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Standard Specification for Laboratory Glass Volumetric Flasks¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E288; 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 reappraisal. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

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

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers requirements for glass volumetric flasks of precision and general-purpose grades suitable for laboratory purposes.

1.1.1 *Class A*—Each flask of precision grade shall be marked with the letter “A” to signify compliance with applicable construction and accuracy requirements. Flasks may be marked with an identification number (serial number) at the option of the manufacturer.

1.1.2 *Class B*—General purpose flasks are of the same basic design as Class A flasks. However, volumetric tolerances for Class B flasks shall be within twice the specified range allowed for Class A flasks. These flasks need not be marked with their class designation.

NOTE 1—Specifications for micro volumetric flasks in sizes from 1 mL to 25 mL, inclusive, are given in Specification E237.

NOTE 2—The Twelfth General (International) Conference on Weights and Measures redefined the litre as a “special name for the cubic decimetre,” but agreed to permit continuance of the terms litre, millilitre, and mL, except in association with measurements of the highest precision. For volumetric glassware the difference between the old and new meanings of litre is negligible. Therefore, either mL or cm³ may be marked on ware covered by this Specification.

~~1.1.3 Product with a stated capacity not listed in this standard may be specified class A tolerance when product conforms to the tolerance range of the next smaller volumetric standard product listed in~~

1.1.3 *Special Size Flasks*—Precision grade flasks may be manufactured with nominal capacities not listed in this standard. Such flasks shall be considered “Class A” flasks, provided they meet the accuracy tolerance of the next largest “Class A” flask appearing in Table 1 and comply with the marking requirements of 1.1.1.

~~1.1.4 *Wide Mouth*—Requirements for insertion of tablet or capsule for assay dilution and to accommodate access of larger diameter pipets have created demand for introduction of volumetric flasks provided with larger opening. Product with a stated capacity with a wider mouth, not previously listed in this standard, may be specified class A tolerance when product conforms to the tolerance range of the volumetric standard product listed in~~

1.1.4 *Wide-Mouth Flasks*—Requirements for insertion of tablets or capsules for assay dilution and to accommodate access of larger diameter pipets require volumetric flasks with larger necks. These flasks appear in Table 2. In order to avoid confusion, wide neck flask tolerance must be marked on each flask as a requirement. These flasks shall conform to the marking requirements of 1.1.1. Additionally, the accuracy tolerance shall be marked on each “Class A” wide-mouth flask.

1.1.5 *Special Size Wide-Mouth Flasks*—Precision grade wide-mouth flasks may be manufactured with nominal capacities not listed in this standard. Such flasks shall be considered “Class A” flasks provided they meet the accuracy tolerance of the next largest “Class A” wide-mouth flask appearing in Table 2 and the marking requirements of 1.1.4.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

E237 [Specification for Laboratory Glass Microvolumetric Vessels \(Volumetric Flasks and Centrifuge Tubes\)](#)

E438 [Specification for Glasses in Laboratory Apparatus](#)

E542 [Practice for Calibration of Laboratory Volumetric Apparatus](#)

E675 [Specification for Interchangeable Taper-Ground Stopcocks And Stoppers](#)

E694 [Specification for Laboratory Glass Volumetric Apparatus](#)

E920 [Specification for Commercially Packaged Laboratory Apparatus](#)

¹ 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 April 1, 2006; 2010. Published May 2006; 2010. Originally approved in 1965. Last previous edition approved in 2003; 2006 as 288-03-E288 - 06. DOI: 10.1520/E0288-106.

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.