



Designation: B417 – 11

# Standard Test Method for Apparent Density of Non-Free-Flowing Metal Powders Using the Carney Funnel<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B417; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

## 1. Scope\*

1.1 This test method covers a procedure for determining the apparent density of non-free-flowing metal powders. It is designed for those metal powders that do not freely flow through the Hall flowmeter funnel.

1.2 With the exception of the values for density and the mass used to determine density, for which the use of the gram per cubic centimeter ( $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$ ) and gram (g) units is the long-standing industry practice, the values in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only, and are not considered standard.

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.*

## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*<sup>2</sup>

[B215 Practices for Sampling Metal Powders](#)

[B243 Terminology of Powder Metallurgy](#)

[B873 Test Method for Measuring Volume of Apparent Density Cup Used in Test Methods B 212, B 329, and B 417](#)

## 3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Terms in Terminology [B243](#) are applicable to this test method.

## 4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 A volume of powder is permitted to flow into a container of definite volume under controlled conditions. The mass of

powder per unit volume is determined and reported as apparent density, Carney ( $\text{AD}_C$ ).

## 5. Significance and Use

5.1 This test method provides a guide for evaluation of an important physical characteristic of a powder known as the apparent density. The measured apparent density bears a relationship to the mass of powder that will fill a fixed volume die cavity. The degree of correlation between the results of this test and the performance of powders during use may vary with each particular application. Note, however, that the presence of moisture, oils, stearic acid, stearates, waxes, and the temperature of the powder mass may alter the physical characteristics of the powder.

## 6. Apparatus

6.1 *Powder Flowmeter*<sup>3</sup>—A Carney Flowmeter ([Fig. 1](#)).

6.2 *Density Cup*<sup>3</sup>—A cylindrical brass cup ([Fig. 2](#)) having a capacity of  $25 \text{ cm}^3$ . The actual cup volume shall be determined according to Test Method [B873](#).

6.3 *Stand*—A stand ([Fig. 1](#)) to support the powder funnel concentric with the density cup so that the bottom of the powder funnel is approximately 25 mm (1 in.) above the top of the density cup when the apparatus is assembled as shown in [Fig. 1](#).

6.4 *Workbench*—A level, vibration-free table or workbench to support the powder flowmeter stand.

6.5 *Balance*, readable to 0.001 g, with a minimum capacity of 200 g capable of determining the mass to the nearest 0.01 g.

6.6 *Wire*, approximately 2.5 mm (0.10 in.) in diameter by 150 mm (6 in.) in length.

6.7 *Spatula or straight edge*—A non-magnetic spatula or straight edge of suitable dimensions for leveling off the excess powder on top of the density cup.

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [B09](#) on Metal Powders and Metal Powder Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [B09.02](#) on Base Metal Powders.

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<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> The sole source of supply of the flowmeter funnel, density cup, and stand known to the committee at this time is Acu Powder International, LLC. 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,<sup>1</sup> which you may attend.

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