



Designation: D5575 – 18 (Reapproved 2023)

# Standard Classification System for Copolymers of Vinylidene Fluoride (VDF) with Other Fluorinated Monomers<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D5575; 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 classification system covers both developing property designations and specifications for thermoplastic compositions consisting of vinylidene fluoride (VDF) polymers modified with other fluoromonomers and property-enhancing additives. The other fluoromonomers include one or more of the following: hexafluoropropylene (HFP), tetrafluoroethylene (TFE), and chlorotrifluoroethylene (CTFE). The additives are those that improve its flame resistance, processing, or physical properties. However, these additives are not normally considered to be reinforcing. This classification system covers thermoplastic compositions supplied in pellet or powder forms.

1.2 A designation or specification applies only to the virgin polymers prepared from vinylidene fluoride (>50 weight %) with one or more of the following comonomers: hexafluoropropylene, tetrafluoroethylene, and chlorotrifluoroethylene. Some polymers contain additives to enhance certain properties.

1.3 This system constitutes a line callout as a means of designating and specifying properties of VDF-based copolymers. At least four of the designated properties are used to define a polymer's specification. Specification criteria from international documents can be used if their criteria match designation properties currently used by this classification system.<sup>2</sup> This classification system is not intended for the selection of materials.

1.4 The manufacturer of the virgin resin shall establish the designation of a resin based on the property value criteria in this classification system.

<sup>1</sup> This classification system is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D20 on Plastics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D20.15 on Thermoplastic Materials.

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This standard is needed to cover commercial products outside the scope of Specification D3222.

<sup>2</sup> Fluoropolymer property specification data from international standards can include properties intentionally excluded from this classification system (for example, composition). The only property criteria from other documents that can be used are those having similar properties allowed under the designation system.

1.5 The minimum specification properties are established by this classification system. Additional specification properties, based on the designation properties cited, can be established by the resin supplier and customer.

1.6 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard.

1.7 The property tests are intended to provide information for specifications of modified VDF-copolymer compositions. It is not the purpose of this classification system to provide engineering data for design purposes.

NOTE 1—Although the values listed in Table 1, Table 2, Table 3, Table 4, and Table 5 are necessary to include the range of properties available in existing materials, they are not to be interpreted as implying that every possible combination of the properties exists or can be obtained. It is possible for a user or designer, using Tables 1-5, to call out property relationships that are physically impossible to occur in a copolymer made using current technology.

NOTE 2—Many of these polymers exhibit polymorphism.<sup>3</sup> The type and extent of crystalline structure will vary with the thermomechanical history of the sample. Properties vary based on the technique used to prepare the specimens.

1.8 Test methods used in this classification system can result in the incidental production of hazardous materials. Modified VDF polymer fluoroplastics melt between 90 and 182°C (194 and 359°F) and are thermally stable up to about 350°C (662°F), or somewhat higher, depending on the composition. (**Warning**—Evolution of corrosive, colorless, and toxic hydrogen fluoride can occur under certain conditions.)

1.9 *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. See Warning in 1.8 and Section 10 for specific hazards statements.*

NOTE 3—Many, but not all of the codes and specifications found in this classification system are also in ISO 12086-1 and ISO 12086-2.

1.10 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the*

<sup>3</sup> Lovinger, A. J., "Poly(vinylidene fluoride)," *Developments in Crystalline Polymers*, Vol 1, Chapter 5, D.C. Bassett, Ed., Applied Science, London, 1982.

\*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard

**TABLE 1 Codes for the Information on Fluoropolymers Used in Data Block 1**

Code	Meaning
A	modified
B	block copolymer
H	homopolymer
K	copolymer
L	graft polymer
R	random copolymer
Z	other

**TABLE 2 Code-Letters Used in Data Block 2 (Intended Application or Method of Processing, Essential Properties, Additives, or Other Information)**

Code	Position 1	Code	Positions 2 to 8
A	adhesives	C	colored
B	blow molding	D	powder
B1	extrusion blow molding	D2	free-flowing
B2	injection blow molding	D3	not free-flowing
C	calendaring	E	expandable
E	extrusion	F	special burning characteristics
G	general use	F1	nonflammable
H	coating	F2	flame retarded
H1	powder coating	F4	reduced smoke emission
H2	dip coating	G	granules
K	cable and wire coating	G1	pellets
L	monofilament extrusion	L	light and weather stabilized
M	molding (injection/transfer)	M	nucleated
Q	compression molding	N	natural (no color added)
R	rotational molding	N1	suitable for food contact
V	thermoforming	N2	high purity
X	no indication	P	impact modified
Y	textile yarns, spinning	R	mold release agent
Z	other	S	lubricated
		T	transparent
		T1	translucent
		T2	opaque
		W1	improved chemical resistance
		Y	increased electrical conductivity
		Z	antistatic

**TABLE 3 Designatory and Specification Properties for Data Block 3**

Position Number <sup>A</sup>	Property
1	<sup>B</sup> melt temperature
2	<sup>B</sup> melt flow rate/melt viscosity
3	<sup>B</sup> tensile strength and modulus
4	tensile elongation
5	<sup>B</sup> density
6	electrical
7	flammability by oxygen index (OI)
8	specimen preparation method and type

<sup>A</sup> Property test information for Positions 1 to 7 are given in Section 8.  
<sup>B</sup> Positions 1, 2, 3, and 5 are mandated as the minimum specification properties.

*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>4</sup>**

NOTE 4—For ASTM and ISO documents, the equivalent or a comparable method is listed after each citation in parentheses.

<sup>4</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.

- D150 Test Methods for AC Loss Characteristics and Permittivity (Dielectric Constant) of Solid Electrical Insulation
- D257 Test Methods for DC Resistance or Conductance of Insulating Materials
- D618 Practice for Conditioning Plastics for Testing
- D638 Test Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics
- D792 Test Methods for Density and Specific Gravity (Relative Density) of Plastics by Displacement
- D883 Terminology Relating to Plastics
- D1238 Test Method for Melt Flow Rates of Thermoplastics by Extrusion Plastometer
- D1600 Terminology for Abbreviated Terms Relating to Plastics
- D2863 Test Method for Measuring the Minimum Oxygen Concentration to Support Candle-Like Combustion of Plastics (Oxygen Index)
- D3222 Specification for Unmodified Poly(Vinylidene Fluoride) (PVDF) Molding Extrusion and Coating Materials
- D3418 Test Method for Transition Temperatures and Enthalpies of Fusion and Crystallization of Polymers by Differential Scanning Calorimetry
- D3835 Test Method for Determination of Properties of Polymeric Materials by Means of a Capillary Rheometer
- D3892 Practice for Packaging/Packing of Plastics
- D4591 Test Method for Determining Temperatures and Heats of Transitions of Fluoropolymers by Differential Scanning Calorimetry
- D4703 Practice for Compression Molding Thermoplastic Materials into Test Specimens, Plaques, or Sheets
- D5740 Guide for Writing Material Standards in the Classification Format
- IEEE/ASTM S1–10 Standard for Use of the International System of Units (SI)
- 2.2 IEC and ISO Standards:<sup>5</sup>
- IEC 60093 Recommended Methods of Test for Volume and Surface Resistivities of Electrical Insulating Materials
- IEC 60250 Recommended Methods for the Determination of the Permittivity and Dielectric Dissipation Factor of Electrical Insulating Materials at Power, Audio and Radio Frequencies Including Metre Wavelengths
- ISO 291 Plastics—Standard Atmospheres for Conditioning and Testing (Practice D618)
- ISO 293 Plastics—Compression Molding Test Specimens of Thermoplastic Materials (Practice 4703)
- ISO 472 Plastics—Vocabulary (Terminology D883)
- ISO 527/1,2,3 Plastics—Determination of Tensile Properties (Test Method D638)
- ISO 1043/1 Plastics—Symbols—Part 1: Symbols for Basic Polymers and Their Special Characteristics (Terminology D883)
- ISO 1043/2 Plastics—Symbols—Part 2: Fillers and Reinforcing Materials (Terminology D883)
- ISO 1133 Plastics—Determination of the Melt Mass-Flow Rate (MFR) and the Melt Volume-Flow Rate (MVR) of

<sup>5</sup> Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, http://www.ansi.org.

**TABLE 4 Date Block 3**

Position 1		Position 2				Position 3			Position 4			
Code	T <sub>m</sub> , °C	Melt Viscosity/Melt-Flow Rate				Tensile Strength			Tensile Elongation			
		Code	Melt-Flow Rate, g/10 min	Load, kg	Melt Viscosity, Pa/s <sup>A</sup>	Temperature, °C	Code	Yield Strength, MPa	Modulus, MPa	Code	Yield, %	Break, %
a	<20	a	<0.1		<250		a	<15	<500	a	<5	<50
b	20 to <30	b	0.1 to< 0.2	0.325	>250		b	15 to <20	500 to< 800	b	5 to <10	50 to <100
c	30 to <40	c	0.2 to <0.5	1.20	>500		c	20 to <25	800 to< 1200	c	10 to <15	100 to <150
d	40 to <50	d	0.5 to <1.0	2.16	>100		d	25 to< 30	1200 to <1600	d	15 to <20	150 to <200
e	50 to <60	e	1.0 to <2.0	3.80	>1500		e	30 to< 35	1600 to <2000	e	20 to <25	200 to <250
f	60 to <70	f	2.0 to <5.0	5.00	>2000	230	f	35 to< 40	2000 to< 3000	f	25 to <30	250 to <300
g	70 to <80	g	5.0 to <10	10.00	>2500	125	g	40 to< 45	3000 to< 4000	g	>30	300 to <350
h	80 to< 90	h	10 to < 20	12.50	>3000		h	45 to <50	4000 to <6000	h		350 to <400
i	90 to < 100	i	20 to <50	21.60	>3500		i	50 to< 55	>6000	i		400 to <500
j	100 to< 110	j	≥50	31.60			j	55 to< 60		j		500 to <600
k	110 to< 120	k					k	60 to <65		k		600 to< 800
l	120 to< 130	l					l	≥65		l		>800
m	130 to <140	m					m			m		
n	140 to <150	n					n			n		
o	150 to <160	o					o			o		
p	160 to <170	p					p			p		
q	170 to <180	q					q			q		
r	180 to <190	r					r			r		
s	190 to <200	s					s			s		
t	200 to <210	t					t			t		
u		u					u			u		
v		v					v			v		
w		w					w			w		
x		x					x			x		
y		y					y			y		
z	not specified	z	not specified				z	not specified		z	not specified	

<sup>A1</sup> Pa/s = 10 P.

Position 5		Position 6			Position 7		Position 8		
Code	Specific Gravity, g/cm <sup>3</sup>	Code	Electrical a-c Dielectric Constant	Loss	d-c Electric Volume	Code	Limiting Oxygen Index	Code	Specimen Type
a	<1.6	a			>10E3	a	<40	a	D638 Type I
b	1.6 to <1.7	b			10E3 to 10E12	b	40 to <50	b	D638 Type II
c	1.7 to< 1.8	c			>10E12	c	50 to <60	c	D638 Type III
d	1.8 to <1.9	d				d	60 to< 70	d	D638 Type IV
e	1.9 to< 2.0	e				e	70 to <80	e	ISO 527 Type 1A
f	2.0 to <2.1	f				f	80 to <90	f	ISO 527 Type 1B
g	2.1 to< 2.2	g		<0.0012		g	>90	g	ISO 527 Type 6A
h	2.2 to< 2.3	h	<3.0	<0.0014		h		h	ISO 527 Type 7A
i	2.3 to <2.4	i	3.0 to< 3.1	<0.0016		i		i	ISO 12086/1 Fig. 1
j	2.4 to <2.5	j	3.1 to <3.2	<0.0018		j		j	D638 Type MI
k		k	3.2 to< 3.5	<0.0020		k		k	D638 Type MII
l		l	3.5 to <4.0	<0.0022		l		l	D638 Type MIII
m		m	4.0 to< 4.5	<0.0024		m		m	
n		n	4.5 to <5.0	<0.0026		n		n	
o		o	5.0 to< 5.5	<0.0028		o		o	
p		p	5.5 to <6.0	<0.0030		p		p	D1708
q		q	6.0 to <6.5	<0.0035		q		q	
r		r	6.5 to <7.0	<0.0040		r		r	
s		s	7.0 to <8.0	<0.0060		s		s	
t		t	8.0 to <9.0	<0.0080		t		t	
u		u	9.0 to <10	<0.0100		u		u	
v		v	10 to <11	<0.0300		v		v	
w		w	11 to <12	<0.1000		w		w	
x		x	12 to <14	>0.1000		x		x	
y		y	>14			y		y	
z	not specified	z	not specified		not specified	z	not specified	z	

Thermoplastics (Test Method D1238)  
 ISO 1183 Plastics—Methods for Determining Density and Relative Density of Non-Cellular Plastics (Test Methods D792)  
 ISO 4589 Plastics—Determination of Flammability By Oxygen Index

ISO 12086-1 Fluoropolymer Dispersion and Molding and Extrusion Materials—Part 1: Designation and Specification  
 ISO 12086-2 Fluoropolymer Dispersion and Molding and Extrusion Materials—Part 2: Preparation of Test Specimens and Determination of Properties

**TABLE 5 Codes for Filler and Physical Form of Materials for Use in Data Block 4**

Code	Material	Code	Form/Structure
B	boron	B	beads, spheres, balls
C	carbon	C	chips, cuttings
CG	graphite	D	powder
E	clay	F	fiber
G	glass	G	ground
K	calcium carbonate	H	whisker
M	mineral, metal	K	knitted fabric
Ma	aluminum oxide	L	layer
Mb	bronze	M	mat (thick)
MC	calcium fluoride	N	nonwoven (fabric)
Md	molybdenum disulfide	P	paper
Me	stainless steel	S	roving
P	mica	T	scale, flake
Q	silica	V	cord
R	aramid	W	veneer
S	synthetic, organic	X	not specified
T	talcum	Y	yarn
X	not specified	Z	others
Z	none		

### 3. Terminology

#### 3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *copolymer*—a polymer derived from more than one species of monomer.

3.1.2 *fluoroplastic*—a plastic based on polymers made with monomers containing one or more atoms of fluorine, or copolymers of such monomers with other monomers, the fluoro-monomer(s) being in the greatest amount by mass. **ISO 12086-1**

3.1.3 *monomer*—a low-molecular-weight substance consisting of molecules capable of reacting with like or unlike molecules to form a polymer.

3.1.4 *thermoplastic*—a plastic that repeatedly can be softened by heating and hardened by cooling through a temperature range characteristic of the plastic, and that in the softened state can be shaped by flow into articles by molding or extrusion.

#### 3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *amorphous*—noncrystalline or devoid of regular structure.

3.2.2 *contamination*—the presence of nonpolymer particulate and debris in the polymer, excluding any property-enhancing additives.

3.2.3 *fluoropolymer*—synonymous with fluoroplastic.

3.2.4 *melt-processible*—capable of being processed by, for example, injection molding, screw extrusion, and other operations typically used with thermoplastics.

3.2.5 *polymorphism*—the ability of a material to form two or more different but stable crystalline forms.

3.2.6 *thermomechanical history*—the mechanical and thermal exposure that a material experiences before testing.

#### 3.3 Abbreviations:

3.3.1 *CTFE*—chlorotrifluoroethylene (1-chloro-1,2,2-trifluoroethylene).

3.3.2 *DMAC*—dimethylacetamide.

3.3.3 *DSC*—differential scanning calorimetry.

3.3.4 *HFP*—hexafluoropropylene (1,1,2,3,3,3-hexafluoropropylene).

3.3.5 *MFR*—melt-flow rate.

3.3.6 *MV*—melt viscosity.

3.3.7 *PVDF*—poly(vinylidene fluoride).

3.3.8 *TFE*—tetrafluoroethylene (1,1,2,2-tetrafluoroethylene). **D1600**

3.3.9 *VDF*—vinylidene fluoride (1,1-difluoroethylene).

3.3.10 *VDF/CTFE*—vinylidene fluoride/chlorotrifluoroethylene copolymer.

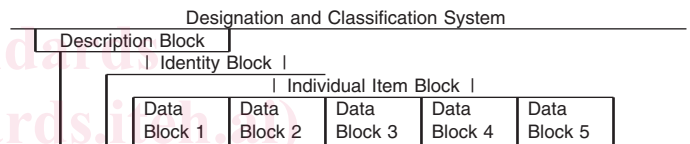
3.3.11 *VDF/HFP*—vinylidene fluoride/hexafluoropropenecopolymer.

3.3.12 *VDF/TFE*—vinylidene fluoride/tetrafluoroethylene copolymer.

3.3.13 *VDF/TFE/HFP*—vinylidene fluoride/tetrafluoroethylene/hexafluoropropene copolymer.

### 4. Classification and Designation

4.1 The classification and designation system of the polymers is based on the following standardized pattern taken from ISO 12086-1:



4.1.1 The designation system consists of the following:

4.1.1.1 An optional description block, reading “Thermoplastics,”

4.1.1.2 An identity block comprising the ASTM standard number, and

4.1.1.3 An individual item block.

(1) The individual item block is subdivided into five data blocks that include the information in 4.2 – 4.6. Data Block 5 is used when a designation is converted to a specification. See Section 7 for more details.

(2) The blocks shall be separated from each other by commas. If a data block is not used, this shall be indicated by doubling the separation sign, that is, by two commas (,,).

4.2 *Data Block 1*—This data block identifies the fluoropolymer by its abbreviation from the list in 3.3 (additional terms are listed in ISO 12086-1, 2, or Terminology **D1600**). The abbreviation is followed by a hyphen and a one-letter code giving more information about the polymer, using the codes from **Table 1**.

4.3 *Data Block 2*:

4.3.1 This block can indicate up to eight items of information coded by letters as specified in **Table 2**. Position 1 gives information about intended application or method of processing. Positions 2 through 8 provide up to seven items that can use codes from **Table 2** to indicate the polymer’s form as well as specific special characteristics.

4.3.2 If only one letter is given (for example, E), it must apply to Position 1. Whenever there is an indication of properties, etc., in Positions 2 to 8, a code in Position 1 is



required. The code “X” indicates that no other letter code is appropriate. An alphabetical order is recommended if more than one code letter is used in Positions 2 to 8.

NOTE 5—Selecting the application or processing method for Position 1 of Data Block 2 must be done carefully. Many polymers are capable of more than one application or method of processing (for example, extrusion (E) and molding (M) resins must be coded “general use” (G)). Coding for special methods of processing must be reserved for polymers only designed for the application.

#### 4.4 Data Block 3:

4.4.1 Data Block 3 is used as the designation or general description of the fluoropolymer’s properties. The property values are presented by code letters in seven of eight positions within Data Block 3. Each position represents a specific property listed in Table 3. Table 4 lists the code letters corresponding to the various property values. The values are determined by the methods cited in Section 8. At least four of the seven properties are specification properties. Position 8 cites specimen preparation methods when the designation is converted to a specification.

4.4.1.1 Each position shall contain one or more code letters, depending on the property cited. The positions are separated by a hyphen (-). Use of an asterisk (\*) or question mark (?) before the code letters denotes that property as a specification property.

4.4.1.2 The resin manufacturer shall assign the codes in Data Block 3, based on test results from Table 4. If test values lie on, or on either side of, a cell limit because of manufacturing tolerances, the resin manufacturer shall state which cell will designate.

NOTE 6—Properties other than those in this classification system or do not have standard test methods are outside of the property focus of the document scope (for example, comonomer ratios).

#### 4.4.2 Melting Endotherm Peak Temperature (Position 1)—

Melting endotherm peak temperature shall be determined in accordance with the principles of Test Methods D3418 and D4591. Semicrystalline polymers shall use melting endotherm peak temperature as a designatory property. Cell codes and ranges are given in Table 4.

4.4.3 Melt-Flow Rate or Melt Viscosity (Position 2)—Melt viscosity (MV) shall be determined using Test Method D3835. Melt-flow rate (MFR) shall be determined in accordance with Test Method D1238 or ISO 1133, using test conditions selected from Table 4. The melt viscosity or the melt-flow rate is indicated in Data Block 3 by the cell code and ranges in accordance with Table 4, followed by the codes for temperature and load for MFR and shear rate for MV also included in Table 4. Order for Position 2 is as follows:

##### Position 2 Order

- 1st = MFR
- 2nd = MFR load
- 3rd = MV
- 4th = Temperature

4.4.4 Tensile Strength Properties (Positions 3 and 4)—Tensile-strength properties shall be determined in accordance with the principles of Test Method D638 or ISO 527 modified by details given in 8.9 or ISO 12086-2. Table 4 provides the codes to use for each range of tensile strength and modulus,

and percentage elongation at yield and break. Order for Positions 3 and 4 are as follows:

##### Position 3 Order

- 1st = tensile yield
- 2nd = tensile break
- 3rd = tensile modulus

##### Position 4 Order

- 1st = tensile-yield elongation
- 2nd = tensile-break elongation

4.4.5 Density (Relative Density, Specific Gravity) (Position 5)—Density shall be determined in accordance with the principles of Test Methods D150 or ISO 12086-2. The cell codes are listed in Table 4.

4.4.6 Electrical Properties (Position 6)—Electrical properties for d-c and a-c currents shall be determined by Test Methods D150, D257, or their ISO equivalents. The cell codes are listed in Table 4. Order for Position 6 is as follows:

##### Position 6 Order

- Position 1 = resistivity
- Position 2 = frequency (listed as the exponent of the power of ten)
- Position 3 = dielectric constant
- Position 4 = dissipation factor

Positions 5 to 7, 8 to 10, 11 to 13, ... (repeat of 2 to 4 for each frequency cited)

4.4.7 Flammability Properties (Position 7)—Flammability properties shall be determined by oxygen index (OI) values using Test Method D2863 or ISO 4583. The cell codes are listed in Table 4.

4.4.8 Specimen Preparation and Type (Position 8)—This position is used only when a designation is converted to a specification to describe the molded specimen type and its preparation. Section 9 provides information on preparing compression-molded specimens. Cell codes are listed in Table 2 and Table 4. Order for Position 8 is as follows:

##### Position 8 Order

- 1st = molding method (from Table 2, Position 1)
- 2nd = tensile bar type and method (Table 4)

NOTE 7—Using specimen preparation method and type cited in Position 8 allows the supplier and customer to monitor polymer properties while minimizing the effects of specimen preparation.

4.5 Data Block 4—Data Block 4 is used to site the type (Position 1) and form (Position 2) of fillers or other materials added to the fluoropolymer. Letter codes listed in Table 5 are used to indicate the type and form used (supplemental codes can be found in ISO 1043/2). The nominal content, by weight percent, is noted by arabic numerals after Position 2 to the nearest 1 %. Additive contents below 2 % need not be specified. For designation clarity, a hyphen (-) is used to separate material type codes. When a material is present in more than one form, a plus sign (+) is used to separate the form codes.

#### 4.6 Data Block 5:

4.6.1 Data Block 5 is used to denote changes in the values of a property when the designation is converted to specification. The type of changes would be the following:

4.6.1.1 To cite the alternate property value range when a (?) is used in Data Block 3. Where more than one (?) is cited, the value ranges shall be listed in order of their occurrence.

NOTE 8—It is recommended that any ranges smaller than designated by Table 4 codes be greater than the precision and bias for the test method that measures the property.

4.6.1.2 To cite a current ASTM or other standard specification for the polymer (see 4.7 for restrictions).

4.6.1.3 A combination of 4.6.1.1 and 4.6.1.2.

#### 4.7 Designation and Specification Restrictions:

4.7.1 Data Block 5 of the specification call-out cannot cite properties beyond the scope of this classification system. In other words, specification criteria or properties from other specifications that conflict with this classification system's scope are not allowed.

NOTE 9—Some specifications cite properties that are either not detectable or use test methods not available to most customers. Therefore, specification property values or results shall be able to be determined by a user without *a priori* knowledge of the polymer's manufacturer, polymerization process, or any other unique finishing process.

4.7.2 A commercial grade of polymer shall not have multiple designations for Data Block 2. The application choice shall be broad enough for a variety of the applications to which it can be applied.

4.7.3 An alternate specification property range in Data Block 5 shall not be greater than the original designation-code range from Table 4 and either the preceding or following code. In other words, if a property code is normally "D," the new range could encompass values or ranges from Code "C and D" or "D and E." The new values cannot encompass a range cited by Codes "C to E" or greater.

4.7.4 At no time shall a designation for a commercial grade have more than one designation for Data Blocks 1, 2, 3, and 4. If the code values need to be modified from those cited in Table 4, the changes shall be done by use of a (?) and listed in Data Block 5.

## 5. General Requirements

5.1 The material shall be ordered by the manufacturer's trade name and corresponding copolymer line callout and the necessary suffix properties to define the material.

5.2 The material shall be of uniform composition and free of foreign matter to a contamination level agreed upon between the purchaser and the seller.

5.3 Adequate statistical sampling shall be considered an acceptable alternative.

## 6. Example of a Designation

6.1 The following example is for VDF/HFP fluoropolymer material for general-purpose molding with a designation of:

## 7. Specifications for Fluoropolymers

### 7.1 Designation Conversion to Specification:

7.1.1 A designation is converted into a specification by preceding 4 or more property codes in Data Block 3 with an asterisk and adding the specimen preparation codes in Data Block 3, Position 8, from Table 2 and Table 4.

7.1.1.1 Four property codes, cited by Data Block 3 positions, that must be included in a specification are as follows:

Data Block 3 Position	Property
1	melt temperature
2	melt-flow rate or melt viscosity, or both
3	tensile strength and modulus
5	density

### 7.1.2 Specification Using Designation Ranges:

#### 7.1.2.1 Example (see Appendix X2):

A VDF/CTFE copolymer, a general-use grade, sold as granules, and having the following (specification properties are in boldface type):

- (1) **A melting point of 165°C,**
- (2) **An MV of 1500 Pa/s when tested at 230°C at 100 s<sup>-1</sup>,**
- (3) **A tensile strength yield of 28 MPa; break strength not cited; modulus of 800 MPa,**
- (4) Elongation yield of 9 %; break of 450 %,
- (5) **Density between 1.78,**
- (6) Electricals of:  
Volume resistivity greater than 2.3 E<sup>14</sup>Ω,  
Dielectric constant at 1 kHz at 10.1; at 10 kHz at 9.3; 1 MHz at 7.3,  
Dissipation factor at 1 kHz at 0.021; at 10 kHz at 0.031; at 1 MHz at 0.15,
- (7) OI at 53, and
- (8) Tested using compression-molded specimens using ISO 527 Type-6A tensile bars.

Designation and specification where each designatory property is desired as part of the specification with the specification limits equal to the cell limits is as follows:

**ASTM D5XXX, VDF/CTFE-K, GG,\*P-\*ZZE-\*DZC-BI-\*C-C3VU4UVSXY-C-\*QG,Z,, ASTM D5XXX, VDF/CTFE-K, GG,\*P-\*ZZE-\*DZC-BI-\*C-C3VU4UVSXY-C-\*QG, Z,,**

### 7.1.3 Specification Using Alternate Property Ranges:

7.1.3.1 When the values given in the cell tables are not satisfactory for specification purposes, indicate this situation by inserting a question mark in Data Block 3 at the beginning of the destination cell code and the specification range given in Data Block 5.

#### 7.1.3.2 Example (see Appendix X3):

A modified VDF/HFP copolymer that is processed by extrusion, with reduced-burning characteristics and smoke emissions. The resin is marketed as pellets, contains a lubricant, and is opaque. The additive level is less than 2 %. Its properties are as follows (specification properties are in boldface type):

- (1) **A melting point of 143°C,**
- (2) **An MV between 1300 and 1700 Pa/s when tested at 230°C at 100 s<sup>-1</sup>,**
- (3) **A tensile strength yield of 24 MPa; break not cited; modulus of 1000 MPa,**
- (4) Elongation yield of 12 %; break of 350 %,
- (5) **Density of 1.79,**
- (6) Electricals not cited.
- (7) OI greater than 80,
- (8) **Tensile specimens are compression-molded and Test Method D638, Type I, and**
- (9) The melt-viscosity range encompasses two ranges.

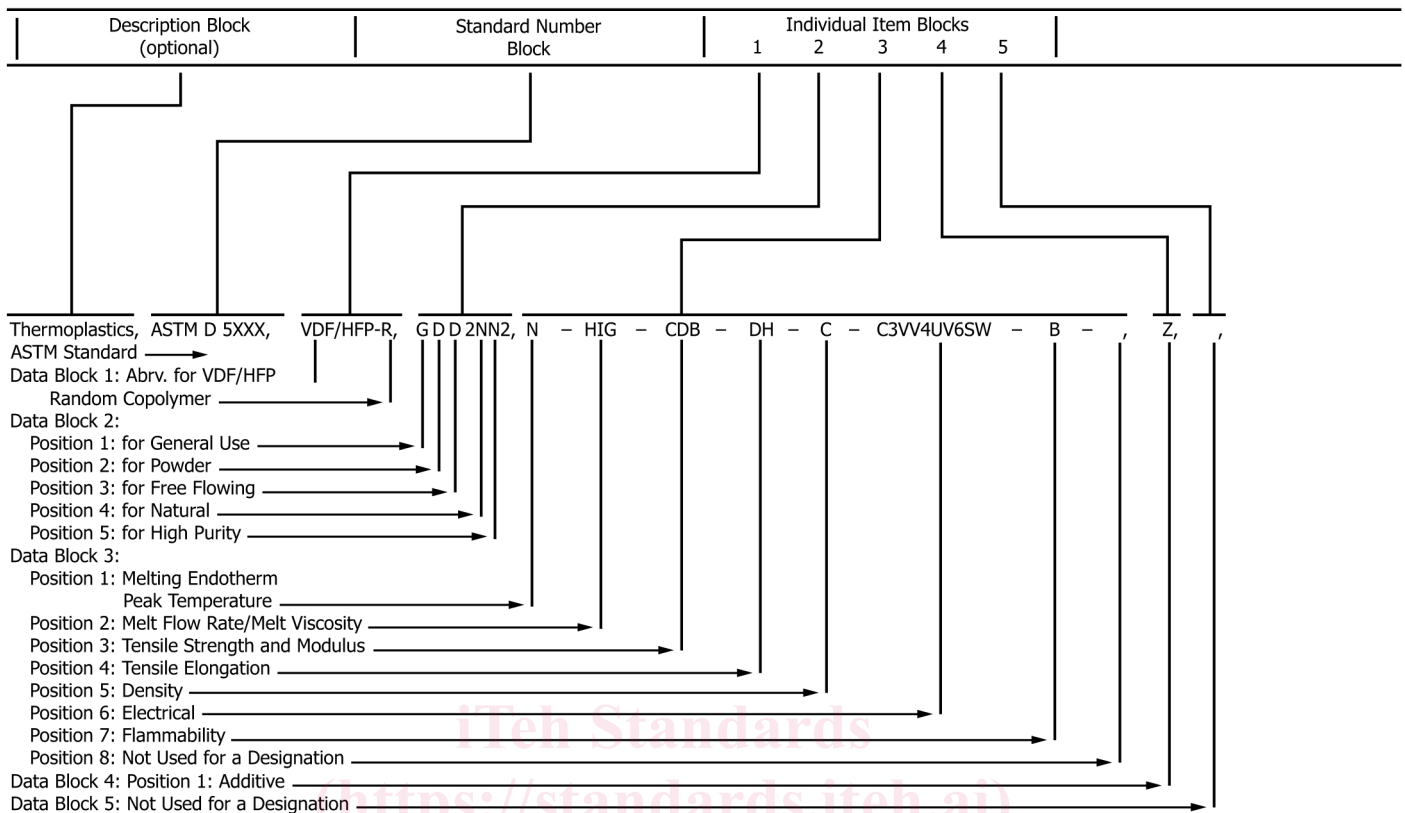
Designation and specification is as follows:

**ASTM D5XXX, VDF/HFP-A, EFF4G1ST2, \*N-\*ZZ?E-\*CZC-CH-\*C-ZZ-\*C-QA, Z, ?1300–1700,**

## 8. Property Determination Methods

8.1 The following subsections of Section 8 cite test methods used to determine polymer-property values of code levels from Table 4 for Data Block 3 of a designation or specification line call-out. When a test value normally varies between two code levels, the manufacturer shall designate the code levels. Several properties are tested using molded specimens. Section 9 presents a procedure to prepare compression-molded specimens. Injection molded specimens are allowed, but due to stress effects on many properties, compression molding of specimens is preferred.

Thermoplastics, ASTM D 5XXX, VDF/HFP-R, GDO2MM2, M-MIG-CDB-DH-C-C3YY4UV6SW-B-, Z,,  
Detailed Explanation of the Designation



8.2 *Melt Temperature*—The copolymers peak melting points are determined using Test Methods D4591 or D3418 using DSC. The sample size is 10 ± 1 mg. The sample is heated, cooled, and reheated over a temperature range from -20 to 220°C at a rate of 10°C/min. The sample is held at the upper temperature for 5 min before cooling. The second heating endotherm peak value shall be used. Occasionally multiple peaks are observed. The temperature of the tallest peak shall be reported as the melting point.

8.3 *Melt-Flow Rate and Melt Viscosity:*

8.3.1 *Melt-Flow Rate*—The melt-flow rate (MFR) shall be determined using Test Method D1238 or ISO 1133 at 230°C for all resins whose melt point is above 100°C. Lower melt-point resins shall use a test temperature of 125°C.

8.3.2 *Melt Viscosity*—The melt-viscosity value at 100 s<sup>-1</sup> at 230°C shall be determined from a shear-rate viscosity curve of four or more points ranging from less than 50 s<sup>-1</sup> to greater than 500 s<sup>-1</sup> shear rate. For polymers with melt points less than 110°C, a test temperature of 125°C shall be used. The rheometer die shall have an entrance angle of 60° (cone angle of 120°) and a capillary L/D ratio of 15. The sample shall be pellets or pieces cut from molded or extruded forms. Strips about 6 mm wide by 76 mm long are easily handled.

8.4 *Tensile Properties:*

8.4.1 Tensile properties, except modulus, shall be tested in accordance with Test Method D638 or ISO 527 at a strain rate of 25 mm/mm/min (1 in./in./min). The strain rate is the ratio of the cross-head speed divided by the specimen-gauge length.

Tensile modulus shall use a strain rate of 2 % of the previous strain rate (0.5 mm/mm/min or 0.013 in./in./min). The property values of the resin shall be determined as the average of results from at least five specimens.

NOTE 10—When test equipment cannot test at a 2 % strain rate for the smaller test bars, a higher strain rate (less than 5 %) is allowed.

8.4.2 Elongation is determined as the percent change in specimen length during the test, based on the original gauge length. This value can be determined by either cross-head separation or by use of an extensometer.

8.4.3 Compression molded specimens are preferred (see Section 9), but injection-molded specimens or specimens cut from extruded sheet are allowed. Dies or mold cavity-dimensions to cut or mold specimens shall match the required specimen dimensions and tolerances.

NOTE 11—The different test bar shapes have three basic types with minor variations. Unfortunately, these differences can affect the test values. For this reason Position 8 in Data Block 3 is used when a designation is changed to a specification. Examples of the three basic shapes are as follows:

- Large: D638 Type I or ISO 527 Type 1A (50-mm gauge)
- Medium: ISO 527 Type 6A or Test Method D638 Type IV (25-mm gauge)
- Small: ISO 12086-2 Figure 1 (22-mm gauge)

NOTE 12—Due to the molded-in stress and orientation, injection-molded or samples cut from extruded sheet are subject to breaking outside of the gauge region and show low (and possibly variable) elongation compared to compression-molded specimens. Some samples exhibit strain hardening. This effect can result in variable break properties.