



Designation: D 4334 – 99

Standard Test Method for the Determination of the Dip Tube Retention of a Mechanical Pump Dispenser¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the determination of the force necessary to separate the dip tube from the body of a mechanical pump dispenser.

1.2 *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 consult and establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 618 Practice for Conditioning Plastics and Electrical Insulating Materials for Testing²

3. Significance and Use

3.1 This test method may be used to establish performance specifications.

3.2 This test method may be used as a quality control assessment.

4. Apparatus

4.1 *Test Stand*—The test apparatus shall be capable of applying a smoothly increasing load to the test specimen until the dip tube is separated from the body of the mechanical pump dispenser.

NOTE 1—The condition of 4.1 is fulfilled by most motor driven tensile strength testers with a constant rate of elongation.

NOTE 2—The test stand should be equipped with a maximum force indicator.

4.2 Clamps:

4.2.1 *Fixture*, to secure the upper part of the mechanical pump dispenser. The fixture shall secure the dispenser in such a way that there is no slippage between it and the test specimen.

4.2.2 *Clamp*, to secure the dip tube. The clamp shall hold the dip tube in such a way that there is no slippage between the dip tube and the clamp.

4.2.3 Arrange the fixturing so that the tube is maintained in a position parallel to, and within the colinear plane of, the applied force.

4.3 *Scale*, graduated in either millimetres or inches.

5. Sampling

5.1 Select an appropriate number of dry, unused pump dispensers at random for precision and accuracy desired. Use of 10 test specimens is recommended, but a minimum of three is acceptable.

6. Conditioning

6.1 If possible, condition the test specimens at $23 \pm 3^\circ\text{C}$ ($73 \pm 5.4^\circ\text{F}$) for not less than 4 h. If the test specimens are not conditioned at the recommended temperature, this should be noted in the test report (see 8.1).

NOTE 3—It is suggested that newly-made samples be allowed to sit for a minimum of 24 h after assembly before retention testing begins.

7. Procedure

7.1 Attach fixtures and clamp to the test standard in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and in a manner consistent with the pump's geometry.

7.2 Insert the dip tube approximately 12 to 18 mm into the clamp and tighten to prevent slippage.

7.3 Adjust the test stand so that there is 25 mm of exposed dip tube length.

NOTE 4—At this time, there should be a zero reading on the force gage.

7.4 Operate the test stand at 250 mm (10 in.)/min until the dip tube has separated either from the pump dispenser, broken, slipped from the jaws, or reached the limit of cross-head travel. If the recommended cross-head speed is not used, record cross-head speed (see 8.1).

7.5 Record the maximum force reading, N (lb).

7.6 Record the mode of failure for each test specimen tested.

8. Report

8.1 The report shall include the following:

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D10 on Packaging, and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D10.33 on Mechanical Dispensers.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 08.01.