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Standard Terminology Relating to Protective Clothing¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This standard defines the specialized terms used in standards developed by Committee F23 on Protective Clothing.

1.2 Definitions of Terms, which were drafted for use only in a single standard, are also included for convenient reference. Under ASTM rules they may become full definitions in the future, if they are used in additional standards.

1.3 Additional terminology relevant to protective clothing and to the components of protective clothing can be found in Terminology D 123, D 1566, and D 4805.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 123 Terminology Relating to Textiles²

D 1566 Terminology Relating to Rubber³

D 4805 Terminology for Plastics Standards⁴

F 739 Test Method for Resistance of Protective Clothing Materials to Permeation by Liquids or Gases Under Conditions of Continuous Contact⁵

F 955 Test Method for Evaluating Heat Transfer Through Materials for Protective Clothing Upon Contact With Molten Substances⁵

F 1001 Guide for Selection of Chemicals to Evaluate Protective Clothing Materials⁵

F 1002 Performance Specification for Protective Clothing for Use by Workers Exposed to Specific Molten Substances and Related Thermal Hazards⁵

F 1060 Test Method for Thermal Protective Performance of Materials for Protective Clothing for Hot Surface Contact⁵

F 1154 Practices for Qualitatively Evaluating the Comfort, Fit, Function, and Integrity of Chemical Protective Suit Ensembles⁵

F 1291 Test Method for Measuring the Thermal Insulation of Clothing Using a Heated Manikin⁵

F 1358 Test Method for Effects of Flame Impingement on Materials Used in Protective Clothing Not Designated Primarily for Flame Resistance⁵

F 1359 Test Method for Determining the Liquid Penetration Resistance of Protective Clothing or Protective Ensembles Under a Shower Spray While on a Mannequin⁵

F 1383 Test Method for Resistance of Protective Clothing Materials to Permeation by Liquids or Gases Under Conditions of Intermittent Contact⁵

F 1407 Test Method for Resistance of Chemical Protective Clothing Materials to Liquid Permeation-Permeation Cup Method⁵

F 1414 Test Method for Measurement of Cut Resistance to Chain Saw in Lower Body (Legs) Protective Clothing⁵

F 1449 Guide for Care and Maintenance of Flame Resistant and Thermally Protective Clothing⁵

F 1458 Test Method for Measurement of Cut Resistance to Chain Saw of Foot Protective Devices⁵

F 1461 Practice for a Chemical Protective Clothing Program⁵

F 1670 Test Method for Resistance of Materials Used in Protective Clothing to Penetration by Synthetic Blood⁵

F 1671 Test Method for Resistance of Materials Used in Protective Clothing to Penetration by Blood-Borne Pathogens Using Phi-X174 Bacteriophage Penetration as a Test System⁵

F 1731 Practice for Body Measurements and Sizing of Fire and Rescue Services Uniforms and Other Thermal Hazard Protective Clothing⁵

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

after-flame time, n —the length of time for which a material continues to flame after the ignition source has been removed. **(F23.20) F 1358**

afterglow, n —a glow in a material after the removal of an external ignition source or after the cessation (natural or induced) of flaming of the material (see also **glow**). **(F23.20) F 1358**

¹ This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F23 on Protective Clothing and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F23.91 on Editorial.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 07.01.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 09.01.

⁴ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 08.03.

⁵ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 11.03.

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- agar**, *n*—a semisolid culture medium used to support the growth of bacteria and other micro-organisms. (F23.40) F 1671
- analytical detection limit**, *n*—a number, expressed in units of concentration (or amount), that describes the lowest concentration level (or amount) that an analyst can determine to be different from an analytical blank (background level). (F23.70) F 1461
- analytical technique**, *n*—a procedure whereby the concentration of the test chemical in a collection medium is quantitatively determined. (F23.30) F 739
- anisotropic**, *adj*—having different values for a specific property in different directions. (F23.20) F 1358
- armhole**, *n*—*in garment construction*, the area of a garment through which the arm passes or into which a sleeve is fitted. (See **armscye**.) (F23.60) F 1731
- armscye**, *n*—*in garment construction*, the opening in a garment for the attachment of a fitted sleeve. (See **armhole**.) (F23.60) F 1731
- aseptic**, *adj*—sterile, free from viable microbiological contamination. (F23.40) F 1671
- assay**, *n*—analysis of a mixture to determine the presence or concentration of a particular component. (F23.40) F 1671
- assay fluid**, *n*—a sterile liquid used to wash the test specimen surface to determine microbiological penetration. (F23.40) F 1671
- authority having jurisdiction**, *n*—the organization, office, or individual responsible for approving any equipment, installation, or procedure. (F23.20) F 1818
- back waist length**, *n*—*in body measurements*, the vertical distance along the spine from the cervical to the waist. (F23.60) F 1731
- bacteriophage**, *n*—a type of virus which infects bacteria. (F23.40) F 1671
- bartack**, *n*—*in garment construction*, a reinforcement at points of strain. (F23.60) F 1731
- biological monitoring**, *n*—the chemical analysis of chemicals or metabolites, or both, from a worker's blood, urine, fingernails, sweat, breath, and so forth. (F23.70) F 1461
- body dimension**, *n*—*in garment construction*, a body measurement which can be used to build a sizing system or to select an appropriately sized garment. (F23.60) F 1731
- body fluid simulant**, *n*—a liquid which is used to act as a model for human body liquids. (F23.40) F 1670, F 1671
- body measurement**, *n*—*in anthropometry*, a standardized distance between two specified points on the human anatomy. (F23.60) F 1731
- break-open**—in testing thermal protective material, a response evidenced by the formation of a hole in the material which allows the molten substance to pass through the material. (F23.80) F 955
- breakthrough detection time**, *n*—the elapsed time measured from the start of the test to the sampling time that immediately precedes the sampling time at which the test chemical is first detected. (F23.30) F 739, F 1383
- buddy system**, *n*—a means of organizing employee work groups whereby each participant is matched with another so that prompt assistance can be rendered in the case of any emergency. (F23.70) F 1461
- burn distance**, *n*—the measurement from the bottom edge of the specimen to the farthest point that shows evidence of damage due to combustion. (F23.20) F 1358
- burning behavior**, *n*—all the changes that take place when materials or products are exposed to a specified ignition source. (F23.20) F 1358
- bust girth**, *n*—*in body measurement*, the circumference of the body over the fullest part of the breasts and parallel to the floor. (See **chest girth**.) (F23.60) F 1731
- care and maintenance**, *n*—effective cleaning to remove soil and maximize use life of garments while maintaining (not removing) protective properties. (F23.80) F 1449
- centerline**, *n*—*in foot protective devices*, a line which extends from the toe of the footwear horizontally along the sole to the heel vertically to the top of the footwear, and diagonally to the point of intersection at the toe. (F23.20) F 1458
- certification**, *n*—a system whereby an organization determines that a manufacturer has demonstrated the ability to make a product that complies with the requirements of the specification, authorizes the manufacturer to use a label on products that comply with the requirements of the specification, and conducts a follow-up program to verify the methods the manufacturer uses to determine compliance with the requirements of this specification. (F23.20) F 1818
- certification organization**, *n*—an independent, third party organization that determines product compliance with the requirements of the specification with a labeling and listing follow-up program. (F23.20) F 1818
- cervical**, *n*—*in body measurements*, the most prominent bone at the base of the neck. (F23.60) F 1731
- chain saw**, *n*—a portable power operated tool used for cutting wood which has cutters linked in a chain. (F23.20) F 1414, F 1458
- chain speed**, *n*—the velocity of synchronized movement of linked cutters around a bar and sprocket. (F23.20) F 1414, F 1458
- chainstop**, *n*—*for chainsaw cut resistance*, the resulting action when a material clogs (jams) the drive sprocket or slows the speed sufficiently to prevent advancement of the chain saw. (F23.20) F 1414, F 1458, F 1818
- challenge chemical**—a chemical used to contact a protective clothing material sample to determine chemical/protective clothing material interactions or compatibility. (F23.30) F 1001
- challenge suspension**, *n*—a liquid containing an agent that is used to test the penetration resistance of materials. (F23.40) F 1671
- charring**—the formation of a carbonaceous residue as the result of pyrolysis or incomplete combustion. (F23.80) F 1060
- chemical protective clothing (CPC)**, *n*—any material or combination of materials used in an item of clothing for the purpose of isolating parts of the body from direct contact with a potentially hazardous chemical. (F23.70) F 1461



chemical-protective suit ensemble—the combination of a chemical-protective suit (totally encapsulating, splash-protective) with the wearer's respiratory protective equipment, gloves, boots, communications system, and cooling device, or some combination of those. (F23.50) F 1154, F 1359

chest, *n*—*in garment construction*, a measurement taken from below each armhole seam straight across the garment while it is laid flat. (F23.60) F 1731

chest girth, *n*—*in body measurements*, the circumference of the body over the shoulder blades, under the arms and across the upper chest. (See **bust girth**.) (F23.60) F 1731

clo, *n*—a unit of thermal resistance (insulation) equal to 0.155 K-m₂/W. (F23.60) F 1291

DISCUSSION—The value of the clo was selected as roughly the insulation value of typical indoor clothing, which should keep a resting man (producing heat at the rate of 58 W/m₂) comfortable in an environment at 21°C, air movement 0.1 m/s.

closed-loop, *adj*—refers to a testing mode in which the collection medium volume is fixed. (F23.30) F 739, F 1383

clothing ensemble, *n*—a group of garments worn together on the body at the same time. (F23.60) F 1291

collection medium, *n*—a liquid or gas that does not affect the measured permeation and in which the test chemical is freely soluble or adsorbed to a saturation concentration greater than 0.5 weight or volume percent. (F23.30) F 1383

combustion, *n*—a chemical process of oxidation that occurs at a rate fast enough to produce heat and usually light either as glow or flames. (F23.20) F 1358

contact time, *n*—*in an intermittent contact test*, the duration during each cycle that the challenge side chamber of the permeation cell is filled with the test chemical. (F23.30) F 1383

crotch, *n*—*in anatomy*, the body area adjacent to the vertex of the included angle between the legs. (F23.60) F 1731

cuff, *n*—*in garment construction*, a finished edge at the end of either a garment sleeve or trouser leg created by turning back or rolling up and stitching the fabric. (F23.60) F 1731

cumulative permeation, *n*—the total mass of chemical that permeates during a specified time from when the material is first contacted. (F23.30) F 1383, F 1407

cut resistance, *n*—*in chainsaw testing*, the ability of a material, while in contact with the linked cutters, to resist cut through of the cutters of a moving saw chain, independent of either jamming or chain stop. (F23.20) F 1414, F 1458, F 1818.

cut-through time, *n*—*for chainsaw cut resistance*, the time required for a running chainsaw to effect complete break-through of a protective garment or protective device. (F23.20) F 1414, F 1458, F 1818

cycle time, *n*—*in an intermittent contact test*, the interval of time from the start of one contact period to the start of the next contact period. (F23.30) F 1383

decontamination, *n*—the removal of a contaminant or contaminants from the surface or matrix, or both, of CPC to the

extent necessary for its next intended action (for example, reuse and disposal). (F23.70) F 1461

dripping—in testing thermal protective material, a response evidenced by flowing of the fiber polymer. (F23.80) F 955

ease, *n*—*in garment construction*, the difference between garment measurement and body measurement. (F23.60) F 1731

elastomer, *n*—a term often used for rubber and polymers that have properties similar to rubber. (F23.70) F 1461

elbow, *n*—*in anatomy*, the joint that articulates between the upper arm and the lower arm. (F23.60) F 1731

embrittlement—the formation of a brittle residue as a result of pyrolysis or incomplete combustion. (F23.80) F 955, F 1060, F 1358

end user, *n*—*for the purpose of this guide*, this term is used to identify specifically the party requiring protective clothing (for example, the employer of the person wearing the garment). (F23.80) F 1449

Fick's laws of diffusion, *n*—mathematical descriptions of the movement of one type of molecule through another. (F23.70) F 1461

finish, *n*—a chemical or mechanical modification, or both, of the fabric for a specific performance result. (F23.80) F 1449

finishing technique, *n*—*as applies to laundry and dry cleaning procedures*, the mechanical means by which the garment is put in its final state (for example, pressing, drying, wrinkle removal, and so forth). (F23.80) F 1449

fit, *n*—the quality, state or manner in which the length and closeness of clothing, when worn, relates to the human body. (F23.60) F 1731

flame, *n*—*as related to ignition of textiles*, a controlled hot luminous zone of gas or matter in gaseous suspension, or both, of constant size and shape that is undergoing combustion as evidenced by a low-intensity heat source of less than 5 kW, such as a burner flame on a gas stove. (F23.20) F 1358

flame impingement, *n*—direct contact between a flame and a material. (F23.20) F 1358

flammability, *n*—those characteristics of a material that pertain to its ignition and support of combustion. (F23.20) F 1358

follow-up program, *n*—the sampling, inspection, tests, or other measures conducted by the certification organization on a periodic basis to determine the continued compliance of products that are being made by the manufacturer to the requirements of the standard specification. (F23.20)

foot, *n*—the terminal part of the vertebrate leg, including the ankle, upon which an individual stands (see **foot protective device**). (F23.20) F 1458

foot protective device, *n*—*for chain saw cut resistance*, an article of personal equipment which is worn over the foot and ankle for the purpose of providing limited protection from injury due to contact with a moving saw chain. (F23.20) F 1458

footwear, *n*—a boot or shoe of any construction. (F23.20) F 1458