



# Standard Test Method for Relative Abrasiveness of Synthetic Turf Playing Surfaces<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F1015; 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 test method is applicable to both laboratory and field measurement of synthetic turf surfaces used for sports.

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

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, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.4 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*<sup>2</sup>

**C421** Test Method for Tumbling Friability of Preformed Block-Type and Preformed Pipe-Covering-Type Thermal Insulation

**E105** Practice for Probability Sampling of Materials

**E122** Practice for Calculating Sample Size to Estimate, With Specified Precision, the Average for a Characteristic of a Lot or Process

**F355** Test Method for Impact Attenuation of Playing Surface Systems, Other Protective Sport Systems, and Materials Used for Athletics, Recreation and Play

## 3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F08 on Sports Equipment, Playing Surfaces, and Facilities and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F08.65 on Artificial Turf Surfaces and Systems.

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<sup>2</sup> 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.

3.1.1 *synthetic turf playing surface*—a man-made playing surface incorporating artificial grass-like fibers.

3.1.2 *abrasiveness*—that property of a synthetic turf which causes material in moving contact with the turf surface to wear away.

3.1.3 *abrasiveness index*—a number equal to the weight lost in grams per foot of travel of a standard weighted friable foam set multiplied by 100, when the foam is pulled through a complete 1.8-m (6-ft) test cycle.

3.1.4 *foam friability index*—a number equal to the percent mass loss of foam when tested in accordance with the Procedure section of Test Method C421.

## 4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 Friable foam blocks are attached to a weighted platform which is pulled over the playing surface in a prescribed manner. The weight of foam abraded away determines the relative abrasiveness of the surface.

## 5. Significance and Use

5.1 Data obtained from the procedure of this test method are indicative of the relative abrasiveness of fabric or carpet type synthetic playing surfaces.

## 6. Apparatus

6.1 *Abrasiveness Test Platform*—A test platform is used to support the load on the friable foam material. The platform shall consist of a 20.3 by 20.3 cm (8.00 by 8.00 in.) square of 0.635-cm thick (0.25 in.) aluminum. Holes 0.635 cm in diameter shall be centered 0.635 cm from the midpoint of each edge to permit attachment of a suitable hook for pulling. Foam retaining strips, ¼ in. high by ½ in. wide, defining 2 by 2-in. squares, are attached at each corner (Fig. 1). The completed platform should weigh  $931 \pm 28$  g.

6.2 *Test Weight*—A flat-head (9.072-kg (20.00-lb)) missile as used in Test Method F355, Procedure A, can be used as a test weight. A suitable alternative weight is a steel cylinder about 15.2 cm (6.00 in.) in diameter and about 6.35 cm (2.50 in.) in height. The test weight is to be within 56 g (2 oz) of its specified weight.

6.3 *Pull Cable and Direction Changing Pulley*—A direction changing pulley attached to an operator foot restraint may be

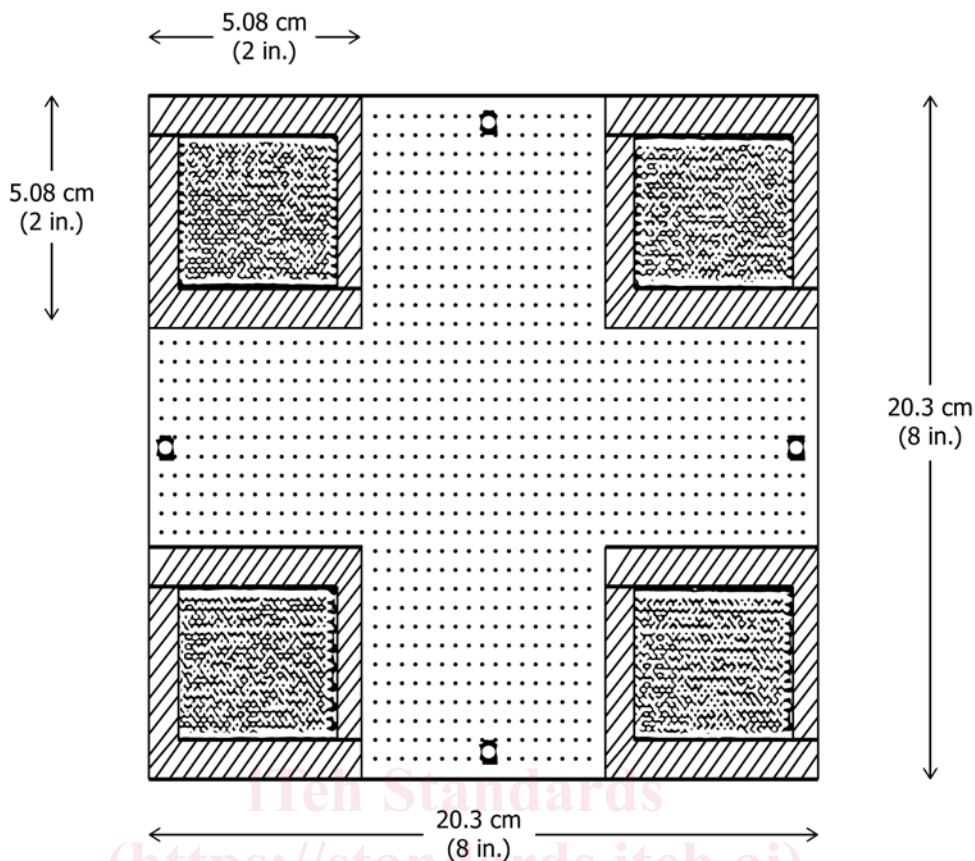


FIG. 1 Test Fixture

used to facilitate moving the loaded platform across the surface while keeping the pull cable parallel to the surface. The pull cable must not stretch under tension and must be equipped with a method of determining the distance pulled. For example, mechanical stops on either side of the direction changing pulley can be set to give the 45.7-cm (18-in.) pull length.

### 7. Test Foam<sup>3</sup>

7.1 The friable foam blocks used as the test material shall be rigid closed-cell isocyanurate foam having a bulk density of  $0.0312 \pm 0.0008 \text{ g/cm}^3$  ( $1.95 \pm 0.05 \text{ lb/ft}^3$ ). In addition, the test foam must have a mass loss of  $40 \pm 2 \%$  as measured by Test Method C421. Test blocks must be cut to 5.08 by 5.08 by 2.54 cm,  $-0.13 \text{ cm}$  (2.00 by 2.00 by 1.00 in.,  $-0.05 \text{ in.}$ ).

### 8. Test Specimen

8.1 Test specimens shall be representative of the playing surface being evaluated. Fabrics used over a shock-absorbing pad should be tested after bonding to that underpad.

8.2 In the case of field evaluation abrasiveness, measurements should be made in representative areas of the field or specific area of interest.

### 9. Number of Specimens

9.1 At least five specimens shall be tested and may be required. In the case of field evaluation, five tests shall be performed, and may be required, in the area of interest or over the entire playing surface depending on the intended data use.

9.2 The sampling procedures of Recommended Practices E105 and E122 should be followed and may be required.

### 10. Sample Conditioning

10.1 Field samples shall be under the intended use condition, although loose debris shall be removed prior to testing.

10.2 *Laboratory Samples*—New samples should be washed with detergent and water to remove any processing finish. These specimens shall be dried at laboratory conditions until moisture equilibrium is established. Other laboratory samples shall be preconditioned at  $65 \pm 2 \%$  relative humidity and  $21 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $70 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ) for a minimum of 4 h. Samples evaluated at conditions other than that of the laboratory must be tested immediately after a minimum of 4 h conditioning.

10.3 Condition test blocks in the laboratory for at least 4 h before use at  $65 \%$  relative humidity and  $21 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  ( $70 \pm 2^\circ\text{F}$ ).

<sup>3</sup> The sole source of supply of the test foam known to the committee at this time is American Micro Industries, Inc., 440 Ramsey Ave., Chambersburg, PA 17201, sales@americanmicroinc.com. If you are aware of alternative suppliers, please provide this information to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee,<sup>1</sup> which you may attend.