



Designation: D7862 – 18

Standard Specification for Butanol for Blending with Gasoline for Use as Automotive Spark-Ignition Engine Fuel¹

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1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers butanol intended to be blended with gasoline at 1 % to 12.5 % by volume for use as an automotive spark-ignition engine fuel.

1.1.1 Butanol contains 22 % by mass oxygen. The mass percent of oxygen of a butanol blend with gasoline depends on the volume percent of butanol blended, the density of the butanol isomer, and the density of the base blendstock.

1.1.2 The maximum limit on blending is not a performance limit but a current regulatory limit in the United States.

1.2 This specification covers three butanol isomers: 1-butanol, 2-butanol, and 2-methyl-1-propanol. This specification specifically excludes 2-methyl-2-propanol (that is, *tert*-butyl alcohol).

1.2.1 *Tert*-butyl alcohol has different physical properties (melting point, water miscibility) than the other three isomers.

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.4 *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.*

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products, Liquid Fuels, and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.A0 on Gasoline and Oxygenated Fuels.

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2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:²

- D381 Test Method for Gum Content in Fuels by Jet Evaporation
- D1298 Test Method for Density, Relative Density, or API Gravity of Crude Petroleum and Liquid Petroleum Products by Hydrometer Method
- D1613 Test Method for Acidity in Volatile Solvents and Chemical Intermediates Used in Paint, Varnish, Lacquer, and Related Products
- D2622 Test Method for Sulfur in Petroleum Products by Wavelength Dispersive X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry
- D3120 Test Method for Trace Quantities of Sulfur in Light Liquid Petroleum Hydrocarbons by Oxidative Microcoulometry
- D4052 Test Method for Density, Relative Density, and API Gravity of Liquids by Digital Density Meter
- D4057 Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products
- D4175 Terminology Relating to Petroleum Products, Liquid Fuels, and Lubricants
- D4177 Practice for Automatic Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products
- D4306 Practice for Aviation Fuel Sample Containers for Tests Affected by Trace Contamination
- D4814 Specification for Automotive Spark-Ignition Engine Fuel
- D5453 Test Method for Determination of Total Sulfur in Light Hydrocarbons, Spark Ignition Engine Fuel, Diesel Engine Fuel, and Engine Oil by Ultraviolet Fluorescence
- D5854 Practice for Mixing and Handling of Liquid Samples of Petroleum and Petroleum Products
- D6299 Practice for Applying Statistical Quality Assurance and Control Charting Techniques to Evaluate Analytical

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.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard

Measurement System Performance

- D7319 Test Method for Determination of Existent and Potential Sulfate and Inorganic Chloride in Fuel Ethanol and Butanol by Direct Injection Suppressed Ion Chromatography
- D7875 Test Method for Determination of Butanol and Acetone Content of Butanol for Blending with Gasoline by Gas Chromatography
- D7923 Test Method for Water in Ethanol and Hydrocarbon Blends by Karl Fischer Titration
- E29 Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications
- E203 Test Method for Water Using Volumetric Karl Fischer Titration
- E300 Practice for Sampling Industrial Chemicals
- E1064 Test Method for Water in Organic Liquids by Coulometric Karl Fischer Titration

3. Terminology

3.1 For general terminology, refer to Terminology D4175.

NOTE 1—The user is advised that the definitions used by various industries, marketers, and regulatory bodies can differ from those specific to this specification. It is the responsibility of the user to ensure that the terms used in a particular context are clearly understood.

3.2 Definitions:

3.2.1 *gasoline, n*—a volatile mixture of liquid hydrocarbons, generally containing small amounts of additives, suitable for use as a fuel in spark-ignition, internal combustion engines. **D4814**

3.2.2 *oxygenate, n*—an oxygen-containing, ashless, organic compound, such as an alcohol or ether, which may be used as a fuel or fuel supplement. **D4814**

3.3 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.3.1 *butanol, n*—butanol or butyl alcohol refers to 1-butanol, 2-butanol, and 2-methyl 1-propanol, three isomeric alcohols with the molecular formula C₄H₉OH, either individually or as mixtures.

4. Performance Requirements

4.1 *Butanol*—Butanol shall conform to the requirements shown in Table 1 at the time of blending with a gasoline. (See Note 2.)

NOTE 2—Commercial processes used to manufacture butanol from biological feedstock typically yield some fusel oil or alcohols such as pentanol and other higher alcohols.

4.1.1 For purposes of determining conformance with these specification limits, an observed value or a calculated value shall be rounded “to the nearest unit” in the right-most significant digit used in expressing the specification limit, in accordance with the rounding method of Practice E29. For a specification limit expressed as an integer, a trailing zero is significant only if the decimal point is specified. For a specified limit expressed as an integer, and the right-most digit is non-zero, the right-most digit is significant without a decimal point being specified. This convention applies to specified limits in Table 1 and will not be observed in the remainder of this specification.

4.2 *Other Properties*—Limits more restrictive than those specified above, or the specification of additional properties such as color, may be agreed upon between the supplier and the purchaser.

5. Workmanship

5.1 At the point of custody transfer, the butanol shall be visually free of sediment, suspended and undissolved matter. It shall be clear and bright at the fuel temperature at the point of custody transfer or at a lower temperature agreed upon by the purchaser and seller.

NOTE 3—Fuel components should be resistant to phase separation or undissolved matter at the lowest temperatures to which it is likely to be subjected, dependent on the time and place of its intended use. See Specification D4814, Table X7.1 for guidance.

NOTE 4—Solubility is temperature dependent. As this fuel component cools, water and some high molecular weight additives can become insoluble.

5.2 The product shall be free of any adulterant or contaminant that can render the material unacceptable for its commonly used applications.

5.2.1 Manufacturers and importers of butanol shall avoid butanol contaminated by silicon-containing materials. Silicon contamination of gasoline-oxygenate blends has led to fouled vehicle components (for example, spark plugs, exhaust oxygen sensors, catalytic converters) requiring parts replacement and repairs.

5.2.2 Manufacturers and importers of butanol shall avoid butanol contaminated by acetone. Acetone contamination of

TABLE 1 Requirements

Property	Limit	Method
Butanol, % by volume, min	94.0	D7875
1-butanol, % by volume	Report	D7875
2-butanol, % by volume	Report	D7875
2-methyl 1-propanol, % by volume	Report	D7875
Ethanol, % by volume, max	1.0	D7875
Methanol, % by volume, max	0.4	D7875
Water content, % by volume, max	1.0	D7923, E203, or E1064
Acidity (as acetic acid CH ₃ COOH), % by mass (mg/L), max	0.007 (56)	D1613
Inorganic Chloride, mg/kg (mg/L), max	8 (6)	D7319
Solvent-washed gum, mg/100 mL, max	5.0	D381
Sulfur, mg/kg, max	30.	D2622, D5453
Existent sulfate, mg/kg, max	4.	D7319