



# Standard Terminology of Packaging and Distribution Environments<sup>1</sup>

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

## INTRODUCTION

The terms and definitions in this standard are grouped into related areas under principal concepts. The broad descriptor term for each group is followed in alphabetical order by narrower terms and related terms. Cross-references are included where the concept group is not obvious.

### 1. Scope

1.1 This terminology is a compilation of definitions of technical terms used in the packaging and distribution environments. Terms that are generally understood or adequately found in other readily available sources are not included.

1.2 A definition is a single sentence with additional information included in discussions.

1.3 Definitions that are identical to those published by another standards organization or ASTM committee are identified with the name of the organization or ASTM committee.

1.4 The definitions in this terminology are grouped into related areas under principal concepts. The broad descriptor term for each group is followed in alphabetical order by narrower terms and related terms. Cross-references are included where the concept group is not obvious.

1.5 Terminology related to flexible barrier packaging is found in Terminology [F17](#).

### 2. Referenced Documents

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

[C717](#) Terminology of Building Seals and Sealants

[D907](#) Terminology of Adhesives

[D1596](#) Test Method for Dynamic Shock Cushioning Characteristics of Packaging Material

[D3288](#) Test Methods for Magnet-Wire Enamels

[E176](#) Terminology of Fire Standards

[F17](#) Terminology Relating to Flexible Barrier Packaging

[G15](#) Terminology Relating to Corrosion and Corrosion Testing (Withdrawn 2010)<sup>3</sup>

#### 2.2 Federal Standard:

[PPP-F-320](#) Fiberboard, Corrugated and Solid, Sheet Stock (Container Grade), and Cut Shapes<sup>4</sup>

#### 2.3 Other Standards:

[Uniform Freight Classification Rule 30](#)<sup>5</sup>

[National Motor Freight Classification](#)<sup>6</sup>

### 3. Terminology

**absorbent packing**—See [packing](#) .

**adhesive, n**—a substance capable of holding materials together by surface attachment.

**DISCUSSION**—Adhesive is the general term and includes among others, cement, glue, mucilage, and paste. All of these terms are loosely used interchangeably. Various descriptive adjectives are applied to the term adhesive to indicate certain characteristics as follows: (1) Physical form, that is, liquid adhesive, tape adhesive, (2) Chemical type, that is, silicate adhesive, resin adhesive, (3) Materials bonded, that is, paper adhesive, metal-plastic adhesive, can label adhesive, and (4) Conditions of use, that is, hot-setting adhesive ([D907](#), D14).

**contact adhesive, n**—an adhesive that is apparently dry to the touch and that will adhere to itself instantaneously upon contact; also called contact bond adhesive or dry bond adhesive ([D907](#), D14).

**aerosol package**—See [package](#) .

<sup>1</sup> This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D10](#) on Packaging and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D10.11](#) on Terminology (definitions).

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<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

<sup>3</sup> The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org).

<sup>4</sup> Available from Superintendent of Documents, US Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

<sup>5</sup> Available from Uniform Classification Committee, 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606.

<sup>6</sup> Available from National Classification Board, 2200 Mill Road, Alexandria, VA 22314.