

Standard Specification for Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA) with Low p-Toluic Acid¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers purified terephthalic acid (PTA) for use in the production of polyesters for superfine denier fiber.

1.2 The following applies to all specified limits in this specification: for purposes of determining conformance with this specification, an observed value or a calculated value shall be rounded off to the nearest unit in the last right-hand digit used in expressing the specification limit, in accordance with the rounding-off method of Practice E29.

1.3 Consult current OSHA regulations, supplier's Safety Data Sheets, and local regulations for all materials used in this specification.

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

1.5 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.

1.6 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
D7881 Test Method for Determination of 4-Carboxybenzaldehyde and *p*-Toluic Acid in Purified

Terephthalic Acid by Capillary Electrophoresis with Reverse Voltage Mode

- D7882 Test Method for Determination of 4-Carboxybenzaldehyde and *p*-Toluic Acid in Purified Terephthalic Acid by Capillary Electrophoresis with Normal Voltage Mode
- D7883 Test Method for Determination of 4-Carboxybenzaldehyde and *p*-Toluic Acid in Purified Terephthalic Acid by Weak Anion Exchange High Performance Liquid Chromatography
- D7884 Test Method for Determination of 4-Carboxybenzaldehyde and *p*-Toluic Acid in Purified Terephthalic Acid by Reverse Phase High Performance Liquid Chromatography
- D8063 Test Method for Water in Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA) by Volumetric Karl Fischer Titration
- D8130 Test Method for Determination of Metals in Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA) by Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrometric Method
- D8207 Test Method for Determination of Metals in Purified Terephthalic Acid (PAT) by Atomic Absorption (AA) Spectrometry
- E29 Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications

E300 Practice for Sampling Industrial Chemicals

- 2.2 Other Standards:
- OSHA Regulations, 29 CFR paragraphs 1910.1000 and 1910.1200³

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *p-toluic acid*, n—(C₈H₈O₂) molecular weight, 136.15; white crystalline solid or powder; melting point, 180 °C to 181 °C; abbreviated as *p*-TOL (CAS #99-94-5).

3.1.2 purified terephthalic acid, n—(C₈H₆O₄) molecular weight, 166.13, white crystalline solid or powder; sublimes, 402 °C to 404 °C; abbreviated as PTA (CAS #100-21-0).

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D16 on Aromatic, Industrial, Specialty and Related Chemicals and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D16.02 on Oxygenated Aromatics.

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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 Available from U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, 732 N. Capitol St., NW, Washington, DC 20401-0001, http:// www.access.gpo.gov.

3.1.3 4-carboxybenzaldehyde, n—(C₈H₆O₃) molecular weight, 150.13; white to yellow crystalline solid or powder; melting point, 247 °C; abbreviated as 4-CBA (CAS #619-66-9).

4. Properties

4.1 PTA shall conform to the following requirements:

Property 4-CBA, max, mg/kg	Specification 25	ASTM Test Method ^A D7881 or D7882 or
		D7883 or D7884
<i>p</i> -TOL, max, mg/kg	150	D7881 or D7882 or
		D7883 or D7884
Iron, max, mg/kg	1	D8130 or D8207
Total metals, max, mg/kg	3	D8130 or D8207
Water, max, mass %	0.2	D8063

 $^{\mbox{\scriptsize A}}$ If more than one method is listed, the producer and user should agree on the referee method.

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5. Sampling

5.1 The material shall be sampled in accordance with Practice E300.

6. Keywords

6.1 *p*-toluic acid; purified terephthalic acid; 4-carboxybenzaldehyde; iron; total metals; water