



ASTM INTERNATIONAL
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ASTM International Technical Committee D20 on Plastics

Scope

The development of test methods, specifications, recommended practices, nomenclature, definitions, and the stimulation of research relating to plastics, their raw materials, components, and compounding ingredients, and to finished products made from plastics such as sheets, rods, tubes, pipes, cellular materials, and molded or fabricated articles.

General Overview

The technical subcommittees of D20 collectively encompass four primary areas: test methods, materials, products, and special interest.

The test method development subcommittees work on the mechanical, thermal, optical, permanence and durability, and analytical properties of plastics. The materials subcommittees cover numerous types of plastics used by diverse industries, including cellular, olefin and reinforced plastics, thermoplastic and thermosetting materials, and film and sheeting. Product subcommittees address plastic building products (i.e., plastic lumber and vinyl siding) as well as recycled plastics and of environmentally degradable plastics and biobased products. Special interest subcommittees support the work of the technical subcommittees through such groups as statistics and terminology.

Key Documents

- D638 Standard Test Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics
- D790 Standard Test Methods for Flexural Properties of Unreinforced and Reinforced Plastics and Electrical Insulating Materials
- D882 Standard Test Method for Tensile Properties of Thin Plastic Sheeting
- D1435 Standard Practice for Outdoor Weathering of Plastics
- D3679 Standard Specification for Rigid Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Siding
- D6400 Standard Specification for Labeling of Plastics Designed to be Aerobically Composted in Municipal or Industrial Facilities
- D6866 Standard Test Methods for Determining the Biobased Content of Solid, Liquid, and Gaseous Samples Using Radiocarbon Analysis
- D7823 Standard Test Method for Determination of Low Level, Regulated Phthalates in Poly (Vinyl Chloride) Plastics by Thermal Desorption—Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry



Quick Facts

Established 1937
Number of Members 1,170+
Number of Standards 478
Global Participation
48 Countries represented
The standards are available in
Section 8 on Plastics *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*
Meetings D20 meets twice each year, in April and November

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Technical Subcommittees

- D20.09 Specimen Preparation
- D20.10 Mechanical Properties
 - D20.10.01 Quasi-Static Properties
 - D20.10.02 Impact and High Speed Properties
 - D20.10.15 Dynamic Mechanical Properties
 - D20.10.18 Surface Properties
 - D20.10.23 Residual Strain Measurement
 - D20.10.24 Fracture and Fatigue
 - D20.10.25 Engineering and Design
- D20.13 Statistical Methods
- D20.15 Thermoplastic Materials
 - D20.15.02 Acrylic Plastics
 - D20.15.03 Styrenic Plastics
 - D20.15.07 Vinyl Chloride Polymers
 - D20.15.09 Polyamides
 - D20.15.12 Fluoropolymers
 - D20.15.18 Polyoxymethylene Plastics
 - D20.15.21 Thermoplastic Polyesters
 - D20.15.25 Thermoplastic Elastomers
 - D20.15.26 Polyolefins
 - D20.15.97 Miscellaneous Standards
- D20.16 Thermosetting Materials
- D20.18 Reinforced Thermosetting Plastics
- D20.19 Film, Sheeting, and Molded Products
- D20.20 Plastic Lumber
- D20.22 Cellular Materials - Plastics and Elastomers
- D20.23 Reinforced Plastic Piping Systems and Chemical Equipment

Technical Subcommittees

- D20.24 Plastic Building Products
- D20.30 Thermal Properties
 - D20.30.03 Combustion Characteristics
 - D20.30.07 Fundamental Thermal Properties
 - D20.30.08 Thermal Processing Properties
- D20.40 Optical Properties
- D20.50 Durability of Plastics
- D20.61 US TAG ISO/TC-61 on Plastics
- D20.70 Analytical Methods
 - D20.70.01 Physical Methods
 - D20.70.02 Chromatography
 - D20.70.05 Molecular Parameters
 - D20.70.08 Spectroscopic Methods
- D20.90 Executive
 - D20.90.01 SECTION CHAIRMEN
- D20.92 Terminology
- D20.93 Advisory
- D20.94 Government/Industry Standardization
- D20.95 Recycled Plastics
 - D20.95.01 SPI Resin Code Section
- D20.96 Environmentally Degradable Plastics and Biobased Products

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