



Standard Terminology of Packaging and Distribution Environments¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 996; 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 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.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D 907 Terminology of Adhesives

D 1596 Test Method for Dynamic Shock Cushioning Characteristics of Package Materials

D 3288 Test Methods for Magnet Wire Enamels

E 176 Terminology of Fire Standards

G 15 Terminology Relating to Corrosion and Corrosion Testing

2.2 Federal Standard:

PPP-F-320 Fiberboard, Corrugated and Solid, Sheet Stock

(Container Grade), and Cut Shapes³

2.3 Other Standards:

Uniform Freight Classification Rule 30⁴

National Motor Freight Classification⁵

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 (D 907, D14).²

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 (D 907, D14).

aerosol package—See **package**.

ampoule, n—a hermetically sealed, small bulbous glass or plastic vessel. Opening is achieved by breaking the stem. (Also *ampule* or *ampul*.)

anchor, v—to secure firmly (*Webster*).

anti-skid plate—See **loading**.

available program, n—a qualifying term which can be used in the definition of recyclable, reusable, refillable, returnable, compostable, establishing limits; for example, by population

¹ This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D10 on Packaging and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D10.11 on Terminology (Definitions).

Current edition approved April 1, 2004. Published June 2004. Originally approved in 1948 as D 996 – 48 T. Last previous edition approved in 2002 as D 996 – 02.

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ Available from Superintendent of Documents, US Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

⁴ Available from Uniform Classification Committee, 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606.

⁵ Available from National Classification Board, 2200 Mill Road, Alexandria, VA 22314.

