



Designation: C515 – 13 (Reapproved 2018)

Standard Specification for Chemical-Resistant Ceramic Tower Packings¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C515; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers fired ceramic shapes formed from naturally occurring clays and from compounded bodies that are used as packing in tower installations. These ceramic units are designed primarily for use in process equipment for the chemical or allied industries.

1.2 The physical and chemical properties that affect quality of packing materials are covered in this specification. Properties that affect actual operational efficiency or characteristics of processing towers are not covered.

1.3 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

1.4 The following precautionary statement pertains to the test method portion only, Section 7, of this standard. *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.5 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

C279 Specification for Chemical-Resistant Masonry Units
C373 Test Methods for Determination of Water Absorption and Associated Properties by Vacuum Method for Pressed Ceramic Tiles and Glass Tiles and Boil Method for

Extruded Ceramic Tiles and Non-tile Fired Ceramic
Whiteware Products
E4 Practices for Force Verification of Testing Machines

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 *tower packing*—a term covering variously shaped ceramic pieces such as spheres, cylindrical rings with either normal or angular ends, rings with included obstructions, perforated cylinders, and curved saddles. These shapes are used within columns or towers to provide inert surfaces for promotion of energy transfer or chemical reaction between liquids and liquids, gases and liquids, and gases and gases.

3.1.1.1 *Discussion—Clay:* An earthy or stony mineral aggregate consisting, essentially of hydrous silicates of alumina, plastic when sufficiently pulverized and wetted, rigid when dry, and vitreous when fired at a sufficiently high temperature.

3.1.2 *chemical stoneware tower packing*—pieces manufactured from specially compounded bodies consisting of clays and other minerals, of natural origin.

3.1.3 *chemical porcelain tower packing*—pieces manufactured from specially compounded bodies, consisting of refined clays and other naturally occurring minerals. These pieces are characteristically smooth-textured, vitreous, and white or light gray in color.

4. Shapes, Sizes, and Quantities

4.1 The number of dumped pieces of cylindrical-type packing per cubic foot shall conform to the requirements for each size of rings, packings, and saddles as specified in Table 1, Table 2, and Table 3 or as negotiated between customer and supplier.

5. Tolerances for Rings

5.1 *Dimensional Accuracy*—The average outside diameter and average length shall be within $\pm 5\%$ of specified size for 80 % of a lot, and within $\pm 10\%$ of specified size for 100 % of a lot.

5.2 Measurement of the ring shall be made with calipers, avoiding flashes, protrusions, and obviously defective areas. The average outside diameter shall be determined as one half the sum of the maximum and minimum outside diameters. The

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D32 on Catalysts and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D32.02 on Physical-Mechanical Properties.

Current edition approved May 1, 2018. Published May 2018. Originally approved in 1963. Last previous edition approved in 2013 as C515 – 13. DOI: 10.1520/C0515-13R18.

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.