Designation: ~~E1423 – 14~~ E1423 – 21

Standard Practice for
Determining Steady State Thermal Transmittance of Fenestration Systems[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E1423; 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 practice covers standard test specimen sizes and test conditions as well as the calculation and presentation of the thermal transmittance and conductance data measured in accordance with Test Method C1199. The standard sizes and conditions are to be used for fenestration product comparison purposes. The specifier may choose other sizes and conditions for product development or research purposes.

1.2 This practice deals with the determination of the thermal properties of a fenestration system installed vertically without the influences of solar heat gain and air leakage effects.

NOTE 1—To determine air leakage effects of fenestration systems, Test Method ~~E283~~E283/E283M or E1424 should be referenced.

NOTE 2—See ~~Appendix~~ Appendix X1 regarding garage doors and rolling doors.

1.3 This practice specifies the procedure for determining the standardized thermal transmittance of a fenestration test specimen using specified values of the room-side and weather-side surface heat transfer coefficients, h_h and h_c, respectively.

1.4 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as ~~the~~ standard. The values given in parentheses ~~are for information only.~~after SI units are provided for information only and are not considered 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*~~ *safety, health, and* ~~*health*~~*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]
C168 Terminology Relating to Thermal Insulation
C1199 Test Method for Measuring the Steady-State Thermal Transmittance of Fenestration Systems Using Hot Box Methods

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[1] This ~~guide~~practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E06 on Performance of Buildings and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E06.51 on Performance of Windows, Doors, Skylights and Curtain Walls.

Current edition approved ~~April 1, 2014~~Aug. 1, 2021. Published ~~May 2014~~August 2021. Originally approved in 1991. Last previous edition approved in ~~2006~~2014 as ~~E1423 – 06.~~E1423 – 14. DOI: ~~10.1520/E1423-14.~~10.1520/E1423-21.

[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~~standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

C1363 Test Method for Thermal Performance of Building Materials and Envelope Assemblies by Means of a Hot Box Apparatus

~~E283~~E283/E283M Test Method for Determining Rate of Air Leakage Through Exterior Windows, Skylights, Curtain Walls, and Doors Under Specified Pressure Differences Across the Specimen

E631 Terminology of Building Constructions

E783 Test Method for Field Measurement of Air Leakage Through Installed Exterior Windows and Doors

E1424 Test Method for Determining the Rate of Air Leakage Through Exterior Windows, Curtain Walls, and Doors Under Specified Pressure and Temperature Differences Across the Specimen

2.2 *Other Documents:*

ANSI/DASMA ~~105-1998~~105 Test Method for Thermal Transmittance and Air Infiltration of Garage Doors and Rolling Doors[3]

NFRC ~~102-2002~~102 Procedure for Measuring the Steady-State Thermal Transmittance of Fenestration Systems[4]

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Definitions and terms are in accordance with Terminology E631 and C168, from which the following have been selected and modified to apply specifically to fenestration systems. See Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 for variable identification. (For further information on definitions and procedures, see Appendix X2 or Test Method C1199.)

3.1.1 *surface heat transfer coefficient, h* (sometimes called *surface conductance* or *film coefficient*)—the time rate of heat flow from a unit area of a surface to its surroundings, induced by a unit temperature difference between the surface and the environment. Subscripts are used to differentiate between room-side ($_1$ ~~or~~or $_h$) and weather-side ($_2$ ~~or~~ or $_c$) surface heat transfer coefficients (see Figs. 1 and 2).

3.1.2 *thermal transmittance U_s* (sometimes called *overall coefficient of heat transfer*)—the heat transfer in unit time through unit area of a test specimen and its boundary air films, induced by unit temperature difference between the environments on each side.

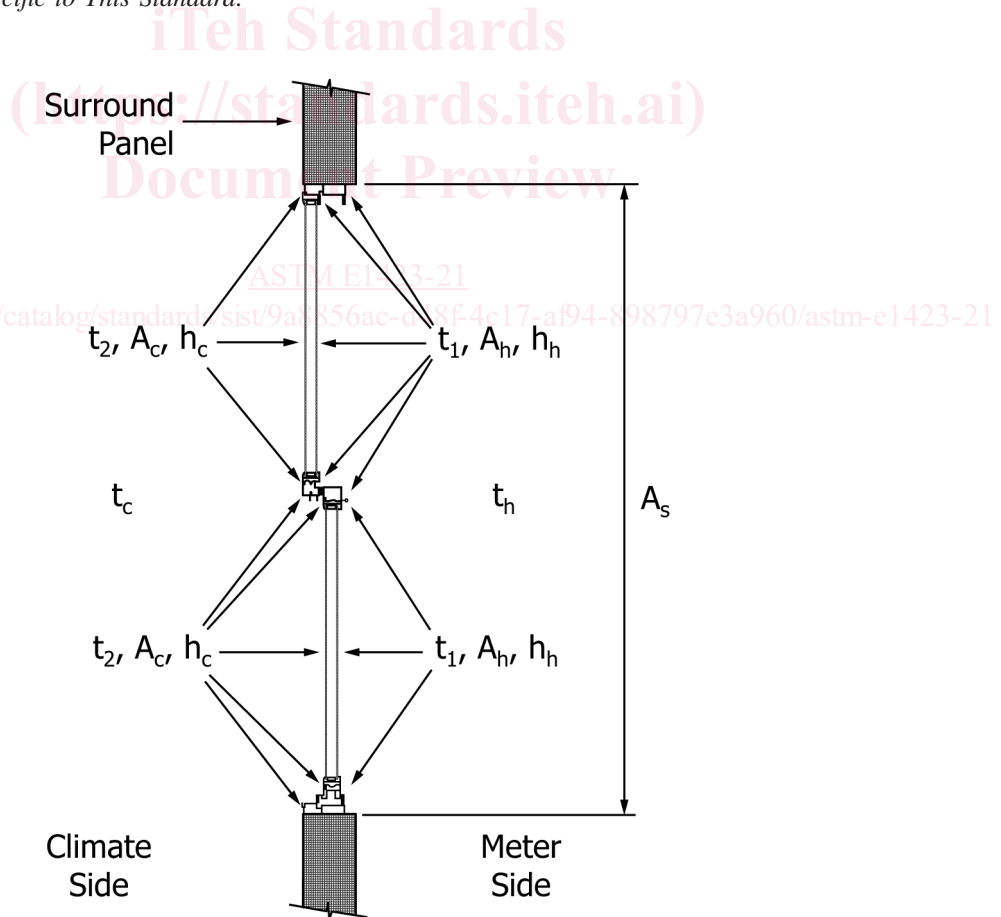3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

FIG. 1 Window Mounted Flush with Climate Side of Surround Panel

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

[4] Available from National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC), 6305 Ivy ~~Lane,~~Ln., Suite 140, Greenbelt, MD 20770, http://www.nfrc.org.

Surround
Panel

t_2, A_c, h_c → ← t_1, A_h, h_h

t_c t_h A_s
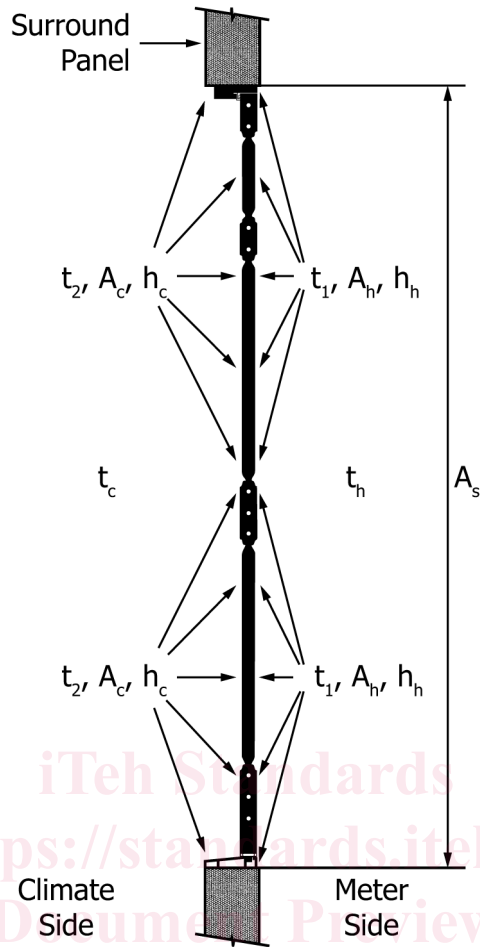
t_2, A_c, h_c → ← t_1, A_h, h_h

Climate
Side

Meter
Side

FIG. 2 Door Mounted Flush with Climate Side of Surround Panel

3.2.1 *standardized thermal transmittance, U_{ST}*—the heat transfer in unit time through unit area of a specimen (using standardized surface heat transfer coefficients) induced by unit temperature difference between the environments on each side. ~~**Test Method**~~
C1199

3.2.2 *surround panel* (sometimes called the *mask, mask wall,* or *homogeneous wall*)—a panel with a homogeneous core that may be faced with paint, plywood, or plastic in which the test specimen is mounted.

3.2.3 *test specimen*—the fenestration system or product being tested.

3.2.4 *thermal resistance, R_S*—the temperature difference between the environments on the two sides of a body or assembly when a unit heat flow per unit time per unit area is established through the body or assembly under steady-state conditions. It is defined as follows:

$$R_S = \frac{1}{U_s} \tag{1}$$

where:
R_S = overall thermal resistance of specimen (air to air under test conditions), $(m^2 \cdot K)/W$ $((ft^2 \cdot hr \cdot °F)/Btu)$.

3.3 *Symbols*—The symbols, terms, and units used in this test method are as follows:
A_c total heat transfer surface area of test specimen on weather side, m^2
A_h total heat transfer surface area of test specimen on room side, m^2
A_s projected area of test specimen, (same as open area in surround panel), m^2

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h_c surface heat transfer coefficient, weather side, $W/(m^2 \cdot K)$

h_h surface heat transfer coefficient, room side, $W/(m^2 \cdot K)$

h_{h+c} surface heat transfer coefficient, combined room and weather side, $W/(m^2 \cdot K)$

h_{STc} standardized surface heat transfer coefficient, weather side, $W/(m^2 \cdot K)$

h_{STh} standardized surface heat transfer coefficient, room side, $W/(m^2 \cdot K)$

R_S overall thermal resistance of test specimen (air to air under test conditions), $(m^2 \cdot K)/W$

t_c average temperature of weather side air, °C

t_h average temperature of room side air, °C

t_1 average temperature of test specimen, room side surface, K or °C

t_2 average temperature of test specimen, weather side surface, K or °C

U_S thermal transmittance of test specimen (air to air under test conditions), $W/(m^2 \cdot K)$

U_{ST} standardized thermal transmittance of test specimen, $W/(m^2 \cdot K)$

4. Significance and Use

4.1 This practice details the test specimen sizes and test conditions, namely, the room-side and weather-side air temperatures, and the surface heat transfer coefficients for both sides of the test specimen, when testing fenestration products in accordance with Test Method C1199.

4.2 The thermal transmittance and conductance of a specimen are affected by its size and three-dimensional geometry. Tests should therefore be conducted using the specimen sizes recommended in 5.1. Should the specimen size differ from those given in 5.1, the actual size shall be reported in the test report.

4.3 Many factors can affect the thermal performance of a fenestration system, including deflections of sealed glazing units. Care should be exercised to maintain the original physical condition of the fenestration system and while installing it in the surround panel.

4.4 The thermal transmittance and conductance results obtained do not, and are not intended, to reflect performances expected from field installations since they do not account for solar radiation and air leakage effects. The thermal transmittance and conductance results are taken from specified laboratory conditions and are to be used only for fenestration product comparisons and as input to thermal performance analyses that also include solar and air leakage effects.

5. Test Specimen

5.1 *Specimen Sizes*—The specimen sizes given in Table 1 for different types of fenestration systems shall be used when testing fenestration products. For test specimens not manufactured at the exact sizes given in Table 1, choose the product with dimensions that produces the smallest value of deviation, *D*, calculated by Eq 2. For non-rectangular products, choose the product with an area closest to the area of the product in Table 1.

$$D = \sqrt{[(W_p - W_m)^2 + (H_p - H_m)^2]} \tag{2}$$

where:

D = deviation, mm (in.)

W_p, H_p = width and height of production size, mm (in.)

W_m, H_m = width and height of model size, mm (in.)

6. Test Conditions

6.1 *General*—A single set of test conditions does not necessarily define the thermal characteristics of a fenestration system. However, a single set of test conditions is specified to permit comparison of the thermal transmittance of different fenestration products. Thermal transmittance values obtained under this set of test conditions have been shown to be valid for the range of weather conditions typical of the North American climate [weather-side temperatures between ~~43~~43 °C and ~~−30°C (110~~−30 °C (110 °F and ~~−22°F)~~−22 °F) and wind speeds up to 6.7 m/s (15 mph)].

6.2 *Test Conditions for U-Values for Comparison Purposes*—The test specimen shall be tested in accordance with Test Method C1199. For comparison purposes, the following set of conditions shall be used (see Fig. 1):

$$t_h = 21.0°C \pm 0.3°C \ (69.8°F \pm 0.5°F) \tag{3}$$

TABLE 1 Specimen Size Dimensions[A]

Window Type	Configuration	Test Specimen Model Size, mm. (in.)[B]
I - Window Assemblies		
Vertical slider	XO or XX	1200 × 1500 (47 × 59)
Horizontal slider	XO or XX	1500 × 1200 (59 × 47)
Casement - Double	XX	1200 × 1550 (47 × 59)
Casement - Single	X	1200 × 1500 (47 × 59)
Projecting (Awning - Double)	XX	1500 × 1200 (59 × 47)
Projected (Awning - Single)	X	1500 × 600 (59 × 24)
Fixed (includes non-standard shapes)	O	1200 × 1500 (47 × 59)
Sloped Glazing	OO	2000 × 2000 (79 × 79)
Skylights/roof window	X	1200 × 1200 (47 × 47)
Greenhouse/Garden	X	1500 × 1200 (59 × 47)
Dual Action	X	1200 × 1500 (47 × 59)
Pivoted	X	1200 × 1500 (47 × 59)
Sidelites	X	600 × 1200 (24 × 79)
Transoms	X	1200 × 600 (79 × 24)
Basement	O	Rated at the appropriate product type
Bay or Bow		Rated at the appropriate product type
Composite - Fixed beside operable		1200 × 1500 (47 × 59)
Composite - Fixed over operable		1200 × 1500 (47 × 59)
Hinged Escape	X	1500 × 1200 (59 × 47)
Jal/Jal Awning	X	1200 × 1500 (47 × 59)
Tropical Awning	X	1500 × 1200 (59 × 47)
II - Door Assemblies		
Swinging door(s) with frame	X, OX or XX	1000 × 2000 (39 × 82)[B] or 2000 × 2000 (79 × 79)[C]
Sliding Patio doors with frame	XO or XX	2000 × 2000 (79 × 79)

[A] Select size type based on the manufacturer's average standard size and intended use of the product.
[B] Typical of a single door.
[C] Typical of a double door.

$$t_c = -18.0°C \pm 0.3°C \ (-0.40°F \pm 0.5°F) \tag{4}$$

6.2.1 *Room Side (Natural Convection)*—The air velocity should be less than 0.3 m/s (60 ft/min). For comparison purposes, the standard surface heat transfer coefficient measured on the room side of each calibration transfer standard (CTS) during calibration shall be:

$$h_{STc} = 7.67 \ W/m^2 \cdot K \pm 5\% \ (1.35 \ Btu/hr \cdot ft^2 \cdot °F \pm 5\%) \tag{5}$$

[Allowed CTS calibration range of:
7.29 to 8.05 W/m²·K (1.28 to 1.42 Btu/hr·ft²·°F)]

Since this is the natural convection lower limit of the indoor side overall surface heat transfer coefficient, a ±5 % variation in this value is allowed to accommodate some forced convection due to small room side air circulation fans that provide a more uniform flow distribution on the indoor side of the CTS.

NOTE 3—Using the 1997 American Society for Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Fundamentals Handbook (1),[5] Fenestration Chapter 29, Table 3, the indoor side of the overall combined natural convection, radiation heat transfer coefficient for a ~~1.22-m (4-ft) high, 13-mm (0.5-in.)~~ 1.22 m (4 ft) high, 13 mm (0.5 in.) wide cavity, double glazed, low emittance glazing unit is 6.98 W/(m²·K) (1.23 Btu/(hr·ft²·°F)). For a ~~1.22-m (4-ft) high, 12.7-mm (0.5-in.)~~ 1.22 m (4 ft) high, 12.7 mm (0.5 in.) thick high density expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam core CTS with two ~~4-mm (0.16-in.)~~ 4 mm (0.16 in.) glass faces, the indoor side calculated overall combined natural convection, radiation heat transfer coefficient is 7.02 W/(m²·K) (1.24 Btu/(hr·ft²·°F)), using the same methods and equations that were used to obtain the ASHRAE Chapter 27, Table 3 results. Rounding off these two results gives a nominal standardized surface heat transfer coefficient of 7.0 W/(m²·K) (1.23 Btu/(hr·ft²·°F)), which is the below the limit for natural convection for this size of CTS.

6.2.2 *Weather-side*—For comparison purposes, the standard surface heat transfer coefficient measured on the weather side of each CTS shall be (perpendicular or parallel):

$$h_{STc} = 30.0 \ W/m^2 \cdot K \pm 10\% \ (5.28 \ Btu/hr \cdot ft^2 \cdot °F \pm 10\%) \tag{6}$$

[Allowed CTS calibration range of:
27.0 to 33.0 W/m²·K (4.75 to 5.81 Btu/hr·ft²·°F)]

[5] Available from American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc. (ASHRAE), 1791 Tullie Circle, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329, http://www.ashrae.org.

NOTE 4—Again, referring to the 1997 ASHRAE Fundamentals Handbook (1), Fenestration Chapter 29, the recommended design value for the weather side overall combined forced convection, radiation heat transfer coefficient for a nominal 24 km/h (15 mph) wind speed is h_c = 29.0 W/(m²·K) (5.1 Btu/(hr·ft²·°F)).

6.2.3 *Combined Room and Weather Side*—For comparison purposes, the combined standard surface heat transfer coefficient measured simultaneously on both the room and weather side of each calibration transfer standard (CTS) during calibration shall be:

$$h_{h+c} = 6.11 \, \text{W/m}^2 \cdot \text{K} \pm 5\% \ (1.08 \, \text{Btu/hr·ft}^2 \cdot °\text{F} \pm 5\%) \tag{7}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} \text{Allowed CTS calibration range of:} \\ 5.80 \text{ to } 6.72 \text{ W/m}^2 \cdot \text{K} \ (1.03 \text{ to } 1.13 \text{ Btu/hr·ft}^2 \cdot °\text{F}) \end{array} \right]$$

where:

h_{h+c} = $1/(1/h_h + 1/h_c)$

6.2.4 *Relative Humidity on the Warm Side*—Condensation on the test specimen may influence the temperature measurements of the surface and shall be avoided. The relative humidity in the metering chamber shall be maintained at or below 15 %.

7. Test Specimen Installation and Instrumentation

7.1 *Test Specimen Installation:*

7.1.1 *Surround Panel*—A surround panel shall be provided for installation of the test specimen similar to that shown in Figs. 1 and 2 (see the description in Test Methods C1199 and C1363).

7.1.2 *Test Specimen*—The fenestration system to be tested shall be installed in the surround panel as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 for windows and doors. That is, the complete assembly, including all frame elements and operating hardware, shall be in place during the test. Accessory interior or exterior devices, such as trim or insect screens, shall be removed before testing. The test specimen shall be mounted so that it is centered in the metering area of the surround panel, and the frame on the cold side of the fenestration product shall be flush with the weather side of the surround panel. The specimen shall be fixed securely in a plane parallel to the surround panel surfaces, suitable for any wind loads experienced during testing. The installation shall also allow space to accommodate all sash or operating members, or both. If the fenestration system does not fill the opening in the surround panel completely, the space between the surround panel and the fenestration system shall be filled with material of similar thermal conductance and thickness to that of the surround panel. Perimeter joints between the specimen and the surround panel shall be sealed on both sides of the wall. In no case shall the tape or caulk cover more than 13 mm (0.50 in.) of the test specimen frame or edge.

7.1.2.1 *Projecting Fenestration Products*—Skylights shall be tested in a configuration that is as close to the actual installation as possible (without integral flashing) with the following conditions:

(1) Curb-mounted skylights that do not have an integral curb attached shall be installed on a nominal 40 mm × 90 mm (1½ in. × 3½ in.) wood curb made from Douglas fir with no knots.

(2) Skylights shall be tested and reported in the vertical orientation.

(3) Skylights installed inside the rafter opening that have the bottom of the curb touching the finish facing material may extend the surround panel material to the inside of the curb, or the inside of the finished opening material, whichever comes first. The surround panel material shall not extend beyond the inside of the skylight curb.

(4) The skylight size listed in Table 1 is based on a center of the rafter to the center of the rafter dimension. Thereby, the standard size references a median size between a skylight mounted between the rafters and a skylight mounted on top of the rafters.

(5) The U-factor for skylights is based on the projected fenestration area. For skylights installed between the rafters, the outside dimension of the curb is considered to be the projected area. For skylights installed on top of the rafters, the inside dimension of the curb is considered to be the projected area.

7.1.3 *Air Leakage*—All potential air leakage sites on the test specimen, on the surround panel, and at the interface between the surround panel and the test specimen must be sealed with nonmetallic tape or caulking, or both, as close to the warm side as possible to minimize or eliminate air leakage between the room side and weather side chambers. The thermal performance can be affected by the method and placement of the test specimen air seal. Therefore, the test specimen is to be sealed at the warm side of the test specimen with tape, caulking, or other material of similar surface emissivity (±0.1) to that of the adhering surface. Minimize the use of tape or caulking, as excessive application of these materials can affect the thermal performance of the test specimen.

7.1.3.1 A test specimen with primary and secondary components (such as a storm window) shall be sealed at the warm side of each component.

7.1.3.2 Weep holes/slots located on the cold side shall be sealed on the cold side.

7.1.3.3 Perimeter joints between the test specimen and the surround panel shall be sealed on both sides of the wall. In no case shall the tape or caulk cover more than 13 mm (0.50 in.) of the test specimen frame or edge.

7.1.3.4 As an additional precaution to minimize the potential for leakage of air through and around the sealed test specimen, means ~~may~~shall be provided to measure and ~~equalize~~monitor the pressure difference across the test specimen. For hot boxes that have a perpendicular (to the test specimen weather side surface) wind direction, ~~this is accomplished by balancing the~~ the pressure difference between the weather side total pressure ~~with~~and the room side static pressure ~~to 0~~ shall be no greater than 0 Pa $\pm$ 10 Pa ~~(0~~(0 lbf∕ft^2 $\pm$ 0.21 ~~Lbf/ft~~lbf/ft^2). For hot boxes that have a parallel (to the test specimen weather side surface) wind direction, ~~this is accomplished by balancing the~~ the pressure difference between the weather side static pressure ~~with~~and the room side static pressure ~~to 0~~ shall be no greater than 0 Pa $\pm$ 10 Pa ~~(0~~(0 lbf∕ft^2 $\pm$ 0.21 ~~Lbf/ft~~lbf/ft^2).

7.1.3.5 Good laboratory practice would include periodic assessment of the quality of the sealing methods used by monitoring closely the fenestration test specimen heat flux and temperature measurements during the duration of the thermal tests to ensure that there are no changes in the thermal performance due to losses in the seal integrity.

~~7.1.3.6 As an alternative method to determine whether or not air leakage exists, the following technique currently in use by one laboratory has been found to be useful. Place a sheet of 0.1 mm (4 mil) polyethylene over the CTS or fenestration test specimen (metered specimen) on the room side and seal it with tape to the surround panel at least 12 cm (4.7 in.) outside the perimeter of the specimen. Balance the pressure between the room side and weather side chambers as indicated above, and monitor the pressure difference. If the polyethylene sheet has not moved appreciably, it can be assumed that no net air leakage exists and the polyethylene sheet can be removed.~~

7.2 *Test Specimen Instrumentation:*

7.2.1 *Temperature Sensors*—If additional temperature sensors are to be mounted on the fenestration system frame and glazing surfaces to determine an average surface temperature for both the weather side and room sides of the test specimen, Figs. 3-16 shows the preferred locations based on experience with fenestration product testing. If there is further interest in attempting to determine edge (spacer) heat transfer effects, additional temperature sensors should be mounted in the region of the glazing near the frame, especially in the glazing/frame corners. Paragraph 6.10 of Test Method C1363 provides the requirements for the temperature sensor accuracy, which is presumed to be met by using Type T thermocouples with diameters no larger than 0.51 mm (No. 24 AWG). Alternative arrangements may be used if comparative measurements or calculations reveal that the basic requirements are met.

Note 5—Figs. 3-16 indicates the temperature sensor locations for a limited sample of window types as an alternative to calculation of the window surface temperatures. The following guidelines are recommended for other window types, doors, glazed curtain walls, glass block walls, and so forth: (*1*) a minimum of 20 temperature sensors should be used per side, with a minimum of ~~6~~six being placed on the glazing and a minimum of 14 placed on the sash/frame components of the test specimen; (*2*) additional temperature sensors should be added for thermal bridges or other frame elements with high thermal conductance; and (*3*) the temperature sensors are to be placed in locations as close as possible to those found in Figs. 3-16.

7.2.2 *Temperature Sensor Attachment*—Surface temperature sensors shall be applied to the test specimen as described in 6.10.1 of Test Method C1363. If thermocouples are used to measure the surface temperature, a minimum of 100 mm (4 in.) of thermocouple wire must be adhered to the surface. The emittance of the tape or sealant used to adhere the temperature sensor bead and lead wire should closely match ($\pm$0.05) the emittance of the surface to which it is being attached. Care should be taken to avoid having the temperature sensor cause any significant disturbance to the local air flow and the test specimen heat transfer. To avoid thermal shunting, route temperature sensor lead wires so that they do not bridge areas of expected large temperature difference.

7.2.3 *Average Area Weighted Surface Temperatures of Test Specimen*—The individual surface temperature measurements of the test specimen shall be area weighted to determine the average surface temperature of the room side of the test specimen, t_1, and the average surface temperature of the weather side of the test specimen, t_2. Proper measurement of the average surface temperature of each side of the fenestration test specimen requires that (*1*) the surface area of the test specimen be accurately measured and (*2*) the individual temperature sensors be attached to the test specimen surface at locations representing areas of minimal surface temperature gradient. The individual temperature sensors shall be located in the center of surface areas, which represents the