Designation: B 117 – 03

# Standard Practice for Operating Salt Spray (Fog) Apparatus[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B 117; 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.

*This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the Department of Defense.*

## 1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers the apparatus, procedure, and conditions required to create and maintain the salt spray (fog) test environment. Suitable apparatus which may be used is described in Appendix X1.

1.2 This practice does not prescribe the type of test specimen or exposure periods to be used for a specific product, nor the interpretation to be given to the results.

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. The inch-pound units in parentheses are provided for information and may be approximate.

1.4 *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:*

B 368 Method for Copper-Accelerated Acetic Acid-Salt Spray (Fog) Testing (CASS Test)[2]

D 609 Practice for Preparation of Cold-Rolled Steel Panels for Testing Paint, Varnish, Conversion Coatings, and Related Coating Products[3]

D 1193 Specification for Reagent Water[4]

D 1654 Test Method for Evaluation of Painted or Coated Specimens Subjected to Corrosive Environments[3]

E 70 Test Method for pH of Aqueous Solutions with the Glass Electrode[5]

E 691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method[6]

G 85 Practice for Modified Salt Spray (Fog) Testing[7]

## 3. Significance and Use

3.1 This practice provides a controlled corrosive environment which has been utilized to produce relative corrosion resistance information for specimens of metals and coated metals exposed in a given test chamber.

3.2 Prediction of performance in natural environments has seldom been correlated with salt spray results when used as stand alone data.

3.2.1 Correlation and extrapolation of corrosion performance based on exposure to the test environment provided by this practice are not always predictable.

3.2.2 Correlation and extrapolation should be considered only in cases where appropriate corroborating long-term atmospheric exposures have been conducted.

3.3 The reproducibility of results in the salt spray exposure is highly dependent on the type of specimens tested and the evaluation criteria selected, as well as the control of the operating variables. In any testing program, sufficient replicates should be included to establish the variability of the results. Variability has been observed when similar specimens are tested in different fog chambers even though the testing conditions are nominally similar and within the ranges specified in this practice.

## 4. Apparatus

4.1 The apparatus required for salt spray (fog) exposure consists of a fog chamber, a salt solution reservoir, a supply of suitably conditioned compressed air, one or more atomizing nozzles, specimen supports, provision for heating the chamber, and necessary means of control. The size and detailed construction of the apparatus are optional, provided the conditions obtained meet the requirements of this practice.

4.2 Drops of solution which accumulate on the ceiling or cover of the chamber shall not be permitted to fall on the specimens being exposed.

[1] This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee G01 on Corrosion of Metals and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee G01.05 on Laboratory Corrosion Tests.

Current edition approved October 1, 2003. Published October 2003. Originally approved in 1939. Last previous edition approved in 2002 as B 117 – 02.

[2] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 02.05.

[3] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 06.01.

[4] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 11.01.

[5] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 15.05.

[6] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 14.02.

[7] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 03.02.

Copyright © ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, PO Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959, United States.