



Standard Test Method for Thermal Oxidation Stability of Aviation Turbine Fuels¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D3241; 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 Department of Defense.

^{ε1} NOTE—Removed all instances of the acronym for Jet Fuel Thermal Oxidation Tester editorially in April 2010.

1. Scope*

1.1 This test method covers the procedure for rating the tendencies of gas turbine fuels to deposit decomposition products within the fuel system.

1.2 The differential pressure values in mm Hg are defined only in terms of this test method.

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

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.* For specific warning statements, see 6.1.1, 7.2, 7.2.1, 7.3, 11.1.1, and Annex A3.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D1655 Specification for Aviation Turbine Fuels

D4306 Practice for Aviation Fuel Sample Containers for Tests Affected by Trace Contamination

E177 Practice for Use of the Terms Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods

E691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method

2.2 ISO Standards:³

ISO 3274 Geometrical Product Specifications (GPS)—

Surface Texture: Profile Method—Nominal Characteristics Of Contact (Stylus) Instruments

ISO 4288 Geometrical Product Specifications (GPS)—Surface Texture: Profile Method—Rules And Procedures For The Assessment Of Surface Texture

2.3 ASTM Adjuncts:⁴

Color Standard for Tube Deposit Rating

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.1.1 *deposits*—oxidative products laid down on the test area of the heater tube or caught in the test filter, or both.

3.1.1.1 *Discussion*—Fuel deposits will tend to predominate at the hottest portion of the heater tube, which is between the 30-mm and 50-mm position.

3.1.2 *heater tube*—an aluminum coupon controlled at elevated temperature, over which the test fuel is pumped.

3.1.2.1 *Discussion*—The tube is resistively heated and controlled in temperature by a thermocouple positioned inside. The critical test area is the thinner portion, 60 mm in length, between the shoulders of the tube. Fuel inlet to the tube is at the 0-mm position, and fuel exit is at 60 mm.

3.2 Abbreviations:

3.2.1 ΔP—differential pressure.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 This test method for measuring the high temperature stability of gas turbine fuels uses an instrument that subjects the test fuel to conditions that can be related to those occurring in gas turbine engine fuel systems. The fuel is pumped at a fixed volumetric flow rate through a heater, after which it enters a precision stainless steel filter where fuel degradation products may become trapped.

4.1.1 The apparatus uses 450 mL of test fuel ideally during a 2.5-h test. The essential data derived are the amount of deposits on an aluminum heater tube, and the rate of plugging

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.J0.03 on Combustion and Thermal Properties.

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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.

³ Available from International Organization for Standardization (ISO), 1 rue de Varembe, Case postale 56, CH-1211, Geneva 20, Switzerland, <http://www.iso.ch>.

⁴ Available from ASTM International Headquarters. Order Adjunct No. ADJD3241. Original adjunct produced in 1986.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard.