



Designation: D4451 – 02 (Reapproved 2014)

## Standard Test Method for Pigment Content of Paints by Low-Temperature Ashing<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D4451; 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 the pigment content of paints and several traffic marking materials (thermoplastic and pre-formed tape) by low-temperature furnace ashing. Some organic pigments may be lost by this method and some water or moisture contained in pigments will be lost.

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

[D3723 Test Method for Pigment Content of Water-Emulsion Paints by Low-Temperature Ashing](#)

[E180 Practice for Determining the Precision of ASTM Methods for Analysis and Testing of Industrial and Specialty Chemicals](#) (Withdrawn 2009)<sup>3</sup>

### 3. Summary of Test Method

3.1 The specimen is transferred to a tared porcelain dish, dried (if necessary) at 105°C, and heated on a burner. The dish and specimen are transferred to a muffle furnace and heated at 450°C. The dish and specimen are reweighed and the pigment (ash) content calculated.

### 4. Apparatus

4.1 *Muffle Furnace*, maintained at 450°C  $\pm$  25°C.

4.2 *Circulating Oven*, maintained at 105°C  $\pm$  2°C.

4.3 *Porcelain Dishes*, 90-mm diameter.

4.4 *Plastic Disposable Syringe*, 10-mL capacity.

4.5 *Burner*, meker type.

### 5. Reagents

5.1 *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, where such specifications are available.<sup>4</sup>

5.2 *Toluene*.

### 6. Procedure

6.1 *Liquid-Paint*:

6.1.1 Mix the sample until homogeneous, preferably on a mechanical shaker. If air bubbles become entrapped in the paint, stir it by hand.

6.1.2 Draw slightly more than 10 g of the paint under test into a 10-mL syringe and weigh to 0.1 mg. Transfer about 5 mL toluene to a porcelain dish tared with a paper clip for use as a stirrer. Add 10 g of the material into the toluene. Reweigh the syringe to 0.1 mg and calculate the specimen weight. Mix well on a magnetic stirrer. Place the dish in the oven at 105°C for 30 min.

6.1.3 Remove and heat at the lowest temperature possible over a meker burner in a fume hood. Do not leave the dish on the burner after the flame has subsided. Transfer to the muffle furnace and proceed as in 6.4.

6.2 *Preformed Traffic Marking Tape*—Cut about a 10-g square of the product. Remove the adhesive by pulling it off or by using an appropriate solvent. Save the beads that are knocked off by this process and weigh with the tape. Dry the specimen for 30 min at 105°C to remove the solvent. Cool in a desiccator. Weigh the specimen along with the loose beads to 0.1 mg into a tared porcelain dish. Heat in a fume hood at the lowest temperature of a meker burner in a furnace hood until

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D01 on Paint and Related Coatings, Materials, and Applications and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D01.21 on Chemical Analysis of Paints and Paint Materials.

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<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto: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 last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org).

<sup>4</sup> *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.