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Standard Specification for Color Coding of Reusable Laboratory Pipets¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers a system of color coding for one-mark pipets for identification of nominal capacities, and for graduated pipets for identification of nominal capacities and units of sub-division.

1.2 This specification applies to one-mark and graduated pipets of the nominal capacities listed in Table 1 and Table 2, respectively.

NOTE 1—Many pipets not covered by other ASTM standards are included in Table 1 and Table 2, in order, firstly, to ensure uniformity of color coding as far as possible for non-standard as well as standard pipets and, secondly, to reserve suitable codes for possible future standards for other types of pipet.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:²

E 1157 [Specification for the Sampling and Testing of Reusable Laboratory Glassware](#)

3. Significance and Use

3.1 The purpose of this specification is to ensure that if a color code is used on pipets, all manufacturers will use the same code; it is not intended as an encouragement of color coding if this is not required.

4. Color Properties

4.1 *Coding*—The color coding used on one-mark pipets shall be in accordance with Table 1, and graduated pipets shall be in accordance with Table 2.

4.2 *Variations*—Variations in the enamels used in the methods of application appropriate for pipets made from different types of glass inevitably result in minor variations of color, and it is therefore not appropriate to specify closely the seven colors listed in the tables.

5. Marking Requirements

5.1 The color code shall take the form of color bands extending at least 150° around the circumference of the pipet and situated not more than 70 mm from the top of the pipet and not less than 20 mm above the nearest graduation line.

5.2 For a code consisting of a single band of color, the band shall be 5 to 10 mm wide. For a code consisting of two bands of color, each band shall be 3 to 5 mm wide and the two bands shall be separated by a space of 2 to 3 mm. Color bands do not have to be continuous but may be broken as long as they cover 40 % of the circumference of the pipet.

NOTE 2—Pipets calibrated to deliver by blowing out the last drop shall be identified by a wide band or two narrow bands permanently marked on their top end.

6. Sampling and Testing

6.1 Sampling and testing shall be in accordance with Specification E 1157.

7. Keywords

7.1 colorcoding; laboratory; pipets

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² This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E41 on Laboratory Apparatus and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E41.01 on Apparatus. Current edition approved Nov. 1, 2008. Published January 2009. Originally approved in 1988. Last previous edition approved in 2003 as E 1273–88 (2003).

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