

**MSS SP-95-2018**

# Swage(d) Nipples and Bull Plugs

**Standard Practice**  
Developed and Approved by the  
Manufacturers Standardization Society of the  
Valve and Fittings Industry, Inc.  
127 Park Street, NE  
Vienna, Virginia 22180-4602  
Phone: (703) 281-6613  
Fax: (703) 281-6671  
E-mail: [standards@msshq.org](mailto:standards@msshq.org)



[www.msshq.org](http://www.msshq.org)

This MSS Standard Practice was developed under the consensus of the MSS Technical Committee 105, *Forged Steel Fittings*, and the MSS Coordinating Committee. The content of this Standard Practice is the resulting efforts of knowledgeable and experienced industry volunteers to provide an effective, clear, and non-exclusive standard that will benefit the industry as a whole. This MSS Standard Practice describes minimal requirements and is intended as a basis for common practice by the manufacturer, the user, and the industry at large. It is the responsibility of the user of this Standard Practice to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory requirements prior to use. The existence of an MSS Standard Practice does not in itself preclude the manufacture, sale, or use of products not conforming to the Standard Practice. Mandatory conformance to this Standard Practice is established only by reference in other documents such as a code, specification, sales contract, or public law, as applicable. MSS has no power, nor does it undertake, to enforce or certify compliance with this document. Any certification or other statement of compliance with the requirements of this Standard Practice shall not be attributable to MSS and is solely the responsibility of the certifier or maker of the statement.

*“Unless indicated otherwise within this MSS Standard Practice, other standards documents referenced to herein are identified by the date of issue that was applicable to this Standard Practice at the date of approval of this MSS Standard Practice (see Annex A). This Standard Practice shall remain silent on the validity of those other standards of prior or subsequent dates of issue even though applicable provisions may not have changed.”*

By publication of this Standard Practice, no position is taken with respect to the validity of any potential claim(s) or of any patent rights in connection therewith. MSS shall not be held responsible for identifying any patent rights. Users are expressly advised that determination of patent rights and the risk of infringement of such rights are entirely their responsibility.

For all MSS Standard Practices, the term “shall” means “must” and “shall not” means “must not”.

In this Standard Practice, all text, notes, annexes, tables, figures, and references are construed to be “normative” and essential to understand the standard’s message. All appendices, footnotes, or other information denoted as “supplemental”, that may be included within this Standard Practice, DO NOT include mandatory or normative requirements.

The U.S. customary units and SI (metric) units in this Standard Practice are regarded separately as the standard; each should be used independently of the other. Combining or converting values between the two systems may result in non-conformance with this Standard Practice.

**This Standard Practice has been substantially revised from the previous 2014 edition. It is suggested that if the user is interested in knowing what changes have been made, that direct page by page comparison should be made of this document and that of the previous edition.**

Non-toleranced dimensions in this Standard Practice are nominal unless otherwise specified.

*Excerpts of this Standard Practice may be quoted with written permission. Credit lines should read ‘Extracted from MSS SP-95-2018 with permission of the publisher, Manufacturers Standardization Society of the Valve and Fittings Industry’. Reproduction and/or electronic transmission or dissemination is prohibited under copyright convention unless written permission is granted by the Manufacturers Standardization Society of the Valve and Fittings Industry, Inc. All rights reserved.*

Originally Approved: March 1986

Originally Published: June 1986

Current Edition Approved: November 2018

Current Edition Published: December 2018

MSS is a registered trademark of Manufacturers Standardization Society of the Valve and Fittings Industry, Inc.

Copyright ©, 2018 by  
Manufacturers Standardization Society  
of the  
Valve and Fittings Industry, Inc.  
Printed in U.S.A.

## FOREWORD

This document establishes a Standard Practice for Swaged (also known as Swage) Nipples and Bull Plugs, produced for a number of years by various manufacturers to varying dimensions, although basically similar in principle. Users should note that Swaged Nipples, and Bull Plugs furnished from existing stocks may have slightly different dimensions than shown herein.

The values stated in either inch units or metric units are to be regarded separately as the standard. The values stated in each system are not exact equivalents and must be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard. Within the text, the SI (metric) units are shown in parenthesis or within applicable tables.

Table 1 through Table 3 shows fittings with dimensional requirements and tolerances in U.S. customary (i.e., inch) units. Table 1M through Table 3M show the dimensional fitting requirements and tolerances in SI (metric) (i.e., millimeter) units.

**GENERAL NOTE:** The drawings included within this Standard Practice are for the purpose of illustration only and are not intended to exclude or limit any other design meeting this Standard Practice.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**SECTION**

1	SCOPE .....	1
2	PRESSURE RATINGS .....	1
3	SIZE .....	1
4	MARKING .....	2
5	MATERIAL .....	2
6	DIMENSIONS .....	2
7	END PREPARATION .....	3
8	SURFACE QUALITY .....	3
9	DESIGN PROOF TESTING .....	3
10	TESTING .....	4

**TABLE**

1	Swaged Nipple Dimensions – U.S. Customary .....	6
2	Bull Plug Dimensions – U.S. Customary .....	8
3	Tolerances – U.S. Customary .....	9
1M	Swaged Nipple Dimensions – SI (Metric) .....	10
2M	Bull Plug Dimensions – SI (Metric) .....	12
3M	Tolerances – SI (Metric) .....	13

**ANNEX**

A	Referenced Standards and Applicable Dates .....	14
---	---	----

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

Manufacturers Standardization Society of the Valve and Fittings Industry

## SWAGE(D) NIPPLES AND BULL PLUGS

### 1. SCOPE

1.1 This Standard Practice covers dimensions, finish, tolerances, marking, and material for carbon steel and alloy steel Swaged<sup>(a)</sup> Nipples (male-end reducing fittings), NPS 1/8 through NPS 12 (DN 6 through DN 300) and Bull Plugs (hollow or solid male closures), NPS 1/8 through NPS 12 (DN 6 through DN 300). These fittings are made with ends that are threaded, beveled, square cut, grooved, or any combination of these. Both concentric and eccentric Swaged Nipples are included.

1.2 **Partial Compliance Fittings** Fittings with special dimensions and fittings made from non-standard materials may be designed and manufactured by agreement between the manufacturer and the purchaser, provided they are marked in accordance with the requirements for partial compliance fittings of Section 4.1(e).

### 2. PRESSURE RATINGS

2.1 The allowable working pressure for fittings designed in accordance with this Standard Practice shall be calculated as for straight seamless pipe of equal end preparation, in accordance with the applicable sections of ASME B31.1, Power Piping, or ASME B31.3, Process Piping. The pipe wall thickness and type material shall be that for which the fittings have been ordered. Fittings shall be identified by pipe wall thickness and material grade in lieu of pressure rating.

2.2 The design of fittings may be established by mathematical analyses contained in nationally recognized pressure vessel or piping codes, or at the manufacturer's option, by proof testing in accordance with Section 9. Records of design or successful proof tests shall be available at the manufacturer's facility for inspection by the purchaser. Bull Plugs shall meet the additional requirement that the minimum thickness of the head shall be at least 1.5 times the thickness of the corresponding pipe schedule. For Bull Plugs that are drilled and tapped, the minimum thickness of the head shall be increased to accommodate the minimum L2 thread length as specified in ASME B1.20.1.

### 3. SIZE

3.1 Within this Standard Practice, Bull Plug size is identified by its nominal pipe size (NPS). Swaged Nipples are also indicated by NPS and are further identified with the large end size listed first, followed by the small end size (see Section 4.1d). NPS is related to the reference nominal diameter, DN, used in international standards. The relationship is as shown in the chart below:

NPS	DN	NPS	DN	NPS	DN
1/8	6	1¼	6	4	100
1/4	8	1½	8	5	125
3/8	10	2	10	6	150
1/2	15	2½	15	8	200
3/4	20	3	20	10	250
1	25	3½	25	12	300

**NOTE:** (a) Both "Swage" and "Swaged" are used within Industry terminology. Only "Swaged" is used in the body of this Standard Practice.