



Designation: E2188 – 10

Standard Test Method for Insulating Glass Unit Performance¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E2188; 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.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers procedures for testing the performance of preassembled permanently sealed insulating glass units or insulating glass units with capillary tubes intentionally left open.

1.2 This test method is applicable only to sealed insulating glass units that are constructed with glass.

1.3 This test method is applicable to both double-glazed and triple-glazed insulating glass units. For triple-glazed insulating glass units where both of the outer lites are glass and the inner lite is either glass or a suspended film.

1.4 The unit construction used in this test method contains dimensions that are an essential component of the test. Different types of glass, different glass thicknesses, and different airspace sizes may affect the test results.

1.5 This test method is not applicable to sealed insulating glass units containing a spandrel glass coating due to testing limitations.

1.6 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.7 *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

- C162 Terminology of Glass and Glass Products
- C717 Terminology of Building Seals and Sealants
- C1036 Specification for Flat Glass

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E06 on Performance of Buildings and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E06.22 on Durability Performance of Building Constructions.

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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.

E631 Terminology of Building Constructions

E546 Test Method for Frost/Dew Point of Sealed Insulating Glass Units

E2190 Specification for Insulating Glass Unit Performance and Evaluation

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definition of Terms:*

3.1.1 For definitions of terms found in this standard, refer to Terminologies C162, C717, and E631.

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2.1 *frost/dew point, n*—the temperature at which water, organic vapor, or other chemicals begin to appear on the interior glass surface of a sealed insulating glass unit.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 This test method is intended to provide a means for testing the performance of the sealing system and construction of sealed insulating glass units.

4.1.1 Sealed insulating glass units tested in accordance with this method may be suitable for structurally glazed applications. However, factors such as sealant longevity when exposed to long term ultraviolet light and the structural properties of the sealant must be reviewed for these applications.

4.1.2 Sealed insulating glass units tested in accordance with this method are not intended for continuous exposure to high relative humidity conditions or long-term immersion in water.

5. Test Specimens

5.1 Each test specimen shall measure 355 ± 6 mm by 505 ± 6 mm and shall be composed of two or three lites of clear, tinted or coated annealed, heat-strengthened, tempered, or laminated glass.

5.1.1 The double-glazed test samples shall be fabricated with at least one lite of clear, uncoated glass. The triple-glazed test samples shall be fabricated with at least one outer lite of clear, uncoated glass. The other outer lite shall be fabricated with a glass which allows easy viewing of the frost point.

5.1.2 The thickness of the glass lites shall be between nominal 3.0 mm and a maximum of 6.0 mm nominal.

5.1.3 The airspaces for units with either two or three lites of glass shall be a minimum of 6.0 ± 0.8 mm.

5.1.4 When testing to Specification E2190 the specimen construction shall be as defined in that document.

5.1.5 Triple-pane units where the intermediate airspace divider is a plastic film are acceptable.

NOTE 1—Overall unit thickness has some limits. Testing laboratories are usually able to accommodate 30 mm overall thickness. If testing thicker units, contact the testing laboratory prior to manufacturing to ascertain their capabilities for testing thicker units.

5.2 The thickness tolerance of the glass shall conform to Specification C1036.

5.3 Each specimen shall be permanently and legibly marked with the designation of the manufacturer, the date of fabrication (month or quarter and year) and orientation intended in the field (for units constructed with coated glass).

5.4 At least nine specimens of identical component materials and construction shall be submitted for testing.

5.5 During all stages of exposure and storage, the units shall be held in a vertical position with equal support to all panes and no compression loading.

5.6 Selection of six specimens for testing shall be made at random from the submitted specimens except for specimens damaged in transit. Damaged specimens shall not be tested.

5.7 Test specimens representing insulating glass units that will be gas filled shall be fabricated using the same hole sealing and gas filling techniques as those used for manufacturing. For example, if a gas-filling plug is used in manufacturing then it must be used in the test units. The samples do not need to be filled with gas providing that the gas is classified as inert. Test samples representing products that are normally filled with an inert gas in production, may be submitted air filled for this testing as long as they have been manufactured with the same techniques as used in production.

5.8 Test specimens representing insulating glass units that include tubes intended to be left open shall be fabricated with one tube. These tubes shall be left open during testing. Test samples representing units that include tubes intended to be closed off after shipping shall be fabricated with one tube. These tubes shall be closed at the exterior end prior to testing.

6. Apparatus

6.1 For Weather Cycle Phase:

6.1.1 Weather Cycle Test Apparatus³—The weather cycle test apparatus shall be essentially that shown in Figs. 1 and 2 to provide the required test conditions indicated in Section 8. Modifications to this test apparatus are acceptable providing that the required test conditions are met.

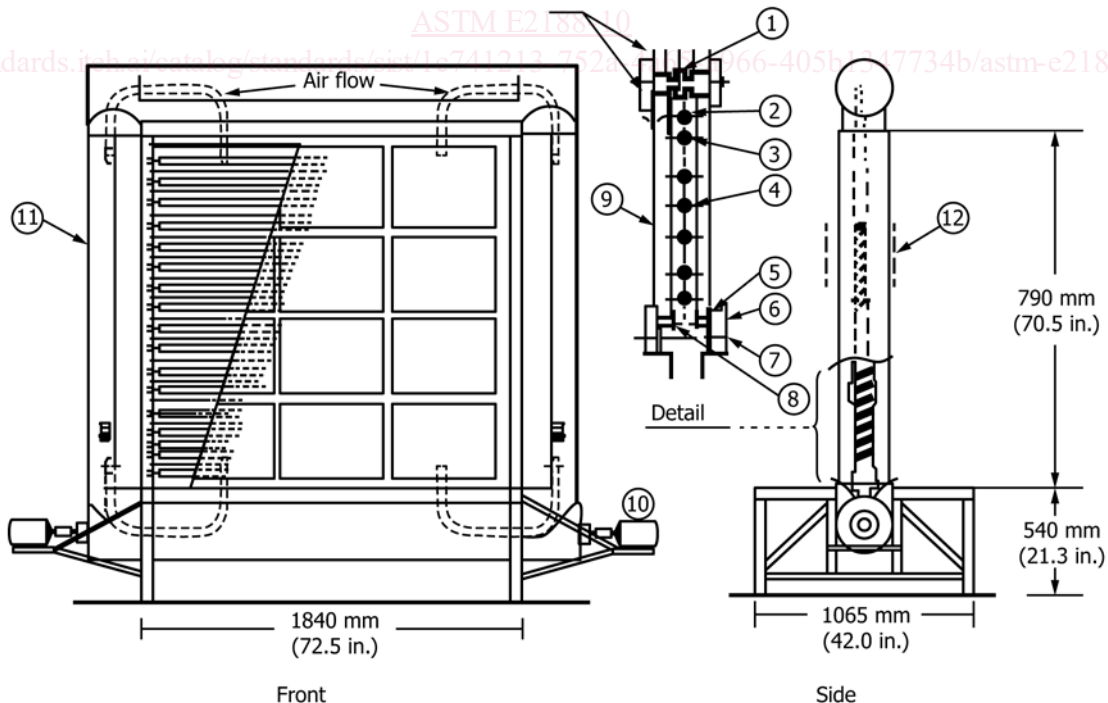
6.1.1.1 Ultraviolet Light Source —(Warning—Ultraviolet light sources used in this test method are harmful, especially to the eyes. Appropriate protective measures must be observed.)

6.1.1.2 The source shall consist of two fluorescent ultraviolet lamps, Type F72T12BL/HO⁴ (Note 2), for each test specimen located as shown in Fig. 1.

NOTE 2—Rated average life at 3 h per start: 12 000 h. Rated average life at 12 h per start: 18 000 h. Useful length: 1625 mm. Wattage: 85 W. Relative ultraviolet energy output is 190 % that of F40BL lamp (not high output), when measured at 340 nm.

³The apparatus is a modification of the device developed by the Institute for Research in Construction (IRC) of the National Research Council of Canada. One modification was to expose each test specimen to two ultraviolet lamps.

⁴Available from General Electric Company (GE), Nela Park, Cleveland, OH 44112, http://www.ge.com.



Description: (1) Fog or mist spray; (2) Cooling coil; (3) Fluorescent ultraviolet lamp, F72T12BL/HO; (4) Heating coil; (5) Rubber pad; (6) Polystyrene insulation; (7) Rubber washer; (8) Clamping device; (9) Test specimen; (10) Fan motor; (11) Air duct; (12) Insulation

FIG. 1 Schematic Drawing of Typical Accelerated Weathering Apparatus