

Designation: D 3261 – 97

Standard Specification for Butt Heat Fusion Polyethylene (PE) Plastic Fittings for Polyethylene (PE) Plastic Pipe and Tubing¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 3261; 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 reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers polyethylene (PE) butt fusion fittings for use with polyethylene pipe (IPS and ISO) and tubing (CTS). Included are requirements for materials, work-manship, dimensions, marking, sustained pressure, and burst pressure.

1.2 The values given in parentheses are provided for information only.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

- D 1248 Specification for Polyethylene Plastics Molding and Extrusion Materials²
- D 1598 Test Method for Time-to-Failure of Plastic Pipe Under Constant Internal Pressure³
- D 1599 Test Method for Short-Time Hydraulic Failure Pressure of Plastic Pipe, Tubing, and Fittings³
- D 1600 Terminology for Abbreviated Terms Relating to Plastics²
- D 2122 Test Method for Determining Dimensions of Thermoplastic Pipe and Fittings³
- D 2513 Specification for Thermoplastic Gas Pressure Pipe, Tubing, and Fittings³
- F 412 Terminology Relating to Plastic Piping Systems³
- 2.2 Federal Standard:
- Fed. Std. No. 123 Marking for Shipment (Civil Agencies)⁴
- 2.3 Military Standard:
- MIL-STD-129 Marking for Shipment and Storage⁴
- 2.4 National Sanitation Foundation Standard:
- Standard No. 14 for Plastic Piping Components and Related Materials⁵

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions are in accordance with Terminology F 412 and abbreviations are in accordance with Terminology D 1600, unless otherwise specified.

3.2 *dimension ratio (DR) for thermoplastic pipe*—the ratio of diameter to wall thickness. For this specification it is calculated by dividing the specified outside diameter by the specified wall thickness of the fitting at its area of fusion. DRs are rounded and do not calculate exactly.

4. Classification

4.1 *General*—This specification covers butt fusion fittings intended for use with polyethylene pipe and tubing.

4.1.1 Fittings covered by this specification are normally molded. Fittings may be machined from extruded or molded stock.

4.1.2 Fittings fabricated by thermal welding are not included in this specification.

4.1.3 Fittings intended for use in the distribution of natural gas or petroleum fuels shall also meet the requirements of Specification D 2513.

5. Ordering Information

5.1 When ordering fittings under this specification, the following should be specified:

5.1.1 Polyethylene compound (material designation or trade name)

5.1.2 Style of fitting (tee, 90° ell, and the like)

- 5.1.3 Size:
- 5.1.3.1 Nominal diameter.
- 5.1.3.2 CTS, IPS, or schedule.
- 5.1.3.3 Dimension ratio number or schedule number.

6. Materials

6.1 *Basic Materials*—This specification covers fittings made from polyethylene plastics as defined in Specification D 1248. These are Grade P 23, Grade P 24, Grade P 33, and Grade P 34.

6.2 *Compounds*—The polyethylene fittings compounds shall meet the requirements for P 23 and P 24, Class C or Class

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² Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 08.01.

³ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 08.04.

⁴ Available from Standardization Documents Order Desk, Bldg. 4 Section D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094, Attn: NPODS.

⁵ Available from the National Sanitation Foundation, P.O. Box 1468, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

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B with antioxidants; P 33, Class C or Class B with antioxidants; P 34, Class C or Class B with antioxidants, as prescribed in Specification D 1248.

6.3 *Rework Material*—Clean rework material generated from the manufacturer's own production may be used by the same manufacturer as long as the fittings produced conform to the requirements of this specification.

7. Requirements

7.1 Dimensions and Tolerances:

7.1.1 *Outside Diameter*—Nominal outside diameters of butt fusion fittings shall conform to the nominal iron pipe size (IPS) or copper tubing size (CTS) dimensions at area of fusion. These dimensions and tolerances shall be as shown in Table 1 and Table 2 of this specification.

7.1.2 Inside Diameter (CTS Fittings Only)—Inside diameters of butt fusion fittings for tubing at area of fusion shall conform to the dimensions of the tubing being joined. The dimensions and tolerances for the fittings are shown in Table 3.

7.1.3 *Wall Thickness*—The wall thicknesses of butt fusion fittings shall not be less than the minimum specified for the pipe or tubing. The wall thicknesses and tolerances at the area of fusion shall be as shown in Table 3, Table 4 and Table 5 of this specification.

7.1.4 *Measurements*—These shall be made in accordance with Test Method D 2122 for roundable pipe.

7.1.5 *Design Dimensions*—Overall fitting dimensions may be as preferred from a design standpoint by the manufacturer and accepted by the purchaser consistent with 7.1.3.

7.1.6 *Special Sizes*— Where existing system conditions or special local requirements make other diameters or dimension ratios necessary, other sizes or dimension ratios, or both, shall be acceptable for engineered applications when mutually agreed upon by the customer and the manufacturer, if the fitting

TABLE 1 IPS Sizing System Outside Diameters and Tolerances for Fittings for Use with Polyethylene Pipe, in.

Nominal Pipe Size	Average Outside Diameter at Area of Fusion ^A	Tolerance					
1/2	0.840	±0.008					
3/4	1.050	±0.008					
1	1.315	±0.010					
1 1/4	1.660	±0.010					
1 1/2	1.900	±0.010					
2	2.375	±0.010					
3	3.500	±0.012					
4	4.500	±0.015					
6	6.625	±0.018					
8	8.625	±0.025					
10	10.750	±0.027					
12	12.750	±0.036					
14	14.000	±0.063					
16	16.000	±0.072					
18	18.000	±0.081					
20	20.000	±0.090					
21.5	21.500	±0.097					
22	22.000	± 0.099					
24	24.000	±0.108					
28	28.000	±0.126					
32	32.000	±0.144					
36	36.000	±0.162					
42	42.000	±0.189					
48	48.000	±0.216					

^A Defined as measured 1/4 to 1/2 in. (6.4 to 12.7 mm) from fitting outlet extremity.

TABLE 2 ISO Sizing System (ISO 161/1) Outside Diameters ar	d
Tolerances for Fit for Use with Polyethylene Pipe, mm	

Nominal Pipe	Average Outside Diameter at Area of Fusion				
Size	Min	Max ^A			
90	90.0	90.8			
110	110.0	111.0			
160	160.0	161.4			
200	200.0	201.8			
250	250.0	252.3			
280	280.0	282.5			
315	315.0	317.8			
355	355.0	358.2			
400	400.0	403.6			
450	450.0	454.1			
500	500.0	504.5			
560	560.0	565.0			
630	630.0	635.7			
710	710.0	716.4			
800	800.0	807.2			
900	900.0	908.1			
1000	1000.0	1009.0			
1200	1200.0	1210.8			
1400	1400.0	1412.6			
1600	1600.0	1614.4			

^A Specified in ISO 3607.

is manufactured from plastic compounds meeting the material requirements of this specification, and the strength and design requirements are calculated on the same basis as those used in this specification. For diameters not shown in Table 1 or Table 2, the tolerance shall be the same percentage as that shown in the corresponding tables for the next smaller listed size. Minimum wall thickness for these special sizes shall not be less than the minimum wall specified for the pipe or tubing the fitting is designed to be used with. The maximum wall thickness allowed shall not be greater than 20 % thicker than the specified minimum wall, and shall be determined by 10.4.3 of this specification.

7.2 Pressure Test Requirements:

7.2.1 Short-Term Rupture Strength for Fittings ^{1/2} to 12 in. and 90 to 315 mm, Nominal Diameter—The minimum shortterm rupture strength of the fitting and fused pipe or tubing shall not be less than the minimum short-term rupture strength of the pipe or tubing in the system when tested in accordance with 10.5.3. These minimum pressures shall be as shown in Table 6 of this specification. Test specimens shall be prepared for testing in the manner described in 10.5.1 of this specification. The test equipment, procedures, and failures definitions shall be as specified in Test Method D 1599.

7.2.2 Short-Term Strength for Fittings 14 to 48 in. and 355 to 1600 mm, Nominal Diameter—Fittings shall not fail when tested in accordance with 10.5.3. The minimum pressure shall be as shown in Table 6 of this specification. Test specimens shall be prepared for testing in the manner described in 10.2 of this specification. The test equipment and procedures shall be as specified in Test Method D 1599.

7.2.3 *Sustained Pressure*—The fitting and fused pipe or tubing shall not fail, as defined in Test Method D 1598, when tested at the time, pressures, and test temperatures selected from test options offered in Table 7. The test specimens shall be prepared for testing in the manner prescribed in 10.5.1.

8. Workmanship, Finish, and Appearance

8.1 The manufacture of these fittings shall be in accordance

NOTICE: This standard has either been superceded and replaced by a new version or discontinued. Contact ASTM International (www.astm.org) for the latest information.

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TABLE 3 Diameter, Wall Thickness, and Tolerances for Fittings for Use with Plastic Tubing

Tubing Type in. (mm)	Nominal Tubing Size, in.	Outside	, in. (mm)	Inside,	Minimum Wall Thickness, in. (mm)		
()		Average	Tolerance	Average	Tolerance		
0.062 (1.57)	1/2 CTS	0.625 (15.88)	±0.010 (±0.26)	0.495 (12.58)	±0.004 (±0.10)	0.062 (1.58)	
	3⁄4 CTS	0.875 (22.22)	± 0.010 (±0.26)	0.745 (18.92)			
0.090 (2.29)	1/2 CTS	0.625 (15.88)	±0.010 (±0.26)	0.437 (11.10)	±0.004 (±0.10)	0.090 (2.28)	
	3/4 CTS	0.875 (22.22)	±0.010 (±0.26)	0.687 (17.44)	±0.004 (±0.10)	0.090 (2.28)	
	1 CTS	1.125 (28.58)	±0.013 (±0.34)	0.937 (23.80)	±0.005 (±0.12)	0.090 (2.28)	
	1 1/4 CTS	1.375 (34.92)	±0.013 (±0.34)	1.187 (30.14)	±0.005 (±0.12)	0.090 (2.28)	
DR 11	3⁄4 CTS	0.875 (22.22)	±0.010 (±0.26)	0.715 (18.16)	±0.004 (±0.10)	0.077 (1.96)	
	1 CTS	1.125 (28.58)	±0.013 (±0.34)	0.915 (23.24)	±0.005 (±0.12)	0.101 (2.56)	
	1 1/4 CTS	1.375 (34.92)	±0.013 (±0.34)	1.125 (28.58)	±0.005 (±0.12)	0.121 (3.08)	
DR 9.3	1/2 CTS	0.625 (15.88)	±0.010 (±0.26)	0.483 (12.26)	±0.004 (±0.10)	0.067 (1.70)	
	3⁄4 CTS	0.875 (22.22)	±0.010 (±0.26)	0.679 (17.24)	±0.004 (±0.10)	0.094 (2.38)	
	1 CTS	1.125 (28.58)	±0.013 (±0.34)	0.873 (22.18)	±0.005 (±0.12)	0.121 (3.08)	
	1 1/4 CTS	1.375 (34.92)	±0.013 (±0.34)	1.069 (27.16)	±0.005 (±0.12)	0.148 (3.76)	

^A Defined as measured 1/4 to 1/2 in. (6.4 to 12.7 mm) from fitting outlet extremity.

TABLE 4 IPS Sizing System Wall Thickness and Tolerance at the Area of Fusion for Fittings for Use with Polyethylene Pipe, in.^A, ^{B,C}

Nominal Pipe Size	Minimum Wall Thickness									
	SCH 40	SCH 80	SDR 21	SDR 17	SDR 13.5	DR 10	DR 11.5	SDR 11	DR 9.3	SDR 9
1/2	0.109	0.147						0.076	0.090	
3/4	0.113	0.154						0.095	0.113	0.117
1	0.133	0.179						0.119	0.142	0.146
11/4	0.140	0.191				0.166		0.151	0.179	0.184
1 1/2	0.145	0.200						0.173	0.204	0.211
2	0.154	0.218						0.216	0.256	0.264
3	0.216	0.300		hh.	0.259	0.220	0.305	0.318	0.377	0.389
4	0.237	0.337		0.264	0.333	lalu	0.392	0.409	0.484	0.500
6	0.280	0.432	0.316	0.390	0.491		0.576	0.603	0.713	0.736
8	0.322		0.410	0.508	0.639		0.750	0.785	0.928	0.958
10	0.365		0.511	0.633	0.797	U.S. II	0.935	0.978	1.156	1.194
12	0.406		0.608	0.750	0.945		1.109	1.160	1.371	1.417
14			0.667	0.824				1.273	1.505	1.556
16			0.762	0.941	ent P	revi	ew.	1.455	1.720	1.778
18			0.857	1.059			· · · · ·	1.636	1.935	2.000
20			0.952	1.176				1.818	2.151	2.222
21.5			1.024	1.265						
22			1.048	1.294	M D3261-	97		2.000	2.366	2.444
24			1.143	1.412		<u></u>		2.182	2.581	
28ps://sta	ndards.ite	h.ai/catalo	g/S11.333 and	S/S1.647	83e29-4fc	1-4c2a-8	8026-a53c	2.545	1/astm-d3	261-97
32			1.524	1.882				2.909		
36			1.714	2.118						
42			2.000	2.471						
48			2.286							

^A Tolerance +20 %, -0 %.

^B For those SDR groups having overlapping thickness requirements, a manufacturer may represent their product as applying to the combination (for example, 11.0/11.5) so long as their product falls within the dimensional requirements of both DR's.

^C For wall thicknesses not listed the minimum wall thickness may be calculated by the average outside diameter/SDR rounded up to the nearest 0.001 in.

with good commercial practice so as to produce fittings meeting the requirements of this specification. Fittings shall be homogeneous throughout and free of cracks, holes, foreign inclusions, or other injurious defects. The fittings shall be as uniform as commercially practicable in color, opacity, density, and other physical properties.

9. Sampling

9.1 Parts made for sale under this specification should be sampled at a frequency appropriate for the end use intended. When the fittings are to be installed under a system specification (such as Specification D 2513 for gas), the minimum requirements of that specification must be satisfied.

10. Test Methods

10.1 *General*—The test methods in this specification cover fittings to be used with pipe and tubing for gas, water, and other

engineered piping systems. Test methods that are applicable from other specifications will be referenced in the paragraph pertaining to the particular test. Certain special test methods applicable to this specification only are explained in the appropriate paragraph.

10.2 *Conditioning*—Unless otherwise specified, condition the specimens prior to test at 73.4 \pm 3.6°F (23 \pm 2°C) for not less than 6 h in air, or 1 h in water, for those tests where conditioning is required and in all cases of disagreement. Newly molded fittings shall be conditioned 40 h prior to test.

10.3 *Test Conditions*—Conduct the tests at the standard laboratory temperature of 73.4 \pm 3.6°F (23 \pm 2°C) unless otherwise specified.

10.4 Dimensions and Tolerances:

10.4.1 *Outside Diameter*—Measure the outside diameter of the fittings at the area of fusion in accordance with the Wall