Designation: D 9 – 87 (Reapproved 1999)

Standard Terminology Relating to Wood[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 9; 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.

INTRODUCTION

The definitions contained herein constitute a lexicon of terms of general interest. Definitions in more specialized wood product or process use will be found in other standards. These include Practice D 245, Establishing Structural Grades and Related Allowable Properties for Visually Graded Lumber;[2] Terminology D 907, Adhesives;[3] Definitions D 1038, Terms Relating to Veneer and Plywood;[2] Nomenclature D 1165, Domestic Hardwoods and Softwoods;[2] Definitions D 1554, Terms Relating to Wood-Base Fiber and Particle Panel Materials;[2] Definitions F 547, Terms Relating to Nails for Use with Wood and Wood-Base Materials;[4] Methods D 2555, Establishing Clear-Wood Strength Values;[2] Definitions C 274, Terms Relating to Structural Sandwich Constructions.[5]

allowable properties—mechanical properties of materials as prepared for design use. Allocwable properties of wood are identified with stress-grade descriptions and reflect the orthotropic structure of wood. Often considered synonomous with allowable unit stresses, working stresses, and design stresses.

American softwood lumber standard—a voluntary product standard of the U. S. Department of Commerce which serves as a basis for the preparation and revision of industry-sponsored grading rules for lumber.

American standard lumber—lumber conforming to the basic provisions of the American Softwood Lumber Standard.

annual ring—the growth layer produced by the tree in a single growth year, including earlywood and latewood.

bark—the layer of a tree outside the cambium comprising the inner bark and the outer bark.

inner bark—the layer of living bark (phloem) that separates the outer bark from the cambium and which in the living tree generally is moist and soft.

outer bark—the layer of dead bark outside the inner bark, forming the exterior surface of the tree stem. The outer bark frequently is corky and dry.

bark product—an opening between annual growth rings that contains bark. Bark pockets appear as dark streaks on radial surfaces and as rounded areas on tangential surfaces.

basic stress *(archaic)*—the term once used for an allowable property for clear, straight-grained lumber.

batten—a narrow strip of lumber for covering the adjoining edges of roofing or siding, often designated as "batts."

birdseyes—small localized areas in wood with the fibers indented and otherwise contorted to form small circular or elliptical figures remotely resembling birds' eyes on the tangential surface. Common in sugar maple; rare in other hardwood species.

blemish—in grading lumber, anything marring the appearance. May not be classified as a defect.

board foot—a unit of measurement represented by a board 1 ft long, 1 ft wide, and 1 in. thick. Abbreviation ft. b.m.; bd. ft., fmb. In finished or surfaced lumber, the board-foot measure is based on the nominal size. In practice, the working unit is 1000 board feet. Abbreviation M bd. ft.; M B.M.; M B.F.

board measure—a unit of measurement of the volume in board feet of logs or lumber. Abbreviation B.M.

boards—See **lumber.**

bole—the stem or trunk of a tree of size sufficient to yield lumber, veneer, or poles.

bolt—(*1*) a short section of a tree trunk or limb;

(*2*) a short log of a length suitable for peeling in a lathe for veneer; and

(*3*) a short portion of a log prepared for production of shingles, staves, etc.

bow—the distortion of a piece of lumber in which there is a deviation in a direction perpendicular to the flat face from a straight line from end to end of the piece.

boxed heart—the term used when the pith falls entirely within the four faces of a piece of wood throughout its length.

boxed pith—See **boxed heart.**

brashness—a condition that causes some pieces of wood to be

[1] This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D-7 on Wood and are the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D07.91 on Technical Service.

Current edition approved March 9, 1987. Published April 1987. Originally published as D 9 – 29 T. Last previous edition D 9 – 86.

[2] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards,* Vol 04.10.

[3] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards,* Vol 15.06.

[4] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards,* Vol 15.08.

[5] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards,* Vol 15.03.

This document is now PUBLIC

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