



Designation: F1790/F1790M – 15 (Reapproved 2021)

## Standard Test Method for Measuring Cut Resistance of Materials Used in Protective Clothing with CPP Test Equipment<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F1790/F1790M; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

### INTRODUCTION

Cut resistance is an important property for protective clothing and equipment, and several standard testing devices have been adopted across different industries to measure this property. A common practice in cut resistance testing is to subject a material specimen to a transversely moving blade under an applied load and measure the distance of blade travel required to cut through the specimen. This test method calculates the load required to cut through different specimens at 25.4 mm [1 in.] blade travel. This calculated load, defined as the calculated cutting load, can be used to compare the cut resistance of materials.

The original F1790–97 test method defined a commercially available apparatus known as the Cut Protection Performance Tester (CPP). In an attempt to harmonize F1790/F1790M with ISO 13997 (another international testing standard for measuring cut resistance) and improve the test method, the scope of the test method was changed in F1790–05 to allow the use of other cut testing equipment, specifically the Tomodynamometer (TDM-100) and a modification to the CPP arm called the Modified CPP (mCPP). The revision addressed issues related to measurement of high frictional coefficient materials like elastomers, specimen mounting, calculated cutting load determination, and other procedures to harmonize with ISO 13997:1999. After further round-robin evaluation by the subcommittee, it was demonstrated that the revisions to the test method result in a bias between the original F1790–97 test method and the revised F1790–05 test method when using the CPP. F1790–05 was not widely adopted in North America because of this bias and large amount of data and experience accumulated with F1790–97. F1790–97 continues to be the test method predominately practiced when using the CPP device. To reduce confusion for end-users of F1790/F1790M and to allow for differences between testing devices, the subcommittee has decided to limit the scope of F1790/F1790M to include only the CPP device and created a separate test method for use of the TDM-100 (Test Method **F2992/F2992M**).

### 1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the measurement of the cut resistance of a material when mounted on a mandrel and subjected to a cutting edge under a specified load using the Cut Protection Performance (CPP) Tester.

1.1.1 This procedure is not valid for high-porosity materials which allow cutting edge contact with the mounting surface prior to cutting.

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F23 on Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F23.20 on Physical.

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1.1.2 Test apparatus may have limitations in testing materials with a thickness greater than 3 mm or having a high frictional coefficient such as elastomers.

1.2 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in nonconformance with the standard.

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:<sup>2</sup>

D123 Terminology Relating to Textiles

D1000 Test Methods for Pressure-Sensitive Adhesive-Coated Tapes Used for Electrical and Electronic Applications

D1776/D1776M Practice for Conditioning and Testing Textiles

F1494 Terminology Relating to Protective Clothing

F2992/F2992M Test Method for Measuring Cut Resistance of Materials Used in Protective Clothing with Tomodynamometer (TDM-100) Test Equipment

### 2.2 ISO Standards:<sup>3</sup>

ISO 13997 Protective Clothing—Mechanical Properties—Determination of Resistance to Cutting by Sharp Objects

## 3. Terminology

### 3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *cut resistance, n*—in blade cut testing, the property that hinders cut-through when a material or a combination of materials is exposed to a sharp-edged device.

3.1.2 *cut-through, n*—in blade cut resistance tests, the penetration of the cutting edge entirely through material, as indicated by electrical contact of the cutting edge and the conductive strip or substrate.

3.1.2.1 *Discussion*—For this test, penetration of the cutting edge entirely through the material includes the specimen and mounting tape.

3.1.3 *cut-through distance, n*—in cut resistance testing, the distance of required travel by the cutting edge to cut through the specimen.

3.1.3.1 *Discussion*—For this test, distance of required travel by the cutting edge to cut through the specimen includes the specimen and mounting tape.

3.1.4 *cutting edge, n*—in cut resistance tests, a sharp-edged device used to initiate cut-through of a planar structure.

3.1.5 *no cut, n*—in cut resistance testing, a trial for which the load used is insufficient to cause a cut-through in the maximum allowable blade travel of the apparatus.

3.1.5.1 *Discussion*—For this test method, the maximum allowable blade travel is 50.8 mm [2.0 in.].

3.1.6 *protective clothing, n*—an 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.

3.1.6.1 *Discussion*—In this test method, the potential hazard is cutting.

3.1.7 *calculated cutting load, n*—in cut resistance testing, the load required to cause a cutting edge to produce a cut-through when it traverses the reference distance across the material being tested.

3.1.7.1 *Discussion*—The calculated cutting load is determined by performing a series of tests at three or more loads as described in Section 11. A material with a higher calculated cutting load is considered to be more cut resistant.

3.1.8 *reference distance, n*—in cut resistance testing, a standardized distance for a blade to travel across a material to produce a cut-through.

3.1.8.1 *Discussion*—For this test method, the reference distance is 25.4 mm [1.0 in.].

3.2 *Additional Terminology*—Terms relevant to textiles are defined in Terminology D123. Terms relevant to protective clothing are defined in Terminology F1494.

## 4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 A cutting edge under a specified load is moved one time across a specimen mounted on a mandrel.

4.2 The cut-through distance from initial contact to cut-through is determined, for each load.

4.2.1 A series of tests, at a minimum of three different loads, must be performed to establish a range of cut distance at these different loads.

4.3 The test method uses data from multiple loads to determine the calculated cutting load for the material.

## 5. Significance and Use

5.1 This test method assesses the cut resistance of a material when exposed to a cutting edge under specified loads. Data obtained from this test method can be used to compare the cut resistance of different materials.

5.2 This test method only addresses that range of cutting hazards that are related to a cutting action by a smooth, sharp edge across the surface of the material. It is not representative of any other cutting hazard to which the material may be subjected such as serrated edges, saw blades, or motorized cutting tools. Nor is it representative of puncture, tear, or other modes of fabric failure.

## 6. Apparatus

6.1 *Test Principle*—The principle of the cut test is to measure the distance traveled by a cutting edge as it is maintained under a load during the test. The cut test apparatus consists of the following primary components (see Fig. 1): (A) a motor-driven balance arm to hold the cutting edge and to which the load is applied; (B) a cutting edge; and (C) a fixed supporting mandrel on which the specimen is to be mounted. The apparatus should propel the cutting edge across the specimen until sufficient work is applied to cause the specimen to cut through.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> Available from International Organization for Standardization (ISO), 1, ch. de la Voie-Creuse, CP 56, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, http://www.iso.org.

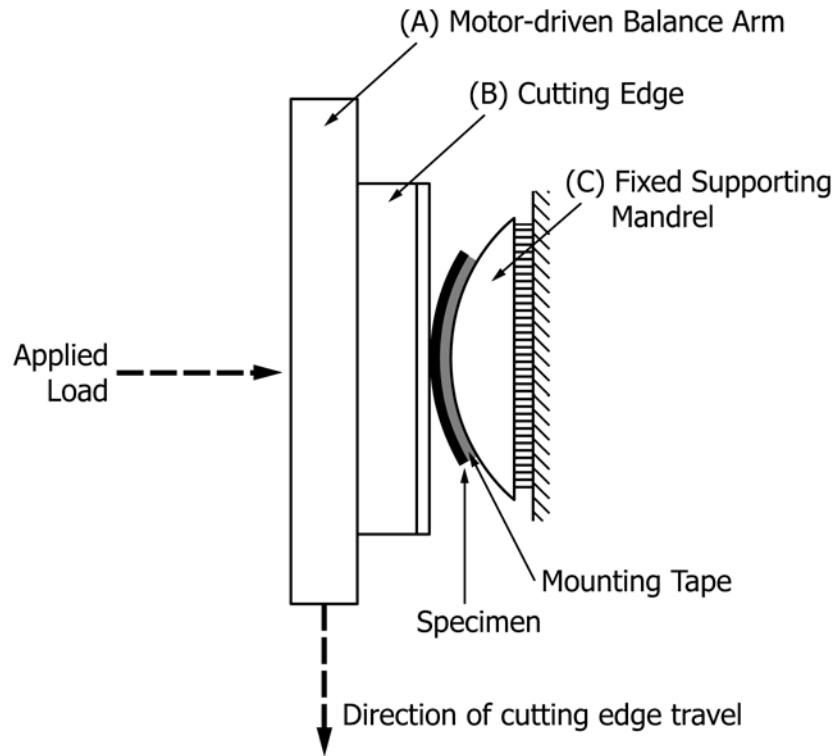


FIG. 1 Schematic of Cut Test Principle

6.2 *CPP Test Apparatus*<sup>4</sup>—The CPP test apparatus (see Fig. 2) consists of a motor-driven balance arm (A) that holds the cutting edge (B) in contact with the specimen mounted on a fixed supporting mandrel (C). The balance arm is connected to the motor using a drive wheel (D) and a connection arm assembly (E). The distance between the center of the drive wheel and attachment point of the connection arm assembly is 25.4 mm [1.0 in.], resulting in a maximum linear displacement of 50.8 mm [2.0 in.] for the balance arm and cutting edge. Cutting edge displacement is measured by a distance meter (F) attached to the motor-driven balance arm assembly that is capable of measuring to 0.1 mm [0.004 in.]. Weights are placed on a pivoting lever arm (G) to generate the load needed to penetrate the moving edge into the specimen and produce a cut-through. The location of the weight on the lever arm will determine the resulting load. Weights placed on the location (G1) closest to the arm pivot will result in a load equal to the applied weight. Weights placed on the location furthest (G2) from the pivot will result in a load twice that of the applied weight. The lever arm counterweight adjustment (H) is used to balance the arm prior to adding weight to the lever arm.

6.2.1 *Cutting Action*—The motor and drive wheel must be set to rotate at  $5.0 \pm 0.25$  rpm. The distance from the center point of the motor and drive wheel to the pivot point of the connection arm is 25.4 mm [1.0 in.].

NOTE 1—Since the cutting edge is propelled by a rotating drive wheel, the resulting vertical speed is not constant during the test. The speed ranges from 0 mm/s at the start of the test, then reaching a maximum of 14 mm/s during the test, and then decreases back to 0 mm/s by the end of the test.

6.2.2 *Cut-Through Detection*—Cut-through is detected by an electrical contact between the cutting edge and the supporting mandrel.

6.2.3 *Mandrel*—The top surface of the mandrel is a rounded form which has an arc of at least 32 mm [1.25 in.] in a circle having a radius of 38 mm [1.5 in.]. The surface of the mandrel shall be conductive and made of metal.

6.3 *Cutting Edge*—Single-edged razor blades<sup>5</sup> shall be used as the cutting edge. The blades shall be made of stainless steel with a hardness greater than 45 HRC. Blades shall be  $1.0 \pm 0.5$  mm [ $0.039 \pm 0.020$  in.] thick and ground to a bevel width of  $2.5 \pm 0.2$  mm [ $0.098 \pm 0.008$  in.] along a straightedge, resulting in a primary bevel angle of  $22^\circ \pm 2^\circ$ . The blade should also contain a honed secondary bevel at the cutting edge with an inclined angle of  $36^\circ \pm 2^\circ$ . Blades shall have a cutting edge length greater than 65 mm [2.56 in.] and shall have a width greater than 18 mm [0.71 in.].

<sup>4</sup> The sole source of supply of the CPP Tester known to the committee at this time is Red Clay, Inc., 2388 Brackenville Rd., Hockessin, DE 19707, E-mail: redclay43@verizon.net. If you are aware of alternative suppliers, please provide this information to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee,<sup>1</sup> which you may attend.

<sup>5</sup> Blade 88-0121 Type GRU-GRU textile blade is available from Energizer Personal Care, LLC (formerly American Safety Razor Company), One Razor Blade Lane, Verona, VA 24482 has proven satisfactory for this test method. It is the sole source of supply of blades known to the committee at this time. If you are aware of alternative suppliers, please provide this information to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee,<sup>1</sup> which you may attend.

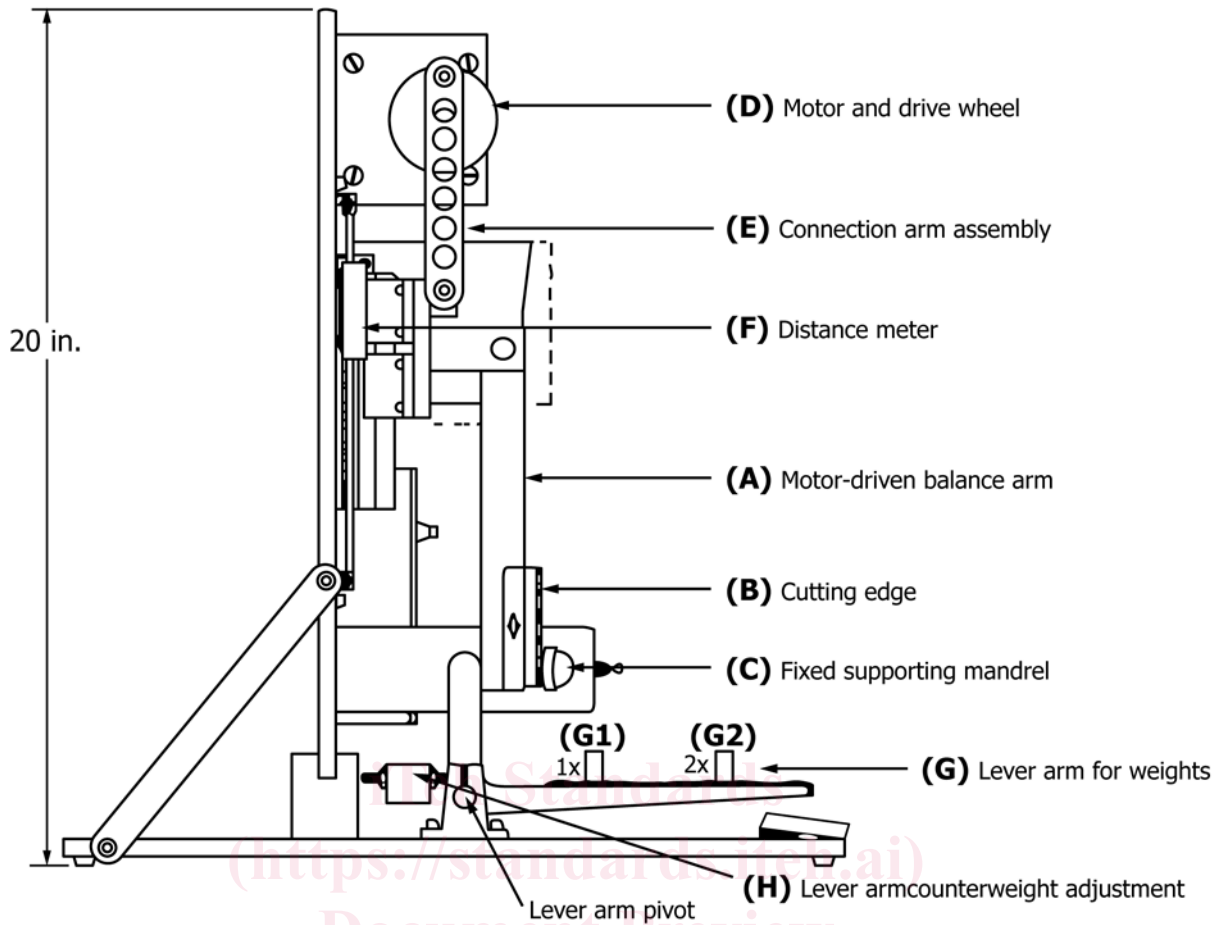


FIG. 2 Schematic of the CPP Tester (Side View)

6.4 *Mounting Tape*—Double-sided tape<sup>6</sup> shall be used to secure the test specimen to the apparatus. The tape should have a cloth carrier and rubber-based adhesive on both sides with a total thickness of  $0.38 \pm 0.25$  mm, weight of  $473 \pm 33$  g/m<sup>2</sup>, and a minimum tensile strength of 90 N/cm (see Test Methods D1000 for details on test methods for adhesive tape).

## 7. Hazards

7.1 The cut test equipment can pose a potential hazard to the technician if proper safety precautions are not followed. The cut test apparatus is to be used only by authorized personnel that have been properly trained.

7.2 Store used blades in a sealed container.

7.3 Remove blades from the apparatus at the end of each test or when the apparatus is not in use.

7.4 Keep hands out of cutting area when a blade is installed in the apparatus and when the apparatus is operating.

7.5 Turn off machine before making instrument adjustments to avoid the chance of a low-voltage shock.

<sup>6</sup> Polyken® 108FR Double-Coated Cloth Tape manufactured by Berry Plastics Corporation or equivalent has proven satisfactory for this test method.

## 8. Sampling and Test Specimens

8.1 *Lot Sample*—As a lot sample for acceptance testing, take at random the number of shipping units directed in an applicable material specification.

8.2 *Laboratory Sample*—As a laboratory sample for acceptance testing, take at random from each shipping unit in the lot sample, the number of packages or pieces directed in an applicable material specification, or other agreement between the purchaser and the supplier.

8.3 *Protective Clothing Sample*—A sample of actual protective clothing article.

### 8.4 Test Specimens:

8.4.1 Take test specimens at random from each sample.

8.4.1.1 When performing up to 15 cut tests per specimen, as when determining the reference load of the material, the specimen shall have a minimum dimension of 25.4 by 100 mm [1.0 by 4.0 in.].

8.4.1.2 For textile materials, cut the specimen on the bias as to create an angle of 0.785 rad (45°) between the machine and cross-machine directions of the material (see Terminology D123 for the definition of machine directions of textile materials).

NOTE 2—For small samples of insufficient width to cut the sample on



the bias, cut the test specimen parallel to the machine direction up to the maximum allowable width and then rotate it 0.785 rad (45°) when mounting it on the apparatus.

## 9. Calibration and Standardization

9.1 *Lever Arm Balancing*—With no weights installed on the lever arm of the apparatus, mount a blade in the holder and adjust the position of the lever arm counterweight until the edge of the blade touches the curved surface of the mandrel without exerting any visible force on the mandrel.

NOTE 3—The balance may be verified with gentle taps on the stand next to the machine. Any disturbance should cause the blade to fall away from the mandrel as the lever arm pivots.

### 9.2 *Lever Arm Load Calibration:*<sup>7</sup>

9.2.1 Install a mandrel fitted with an electronic load cell into the apparatus.

9.2.2 Place known weights between 50 and 1000 g on the lever arm and record the force in gf indicated by the load cell for each.

9.2.3 Perform a linear regression analysis using Eq 1 with the weight values as the independent variable,  $x$ , and the force indicated by the load cell as the dependent variable,  $y$ :

$$y = mx + b \quad (1)$$

where:

$y$  = force, gf,

$x$  = applied weight, g,

$m$  = slope (correction factor), and

$b$  = intercept of slope.

9.2.4 The slope of the regression line,  $m$ , is the correction factor to be applied to the actual weights to determine the load on the blade.

9.2.5 Calibration of the lever arm load should be performed at least once a month and whenever the machine is moved.

### 9.3 *Validation of Cutting Edge Supply:*

9.3.1 *Calibration Material*—Calibration material is a neoprene sheet<sup>8</sup> having a hardness of  $50 \pm 5$  Shore A and a thickness of  $1.57 \pm 0.05$  mm [ $0.062 \pm 0.002$  in.].

9.3.1.1 Store the calibration material under controlled laboratory conditions described in Practice D1776/D1776M in an opaque container to prevent deterioration by heat or ultraviolet light.

#### 9.3.2 *Blade Validation Procedure:*

9.3.2.1 Take a specimen of the calibration material and follow the mounting procedure as described in 11.1.

9.3.2.2 Calculate the average cut-through distance using a minimum of one blade out of 20 for each blade supply by performing a cut test with each blade following the test procedure described in 11.2 using a cutting load of 400 gf.

9.3.2.3 To be a valid blade supply, the average cut-through distance for the blade supply must be between 18.0 and

38.0 mm [0.7 and 1.5 in.], and the cut-through distances for all the tested blades in the supply should not differ by more than 10 mm [0.4 in.].

## 10. Conditioning

10.1 Condition test specimens as indicated in Practice D1776/D1776M.

## 11. Procedure

### 11.1 *Specimen Mounting:*

11.1.1 Cover the mandrel surface with double-sided tape, and without stretching or distorting it, place the test specimen over the tape with the surface to be cut facing up. Apply firm pressure on the specimen to secure it to the mandrel.

NOTE 4—The tape can also be applied directly to the sample before the test specimen is cut and then mounted directly to the mandrel. This procedure is helpful for materials that curl or distort when being cut from the sample.

11.1.2 Insert the mandrel in the support column of the apparatus with the sample facing the motor-driven balanced arm and align it so that the blade contact will be centered on the rounded surface. Tighten the mandrel in place.

### 11.2 *Test Procedure for Measuring the Cut-Through Distance:*

11.2.1 Insert a new blade from a validated blade supply in the arm slot and tighten the blade clamping system.

NOTE 5—Refer to 9.3 for instructions on how to validate the blade supply.

11.2.2 Verify that the cutting arm is at the ready position, making certain that only the blade edge and not the corner of the blade will touch the specimen. All cuts should be made with the blade moving downward.

11.2.3 Select and install weights to produce the desired cutting load.

11.2.4 Zero the blade travel distance meter.

11.2.5 Carefully ease the blade into contact with the specimen and immediately start the apparatus.

11.2.6 After cut-through is detected and the motor arm stops, record the cut-through distance.

11.2.6.1 If no cut-through occurs within 50.8 mm [2.0 in.] of blade travel, stop the machine and indicate that the load was insufficient to cut through the specimen by reporting a *no cut*.

11.2.7 Lock the lever arm with blade retracted from the specimen, remove the weights if necessary, and discard the used blade.

### 11.3 *Test Procedure for Determining the Calculated Cutting Load:*

11.3.1 Repeat the test procedure described in 11.2 using a minimum of three different loads. The loads should be distributed to produce cut-through distances in the range of 5.0 to 50.8 mm [0.2 to 2.0 in.]. When performing multiple cut tests per specimen, each cut should be spaced a minimum of 6.35 mm [0.25 in.] from the previous cut.

11.3.1.1 Five replicated tests at each of three different loads have been found to be adequate; however, an alternate allocation of test loads may be considered for highly reinforced materials. If possible, the loads should be selected as to

<sup>7</sup> The calibration process for this test method is under review.

<sup>8</sup> Fairprene Code: WFP-N2RS (Comparable to NS-5550 Neoprene Sheet Stock Material manufactured by Longwood Industries Inc. Greensboro, NC (website www.fairprene.com) has proven satisfactory for this method. If you are aware of alternative suppliers, please provide this information to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee,<sup>1</sup> which you may attend.

**TABLE 1 Precision of the Test Method, Calculated Cutting Load**

NOTE 1—

$S_r$  = repeatability standard deviation,  
 $r$  = repeatability = 2.80 times the square root of the repeatability variance,  
 $S_R$  = reproducibility standard deviation, and  
 $R$  = reproducibility = 2.80 times the square root of the reproducibility variance.

Material	Average Calculated Cutting Load, gf	Within Laboratories		Between Laboratories	
		$S_r$	$r$	$S_R$	$R$
1	144	13	36	54	150
2	358	16	46	63	170
3	391	19	52	31	87
4	483	14	39	56	150
5	666	46	130	91	250
6	902	48	130	136	380
7	902	98	270	103	290
8	1311	69	190	180	500
9	3148	127	350	376	1040
10	4034	335	930	757	2100

produce five data points in the 5 to 20 mm [0.2 to 0.8 in.] cut-through distance range, five data points in the 20 to 33 mm [0.8 to 1.3 in.] cut-through distance range, and five data points in the 33 to 50.8 mm [1.3 to 2.0 in.] cut-through distance range. For more details on selecting the different loads to use with this procedure, see [Appendix XI](#).

## 12. Calculation of Results

### 12.1 Blade Sharpness Correction:

12.1.1 Calculate the blade sharpness correction factor,  $C_s$ , of the blade supply by dividing 25.4 mm [1.0 in.] by the average cut-through distance determined in the blade validation procedure described in [9.3.2](#).

12.1.2 Multiply the measured cut-through distances recorded during the test by  $C_s$  to create normalized distance data.

### 12.2 Calculated Cutting Load Determination:

12.2.1 When testing specimens using multiple loads for the purposes of determining the calculated cutting load (see [11.3](#)), perform an inverse regression analysis (see [Note 6](#)) of the cutting loads and the log of the normalized cut-through distances to estimate the calculated cutting load required to produce cut-through at the reference distance of 25.4 mm [1.0 in.]. For more details about performing the regression analysis and an example calculation, refer to [Annex A1](#).

NOTE 6—The use of the common logarithm of the cut-through distance when performing the regression analysis has been found to provide the most reliable method for estimating the calculated cutting load.

## 13. Interpretation of Results

13.1 Materials that can do either of the following are capable of delivering better cut resistance:

13.1.1 Provide higher cut resistance by demonstrating a longer distance traveled when equal loads are mounted.

13.1.2 Provide higher cut resistance by demonstrating resistance to higher loads at the same cut-through distance, which can be accomplished by determining the calculated cutting load for the material.

## 14. Report

14.1 Report the following:

14.1.1 Test was performed in accordance with Test Method F1790/F1790M–14.

14.1.2 Name and model number of the cut testing device used.

14.1.3 *Sample Identification*—Sample description of fabric or material to indicate construction, fiber (or blends), and areal density in  $\text{g/m}^2$  [ $\text{oz/yd}^2$ ].

14.1.4 Identification of blade supply designation and lot number.

14.1.5 Results of the blade validation indicating that the blade supply is valid.

### 14.1.6 Test Result:

14.1.6.1 Report the loads used, the measured cut-through distances at each load, the calculated cutting load, the standard deviation, and the coefficient of determination,  $R^2$ , of the regression analysis.

14.1.7 Report any variations in procedure from this test method.

## 15. Precision and Bias

15.1 An interlaboratory test program was conducted in 1995 to obtain precision data for determining the calculated cutting load using the CPP.

15.2 Ten different materials were used in that interlaboratory program; these were tested in seven laboratories. Samples of ten materials were supplied to each laboratory and the calculated cutting load was determined. Duplicate determinations of the calculated cutting load were made in each of seven laboratories.

15.3 The results of the precision calculations for repeatability and reproducibility are given in [Table 1](#).

15.4 The precision of this test method may be expressed in the format of the following statements that use what is called an appropriate value of  $r$  or  $R$ , that is, that value to be used in decisions about test results (obtained with the test method). The appropriate value is that value of  $r$  or  $R$  associated with a mean level in [Table 1](#), closest to the mean level under consideration at any given time, for any given material in routine testing operations.

15.5 *Repeatability*—The repeatability,  $r$ , of this test method has been established as the appropriate value tabulated in **Table 1**. Two single test results, obtained under normal test method procedures, that differ by more than this tabulated  $r$  (for any given level) must be considered as derived from different or non-identical sample populations.

15.6 *Reproducibility*—The reproducibility,  $R$ , of this test method has been established as the appropriate value tabulated in **Table 1**. Two single test results obtained in two different laboratories, under normal test method procedures, that differ by more than the tabulated  $R$  (for any given level) must be considered to have come from different or non-identical sample populations.

15.7 *Bias*—In test method terminology, bias is the difference between an average test value and the reference (or true) test property value. Reference values do not exist for this test method since value (of the test property) is exclusively defined by the test method. Bias, therefore, cannot be determined.

**16. Keywords**

16.1 cut protection; cut resistance; cut-through distance; protective clothing; calculated cutting load

**ANNEX**

**(Mandatory Information)**

**A1. CALCULATED CUTTING LOAD DETERMINATION**

**A1.1 Regression Analysis**

A1.1.1 Using the loads as the independent variable,  $x$ , and cut-through distances as the dependent variable,  $y$ , perform an inverse linear regression analysis<sup>9</sup> by first performing a log transformation of the cut-through distances and then calculating the slope and intercept of the regression line as indicated in **Eq A1.1**.

$$y' = b_0 + b_1x \tag{A1.1}$$

where:

- $y'$  = log transformation of the normalized cut-through distance,  $\log_{10}y$ ,
- $x$  = applied load,
- $b_0$  = intercept of the regression line, and
- $b_1$  = slope of the regression line.

A1.1.2 The load required to produce a cut-through at the reference distance,  $y_r$ , of 25.4 mm can then be estimated from **Eq A1.2**. This load, known as the calculated cutting load,  $x_r$ , can be used to compare the cut resistance of samples.

*Calculated Cutting Load Equation:*

$$x_r = (\log_{10}(y_r) - b_0)/b_1 \tag{A1.2}$$

where:

- $x_r$  = rating load, gf, and
- $y_r$  = reference distance, 25.4 mm.

A1.1.3 The standard deviation,  $s$ , and 95 % confidence interval of the rating calculated cutting estimate can be calculated using **Eq A1.3** and **A1.4**.

*Standard Deviation of the Calculated Cutting Load:*

$$s = \sqrt{\frac{MSE}{b_1^2} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{n} + \frac{(x_r - X)^2}{\sum(x_i - X)^2} \right]} \tag{A1.3}$$

where:

- $MSE$  = mean square error,
- $X$  = mean load, and
- $n$  = number of measurements.

*95 % Confidence Interval of the Calculated Cutting Load:*

$$x_r \pm t_{(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}; n - 2)}s \tag{A1.4}$$

**A1.2 Example Calculation**

A1.2.1 An example dataset of loads and normalized cut-through distances is provided in **Table A1.1**. The calculated cutting load,  $x_r$ , of the dataset is 362 gf with a standard deviation of 45.5 gf resulting in a 95 % confidence limit of  $\pm 98$  gf ( $264 \leq x_r \leq 460$  gf). The  $R^2$  of regression line is 0.94.

A1.2.2 The results of the regression analysis using standard MS Excel formulas are shown in **Table A1.2** with the corresponding cell formulas shown in **Table A1.3**. The application of the regression analysis is shown graphically in **Fig. A1.1**. A plot of the untransformed (normalized) cut-through distances versus applied load is shown in **Fig. A1.2** illustrating the logarithmic shape of the trend line. The results of the step-wise calculations and parameters are as follows:

*Regression parameters:*

- $n$  = 15
- $b_0$  = 1.922
- $b_1$  = -1.43E-3
- $MSE$  = 3.95E-3
- $X$  = 400
- $\sum(x_i - X)^2$  = 400 000

*Regression Equation:*

$$y' = 1.922 - 0.00143x$$

<sup>9</sup> Neter, J., Kutner, M. H., and Wasserman, W. *Applied Linear Statistical Models*, 1990: Irwin Homewood, IL.