

Colsibro® is a precipitation hardening copper nickel silicon that offers a remarkable blend of physical and mechanical attributes unrivalled by many other grades of copper alloy. Its combination of high strength, corrosion resistance, high thermal and electrical conductivity, excellent wear resistance, spark resistance and good cryogenic properties has enabled Colsibro® to find a place in virtually every engineering field, from electrical to mechanical and automotive to marine.

Colsibro® is a high copper alloy with small additions of nickel and silicon, which combine to increase the strength, hardness and wear resistance of the material, while retaining many of the physical benefits of copper itself.

Columbia Metals stocks Colsibro® in the fully heat treated condition, which maximises the mechanical strength levels. These are developed by a combination of cold work and heat treatment, with the heat treatment or ageing process forming a nickel silicide precipitate that hardens the metal matrix. This gives Colsibro® a better strength level than many stainless steels and low alloy steels. It also gives Colsibro® the benefit of a yield strength that is approximately 90% that of the ultimate tensile strength, while retaining a good level of ductility. Fully age hardened Colsibro® also offers a high hardness level, an excellent wear resistance, anti-friction properties and very good bearing properties especially under high loading against hardened steels.



Colsibro® has a very good corrosion resistance in many marine and industrial applications and is superior to many other copper-based alloys and copper itself. With a high corrosion resistance in fresh water and sea water, it offers excellent resistance to wet sulphurous atmospheres and a freedom from stress corrosion and hydrogen embrittlement. Combined with a very low magnetic permeability and excellent cryogenic temperature properties, Colsibro® is an ideal choice for use in marine hardware, subsea connector applications and for non-magnetic instrumentation both above and below the waterline.

- HIGH MECHANICAL STRENGTH
- PROOF STRENGTH 90% OF UTS
- EXCELLENT WEAR RESISTANCE
- HIGH ELECTRICAL CONDUCTIVITY
- VERY GOOD CORROSION RESISTANCE
- LOW MAGNETIC PERMEABILITY
- HIGH THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY
- READILY MACHINABLE
- GOOD DUCTILITY AND FORMABILITY
- SPARK RESISTANT

The high copper content of Colsibro® ensures it maintains an impressive thermal and electrical conductivity value. This, combined with its resistance to softening up to ~300°C, a high wear resistance and its mechanical strength makes Colsibro® the perfect selection for high performance engine components such as valve guides, valve seats, gears and bushes. The high conductivity values are also essential to the specification of Colsibro® in numerous other components including welding electrodes, resistance welding wheels, current-carrying electrical components and connectors, rotary contacts and heavy duty switchgear.

Colsibro® offers good fabrication properties and is readily machined especially in the heat treated condition where close machining tolerances can be held. Forming is possible either hot or cold but both processes are better performed in the solution treated condition with any age hardening treatment being applied to the finished component. It can be soldered, brazed and welded by conventional MIG and TIG methods.

Colsibro® can be used for slip rings, bearing cages, bushes, high strength fasteners, thrust pads, mechanical seals, valve bodies, short circuit rings, plugs and sockets and resistance welding components including wheels and electrodes, flash butt welding dies, masonry fixings and spark resistant safety tools.

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR AN IMMEDIATE QUOTATION OR TECHNICAL ADVICE

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Technical Data

Nominal Composition (%)

Cu	Ni	Si
Rem	1.6 - 2.2	0.4 - 0.8

Mechanical Properties (specification minima)

	≤30mm dia	30 ≤ 50mm dia	50 ≤ 90mm dia
Ultimate Tensile Strength (N/mm ²)	640	600	550
0.2% Proof Strength (N/mm ²)	590	510	430
Elongation (%)	10	10	10
Hardness (HB)	180	165	155

Typical Physical Properties

Density (g/cm ³)	8.87
Melting Range (°C)	1040 - 1060
Thermal conductivity (20°C; W/m°K)	160
Coeff. Thermal Exp. (0-400°C; m/m°K x 10 ⁻⁶)	16.0
Electrical Conductivity (IACS)	35
Magnetic Permeability	~1.0001

Round Bar Weight and Stock Sizes

Weight			Weight			Weight		
Diameter	kg/ft	kg/m	Diameter	kg/ft	kg/m	Diameter	kg/ft	kg/m
ins			ins			ins		
4mm	0.04	0.11	1.000	1.38	4.53	2.500	8.60	28.22
0.188	0.05	0.16	1.125	1.74	5.71	65mm	8.93	29.30
0.250	0.08	0.27	1.250	2.15	7.05	3.000	12.38	40.62
0.375	0.19	0.61	1.375	2.60	8.53	3.250	14.53	47.67
10mm	0.21	0.69	35mm	2.59	8.50	3.500	16.82	55.19
0.500	0.34	1.11	1.500	3.09	10.14	90mm	17.12	56.17
0.563	0.43	1.42	1.625	3.63	11.91	4.000	21.87	71.75
0.625	0.54	1.77	1.750	4.16	13.65	4.250	24.84	81.50
0.688	0.66	2.15	1.875	4.83	15.85	5.000	34.40	112.87
0.750	0.77	2.53	2.000	5.50	18.04	5.500	41.60	136.49
0.875	1.00	3.29	2.250	6.96	22.83	6.000	49.52	162.47

Hexagon

0.750" - 3.000" A/F
in a comprehensive range

Flat/Square Bar

Flat: wide range of sizes
Square: 1.000" - 3.000"

NB Weight data for guidance only

