



Designation: D1857/D1857M – 17a

Standard Test Method for Fusibility of Coal and Coke Ash¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D1857/D1857M; 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 U.S. Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the observation of the temperatures at which triangular pyramids (cones) prepared from coal and coke ash attain and pass through certain defined stages of fusing and flow when heated at a specified rate in controlled, mildly reducing, and where desired, oxidizing atmospheres.

1.2 The test method is empirical, and strict observance of the requirements and conditions is necessary to obtain reproducible temperatures and enable different laboratories to obtain concordant results.

1.3 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

1.3.1 All percentages are percent mass fractions unless otherwise noted.

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.*

1.5 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D05 on Coal and Coke and is the direct responsibility of D05.21 on Methods of Analysis.

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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.

D346 Practice for Collection and Preparation of Coke Samples for Laboratory Analysis

D2013 Practice for Preparing Coal Samples for Analysis

D3174 Test Method for Ash in the Analysis Sample of Coal and Coke from Coal

D3180 Practice for Calculating Coal and Coke Analyses from As-Determined to Different Bases

D3682 Test Method for Major and Minor Elements in Combustion Residues from Coal Utilization Processes

D4326 Test Method for Major and Minor Elements in Coal and Coke Ash By X-Ray Fluorescence

D6349 Test Method for Determination of Major and Minor Elements in Coal, Coke, and Solid Residues from Combustion of Coal and Coke by Inductively Coupled Plasma—Atomic Emission Spectrometry

D7448 Practice for Establishing the Competence of Laboratories Using ASTM Procedures in the Sampling and Analysis of Coal and Coke

D7582 Test Methods for Proximate Analysis of Coal and Coke by Macro Thermogravimetric Analysis

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.1.1 The critical temperature points to be observed are as follows:

3.1.2 *fluid temperature, FT*—the temperature at which the fused mass has spread out in a nearly flat layer with a maximum height of 1.6 mm [$1/16$ in.] as shown by the fifth cone, FT, in Fig. 1.

3.1.3 *hemispherical temperature, HT*—the temperature at which the cone has fused down to a hemispherical lump at which point the height is one half the width of the base as shown by the fourth cone, HT, in Fig. 1.

3.1.4 *initial deformation temperature, IT*—the temperature at which the first rounding of the apex of the cone occurs. Shrinkage or warping of the cone ignored if the tip remains sharp. In Fig. 1, the first cone shown is an unheated one; the second cone IT is a typical cone at the initial deformation stage.

3.1.5 *softening temperature, ST*—the temperature at which the cone has fused down to a spherical lump in which the height is equal to the width at the base as shown by the third cone, ST, in Fig. 1.