

Questions

Answers

- 1. Where does the name PRODEC come from?**

PRODEC was developed by Outokumpu Stainless to optimize machinability. The name is short for **PRODUCTION ECONOMY**.
- 2. What Makes PRODEC easier to machine than other products?**

First, the melting of PRODEC is closely controlled and includes a treatment to control the type and size of inclusions in the material. Rather than getting hard aluminum oxide inclusions (typical in stainless steels) which will prematurely wear tooling, a softer calcium oxide is found in PRODEC. Second, the rolling is controlled to produce bars of consistent hardness for optimum machinability. The end result is a product that is consistent each time you buy it.
- 3. What stainless grades are available as PRODEC?**

PRODEC 303, PRODEC 304/304L, PRODEC 316/316L, and PRODEC 17-4 are available.
- 4. Does PRODEC 17-4 offer improved machinability in both condition A and in various heat treated conditions such as H1150?**

Yes, PRODEC 17-4 bar offers enhanced machining in all heat treat conditions. This is because the PRODEC treatment is melt related. The controlled size and type of inclusions are not affected by subsequent heat treatment.
- 5. Is there a premium price for this product?**

PRODEC is priced competitively with other domestic or DFAR compliant bars.
- 6. What type of production improvements have others realized?**

Depending on the grade of stainless, increased feeds and speeds of 25-50% have been reported. We have also seen tool life increase by 50-100%.
- 7. Does PRODEC meet the same specifications as the stainless I currently buy?**

Yes, PRODEC is made to the same UNS number and ASTM specifications. For Example: PRODEC 316/316L bar meets UNS S31600 & S31603, ASTM A 276, ASTM A 479, ASME SA-479, and AMS 5648 along with several others.
- 8. Who else is using PRODEC?**

Case histories are available detailing the experiences of others that have used PRODEC material. These are available on our website at www.rolledalloys.com.
- 9. Is PRODEC available in other product forms?**

Yes, while round bar products have the widest availability, PRODEC is also available in hex bar (up to 1½") and square bar (cold drawn sizes up to 7/8").

