



Standard Test Method for Thermal Endurance of Film-Insulated Round Magnet Wire¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 2307; 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 approval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope*

1.1 This test method covers determination of the thermal endurance of film-insulated round magnet wire in air at atmospheric pressure. It is not applicable to magnet wire with fibrous insulation, such as cotton or glass.

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

1.3 This test method covers the evaluation of thermal endurance by observing changes in response to ac proof voltage tests. The evaluation of thermal endurance by observing changes in other properties of magnet wire insulation requires the use of different test methods.

1.4 It is possible that exposure of some types of film insulated wire to heat in gaseous or liquid environments in the absence of air will give thermal endurance values different from those obtained in air. Consider this possibility when interpreting the results obtained by heating in air with respect to applications where the wire will not be exposed to air in service.

1.5 It is possible that electric stress applied for extended periods at a level exceeding or even approaching the discharge inception voltage will change significantly the thermal endurance of film insulated wires. Under such electric stress conditions, it is possible that comparisons between materials will also differ from those developed using this method.

1.6 This test method is similar to IEC 60172. Differences exist regarding specimen preparation.

1.7 *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:²

D 1676 Test Methods for Film-Insulated Magnet Wire

D 1711 Terminology Relating to Electrical Insulation

D 3251 Test Method for Thermal Endurance Characteristics of Electrical Insulating Varnishes Applied Over Film-Insulated Magnet Wire

D 5423 Specification for Forced-Convection Laboratory Ovens for Evaluation of Electrical Insulation

2.2 Other Standards:

IEC 60172 Statistical Analysis of Thermal Life Test Data³

IEEE 101 Statistical Analysis of Thermal Life Test Data⁴

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *temperature index, n*—a number which permits comparison of the temperature/time characteristics of an electrical insulating material, or a simple combination of materials, based on the temperature in degrees Celsius which is obtained by extrapolating the Arrhenius plot of life versus temperature to a specified time, usually 20 000 h.

3.1.2 *thermal endurance, n*—an expression for the stability of an electrical insulating material, or a simple combination of materials, when maintained at elevated temperatures for extended periods of time.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *specimen failure time, n*—the hours at the exposure temperature that have resulted in a specimen failing the proof test (see 9.1).

3.2.2 *thermal endurance cycle, n*—one oven exposure period followed by a proof voltage test.

3.2.3 *time to failure, n*—the log average hours calculated for a set of specimens, calculated from the individual specimen failure times at an exposure temperature (see 9.2).

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D09 on Electrical and Electronic Insulating Materials and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D09.10 on Magnet Wire Insulation.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ Available from International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), 3 rue de Varembé, Case postale 131, CH-1211, Geneva 20, Switzerland.

⁴ Available from Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (IEEE), 445 Hoes Ln., P.O. Box 1331, Piscataway, NJ 08854-1331.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard.

3.3 For definitions of terms related to electrical insulation, see Terminology D 1711.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 This test method specifies the preparation of specimens, the exposure of these specimens at elevated temperatures, and the periodic testing of the specimens by applying a preselected proof voltage.

4.2 The cyclic exposure to temperature is repeated until a sufficient number of specimens have failed to meet the proof test, and the time to failure is calculated in accordance with Section 9. The test is carried out at three or more temperatures. A regression line is calculated in accordance with Section 10, and the time to failure values plotted on thermal endurance graph paper (see Fig. 6) as a function of the exposure temperature.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 This test method is useful in determining the thermal endurance characteristics and thermal indices of film-insulated round magnet wire in air (see 1.4) (see Test Method D 3251). This test method is used as a screening test before making tests of more complex systems or functional evaluation. It is also used where complete functional systems testing is not feasible.

5.2 Experience has shown that film-insulated wire and electrical insulating varnishes or resins can affect one another during the thermal exposure process. Test Method D 3251 provides indications on the thermal endurance for a combination of insulating varnish or resin and film insulated wire. It is possible that interaction between varnish or resin and film insulation will increase or decrease the relative thermal life of the varnish and film insulated wire combination compared with the life of the film insulated wire tested without varnish.

5.3 The conductor type or the surface condition of the conductor will affect the thermal endurance of film-insulated magnet wire. This test method is used to determine the thermal endurance characteristics of film insulation on various kinds of conductors. The use of sizes other than those specified in 7.1.1 is permissible but is not recommended for determining thermal endurance characteristics.

5.4 The temperature index determined by this test method is a nominal or relative value expressed in degrees Celsius at 20 000 h. It is to be used for comparison purposes only and is

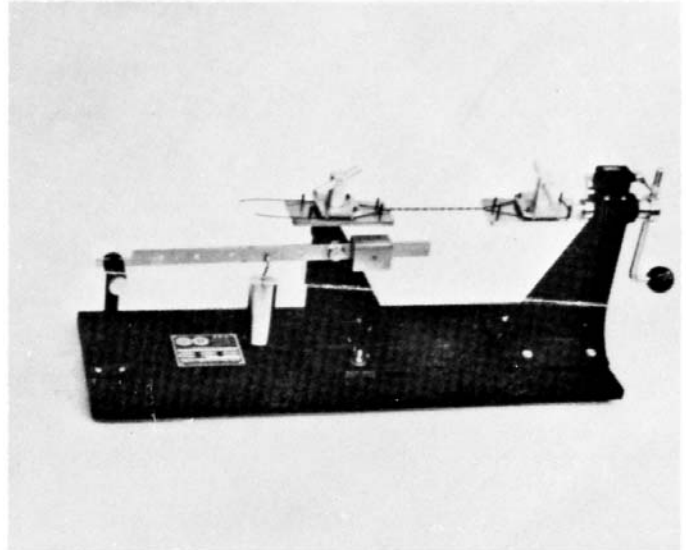


FIG. 2 Device for Preparing Twisted Pair Specimens, Hand-Operated Unit

not intended to represent the temperature at which the film insulated wire could be operated.

5.5 There are many factors that influence the results obtained with this test method. Among the more obvious are the following:

5.5.1 Wire size and film thickness.

5.5.2 Moisture conditions during proof voltage tests.

5.5.3 Oven construction:

5.5.3.1 Velocity of air.

5.5.3.2 Amount of replacement air.

5.5.3.3 Elimination of products of decomposition during thermal exposure.

5.5.3.4 Oven loading.

5.5.3.5 Accuracy with which the oven maintains temperature.

5.5.4 In most laboratories, the number of thermal endurance ovens is limited and, therefore, many different sets of specimens are thermally exposed in the same oven. All specimens are not necessarily removed each time the oven is opened. This extra temperature cycling will possibly have a degrading influence.

5.5.5 Care with which specimens are handled, especially during latter cycles when the insulation becomes brittle.

5.5.6 Vibration of specimens will have a degrading effect during the later thermal endurance cycles.

5.5.7 Electrical characteristics of dielectric test instrument. Refer to 8.4 and 8.5.

5.5.8 Environmental factors such as moisture, chemical contamination, and mechanical stresses, or vibration are factors that will possibly result in failure after the film insulated wire has been weakened by thermal deterioration and are more appropriately evaluated in insulation system tests.

6. Apparatus

6.1 Voltage Source (see 8.3, 8.4, and 8.5).

6.2 Oven (see Specification D 5423 Type 1).

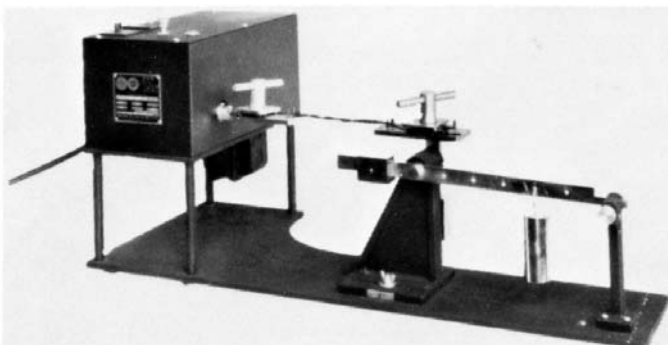


FIG. 1 Device for Preparing Twisted Pair Specimens, Motorized Unit

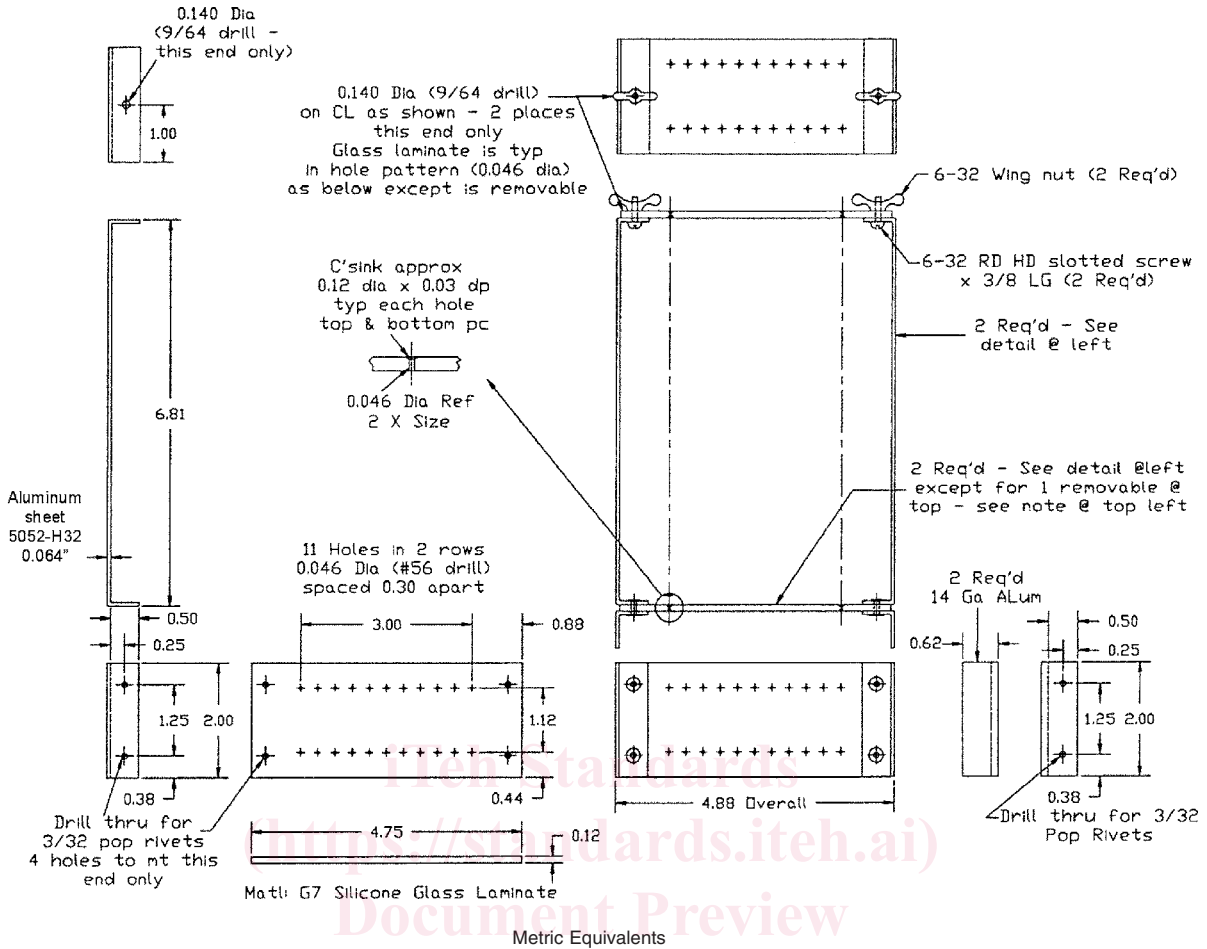


FIG. 3 A Specimen Holder

6.3 Device for Preparing Twisted Pair Specimens (see Figs. 1 and 2).

6.4 Specimen Holders (see Figs. 3-5).

7. Test Specimens

7.1 Preparation:

7.1.1 Film-insulated round magnet wire having bare wire diameters ranging from 0.0113 to 0.1019 in. (0.287 to 2.588 mm) 10 to 29 AWG inclusive are evaluated as described in this test method. If the dimensions of the magnet wire are not known, determine them using Test Methods D 1676.

7.1.2 Form a length of wire approximately 16 in. (400 mm) long into a U shape and twist together for a distance of 4.75 ± 0.25 in. (120 ± 6 mm) with a device similar to those shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The winding weight applied to the wire specimen while being twisted and the number of twists (full 360° rotations of the head of the twist maker) are given in Table 1.

7.1.3 If specimens are to be evaluated with a varnish, see Test Method D 3251.

7.2 Number of Test Specimens—The accuracy of the test results depends largely upon the number of test specimens exposed at each temperature. A greater number of test specimens is required to achieve an acceptable degree of accuracy if there is a wide spread in results among the specimens exposed at each temperature. Use a minimum of 10 specimens for each temperature. It is permissible to evaluate a greater number of specimens if desired.

7.3 Specimen Holder—It has been found that individual handling of the twisted specimens will introduce premature failures. It is, therefore, mandatory that the specimens be placed in a suitable holder. Design the holder in a manner that will protect the twisted specimens from external mechanical damage and warpage. An example of a suitable holder is shown

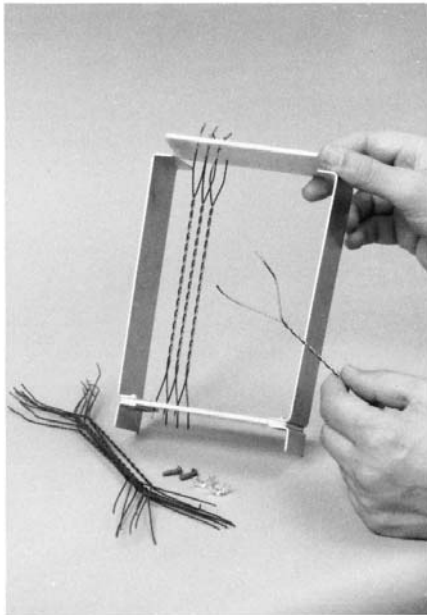


FIG. 4 A Specimen Holder

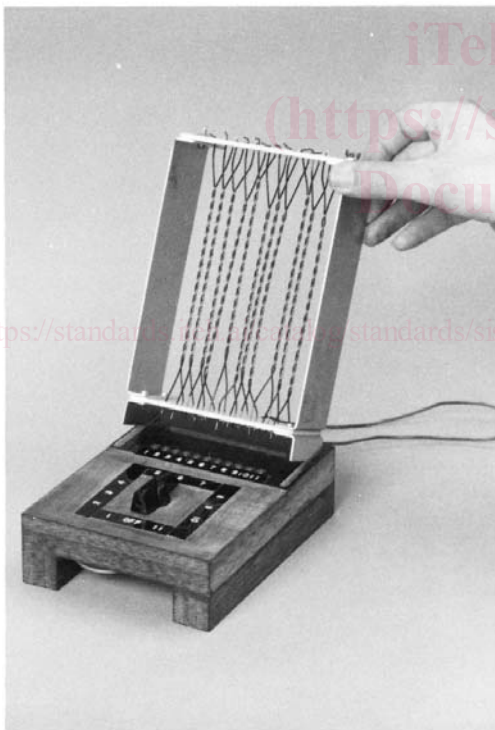


FIG. 5 A Specimen Holder and Electrical Connection Device

in Figs. 3 and 4. Construct the holder so as to allow for the electrical connection of the twists for the proof testing (see Fig. 5 for an example).

7.4 *Electrical Connection*—Provide a suitable electrical connection to the test specimens in the holder that will not induce mechanical stress to the specimens. Non-mechanical

connections are preferred. A typical device is shown in Fig. 5. The specimens are connected to a voltage source as described in 8.3 and 8.4.

8. Procedure

8.1 Prior to the first exposure cycle, make sure all specimens pass the proof-voltage test (see Table 2). Expose the specimens at elevated temperatures in accordance with Table 3. Remove the specimens from the oven and cool to room temperature before testing. Test by applying the voltage specified in Table 2. Take care to prevent damage to the specimens.

8.2 *Exposure Times*—The exposure times given in Table 3 are selected to subject the test specimen to approximately ten cycles before all specimens fail. It is permissible to extend Table 3 at the high end of the exposure temperature range to accommodate special high-temperature film insulations. The thermal endpoint time of the specimens will possibly be affected by the number of cycles. Log average or median hour values, obtained from test specimens subjected to less than eight cycles or more than twenty cycles at the exposure temperature are possibly unreliable. Therefore, to ensure the number of cycles to failure will be within the parameters, adjust the exposure time. For example, if a set of test specimens has been exposed for eight cycles and less than half have failed, it is recommended that the exposure time should be approximately doubled, and if the test shows a 30 % or greater failure rate by the fourth cycle, it is recommended that the exposure time should be reduced by one-half. Expose test specimens to at least three temperatures. It is recommended that exposure temperatures be at least 10°C apart. Select the lowest test temperature to be no more than 20°C above the estimated temperature index of the magnet wire. Space the test temperatures equally so that they cover a range of at least 40°C. The accuracy of the time to failure predicted from the results will increase as the exposure temperature approaches the temperature to which the insulation is exposed in service. The end point at the lowest exposure temperature must be at least 5000 h. If the log average or median hours are less than 100, do not use the data. Use ovens of the forced-draft design conforming to Specification D 5423 Type 1.

8.3 *Test Voltages*—The voltages given in Table 2 are selected in order to subject the insulation to a stress of approximately 300 V/mil (12 kV/mm). This value is above the air breakdown value for the space afforded by the insulation films separating the wires. These relatively high values are chosen so that crazing, or other deterioration of the coating is readily detected.

8.4 The voltage to be applied shall be an ac voltage with a nominal frequency of 50 or 60 Hz of an approximately sine-wave form, the peak factor being within the limits of $\sqrt{2} \pm 5\%$ (1.34 to 1.48). The test transformer shall have a rated power of at least 500 V-A and shall provide a current of essentially undistorted waveform under test conditions.