



Designation: C603-90(Reapproved 1997)^{ε1} Designation: C 603 – 04 (Reapproved 2008)

Standard Test Method for Extrusion Rate and Application Life of Elastomeric Sealants¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C 603; 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.

^{ε1}Note—Keywords were added editorially in June 1997.

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

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers two laboratory procedures for determining the extrusion rate and application life (or “pot life”) of elastomeric chemically curing sealants for use in building construction.

NOTE 1—These sealants are supplied with various rheological properties ranging from pourable liquids to nonsagging pastes. Single-component sealants are supplied ready for use upon opening the container, and their rate of cure is determined by the climatic conditions to which they are exposed. Multicomponent sealants are supplied as a base component and a curing agent separately packaged. After mixing the two parts, the sealant is ready for application, and curing begins immediately.

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

1.3

1.3 There is no known ISO equivalent to this test method.

1.4 *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

C 717 Terminology of Building Seals and Sealants

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—For definitions of terms used in test method, see Terminology C 717.^{c63d7a6f5/astm-c603-042008}

4. Significance and Use

4.1 The results obtained by this test method are simply a measure of the time required to extrude a known volume of sealant through a known orifice under a predetermined pressure.

4.2 This test method is not considered a measure of cure rate.

5. Apparatus

5.1 *Caulking Gun*, 177-mL (6-fl oz) capacity, air-powered.

5.2 *Polyethylene Cartridge*, 177-mL (6-fl oz), with the front end having an inside diameter of 13.7 ± 0.05 mm (0.540 ± 0.002 in.).

5.3 *Air Supply*, providing 345 kPa (50-psi) pressure and having the necessary connection fittings for attachment to the air-powered caulking gun.

5.4 *Timing Device* (clock or watch), calibrated in seconds.

¹This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C-24 on Building Seals and Sealants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C24.32 on Chemically Cured Compounds.

Current edition approved May 25, 1990. Published July 1990. Originally published as C603-69. Last previous edition C603-83.

²This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C24 on Building Seals and Sealants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C24.20 on General Test Methods.

Current edition approved May 1, 2008. Published June 2008. Originally approved in 1969. Last previous edition approved in 2004 as C 603 - 04.

³For 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 04.07 volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.