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Standard Specification for ASTM Thermohydrometers with Integral Low-Hazard Thermometers¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers glass thermohydrometers of various scale graduation systems, intended for use in a variety of ASTM Test Methods.

1.2 The thermohydrometers presented in this standard are not exact replacements for the thermohydrometers in Specification E100; the thermometers have larger maximum permissible scale errors than do their Hg-filled counterparts. The user should decide if these thermohydrometers are appropriate for use in his or her application.

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:*²

D287 Test Method for API Gravity of Crude Petroleum and Petroleum Products (Hydrometer Method)

D1250 Guide for Use of the Petroleum Measurement Tables

D3290 Specification for Bond and Ledger Papers for Permanent Records (Withdrawn 2010)³

E77 Test Method for Inspection and Verification of Thermometers

E100 Specification for ASTM Hydrometers

E126 Test Method for Inspection, Calibration, and Verification of ASTM Hydrometers

E344 Terminology Relating to Thermometry and Hydrometry

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—The definitions given in Terminology E344 apply.

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2.1 *ledger paper, n*—a paper characterized by strength, high tearing resistance, erasability, water resistance, ink receptivity, uniformity of surface, and smoothness.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E20 on Temperature Measurement and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E20.05 on Liquid-in-Glass Thermometers and Hydrometers.

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² 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.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

3.2.1.1 *Discussion*—

Originally, ledger paper was used especially for pen and ink records. Most ledger papers are surface sized, frequently subjected to appreciable wear, and must have a high degree of permanence and durability.

3.2.2 *length of the scale, n*—length of the nominal range in the stem, not including graduations extending above and below the nominal limits.

3.2.3 *thermohydrometer, n*—glass hydrometer having an integral thermometer.

3.2.4 *top of the thermohydrometer, n*—top of the finished instrument.

3.2.5 *total length, n*—overall length of the finished thermohydrometer instrument.

4. Specifications

4.1 Thermohydrometers shall conform to the detailed specifications in **Table 1** and to the general requirements specified in Sections **5 – 15**.

4.2 Thermohydrometers shall conform to the inspection criteria found in Section **16** and the calibration and verification criteria found in Section **14**.

4.3 Thermohydrometers manufactured to previous revisions of this specification shall retain the same ASTM status as those meeting current specifications.

4.4 At time of purchase, scale errors shall not exceed the maximum permissible scale error found in **Table 1**.

NOTE 1—**Caution**—Users should be aware that both temperature and density indications of thermohydrometers may change with rough handling, shock, exposure to aggressive liquids, and thermal cycling, among other factors. Consequently, test results and performance obtained at the time of manufacture may not necessarily apply throughout an extended period of use. Periodic calibration or verification of these instruments, in accordance with procedures set forth in Standard Test Method **E126** (for the hydrometer), or Standard Test Method **E77** is recommended (for the integral thermometer), is recommended.

5. Type

5.1 Thermohydrometers shall be of the constant mass, variable displacement type. Thermohydrometers shall be made of glass, except for the scale, ballast, cement, and the thermometric liquid of the thermometer.

5.2 The outer surface of the stem and body shall be symmetrical about the vertical axis. There shall be no uneven or unnecessary thickening of the walls, and no abrupt changes or constrictions that would hinder thorough cleaning or tend to trap air bubbles when the instrument is immersed.

5.3 The thermohydrometer shall float with its axis vertical in the liquids for which it is intended.

5.4 The thermohydrometer shall be thoroughly dry on the inside when sealed. The top of the stem shall be neatly rounded without unnecessary thickening.

5.5 The glass shall be smooth, transparent, and free of bubbles, strain patterns, cracks, or other imperfections that might interfere with the use of the thermohydrometer. The glass shall adequately resist the reaction of chemical agents to which thermohydrometers may be exposed, and also shall have suitable thermal properties to permit its use over the range of temperatures to which it may be subjected. In general, glasses suitable for constructing the bulbs of thermometers are satisfactory for thermohydrometers.

5.6 The API thermohydrometers are intended for use in conjunction with Test Method **D287** with hydrometer readings being corrected in accordance with Guide **D1250**, IP 200. Therefore, these thermohydrometers shall be made of glass having a cubical coefficient of expansion of approximately 0.000023/1°C or 0.0000128/1°F.

6. Body

6.1 The preferred shapes for thermohydrometers in this specification is shown in **Fig. 1**.

7. Ballast

7.1 Material used for ballast shall be secured to the lower part of the body, with no loose material of any sort inside the thermohydrometer. When cement is used to hold the ballast securely in place, this cement shall not soften below 105°C (221°F).

7.2 If shot is used and sealed with wax, the wax shall not soften below 105°C (221°F)

8. Stem

8.1 The stem shall be uniform in cross section, with no perceptible irregularities. It shall extend at least 15 mm above the top graduation, and remain cylindrical for at least 3 mm below the lowest graduation.

9. Scale

9.1 The material for the scale is not specified. However, if paper is used, ledger paper, meeting the specifications in Specification **D3290**, shall be used. The scale may be anchored by a design which prevents it from moving; otherwise it shall be fixed in place with a cement that will not soften below 105°C (221°F) and will not deteriorate with time. The paper shall show no evidence of scorching or charring when received, or after use at 105°C (221°F). The scale shall be straight and without twist.

10. Markings

10.1 Graduation lines and inscriptions shall be in a permanent black marking material, such as India ink.

TABLE 1 Specifications for ASTM Thermohydrometers

API Gravity Thermohydrometers for Petroleum Products and Other Liquids of Similar Surface Tensions (33 dynes/cm or less)		
Thermometer Scale in Body		
ASTM Thermohydrometer No.	Nominal API Gravity Range, deg	
S550HL-14	-6 to +6	
S551HL-14	-1 to 11	
S552HL-14	9 to 21	
S553HL-14	19 to 31	
S554HL-14	29 to 41	
S555HL-14	39 to 51	
S556HL-14	49 to 61	
S557HL-14	59 to 71	
S558HL-14	69 to 81	
S559HL-14	79 to 91	
S560HL-14	89 to 101	
S561HL-14	37 to 49	
S562HL-14	64 to 76	
Thermohydrometer Dimensions		
Total length, mm	374 to 387	
Body diameter, mm	18 to 25	
Stem diameter, min, mm	4.0	
Hydrometer Scale		
Standard temperature, °F	60	
Subdivisions, °API	0.1	
Intermediate lines at, °API	0.5	
Main (numbered) lines at, °API	1.0	
Scale error at any point not to exceed, °API	0.1	
Length of nominal scale, mm	125 to 145	
Thermometer Scale		
Range, °F	0 to 150	
Immersion	total	
Subdivisions, °F	2	
Intermediate lines at, °F	10	
Main (numbered) lines at, °F	20	
Scale error at any point not to exceed, °F	2	
Scale length, mm	80 to 110	
Density Thermohydrometers for Petroleum Products and Other Liquids of Similar Surface Tensions (33 dynes/cm or less)		
Thermometer Scale in Body		
ASTM Thermohydrometer No.	Nominal Range, kg/m ³ at 15°C	
S500HL-14	600 to 650	
S501HL-14	650 to 700	
S502HL-14	700 to 750	
S503HL-14	750 to 800	
S504HL-14	800 to 850	
S505HL-14	850 to 900	
S506HL-14	900 to 950	
S507HL-14	950 to 1000	
S508HL-14	1000 to 1050	
S509HL-14	1050 to 1100	
S510HL-14	775 to 825	
Thermohydrometer Dimensions		
Total length, mm	374 to 387	
Body diameter, mm	18 to 25	
Stem diameter, min, mm	4.0	
Hydrometer Scale		
Standardization temperature, °C	15	
Subdivisions, kg/m ³ at 15°C	0.5	
Intermediate lines, kg/m ³ at 15°C	1.0	
Number lines, kg/m ³ at 15°C	5	
Main (numbered) lines, kg/m ³ at 15°C	10	
Scale error at any point not to exceed, kg/m ³ at 15°C	0.5	
Length of nominal scale, mm	125 to 145	
Thermometer Scale		
Range, °C	-20 to 65	
Immersion	total	
Subdivisions, °C	1	
Intermediate lines at, °C	5	
Main (numbered) lines at, °C	10	