



## Knowledge Bites

### A Guide to RBM Material Codes

#### Wire Rod

The structure of a Wire Rod material code contains 5 separate segments.

Product	=	2 Alpha Characters
Grade	=	5 Alpha/Numeric Characters
Diameter	=	3 Numeric Characters
Bundle Size	=	1 Alpha Character
Production Status	=	2 Numeric Characters

For all Wire Rod grades the **Product** code element is designated as **WA**.

The **Grade** element consists of 5 characters and can be a number of possible values. The most frequently produced in the RBM are....

Z0852	NK08L1	Mild Steel Coil / Standard Mesh Grade
Z1052	NK10L1	Mild Steel Coil / Standard Mesh Grade
L06CA	K06	Low Carbon Wire Rod / Basic Drawing Grade
L06CB	K06	Low Carbon Wire Rod / Basic Drawing Grade
C1816	K18C	16/18 Carbon Wire Rod / Basic Drawing Grade

The RBM is capable of producing wire rod in a diameter range of 5.5mm through to 18.0mm at half millimetre steps i.e. 5.5mm, 6.0mm, 6.5mm, 7.0mm, 7.5mm etc.

The **Diameter** element of the material code consists of three digits, the third digit being the single decimal place. Note there is no decimal point in the material code.

There are a number of predetermined codes with the SAP system. The next two elements fall into this category.

The **Bundle Size** for the RBM is categorised as **S** indicating standard coil (we currently do not use any other indicators for differing size/weight coils). The **Production Status** for the RBM can be either **000** indicating the term 'usual' and referring to an acceptable standard or presentation of the coil, or **900** which indicates a multiple end coil, normally a seconds grade coil.

So, let's review what we have learnt here. Our good friends at Barnfather use our K06 grade in 5.5mm. Putting together the elements of the Material Code as such.....

Product	Grade	Diameter	Bundle Size	Production Status
'WA'	'L06CB'	'055'	'S'	'000'

.....gives us "WAL06CB055S000".

Look out for the follow up to this guide which will cover our foray into the Medium Carbon grades.