



Standard Specification for Glass Fiber Reinforced Gypsum Composites¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers glass fiber reinforced gypsum (GRG) composites having minimum properties and quality suitable to allow the production of GRG parts for non-loading bearing, thin section, ornamental shapes for architectural embellishment of interior building construction.

1.2 The values stated in either inch-pound units or SI (metric) are to be regarded separately as standard. Within the text, the SI units are shown in brackets. The values stated in each system shall be independent of the other. Values from the two systems shall not be combined.

1.3 The text of this standard references footnotes which provide explanatory material. These footnotes shall not be considered as requirements of the standard.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

- C 11 Terminology Relating to Gypsum and Related Building Materials and Systems²
- C 472 Test Methods for Physical Testing of Gypsum, Gypsum Plasters, and Gypsum Concrete²
- C 473 Test Methods for Physical Testing of Gypsum Board Products and Gypsum Lath²
- C 947 Test Method for Flexural Properties of Thin-Section Glass Fiber Reinforced Concrete (Using Simple Beam with Third-Point Loading)³
- D 256 Test Methods for Determining the Pendulum Impact Resistance of Specimens of Plastics⁴
- D 578 Specification for Glass Fiber Strands⁵
- D 696 Test Method Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion of Plastics Between – 30°C and 30°C⁴
- D 2583 Test Method for Indentation Hardness of Rigid Plastics by Means of a Barcol Impresser⁶

E 84 Test Method for the Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials⁷

E 136 Test Method for the Behavior of Materials in a Vertical Tube Furnace at 750°C⁷

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*: Definitions of terms shall be in accordance with Terminology C 11.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *GRG composite, n*—a thin section laminate made from the combination of alpha gypsum cement, glass fiber, additives and water.

3.2.2 *GRG part, n*—an individual molded component used as architectural embellishment.

4. Materials and Manufacture

4.1 Materials:

4.1.1 *Alpha Gypsum Cement*—Alpha-calcium sulfate hemihydrate-plaster which is noncombustible, has a low water demand, neutral (pH) or low alkalinity, and a purity of not less than 90 % by weight of $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

4.1.2 *“E” Glass Fiber*—Chopped glass fiber strands or continuous strand mats of calcia-alumina silicate glasses conforming to Specification D 578.

4.1.3 *Water*—Potable water.

4.1.4 *Additives*—In accordance with the alpha gypsum cement manufacturer’s specifications.

4.2 Manufacturer’s Certification of Raw Materials:

4.2.1 *Alpha Gypsum Cement*—Each lot of alpha gypsum cement shall be certified to be in compliance with 4.1 and 5.1.

4.2.2 *Glass Fiber Reinforcement*—Each lot of glass fiber reinforcement shall be certified to be in compliance with Specification D 578.

4.3 Composite Preparation:

4.3.1 Prepare a flat, rectangular composite of sufficient size to obtain specimens required in 5.2. The composite prepared shall be the same formula as the intended GRG part.

5. Mechanical Properties

5.1 Neat Alpha Gypsum Cement:

5.1.1 Normal Consistency shall be not more than 30 when tested in accordance with Test Methods C 472.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C11 on Gypsum and Related Building Materials and Systems and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C11.01 on Specifications and Test Methods for Gypsum Products. Current edition approved Nov. 10, 1996. Published January 1997.

² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 04.01.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 04.05.

⁴ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 08.01.

⁵ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 07.01.

⁶ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 08.02.

⁷ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 04.07.