



Standard Classification of Zircon Refractories¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This classification covers fired refractory brick and shapes consisting predominantly of zircon ($ZrO_2 \cdot SiO_2$) and containing, by chemical analysis, not less than 60 % zirconium oxide (ZrO_2) and not less than 30 % silica (SiO_2).

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

C 20 Test Methods for Apparent Porosity, Water Absorption, Apparent Specific Gravity, and Bulk Density of Burned Refractory Brick and Shapes by Boiling Water²

NOTE 1—Chemical analysis of refractory products are determined by a combination of x-ray fluorescence (XRF) and inductively coupled plasma (ICP) using standard reference materials (SRM), including various types of minerals and refractory materials which are available from the National Institute of Standards and Technology and other appropriate sources.

C 830 Test Methods for Apparent Porosity, Liquid Absorption, Apparent Specific Gravity, and Bulk Density of Refractory Shapes by Vacuum Pressure²

3. Significance and Use

3.1 The zircon content and bulk density of a zirconia-silica refractory material have important influences on chemical

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 15.01.

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resistance and its satisfactory use in refractory applications. This classification is considered useful for purchase specifications and quality control.

4. Basis of Classification

4.1 Types:

4.1.1 *Type A (Regular)*—Zircon refractories having a bulk density of less than 240 lb/ft³ (3.84 g/cm³).

4.1.2 *Type B (Dense)*—Zircon refractories having a bulk density of 240 lb/ft³ (3.84 g/cm³) or more.

5. Test Methods

5.1 The properties listed in this classification shall be determined by the following ASTM methods:

5.1.1 *Bulk Density*—Test Methods C 20 or C 830.

5.1.2 *Chemical Analysis*—XRF and ICP.

6. Retests

6.1 Because of variables resulting from sampling and the lack of satisfactory reproducibility in tests conducted by different laboratories, the material may be resampled and retested when requested by either the manufacturer or the purchaser. This may apply in instances when the first test results do not conform to the requirements prescribed in this classification. The final results to be used shall be the average of at least two sets of results, each of which has been obtained by following in detail the specified testing procedures.

7. Keywords

7.1 classification; refractories; zircon; zirconia-silica