



Designation: C879 – 03(Reapproved 2009)

Standard Test Methods for Release Papers Used with Preformed Tape Sealants¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C879; 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 These test methods cover laboratory procedures for evaluating the release characteristics of a release paper intended to be supplied in direct contact with a preformed tape sealant.

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

1.3 The subcommittee with jurisdiction is not aware of any similar ISO standard.

1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns 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
[C717 Terminology of Building Seals and Sealants](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—The definitions of the following terms used in this test method are found in Terminology [C717](#): preformed tape sealant, sealant.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 The preformed tape sealant is placed between two strips of release paper supplied with the preformed tape sealant. Duplicate samples are rolled with a standard roller. One sample is heat aged in an oven, the other is heat aged in a humidity chamber. The release paper is peeled off of the preformed tape sealant either at ambient or elevated temperature. The release paper is examined for transfer or residue of the preformed tape sealant.

¹ These test methods are under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [C24](#) on Building Seals and Sealants and are the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [C24.20](#) on General Test Methods.

Current edition approved Jan. 1, 2009. Published March 2009. Originally approved in 1978. Last previous edition approved in 2003 as C879–03. DOI: 10.1520/C0879-03R09.

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.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 Preformed tape sealants are tacky, deformable solids that are used under compression between two substrates in various sealing applications. These tapes are usually supplied in roll form with a release paper interlayer. When the roll is unwound and the release paper is removed from the preformed tape sealant, there should be no transfer of the preformed tape sealant to the release paper, nor any residue left on the paper. These methods will give a qualitative indication of whether or not the release paper can be removed cleanly from a preformed tape sealant after a controlled exposure period.

5.2 Alternative procedures are listed because some preformed tape sealants are normally used under field conditions where elevated temperatures can be encountered, while other preformed tape sealants are normally used under more controlled environments in “assembly line” operations.

6. Apparatus and Accessory Materials

6.1 *Hard Rubber Roller*, weighing 2043 g (4.5 lb), with approximate dimensions of 82.5-mm (3.25-in.) diameter and 63.5-mm (2.5-in.) width. The rubber surface is 6.4 mm (0.25 in.) thick and has a durometer hardness value of 75 ± 5 .

6.2 *Oven*, forced-draft, set at $70 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ($158 \pm 3.5^\circ\text{F}$) or $50 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ($122 \pm 3.5^\circ\text{F}$).

6.3 *Humidity Chamber*, set at $41 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ($105 \pm 3.5^\circ\text{F}$) and $100 + 0, - 2\%$ relative humidity.

6.4 *Weight*, 1000-g (2.2-lb).

7. Sampling

7.1 Samples to be tested shall be taken from a fresh roll of preformed tape sealant, after first removing and discarding approximately the first 600 mm (2 ft) of the roll.

8. Test Specimens

8.1 Prepare two test specimens as follows:

8.1.1 Place a 152-mm (6-in.) length of preformed tape sealant between two strips of release paper that is supplied with the preformed tape sealant. Apply light finger pressure on the release papers to ensure alignment of the preformed tape sealant.