



Standard Specification for Heat-Shrink Cable Entry Seals (Metric)¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 1837M; 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 reappraisal. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers the general requirements for heat-shrink cable entry seals. Cable entry seals are intended for making electrical cable penetrations into connection boxes, bulkheads, or other enclosures. These devices are suitable for both thin wall enclosures up to 5 mm ($\frac{3}{16}$ in.) thick and thick-wall enclosures of 5 to 19 mm ($\frac{3}{16}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ in.) thick.

1.2 Cable entry seals shall have factory-applied adhesive that provides the seal to wire and cable jackets.

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

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

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

- D 149 Test Method for Dielectric Breakdown Voltage and Dielectric Strength of Solid Electrical Insulating Materials at Commercial Power Frequencies²
- D 257 Test Methods for D-C Resistance or Conductance of Insulating Materials²
- D 412 Test Methods for Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Rubbers and Thermoplastic Elastomers³
- D 570 Test Method for Water Absorption of Plastics⁴
- D 635 Test Method for Rate of Burning and/or Extent and Time of Burning of Self-Supporting Plastics in a Horizontal Position⁴
- D 747 Test Method for Apparent Bending Modulus of Plastics by Means of a Cantilever Beam⁴
- D 792 Test Methods for Density and Specific Gravity (Relative Density) of Plastics by Displacement⁴
- D 2240 Test Methods for Rubber Property—Durometer Hardness³

D 2671 Test Methods for Heat-Shrinkable Tubing for Electrical Use⁵

D 2863 Test Method for Measuring the Minimum Oxygen Concentration to Support Candle-Like Combustion of Plastics (Oxygen Index)⁶

D 3149 Specification for Crosslinked Polyolefin Heat-Shrinkable Tubing for Electrical Insulation⁵

D 4066 Specification for Nylon Injection and Extrusion Materials⁶

D 4507 Specification for Thermoplastic Polyester (TPES) Materials⁷

D 4732 Specification for Cool-Application Filling Compounds for Telecommunication Wire and Cable⁵

2.2 ASME Standard

ASME B1.1 Unified Inch Screw Threads (UN and UNR Thread Form)⁸

2.3 NEMA Standards:

NEMA 250 Enclosures for Electrical Equipment (1000 Volts Max)⁹

2.4 IEC Standard:

IEC 68-2-6 Environmental Testing—Part 2: Tests—Test FC: Vibration (Sinusoidal) Sixth Edition¹⁰

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.1.1 *heat-shrink cable entry seal, n*—heat-shrinkable tube making a watertight, fume-tight seal where cables enter connection boxes, bulkheads, or other enclosures.

3.1.2 *polyolefin, n*—polymer made by the polymerization of hydrocarbon olefins or copolymerization olefins.

4. Classification

4.1 Heat-shrink cable entry seals shall be of the following types:

4.1.1 *Type 1*, standard cable entry seals for thin-wall enclosures shall consist of the three-part assembly; a rigid plastic nut, O-ring, and heat-shrinkable molded area.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F-25 on Ships and Marine Technology and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F25.10 on Electrical.

Current edition approved Nov. 10, 1997. Published September 1998.

² Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 10.01.

³ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 09.01.

⁴ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 08.01.

⁵ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 10.02.

⁶ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 08.02.

⁷ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol. 08.03.

⁸ Available from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, 345 E. 47th St., New York, NY 10017.

⁹ Available from the National Electrical Manufacturers Association, 1300 N. 17th St., Suite 1847, Rosslyn, VA 22209.

¹⁰ Available from the International Electrotechnical Commission, 1 rue de Varembe, Geneva, Switzerland.

4.1.1.1 *Type I-1*, molded area configured with one opening for a single wire or cable entry.

4.1.1.2 *Type I-2*, molded area configured with two equal size openings to seal two wires or cables.

4.1.1.3 *Type I-3*, molded area configured with three equal size openings to seal three wires or cables.

4.1.1.4 *Type I-4*, molded area configured with four equal size openings to seal four wires or cables.

4.1.1.5 *Type I-5*, molded area configured with six equal size openings to seal six wires or cables.

4.1.1.6 *Type I-6*, molded area configured with eight equal size openings to seal eight wires or cables.

4.1.2 *Type II*, cable entry seal for threaded hole applications shall consist of a one-part assembly that combines a tapered national pipe thread (NPT) in rigid plastic with heat-shrinkable molded area.

4.1.2.1 *Type II-1*, molded area configured with one opening for a single wire or cable entry.

4.1.2.2 *Type II-2*, molded area configured with two equal size openings to seal two wires or cables.

4.1.2.3 *Type II-3*, molded area configured with three equal size openings to seal three wires or cables.

4.1.2.4 *Type II-4*, molded area configured with four equal size openings to seal four wires or cables.

4.1.3 *Type III*, right angle cable entry seal for thin-wall enclosure shall consist of a three-part assembly; a rigid plastic nut, O-ring, and heat-shrinkable molded area.

4.1.4 *Type IV*, right angle cable entry seal for threaded hole application shall consist of a one-part assembly that combines a tapered national pipe thread (NPT) in rigid plastic with a heat-shrinkable molded area.

5. Ordering Information

5.1 Orders for cable entry seals under this specification shall include the following:

- 5.1.1 Part number (see Figs. 1-6).
- 5.1.2 Quantity (per each part).

6. Materials and Manufacture

6.1 The rigid plastic parts shall be made from polyamide (nylon) conforming to Specification D 4066 (Group 1, Class 8, Grade 1) or polyester material conforming to Specification D 4507 or both.

6.1.1 Threads shall be unified form UN 2A or 2B or taper pipe thread (NPT) as specified in ASME B1.1.

6.2 The heat-shrinkable tubing shall be of a cross-linked polyolefin in accordance with Type III of Specification D 3149.

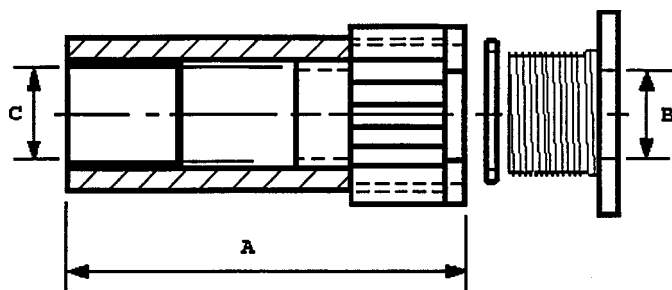


FIG. 1 Type I—Single-Legged Standard Cable Entry Seals

6.3 The adhesive shall be general purpose high-bond-strength adhesive sealant that provides stain relief and environmental sealing of heat-shrink tubing to cable jackets.

6.4 O-rings shall be made of a material conforming to Type II of Specification D 4732.

6.5 The polyolefin heat-shrinkable tubing shall meet requirements of Test Methods D 2671.

7. Other Requirements

7.1 *Dimensional Requirements*—Cable entry seals shall conform to the dimensional requirements of Tables 1-6. Type I cable entry seals are presented in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. Type II cable entry seals are presented in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4. Right-angle cable entry seals (Types III and IV) are presented in Fig. 5 and Fig. 6.

7.2 Performance Requirements:

7.2.1 *Vibration Resistance*—When cable entry seals are tested as specified in 9.1, there shall be no evidence of cracking or loosening of parts.

7.2.2 *Ruggedness*—When cable entry seals are subjected to a mechanical abuse test as specified in 9.2, there shall be no cracking, breaking, distortion, or damage to the sample.

7.2.3 *Effectiveness of seal*—When cable entry seals are tested as specified in 9.3, there shall be no evidence of leakage through or around the cable entry seals.

8. Workmanship, Finish, and Appearance

8.1 Cable entry seals shall be free from warp, cracks, chipped edges, or surfaces, blisters, uneven surfaces, scratches, dents, and flow lines. They shall be free from fins, burrs, and from unsightly finish caused by chipping, filing, or grinding without subsequent buffing or polishing. All molded parts shall be cleaned thoroughly of annealing mediums.

9. Test Methods

9.1 Conformance testing of a random sample may be requested by the purchaser to verify that selected performance characteristics specified herein have been incorporated in the cable entry seal design and maintained in production.

9.1.1 *Vibration*—The cable entry seals shall be subjected to vibration testing as specified in IEC Standard 68-2-6. The following details shall apply:

9.1.1.1 The cable entry seals shall be complete with O-rings and 1- to 2-m (3- to 6-ft) lengths of cable of appropriate size.

9.1.1.2 The free end of the cables shall be secured to prevent excessive cable whipping action during test.

9.1.1.3 Tests are to be carried out in three perpendicular planes.

9.1.1.4 Duration of the test for no resonance condition shall be 90 min at 30 Hz. Duration at each resonance frequency at which $Q > 2$ is recorded. It is recommended as guidance that Q does not exceed 5.

9.1.1.5 Test range shall be 2 ± 0.3 Hz to 13.2 Hz – amplitude ± 1 mm; 13.2 to 100 Hz – acceleration ± 7 g.

9.1.1.6 Nonconformance to the requirements of 7.2.1 shall be cause for rejection.

9.2 Mechanical Abuse Test:

9.2.1 A mechanical abuse test shall be conducted on the sample cable entry seal assembled on the end of a 2-m (6-ft)

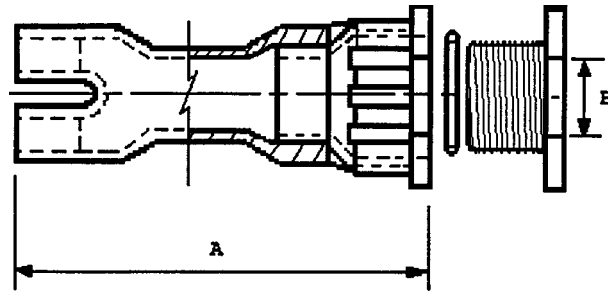


FIG. 2 Type I-Multi-Legged Standard Cable Entry Seals

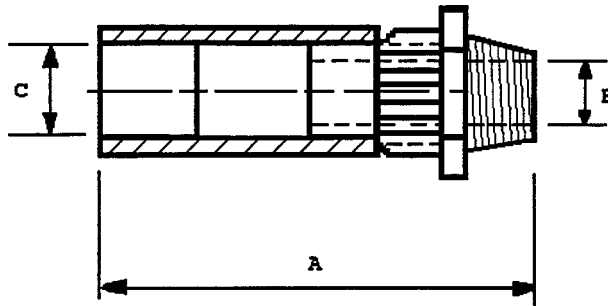


FIG. 3 Type II-Single-Legged Threaded Cable Entry Seals

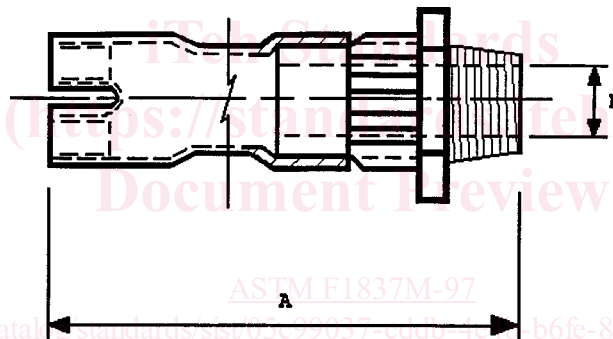


FIG. 4 Type II-Multi-Legged Threaded Cable Entry Seals

length of electrical cable of appropriate size.

9.2.2 The cable entry seal shall be allowed to swing on a radius, while suspended by the electrical cable, from a vertical surface and strike against a vertical flat steel plate on that surface. The vertical distance through which the cable entry seal is allowed to fall shall be 1.5 m (5 ft), and the number of impacts shall be ten.

9.2.3 The cable entry seal shall be disassembled and examined. Nonconformance to the requirements of 7.2.2 shall be cause for rejection.

9.3 *Level of Effectiveness*—A complete cable entry seal with O-ring installed and assembled properly and shrunk to a cable or with a plug installed shall conform to the performance requirements of NEMA 250. The NEMA enclosure-type designation (4, 4X, 6, 6P) shall establish the appropriate environmental capability required of the installed cable entry seal.

9.3.1 Nonconformance to the requirements of 7.2.3 shall be cause for rejection.

10. Inspection

10.1 *Visual and Dimensional Examination*—Samples shall be examined visually to verify that the materials, design,

construction, physical dimensions, marking, and workmanship are as specified in the applicable requirements.

11. Certification

11.1 *Material Certification*—Material certification shall be required from the manufacturers of the plastic material and shrink tubing to ensure the materials were manufactured, sampled, tested, and inspected in accordance with Specifications D 4066, D 4507, and D 3149. Material identity traceable to this certification shall be maintained throughout the manufacturing process.

11.2 When specified in the purchase order or contract, the purchaser shall be furnished certification that samples representing each lot have been either tested or inspected as directed in this specification and the requirements have been met. When specified in the purchase order or contract, a report of the test results shall be furnished.

12. Product Marking

12.1 Each cable-entry seal shall be identified distinctly. The name of the manufacturer, part number, identification of this