



Designation: ~~F1383 – 12~~^{ε1} F1383 – 20

Standard Test Method for Permeation of Liquids and Gases Through Protective Clothing Materials Under Conditions of Intermittent Contact¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F1383; 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 reappraisal. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

^{ε1} NOTE – Editorially corrected 8.8.1 in February 2015.

INTRODUCTION

Workers involved in the production, use, and transportation of liquid and gaseous chemicals can be exposed to numerous compounds capable of causing harm upon contact with the human body. The deleterious health effects of these chemicals can range from acute trauma such as skin irritation and burn, to chronic degenerative disease ~~such as~~ and mutagenic conditions, including cancer. Since engineering controls may not eliminate all possible exposures, attention is often placed on reducing the potential for direct skin contact through the use of protective clothing that resists permeation, penetration, and degradation.

This test method is used to measure the resistance to permeation under the condition of intermittent contact of the protective clothing material with liquid or gaseous chemicals. Resistance to permeation and penetration under conditions of continuous contact should be determined by Test Methods **F739** and **F903**, respectively. In certain situations, the permeation of liquids through protective clothing materials can be measured using a permeation cup following Test Method F1407. An undesirable change in the physical properties of protective clothing materials is called degradation. Methods for measuring the degradation of rubbers, plastics, and coated ~~fabrics~~ materials are found in Test Methods Method D471, Test Method Practice D543, and Test Method **D751**, respectively. A starting point for selecting the chemicals to be used in assessing the chemical resistance of clothing materials

<https://www.astm.org/catalog/standards/sist/6174f58f-a3eb-435a-a80e-326a3f148ab5/astm-f1383-20>

1. Scope

1.1 This test method measures the permeation of liquids and gases through protective clothing materials under the condition of intermittent contact.

1.2 This test method is designed for use when the test chemical is a gas or a ~~liquid~~ liquid, where the liquid is either volatile (that is, having a vapor pressure greater than 1 mm Hg at ~~25°C~~ 25 °C) or soluble in water or another liquid that does not interact with the clothing material.

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to inch-pound units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **F23** on Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **F23.30** on Chemicals.

Current edition approved ~~Sept. 1, 2012~~ Nov. 1, 2020. Published ~~October 2012~~ November 2020. Originally approved in 1992. Last previous edition approved in ~~2011~~ 2012 as ~~F1383 – 11~~ F1383 – 12. DOI: ~~10.1520/F1383-12E01~~ 10.1520/F1383-20.

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~~ safety, health, and healthenvironmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use. Specific hazard statements are given in Section 7.

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

D471 Test Method for Rubber Property—Effect of Liquids

D543 Practices for Evaluating the Resistance of Plastics to Chemical Reagents

D751 Test Methods for Coated Fabrics

D1777 Test Method for Thickness of Textile Materials

E105 Practice for Probability Sampling of Materials

~~E177~~E171/E171M Practice for Conditioning and Testing Flexible Barrier Packaging

E177 Practice for Use of the Terms Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods

E691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method

F739 Test Method for Permeation of Liquids and Gases Through Protective Clothing Materials Under Conditions of Continuous Contact

F903 Test Method for Resistance of Materials Used in Protective Clothing to Penetration by Liquids

F1001 Guide for Selection of Chemicals to Evaluate Protective Clothing Materials

F1194 Guide for Documenting the Results of Chemical Permeation Testing of Materials Used in Protective Clothing

F1407 Test Method for Resistance of Chemical Protective Clothing Materials to Liquid Permeation—Permeation Cup Method

F1494 Terminology Relating to Protective Clothing

2.2 ISO Standard:

~~ISO 6529 Protective Clothing—Determination of Resistance of Protective Clothing Materials to Permeation by Liquids and Gases³~~

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *analytical technique, n*—a procedure whereby the concentration of the test chemical in a collection medium is quantitatively determined.

3.1.1.1 *Discussion*—<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/6174f58f-a3eb-435a-a80e-326a3f148ab5/astm-f1383-20>

These procedures are often specific to individual chemical and collection medium combinations. Applicable techniques can include, but are not limited to: flame ionization, photo ionization, electro-chemical, ultraviolet, and infrared spectrophotometry, gas and liquid chromatography, colorimetry, length-of-stain detector tubes, and radionuclide tagging/detection counting.

3.1.2 *breakthrough detection time, n*—the elapsed time measured from the initial exposure to the test chemical to the sampling time that immediately precedes the sampling time at which the test chemical is first detected. (See Fig. 1.)

3.1.2.1 *Discussion*—

The breakthrough detection time is dependent on the sensitivity of the method. (See Fig. 1 and Appendix X1.)

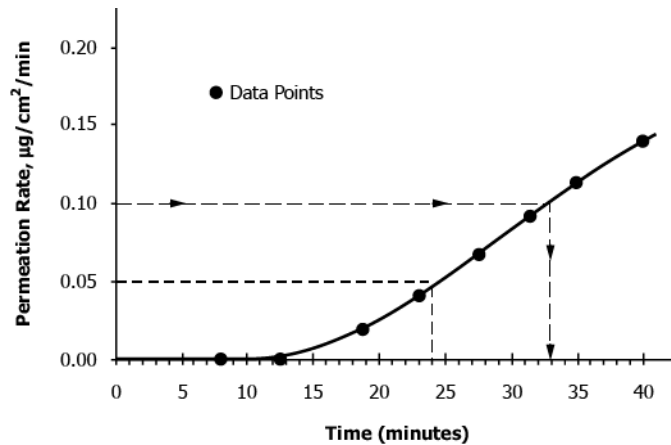
3.1.3 *closed-loop, adj*—refers to a testing mode in which there is no change in the volume of the collection medium except for sampling.

3.1.4 *collection medium, n*—a liquid, gas, or solid that absorbs, adsorbs, dissolves, suspends, or otherwise captures the test chemical and does not affect the measured permeation.

3.1.5 *contact time, n*—in an intermittent contact test, the duration during each cycle that the test chemical side-chamber side of the permeation cell is filled with the test chemical.

3.1.6 *cumulative permeation, n*—the total mass of chemical that permeates a specific area of protective clothing material during a specified time from when the material is first contacted by the test chemical.

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.



NOTE 1—In an intermittent contact test, it is possible that the permeation rate will exceed, then go below, and then again exceed a permeation rate of 0.1 µg/cm²/min. If this occurs, the standardized breakthrough time is the first occurrence of the permeation rate exceeding 0.1 µg/cm²/min.

FIG. 1 The Breakthrough Detection Time for a Method Sensitivity of 0.05 µg/cm²/min is 23.24 min. The Standardized Breakthrough Detection Time is 33 min.

3.1.6.1 Discussion—

Quantification of cumulative permeation enables the comparison of permeation behaviors under different intermittent and continuous contact conditions.

3.1.7 cycle time, *n*—in an intermittent contact test, the interval of time from the start of one contact period to the start of the next contact period.

3.1.8 degradation, *n*—a deleterious change in one or more properties of a material.

3.1.8.1 Discussion—

For protective clothing materials, changes in physical properties are typically of most interest.

3.1.9 minimum detectable mass permeated, *n*—the smallest mass of test chemical that is detectable with the complete permeation test system.

3.1.9.1 Discussion—

This value is not necessarily the sensitivity of the analytical instrument.

3.1.10 minimum detectable permeation rate, *n*—the lowest rate of permeation that is measurable with the complete permeation test system.

3.1.10.1 Discussion—

This value is not necessarily the sensitivity of the analytical instrument.

3.1.11 normalized breakthrough time, *n*—the time at which the permeation rate reaches 1.0 µg/cm²/min.

3.1.12 open-loop, *adj*—refers to a testing mode in which fresh collection medium flows continuously through the collection chamber of the test cell.

3.1.13 penetration, *n*—for chemical protective clothing, the movement of substances—a substance through voids in protective clothing materials or items—material or the protective clothing item on a non-molecular level.

3.1.13.1 Discussion—

Voids include gaps, pores, holes, and imperfections in closures, seams, interfaces, and protective clothing materials. Penetration does not require a change in state; solid chemicals move through voids in materials—as solids, liquids as liquids, and gases as gases. Penetration is a distinctly different mechanism from permeation.

3.1.14 permeation, *n*—for chemical protective clothing, the movement of chemicals—chemical(s) as molecules through protective clothing materials by the processes of: (1) absorption of the chemical into the contact surface of the materials, material, (2) diffusion of the absorbed molecules throughout the material, and (3) desorption of the chemical from the opposite surface of the material.

3.1.14.1 Discussion—

Permeation is a distinctly different mechanism from penetration.

3.1.15 *protective clothing, n*—item of clothing that is specifically designed and constructed for the intended purpose of isolating all or part of the body from a potential hazard; or, isolating the external environment from contamination by the wearer of the clothing.

3.1.16 *purge time, n*—*in an intermittent contact test*, the time immediately following the termination of the contact time when the test chemical is removed from the test chemical side-chamber side and air or nitrogen is blown over the outside surface of the protective clothing material.

3.1.17 *seam, n*—a line along which two pieces of material are joined together in protective clothing.

3.1.17.1 Discussion—

Common ways that seams are constructed include sewing with thread, welding with heat, taping, gluing, or combinations thereof.

3.1.18 *standardized breakthrough time, n*—the first time at which the permeation rate reaches 0.1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2/\text{min}$ (see Fig. 1).

3.1.19 *test chemical, n*—the solid, liquid, gas or mixture thereof, used to evaluate the performance of a protective clothing material.

3.1.19.1 Discussion—

The liquid or gas may be either one component (for example, a neat liquid or gas) or have several components (for example, a mixture). To be tested with this method, a solid must be soluble in a liquid or have a vapor pressure greater than 1 mm Hg at 25 °C.

3.1.20 *volatile liquid, n*—a liquid with a vapor pressure greater than 1 mm Hg at 25 °C.

3.2 For other protective clothing definitions, refer to Terminology [F1494](#).

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 The permeation of chemical(s) through a protective clothing material is assessed by measuring the breakthrough detection time, standardized breakthrough time, normalized breakthrough time, and subsequent permeation rate through replicate specimens of the material intermittently contacted with the chemical.

4.2 In the permeation test apparatus, the protective clothing material specimen partitions the test chemical from the collection medium.

4.2.1 Contact of the test chemical with the clothing material's outside surface is made intermittent by periodically adding and removing the test chemical from the test chemical chamber side of the test cell.

4.2.2 The collection medium is analyzed quantitatively for its concentration of the test chemical ~~and thereby~~ and, thereby, the amount of that chemical that has permeated the ~~barrier~~ protective clothing material specimen as a function of time after its initial contact with the material.

4.2.3 By either graphical representation or appropriate calculations, or both, the breakthrough detection time, the standardized breakthrough time, normalized breakthrough time, and the cumulative permeation of the test chemical are determined.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 This test method is used to measure chemical permeation through specimens of protective clothing under the condition of intermittent contact of a test chemical with the specimen. In many applications, protective clothing is contacted intermittently to chemicals, not continuously as is tested by Test Method [F739](#).

5.2 This test method is normally used to evaluate flat specimens and seams from finished items of protective clothing and of materials that are candidates for items of protective clothing.

5.2.1 Finished items of protective clothing include gloves, ~~arm shields, sleeves, aprons, suits, hats, coveralls, hoods, boots, respirators, and the like.~~

5.2.2 The phrase ~~specimens~~“specimens from finished items/items” encompasses seamed seams or other discontinuous regions as well as ~~the usual~~ continuous regions of protective clothing items.

5.2.3 Selected seams for testing are representative of seams used in the principal construction of the protective clothing item and typically include seams of both the base material and where the base material is joined with other types of materials.

5.3 In some cases, it may be of interest to compare permeation behaviors that occur under conditions of intermittent contact with those that occur during continuous contact. Test Method **F739** is recommended for measuring permeation under the conditions of continuous contact of the test chemical with the protective clothing specimen.

5.4 The breakthrough detection time, standardized breakthrough time, and the cumulative permeation are key measures of the effectiveness of a clothing material as to be a barrier to the test chemical. Such information is used in the comparison of clothing materials during the process of selecting clothing for protection from hazardous chemicals. Long breakthrough detection times and standardized breakthrough times and low amounts of cumulative permeation are characteristics of better barriers, more effective barrier materials than materials with higher permeation characteristics.

NOTE 1—At present, there is limited quantitative information ~~exists~~ about acceptable levels of dermal contact with most chemicals. Therefore, the data obtained using this test method cannot be used to infer safe exposure levels.

5.4.1 The reporting of a standardized breakthrough time greater than a specific time period does not mean that no chemical ~~has~~ permeated through the protective clothing material as since the standard breakthrough time is determined based on the permeation rate reaching a level of 0.1 µg/cm²-min, indicating that some chemical has/min. Some chemical had already permeated the specimen prior to the reported standardized breakthrough time.

5.4.2 Cumulative permeation represents the mass that permeates through a protective clothing material over a specific period of time for a specific surface area of material. It is possible to use this information to model how much chemical can enter an item. The reporting of cumulative permeation over a specified test period is another means to report barrier performance of protective clothing for a particular exposure based on a knowledge of the exposed surface area, the free volume inside the protective clothing item, and amount of air mixing or air exchange for the protective clothing item. resistance to permeation. This measurement quantifies the total amount of chemical that passed through a known area of the material during the specified test period.

NOTE 2—It is possible to relate cumulative permeation test results to the total amount of chemical to which an individual wearer may be exposed by accounting for the exposed surface area and the underlying air layer. This information has potential value when there are known maximum permitted skin exposure doses for specific chemicals.

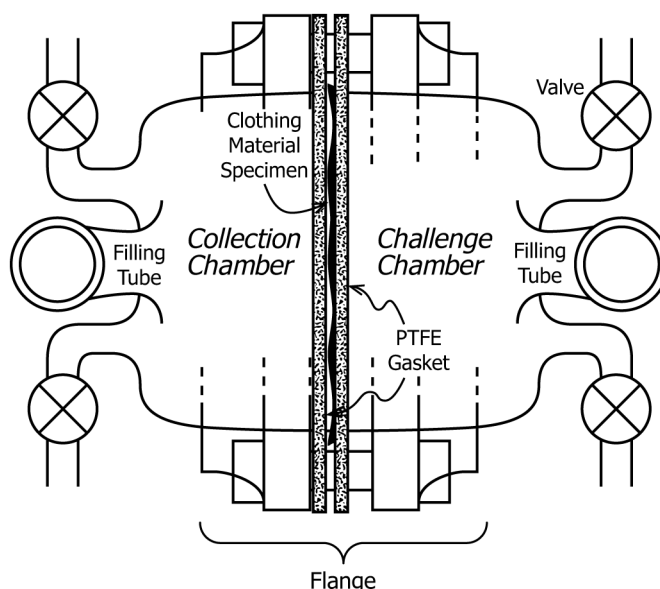
5.5 The sensitivity of the test method in detecting low permeation rates or amounts of the test chemical permeated is determined by the combination of: (1) the analytical technique and collection system selected, and (2) the ratio of material specimen area to collection medium volume or flow rate.

5.5.1 The analytical technique employed ~~should~~shall be capable of measuring the concentration of the test chemical in the collection medium at, at or below, levels below 0.05 µg consistent/cm² with standardized breakthrough time value specified in /min. 3-1-15.

5.5.2 Often, permeation tests will require measurement of the test chemical over several orders of magnitude in concentration, requiring adjustments in either the sample collection volume or concentration/dilution, or the analytical instrument settings over the course of the test.

5.5.3 Higher ratios of material specimen area to collection medium volume or flow rate permit earlier detection of permeation because higher concentrations of the test chemical in the collection medium will develop in a given time period, relative to those that would occur at lower ratios.

5.5.4 The sensitivity of an open-loop system is characterized by its minimum detectable permeation rate. A method for determining this value is presented in **Appendix X1**.



NOTE 1—The clothing material specimen is oriented such that its normally outside surface (as worn by a user) faces the test chemical chamber.

FIG. 23 ASTM Permeation Cell Configured for Intermittent Contact Testing (Top View)

5.5.5 The sensitivity of a closed-loop system is characterized by its minimum detectable mass permeated.

5.6 Comparison of results of tests performed with different permeation test systems requires specific information on the test cell, procedures, contact and purge times, and analytical techniques. Results obtained from closed-loop and open-loop testing may not be directly comparable.

5.7 While this method specifies standardized breakthrough time as the time at which the permeation rate reaches $0.1 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2/\text{min}$, it is acceptable to continue the testing and also report a normalized breakthrough time at a permeation rate of $1.0 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2/\text{min}$.

5.7.1 It is permitted to terminate tests early if there is catastrophic permeation of the chemical through the protective clothing material and the rate of permeation could overwhelm the capability of the selected analytical technique.

5.8 A group of chemicals that is recommended for use commonly used in permeation testing is given in Guide F1001.

5.9 Guide F1194 provides a recommended approach for reporting permeation test results.

6. Apparatus

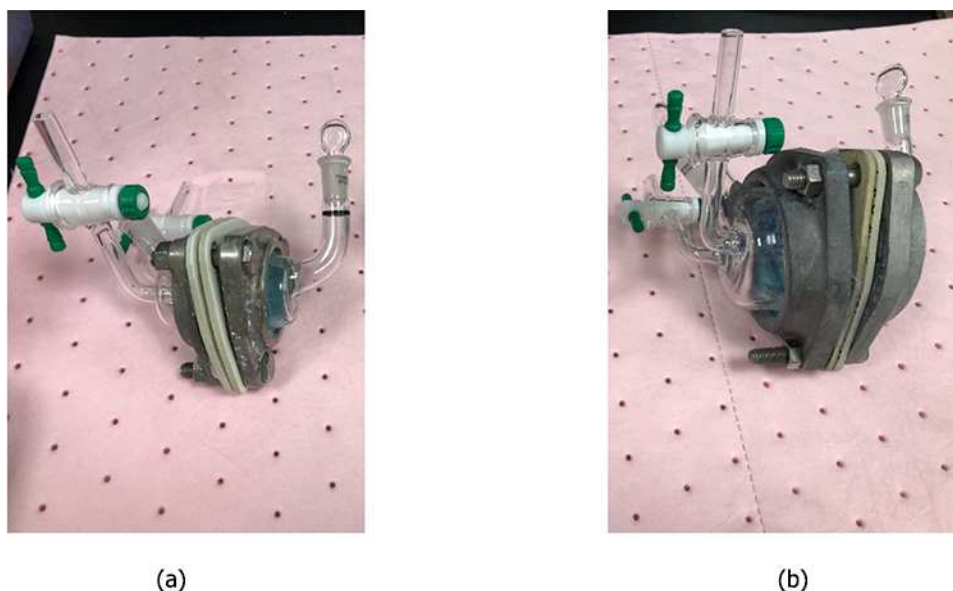
6.1 *Thickness Gauge*, suitable for measuring thicknesses to the nearest 0.02 mm (or the nearest 0.001 in.), as specified in Test Method D1777, shall be used to determine the thickness of each protective clothing material specimen tested.

6.2 *Analytical Balance*, readable and reproducible to $\pm 0.5 \text{ mg}$, shall be used to determine weight per unit area of each test specimen.

6.3 *Test Cell*—The test apparatus consists of a two-chambered cell for contacting the specimen with the test chemical on the specimen's normally outside surface and with a collection medium on the specimen's normal inside surface. See Fig. 2.

NOTE 3—Use of a 2 in. (50 mm) diameter cell (Fig. 2(b)) is preferred over a 1 in. (25 mm) diameter cell (Fig. 2(a)) due to higher ratios of material specimen surface area to collection medium volume.

NOTE 4—Select test cell based on the challenge chemical and most appropriate analytical method.



NOTE 1—In each image, the closed chamber is on the right and the flow chamber is on the left of the assembly.

FIG. 2 Test Cell Setup—(a) 1 in. Diameter Cell; (b) 2 in. Diameter Cell

6.3.1 The test cell, chambers are as shown in Fig. 2, is constructed of two sections of straight glass pipe, each nominally sized to a 25.4 mm (1.0 in.) diameter of two types: Materials other than glass may be used. Such materials would be required for tests involving chemicals (for example, hydrofluoric acid), which are incompatible with glass. The section that is designated to contain the test chemical is 25.4 mm (1.0 in.) in length. The second section, which is designated to contain the collection medium, is 32 mm (1.2 in.) or less in length.

6.3.1.1 *Closed Chamber*—The closed chamber contains a fixed volume of liquid and a straight bore, standard taper spout for adding challenge chemical or collection medium. Small volumes of collection medium may be removed with or without replacement for analysis. The 1 in. closed chamber is 23 mm (0.917 in.) in length and 25.3 mm (1.0 in.) internal diameter (see Fig. 2(a)). The internal volume of the closed chamber is 17.1 mL. The 2 in. closed chamber is 22.0 mm (0.87 in.) in length and 50 mm (2.0 in.) internal diameter (see Fig. 2(b)). The internal volume of the closed chamber is 48 mL.

6.3.1.2 *Flow Chamber*—The flow chamber has inlet and outlet ports with valves through which a challenge chemical or a collection medium flows during the test. The flow chamber is used for continuously passing a gaseous challenge over the normally outside surface of the test specimen, or continuously passing a gaseous or liquid collection medium over the normally inside surface of the test specimen. The 1 in. flow chamber is 31 mm (1.25 in.) in length and 25.3 mm (1.0 in.) internal diameter. The inlet and outlet ports have 4 mm (0.19 in.) internal diameters (see Fig. 2(a)). The internal volume of the flow chamber is 17.8 mL. The 2 in. flow chamber is 35 mm (1.38 in.) in length and 50 mm (2.0 in.) internal diameter. The inlet and outlet ports have 4 mm (0.16 in.) internal diameters (see Fig. 2(b)). The internal volume of the flow chamber is 68.7 mL.

6.3.1.3 The open-open, circular end of each chamber is flared to create a flange that facilitates clamping the chambers together.

6.3.1.4 Inlet and outlet ports with valves, if desired, are added to each chamber to enable the introduction and withdrawal of test chemical and collection medium, if appropriate. The collection medium inlet tube should direct the collection medium directly towards the center of the clothing material specimen. The inside diameter of tubing, ports, stopcocks, etc. should be at least 2 mm (0.08 in.) to prevent undesirable pressure differences in the system. Use chemically inert and non-absorptive test cell parts that contact the test chemical.

NOTE 5—The standard closed and flow chambers are made of glass.³ Test chemicals (for example, hydrofluoric acid) that are corrosive to glass require chambers constructed of alternative materials.

³ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.

³ The test cell as shown in closed and flow chambers are Fig. 2 is available from Pesce Lab Sales, P.O. Box 235, 226 Birch St., Inc. 355 N. Lincoln St, Kennett Square, PA 19348.

~~6.3.1.3 Each chamber may also be equipped with a straight bore, standard taper spout. This spout may be useful for adding and removing test chemical and collection medium. The spouts may also be used to introduce stirrers into the chambers.~~

~~6.3.1.4 Upon assembly, the clothing material is clamped between the two chambers by means of a yoke having at least three bolts.⁶ Two PTFE gaskets having smooth, rounded edges are used at the joint, with the clothing material between them.⁷~~

6.3.2 Select the test cell configuration based on the challenge chemical and most appropriate analytical method.

NOTE 6—The configuration can be of two closed chambers, two flow chambers, or one closed and one flow chamber.

6.3.2.1 When the flow chamber contains the challenge chemical, the chemical is introduced through the longer stem that goes all the way to the end of the chamber. A shorter stem on the side of the test chamber provides the challenge chemical a means of exit from the test chamber. This mode of entry and exit of the challenge chemical aids in mixing of the chemical inside the test chamber. Flow of the challenge chemical must be regulated such that its composition and the concentration do not change over time.

6.3.2.2 The open end of each chamber is flared to create a flange that facilitates clamping the chambers together.

~~6.3.3 Discussion—Additional Information: The bolts shall be tightened with sufficient torque to prevent leakage of the test chemical or the collection medium but avoid damage to the clothing material or the test cell.~~

~~6.3.3.1 Leak-tight—Make leak-tight connections to the collection chamber inlet and outlet tube must be made. In addition, all tubing coming into contact with the test chemical should be made from material that does not absorb or react with the test chemical. Glass, PTFE₂, or stainless steel can be used in most cases. Connections of external tubing to the glass inlet and outlet ports of the test cell chambers can be made by means of PTFE pressure-fit union connectors.~~

6.3.3.2 In closed-loop tests where increased analytical sensitivity is required, use a shorter length chamber to reduce the volume of the collection medium. This increases the sensitivity of the method by increasing the ratio of material specimen area to the collection medium volume. Similarly, use a lower volume test chamber for a high hazardous chemical to minimize the amount of chemical being used for testing.

~~6.3.3.3 In closed-loop tests where increased analytical sensitivity is required, a shorter length of glass pipe may be used to contain the collection medium. This reduces the contained volume and increases the ratio of material specimen area to the collection medium volume. In open-loop tests, lower collection medium flow rates will increase the system sensitivity by lowering the minimum detectable permeation rate. However, these approaches to increasing sensitivity must be achieved within the constraints of having sufficient volumes and mixing rates so as not to interfere with the permeation process.~~

6.3.3.4 Liquid test chemicals that are mixtures must be stirred to minimize concentration gradients. Stirring may be effected by a stirring rod inserted through the fill spout or a magnetic stirrer. If there is not a good seal of the shaft of the rod and the spout, evaporation of the chemical can occur, reducing its volume and potentially changing its composition.

6.3.3.5 For a liquid collection medium that is not circulated, the test cell can consist of two test chambers clamped together, provided that the collection medium can be mixed, withdrawn, and replenished as needed during the test.

6.3.3.6 The test chemical side chamber may be modified to include an additional outlet port (with stopcock) positioned downward opposite the liquid chemical inlet port. Such a modification will facilitate the repeated addition and removal of liquid test chemicals.

6.4 *Alternative Test Cell*—Alternative permeation test cells may be used, provided that the results are reported as prescribed in Section 12. The cell and configuration described above and shown in Fig. 23, however, is the standard. If a different cell is used, it must be documented as described in Section 12.

6.5 *Constant Temperature—Constant-Temperature Chamber or Bath*—Used to maintain the test cell within $\pm 1^\circ\text{C} \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ of the test temperature. The standard temperature for this test is $27^\circ\text{C} \pm 0.27^\circ\text{C}$. Condition all test materials, including the test cells and chemicals, in the chamber(s) of bath(s) prior to testing.

6.6 *Circulating Pump*, if appropriate, used to transport the collection medium ~~and/or test chemical or test chemical, or both,~~ through the test cell. All parts contacting the test chemical or fluid containing it must be chemically inert and non-absorptive to the test chemical. The flow rate must be sufficiently high to provide adequate ~~mixing and/or dilution~~ mixing, dilution, or both within the test cell.

NOTE 7—If a circulating pump is used, care should be taken to avoid inducing pressure which may deform or damage the test specimen.

6.7 *Flow Meter*, ~~Flow meter,~~ used to measure the flow rate of the collection medium through the collection chamber. A calibrated rotameter, or similarly accurate device, ~~may~~ shall be used. The flow rate shall be measured in-line with all system components in place at the start of each test.

6.8 *Thermometer or Thermocouple*, ~~Thermometer or thermocouple,~~ used to measure the temperature of the constant-temperature chamber (or bath) ~~and/or~~ the collection chamber of the test cell. ~~cell, or both. A calibrated device,~~ device accurate to $\pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ ~~must~~ $\pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ shall be used.

7. Hazards

7.1 Before this test method is carried out, safety precautions recommended for handling any potentially hazardous chemical should be identified and reviewed to provide ~~full protection~~ appropriate protective equipment to all personnel.

7.1.1 For carcinogenic, mutagenic, teratogenic, and other toxic (poisonous) chemicals, the work area should be isolated, ~~well-ventilated,~~ well ventilated, and meticulously clean. Involved personnel should be outfitted with appropriate protective clothing and equipment.

7.1.2 For corrosive or otherwise hazardous chemicals, involved personnel ~~should, as a minimum,~~ should be outfitted with appropriate protective clothing and equipment.

7.2 Emergency equipment, such as a safety shower, eye wash, and self-contained breathing apparatus, should be readily accessible from the test area.

7.3 Appropriate procedures for the disposal of the chemicals should be followed.

8. Testing and Analytical Technique Considerations

8.1 Each protective clothing material specimen ~~may~~ shall be permitted to consist of either a single layer or a composite of multiple layers that is representative of ~~an~~ actual protective clothing construction, with all layers arranged in proper order. In each test, the specimen's normally outer surface shall contact the test chemical.

8.1.1 ~~If,~~ If in a ~~proposed design of an item of protective clothing,~~ protective clothing different materials or thicknesses of materials are specified at different locations, specimens from each location shall be tested.

8.1.2 ~~If,~~ If in a ~~proposed design,~~ design of protective clothing seams are specified, ~~used,~~ additional specimens containing such seams shall be tested. Care must be taken to ensure that the test cell can be properly sealed when specimens of nonuniform thickness are tested.

NOTE 8—Use of a 2 in. (50 mm) diameter cell is preferred over a 1 in. (25 mm) diameter cell for this reason.

8.2 Each material specimen to be tested shall have minimum cross dimension of 43 mm (1.7 in.). Sample size is dependent on test cell dimensions. A 51 mm (2 in.) diameter circle is convenient.

8.2.1 For a 2 in. (50 mm) diameter cell, each material specimen to be tested shall have a minimum cross dimension of 68.6 mm (2.7 in.). A 76.2 mm (3 in.) diameter circle is convenient.

8.2.2 For a 1 in. (25 mm) diameter cell, each material specimen to be tested shall have minimum cross dimension of 43 mm (1.7 in.). A 51 mm (2 in.) diameter circle is convenient.

8.2.3 Specimens are permitted to extend beyond the edge of the sealing surface if the larger specimen does not interfere with the ability to seal the test cell.

8.3 A minimum of three random specimens shall be tested. Random specimens shall be generated as described in Practice E105.

8.4 To avoid incidental contamination of exposed surfaces, clean gloves ~~may~~shall be worn when handling specimens.

8.5 To avoid affecting permeation ~~measurements, a~~quantification, the collection medium should not interact with the test ~~material, material~~ and must have adequate capacity for the permeant. To have adequate capacity for the permeant, the collection medium should not exceed 20 % of its saturation concentration from the permeant at any time during the test. For a liquid collection medium, saturation is the maximum solubility or miscibility of the permeant in the liquid at the test temperature. For a gaseous collection medium, saturation is determined by the vapor pressure of the permeant.

8.6 Under conditions in which the test chamber or bath is at a temperature significantly different from that of the test chemical or collection medium that is being introduced into the test cell, the temperature in the test chemical chamber ~~and/or~~or the collection ~~chamber-chamber, or both,~~ should be measured. It may be necessary to ~~pre-condition~~precondition the test chemical or collection medium before it enters ~~into~~ the test cell. Similarly, it may be necessary to maintain the temperature of the collection medium after it leaves the test cell to prevent condensation or precipitation.

8.7 The combination of system configuration, analytical technique, and collection medium shall be selected to allow ~~measurement~~quantification of the test chemical over the range of concentrations that is consistent with 5.5.1, without exceeding the maximum concentration limits within the system as defined in 8.5.

8.7.1 Distilled water is preferred as a collection medium for non-volatile and semi-volatile test chemicals and non-water sensitive protective clothing materials. Consider alternative liquids only when the test chemical does not meet the solubility requirements as described in 8.5, or when the protective clothing material is water sensitive.

8.7.2 Air, nitrogen, and helium are the preferred choices for the collection medium for volatile test chemicals. Consider alternative gases only when these gases interfere with analytical detection of the test chemical. Regardless of the gas used, its purity must be sufficiently high so as not to interfere with the permeation process or the analytical procedure.

8.7.3 In open-loop testing, the system shall have a sensitivity of at least ~~0.1 µg/cm~~0.05 µg/cm²/min. (See Appendix X1.)

8.7.4 In closed-loop testing, the system shall have a minimum sensitivity to detect a permeation rate of ~~0.1 µg µg/cm/cm²/min~~ over a ~~five-minute~~5-min sampling period.

8.8 With the nominal 25 mm diameter cell and in open-loop mode or in closed-loop mode with a circulating collection medium, the minimum flow rate for the collection medium is 100 cm³/min. Higher flow rates are preferred within the constraints imposed by analytical sensitivity, temperature control, and pressure gradients in the system. (A minimum collection medium flow rate of 300 cm³/min is required for a nominal ~~50-mm~~50 mm diameter cell.)

8.8.1 The purpose of agitating/mixing the collection medium is twofold: to ensure that it is homogeneous for sampling and analytical purpose and to prevent or minimize concentration boundary layers of permeant at the interface of the clothing material and the collection medium. The degree of agitation necessary to achieve these objectives is dependent on the permeation rate and the relative solubilities of the test chemical in the clothing material and the collection medium. At this time, sufficient data are not available to specify minimum agitation rates. However, as guidance, in any system in which the collection medium is flowing through the collection chamber, the minimum flow rate should be five chamber volumes per minute. Higher rates may be required for permeants with low solubilities in the collection medium or high permeation rates. High flow rates also result in better mixing in the chamber ~~and consequently~~and, consequently, more uniform samples for analysis. Note, however, that higher flow rates will reduce the sensitivity of the system to the detection of breakthrough. For non-circulating collection medium systems, adequate mixing levels can be determined by preliminary experiments in which the rapidity of the dispersion of a dye is observed.

8.9 Care must be taken so as not to pressurize the test chemical or collection chambers. Overly high pressures may develop at high gas flow rates or as a result of attachments that restrict the flow of gas from the chamber. ~~Tightly-packed~~Tightly packed activated carbon beds or highly restrictive sparger tubes are examples of such attachments. A differential pressure gauge can be used to

measure pressures within the test or collection chamber over the range of expected flow rates by use of a modified chamber having an access port. As a rule of thumb, internal pressures should not exceed ambient pressure by more than 5 %.

8.10 In closed-loop systems with sample withdrawal, replenishment of the collection medium may be necessary to maintain a fixed ratio of collection medium volume to surface area of the test specimen in contact with the collection medium. See 11.4 for calculations related to this issue.

8.11 In cases where samples are withdrawn, analyzed, and returned to the test cell, no provision for volume maintenance is necessary.

9. Conditioning

9.1 Condition each protective clothing material specimen for a minimum of 24 h by exposure to a temperature of $27 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ($81 \pm 4^\circ\text{F}$) $27 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ($81 \pm 4^\circ\text{F}$) and a relative humidity of 30 to 80 % as described in Specification Practice E171/E171M.

9.2 Different types of specimen preconditions are permitted, including repeated flexing or abrasion, on samples from which permeation test specimens are removed. Describe any specific preconditions used in the test report.

10. Procedure

10.1 Measure the thickness of each specimen to the nearest 0.02 mm (or nearest 0.001 in.) at three locations within the area of the specimen that is to be exposed to the test chemical. Calculate the average thickness and record.

10.2 Determine specimen weight per unit area in grams per square centimeter by weighing the specimen on an analytical balance (± 2 mg) and dividing by the area (± 0.4 cm²), and record. ~~This value, along with thickness, is a key characteristic of the material and is needed when comparing the results of permeation testing.~~

NOTE 9—The weight per unit area, along with thickness, is a key characteristic of the material and is helpful when comparing permeation test results.

10.3 Measure and record the inside diameter of the nominal 25 mm diameter opening of the PTFE gasket. Mount the first specimen in the test cell and assemble as shown in Fig. 23 and described in 6.3.1.

10.3.1 Seal the test specimen in the test cell to prevent leakage but to avoid damage to the test specimen.

10.3.2 Special gasket materials are generally needed to seal specimens with uneven surfaces such as seams, which join two materials.

10.4 Place the assembled test cell in a constant-temperature chamber or a water bath at 27°C , 27°C , the standard temperature for this method. Other temperatures ~~may be used,~~ shall be permitted to be used but must be noted in the report. The test cell must not be removed from the ~~temperature~~ constant-temperature chamber or bath for the duration of the test.

10.5 Charge the collection medium into the ~~test-cell chamber to which the normally test cell chamber that contacts the inside surface of the material specimen is exposed,~~ specimen. The collection medium must be at the test temperature when it is introduced. Depending on the combination of analytical technique and collection medium selected, attach peripheral devices as appropriate (see Figs. 34 and 45). The cell, along with the collection medium, should be maintained at the test temperature for at least 30 minutes before the testing proceeds further. Temperature variances have significant effects on the results and reproducibility of the method.

10.6 Stir, circulate, or flow the collection medium continuously (see Discussion following 8.88.8.1).

10.7 Initiate sampling of the collection medium, either continuously or discretely, and continue on a predetermined schedule throughout the test duration. ~~Promptly complete analysis of each sample for test chemical content.~~ Sampling is initiated before the test chemical is added to the permeation cell to establish the baseline values against which subsequent analytical data will be compared (see Note 210).