsibility.—The function performed by the Department of Commerce in the establishment of a commercial standard is four-fold; first, to act as an unbiased coordinator to bring all branches of the industry together for the mutually satisfactory adjustment of trade standards; second, to supply such assistance and advice as past experience with similar programs may suggest; third, to canvass and record the extent of acceptance and adherence to the standard; and fourth, to add all possible prestige to the enterprise by publication and promulgation when accepted by the industry.

When the standard has been endorsed by companies representing a satisfactory majority of production, the success of the project is announced. If, however, in the opinion of the standing committee of the industry or the Department of Commerce, the support of any standard is inadequate, the right is reserved to withhold promulgation and publication.
ACCEP'TORS

(Individuals and organizations listed below have indicated, in writing, acceptance of this specification as their standard of practice, but such endorsement does not signify that they guarantee their products to conform to the requirements of this standard.)

ASSOCIATIONS

American Home Economics Association, Washington, D.C.
American National Retail Jewelers Association, Mount Vernon, N.Y.
Better Vision Institute, New York, N.Y.
Council of Jewelry and Allied Industries, Providence, R.I.
General Federation of Women's Clubs, Washington, D.C.
New England Manufacturing Jewelers' & Silversmiths' Association, Providence, R.I.
Texas-Louisiana Retail Jewelers Association, Dallas, Tex.

FIRMS

American Jewelry Chain Co., Providence, R.I.
Armbrust Chain Co., Providence, R.I.
A. Atkins & Son, Boston, Mass.
Autopoint Co., Chicago, Ill.
A. & Z. Chain Co., Providence, R.I.
B. A. Ballou & Co., Inc., Providence, R.I.
Bates & Bacon, Attleboro, Mass.
Baush Massa Jewelry Co., St. Louis, Mo.
Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., Rochester, N.Y.
Benrus Watch Case Co., Inc., New York, N.Y.
Binder Bros., Inc., New York, N.Y.
Bliss Scofield Corporation, Newark, N.J.
Brochon Engraving Co., Chicago, Ill.
Burr, Patterson & Auld Co., Detroit, Mich.
Chicago Mail Order Co., Chicago, Ill.
Chilton Pen Co., Inc., Long Island City, N.Y.
Cincinnati Gold & Silver Refining Co., Cincinnati, Ohio (in principle).
Continental Optical Co., Indianapolis, Ind.
Cook, Dunbar, Smith Co., Providence, R.I.
Edward N. Cook Plate Co., Providence, R.I.
Craft Co., The, Indianapolis, Ind. (in principle).
Wm. M. Cross, Inc., Portland, Maine.
George E. Darling Co., Providence, R.I.
Albert F. Diemand, Philadelphia, Pa.
Dieges & Clust, New York, N.Y.
Disanza Bros., New York, N.Y.
D. & N. Manufacturing Co., Providence, R.I.
David C. Dodd Co., Newark, N.J. (in principle).
Dorrey of Boston, Boston, Mass.
Dunn Bros., Providence, R.I.
C. B. Dyer, Indianapolis, Ind.
Eagle Pencil Co., New York, N.Y.
Eckert Jewelry Co., St. Louis, Mo.
Eisenstadt Manufacturing Co., St. Louis, Mo.
Empire Silver Plate Co., Brooklyn, N.Y. (in principle).
Excell Manufacturing Co., Providence, R.I.
Federal Chain Co., Providence, R.I.
James R. Feeley & Co., Inc., Providence, R.I.
Theodore W. Foster & Bro. Co., Providence, R.I.
J. F. Fradley & Co., New York, N.Y.
Fray Jewelry Co., Providence, R.I.
Geo. H. Fuller & Son Co., Pawtucket, R.I.
F. & V. Manufacturing Co., East Providence, R.I.
H. C. Garthe Co., Baltimore, Md.
General Plate Co., Attleboro, Mass.
Glasow & Leitman Co., Fond du Lac, Wis.
Goodman & Co., Indianapolis, Ind.
R. A. & W. S. Greene, Providence, R.I.
Wm. C. Greene Co., Providence, R.I. (in principle).
Joseph Greif, Inc., Brooklyn, N.Y.
R. L. Griffith & Sons Co., The, Providence, R.I.
Hadley Co., The, Providence, R.I.
Hamilton Watch Co., Lancaster, Pa.
Harber Co., Inc., W. J., New York, N.Y.
Harvey & Otis, Providence, R.I.
Heintz Bros., Inc., Buffalo, N.Y.
Herff-Jones Co., Indianapolis, Ind.
Henry F. Herpers, Newark, N.J. (in principle).
Hill Brothers, Houston, Tex.
John Holland Gold Pen Co., The, Cincinnati, Ohio.
F. W. Holmes Sons, New York, N.Y.
A. Holt & Co., Inc., Providence, R.I.
Inter-State Jewelry Manufacturers, Inc., New York, N.Y.
J. A. R. Co., The, Pawtucket, R.I.
Jewelers Supply Co., The, Salem, Oreg.
Aaron E. Johnson Jewelry Manufacturing Co., Minneapolis, Minn.
Josten Manufacturing Co., Owatonna, Minn.
Katz Jewelry Co., Providence, R.I.
Kinney Co., The, Providence, R.I.
Carl J. Klein Co., Portland, Oreg.
Klimpl Medal Co., New York, N.Y.
Koke, Slauth & Co., Inc., Los Angeles, Calif.
Kotler & Kopit, Inc., Providence, R.I.
Frank Krementz Co., Newark, N.J.
L. Krichbaum & Co., Providence, R.I.
Krug Manufacturing Co., Los Angeles, Calif.
La Salle Ring Co., Inc., Providence, R.I.
Leach & Anthony, Providence, R.I.
Leach & Garner Co., Attleboro, Mass.
Leach & Miller Co., The, Attleboro, Mass.
Letzeiser & Co., Oklahoma City, Okla.
Levinson & Jacobson Co., Chicago, Ill.
P. A. Linton Co., Inc., Providence, R.I.
Lorgettes, Inc., Providence, R.I.
Marquise Jewelry Co., Lima, Ohio.
Marshall & Meter, New York, N.Y.
H. Marvet & Co., Toledo, Ohio.
Joseph Mayer Co., The, Seattle, Wash.
Walter H. McKenna, Providence, R.I.
Metal Arts Co., Inc., The, Rochester, N.Y.
J. Milhening, Inc., Chicago, Ill.
Arthur Moeller, New York, N.Y.
Montgomery Ward & Co., Chicago, Ill.
G. Morvillo & Sons, Inc., Providence, R.I.
M. S. Co., Attleboro, Mass.
Napier Co., The, Meriden, Conn. (in principle).
New Jersey Optical Co., Newark, N.J.
Nomar Optical Co., The, Southbridge, Mass.
Charles Ohler Co., Pawtucket, R.I.
Oliver Manufacturing Co., Los Angeles, Calif. (in principle).
H. Oppenheimer Co., Inc., Chicago, Ill.
Orber Jewelry Manufacturing Co., Providence, R.I.
Osier Manufacturing Co., Inc., The, Providence, R.I.
Frank C. Osners Co., Inc., New York, N.Y.
Ostby & Barton Co., Providence, R.I.
Pacific Platinum Works, Inc., Los Angeles, Calif.
Wm. L. Panikoff Co., New Haven, Conn.
Pease & Curren, Providence, R.I. (in principle).
Pennino Bros., New York, N.Y.
Pen-N-Pencil Co., The, New York, N.Y.
Platinum Shop, Inc., The, Indianapolis, Ind.
Potter & Schnackenberg, New York, N.Y.
Providence Stock Co., Providence, R.I.
Charles D. Reese, New York, N.Y.
Otto Reichardt Co., New York, N.Y.
Riggs Optical Co., Consolidated, Chicago, Ill.
Riggs Optical Co., San Francisco, Calif.
Rixstine Jewelry Manufacturing Co., Lincoln, Nebr.
Robbins Co., The, Attleboro, Mass.
Sadler Bros., Inc., South Attleboro, Mass.
Sammartino & Sanchirico Co., Providence, R.I.
Harry C. Schick, Inc., Newark, N.J.
Schmid Cremo & Co., New York, N.Y.
Serpe Bros., New York, N.Y.
Sheffield Silver Co., Inc., The, Brooklyn, N.Y. (in principle).
Shields & Moore, Newark, N.J.
Smith Patterson Co., Boston, Mass.
Southeastern Optical Co., Inc., The, Richmond, Va.
Star Watch Case Co., Ludington, Mich.
Stein, Robert C., Birmingham, Ala.
Terheyden Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.
Union Plate & Wire Co., Attleboro, Mass.
Uncas Manufacturing Co., Providence, R.I.
U.S. Chain Co., Long Island City, N.Y.
Universal Chain Co., Inc., Maplewood, N.J.
Vennerbeck & Clase Co., Providence, R.I.
Wahlenmayer & Oehler, Buffalo, N.Y. (in principle).
Waldes Koh-I-Noor, Inc., Long Island City, N.Y.
Weinman Bros. & Scher, New York, N.Y.
Welsh Manufacturing Co., Providence, R.I.
Wendell & Co., Chicago, Ill.
Whitaker-Fielding Co., Providence, R.I.
J. J. White Manufacturing Co., Providence, R.I.
Williams & Anderson Co., The, Providence, R.I.
Wright & Street, Inc., Chicago, Ill.

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**Notice.**—Those interested in commercial standards with a view toward accepting them as a basis of every day practice in their industry, may secure copies of the above standards, while the supply lasts, by addressing the Division of Trade Standards, Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C.