



Designation: C711 – 22

# Standard Test Method for Low-Temperature Flexibility and Tenacity of One-Part, Elastomeric, Solvent-Release Type Sealants<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C711; 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.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers determination of the low-temperature flexibility and tenacity of one-part, elastomeric, solvent-release type sealants after cyclic high- and low-temperature aging.

1.2 The subcommittee with jurisdiction is not aware of any similar ISO standard.

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

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, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

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:*<sup>2</sup>

**C717 Terminology of Building Seals and Sealants**

## 3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Refer to Terminology **C717** for definitions of the following terms used in this Test Method: elastomer, elastomeric, joint, sealant, solvent-release sealant, standard conditions.

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **C24** on Building Seals and Sealants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **C24.20** on General Test Methods.

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<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

## 4. Significance and Use

4.1 This test method is not intended to simulate an actual use condition but it will give some indication of the elastomeric properties or flexibility of a building joint sealant at low temperature. It can serve to differentiate between elastomer-based sealants and sealants based on nonelastic binders that can harden or embrittle on aging and crack or lose adhesion when flexed at low temperature. In addition, it can aid in identifying sealants that have poor flexibility because they are overextended and contain a very low level of elastomeric binder as well as those sealants having binders that will embrittle at low temperature.

## 5. Apparatus

5.1 *Aluminum Panels*, three, thin, approximately 3 in. (76 mm) wide by 5 in. (127 mm) long by 0.012 in. (0.30 mm) thick.

5.2 *Spatula*, steel, with thin knife edge.

5.3 *Template*, rectangular, of steel or brass, 1/8 in. (3.2 mm) high, 1 in. by 3 3/4 in. (25 mm by 95 mm) inside and approximately 2 in. by 4 3/4 in. (51 mm by 121 mm) outside.

5.4 *Oven*, forced-draft type, having a temperature controlled at 158 °F ± 3.6 °F (70 °C ± 2 °C).

5.5 *Freezer Chest or Cold Box*, having a controlled temperature of -10 °F ± 5 °F (-23 °C ± 3 °C).

5.6 *Mandrel or Rod*, with a diameter of 1/4 in. (6.4 mm), with a suitable holder or rack to support it.

5.7 *Methyl Ethyl Ketone*, or similar solvent.

## 6. Sampling

6.1 Create the test specimen from a previously unopened container of sealant as received from the sealant manufacturer.

## 7. Test Specimens

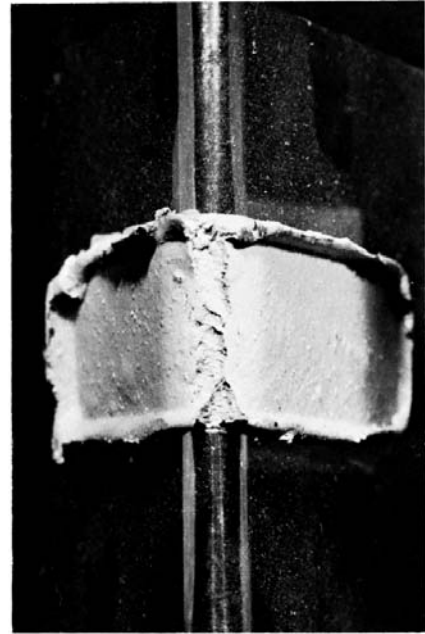
7.1 Prepare three test specimens as follows:

7.1.1 Condition the sealant sample in the original closed container for at least 24 h at standard conditions.

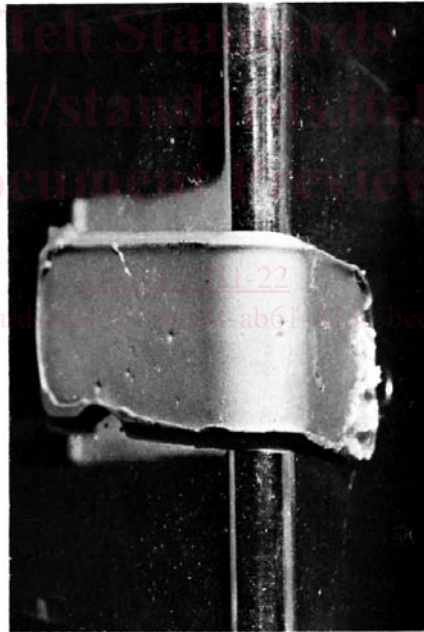
7.1.2 Thoroughly clean template and aluminum panels with solvent.



(a) Complete Cracking and Adhesive Failure



(b) Severe Cracking



(c) No Cracking or Adhesive Failure

**FIG. 1 Low-Temperature Flexibility (Tenacity)**

7.1.3 Center the template on the aluminum panel and carefully fill it with compound, avoiding air pockets. Strike off the surface of the compound flat to a uniform  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. (3.2 mm) thickness.

7.1.4 With the thin knife edge of the spatula, cut all around the outside edge of the compound and lift the template straight up and off leaving the formed sealant on the plate.