Designation: ~~E1105 – 00 (Reapproved 2008)~~ E1105 – 15

Standard Test Method for Field Determination of Water Penetration of Installed Exterior Windows, Skylights, Doors, and Curtain Walls, by Uniform or Cyclic Static Air Pressure Difference[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E1105; 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 (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the determination of the resistance of installed exterior windows, curtain walls, skylights, and doors to water penetration when water is applied to the outdoor face and exposed edges simultaneously with a static air pressure at the outdoor face higher than the pressure at the indoor face.

1.2 This test method is applicable to any curtain-wall area or to windows, skylights, or doors alone. It is intended primarily for determining the resistance to water penetration through such assemblies for compliance with specified performance criteria, but it may also be used to determine the resistance to penetration through the joints between the assemblies and the adjacent construction. Other procedures may be appropriate to identify sources of leakage.

1.3 This test method addresses water penetration through a manufactured assembly. Water that penetrates the assembly, but does not result in a failure as defined herein, may have adverse effects on the performance of contained materials such as sealants and insulating or laminated glass. This test method does not address these issues.

1.4 The proper use of this test method requires a knowledge of the principles of pressure measurement.

1.5 The values stated in ~~SI~~inch-pound units are to be regarded as ~~the standard. The inch-pound equivalents of SI units may be approximate.~~standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.6 *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.* For specific hazard statements, see 7.1.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*[2]

E331 Test Method for Water Penetration of Exterior Windows, Skylights, Doors, and Curtain Walls by Uniform Static Air Pressure Difference

E547 Test Method for Water Penetration of Exterior Windows, Skylights, Doors, and Curtain Walls by Cyclic Static Air Pressure Difference

E631 Terminology of Building Constructions

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—For definitions of general terms relating to building construction used in this test method, see Terminology E631.

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2.1 *specimen, n*—the entire assembled unit submitted for test as installed in the exterior wall of a building.

3.2.1.1 *Discussion*—

[1] This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E06 on Performance of Buildings and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E06.51 on Performance of Windows, Doors, Skylights and Curtain Walls.

Current edition approved ~~April 1, 2008~~Aug. 1, 2015. Published ~~May 2008~~September 2015. Originally approved in 1986. Last previous edition approved in ~~2000~~2008 as ~~E1105 – 00.~~E1105 – 00(2008). DOI: ~~10.1520/E1105-00R08.~~10.1520/E1105-15.

[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.

The test specimen consists of the major components of the assembly, including all joints, cracks, or openings between such components and any panning, receptors, extenders, sills, mullions, or other parts or components used for assembling any installation. The joints between assemblies and the openings into which they are mounted (masonry openings, for example) are not part of the test specimen. However, these joints may be tested by this procedure.

3.2.2 *test pressure difference, n*—the specified difference in static air pressure across the closed and locked or fixed specimen expressed in ~~pascals~~lbf/ft^2 ~~(lbf/ft(pascals).^{2}).~~

3.2.3 *water penetration, n*—penetration of water beyond a plane parallel to the glazing (the vertical plane) intersecting the innermost projection of the test specimen, not including interior trim and hardware, under the specified conditions of air pressure difference across the specimen. For products with non-planer surfaces (domes, vaults, pyramids, etc.) the plane defining water penetration is the plane defined by the innermost edges of the unit frame.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 This test method consists of sealing a chamber to the interior or exterior face of specimen to be tested, supplying air to a chamber mounted on the exterior or exhausting air from a chamber mounted on the interior, at the rate required to maintain the test pressure difference across the specimen while spraying water onto the outdoor face of the specimen at the required rate and observing any water penetration.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 This test method is a standard procedure for determining the resistance to water penetration under uniform or cyclic static air pressure differences of installed exterior windows, skylights, curtain walls, and doors. The air-pressure differences acting across a building envelope vary greatly. These factors should be considered fully prior to specifying the test pressure difference to be used.

NOTE 1—In applying the results of tests by this test method, note that the performance of a wall or its components, or both, may be a function of proper installation and adjustment. In service, the performance will also depend on the rigidity of supporting construction and on the resistance of components to deterioration by various causes, vibration, thermal expansion and contraction, and so forth. It is difficult to simulate the identical complex wetting conditions that can be encountered in service, with large wind-blown water drops, increasing water drop impact pressures with increasing wind velocity, and lateral or upward moving air and water. Some designs are more sensitive than others to this upward moving water.

NOTE 2—This test method does not identify unobservable liquid water which may penetrate into the test specimen.

5.2 Laboratory tests are designed to give an indication of the performance of an assembly. Field performance may vary from laboratory performance since the supporting structure for the test specimen, methods of mounting, and sealing in the laboratory can only simulate the actual conditions that will exist in the building. Shipping, handling, installation, acts of subsequent trades, aging, and other environmental conditions all may have an adverse effect upon the performance of the installed product. This field test procedure provides a means for determining the performance of a product once installed in the building.

5.3 The field test may be made at the time the window, skylight, curtain-wall, or door assemblies are initially installed and before the interior of the building is finished. At this time, it is generally easier to check the interior surfaces of the assemblies for water penetration and to identify the points of penetration. The major advantage of testing when assemblies are initially installed is that errors in fabrication or installation can be readily discovered and corrections made before the entire wall with its component assemblies is completed at which time the expense of corrective work may be increased many times.

5.4 The field test may also be made after the building is completed and in service to determine whether or not reported leakage problems are due to the failure of the installed assemblies to resist water penetration at the specified static air pressure difference. Generally it is possible to conduct tests on window, skylight, and door assemblies without too much difficulty, and to identify sources of leakage. A curtain-wall assembly, on the other hand, may not be accessible from the inside without the removal of interior finished walls and ceilings. Even with removal of interior walls and ceilings, it may not be possible to observe curtain-wall surfaces behind spandrel beams. The feasibility of conducting a meaningful static air pressure difference water penetration test on an in-service building must be carefully evaluated before being specified.

5.5 Weather conditions can affect the static air pressure difference measurements. If wind gusting causes pressure fluctuation to exceed ~~± 10 %~~ ±10 % from the specified test pressure, the test should not be conducted.

5.6 Generally it is more convenient to use an interior mounted pressure chamber from which air is exhausted to obtain a lower pressure on the interior surface of the specimen. A calibrated rack of nozzles is then used to spray water at the proper rate on the exterior surface. Under circumstances where it is desirable to use an exterior-mounted pressure chamber, the spray rack must be located in the pressure chamber and air supplied to maintain a higher pressure on the exterior surface. Exterior chambers are difficult to attach readily and seal to exterior surfaces.

5.7 Even though the equipment requirements are similar, this procedure is *not* intended to measure air infiltration because of the difficulty of isolating the component air leakage from the extraneous leakage through weep holes, mullion joints, trim, or other surrounding materials.

6. Apparatus

6.1 The description of apparatus in this section is general in nature, and any arrangement of equipment capable of performing the test procedures within allowable tolerances is permitted.

6.2 *Major Components* (Fig. 1):

6.2.1 *Test Chamber*—A test chamber or box made of plywood, plastic, or other suitable material and sealed against the test specimen. Test chambers mounted on the interior must be made so that interior surfaces and joints of the specimen can be easily observed for water penetration during the test. No part of the testing chamber shall come in contact with or restrict any point where water ~~pentration~~penetration may occur. At least one static air pressure tap shall be provided to measure the chamber air pressure versus the ambient (interior-exterior) air pressure and shall be so located that the reading is unaffected by exterior impinging wind, or by the velocity of air supply to or from the chamber. The air supply opening into or exhaust from the chamber shall be arranged so that air does not impinge directly on the test specimen with any significant velocity. A means of access into the chamber may be provided to facilitate adjustments and observations after the chamber has been installed.

6.2.2 *Air System*—A controllable blower, compressed air supply exhaust system, or reversible blower designed to supply the required maximum air pressure difference across the specimen. The system must provide essentially constant air flow at a fixed pressure for the required test period.

6.2.3 *Pressure Measuring Apparatus*—A device to measure the test pressure difference within a tolerance of ±2 % or ~~±2.5 Pa (±0.01 in.~~ ±0.01 in. (±2.5 Pa of water column), whichever is greater.

6.2.4 *Water-Spray System*—The water-spray system shall deliver water uniformly against the exterior surface of the test specimen at a minimum rate of ~~3.4 L/m~~5.0 ~~^{2}·min (5.0~~ U.S. gal/ft^2~~·h).~~·h (3.4 L/m^2·min).

~~NOTE 3—The National Weather Service Technical Paper No. 40[3] records that in the contiguous 48 United States, the greatest rainfall for a 1-h period is less than 12.7 cm (5.0 in.). The rate of 3.4 L/m^2·min (5.0 U.S. gal/ft^2·h) specified in this test method corresponds to a rainfall of 20.3 cm (8.0 in.)/h unless otherwise specified.~~

6.2.4.1 The water-spray system shall have nozzles spaced on a uniform grid, located at a uniform distance from the test specimen and shall be adjustable to provide the specified quantity of water in such a manner as to wet all of the test specimen,

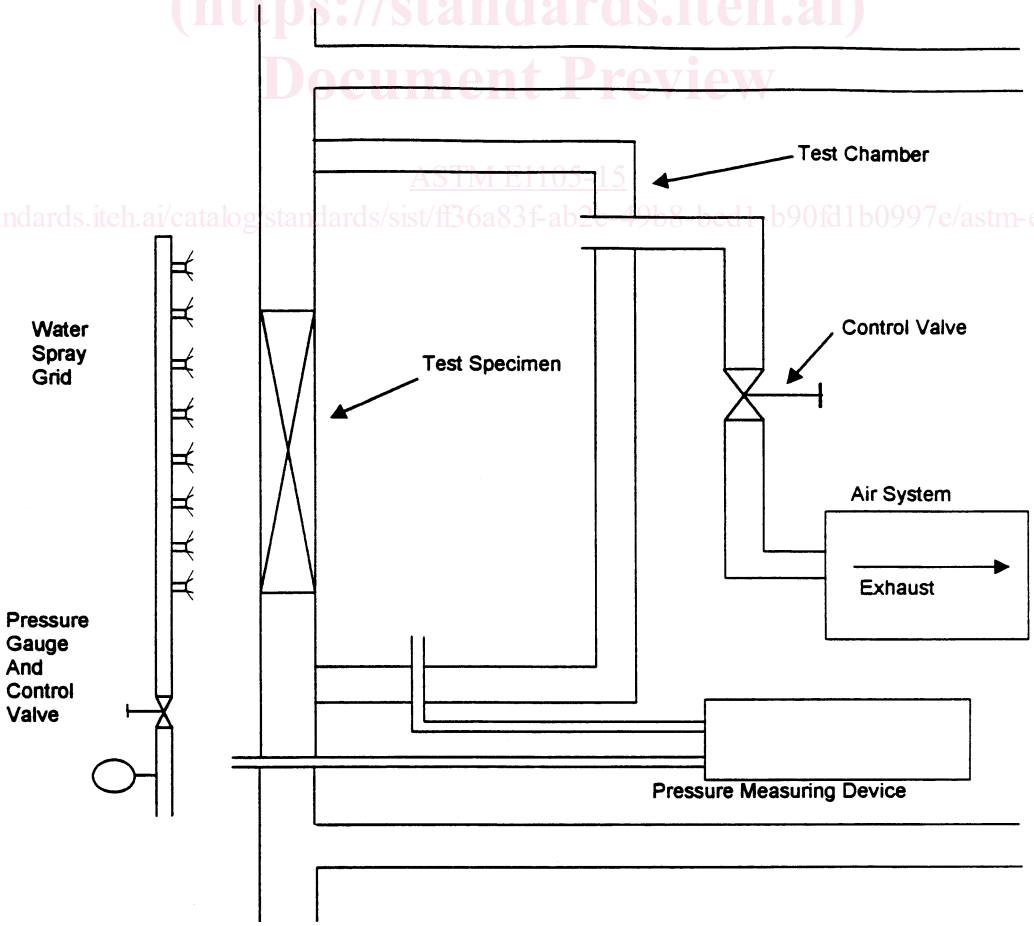

FIG. 1 General Arrangement of Water Penetration Test Apparatus