



Designation: D2172/D2172M – 11

Standard Test Methods for Quantitative Extraction of Bitumen From Bituminous Paving Mixtures¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D2172/D2172M; 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 These test methods cover the quantitative determination of bitumen in hot-mixed paving mixtures and pavement samples. Aggregate extracted from a paving mixture may be used for sieve analysis using Test Method [D5444](#).

1.2 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

1.2.1 Measurements of volume and mass are only given in SI units because they are the only units typically used in practice when performing this test method.

1.3 *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 hazards are given in Section 7.

NOTE 1—The results obtained by these test methods may be affected by the age of the material tested, with older samples tending to yield slightly lower bitumen content. Best quantitative results are obtained when the test is made on mixtures and pavements shortly after their preparation. It is difficult to remove all the asphalt when some aggregates are used and some chlorides may remain within the mineral matter affecting the measured asphalt content.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

[C128 Test Method for Relative Density \(Specific Gravity\) and Absorption of Fine Aggregate](#)

¹ These test methods are under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D04 on Road and Paving Materials and are the direct responsibilities of Subcommittee D04.25 on Analysis of Asphalt Mixtures.

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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.

[C670 Practice for Preparing Precision and Bias Statements for Test Methods for Construction Materials](#)

[D70 Test Method for Density of Semi-Solid Bituminous Materials \(Pycnometer Method\)](#)

[D604 Specification for Diatomaceous Silica Pigment \(Withdrawn 2003\)³](#)

[D979 Practice for Sampling Bituminous Paving Mixtures](#)

[D1461 Test Method for Moisture or Volatile Distillates in Bituminous Paving Mixtures](#)

[D1856 Test Method for Recovery of Asphalt From Solution by Abson Method](#)

[D2111 Test Methods for Specific Gravity and Density of Halogenated Organic Solvents and Their Admixtures](#)

[D3666 Specification for Minimum Requirements for Agencies Testing and Inspecting Road and Paving Materials](#)

[D5444 Test Method for Mechanical Size Analysis of Extracted Aggregate](#)

[D6368 Specification for Vapor-Degreasing Solvents Based on normal-Propyl Bromide and Technical Grade normal-Propyl Bromide](#)

2.2 Federal Specifications:

[O-T-634 \(latest\) normal Propyl Bromide, Technical⁴](#)

3. Summary of Test Methods

3.1 The paving mixture is extracted with trichloroethylene, normal Propyl Bromide, or methylene chloride using the extraction equipment applicable to the particular method. The bitumen content is calculated by difference from the mass of the extracted aggregate, moisture content, and mineral matter in the extract. The bitumen content is expressed as mass percent of moisture-free mixtures.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 All of these test methods can be used for quantitative determinations of bitumen in hot-mixed paving mixtures and pavement samples for specification acceptance, service evaluation, control, and research. Each method prescribes the solvent or solvents and any other reagents that can be used in

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

⁴ Available from DLA Document Services, Building 4/D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094, <http://quicksearch.dla.mil>.

the test method. Test Method **D1856** requires that Method A be used when asphalt is recovered from solution.

NOTE 2—The quality of the results produced by this standard are dependent on the competence of the personnel performing the procedure and the capability, calibration, and maintenance of the equipment used. Agencies that meet the criteria of Standard Practice **D3666** are generally considered capable of competent and objective testing/sampling/inspection/etc. Users of this standard are cautioned that compliance with Practice **D3666** alone does not completely assure reliable results. Reliable results depend on many factors; following the suggestions of Practice **D3666** or some similar acceptable guideline provides a means of evaluating and controlling some of those factors.

5. Apparatus

5.1 *Oven*, capable of maintaining the temperature at $110 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ [$230 \pm 10^\circ\text{F}$].

5.2 *Pan*, flat, at least 300 mm [12 in.] long, 200 mm [8 in.] wide, and 25 mm [1 in.] deep.

5.3 *Balance*, or balances having an accuracy of at least 0.01 % of the sample mass.

5.4 *Hot Plate*, electric, 700-W continuous or low, medium, and high settings.

5.5 *Small-Mouth Graduate*, 1000 or 2000-mL capacity. Optional small-mouth graduate, 100-mL capacity.

5.6 *Ignition Dish*, 125 mL capacity.

5.7 *Desiccator*.

5.8 *Analytical Balance*.

6. Reagents

6.1 *Purity of Reagents*—Reagent grade chemicals shall be used in all tests. Unless otherwise indicated, it is intended that all reagents shall conform to the specifications of the Committee on Analytical Reagents of the American Chemical Society,⁵ where such specifications are available. Other grades may be used, provided it is first ascertained that the reagent is of sufficiently high purity to permit its use without lessening the accuracy of the determination.

6.2 *Ammonium Carbonate Solution*—Saturated solution of reagent grade ammonium carbonate $[(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3]$.

6.3 *Methylene Chloride*, technical grade. **Caution**—see Section 7.

6.4 *normal-Propyl Bromide (nPB)*, conforming to Specification **D6368**. **Caution**—see Section 7.

6.5 *Trichloroethylene*, technical grade, Type 1, Federal Specification O-T-634, latest revision. **Caution**—see Section 7.

7. Hazards

7.1 **Caution**—The solvents listed in Section 6 should be used only under a hood or with an effective surface exhaust

⁵ *Reagent Chemicals, American Chemical Society Specifications*, American Chemical Society, Washington, DC. For suggestions on the testing of reagents not listed by the American Chemical Society, see *Analar Standards for Laboratory Chemicals*, BDH Ltd., Poole, Dorset, U.K., and the *United States Pharmacopeia and National Formulary*, U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention, Inc. (USPC), Rockville, MD.

TABLE 1 Size of Sample

Nominal Maximum Aggregate Size Standard, mm	Sieve Size	Minimum Mass of Sample, kg
4.75	(No. 4)	0.5
9.5	3/8 in.	1
12.5	1/2 in.	1.5
19.0	3/4 in.	2
25.0	1 in.	3
37.5	1 1/2 in.	4

system in a well-ventilated area, since they are toxic to various degrees. Consult the current Threshold Limit Concentration Committee of the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists⁶ for the current threshold limit values.

8. Sampling

8.1 Obtain samples in accordance with Practice **D979**.

8.2 *Preparation of Test Specimens*:

8.2.1 If the mixture is not sufficiently soft to separate with a spatula or trowel, place it in a large, flat pan and warm to $110 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ [$230 \pm 10^\circ\text{F}$] only until it can be handled or mixed. Split or quarter the material until the mass of material required for test is obtained.

8.2.2 The size of the test sample shall be governed by the nominal maximum aggregate size of the mixture and shall conform to the mass requirement shown in **Table 1** (**Note 3**):

NOTE 3—When the mass of the test specimen exceeds the capacity of the equipment used (for a particular method), the test specimen may be divided into suitable increments, tested, and the results appropriately combined for calculation of bitumen content (Section 12).

8.2.3 In addition, a test specimen is required for the determination of moisture (Section 9) in the mixtures. Take this test specimen from the remaining sample of the mixture immediately after obtaining the extraction test specimen.

NOTE 4—If recovery of bitumen from the solution obtained from the extraction test is not required, the entire test specimen may be dried to constant mass in an oven at a temperature of $110 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ [$230 \pm 10^\circ\text{F}$] prior to extraction instead of determining the moisture content (Section 9).

9. Moisture Content

9.1 Determine the moisture content of the mixture (see **8.2.2**) in accordance using the procedure described in Test Method **D1461**.

9.2 Calculate the mass of water, W_2 , (**12.1**) in the extraction test portion by multiplying mass percent water (**9.1**) by the mass of the extraction test portion, W_1 , (**12.1**).

TEST METHOD A

10. Apparatus

10.1 In addition to the apparatus listed in Section 5, the following apparatus is required for Test Method A:

10.1.1 *Extraction Apparatus*, consisting of a bowl approximating that shown in **Fig. 1** and an apparatus in which the bowl may be revolved at controlled variable speeds up to 3600

⁶ Available from American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH), 1330 Kemper Meadow Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45240, <http://www.acgih.org>.



FIG. 1 Extraction Unit Bowl (Test Method A)

r/min. The speed may be controlled manually or with a preset speed control. The apparatus should be provided with a container for catching the solvent thrown from the bowl and a drain for removing the solvent. The apparatus preferably shall be provided with explosion-proof features and installed in a hood or an effective surface exhaust system to provide ventilation.

NOTE 5—Similar apparatus of larger size may be used.

10.1.2 *Filter Rings*, felt or paper, to fit the rim of the bowl.

10.1.3 Low-ash paper filter rings may be used in place of the felt filter ring (10.1.2). Such filter rings shall consist of low ash filter paper stock approximately 1.3 mm [0.05 in.] thick. The ash content of the paper shall not exceed 0.2 % (approximately 0.034 g per ring).

11. Procedure

11.1 Determine the moisture content of the material in accordance with Section 9.

11.2 Place a 650 to 2500-g test portion into a bowl. See **Annex A1** for alternative procedures to those prescribed herein and in 11.5.

11.3 Cover the test portion in the bowl with trichloroethylene, normal Propyl Bromide, or methylene chloride and allow sufficient time for the solvent to disintegrate the test portion (not over 1 h). Place the bowl containing the test portion and the solvent in the extraction apparatus. Dry and determine the mass of the filter ring and fit it around the edge of the bowl. Clamp the cover on the bowl tightly and place a beaker under the drain to collect the extract.

11.4 Start the centrifuge revolving slowly and gradually increase the speed to a maximum of 3600 r/min or until solvent ceases to flow from the drain. Allow the machine to stop, add 200 mL of trichloroethylene, normal Propyl Bromide, or methylene chloride and repeat the procedure. Use sufficient 200-mL solvent additions (not less than three) so that the extract is not darker than a light straw color. Collect the extract and the washings in a suitable graduate.

11.5 Remove the filter ring from the bowl and dry in air. If felt filter rings are used, brush off mineral matter adhering to the surface of the ring and add to the extracted aggregate. Dry the ring to constant mass in an oven at $110 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ [$230 \pm 10^\circ\text{F}$]. Carefully remove all the contents of the bowl into a metal pan and dry on a steam bath and then, dry to constant mass in an oven or on a hot plate at $110 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ [$230 \pm 10^\circ\text{F}$]. If trichloroethylene or normal Propyl Bromide is used as the extraction solvent, the preliminary drying on a steam bath may be omitted. The mass of the extracted aggregate, W_3 , is equal to the mass of the aggregate in the pan plus the increase in mass of the filter rings.

11.5.1 Use the following alternative procedure when low-ash filter rings are used: Place the aggregate and filter rings in a clean metal pan. Dry as specified above. Carefully fold the dried filter ring and stand it on the aggregate. Burn the filter ring by igniting with a bunsen burner or match. Determine the mass of the extracted aggregate in the pan, W_3 .

NOTE 6—Since dry aggregate absorbs moisture when exposed to air containing moisture, determine the mass of the extracted aggregate immediately after cooling to a suitable temperature.

11.6 Determine the amount of mineral matter in the extract by any of the following test methods:

11.6.1 Ashing Method:

11.6.1.1 Record the volume of the total extract in the graduate (11.4). Determine the mass of an ignition dish. Agitate the extract thoroughly and immediately measure approximately 100 mL into the ignition dish. Evaporate to dryness on a steam bath or hot plate, except use a steam bath when the solvent is benzene. Ash residue at a dull red heat 500 to 600°C [930 to 1110°F], cool, and add 5 mL of saturated ammonium carbonate solution per gram of ash. Digest at room temperature for 1 h. Dry in an oven at 100°C to constant mass, cool in a desiccator, and determine the mass.

11.6.1.2 Calculate the mass of mineral matter in the total volume of extract, W_4 , as follows:

$$W_4 = G[V_1/(V_1 - V_2)] \quad (1)$$

where:

G = ash in aliquot, g,
 V_1 = total volume, mL, and
 V_2 = volume after removing aliquot, mL.

11.6.2 Centrifuge Method:

11.6.2.1 For this test method use any suitable high-speed (3000 g or higher) centrifuge of the continuous-flow type.

11.6.2.2 Determine the mass of a clean empty centrifuge cup (or bowl) to 0.01 ± 0.005 g and place in the centrifuge. Position a container at the appropriate spout to catch the effluent from the centrifuging operation. Transfer all of the extract (from Test Methods A, B, C, D, or E as appropriate) to an appropriate (feed) container suitably equipped with a feed control (valve or clamp, etc.). To ensure quantitative transfer of the extract to the feed container, the receptacle containing the extract should be washed several times with small amounts of clean solvent and the washings added to the feed container. Start the centrifuge and allow to reach a constant operational speed (for example, 9000 r/min for the SMM type and 20 000 + r/min for the Sharples type). Open the feed line and feed the extract into the centrifuge at a rate of 100 to 150 mL/min. After all the extract has passed through the centrifuge, wash the feed mechanism (with centrifuge still running) with several increments of clean solvent, allowing each increment to run through the centrifuge until the effluent is essentially colorless.

11.6.2.3 Allow the centrifuge to stop and remove the cup (or bowl). Clean the outside with fresh solvent. Allow the residual solvent to evaporate in a funnel or steam hood and then dry the container in an oven controlled at $110 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ [$230 \pm 10^\circ\text{F}$]. Cool the container and redetermine the mass immediately. The increase in mass is the mass of mineral matter, W_4 , (12.1) in the extract.

11.6.3 Volumetric Method:

11.6.3.1 Place the extract in a previously tared and calibrated flask. Place the flask in a controlled-temperature bath controlled to $\pm 0.1^\circ\text{C}$ [0.2°F], and allow the contents to reach the temperature at which the flask was calibrated. When the desired temperature has been reached, fill the flask with solvent which has been kept at the same temperature. Bring the level of the liquid in the flask up to the neck, insert the stopper, making sure the liquid overflows the capillary, and remove from the bath. Wipe the flask dry, determine the mass to the nearest 0.1 g, and record this mass as the mass of flask plus extract. See **Annex A2** for a volumetric test method alternative procedure if a controlled-temperature bath is not used as prescribed herein.

11.6.3.2 Calculate the volume of asphalt and fines in the extract as follows:

$$V_1 = V_2 - \frac{(M_1 - M_2)}{(G_1)} \quad (2)$$

where:

V_1 = volume of asphalt and fines in the extract,
 V_2 = volume of the flask,
 M_1 = mass of the contents of the flask,
 M_2 = mass of the asphalt and fines in the extract = mass of the total samples minus the mass of the extracted aggregate, and

G_1 = specific gravity of the solvent determined to the nearest 0.001 in accordance with Test Methods **D2111**.

11.6.3.3 Calculate the mass of fines in the extract as follows:

$$M_3 = K (M_2 - G_3 V_1) \quad (3)$$

where:

M_3 = mass of fines in the extract,
 G_2 = specific gravity of fines as determined in accordance with Test Method **C128**,

G_3 = specific gravity of asphalts as determined in accordance with Test Method **D70**,

$$K = \frac{G_2}{G_2 - G_3},$$

V_1 = as given in **11.6.3.2**, and

M_2 = as given in **11.6.3.2**.

12. Calculation of Bitumen Content

12.1 Calculate the percent bitumen in the test portion as follows:

$$\text{Bitumen content, \%} = \left[\frac{(W_1 - W_2) - (W_3 + W_4)}{W_1 - W_2} \right] \times 100 \quad (4)$$

where:

W_1 = mass of test portion,

W_2 = mass of water in the test portion,

W_3 = mass of the extracted mineral aggregate, and

W_4 = mass of the mineral matter in the extract.

NOTE 7—When ashless filter rings are not used, add the increase in mass of the felt filter ring to W_4 .

NOTE 8—For paving mixtures in which tar is used as the binder, a modification of Test Method A is given in **Annex A3**.

TEST METHOD B

13. Apparatus

13.1 In addition to the apparatus listed in Section 5, the following apparatus is required for Test Method B:

13.1.1 *Extraction Apparatus*, similar to that shown in **Fig. 2**.

13.1.1.1 *Glass Jar*, cylindrical, plain, made of heat-resistant glass. The jar shall be free of cracks, scratches, or other evidence of flaws that might cause breakage during heating.

13.1.1.2 *Cylindrical Metal Frames*, one or two. The lower frame shall have legs of sufficient length to support the frame, including the apex of the metal cone and paper cone liner above the solvent level. When two frames are used, the upper frame shall have legs of sufficient length to support the metal cone and paper cone liner at or above the top rim of the lower frame. The legs of the upper frame shall fit securely in the top rim of the lower frame. A bail handle may be provided on the inside of the top rim of each frame for convenient handling. The metal used in fabricating the frames shall be essentially inactive to the solvents used in the test method.

13.1.1.3 *Condenser*, fabricated with a truncated hemispherical condensing surface and a truncated conical top. Other suitable geometric shapes may also be used provided they accomplish the condensing and flow functions intended. The material used in fabricating the condenser shall be essentially

unreactive to water and to the solvent used and shall be provided with suitable water inlet and outlet.

13.1.1.4 *Filter Paper*, medium-grade, fast-filtering. The diameter of the paper shall be such that when folded in accordance with the directions given below, it shall completely line the metal cones in the frames.

13.1.1.5 *Heat Resistant-Coated Wire Mesh*, approximately 3 mm [0.1 in.] thick for use as insulation between the glass jar and hot plate.

13.1.1.6 *Electric Hot Plate, Thermostatically Controlled*, of sufficient dimensions and heat capacity to permit refluxing of the solvent as described in **15.2.5**.

14. Preparation of Test Portion

14.1 Prepare a test portion for moisture determination and extraction in accordance with the procedure described in Section 8.

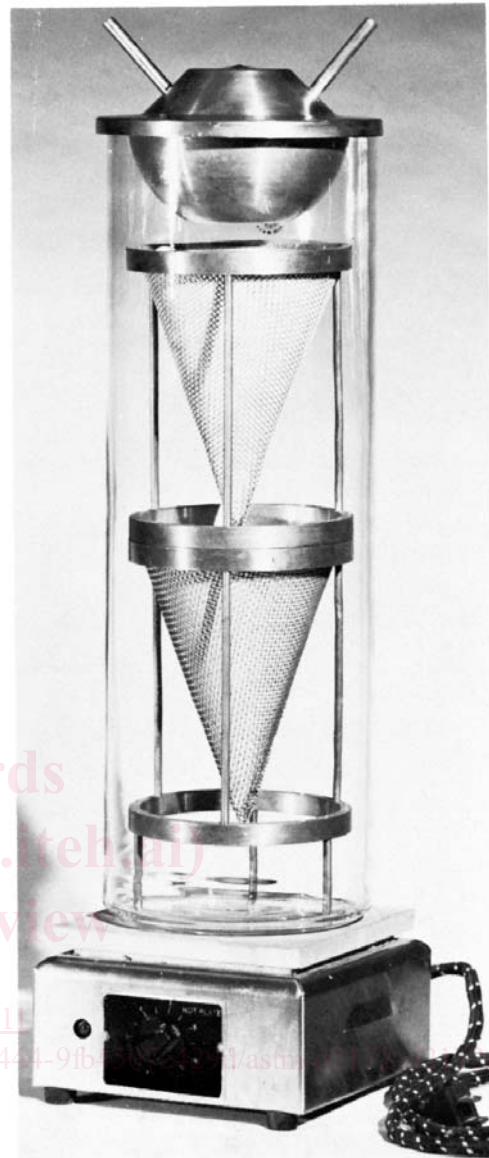


FIG. 2 Extraction Apparatus (Test Method B)

15. Procedure

15.1 *Moisture*—Determine the moisture content of the mixture (see 8.2) in accordance with the test method described in Section 9.

15.2 *Extraction:*

15.2.1 Dry and determine the mass of one sheet of filter paper for each frame to be used. Fold each paper on its diameter, fold the ends over, and spread it open to form a proper size to fit inside the metal cones.

15.2.2 Determine the mass of each frame with its filter paper liner to the nearest 0.5 g. Record the mass, identifying each frame by number.

15.2.3 Place the test portion in the frame or frames. If two frames are used, distribute the test portion approximately equally between the two. The top of the test portion must be below the upper edge of the paper liner. Determine the mass of each loaded frame separately to the nearest 0.5 g. Again, record the mass.

15.2.4 Use one of the solvents specified in 6.3, 6.4, or 6.5. Pour the solvent into the glass cylinder and place the bottom frame into it. The solvent level should be below the apex of the one in the (lower) frame. If two frames are used, place the upper frame in the lower frame, fitting its legs into the holes in the upper rim of the lower frame.

NOTE 9—Sufficient denatured ethyl alcohol may be poured over the test portion(s) to wet the filter paper.

15.2.5 Place the thermal insulating pad on the hot plate and then the cylinder on the pad. Cover the condenser. Circulate a gentle steady stream of cool water through the condenser. Adjust the temperature of the hot plate so that the solvent will boil gently and a steady stream of condensed solvent flows into the cone. If necessary, adjust the temperature of the hot plate to maintain the solvent stream at a rate necessary to keep the test portions in the cone(s) completely covered with condensed solvent. Take care not to allow condensed solvent to overflow the filter cone(s). Continue the refluxing until the solvent flowing from the lower cone is light straw color (when viewed against a white background). At this point, turn off the hot plate and allow the apparatus to cool with the water running in the condenser. When boiling has ceased and the cylinder is cool enough to handle, turn off the condenser and remove from the cylinder.

15.2.6 Remove the frame assembly from the cylinder. Allow to dry in air (hood) and dry to constant mass in an oven at $110 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ [$230 \pm 10^\circ\text{F}$] (see Note 6).

15.2.7 Transfer the extract quantitatively to the graduated cylinder (5.5) and determine mineral matter in the extract in accordance with 11.6.1. Alternatively, mineral matter in the extract may be determined by the method described in 11.6.2 or 11.6.3. In this case, it is not necessary to transfer the extract from the extraction cylinder to a graduated cylinder. The extract may be transferred directly from the extraction cylinder to the centrifuge feed container (11.6.2.2).

16. Calculation of Bitumen Content

16.1 Calculate the percent bitumen in the test portion in accordance with the procedure described in Section 12.

TEST METHOD C

17. Apparatus

17.1 In addition to the apparatus listed in Section 5, the following is required for Test Method C:

17.1.1 *Extraction Apparatus*, consisting of a container, condenser lid, and stand. Suitable types are shown in Fig. 3 and Fig. 4; however, other extractors of differing shapes may also be used successfully. A standard 25 L aluminum cooking utensil has been found to be suitable. The important features regardless of shape are that the extractors have snug-fitting lids, be of sufficiently large size to accommodate the required test portion, and include cooling fins arranged so as to provide for efficient refluxing.

17.1.2 *Basket*, for test portion as shown in Fig. 3 or one designed for use with an extractor of different shape.

17.1.3 *Filter Cloth*,⁷ of approximately 185 mesh, placed over the 4.75 mm (No. 4) screen and shaped to cover the inside of the basket completely to ensure retention of all aggregate sizes greater than the cloth mesh during extraction.

18. Preparation of Test Portions

18.1 Prepare test portions for moisture determination and extraction in accordance with the procedure described in Section 8.

19. Procedure

19.1 *Moisture*—Determine the moisture content of the mixture (see 8.2) in accordance with the test method described in Section 9.

19.2 *Extraction:*

19.2.1 Determine the mass of the sample (3500 to 10 000 g) in the tared basket assembly to the nearest 1 g and place in the extractor. Pour 1150 to 1250 mL of trichloroethylene, normal Propyl Bromide, or methylene chloride (Section 6) over the test portion. Fit the extractor lid tightly in place and allow water to circulate freely in the top. Apply heat from either a gas burner or an electric hot plate.

19.2.2 Reflux the sample 1.5 to 3 h until all bitumen is extracted from the aggregate. Shut down the extractor after 1.5 h and inspect the test portion. Mix the test portion with a trowel and continue extraction to completion.

NOTE 10—The test portion is completely extracted when, upon inspection, no discoloration is found on the aggregate or on the surface of a trowel that has thoroughly mixed the test portion.

19.2.3 Remove the basket with the test portion, dry in air and then to constant mass on a hot plate or in an oven at $110 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ [$230 \pm 10^\circ\text{F}$].

19.2.4 Drain the extract from the extractor and wash clean with fresh solvent. Combine the extract and the washings in a graduated cylinder.

⁷ The sole source of supply of the 16XX Swiss Stencil Cloth known to the committee at this time is Atlas Silk Screen Supply Co., 1733 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60647. If you are aware of alternative suppliers, please provide this information to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee,¹ which you may attend.