



Designation: E2952 – 17

Standard Specification for Air-Purifying Respiratory Protective Smoke Escape Devices (RPED)¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E2952; 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 specification covers the minimum requirements for the design, performance, testing, and certification of air-purifying respiratory protective smoke escape devices for immediate emergency evacuation without entry/re-entry.

1.2 The purpose of this specification shall be to provide minimum requirements for respiratory protective escape devices that provide limited protection for 15 min for escape from the by-products of fire, including particulate matter, carbon monoxide, other toxic gases, and the effects of radiant heat.

1.3 The requirements of this specification specify an air-purifying respiratory protective escape device with a laboratory-tested 15-min service life intended to provide head, eye, and respiratory protection from particulate matter, irritants, and toxic gases and vapors commonly produced by fire.

1.4 Controlled laboratory tests that are used to determine compliance with the performance requirements of this specification shall not be deemed as establishing performance levels for all situations to which individuals can be exposed.

1.5 This specification shall not apply to the requirements for provision, installation, or use of air-purifying respiratory protective smoke escape devices.

1.6 This specification shall not apply to respiratory protective escape devices intended for use in circumstances in which an oxygen deficiency (oxygen less than 19.5 % by volume) exists or might exist.

1.7 This specification is not intended to be used as a detailed manufacturing or purchase specification, but shall be permitted to be referenced as a minimum requirement in purchase specifications.

1.8 *Units*—The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E54 on Homeland Security Applications and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E54.04 on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

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1.9 *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

- B117 Practice for Operating Salt Spray (Fog) Apparatus
- D1003 Test Method for Haze and Luminous Transmittance of Transparent Plastics
- D4101 Specification for Polypropylene Injection and Extrusion Materials
- F1140 Test Methods for Internal Pressurization Failure Resistance of Unrestrained Packages

2.2 *ISO Standards*:³

- ISO/IEC 17065 Conformity Assessment—Requirements for Bodies Certifying Products, Processes and Services
- ISO 9001 Quality Systems—Model for Quality Assurance in Design, Development, Production, Installation, and Servicing
- ISO 9002 Quality Systems—Model for Quality Assurance in Production, Installation, and Servicing.

2.3 *NFPA Standard*:⁴

- NFPA 1981 Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for the Fire Service

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*:

3.1.1 *air-purifying respiratory protective smoke escape device, RPED, n*—air-purifying respirator used to protect a person while escaping from a fire by removing certain contaminants of fire-generated products of combustion from the inhaled air.

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 Available from International Organization for Standardization (ISO), 1, ch. de la Voie-Creuse, CP 56, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, <http://www.iso.org>.

⁴ Available from National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471, <http://www.nfpa.org>.

3.1.2 *accessory, n*—item that may be provided with an RPED that does not affect its ability to meet the requirements of this specification.

3.1.3 *approved, adj*—acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

3.1.4 *authority having jurisdiction, n*—organization, office, or individual responsible for approving any equipment, an installation, or a procedure.

3.1.5 *basic plane, n*—plane through the centers of the external ear openings and the lower edges of the eye sockets.

3.1.6 *certification/certify, n/adj*—system whereby an organization determines that a manufacturer has demonstrated the ability to produce a product that complies with the requirements of this specification, authorizes the manufacturer to use a label on listed products that comply with the requirements of this specification, and establishes a follow-up program conducted by the organization as a check on the methods the manufacturer uses to determine continued compliance of labeled and listed products with the requirements of this specification.

3.1.7 *certification organization, n*—independent third-party organization that determines product compliance with the requirements of this specification with a labeling/listing/follow-up program.

3.1.8 *compliance/compliant, n/adj*—meeting or exceeding all applicable requirements of this specification.

3.1.9 *donning time, n*—time for equipment in hand to be placed over the head of the wearer and become functional. This time shall include the removal of an operational packaging.

3.1.10 *follow-up program, n*—sampling, inspections, tests, or other measures conducted by the certification organization on a periodic basis to determine the continued compliance of listed products that are being produced by the manufacturer to the requirements of this specification.

3.1.11 *gas, n*—fluid that has neither independent shape nor volume and tends to expand indefinitely.

3.1.12 *haze, n*—percent of incident light that is not transmitted in a straight line through the lens but forward scattered, greater than 2.5° diverging.

3.1.13 *identical respiratory protective escape device, n*—RPED that is produced to the same engineering and manufacturing specifications.

3.1.14 *labeled, adj*—equipment or material to which has been attached a label, symbol, or other identifying mark of an organization that is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction and concerned with product evaluation, that maintains periodic inspection of production of labeled equipment or materials, and by whose labeling the manufacturer indicates compliance with appropriate standards or performance in a specified manner.

3.1.15 *light transmission, n*—ratio of the luminous (approximately 380- through 760-nm) radiant power transmitted by an object to the incident luminous radiant power.

3.1.16 *listed, adj*—equipment, materials, or services included in a list published by the certification organization.

3.1.17 *melt, v*—to change from solid to liquid or become consumed by action of heat in a manner that could injure the user.

3.1.18 *model, n*—term used to identify an RPED, including all variants to its design.

3.1.19 *product label, n*—marking affixed to the RPED by the manufacturer containing general information, warnings, care, maintenance, or similar data.

3.1.19.1 *Discussion*—This product label is not the certification organization’s label, symbol, or identifying mark; however, the certification organization’s label, symbol, or identifying mark may be attached to it or be part of it. **See labeled.**

3.1.20 *ready-to-use configuration, n*—RPED in its final packaging state before use that, immediately upon opening or removing this operational package, allows the user to don the RPED.

3.1.21 *RPED, n*—a “short hand” acronym for Air-Purifying Respiratory Protective Smoke Escape Device.

3.1.22 *service life, n*—the manufacturer-declared duration of protection provided by the RPED for escape once the operational packaging is opened or removed from an RPED in a ready-to-use configuration.

3.1.23 *shall, v*—indicates a mandatory requirement.

3.1.24 *shelf life, n*—duration that an RPED can be stored under proper conditions in its ready-to-use configuration and remain suitable for use.

4. Performance Requirements

4.1 *Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) Inhalation*—RPED shall be tested for CO₂ levels in the inspired air stream as specified in 7.1 and shall not contain CO₂ concentration levels that exceed 2.5 %.

4.2 *Donning*—RPED shall be tested for donning ability as specified in 7.2. The time needed to don the RPED shall not exceed 30 s.

4.3 Breathing Resistance:

4.3.1 RPED shall be tested for resistance to breathing as specified in 7.3. The maximum inhalation resistance shall be 81.5-mm water column below ambient pressure from the beginning of the test until its conclusion.

4.3.2 RPED shall be tested for resistance to breathing as specified in 7.3. The maximum exhalation resistance shall be 30.6-mm water column above ambient pressure from the beginning of the test until its conclusion.

4.4 *Particulate Filtration*—RPED shall be tested for the filtration of particles as specified in 7.4. The minimum filtration efficiency shall be 95 % at any time during the test.

4.5 Total Inward Leakage:

4.5.1 RPED shall be tested for proper fit as specified in 7.5. The maximum total inward leakage of the challenge agent shall be an average of 2 % of the inhaled air for any of the test subjects in any of the test exercises.

4.5.2 The measured inward leakage shall include the exhalation valve leakage.

4.6 *Optical Properties:*

4.6.1 *Light Transmission*—The vision area of the RPED shall be tested for light transmission as specified in 7.6.1. The vision area shall have minimum light transmission of 20 % and the haze shall not exceed 15 %.

4.6.2 *Field of Vision*—The field of vision of the RPED shall be tested as specified in 7.6.2 and shall have a score of at least 70.

4.6.3 *Fogging*—The vision area of the RPED shall be tested for fogging as specified in 7.6.3. The test subject shall be capable of reading the Snellen eye chart at the 20/100 level.

4.6.4 *Ocular Leakage*—RPED shall be tested for ocular leakage as specified in 7.6.4. The maximum total ocular leakage of the challenge agent shall be an average of 20 % of the outside challenge environment for any of the test subjects in any of the test exercises.

4.7 *Operational Packaging Leakage:*

4.7.1 RPED shall be tested for leakage in its ready-to-use configuration as specified in 7.7.1.

4.7.2 After immersion, the exterior shall be immediately dried and weighed. There shall be no additional weight gain in excess of the tolerance of the scale.

4.7.3 RPED shall be tested for burst strength in its ready to use configuration as specified in 7.7.2.

4.7.4 The RPED in the ready-to-use configuration shall not experience a package burst until the internal pressure has been raised by at least 450 mbar (6.5 psi).

4.8 *Chemical Capacity*—The RPED shall be tested for gas breakthrough as specified in 7.8. The RPED shall have a minimum gas life of 15 min for the breakthrough conditions for each of the seven specific gases detailed herein.

4.9 *Inhalation Temperature*—RPED shall be tested for inspired air temperature as specified in 7.9. The inhalation temperature shall not exceed 90°C dry bulb or 50°C wet bulb when run at a cyclic flow.

4.10 *Soot Particulate:*

4.10.1 RPED shall be tested for increased inhalation breathing resistance as a result of soot particulate as specified in 7.10. The inhalation breathing resistance shall not exceed 204-mm water column.

4.10.2 RPED shall be tested for increased exhalation breathing resistance as a result of soot particulate as specified in 7.10. The exhalation breathing resistance shall not exceed 153-mm water column.

4.11 *Flammability:*

4.11.1 RPED shall be tested for heat and flame resistance as specified in 7.11. Components of the RPED shall not have any after flame after 5 s.

4.11.2 RPED shall be tested for heat and flame resistance as specified in 7.11. No RPED component shall drip, melt, or develop a hole that is visible to the unaided eye or be damaged in a manner that exposes eyes or lungs to gas or smoke.

4.11.3 After having been tested for heat and flame, the RPED shall be evaluated for vision as specified in 7.11.8. The 20/100 vision lines shall be legible.

4.12 *Molten Polymeric Drip Resistance:*

4.12.1 RPED shall be tested for resistance to molten drips as specified in 7.12. Any after flame shall not exceed 5 s.

4.12.2 RPED shall be tested for resistance to molten drips as specified in 7.12. The decrease in inhalation resistance shall not exceed 25 %.

4.12.3 RPED shall be tested for resistance to molten drips as specified in 7.12. No component shall drip, melt, or develop a hole that is visible to the unaided eye.

4.13 *Radiant Heat Resistance:*

4.13.1 RPED shall be tested for resistance to radiant heat as specified in 7.13. The temperature at the top of the head form and in the eyepiece shall not exceed 70°C.

4.13.2 RPED shall be tested for resistance to radiant heat as specified in 7.13. RPED shall not become damaged in a manner that exposes eyes or lungs to gas or smoke.

4.14 *Corrosion Resistance:*

4.14.1 RPED shall be tested for resistance to corrosion as specified in 7.14 and shall be evaluated for the proper use and function of all controls or operating features, as specified in the manufacturer's instructions.

4.14.2 Metals that are used in the RPED, storage containers, and accessories that are inherently resistant to corrosion including, but not limited to, stainless steel, brass, copper, aluminum, and zinc, shall show no more than light surface-type corrosion or oxidation. Ferrous metals shall show no corrosion of the base metals.

4.14.3 Following the corrosion resistance testing in accordance with 7.14, RPED shall then be tested for resistance to breathing as specified in 7.3. The inhalation resistance shall not exceed 85-mm water column below ambient pressure from the beginning of the test until its conclusion.

4.14.4 Following the corrosion resistance testing in 7.14, RPED shall then be tested for resistance to breathing as specified in 7.3, Air Flow Resistance Test. The exhalation resistance shall not exceed 30.6-mm water column above ambient pressure from the beginning of the test until its conclusion.

5. Design Requirements

5.1 *General:*

5.1.1 The design of the RPED shall provide protection to the wearer's head, eyes, and respiratory system specified by this specification.

5.1.2 The RPED shall consist of at least a hood and a respiratory protection system.

5.1.3 All materials shall be free of sharp edges, burrs, and rough spots.

5.1.4 Materials containing latex shall be labeled as such.

5.1.5 The RPED shall not require the use of hands to maintain the RPED in place on the user or maintain the proper functioning of the RPED other than for donning and doffing.

5.1.6 The RPED shall have a tamper seal in its ready-to-use configuration. The tamper seal shall indicate whether the ready-to-use configuration of the RPED has been breached.

5.1.7 The tamper seal shall be secured against accidental opening but shall be able to be broken rapidly without the use of tools. Where the tamper seal has been broken, it shall be visually obvious.

5.1.8 The operational packaging seal required by 7.7 shall be permitted to be the same as the tamper seal.

5.2 Hood:

5.2.1 The RPED shall be designed as a hooded device. The hood shall cover the entire head of the wearer.

5.2.2 The RPED hood shall be available in not more than three separate and distinct sizes that fit all the anatomical dimensions specified in Table 1.

5.2.3 The RPED hood shall include an area for field of vision.

5.2.4 The hood shall be compatible with the wearing of eyeglasses.

5.3 Respiratory Protection System:

5.3.1 The respiratory protection system shall consist of an air-purifying element and a means of conveying the purified air to the wearer such that the RPED meets the performance requirements of 4.1 – 4.10 except 4.7.

5.3.2 The respiratory protection system shall be designed in such a manner that the air-purifying element(s) shall not be degraded by the CO₂ and humidity of the user’s exhaled air.

5.3.3 The air-purifying element(s) shall be designed and installed so that the inhaled gas first passes through the particulate component before passing through the gas protection component.

5.4 Accessories:

5.4.1 Any accessories that are attached to an RPED shall not interfere with the function of the RPED or with the function of any of the RPED component parts.

5.4.2 Where an RPED is provided with an accessory or accessories that are attached to or integrated with the RPED, the RPED shall meet all of the design and performance requirements of this specification with the accessories installed. In all cases, such accessories shall not degrade the performance of the RPED.

6. Conditioning

6.1 General:

6.1.1 For the purpose of initial certification, a total of 43 RPED in the ready-to-use configuration shall be used as test specimens.

6.1.2 Ten of the RPED to be used for testing for the performance requirements specified in 4.5 shall be unconditioned.

6.1.3 The remaining 33 RPED shall be conditioned as specified in this section and in Table 2.

6.1.3.1 Thirty-one RPED shall be sequentially subjected to the conditioning procedures specified in 6.2 – 6.5 before testing

for the performance requirements specified in 4.1, 4.3, 4.4, 4.6.1, 4.6.3, and 4.7 – 4.14.

6.1.3.2 Two RPED shall be subjected only to the conditioning procedure specified in 6.5 before testing for the performance requirements specified in 4.2 and 4.6.2

6.1.4 The conditioned or unconditioned state of the RPED shall be as specified in Table 2.

6.2 Vibration Conditioning:

6.2.1 Each RPED shall be placed into a compartment of the vibration equipment as specified in Fig. 1(a) and (b). Each RPED shall be conditioned in the ready-to-use configuration. The compartment shall be sized to allow horizontal movement in any direction of 7 ± 3 mm and free vertical movement.

6.2.2 The vibration equipment shall consist of a steel case affixed to a vertically moving piston that is attached to a rotating cam. The combined piston and case shall be raised by a rotating cam to a vertical height of 19 ± 1 mm and allowed to fall under its own weight onto a steel plate as the cam rotates at a rate of 100 ± 2 rpm.

6.2.3 Each RPED shall be vibrated for 10 000 cycles.

6.3 Puncture and Tear Conditioning:

6.3.1 The puncture and tear conditioning apparatus shall consist of the following six major parts as shown in Fig. 2:

- 6.3.1.1 A pointed striker of nonmalleable metal,
- 6.3.1.2 Removable weights on the striker,
- 6.3.1.3 A holder arm that supports the striker and weights,
- 6.3.1.4 A hinge of adjustable height with minimal friction,
- 6.3.1.5 A support arm, and
- 6.3.1.6 A base to which the support arm is attached and that holds the RPED in place.

6.3.2 The striker assembly, composed to the striker, holder arm, and weights, shall have a weight of 100 ± 0.5 g measured at the tip of the striker in a level orientation. The weight of the striker assembly shall be adjusted by adding weights to or removing weights from the striker.

6.3.3 The RPED shall be centered in its ready-to-use configuration under the striker, and the striker assembly shall be adjusted so that the distance between the bottom of the striker and the top of the RPED is 100 ± 2 mm.

6.3.4 The striker shall be held at a distance of 100 ± 2 mm above the RPED and then released onto the RPED.

6.3.5 While the striker is resting on the RPED, the RPED shall be pulled in a horizontal direction until the striker is free from the RPED.

6.3.6 The procedures specified in 6.3.2 – 6.3.5 shall be repeated using two other locations on the RPED 90° apart from the initial test location.

6.4 Pressure Conditioning:

6.4.1 The RPED shall be placed in a pressure chamber and shall be subjected to 1000 cycles of differential pressure from ambient to 300 ± 10 mbar below ambient pressure in accordance with the following cycle sequence:

- 6.4.1.1 Sixty seconds at ambient pressure,
- 6.4.1.2 Twenty seconds from ambient pressure to 300 mbar below ambient pressure,
- 6.4.1.3 Sixty seconds at 300 mbar below ambient pressure, and

TABLE 1 Face, Neck, and Head Anatomical Dimensions

	Small (mm)	Medium (mm)	Large (mm)
Head Circumference	527–552	553–578	579–604
Neck Circumference	295–351	352–408	409–465
Face Length ^A	98.5–108.5	109–128.5	129–138.5
Lip Length	40–46	47–54	55–61

^AMenton-nasal root depression length.

TABLE 2 RPED Initial Certification Testing Matrix

Test Section	Test Specimen Number				
	Vibration 6.2	Puncture/Tear 6.3	Pressure 6.4	Temperature 6.5	None
7.1 CO ₂	43	43	43	43	
7.2 Donning				1-2	
7.3 Air Flow Resistance	3-4	3-4	3-4	3-4	
7.4 Particulate Filtration	4	4	4	4	
7.5 Inward Leakage Fit					5-14
7.6.1 Light Transmission	15	15	15	15	
7.6.2 Field of Vision				1	
7.6.4 Ocular Leakage					5-14
7.7.1 Pressure Test	16	16	16	16	
7.8 Capacity	17-37	17-37	17-37	17-37	
7.9 Inhalation Temperature	38	38	38	38	
7.10 Soot Particulate	39	39	39	39	
7.11 Flammability	40	40	40	40	
7.12 Molten Polymeric Drip	41	41	41	41	
7.13 Radiant Heat	42	42	42	42	
7.14 Corrosion Resistance	3	3	3	3	

Test Specimen Number	Test Section	Conditioning Requirements
1	7.6.2 Field of Vision	Temperature (6.5)
1-2	7.2 Donning	Temperature (6.5)
3	7.14 Corrosion Resistance	All
3-4	7.3 Air Flow Resistance	All
4	7.4 Particulate Filtration	All
5-14	7.5 Inward Leakage Fit	None
5-14	7.6.4 Ocular Leakage	None
15	7.6.1 Light Transmission	All
16	7.7.1 Pressure Test	All
17-37	7.8 Capacity	All
38	7.9 Inhalation Temperature	All
39	7.10 Soot Particulate	All
40	7.11 Flammability	All
41	7.12 Molten Polymeric Drip	All
42	7.13 Radiant Heat	All
43	7.1 CO ₂	All

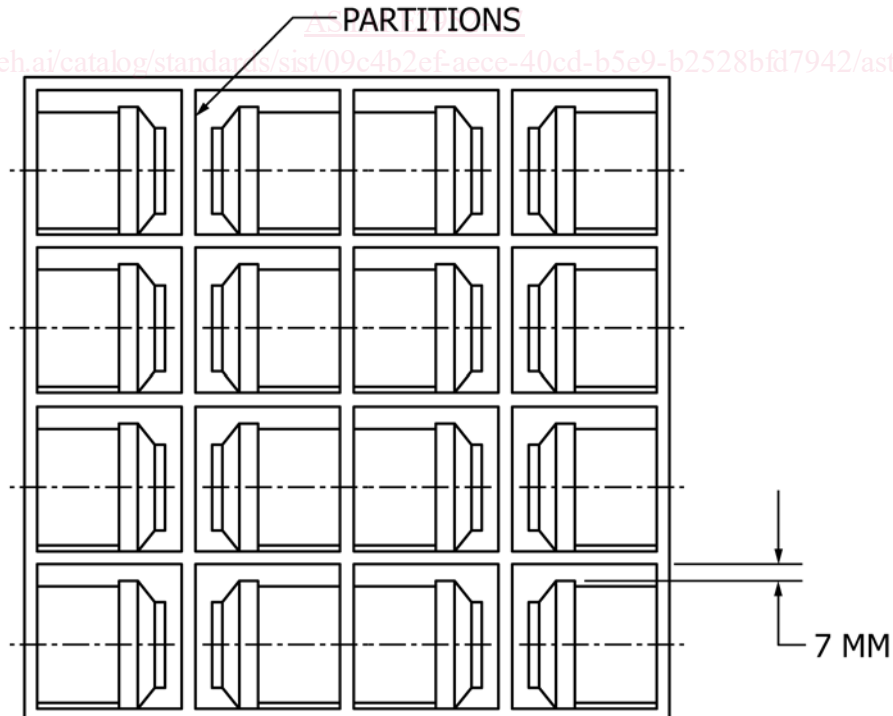


FIG. 1 (a) Vibration Test Device

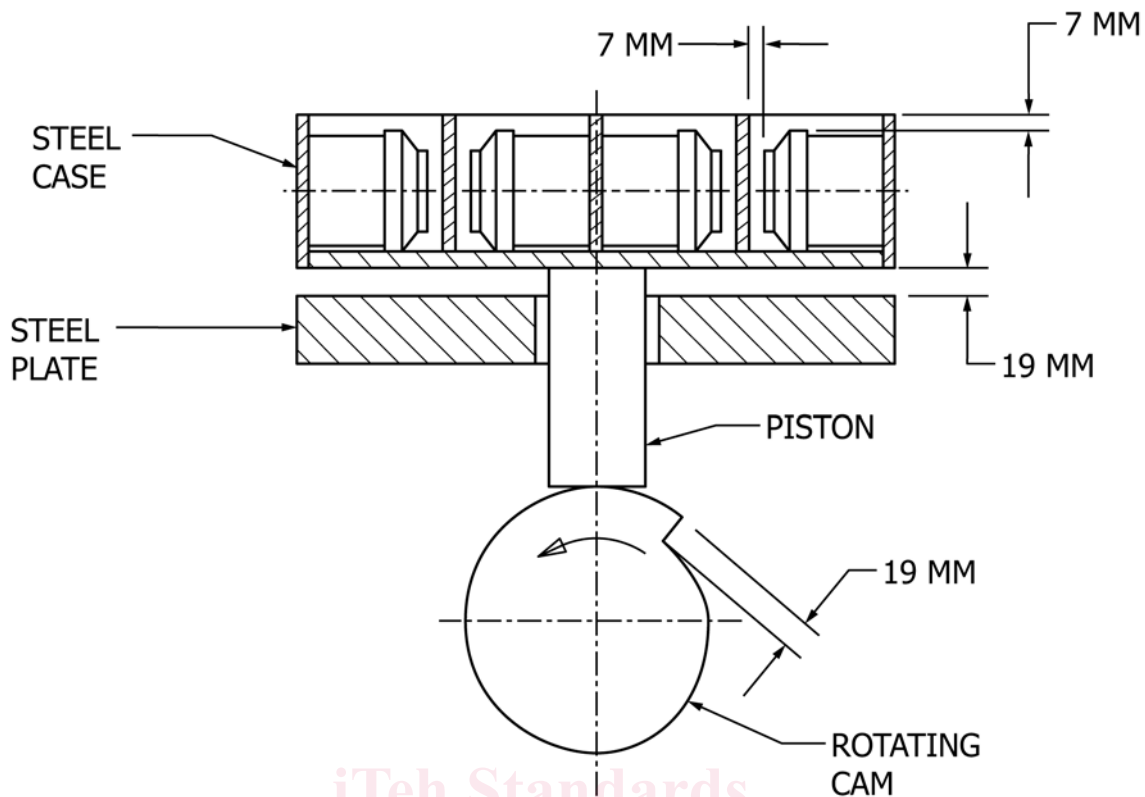


FIG. 1 (b) Vibration Test Device (continued)

6.4.1.4 Twenty seconds from 300 mbar below ambient pressure to ambient pressure.

6.4.2 Where more than one RPED is placed in the chamber during the same conditioning, they shall be positioned so that no RPED comes into contact with another during testing.

6.5 Temperature Conditioning:

6.5.1 RPED shall be conditioned at $0 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 ± 1 h, followed by conditioning at $70 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 ± 1 h.

6.5.2 The transfer time of RPED between the elevated and low temperatures shall not exceed 5 min.

6.5.3 The low-temperature chamber recovery time after the door is closed shall not exceed 10 min.

6.5.4 After thermal conditioning, all but two of the RPED shall be conditioned at room temperature for a minimum of 24 h before testing begins.

6.5.5 The two remaining RPED shall be used for the testing required by 7.2.

7. Test Methods

NOTE 1—Unless otherwise specified, tolerances of ± 0.1 mm shall be applied for dimensions of test fixtures.

7.1 Carbon Dioxide Test:

7.1.1 One RPED of each style or model of RPED shall be tested.

7.1.2 Testing shall be conducted as specified in the carbon dioxide test in EN 136.

7.2 Donning Test:

7.2.1 The donning test shall be performed within 1 h after the RPED has been removed from the conditioning specified in 6.5.4.

7.2.2 There shall be two test subjects who have not been trained in RPED use and have not previously donned an RPED. The test subjects shall be one female and one male. Neither test subject shall have any obvious mental or physical disabilities that prevent donning of the RPED.

7.2.3 The test subjects shall be given an RPED in the ready-to-use configuration. The test subjects shall be given 120 s to view the donning instructions that are supplied by the manufacturer or printed on the RPED.

7.2.4 After the 120 s required in 7.2.3 has passed, the test subjects shall be instructed to immediately don the RPED without any further instruction and the timer shall be started.

7.2.5 The test conductor shall confirm that the unit is positioned on the wearer's head consistent with the user information provided by the manufacturer.

7.3 Air Flow Resistance Test:

7.3.1 The RPED that is to be tested shall be secured to a temperature resistant full-face test head form. Where applicable, manufacturers shall supply fixtures to connect mouthpieces to the test head form.

7.3.2 A pressure probe shall be attached to the test head form. The pressure probe shall be a 6-mm outside diameter (OD) with 2-mm wall thickness metal tube having one open end and one closed end. The closed end shall have four equally spaced holes, each 2 ± 0.1 mm and positioned 6 ± 0.5 mm from the end of the pressure probe.

7.3.3 The closed end of the pressure probe shall extend through the test head form and shall exit at the center of the mouth. The pressure probe shall extend $13 \pm 1.5/-0$ mm outward from the surface of the center of the lips.

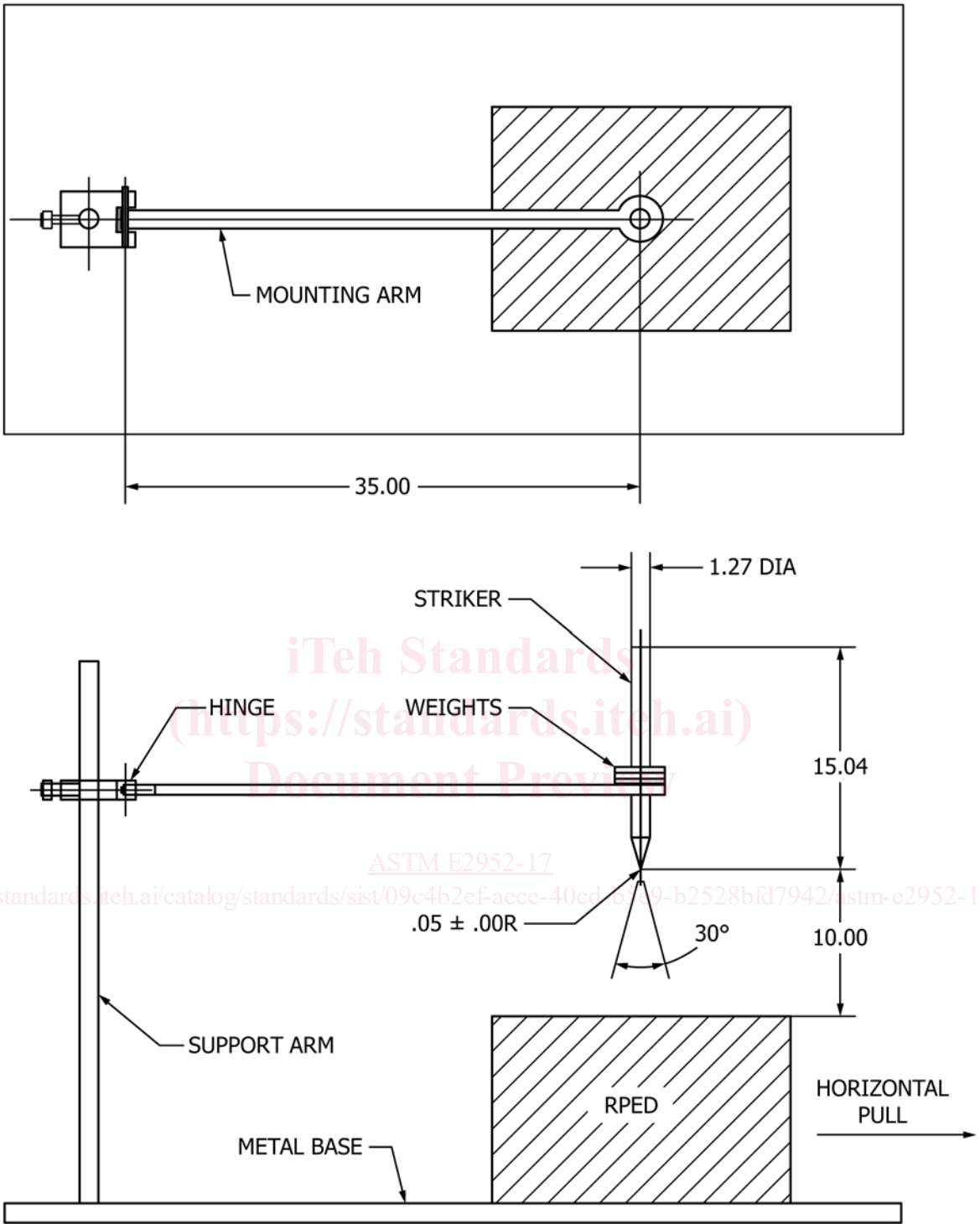


FIG. 2 Puncture Test Device

7.3.4 The open end of the pressure probe shall extend a maximum of 460 mm and a minimum of 25 mm outward from the back surface of the test head form.

7.3.5 A maximum 1.5-m length of nominal 5-mm inside diameter (ID) flexible smoothbore tubing with a nominal 2-mm wall thickness shall be permitted to be connected from the open end of the pressure probe to the inlet of the pressure transducer.

7.3.6 A differential pressure transducer that has the following characteristics shall be used:

7.3.6.1 *Range*—226 mm of water differential,

7.3.6.2 *Linearity*— $\pm 0.5\%$ full-scale (FS) best straight line,

7.3.6.3 *Line Pressure Effect*—Less than 1 % FS zero shift/68 bar,

7.3.6.4 *Output*— ± 2.5 -V DC for \pm FS,

7.3.6.5 *Output Ripple*—10-mV peak to peak,

7.3.6.6 *Regulation*—FS output shall not change more than $\pm 0.1\%$ for input voltage change from 25 to 35 V DC,

7.3.6.7 *Operating Temperature*—From -54 to 121°C ,

7.3.6.8 *Compensated Temperature*—From -18 to 71°C , and

7.3.6.9 *Temperature Effects*—Within 2% FS/ 56°C error band.

7.3.7 The differential pressure transducer shall be appropriately connected to a strip chart recorder or suitable data acquisition system that has the following characteristics:

7.3.7.1 A chart width of 250 mm,

7.3.7.2 A pen speed of at least 730 mm/s (0.333-s FS),

7.3.7.3 An accuracy of $\pm 0.25\%$ FS,

7.3.7.4 An input voltage range of 0- to 1-V FS, and

7.3.7.5 A span set at 25 mm of chart per 25-mm water column.

7.3.8 The test head form shall be equipped with a stainless-steel breathing tube that has a 23-mm ID. The metal breathing tube shall be located on the centerline of the mouth and shall be flush with the test head form.

7.3.9 The metal breathing tube shall extend outward from the back or the base surface of the test head form a minimum of 203 mm and a maximum of 457 mm.

7.3.10 If flexible smoothbore tubing is run from the metal breathing tube to the inlet connection of the breathing machine, it shall have a minimum length of 1.2 m and an ID of 19 mm with a nominal 3-mm wall thickness.

7.3.11 A breathing machine as specified in NFPA 1981 shall be used. The breathing machine shall be calibrated before use.

7.3.11.1 The breathing machine shall use the lung breathing waveform for 40-L/min volume work rate but be set at 19 breaths per minute yielding a constant ventilation rate of 31.7 L/min and a peak inspiratory flow of 95 ± 1 L/min.

7.3.11.2 The test conditions shall be as follows:

(1) *Ambient Temperature*— $22 \pm 3^{\circ}\text{C}$,

(2) *Relative Humidity*— $50 \pm 25\%$, and

(3) *Barometric Pressure*— $750 + 50/-70$ mm Hg.

7.3.11.3 The pressure shall be read from the strip chart recorder to determine pass/fail.

7.4 *Particulate Filtration Test:*

7.4.1 The RPED shall be mounted and sealed on a Scott Aviation model No. 803609-01 or 803606-02 test head form, or equivalent, and shall be tested at a continuous air flow rate of 85 ± 2.5 L/min.

7.4.2 The challenge aerosol shall be an unadulterated and undiluted sodium chloride with a purity level of 99 % or better. The temperature of the challenge aerosol during testing shall be maintained at $25 \pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$. The sodium chloride shall have a particle size distribution with a count median diameter of 0.075 ± 0.020 μm and a maximum standard geometric deviation of 1.86 at the specified test conditions as determined by a scanning mobility particle size or equivalent instrumentation.

7.4.3 The RPED shall be exposed to a maximum challenge aerosol concentration of 200 mg/m^3 that has been neutralized to the Boltzmann equilibrium state until the RPED has reached its minimum efficiency or an aerosol mass of at least 200 mg has contacted the filter, whichever occurs first.

7.4.4 The efficiency of the RPED shall be continuously monitored and recorded throughout the test period by a suitable forward-light-scattering photometer or equivalent instrumentation. Sampling shall be “downstream” of the mouth of the test head. The minimum efficiency shall be noted for each test.

7.5 *Total Inward Leakage Fit Test:*

7.5.1 *RPED Modifications:*

7.5.1.1 When an RPED is designed with a mouthpiece, it shall be modified by being equipped with a sampling probe that is located between the mouthbit and the filtering element, but as close to the mouth as practical. The probe shall be leak tight.

7.5.1.2 When an RPED is designed without a mouthpiece, it shall be modified by being equipped with a sampling probe that is located approximately 0.6 cm from the skin at a point midway between the nose and upper lip as close to the center line of the face as possible. The probe shall extend into the oral/nasal cup if present. The exact final position of the sample probe will depend on the design of the RPED. The probe shall be leak tight.

7.5.2 *Test Subjects:*

7.5.2.1 The inward leakage test shall be performed using ten RPED on test subjects. The manufacturer shall provide RPED with size categories that fit ten test subjects whose facial, head, and neck dimensions are provided in [Table 1](#).

7.5.2.2 When the manufacturer requests certification for one size of RPED that fit all three head size categories of [Table 1](#), the RPED shall be apportioned among test subjects in the following manner:

(1) Two test subjects that meet all dimensions of the small size category of [Table 1](#) shall each be total inward leakage tested with one RPED,

(2) Two test subjects that meet all dimensions of the large size category of [Table 1](#) shall each be total inward leakage tested with one RPED, and

(3) The six remaining subjects that meet any combination of the dimensions specified in [Table 1](#) shall each be total inward leakage tested with one of the six remaining RPED.

7.5.2.3 When the manufacturer requests certification for an RPED of only two different sizes that meet all three size categories of [Table 1](#), the RPED shall be apportioned among test subjects in the following manner:

(1) Two test subjects that meet all the dimensions of the small size category of [Table 1](#) shall each be fit tested with one RPED designed to fit the small/medium size categories,

(2) Two test subjects that meet all the dimensions of the large size category of [Table 1](#) shall each be fit tested with one RPED designed to fit the medium/large size categories,

(3) Three test subjects that meet any combination of the dimensions specified in [Table 1](#) for the small size or medium size category shall be fit tested with one RPED designed to fit the small/medium size categories, and

(4) Three test subjects that meet any combination of the dimensions specified in [Table 1](#) for the medium size or large size category shall be each fit tested with one RPED designed to fit the medium/large size categories.

7.5.2.4 When the manufacturer requests certification for an RPED of three different sizes that meet all three size categories

of **Table 1**, the RPED shall be apportioned among test subjects in the following manner:

(1) Three test subjects that meet all the dimensions of the small size category of **Table 1** shall each be total inward leakage tested with three RPED designed to fit the small size category,

(2) Four test subjects that meet all the dimensions of the medium size category of **Table 1** shall be each total inward leakage tested with one RPED designed to fit the medium size categories, and

(3) Three test subjects that meet all the dimensions of the large size category of **Table 1** shall each be total inward leakage tested with one RPED designed to fit the large size category.

7.5.3 Procedure:

7.5.3.1 If specified by the manufacturer's instructions in **9.2.6**, test subjects shall position their hair so that it does not interfere with any seal of the RPED that is intended to protect the wearer.

7.5.3.2 Test subjects shall not have significant facial hair, scarring in the area of the face seal, significant dental abnormalities, or other condition that interferes with the seal of the RPED that is intended to protect the wearer.

7.5.3.3 Test subjects shall don the RPED as specified by the manufacturer's instructions in accordance with **9.2.6**. The test supervisor shall ensure that the test subject has read the RPED instructions.

7.5.3.4 All instruments and equipment shall be calibrated before use in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

7.5.3.5 The RPED sampling probe shall be connected to an instrument to measure the concentration inside and outside the face piece. Such instrumentation shall:

(1) Use a condensation nuclei counter;

(2) Measure aerosol only in the approximate (mass median aerodynamic diameter) size range of 0.02 to 0.06 μm ; and

(3) Respond linearly, within $\pm 5\%$, over the approximate concentration range of 0.1 to 10 000 particles/ cm^3 .

7.5.3.6 The test subject shall perform the exercises specified in **7.5.3.6 (1) – (5)** for 30 s each while walking on a treadmill that operates at a rate of approximately 5 km/h. The total test time shall be 2½ min. The exercises shall be performed in the following order:

(1) Normal breathing,

(2) Deep breathing,

(3) Turning head side to side,

(4) Moving head up and down

(5) Bending movement, and

(6) Normal breathing.

7.5.3.7 The average concentration of the challenge particles within the probed space shall be obtained for each exercise. The average value for all five average concentrations shall be calculated. The instrumentation described in **7.5.3.5** shall measure the C_i and C_o .

7.5.3.8 Total inward leakage shall be calculated as:

$$C_i / C_o \quad (1)$$

Where:

C_i = Average concentration as calculated in **7.5.3.7**, and

C_o = Average concentration outside the RPED.

7.5.3.9 The total inward leakage for all ten test subjects shall be calculated to determine pass/fail as specified in **4.5**.

7.6 Optical Properties Test:

7.6.1 Light Transmission Test:

7.6.1.1 A 25-mm-diameter sample shall be cut from the vision area of the RPED.

7.6.1.2 The light transmission and haze of the sample shall be determined in accordance with Test Method **D1003**.

7.6.2 Field of Vision Test:

7.6.2.1 An Apertometer head form as show in **Fig. 3** shall be used.

7.6.2.2 The RPED hood shall be mounted and the hood vision area shall be located on the Apertometer head form according to the manufacturer's instructions.

7.6.2.3 The effective field of vision shall be measured in an Apertometer apparatus as shown in **Fig. 4**.

7.6.2.4 The effective field of vision shall be transferred to the field of vision scoring grid overlay as shown in **Fig. 5**.

7.6.2.5 The effective field of vision shall be determined by counting the dots within the effective field of vision for the RPED being tested, as shown in **Fig. 4**.

7.6.3 Fogging Test:

7.6.3.1 The test subject shall have a minimum visual acuity of 20/20 in each eye, uncorrected or corrected, as determined by a visual acuity test or doctor's examination.

7.6.3.2 The temperature of the test environment shall be measured and should be $22 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$.

7.6.3.3 Visual acuity testing shall be conducted using a standard 6.1-m Snellen eye chart, with normal lighting range of 1076 to 1615 lux at the chart.

7.6.3.4 Within 30 s after completion of the total inward leakage test, the test subject shall exit the chamber if necessary to be positioned 6.1 m in front of a standard 6.1-m Snellen eye chart illuminated at 1076 to 1615 lux. The test subject shall then attempt to read the Snellen eye chart at the 20/100 line to determine pass/fail.

7.6.4 Ocular Leakage Test:

7.6.4.1 RPED shall be modified to allow connection through all necessary layers to connect the ocular sampling probe to the test fixture. All connections shall be leak tight.

7.6.4.2 The ocular leakage test fixture shall be adjusted such that the fixture sample ports are located in-line with each test subjects' center of pupil.

7.6.4.3 Using the same test subjects in **7.5.2** and following the same test procedure in **7.5.3**, samples shall be drawn from each port. Caution should be taken to avoid contact between the eye and the test fixture.

7.7 Operational Packaging Leakage Test:

7.7.1 Pressure Test (to be conducted for initial and year five recertification testing):

7.7.1.1 Before testing, the RPED shall be weighted on a gram scale calibrated to tenths. Record the initial weight.

7.7.1.2 A tub that is 600 mm long by 600 mm wide by 750 mm deep or larger shall be filled with water to a depth of at least 600 mm. The water shall be maintained at a temperature of $70 \pm 3^\circ\text{C}$ throughout the test.

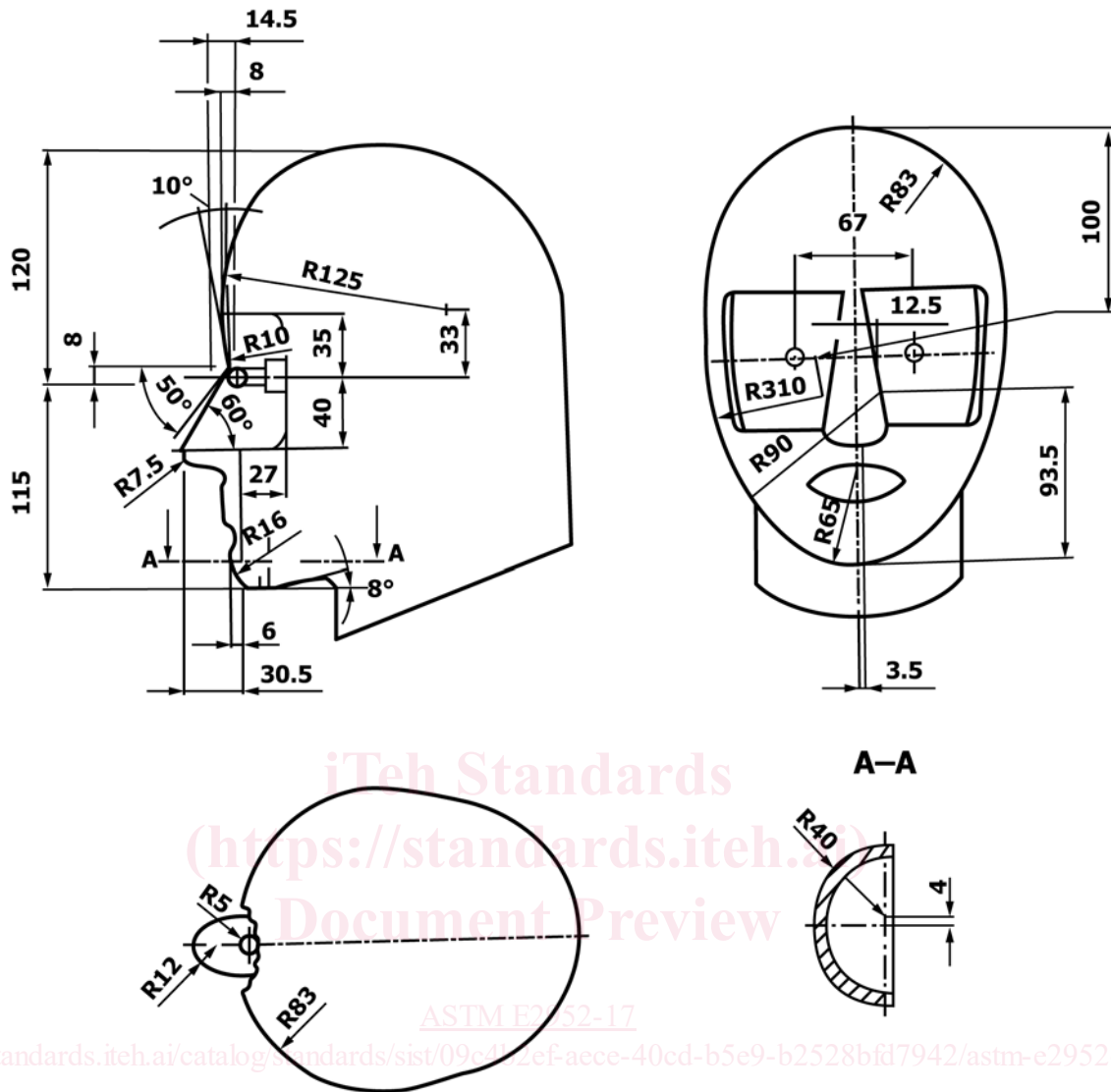


FIG. 3 Apertometer Head Form (Dimensions in mm)

7.7.1.3 The RPED in the ready-to-use configuration shall be completely immersed, without interfering with the operational packaging seal integrity, until it is firmly positioned at the bottom of the tub.

7.7.1.4 Once firmly in position, the RPED in the ready-to-use configuration shall remain in the water for 5 min.

7.7.1.5 Pass/fail shall be determined in accordance with 4.7.

7.7.2 *Burst Test (to be conducted for annual testing)*

7.7.2.1 The RPED in the ready-to-use configuration shall be pressurized until it bursts open in response to pressurization.

7.7.2.2 Pressurization shall be in accordance with the Standard Test Methods for Internal Pressurization Failure Resistance of Unrestrained Packages described in Test Methods F1140.

7.7.2.3 The pressure required to burst the package shall be recorded.

7.7.2.4 Pass/fail shall be determined in accordance with 4.7.4.

7.8 *Chemical Capacity Test:*

7.8.1 *Overview*—Paragraph 7.8 is intended to provide a description of chemical capacity test methods sufficient to allow a technician skilled in the art to perform laboratory testing to determine conformance with the chemical capacity requirements of this specification as outlined in 4.8. Each chemical challenge test shall be conducted within the general method guidelines outlined in 7.8.

7.8.2 *Challenge Gases and Conditions*—Random samples of RPED that are representative of the production process shall be tested against the challenge gases, concentrations, and conditions listed in Table 3 in accordance with the testing matrices in 8.3 and the test methods described herein.

7.8.3 *Challenge Test Flow Path:*

7.8.3.1 Delivery tubing, sample tubing, fittings, valves, chambers, and components in the challenge test flow path shall be designed to minimize pressure drop and shall be constructed of material that neither affects nor is affected by the challenge agent (for example, polyolefin, polytetrafluoroethylene [PTFE], glass, or stainless steel).