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Standard Terminology Relating to Resilient Floor Coverings¹

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

1. Referenced Documents

1.1 ASTM Standards:

F 1700 Specification for Solid Vinyl Floor Tile²

F 1859 Specification for Rubber Sheet Floor Covering Without Backing²

F 1860 Specification for Rubber Sheet Floor Covering With Backing²

2. Terminology

2.1 Terms and Definitions:

above-grade, *adj*—above the surface of the ground, *as related to floor location*, above a well-ventilated space with at least 18 in. between the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member and any point of the ground.

abrasion, *n*—wearing, grinding, or rubbing away by friction.

across machine direction, *n*—the direction perpendicular to which a product moves through the manufacturing process.

asphalt tile, *n*—an obsolete floor surfacing unit composed of asphalt or hydrocarbon resins, or both, crysotile asbestos fibers, mineral fillers, and pigments.

below-grade, *adj*—below the surface of the ground, *as related to floor location*, part or all of the floor is below the ground.

concrete, *n*—a hard, strong material made by mixing a cementing material (commonly portland cement) and a mineral aggregate (as washed sand and gravel or broken rock) with sufficient water to cause the cement to set and bind the entire mass.

coefficient of friction—the ratio of the tangential force that is needed to start or maintain uniform relative motion between two contacting surfaces to the perpendicular force holding them in contact. (See DCOF and SCOF in 2.2 for clarification.)

cork tile, *n*—a floor surfacing unit made from natural cork shavings compressed and baked to be thoroughly and uniformly bonded together.

cushioned vinyl flooring, *n*—any vinyl sheet floor covering

incorporating a foam layer as part of its construction.

dimensional stability, *n*—the ability of a resilient flooring to retain its original dimensions during the service life of the product.

DISCUSSION—This property is usually measured by: (1) *temperature-induced dimensional change*—the alteration in linear dimensions as a result of exposure to a significant variation in temperature followed by a return to original conditions; or (2) *moisture-induced dimensional change*—the alteration in linear dimensions as a result of exposure to a significant variation in moisture. (1977)

embossed, *adj*—having a permanent multilevel surface produced by mechanical or chemical means.

flexibility, *n*—the ability to be bent, turned, or twisted without cracking, breaking or showing other permanent damage and with or without returning of itself to its former shape.

friction, *n*—resistance to the relative motion of one body sliding, rolling, or flowing over another with which it is in contact.

gouge, *n*—a groove or cavity in the flooring surface accompanied by material removal and penetration below the immediate flooring surface.

heat welded seam, *n*—a seam produced by grooving abutting edges of resilient flooring and filling said grooves with heated, fused, or melted material to provide a bond and seal. A glazing or top coating may be applied after the seam is trimmed.

DISCUSSION—Excess welding material is trimmed flush with the finished flooring after cooling.

heterogeneous, *adj*—consisting of dissimilar ingredients, constituents or compositions.

heterogeneous rubber flooring, *n*—a rubber floor surfacing material consisting of layers of dissimilar compositions or colors, or both. See also Specification F 1860.

heterogeneous vinyl flooring, *n*—a vinyl floor surfacing material consisting of layers of dissimilar compositions or colors, or both.

homogenous rubber flooring, *n*—a rubber floor surfacing material, in sheet or tile form, that is of uniform structure and composition throughout. It usually consists of compounded natural or synthetic rubbers, or both, in combination with mineral fillers, pigments, and other additives. See Specification F 1859.

¹ This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F06 on Resilient Floor Coverings and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F06.10 on Terminology.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 15.04.