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Standard Guide to Evaluation of Optical Properties of Powder Coatings¹

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INTRODUCTION

The term optical properties of powder coatings refers to those properties associated with the interaction of visible light with the coatings. These properties include, but are not limited to, color, color difference, gloss, and metamerism. Coating powder users and producers may sometimes be overwhelmed by the sheer number of standard practices and standard test methods available for the evaluation of the optical properties of the finished coatings.

This guide is intended to lead the user to each of the practices and test methods needed, once the user decides whether the evaluation is to be by visible means or by instrumental means. Further, the user must decide which of the several optical properties mentioned above are to be evaluated. This guide will lead the user to the applicable practices and test methods for the properties chosen by the means selected.

1. Scope *

1.1 This standard provides the user with a guide to the various available practices and test methods for the evaluation of color, color difference, gloss, and metamerism by both visual and by instrumental means.

1.2 *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:

- D 523 Test Method for Specular Gloss²
- D 1535 Practice for Specifying Color by the Munsell System²
- D 1729 Practice for Visual Appraisal of Colors and Color Differences of Diffusely-Illuminated Opaque Materials²
- D 2244 Test Method for Calculation of Color Differences from Instrumentally Measured Color Coordinates²
- D 2616 Test Method for Evaluation of Visual Color Difference With a Gray Scale²
- D 3134 Practice for Establishing Color and Gloss Tolerances²

- D 4039 Test Method for Reflection Haze of High-Gloss Surfaces²
- D 4086 Practice for Visual Evaluation of Metamerism²
- D 4449 Test Method for Visual Evaluation of Gloss Differences Between Surfaces of Similar Appearance²
- D 5767 Test Methods for Instrumental Measurement of Distinctness-of-Image Gloss of Coating Surfaces²
- E 284 Terminology of Appearance²
- E 308 Practice for Computing the Colors of Objects by Using the CIE System²
- E 430 Test Methods for Measurement of Gloss of High-Gloss Surfaces by Goniophotometry²
- E 1247 Test Method for Identifying Fluorescence in Object-Color Specimens by Spectrophotometry²
- E 1331 Test Method for Reflectance Factor and Color by Spectrophotometry Using Hemispherical Geometry²
- E 1345 Practice for Reducing the Effect of Variability of Color Measurement by Use of Multiple Measurements²
- E 1347 Test Method for Color and Color-Difference Measurement by Tristimulus (Filter) Colorimetry²
- E 1349 Test Method for Reflectance Factor and Color by Spectrophotometry Using Bidirectional Geometry²
- E 1360 Practice for Specifying Color by Using the Optical Society of America Uniform Color Scales System²
- E 1541 Practice for Specifying and Matching Color by Using the Colorcurve System²

3. Terminology

3.1 The definitions in Terminology E 284 are applicable to the appearance terms used in this standard. The following

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D01 on Paint and Related Coatings, Materials, and Applications and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D01.51 on Powder Coatings.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 06.01.

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