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An American National Standard

# Standard Specification for Thermoplastic Polyethylene Insulation for Electrical Wire and Cable<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 1351; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

# 1. Scope\*

- 1.1 This specification covers a thermoplastic insulation which consists substantially of polyethylene.
- 1.2This type of insulation is considered suitable for continuous operation for conductor temperatures up to 75°C with a maximum conductor size of 1000 kemil (507 mm
- 1.2 This type of insulation is considered suitable for use on wire or cable that will be used for continuous operation at conductor temperatures up to 75 °C with a maximum conductor size of 1000 kcmil (507 mm²). The maximum voltage rating shall not exceed 35 000 V for power application or 9 000 V for series lighting.
- 1.3 In many instances the insulation material cannot be tested unless it has been formed around a <u>conductor or cable</u>. <u>conductor</u>. Therefore, tests done on insulated wire or cable in this <u>documentspecification</u> are solely to determine the relevant property of the insulation material and not to test the insulated conductor or completed cable.
- 1.4 Whenever two sets of values are presented, in different units, the values in the first set are the standard, while those in parentheses are for information only.

#### 2. Referenced Documents

- 2.1 ASTM Standards: <sup>2</sup>
- D 1248 Specification for Polyethylene Plastics Extrusion Materials for Wire and Cable
- D 1711 Terminology Relating to Electrical Insulation
- D 2308 Specification for Thermoplastic Polyethylene Jacket for Electrical Wire and Cable
- D 2633Methods of Testing Test Methods for Thermoplastic Insulations and Jackets for Wire and Cable
- D 3349 Test Method for Absorption Coefficient of Ethylene Polymer Material Pigmented with Carbon Black
- 2.2 ICEA Standard:
- T-24-380 Guide for Partial-Discharge Procedure<sup>3</sup>

#### 3. Terminology

- 3.1 Definitions:
- 3.1.1 Refer to Terminology D 1711 for definitions of terms used in this specification.

3.1.1Refer to Terminology D1711 for definitions pertinent to this specification.

- 3.2 Definition of Term Specific to This Standard:
- 3.2.1 aging (act of), n—exposure of materials to air at 100°C for 48 h. —exposure of materials to air at a temperature of 100 °C for 48 h.

## 4. Conductor Shields

4.1 Use conductor 4.1 Conductor shields shall be used on solid and stranded conductors of power cables having rated circuit voltages above 2000 V. This requirement does not apply to series lighting cables. Conductor shielding is conducting material at least 0.0025 in. (0.06 mm) thick applied over the surface of the conductor. It may be The options include conducting nonmetallic tape, conducting compound, or conducting cement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D09 on Electrical and Electronic Insulating Materials and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D09.18 on Solid Insulations, Non-Metallic Shieldings and Coverings for Electrical and Telecommunication Wires and Cables.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 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, Vol 08.01.volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 10.01.

Available from The Insulated Cable Engineers Association, Inc. (ICEA), P.O. Box 1568, Carrollton, GA 30112, http://www.icea.net.



# 5. Physical Properties

- 5.1 The polyethylene, before application to the conductor, shall comply with the requirements of Specification D 1248 for Type
   I; Class A, B or C; Category 4 or 5; Grade E4 or E5. The requirements of Specification D 1248 do not apply to the-insulation removed from the conductor.
  - 5.2 Insulation exposed to sunlight or weather requires Specification D 1248, Class C compound or suitable protective coverings. Class C compound shall meet the minimum absorption coefficient requirement in Table 1.
- 5.3 Specimens removed from the wire or cable and tested at 20 to 30 °C (68 to 80 °F) shall conform to the requirements for physical properties specified in Table 1. The Alternatively, the insulation may shall be air-oven aged without removal from the conductor.
  - 5.4 *Thickness of Insulation*—The minimum average insulation thickness shall be as specified in Table 2 or Table 3 of this specification. The minimum thickness shall be at least 90 % of the specified minimum average thickness.
  - 5.5 Absorption Coefficient—Test according to Test Method D 3349. Alternatively, a certification by the manufacturer of the polyethylene compound that the requirement has been complied with may shall suffice.

### **6.** Electrical Requirements Electrical Requirements

- 6.1 *Order of Testing*—Perform the partial discharge, ac voltage, insulation resistance, and dc voltage tests in that order when any of these tests are specified. The sequence of other testing is not specified.
- 6.2 Partial Discharge—When tested in accordance with ICEA T-24-380, as modified in Test Methods D 2633, each length of completed shielded power cable rated for service at 2001 V and above shall comply with the minimum partial discharge extinction level. See Test Methods D 2633.
- 6.3 AC Voltage Test—The insulated conductor shall withstand the ac voltage specified in Table 2 or Table 3 for 5 min. Unless otherwise specified, this test mayshall be omitted for nonshielded conductors rated up to 5000 V if the dc voltage test described in 6.6 is to be performed.

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#### ASTM D1351-08

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**TABLE 1 Physical Properties of Compound** 

Unaged Requirements:		
Tensile strength, min, psi (MPa)	1400 (9.7)	
Elongation at rupture, min, %	350	
Aged Requirements:		
After air oven aging at 100 ± 1°C for 48 h:		
Tensile strength, % retention, min	75	
Elongation at rupture, % retention, min	75	
Absorption Coefficient, min, absorbance/mm	<del>-320</del>	
Absorption Coefficient, min, absorbance/nm	320	