



Designation: E2140 – 01 (Reapproved 2009)

# Standard Test Method for Water Penetration of Metal Roof Panel Systems by Static Water Pressure Head<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E2140; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This laboratory test method covers the determination of the resistance to water penetration of exterior metal roof panel system sideseams, endlaps, and roof plane penetrations when a specified static water pressure head is applied to the outside face of the roof panel.

NOTE 1—This test method is intended to evaluate water-barrier (not water-shedding) roof system joints and details. These systems are also referred to as hydrostatic roof systems.

1.2 This test method is limited to specimens in which the sideseams and attachments are clearly visible and in which the source of leakage is readily observable.

1.3 This test method excludes performance at roof perimeter conditions.

1.4 This test method is suitable for evaluating leakage at roof plane penetrations such as fasteners, curbs, pipes, and expansion joints under a static water pressure head.

1.5 The proper use of this test method requires a knowledge of the principles of water pressure.

1.6 The text of this standard includes notes and footnotes excluding tables and figures, which provide explanatory material. These notes and footnotes shall not be considered as requirements of the standard.

1.7 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.8 *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.* For specific precautionary statements, see Section 7.

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E06 on Performance of Buildings and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E06.57 on Performance of Metal Roof Systems.

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## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:<sup>2</sup>

E631 *Terminology of Building Constructions*

E1646 *Test Method for Water Penetration of Exterior Metal Roof Panel Systems by Uniform Static Air Pressure Difference*

## 3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—For definitions of general terms relating to building construction used in this method, see Terminology E631.

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard*:

3.2.1 *composite roof systems*—roof systems consisting of an exterior metal skin and other components. Factory assembled composite panels consist of an exterior metal skin, insulation, and interior metal skin. Field assembled composite systems consist of exterior metal skins, underlayment, and a structural roof deck.

3.2.2 *panel endlap*—the connection between two in-line metal panels across the width of the panels.

3.2.3 *panel sideseam*—the connection between two adjacent metal panels along the length of the panels.

3.2.4 *specimen*—the entire assembled unit submitted for test as described in Section 8.

3.2.5 *water leakage*—penetration of water through the plane of the innermost face of the test specimen during the test period.

3.2.6 *water pressure head*—the distance from the surface of the water to the lowest point or cell of the metal panel specimen, measured at the locations shown in Fig. 1.

## 4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 The test consists of sealing and fixing a test specimen to a horizontal support frame, locating vertical water dams around the perimeter of the test specimen, applying a specified static

<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

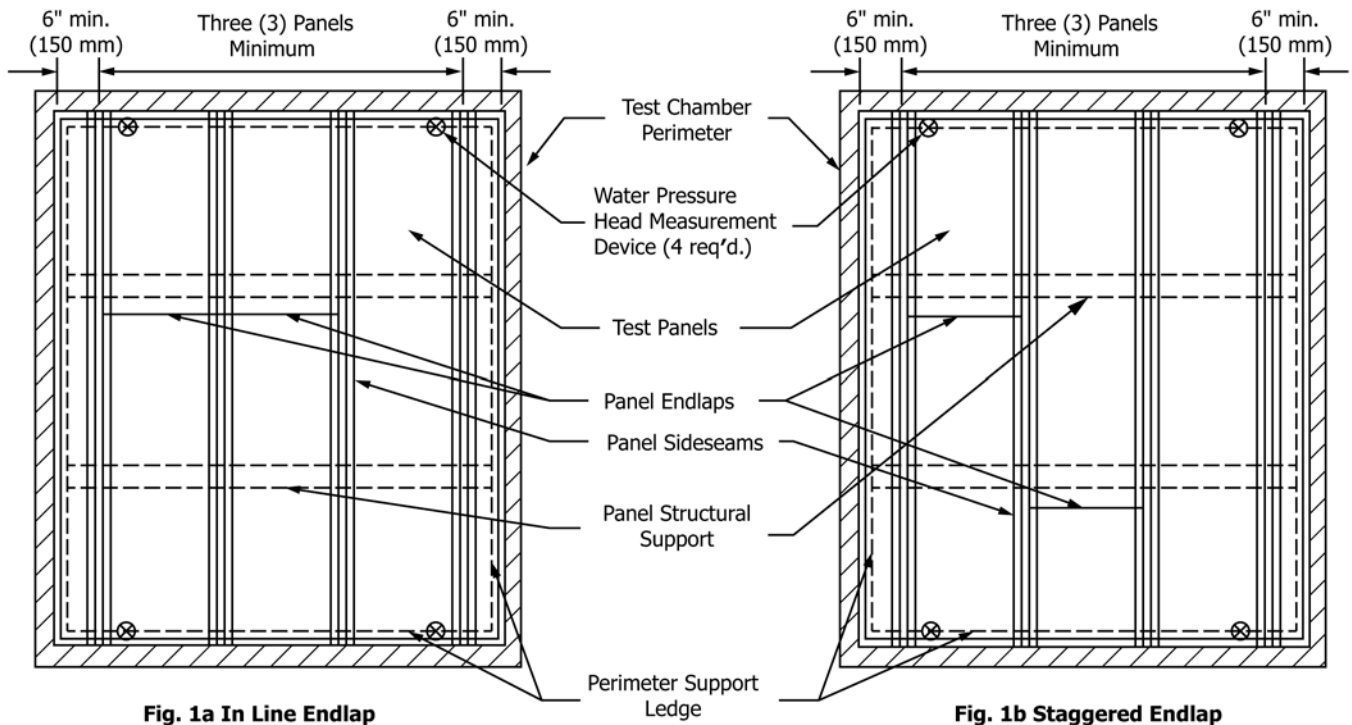


Fig. 1a In Line Endlap

Fig. 1b Staggered Endlap

FIG. 1 Plan of Typical Three-Span Test Specimen Mounted in Chamber

water head to the outside face of the test specimen and observing for water leakage on the underside of the test specimen.

## 5. Significance and Use

5.1 This test method is a standard procedure for determining water leakage through metal roof panel system sideseams, endlaps, and roof plane penetrations when the roof system is subjected to a specified static water pressure head.

NOTE 2—In applying the results of tests by this method, note that the performance of a roof or its components or both, is in part a function of proper installation and adjustment. In service, the performance will also depend on the integrity of the supporting construction, roof slope, and on the resistance of components to deterioration by various causes: corrosive atmosphere, aging, ice, vibration, thermal cycling, etc. It is difficult to simulate the identical complex wetting, aging, and other variable conditions that can be encountered in service, including wind-blown ponded water; the effects of temperature and age on sealant performance; differential pressure across the joints due to wind, snow, and ice accumulation; densification and migration; and abrasions within the joint components which may occur during thermal cycling and other weather events. Some joint conditions are more sensitive than others to these factors.

5.2 This test method will evaluate the resistance of roof panels, sideseams, endlaps, and roof plane penetrations to water submersion. It will not evaluate panel resistance to wind driven rain.

NOTE 3—See Test Method E1646 for a test which evaluates resistance to wind driven rain.

5.3 This test method is not a structural adequacy test.

5.4 This test method is applicable to single skin metal panels, the exterior skin of factory assembled composite panels, and the exterior skin of field assembled composite

systems as long as means can be provided to distinguish leakage through the exterior panel sideseams/endlaps and perimeter leakage.

## 6. Apparatus

6.1 This description of apparatus is general in nature and any arrangement of equipment capable of performing the test procedure within the allowable tolerances is permitted.

NOTE 4—One such alternate test apparatus arrangement consists of perimeter seals erected on top of the test specimen.

6.2 *Test Chamber*—(See Figs. 1 and 2). A well-sealed chamber or box with either an opening, a removable mounting panel or one open face in which or against which the specimen is installed and sealed. The test chamber shall be maintained in a horizontal position.

6.2.1 The test chamber shall be provided with a horizontal perimeter support ledge to which test specimens may be attached and sealed.

6.2.2 The test specimen shall be anchored to the test chamber perimeter to adequately resist imposed test loads without leakage or failure.

6.2.3 The test chamber shall be provided with a vertical water dam around the perimeter of the chamber. Water dam shall be well sealed and of sufficient height to maintain the required water pressure head.

6.2.4 A means of viewing all areas under the roof panel specimen shall be provided to facilitate observations for water leakage. It is important to isolate perimeter leakage from leakage in areas under evaluation. For factory assembled components, this may be accomplished by omitting any sealant from joints of the interior metal skin.