



Standard Specification for Glass-Fiber Reinforced Polyester Wall and Ceiling Panels¹

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1. Scope *

1.1 This specification covers the classification, materials of construction, workmanship, physical requirements, and methods of testing glass-fiber-reinforced polyester composite wall and ceiling panels intended for use in light construction and semi-structural applications.

1.2 Supplementary information on chemical resistance, impact resistance, and installation practice are provided in Appendix X1.

1.3 The classification of these composite panels into classes based on relative response to a laboratory test shall not be considered a fire-hazard classification.

1.4 Laboratory flammability tests (Test Methods E 84 and D 1929) applicable to this specification should be used to measure and describe the properties of materials, products, or assemblies in response to heat and flame under controlled laboratory conditions and should not be used to describe or appraise the fire hazard or conditions. However, results may be used as elements of a fire risk assessment which takes into account all of the factors which are pertinent to an assessment of the fire hazard of a particular end use.

1.5 The intent of this specification is to define the class, grade, and general laminate properties of the composite wall and ceiling liner panels in order to ensure a quality product which will perform in the intended application. This specification is not intended to restrict or limit technological changes affecting performance when changes are agreed upon between the purchaser and manufacturer.

1.6 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are provided for information only.

1.7 The text of this specification references notes and footnotes that provide explanatory material. These notes and footnotes (excluding those in Tables and Figures) shall not be considered as requirements of this specification.

1.8 *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.*

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D-20 on Plastics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D20.24 on Plastic Building Products.

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NOTE 1—There are no ISO standards covering the subject matter of this specification.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 374 Test Methods for Thickness of Solid Electrical Insulation²

D 618 Method for Conditioning Plastics and Electrical Insulating Materials for Testing³

D 883 Terminology Relating to Plastics³

D 1600 Terminology of Abbreviated Terms Relating to Plastics³

D 1929 Test Method for Ignition Properties of Plastics³

D 2244 Test Method for Calculation of Color Differences from Instrumentally Measured Color Coordinates⁴

D 3029 Test Method for Impact Resistance of Flat Rigid Plastic Specimens by Means of a Tup (Falling Weight)⁵

D 3841 Specification for Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Polyester Plastic Panels⁶

D 3892 Practice for Packaging/Packing of Plastics⁵

E 84 Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Materials⁷

E 631 Terminology of Building Constructions⁸

3. Terminology

3.1 General—Definitions are in accordance with Terminologies D 883 and E 631 and abbreviations with Terminology D 1600, unless otherwise indicated.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *camber, n*—non-linearity of the long axis of a panel.

NOTE 2—In the process of water jet, knife, saw, or rotary shear trimming of a continuous panel, sideways motion of the panel through the cutting medium can be induced by imbalances in the system. The resulting trim cuts, although maintaining parallelism between the long sides, may describe a continuous curve, rather than a straight line along the long axis of the panel. Imbalances in side-to-side cure rates or material distribution may also produce this phenomenon. This curvature of the long axis may create problems with installation of the panel. Limits are placed on the degree of non-linearity to minimize those problems.

² Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 10.01.

³ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 08.01.

⁴ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 06.01.

⁵ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 08.02.

⁶ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 08.04.

⁷ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vols 04.07.

⁸ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 04.11.

4. Classification

4.1 The panels covered by this specification are divided into four classifications based on relative response to the laboratory flammability of Test Method E 84.

4.1.1 *Class A*—Flame spread index 0 to 25, smoke development index of 450 or less.

4.1.2 *Class B*—Flame spread index 26 to 75, smoke development index of 450 or less.

4.1.3 *Class C*—Flame spread index 76 to 200, smoke development index of 450 or less.

4.1.4 *Class D*—General purpose, no flame spread or smoke development indices.

NOTE 3—Refer to 1.3 on flammability testing and fire hazard classification.

4.2 These classifications may be further subdivided into grades based on nominal thickness when tested in accordance with 8.4:

4.2.1 *Grade 1*—0.027 to 0.033 in. (0.69 to 0.84 mm); 0.030 in. nominal (0.76 mm).

4.2.2 *Grade 2*—0.036 to 0.044 in. (0.91 to 1.12 mm); 0.040 in. nominal (1.02 mm).

4.2.3 *Grade 3*—0.040 to 0.050 in. (1.02 to 1.27 mm); 0.045 in. nominal (1.14 mm).

4.2.4 *Grade 4*—0.054 to 0.066 in. (1.37 to 1.68 mm); 0.060 in. nominal (1.52 mm).

4.2.5 *Grade 5*—0.067 to 0.083 in. (1.70 to 2.11 mm); 0.075 in. nominal (1.91 mm).

4.2.6 *Grade 6*—0.081 to 0.099 in. (2.06 to 2.51 mm); 0.090 in. nominal (2.29 mm).

4.2.7 *Grade 7*—0.108 to 0.132 in. (2.74 to 3.35 mm); 0.120 in. nominal (3.05 mm).

4.3 Within the classification of grade and class of composite panel described in this specification are commercial products with the following variations as agreed upon between the purchaser and manufacturer.

4.3.1 *Size (Length and Width)*—The nominal sizes available are 23.75 in. (603.25 mm) to 120 in. (3048 mm) in width and 47.75 in. (1212.85 mm) to 500 continuous feet of coil stock (152 m) in length.

4.3.2 *Thickness*—The nominal thicknesses available are 0.0303 in. (0.77 mm) to 0.120 in. (3.05 mm).

4.3.3 *Color*—Refer to manufacturers' literature for the range of colored product available.

4.3.4 *Surface*—The two most popular surfaces available are textured and smooth.

5. Materials

5.1 The polyester resin used in the composite shall be a thermosetting polyester resin with cross-linking monomers composed of polymeric esters in which the recurring ester groups are an integral part of the main polymer chain. The resin shall be reinforced with glass fibers. The polyester resin may contain additives for various purposes, such as additives to provide lower smoke density or higher fire retardancy, catalyst residues, stabilizers, pigments, dyes, filters, or other types of reinforcing fibers.

6. Physical Properties

6.1 *Size (Length and Width)*—Tolerance for nominal length and width specified shall be ± 0.25 in. (6.35 mm). Panel lengths over 12 ft (3.7 m) shall have a tolerance of ± 0.5 in. (12.7 mm) when measured in accordance with 8.2.

6.2 *Squareness*—Panels shall be within 0.125 in. (3.18 mm) of square when measured in accordance with 8.3.

6.3 *Thickness*—Tolerance on the specified thickness shall be within ± 10 % when determined in accordance with 8.4.

6.4 *Camber*—Tolerance on camber shall be ± 0.25 in. (6.35 mm) when determined in accordance with 8.5.

6.5 *Color*—Color shall be as specified by the purchaser and uniform throughout the sheet when examined in accordance with 8.6.

6.6 *Impact Resistance*—Impact resistance shall be as agreed upon between the purchaser and manufacturer prior to purchase.

6.7 *Ignition Properties*—All panels shall have a minimum self-ignition temperature of 650°F (343°C) when tested in accordance with Test Method D 1929.

6.8 All composite wall and ceiling liners shall have a USDA acceptance for incidental food contact.

7. Workmanship

7.1 The composite shall conform to the nominal dimensions, shall be fully cured, and shall not contain major visual cracks, pinholes, foreign inclusions, or surface wrinkles that would impact or otherwise affect serviceability.

8. Test Methods

8.1 *Conditioning*—Condition the test specimens in accordance with Procedure A of Method D 618 where conditioning is required.

8.2 *Length and Width*—Lay the panel on the flat surface and measure with a steel tape. Measure the length on both sides and the center to the nearest 0.0625 in. (1.59 mm) and average the three measurements. Measure the width at each end and in the center to the nearest 0.0625 in. and average the three measurements.

8.3 *Squareness*—Any type of jig that has two rails perpendicular to one another, each length at least equal to the length of the side of the panel in contact with the rail, may be used to determine squareness. Place the panels in the jig so that the longest edge of the panel touches the horizontal rail along the entire length, and the vertical edge (shorter edge) touches the vertical rail at some point along the entire length. Measure the maximum distance between the vertical rail and the short edge of the panel at the corner opposite the one touching the rail. Measure to the nearest 0.0625 in. (1.6 mm). Rotate the panel 180° on the axis perpendicular to the face of the panel and repeat the test.

8.4 *Thickness*—Thickness readings shall be taken every 6 in. (152 mm) across the width and along the length of the panel. Measurements shall be taken with a large foot micrometer, having an anvil size of 0.5 in. (12.7 mm) minimum and accurate to 0.0001 in. (0.003 mm). Refer to Test Methods D 374. Average all measurements for a final value.

8.5 *Camber*—Lay the longest edge of the panel beside a straightedge on a flat surface with both ends touching the