



Designation: D5205 – 10

Standard Classification System and Basis for Specification for Polyetherimide (PEI) Materials¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D5205; 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.

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

1. Scope*

1.1 This classification system covers unfilled, filled, and reinforced polyetherimide materials suitable for injection molding and extrusion.

1.2 This classification system is not intended for the selection of materials, but only as a means to call out plastic materials to be used for the manufacture of parts. The selection of these materials is to be made by personnel with expertise in the plastics field where the environment, inherent properties of the materials, performance of the parts, part design, manufacturing process, and economics are considered.

1.3 The properties included in this classification system are those required to identify the compositions covered. Other requirements necessary to identify particular characteristics important to specialized applications are to be specified by using the suffixes as given in Section 5.

1.4 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard.

1.5 The following precautionary caveat pertains only to the test methods portion, Section 12, of this classification system: *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.* Specific precautionary statements are given in Note 5.

NOTE 1—There is no known ISO equivalent to this standard.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D149 Test Method for Dielectric Breakdown Voltage and

Dielectric Strength of Solid Electrical Insulating Materials at Commercial Power Frequencies

D150 Test Methods for AC Loss Characteristics and Permittivity (Dielectric Constant) of Solid Electrical Insulation

D257 Test Methods for DC Resistance or Conductance of Insulating Materials

D618 Practice for Conditioning Plastics for Testing

D638 Test Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics

D648 Test Method for Deflection Temperature of Plastics Under Flexural Load in the Edgewise Position

D790 Test Methods for Flexural Properties of Unreinforced and Reinforced Plastics and Electrical Insulating Materials

D792 Test Methods for Density and Specific Gravity (Relative Density) of Plastics by Displacement

D883 Terminology Relating to Plastics

D1238 Test Method for Melt Flow Rates of Thermoplastics by Extrusion Plastometer

D1600 Terminology for Abbreviated Terms Relating to Plastics

D2863 Test Method for Measuring the Minimum Oxygen Concentration to Support Candle-Like Combustion of Plastics (Oxygen Index)

D3641 Practice for Injection Molding Test Specimens of Thermoplastic Molding and Extrusion Materials

D3892 Practice for Packaging/Packing of Plastics

D4000 Classification System for Specifying Plastic Materials

D5630 Test Method for Ash Content in Plastics

E29 Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications

E662 Test Method for Specific Optical Density of Smoke Generated by Solid Materials

2.2 Military Standards:³

MIL-P-46184 Plastic Molding and Extrusion Materials, Polyetherimide (PEI).

MIL-M-24519 Molding Plastics, Electrical, Thermoplastic

¹ This classification system is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D20 on Plastics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D20.15 on Thermoplastic Materials.

Current edition approved Dec. 1, 2010. Published January 2011. Originally approved in 1991. Last previous edition approved in 2003 as D5205 – 96(2003). DOI: 10.1520/D5205-10.

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 Available from Standardization Documents Order Desk, Bldg. 4 Section D, Available from Standardization Documents Order Desk, Bldg. 4 Section D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094, Attn: NPODS.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard

2.3 Underwriters Laboratories Standards:⁴

UL 94 Tests for Flammability of Plastic Materials for Parts in Devices and Appliances

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—The terminology used in this classification system is in accordance with Terminologies **D883** and **D1600**.

3.2 *Abbreviation*—The polyetherimide materials will be designated “PEI” as specified in Terminology **D1600**.

4. Classification

4.1 Unfilled polyetherimide materials are classified into groups according to their composition. These groups are subdivided into classes and grades as shown in Table PEI.

NOTE 2—An example of this classification system is given as follows. The designation ASTM D5205 PEI 0114 indicates the following:

- PEI = polyetherimide as found in Terminology **D1600**,
- 01 = polyetherimide (group),
- 1 = general purpose (class), and
- 4 = requirements given in Table PEI (grade).

4.1.1 To facilitate incorporation of future or special materials the “other” category (0) for group, class, and grade is shown in Table PEI. The basic properties of these materials can be obtained from Tables A or B as they apply.

4.2 Reinforced, pigmented, filled, and lubricated versions of polyetherimide materials are classified in accordance with Tables PEI and A or B. Table PEI is used to specify the unreinforced material and Table A or B is used to specify the property requirements after the addition of reinforcements, pigments, fillers, or lubricants at the nominal level indicated (see 4.2.1).

4.2.1 A single letter shall be used to indicate the major category of the reinforcement, along with two numbers that indicate the percentage of additive(s) by mass, with the tolerances as tabulated as follows:

| Category | Material | Tolerance (Based on the Total Mass) |
|----------|---|---|
| C | Carbon and graphite fiber-reinforced | ±2 percentage points |
| G | Glass-reinforced | |
| | < 15 % glass content | ±2 percentage points |
| | > 15 % glass content | ±3 percentage points |
| L | Lubricants (such as PTFE, graphite, silicone, and molybdenum disulfide) | Depends upon material and process—to be specified |
| M | Mineral-reinforced | ±2 percentage points |
| R | Reinforced-combination/mixtures of reinforcements or other fillers/reinforcements | ±3 percentage points based on the total reinforcement |

NOTE 3—If necessary, additional requirements are specified using suffixes as described in Section 5. Special agreements on tolerances are required when levels are below 5 %. Ash content of filled or reinforced materials may be determined using Test Method **D5630** where applicable.

4.2.2 Specific requirements for reinforced, filled, or lubricated polyetherimide materials shall be shown by a six-character designation. The designation will consist of the letter

“A” or “B” and the five digits comprising the cell numbers for the property requirements in the order as they appear in Tables A or B.

4.2.2.1 Although the values listed are necessary to include the range of properties available in existing materials, this does not imply that every possible combination of the properties exists or can be obtained.

4.2.3 When the grade of the basic materials is not shown, or is not important, the use of “O”-grade classification shall be used for reinforced materials in this system.

NOTE 4—An example of this classification for a polyetherimide material is given as follows. The designation ASTM D5205 PEI0110G10A48266 would indicate the following material requirements:

- PEI 0110 = general-purpose polyetherimide from Table PEI,
- G10 = glass reinforced at nominal 10 % level,
- A = Table A property requirements,
- 4 = 110-MPa tensile strength, min,
- 8 = 13790-MPa flexural modulus, min,
- 2 = 4 g/10 min; melt flow, min,
- 6 = 205-MPa flexural strength, min, and
- 6 = 230°C deflection temperature, min.

If no properties are specified, the designation would be ASTM D5205 PEI0110G10A00000.

5. Suffixes

5.1 When requirements not covered by the basic cell tables need to be specified, suffixes shall be used. The following suffixes shall be used when appropriate. Additional suffixes are found in Classification System **D4000** when needed.

5.1.1 *E* = Electrical requirements as designated by the following digits:

- First Digit
- 0 = specimen to be specified by user
- 1 = specimens as appropriate for test methods as defined in Table 1
- Second Digit
- 0 = to be specified by user
- 1 = meets requirements of Table 1, Column A
- 2 = meets requirements of Table 1, Column B
- 3 = meets requirements of Table 1, Column C
- 4 = meets requirements of Table 1, Column D
- 5 = meets requirements of Table 1, Column E

5.1.2 *F* = Flammability requirements as designated by the following digits:

NOTE 5—**Precaution:** By publication of this classification system and its use of flammability ratings, ASTM does not intend that their use in any way reflects hazards presented under actual fire conditions.

- First Digit
- 0 = to be specified by user,
- 1 = product is tested according to UL94 at 3.05-mm minimum thickness,
- 2 = product is tested according to UL94 at 1.47-mm minimum thickness,
- 3 = product is tested according to UL94 at 0.71-mm minimum thickness,
- 4 = product is tested according to Test Method **D2863**,
- 5 = product is tested according to Test Method **E662**.
- Second Digit
- 0 = To be specified by user
- 1 = 94V-0 flammability class
- 2 = 94V-1 flammability class
- 3 = 94V-2 flammability class
- 4 = 94-5V flammability class
- 5 = Oxygen index 44 % minimum
- 6 = Specific optical density, flaming mode, D4 ≤ 2, D max ≤ 50.

6. General Requirements

6.1 The plastic compositions shall be uniform and shall conform to the requirements specified herein.

⁴ Available from Underwriters Laboratories Inc., 333 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook, IL 60066.

TABLE 1 Detail Requirements

NOTE 1—Resin samples should be dried 4 h at 160°C in an air-circulating oven before molding specimens to be used in these tests.

| Property | Condition ^A | Units | A | B | C | D | E |
|---|------------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------|
| Dielectric constant, ^B max | 48/50 + D24/23 | | | | | | |
| 1 KHz, 50 % RH, 23°C | | ... | 3.2 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 3.8 | ... |
| 1 MHz | | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3.5 |
| Dissipation factor, ^B max | 48/50 + D24/23 | | | | | | |
| 1 KHz, 50 % RH, 23°C | | ... | 0.0015 | 0.0016 | 0.0017 | 0.0017 | ... |
| 2450 MH, 50 % RH, 23°C | | ... | 0.003 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 1 MH, 50 % RH, 23°C | | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0.007 |
| Volume resistivity, ^C min | 24/23/50 | ohm-cm | 10 ¹⁶ | 10 ¹⁶ | 10 ¹⁶ | 10 ¹⁶ | ... |
| Dielectric strength, ^D min (1.6-mm thickness, in oil, S/T) | 48/50 + 96/23/50 | KV/mm (V/mil) | 23.6 | 23.0 | 22.0 | 21.0 | 17.0 |
| Specific gravity ^E | ... | ... | 1.27 | 1.34 | 1.42 | 1.51 | ... |

^A In accordance with Practice D618.

^B See Test Methods D150.

^C See Test Methods D257.

^D See Test Methods D149.

^E See Test Method D792 (tolerance ± 0.02).

TABLE PEI Polyetherimide Materials Detail Requirements

NOTE 1—The values listed were developed for “natural colors.” Pigments or other additives, or both, can alter these properties.

| Group | Description | Class | Description ^A | Grade | Description | Flow-Rate, ^B Test Method D1238, g/10, min | Specific Gravity, Test Method D792 | Deflection ^C Temperature (DTUL), min, Test Method D648, °C, min | Tensile ^D Strength, Test Method D638, MPa, min | Flexural ^E Strength, Test Methods D790, MPa, min | Flexural ^E Modulus, Test Methods D790, MPa, min | | |
|-------|---------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|-----------------|--|------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|-----|------|
| 01 | Polyetherimide | 1 | General-Purpose | 1 | | < 2 | 1.25–1.30 | 194 | 103 | 152 | 3030 | | |
| | | | | 2 | | 2–8 | 1.25–1.30 | 194 | 103 | 152 | 3030 | | |
| | | | | 3 | | 6–12 | 1.25–1.30 | 194 | 103 | 152 | 3030 | | |
| | | | | 4 | | 10–16 | 1.25–1.30 | 194 | 103 | 152 | 3030 | | |
| | | | | 5 | | 15–22 | 1.25–1.30 | 194 | 103 | 152 | 3030 | | |
| | | | | 6 | | 20–30 | 1.25–1.30 | 192 | 90 | 138 | 2900 | | |
| | | | | 7 | | > 30 | 1.25–1.30 | 190 | 83 | 138 | 2900 | | |
| | | | | 0 | Other | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | |
| | | | | 1 | Other | < 2 | 1.22–1.28 | 180 | 83 | 117 | 2410 | | |
| | | | | 2 | Impact-Modified | 2 | | 2–8 | 1.22–1.28 | 180 | 83 | 117 | 2410 |
| | | 3 | | 6–12 | 1.22–1.28 | 180 | 83 | 117 | 2410 | | | | |
| | | 4 | | 10–16 | 1.22–1.28 | 180 | 83 | 117 | 2410 | | | | |
| | | 5 | | 15–22 | 1.22–1.28 | 180 | 83 | 117 | 2410 | | | | |
| | | 6 | | 20–30 | 1.22–1.28 | 180 | 69 | 103 | 2280 | | | | |
| | | 7 | | > 30 | 1.22–1.28 | 180 | 69 | 103 | 2280 | | | | |
| | | 0 | Other | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | | |
| | | 0 | Other | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | | |
| | | 02 | PEI Chemical Resistant | 1 | General-Purpose | 1 | | <2 | 1.25–1.30 | 198 | 93 | 128 | 2760 |
| | | | | | | 2 | | 2–8 | 1.25–1.30 | 198 | 93 | 128 | 2760 |
| | | | | | | 3 | | 6–12 | 1.25–1.30 | 198 | 93 | 128 | 2760 |
| 4 | | | | | | 10–16 | 1.25–1.30 | 198 | 93 | 128 | 2760 | | |
| 5 | | | | | | 15–22 | 1.25–1.30 | 198 | 93 | 128 | 2760 | | |
| 6 | | | | | | 20–30 | 1.25–1.30 | 196 | 90 | 124 | 2760 | | |
| 7 | | | | | | > 30 | 1.25–1.30 | 196 | 90 | 124 | 2760 | | |
| 0 | Other | | | | | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | |
| 1 | Other | | | | | < 2 | 1.22–1.28 | 184 | 69 | 90 | 2070 | | |
| 2 | Impact-Modified | | | | | 2 | | 2–8 | 1.22–1.28 | 184 | 69 | 90 | 2070 |
| 3 | | | | 6–12 | 1.22–1.28 | 184 | 69 | 90 | 2070 | | | | |
| 4 | | | | 10–16 | 1.22–1.28 | 184 | 69 | 90 | 2070 | | | | |
| 5 | | | | 15–22 | 1.22–1.28 | 184 | 69 | 90 | 2070 | | | | |
| 6 | | | | 20–30 | 1.22–1.28 | 184 | 69 | 90 | 2070 | | | | |
| 7 | | | | > 30 | 1.22–1.28 | 184 | 69 | 90 | 2070 | | | | |
| 0 | Other | | | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | | |
| 3 | High-Heat Resistant | | | 1 | | < 2 | 1.27–1.32 | 215 | 97 | 145 | 2760 | | |
| 2 | | | | 2–8 | 1.27–1.32 | 215 | 97 | 145 | 2760 | | | | |
| 3 | | 6–12 | 1.27–1.32 | 215 | 97 | 145 | 2760 | | | | | | |
| 4 | | 10–16 | 1.27–1.32 | 215 | 97 | 145 | 2760 | | | | | | |
| 5 | | 15–22 | 1.27–1.32 | 215 | 97 | 145 | 2760 | | | | | | |
| 6 | | 20–30 | 1.27–1.32 | 215 | 97 | 145 | 2760 | | | | | | |