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Standard Specification for Vulcanized Rubber Sheets Used in Waterproofing Systems¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers unreinforced vulcanized rubber sheets made from ethylene propylene diene terpolymer (EPDM) or butyl (IIR), intended for use in preventing water under hydrostatic pressure from entering a structure.

1.2 The tests and property limits used to characterize these sheets are specific for each classification and are minimum values to make the product fit for its intended purpose.

1.3 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.

1.4 *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:*²

[D412 Test Methods for Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Elastomers—Tension](#)

[D471 Test Method for Rubber Property—Effect of Liquids](#)

[D573 Test Method for Rubber—Deterioration in an Air Oven](#)

[D624 Test Method for Tear Strength of Conventional Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Elastomers](#)

[D746 Test Method for Brittleness Temperature of Plastics and Elastomers by Impact](#)

[D816 Test Methods for Rubber Cements](#)

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D08 on Roofing and Waterproofing and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D08.18 on Nonbituminous Organic Roof Coverings.

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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.

[D1204 Test Method for Linear Dimensional Changes of Nonrigid Thermoplastic Sheeting or Film at Elevated Temperature](#)

[D2240 Test Method for Rubber Property—Durometer Hardness](#)

[D3083 Specification for Flexible Poly\(Vinyl Chloride\) Plastic Sheeting for Pond, Canal, and Reservoir Lining \(Withdrawn 1998\)³](#)

[E96/E96M Test Methods for Gravimetric Determination of Water Vapor Transmission Rate of Materials](#)

[E154/E154M Test Methods for Water Vapor Retarders Used in Contact with Earth Under Concrete Slabs, on Walls, or as Ground Cover](#)

3. Classification

3.1 Types used to identify the principal polymer component of the sheet include:

Type I: Ethylene Propylene Diene Terpolymer (EPDM), and
Type II: Butyl (IIR)

3.2 The mass percentage of the principal polymer in relation to the total polymer shall be greater than 95 %.

4. Materials and Manufacture

4.1 The sheet shall be formulated from the appropriate polymers and other compounding ingredients. The principal polymer used in the sheet shall be one of those listed in 3.1 in accordance with the percentage listed in 3.2.

4.2 The sheet shall be capable of being bonded to itself for making field splices and repairs, and the manufacturer shall recommend bonding methods and materials.

5. Physical Requirements

5.1 The sheet shall conform to the physical requirements prescribed in [Table 1](#). Other requirements shall be agreed upon between the purchaser and the supplier.

6. Dimensions and Permissible Variations

6.1 The width and length of the sheet shall be agreed upon between the purchaser and the supplier. The width and length tolerance shall be +3, 0 %.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

TABLE 1 Physical Requirements for Vulcanized Rubber Sheets

	I	II
Type	EPDM	Butyl
Thickness, min, mm [in.]	1.37 [0.054]	1.37 [0.054]
Hardness, durometer A	60 ± 10	60 ± 10
Tensile strength, min MPa [psi]	9 [1300]	8.3 [1200]
Elongation, ultimate min %	300	300
Tensile set max %	10	10
Tear resistance min, kN/m [lbf/in.]	26.2 [150]	26.2 [150]
Brittleness temperature, max °C [°F]	-45 [-49]	-40 [-40]
Heat aging at 240 °F		
Tensile strength, min MPa [psi]	8.3 [1200]	6.2 [900]
Elongation ultimate, min %	210	210
Linear dimensional change, max %	±1	±2
Water absorption max, mass %	4	2
Factory seam strength min, MPa [psi]	8.8 [50]	8.8 [50]
Water vapor permeance max, perms [mg/pasm ²]	3.5 [0.060]	0.14 [0.0025]
Resistance to soil burial (% change max in original value)		
Breaking factory	10	10
Elongation at break	10	10
Puncture resistance Kg [lb]	32 [70]	43 [95]

6.2 Sheet thickness greater than the minimum shall be agreed upon between the purchaser and the supplier. The thickness tolerance shall be +15, -10 % of the specified thickness, but in no case shall the thickness be less than the minimum listed in Table 1.

7. Workmanship, Finish, and Appearance

7.1 The sheet shall be watertight and visually free of pinholes, particles of foreign matter, undispersed raw material, or other manufacturing defects that might affect serviceability. If irregularities in the form of pock marks (see Note 1) appear excessive on a sheet, or portion thereof, then its rejection should be negotiated between supplier and purchaser.

7.2 Factory seams, if present, shall be fully adhered across their entire widths.

7.3 Edges of the sheets shall be straight and flat so that they may be seamed to one another without fishmouthing.

NOTE 1—Pock marks are oblong depressions, cavities, or craters on the surface of the sheet which have approximate surface dimensions of 1/8 by 1/16 in. [3.2 by 1.6 mm], and may have a depth approaching one half of the sheet material.

8. Test Methods

8.1 *Thickness*—See Test Methods D412.

8.2 *Tensile Strength*—See Test Methods D412, Die C.

8.3 *Elongation, Ultimate*—See Test Methods D412, Die C.

8.4 *Tensile Set*—See Test Methods D412, Method A, Die C, 50 % Elongation.

8.5 *Tear Resistance*—See Test Method D624, Die C.

8.6 *Brittleness Temperature*—See Test Method D746.

8.7 *Linear Dimensional Change*—See Test Method D1204, 166 h at 240 ± 4 °F.

8.8 *Water Absorption*—See Test Method D471, at 70 ± 2 °C [158 ± 4 °F] for 166 h.

8.9 *Factory Seam Strength*—See Test Methods D816, Modified Method B, 1 in. wide, 2.0 in./min.

8.10 *Water Vapor Permeance*—See Test Methods E96/E96M, Procedure B.W. Relative Humidity of 45 % at 73 ± 4 °F.

8.11 *Hardness Durometer A (5 s reading)*—See Test Method D2240.

8.12 *Resistance to Soil Burial*—See Specification D3083 (modified by the test value of the after-exposure specimen shall be based upon the precut sample dimension).

8.13 *Resistance to Heat Aging*—See Test Method D573 properties after 166 h at 240 ± 4 °F.

8.14 *Test Resistance to Puncture*—See Test Methods E154/E154M.

9. Rejection and Resubmittal

9.1 Failure to conform to any of the requirements prescribed in this specification shall constitute grounds for rejection. In case of rejection, the seller shall have the right to reinspect the rejected material and resubmit the lot after removal of that not conforming to the requirements.

9.2 Inspection of the material shall be agreed upon between the purchaser and the supplier.

10. Product Labeling

10.1 The sheet shall be identified on the side intended to be exposed to the weather with this specification number and type, the name of the manufacturer or supplier, or the generic sheet type. The type of identification mark is at the manufacturer's option. Such identification shall occur at intervals not to exceed 10 ft on center in the long direction of the sheet and shall be applied in such a manner as to be legible at least five years from installation. Identification shall not be required when specified by purchaser.

11. Packaging and Package Marking

11.1 The material shall be rolled on a substantial core and packaged in a standard commercial manner, unless otherwise specified in the contract or order.

11.2 Shipping containers shall be marked with the type of the material, the stock number, lot number, ASTM designation number, type, size, and quantity therein as defined by the contract or order under which shipment is made, the name of the manufacturer or supplier.