



## Designation: **F2303–03 (Reapproved 2009) F2303 – 03 (Reapproved 2015)**

# Standard Practice for Selection of Gravity Sewers Suitable for Installation of Optical Fiber Cable and Conduits<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F2303; 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 practice specifically addresses the criteria for determining the suitability of gravity sewers for secondary uses such as the installation of optical fiber systems.

1.1.1 This practice applies to the process of selecting gravity sewers that are appropriate for accepting an optical fiber system as opposed to standards for the installation, operation and maintenance of such system within sewers.

1.2 This practice applies to both man accessible and man inaccessible sewer systems.

1.3 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.4 *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>

**D543** Practices for Evaluating the Resistance of Plastics to Chemical Reagents

**D1600** Terminology for Abbreviated Terms Relating to Plastics

**F412** Terminology Relating to Plastic Piping Systems

2.2 *Other Documents:*

**NASSCO Standard** "Gravity Sanitary Sewer Design and Construction," Manual of Practice No. FD-5, ASCE Recommended Specifications for Sewer Collection System Rehabilitation

**Sewer Rehabilitation Manual (SRM)** produced by the Water Research Center (WRc, Swindon, England)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/3abfdfdb-8313-4c99-82cf-1cc2a79532af/astm-f2303-032015>

## 3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions are in accordance with Terminology **F412** and abbreviations are in accordance with Terminology **D1600**, unless otherwise specified.

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2.1 *combined sewers*—sewers that carry both wastewater and storm or surface water.

3.2.2 *engineer*—the licensed professional designated by the owner/operator of the sewer system to represent the owner's/operator's interests during the selection process.

3.2.3 *installer*—the person(s) or body installing the optical fiber system within the sewer.

3.2.4 *manholes*—vertical shafts to connect intersecting sewers to allow transitions in size, alignment and grade and to allow entry to the sewers for cleaning, inspection, and maintenance.

3.2.5 *optical fiber cable*—cable formed of many strands of optical fiber for transmission of data, video, audio, voice, and other information.

<sup>1</sup> This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **F36** on Technology and Underground Utilities and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **F36.10** on Optical Fiber Systems within Existing Infrastructure.

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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.

- 3.2.6 *optical fiber conduit*—fully-supported tubes suitably affixed to or suitably incorporated into the wall structure of the sewer.
- 3.2.7 *optical fiber system*—the complete set of installed optical fiber components including cable, conduit and attachment components.
- 3.2.8 *owner/operator*—the person(s) or body charged with maintenance and operation of the sewer system.
- 3.2.9 *sanitary sewers*—sewers that carry wastewater from users to the treatment plant.
- 3.2.10 *service lateral*—portion of the sewer system that connects a user to the sewer.
- 3.2.11 *sewer*—buried piping designed to carry wastewater or storm run-off.
- 3.2.12 *storm sewers*—sewers that carry storm or surface water away from roadways or structures to waterways.

#### 4. Summary of Practice

4.1 Optical fiber cable and conduit systems in existing sewers shall be designed and installed so that they have a minimal effect on the sewer's hydraulic performance and no effect on their structural integrity. Their design and installation shall also allow for the safe and efficient operation and maintenance of the sewer, and provide for the safe and efficient operation of the optical fiber system. The ultimate success of the installation and operation of optical fiber and sewer systems depends upon the proper evaluation and selection of appropriate sewers. The steps in the process include the following items:

- 4.1.1 Cleaning,
- 4.1.2 Inspection and evaluation of the sewers which are candidates for optical fiber cable or conduit installation,
- 4.1.3 Selection of sewer route, and
- 4.1.4 Documentation of cable routing.

#### 5. Significance and Use

5.1 This practice is intended to assist engineers and sewer owner/operators in determining the suitability of sewers for a secondary use as hosts for optical fiber cables and conduits. It must be kept in mind that the primary use of the sewers is to carry wastewater or storm water, or both. Any secondary use of the system shall not significantly impair the primary use. It is up to the engineer to decide upon any exceptions that may be involved in the selection process.

5.2 Before the selection procedure begins, the installer must have explicit authorization from the owner/operator allowing an evaluation to be conducted for the installation of optical fiber cables or conduits within their sewer system.

5.3 Engineers and owners should also be cognizant of how the installation of optical fiber cable or conduits will impact the future operational, maintenance, and rehabilitation needs of the sewers.

#### 6. Sewer Selection Procedure

##### 6.1 *Cleaning and Flow Bypass:*

6.1.1 *Requirement to Clean*—Prior to selection of a candidate sewer, the sewer must be thoroughly cleaned to allow for proper inspection and evaluation according to the selection criteria outlined below. The National Association of Sewer Services Companies (NASSCO) provides a helpful standard (NASSCO Standard). This cleaning process shall be performed with the equipment recommended by the optical fiber installer as being compatible (see 6.1.3). The cleaning process then serves as a test of the effectiveness of the cleaning equipment as well as allowing the inspection of the integrity of the sewer.

6.1.2 *Exceptions to Cleaning Requirement*—In cases where the pipe has recently been cleaned or has been recently installed, the cleaning requirement may be waived by mutual consent of the system owner and optical fiber system installer.

6.1.3 *Requirement for Compatibility*—The installer shall recommend compatible sewer-cleaning methods to the owner/operator. Such methods shall be compatible with both the existing pipeline (material and condition) and with the optical fiber system, and shall be effective in maintaining the operation of the sewer without compromising the performance of the sewer. The installer shall provide written assurance of the suitability for use of these methods throughout the term that the optical fiber system remains installed in the sewer.

6.1.4 *Requirement to Bypass*—Unless otherwise agreed by the owner/operator, the flow in the candidate sewer must be temporarily stopped or fully bypassed prior to inspection to allow for a complete examination and evaluation of the internal pipe circumference.

##### 6.2 *Inspection:*

6.2.1 *Televising*—The inspection of the sewer system and appurtenances shall be accomplished by means of a closed circuit television system (CCTV) or other equivalent technology. Records of the inspection in analog or digital format will be maintained and forwarded to the system owner/operator in the selection report.

6.2.1.1 *Visual Quality*—The visual quality will be such as to allow determination of the presence of cracks, separated joints, grease, deposits, sags, high water marks, infiltration, corrosion, and root intrusion.

6.2.1.2 *Distance Recording*—The distance from the starting point of each inspection run must be designated by a specific reference (for example, middle of manhole) acceptable to the owner/operator.