



**International  
Standard**

**ISO 12817**

**Fibre-reinforced plastic  
composites — Determination of  
open-hole compression strength**

*Composites plastiques renforcés de fibres — Détermination de la  
résistance à la compression avec trou nu*

**Second edition  
2025-02**

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

ISO draws attention to the possibility that the implementation of this document may involve the use of (a) patent(s). ISO takes no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of any claimed patent rights in respect thereof. As of the date of publication of this document, ISO had not received notice of (a) patent(s) which may be required to implement this document. However, implementers are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information, which may be obtained from the patent database available at [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents). ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

The document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 13, *Composites and reinforcement fibres*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 12817:2013), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- the measurement of the roundness of the hole has been added;
- the dimensions of the test specimens for method 2 has been corrected;
- the preliminary loading has been modified;
- the loading procedure has been added;
- the failure mode has been refined, and the figure of typical failure modes has been changed;
- the roundness of the hole in the test reports has been added.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

## Introduction

In preparing this document, reference has been made to other similar open-hole compression methods (JIS K 7093<sup>[1]</sup>, ASTM D6484/D6484M-09<sup>[2]</sup>) and related methods, i.e. open-hole tension in ASTM D5766/D5766M6<sup>[3]</sup> and pin-bearing in ISO 12815<sup>[4]</sup>.

The scope covers all current and future fibre-reinforced plastic composites meeting the requirements of this document. This document incorporates three methods that have different suitability and do not necessarily yield identical properties. All the methods use the maximum load to define the open-hole compressive strength.

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# Fibre-reinforced plastic composites — Determination of open-hole compression strength

## 1 Scope

This document specifies the test method to determine the open-hole compressive strength of laminated fibre-reinforced plastic composites. The laminate is intended to be a balanced and symmetrical lay-up or be otherwise homogeneous through the thickness. This document applies to all textile diameter fibre types (carbon, glass, aramids, etc.) and matrices (e.g. thermoset, thermoplastic) that meet the requirements of this document.

This document includes three methods:

- method 1 (short specimen with support fixture);
- method 2 (short specimen without support fixture);
- method 3 (long specimen with support fixture as in ASTM D6484/D6484M-09, methods A and B).

Method 1 employs an L-shaped base fixture and two end fixtures. These end fixtures are compressed between the platens of the test machine.

Method 2 employs end supports similar to the fixtures given in ISO 14126:2023, D.1. This method is useful for cyclic loading conditions test, including under fully or partly reversed loading conditions when the specimen is clamped by hydraulic grips without support fixtures

Method 3 has two types of loading methods, i.e. 3A and 3B. In method 3A, the specimen is placed within a stabilization fixture, which is then clamped by hydraulic grips. In method 3B, the specimen is placed within a stabilization fixture and then end-loaded by platens. Full details of test methods 3A and 3B are given in ASTM D6484/D6484M-09, procedure A and procedure B, respectively.

NOTE Specimen configurations and force introduction varies for the three methods covered within this document. Results obtained using methods 1, 2 and 3 might not be equivalent for all laminates in all environments.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 291, *Plastics — Standard atmospheres for conditioning and testing*

ISO 472, *Plastics — Vocabulary*

ISO 1268 (all parts), *Fibre-reinforced plastics — Methods of producing test plates*

ISO 2818, *Plastics — Preparation of test specimens by machining*

ISO 5893, *Rubber and plastics test equipment — Tensile, flexural and compression types (constant rate of traverse) — Specification*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 472 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

### 3.1

#### **open-hole diameter**

diameter of the open hole in the centre of the test specimen

Note 1 to entry: Open-hole diameter is expressed in millimetres (mm).

Note 2 to entry: See [Figure 1](#).

### 3.2

#### **width**

*w*

overall width of the specimen

Note 1 to entry: Width is expressed in millimetres (mm).

### 3.3

#### **open-hole compressive stress**

value obtained by dividing a compressive load applied to a test specimen by the gross cross-section based on the overall width and thickness of the test specimen

Note 1 to entry: Open-hole compressive stress is expressed in megapascals (MPa).

### 3.4

#### **open-hole compressive strength**

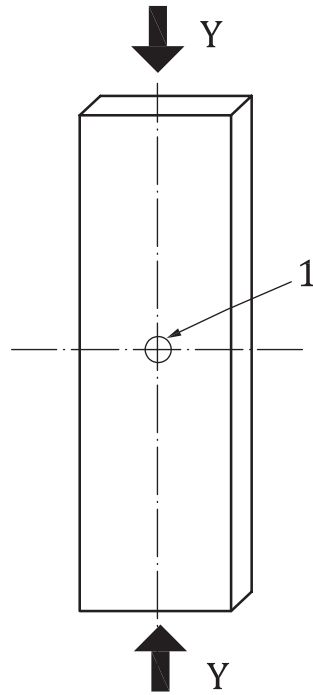
maximum *open-hole compressive stress* ([3.3](#)) generated in the test specimen

Note 1 to entry: Open-hole compressive strength is expressed in megapascals (MPa).

## 4 Principle

A test specimen consisting of a strip of rectangular cross-section with a plain open hole centrally positioned, as shown in [Figure 1](#), is loaded in compression. The maximum load sustained by the specimen is used to determine the open-hole (notched) compressive strength based on the gross specimen cross-section.





**Key**

- Y load direction
- 1 open hole

**Figure 1 — Open-hole laminated composite test specimen and load direction**

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**5 Apparatus**

**5.1 Test machine**

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**5.1.1 General**, the machine shall conform to ISO 5893, as appropriate to the requirements given in [5.1.2](#) and [5.1.3](#).

**5.1.2 Speed of testing**. The test machine shall be capable of maintaining the required speed of testing (see [8.4](#)).

**5.1.3 Indication of load**, the error for the indicated load not exceeding 1 %.

**5.1.4 Load measurement system**, comprising a mechanism to indicate continuously the compressive load applied to the test piece. The loading mechanism shall not cause delay due to inertia at the specified test speed and shall indicate the load value with a precision equal to or higher than  $\pm 1$  % of the full scale of load cell measurement capacity.

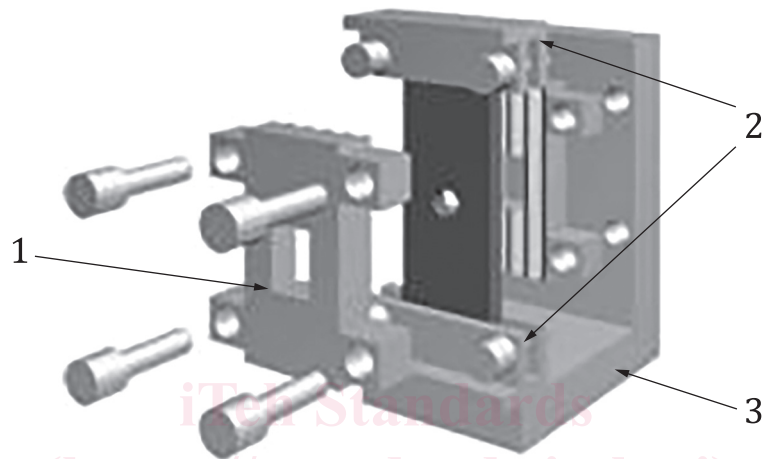
**5.1.5 Loading platens (method 1 and method 3B)**, each (platen plate) being located on the movable part (platen plate) and fixed part (base plate), respectively, of the test machine and the centre of the upper and lower pressing faces coinciding with the centreline of the loading direction of the test machine. The alignment of the test fixture shall enable a compressive load to be applied to the platen plate and the base plate in the axial direction of a test specimen, and forces other than the compressive load shall be minimized.

**5.1.6 Hydraulic grips (method 2 and method 3A)**, each located on the movable and fixed parts, respectively, of the test machine and the centre of the upper and lower grips coinciding with the centreline of the load gauge. The test set-up arrangement shall be such that a compressive load is applied to the upper

and lower grips in the axial direction of a test specimen, and forces other than the compressive load shall be minimized.

**5.2 Test fixtures**, for method 1 and method 3, which support the test specimen to prevent buckling phenomenon, and which apply compressive load to the test specimen. They shall be made of low-carbon steel or stainless steel. [Figure 2](#) shows an outline of the out-of-plane deformation support fixture assembly for method 1. [Figures 3](#) to [7](#) show detailed dimensions of the out-of-plane deformation support fixture, L-shaped base plate, end-loading fixtures and support fixture for method 1.

Method 3 requires out-of plane support fixtures. There are two compression-loading conditions for method 3, shear loaded by clamped hydraulic wedge grips (method 3A) and end loaded by platen plates (method 3B). Methods 3A and 3B require the same stabilization fixture. Details of the support fixture for method 3 are given in ASTM D6484/D6484M-09.



**Key**

- 1 out-of-plane deformation support fixture
- 2 end-loading fixtures
- 3 L-shaped base plate

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**Figure 2 — Outline of the fixture**