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Standard Terminology Relating to Resilient Floor Coverings¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 141; 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.

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

1. Referenced Documents

1.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

F 1700 [Specification for Solid Vinyl Floor Tile](#)

F 1859 [Specification for Rubber Sheet Floor Covering Without Backing](#)

F 1860 [Specification for Rubber Sheet Floor Covering With Backing](#)

2. Terminology

2.1 *Terms and Definitions:*

above-grade, *adj*—above the surface of the ground, *as related to floor location*, above a well-ventilated space with at least 18 in. between the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member and any point of the ground.

abrasion, *n*—wearing, grinding, or rubbing away by friction.

across machine direction, *n*—the direction perpendicular to which a product moves through the manufacturing process.

asphalt tile, *n*—an obsolete floor surfacing unit composed of asphalt or hydrocarbon resins, or both, crysotile asbestos fibers, mineral fillers, and pigments.

below-grade, *adj*—below the surface of the ground, *as related to floor location*, part or all of the floor is below the ground.

cellular concrete, *n*—a light weight flooring substrate material which utilizes a hydraulic cement as the binder and has a homogeneous void or cell structure attained using gas forming chemicals or foaming agents.

concrete, *n*—a hard, strong material made by mixing a cementing material (commonly portland cement) and a mineral aggregate (as washed sand and gravel or broken rock) with sufficient water to cause the cement to set and bind the entire mass.

coefficient of friction—the ratio of the tangential force that is needed to start or maintain uniform relative motion between two contacting surfaces to the perpendicular force holding them in contact. (See DCOF and SCOF in 2.2 for clarification.)

cork tile, *n*—a floor surfacing unit made from natural cork shavings compressed and baked to be thoroughly and uniformly bonded together.

cushioned vinyl flooring, *n*—any vinyl sheet floor covering incorporating a foam layer as part of its construction.

dimensional stability, *n*—the ability of a resilient flooring to retain its original dimensions during the service life of the product.

DISCUSSION—This property is usually measured by: (1) *temperature-induced dimensional change*—the alteration in linear dimensions as a result of exposure to a significant variation in temperature followed by a return to original conditions; or (2) *moisture-induced dimensional change*—the alteration in linear dimensions as a result of exposure to a significant variation in moisture. (1977)

drying room yellowing, *n*—a yellowish cast on linoleum resultant from the oxidation process that will go away with light exposure. Without continued light exposure, the cast may reappear.

embossed, *adj*—having a permanent multilevel surface produced by mechanical or chemical means.

flexibility, *n*—the ability to be bent, turned, or twisted without cracking, breaking or showing other permanent damage and with or without returning of itself to its former shape.

friction, *n*—resistance to the relative motion of one body sliding, rolling, or flowing over another with which it is in contact.

gouge, *n*—a groove or cavity in the flooring surface accompanied by material removal and penetration below the immediate flooring surface.

heat welded seam, *n*—a seam produced by grooving abutting edges of resilient flooring and filling said grooves with heated, fused, or melted material to provide a bond and seal. A glazing or top coating may be applied after the seam is trimmed.

¹ This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F06 on Resilient Floor Coverings and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F06.10 on Terminology. Current edition approved Nov. 1, ~~2004~~2008. Published December ~~2004~~2008. Originally approved in 1971. Last previous edition approved in ~~2003~~2004 as ~~F141-03~~F 141-04.

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.