



Designation: G 164 – 99^{ε1}

Standard Test Method for Determination of Surface Lubrication on Flexible Webs¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation G 164; 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.

^{ε1} NOTE—Editorial corrections were made to Table 1 in April 2000.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method has been used since 1988 as an ANSI/ISO standard test for determination of lubrication on processed photographic films. Its purpose was to determine the presence of process-surviving lubricants on photographic films. It is the purpose of this test method to expand the applicability of this test method to other flexible webs that may need lubrication for suitable performance. This test measures the breakaway (static) coefficient of friction of a metal rider on the web by the inclined plane method. The objectives of the test is to determine if a web surface has a lubricant present or not. It is not intended to assign a friction coefficient to a material. It is not intended to rank lubricants.

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

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

- D 1894 Test Method for Static and Kinetic Coefficients of Plastic Film and Sheetings²
- E 122 Practice for Choice of Sample Size to Estimate a Measure of Quality for a Lot of Process³
- E 177 Practice for Use of the Terms Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods³
- E 691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method³
- G 40 Terminology Relating to Wear and Erosion⁴
- G 115 Guide for Measuring and Reporting Friction Coefficients⁴
- G 117 Guide for Calculation and Reporting Measures of Precision Using Data from Interlaboratory Wear or Erosion Tests⁴
- G 143 Standard Test Method for Measurement of Web/

Roller Friction Characteristics³

2.2 ANSI/ISO Standards:⁵

- ANSI/ISO 5769-1984, ANSI/NAPM IT9.4-1992 for photography-Processed Films-Method for Determining Lubrication

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *coefficient of friction, μ , n , in tribology*—the dimensionless ratio of the friction force (F) between two bodies to the normal force (N) pressing these bodies together.

3.1.2 *friction force, n* —the resisting force tangential to the interface between two bodies when, under the action of external force, one body moves or tends to move relative to the other.

3.1.3 *static coefficient of friction, n* —the coefficient of friction corresponding to the maximum friction force that must be overcome to initiate macroscopic motion between two bodies.

3.1.4 *triboelement, n* —one of two or more solid bodies which comprise a sliding, rolling, or abrasive contact, or a body subjected to impingement or cavitation.

3.1.5 *tribosystem, n* —any system that contains one or more triboelements, including all mechanical, chemical, and environmental factors relevant to tribological behavior.

3.1.6 *tribology, n* —the science and technology concerned with interacting surfaces in relative motion, including friction, lubrication, wear, and erosion.

3.1.7 *lubricant, n* —any substance interposed between two surfaces for the purpose of reducing the friction and wear between them.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 This test method can be used to measure the friction characteristics of the surfaces of a flexible web sliding against the curved smooth surface of a paper clip.

4.2 This test method is conducted on a narrow strip taken from a web of interest. The strip is affixed to an inclined plane device with the surface of interest facing up. A paper clip is

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of G-20n Wear and Erosion and is the direct responsibility of G02.50 on Friction.

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

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 14.02.

⁴ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 03.02.

⁵ Available from American National Standards Institute, 11 W. 42nd St., 13th floor, New York, NY 10036.

balanced on the web surface with the inclined plane in the horizontal position. The plane is then angled upward until the rider breaks away.

4.3 The angle at which breakaway occurred is recorded. The tangent of that angle is the friction coefficient for that tribo-system.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 Many web materials do not convey satisfactorily in manufacture or work, or both, as intended in service unless their surface contains a very thin layer of lubricant in the form of a wax, particulate, thin film coating, or fluid. It is often very expensive and time consuming to use surface chemical analysis techniques to quantify the presence of these films. A simple friction test like this one performs this function.

5.2 This test has been used for over twenty years to detect the presence of lubricants on the surface of photographic films at various stages in manufacture. In this instance the surfaces are lubricated with waxes and this test reliably detects if the wax is present. It is not used to quantify the amount of wax, only if it is present. This test can be used as a quality test to make sure that a lubricant is present. Test samples are normally compared with an unlubricated reference specimen. The coefficient of friction of the test samples is compared with the coefficient of friction of the unlubricated reference specimens to determine if a lubricant is present.

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Friction Slider*—The rider in this friction test is a U-shaped device with a paper clip inserted in the center. This rider slides on the test web that is attached to the inclined plane. The material of construction is not important, but the center of gravity shall be at least 25 mm below the end of the paper clip. Acrylic sheet has been determined to be a suitable material of construction. The paper clip must be uncoated steel and have a smooth (as opposed to serrated or dull) finish. The overall dimensions of suitable paper clips are between 5 and 8 mm wide and between 25 and 35 mm long. The wire diameter

should be in the range of 0.6 to 0.75 mm. The mass of the slider should be in the range of 50 to 100 g.

6.2 *Inclined Plane*—The dimensions and typical construction of the inclined plane test rig are shown in Fig. 1. The essential requirements of the inclined plane are:

6.2.1 The surface of the inclined plane should be smooth ($< 0.2 \mu\text{m Ra}$ surface roughness) rigid and not deformable under test conditions. Acrylic sheet has been determined to be an acceptable surface.

6.2.2 It shall be narrow and high enough to accommodate unobstructed slider motion.

6.2.3 It shall have a device for test material attachment or it shall have sufficient room to allow attachment with two-sided pressure sensitive adhesive.

6.2.4 It shall be capable of being raised and lowered with smooth uninterrupted motion and it shall have a means of clamping the plane at the angle at which rider breakaway occurs.

6.3 *Angle Measurement*—The test metric is the angle inclination of the inclined plane (θ) when rider motion occurs. This angle can be measured by a protractor or by calibration of a gage on the device. A suitable device for angle measurement is an electronic level. These devices present a digital angle readout to two places. The devices reputedly are accurate to $\pm 0.1^\circ$. The least count on the angle-measuring protractor shall be 1° .

7. Test Procedure

7.1 *Sample Preparation*—Test samples shall be the thickness of the test material with a width between 25 and 35 mm and a length of at least 150 mm. Take care to not contaminate the test with fingerprints or other material that is not normally found on the test surface. Outer convolutions of web rolls are often contaminated by operators holding the film tight while the roll is taped. Do not use outer convolutions for testing.

7.2 *Test Materials*—Any material that will lay flat on the inclined plane may be tested, but the test was developed for the



FIG. 1 Apparatus