



Designation: ~~C1093-07~~ Designation: C 1093 – 08

Standard Practice for Accreditation of Testing Agencies for Masonry¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C 1093; 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.

1. Scope*

1.1 This practice covers the minimum requirements for laboratory personnel, for establishing and maintaining a quality system, and it establishes minimum qualifications for agencies engaged in the testing of masonry materials.

1.2 Criteria are provided for evaluating the capability of an agency to properly perform designated tests on masonry materials, and for establishing guidelines pertaining to an agency's organization, personnel, facilities, and quality system. This practice may be supplemented by more specific criteria and requirements for particular projects.

1.3 This practice can be used as a basis to evaluate testing agencies, and it is intended for use for the qualifying or accrediting of testing agencies, or both, public or private, engaged in the testing of masonry materials.

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 67 Test Methods for Sampling and Testing Brick and Structural Clay Tile

C 109/C 109M Test Method for Compressive Strength of Hydraulic Cement Mortars (Using 2-in. or [50-mm] Cube Specimens)

C 117 Test Method for Materials Finer than 75- μ m (No. 200) Sieve in Mineral Aggregates by Washing

C 136 Test Method for Sieve Analysis of Fine and Coarse Aggregates

C 140 Test Methods for Sampling and Testing Concrete Masonry Units and Related Units

C 143/C 143M Test Method for Slump of Hydraulic-Cement Concrete

C 173/C 173M Test Method for Air Content of Freshly Mixed Concrete by the Volumetric Method

C 185 Test Method for Air Content of Hydraulic Cement Mortar

C 230/C 230M Specification for Flow Table for Use in Tests of Hydraulic Cement

C 231 Test Method for Air Content of Freshly Mixed Concrete by the Pressure Method

C 270 Specification for Mortar for Unit Masonry

C 305 Practice for Mechanical Mixing of Hydraulic Cement Pastes and Mortars of Plastic Consistency

C 470/C 470M Specification for Molds for Forming Concrete Test Cylinders Vertically

C 780 Test Method for Preconstruction and Construction Evaluation of Mortars for Plain and Reinforced Unit Masonry

C 1072 Test Method for Measurement of Masonry Flexural Bond Strength

C 1506 Test Method for Water Retention of Hydraulic Cement-Based Mortars and Plasters

E 4 Practices for Force Verification of Testing Machines

E 11 Specification for Wire Cloth and Sieves for Testing Purposes

3. Terminology

2.1

3.1 Definition:

2.1.1

3.1.1 *quality system*—the organizational structure, responsibilities, procedures, processes, capabilities, and resources for implementing quality management.

2.23.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C15 on Manufactured Masonry Units and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C15.07 on Standards for Laboratory Accreditation.

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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.

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

2.2.1 3.2.1 agency—the organization engaged to test masonry materials as required by a specification or contract.

2.2.2

3.2.2 quality system manual (QSM)—a manual describing and documenting an agency’s quality system.

2.2.3

3.2.3 user—the person or organization engaging the agency to provide tests; or using this practice to evaluate or accredit the agency.

3. Significance and Use

3.1 This practice provides the basic minimum criteria for use in evaluating the qualifications of testing agencies for masonry materials. The criteria may be supplemented by more specific criteria and requirements. It can be used as a guide for internal audits by individual users.

3.2 The intent of this practice is to provide a consensus basis for evaluating a testing agency, with respect to that agency’s capability to objectively and competently provide the specific services needed by the user.

3.3 This practice may be used as a basis for accreditation.

4. Responsibilities and Duties

4.1 The agency shall ensure that only tests for which it is adequately equipped and staffed are performed.

4.2 The agency shall ensure that personnel perform only tests for which they are adequately trained, qualified, and certified in accordance with applicable specifications.

4.3 The agency shall ensure that all equipment is properly maintained in good operating condition and is calibrated as applicable.

4.4 The agency shall perform all testing in accordance with appropriate standards and quality control criteria. Documents unique to the user shall be furnished to the agency. Significance and Use

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5. General Capabilities

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5.4 The agency shall perform all testing in accordance with appropriate standards and quality control criteria. Documents unique to the user shall be furnished to the agency.

6. General Capabilities

6.1 Laboratory Testing—The laboratory testing services of the masonry materials testing agency shall include some or all of the following capabilities:

6.1.1 Testing of masonry units in the laboratory,

6.1.2 Testing of masonry mortars in the laboratory, and

6.1.3 Testing of aggregates for compliance with specification requirements.

NOTE 1—Since the requirements for construction control can vary from project to project depending upon the nature of the type, location, and intended use of the masonry in the project, the capability of the agency for testing should be that necessary to accomplish construction control for the user’s specific project or special requirements.

6. Personnel Qualifications

6.1

7. Personnel Qualifications

7.1 Management and Supervision —All relevant testing services shall be provided under the Full-Time technical direction of a registered professional Engineer, with at least 5 years of experience in inspecting and testing masonry materials or a person of equivalent science-oriented education and experience.

6.1.1 7.1.1 It is satisfactory for a person to fill one or more of the levels of management in an agency, Manager, Supervisor, or Technician positions in accordance with 6.1 and 6.2-7.2 providing that person is qualified position.

6.2

7.2 Supervising Laboratory Technician—The supervising laboratory technician shall have at least five years experience performing tests on materials. This person shall be able to demonstrate, either by oral or written examination, or both, the ability to perform the tests normally required in the manner stipulated under ASTM or other governing procedures and shall be capable of evaluating the test results in terms of specification compliance.

7. Quality System Criteria

~~7.1 The agency shall establish and implement a quality system that meets the following criteria:~~

~~7.1.1 Quality System Manual (QSM)~~

8. Quality System Criteria

8.1 The agency shall establish and implement a quality system that meets the criteria in subsections 8.2 to 8.14.

8.2 *Quality System Manual (QSM)*—The agency shall establish and maintain a QSM that conforms to the requirements in Section 89. Each document in the QSM shall indicate its preparation *date*. If a document is revised, the *date* of revision shall be indicated on the document. The QSM shall be available for use by laboratory staff.

~~7.1.2~~

8.3 *Quality System Management*—The agency shall designate a person(s) having responsibility for the quality system and its implementation. The quality manager ensures that activities are being conducted by agency staff in the manner specified in the agency's quality system manual and has responsibility for maintaining and revising it. This individual(s) shall have direct access to top management (see Note 2).

NOTE 2—This individual(s) may have other responsibilities (for example, laboratory manager).

~~7.1.3~~ 8.4 *Laboratory Procedure Manual*—A written laboratory procedure manual outlining the method or inspection procedure for each test or service performed by the laboratory.

NOTE 3—Inspection and testing procedures may reference published standards.

~~7.1.4~~ 8.5 *Equipment Calibration and Verification*—The agency shall calibrate or verify all significant testing equipment associated with tests covered by the scope of this standard which the agency performs. As a minimum, the equipment listed in Table 18.5.2 shall be included if it is associated with tests performed by the agency. Applicable equipment shall be calibrated or verified at the intervals specified in the agency's QSM. The intervals specified in the QSM shall be no greater than those indicated in Table 18.5.2 (see Note 4). Newly acquired equipment without manufacturer's certification and equipment that has not been calibrated or verified because it has been removed from service shall be calibrated or verified before being placed in service. The agency shall have detailed written procedures for all in-house calibration and verification activities not addressed in standards. These procedures shall indicate the equipment required to perform the calibration or verification. ~~—). Newly acquired equipment without manufacturer's certification and equipment that has not been calibrated or verified because it has been removed from service shall be calibrated or verified before being placed in service. The agency shall have detailed written procedures for all in-house calibration and verification activities not addressed in standards. These procedures shall indicate the equipment required to perform the calibration or verification. In addition to standard test method requirements, the conditions listed in 8.5.2 must be met.~~

8.5.1 *Calibration and Verification Records*—The agency shall maintain calibration and verification records for all equipment specified in the QSM. Such records shall include:

8.5.1.1 Description of the equipment calibrated or verified, including model and serial number or other acceptable identification (see Note 5),

8.5.1.2 Date the work was done,

8.5.1.3 Identification of individual performing work,

8.5.1.4 Identification of calibration or verification procedure used,

8.5.1.5 The previous calibration or verification date and next due date,

8.5.1.6 Identification of any calibration or verification device used, and

8.5.1.7 Specific criteria required for each piece of equipment listed in 8.5.2.

8.5.2 *Masonry Test Equipment:*

8.5.2.1 *Balances and Weights*—Record must include test points and corresponding percentage of error. Calibration must be performed at intervals not exceeding 12 months.

8.5.2.2 *Cube Molds and Tampers*—Check for conformance to the design and dimensional requirements of Test Method C 109/C 109M. Verification must be performed at intervals not exceeding 30 months.

8.5.2.3 *Compression Test Machine*—Must conform to the applicable requirements of Test Methods C 67, C 109/C 109M, or C 140 and have a capacity, loading range, and the appropriate heads and bearing plates for the specimens tested. Verify testing machines in accordance with Practices E 4. Record must include test points and corresponding percentage of error. Calibration must be performed at intervals not exceeding 12 months.

8.5.2.4 *Flexural Bond Apparatus*—Must conform to the applicable requirements of Test Method C 1072. Verify the load measuring apparatus in accordance with Practices E 4. Record must include test points and corresponding percentage of error. Calibration must be performed at intervals not exceeding 12 months.