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Standard Guide for Testing Epoxy Resins¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This guide covers methods for testing epoxy resins as listed in **Table 1**. All of the methods were tested by interlaboratory participation in accordance with usual ASTM guidelines. Each method specifies a recommended amount of sample for starting a separate analysis, but several of the procedures can be conducted on the same starting material if so desired. For example, viscosity, color, and density could be run on the same specimen.

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:*²

D445 Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Transparent and Opaque Liquids (and Calculation of Dynamic Viscosity)

D1209 Test Method for Color of Clear Liquids (Platinum-Cobalt Scale)

D1259 Test Methods for Nonvolatile Content of Resin Solutions

D1475 Test Method For Density of Liquid Coatings, Inks, and Related Products

D1544 Test Method for Color of Transparent Liquids (Gardner Color Scale)

D1545 Test Method for Viscosity of Transparent Liquids by Bubble Time Method

D1639 Test Method for Acid Value of Organic Coating Materials (Withdrawn 2005)³

D1652 Test Method for Epoxy Content of Epoxy Resins

D1726 Test Methods for Hydrolyzable Chloride Content of Liquid Epoxy Resins

D1847 Test Methods for Total Chlorine Content of Epoxy Resins (Withdrawn 2007)³

3. Significance and Use

3.1 This guide directs the user to test methods that determine properties generally accepted as standard test items for classification of epoxy resins.

4. Epoxy Content

4.1 The epoxy content of epoxy resins is determined by reacting a solution of the resin with a standard solution of hydrogen bromide in glacial acetic acid. The quantity of acid consumed is a measure of the epoxy content. Test Methods **D1652** was found to have a repeatability of 2 % of the epoxy content and a reproducibility of 6 % of the epoxy content.

5. Hydrolyzable Chlorine

5.1 Test Method **D1726** covers the determination of the easily hydrolyzable chlorine content of liquid epoxy resins in concentrations below 1 weight %. The specimen is refluxed with a known amount of a standard alcoholic potassium hydroxide solution. The amount of hydroxide consumed is measured by titration and corresponds to the hydrolyzable chlorine content of the resin. By interlaboratory testing, the repeatability was found to be 0.02 %, and the reproducibility was found to be 0.05 %, both absolute.

6. Total Chlorine

6.1 Organic and inorganic chlorine compounds are determined in epoxy resins in accordance with Test Methods **D1847**. The resin specimen is oxidized by combustion in a bomb containing oxygen under pressure. The chlorides formed are dissolved in a sodium carbonate solution and then either titrated or determined gravimetrically. The absolute repeatability and reproducibility for the titration method are 0.02 and 0.05 weight %, respectively. For the gravimetric method, the repeatability and reproducibility are both reported to be 0.05 weight %, absolute.

7. Viscosity

7.1 Kinematic viscosity is determined by measuring the time for a volume of liquid to flow under gravity through a

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 **D01.33** on Polymers and Resins.

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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.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.