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Standard Test Method for Static Puncture Resistance of Roofing Membrane Specimens¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D5602/D5602M; 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.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers evaluation of the maximum static puncture load that roofing membrane samples can withstand without allowing the passage of water.

1.2 This laboratory test is conducted at any desired temperature using sheet membrane samples manufactured in a factory or prepared in a laboratory.

1.3 Roof membrane specimens to which the test method is applicable include bituminous built up, polymer-modified bitumens, vulcanized rubbers, non-vulcanized polymeric, and thermoplastic materials.

1.3.1 The applicability of this test method to these membrane specimens includes their use in vegetative roof systems.

1.4 This test method is not applicable to aggregate-surfaced membrane specimens, but it is applicable to specimens having factory-applied granules.

~~1.5 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.~~

1.5 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.

1.6 *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

C578 [Specification for Rigid, Cellular Polystyrene Thermal Insulation](#)

D1079 [Terminology Relating to Roofing and Waterproofing](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—For definitions of terms used in this test method, refer to Terminology D1079.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 Set on a thermal insulation substrate, the roofing membrane test specimen is subjected for 24 h to a predetermined static puncture force using a ball bearing having a 10-mm (~~0.39-in.~~)[0.39-in.] diameter.

4.2 The loads are increased in 10-N (~~2.2-lbf~~)[2.2-lbf] increments until puncture of the membrane specimen occurs or the maximum load of the test apparatus which is at least 250 N (~~56-lbf~~)[56 lbf] is reached.

4.3 Puncture of the test specimen is assessed by visual examination and verified by conducting a watertightness test.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 An important factor affecting the performance of many membrane roofing systems is their ability to resist static puncture loads. This test method provides a means for assessing static puncture resistance.

5.2 This test method can be used to compare the puncture resistance of a single type of membrane as a function of a variety

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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.

of insulation substrates or, conversely, to compare the resistance of a number of membrane specimens set on a single type of insulation.

5.3 The effect of temperature on puncture resistance can be studied by conducting the test under controlled conditions using such equipment as an environmental chamber, oven, or freezer.

5.4 This test method can be useful for developing performance criteria for membrane roofing systems.

5.5 This test method can be useful for developing classifications of the static puncture resistance of membrane roofing systems.

5.6 While it is considered that the results obtained by this laboratory test can afford a measure of the static puncture resistance of membrane roofing systems in the field provided that service loads and temperature conditions are known, no direct correlation has yet been established.

5.7 This test method can be useful for evaluating the static puncture resistance of membranes used in vegetative roof systems.

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Static Puncture Device*—An apparatus consisting primarily of a movable rod to which a 10-mm (0.39-in.) diameter ball bearing is attached at one end and a means for loading the specimen is attached to the other (Fig. 1). The rod shall be sufficiently rigid so that it will not flex or rotate when used under the maximum test load.

NOTE 1—One means for loading the specimen is to attach a platform, on which deadweights are placed, to the rod. Another method is to use pneumatic loading whereby the ball bearing is attached to the piston rod and the load is measured by an air pressure gage that has been calibrated against a load cell.

6.1.1 The length of the rod above the specimen shall be sufficient to provide adequate space for placing the specimen properly on the insulation substrate. A framework, having a minimum width of 250 mm (9.8 in.), supports the rod perpendicular to the surface of the test specimen. Free vertical movement of the rod shall not be hindered by the framework. The rod and framework shall be capable of supporting puncture loads up to at least 250 N (56 lbf).

7. Sampling and Sample Preparation

7.1 *Single-Ply Samples*—Cut the test specimens directly from the sheet membrane material using the directions provided in 8.1.

7.2 *Multi-Ply Samples Prepared in the Laboratory:*

7.2.1 Condition all components at $23 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ($74 \pm 3^\circ\text{F}$) and $50 \pm 5\%$ relative humidity for 24 ± 0.25 h prior to constructing the membrane sample.

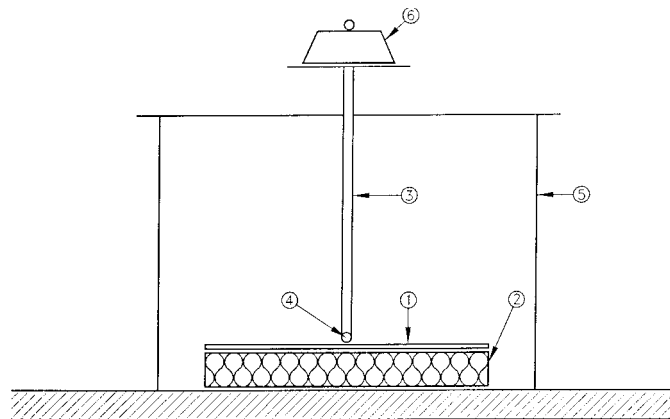
7.2.2 Prepare multi-ply membrane samples at least 0.90 by 1.20 m (3 by 4 ft), in accordance with the membrane manufacturer's instructions, or using other preparation methods at the discretion of the test laboratory. The method of preparation shall be described in the test report. The quantity of material in each layer of the membrane sample shall be within 10 % of that specified, and the entire sample shall be within 5 %. Cut the test specimens directly from this larger membrane sample using the directions provided in 8.1.

8. Test Specimens

8.1 *Dimensions*—The dimensions of the membrane test specimens and insulation substrates are 200 by 200 mm (7.9 by 7.9 in.) $\pm 5\%$. Cut the test specimens and substrates to size using a metal template having these dimensions.

8.2 *Number of Specimens*—A minimum of four test specimens is necessary to conduct the test.

8.3 *Type of Membrane Specimen Substrate*—The use of any roof insulation as a membrane specimen substrate is allowable. Unless otherwise specified, the membrane sub-strate shall be expanded polystyrene board conforming to Specification C578, Type



NOTE 1—membrane test specimen; 2—insulation substrate; 3—movable rod; 4—ball bearing; 5—framework supporting the moveable rod and load; and 6—load.

FIG. 1 Schematic of the Static Puncture Device