



Designation: E1542 – 20

Standard Terminology Relating to Occupational Health and Safety¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E1542; 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 terminology standard provides a compilation of consensus definitions of terms used in ASTM occupational safety and health standards.

1.2 This terminology standard does not purport to be an exhaustive lexicon. Rather it defines terms relevant to occupational health and safety.

1.3 *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.*

1.4 *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

[E1132 Practice for Health Requirements Relating to Occupational Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica](#)

[E2349 Practice for Safety Requirements in Metal Casting Operations: Sand Preparation, Molding, and Core Making; Melting and Pouring; and Cleaning and Finishing](#)

[E2350 Guide for Integration of Ergonomics/Human Factors into New Occupational Systems](#)

[E2523 Terminology for Metalworking Fluids and Operations](#)

[E2875 Guide for Personal Protective Equipment for the Handling of Flat Glass](#)

¹ This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E34 on Occupational Health and Safety and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E34.01 on Terminology.

Current edition approved Jan. 1, 2020. Published January 2020. Originally approved in 1993. Last previous edition approved in 2018 as E1542 – 18. DOI: 10.1520/E1542-20.

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.

3. Terminology

3.1 Health and safety terms specific to metalworking fluids and the metalworking environment are found in Terminology [E2523](#).

3.2 *Generic Terms and Their Definitions:*

3.2.1 *ceiling limit*—an exposure which shall not be exceeded during any part of the workday. If instantaneous monitoring is not feasible, then the ceiling limit shall be assessed as a 15-min time-weighted average exposure which shall not be exceeded at any time over a working day, except for substances which cause immediate irritation upon short exposure.

3.2.2 *occupational exposure limit XXXXX, “generic”*—the maximum time-weighted average (TWA) concentration to which nearly all workers may be repeatedly subjected for a normal 8- to 10-h workday, 40-h workweek, without known adverse health effects.

3.2.3 *short-term exposure limit (STEL)*—the 15-min time-weighted average exposure which shall not be exceeded at any time during a workday, even if the occupational exposure limit is not exceeded. Exposures above the occupational exposure limit up to the STEL should not be longer than 15 min and should not occur more than four times per day. The minimum interval between these exposures should be 60 min.

3.2.3.1 *Discussion*—The phrase “nearly all workers” only excludes those who are hypersensitive to substance exposure or who have known medical conditions which may be aggravated by substance exposure. Thus, most workers are included in the group in which no adverse health effects are expected. The phrase “a normal 8- to 10-h workday, 40-h workweek” refers to the type of work being done, that is, what is usually done from one week to the next or one day to the next. It does not refer to length of working time as being the major consideration.

The following specified periods of time must be addressed either by determining a value or by stating the “time” is not addressed:

- (1) Workday (number of hours specified),
- (2) Workweek (number of hours specified),
- (3) Lifetime (that is, cumulative), and
- (4) Very short-term maximum (for example, short-term exposure limit, ceiling, etc.).

Other specified periods of time *may* be addressed.

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

3.3 Terminology Based on Existing E34 Standards:

3.3.1 *adjustable barrier guard*, *n*—physical barrier with adjustable sections that is designed to prevent entry of any part of the body into the hazard zone by reaching through, over, under, or around the barrier. **E2349**

3.3.2 *bail/spreader*, *n*—hoop or arched connection between the crane hook and ladle or between crane hook and ladle trunnions. **E2349**

3.3.3 *blast*, *n*—*in foundry operations*, air or oxygen-enriched air that is blown under pressure into a cupola for supporting combustion. **E2349**

3.3.4 *blast compartment*, *n*—that portion of the blasting enclosure that contains the blasting media propulsion device. **E2349**

3.3.5 *blow plate*, *n*—plate affixed to the magazine or blow head of a core- or mold-blowing machine, having holes or slots through which sand or other media in the magazine or blow head passes into the core or mold cavity or around the pattern when air or other gas pressure is applied to the machine. **E2349**

3.3.6 *bottom discharge (pour, tap) ladle*, *n*—ladle that has its molten metal contents discharged through an opening in the bottom. **E2349**

3.3.7 *channel furnace*, *n*—electric induction furnace in which heat is electrically induced in the metal in a refractory channel. **E2349**

3.3.8 *charge*, *n*—*in foundry operations*, material introduced into a melting furnace for the production of molten metal. **E2349**

3.3.9 *core*, *n*—*in foundry operations*, preformed aggregate or collapsible insert placed in a mold to shape the interior or that part of a casting that cannot be shaped by the pattern. **E2349**

3.3.10 *core binder(s)*, *n*—any material, liquid or solid, which is used to bond core aggregates. **E2349**

3.3.11 *corebox*, *n*—a (wood, metal, or plastic) structure, the cavity of which has the shape of the desired core that is to be made therein. **E2349**

3.3.12 *coreless furnace*, *n*—electric induction furnace consisting of an induction coil surrounding a crucible or refractory lining in which metal is melted or molten metal is retained. **E2349**

3.3.13 *core- or mold-blowing or shooting machine*, *n*—machine for injecting sand or other media into the core or mold cavity by means of compressed air or other gas. **E2349**

3.3.14 *crane ladle*, *n*—ladle handled by an overhead crane. **E2349**

3.3.15 *crucible*, *n*—*in foundry operations*, container used for the melting, holding, and pouring of metal. **E2349**

3.3.16 *cupola*, *n*—*in foundry operations*, vertical shaft-type furnace for melting and/or producing molten metal by combusting coke or other fuels using a blast, and possibly additional pure oxygen, that is introduced through the cupola tuyeres. **E2349**

3.3.17 *cupola drop*, *n*—materials dropped from the cupola at the end of a heat. **E2349**

3.3.18 *direct arc furnace*, *n*—furnace in which heat is produced by an electric arc between electrodes and the charge. **E2349**

3.3.19 *drop area*, *n*—*in foundry operations*, the area directly under the cupola that receives the hot bed coke or other hot materials from the inside of the furnace when the bottom doors or side access door are opened. **E2349**

3.3.20 *drop zone*, *n*—the zone adjacent to the drop area that is exposed to drop hazards during the dropping process. **E2349**

3.3.21 *dross*, *n*—metal oxides or foreign matter, or both, that accumulates on the surface of nonferrous molten metal. **E2349**

3.3.22 *finishing*, *v*—attainment of a desired surface finish or finish characteristics by such means as abrasive impingement, grinding, or polishing. **E2349**

3.3.23 *fixed barrier guard*, *n*—securely attached physical barrier, not readily removable, that prevents entry of any part of the body into the hazard zone by reaching through, over, under, or around the barrier. **E2349**

3.3.24 *flame detector*, *n*—device which senses the absence or presence of flame, for the purpose of controlling fuel line valves. **E2349**

3.3.25 *flask*, *n*—container, without top or bottom, used to contain the sand or other media while it is being formed. It is made in two or more parts; the lower part is called the “drag” and the upper part is called the “cope.” Intermediate sections, if any, are called “cheeks.” **E2349**

3.3.26 *flask lifting device*, *n*—chains, rods, bails, cables, slings, and other materials used to support a load such as a flask for turning, inverting, or transporting. **E2349**

3.3.27 *flat glass*, *n*—general term covering glass in its annealed state, such as sheet glass, lite of glass, float glass, various forms of rolled glass, and raw products derived from glass. **E2875**

3.3.27.1 *Discussion*—This definition is not intended to apply to heat-tempered or laminated glass products. With heat-tempered or laminated glass products, refer to your local risk assessment.

3.3.28 *fuel-fired equipment (enclosed)*, *n*—specially heated chamber such as core oven, drying oven, thermal sand reclamation, sand heater, or annealing oven. **E2349**

3.3.29 *gas handling system*, *n*—the collective group of equipment that draws cupola gas from the furnace. **E2349**

3.3.30 *heat*, *n*—*in foundry operations*, stated weight of metal obtained from a period of melting in a cupola or furnace or the time required to melt and process this material. **E2349**

3.3.31 *indirect arc furnace*, *n*—furnace in which heat is produced by an electric arc between electrodes. **E2349**

3.3.32 *jamming (hooking)*, *v*—jamming (hooking) occurs when the work rest becomes improperly adjusted to such an extent that the work piece is pulled between the abrasive wheel and the leading edge of the work rest by the grinding action of the wheel, resulting in possible injury to personnel. **E2349**