



Standard Practice for Sampling and Judging Quality of Solid Electrical Insulating Materials¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers procedures for obtaining data pertaining to the quality of a lot of electrical insulating material and for making a judgement whether the lot meets the requirements of a material specification.

1.2 This practice is not intended to define a producer's internal quality control procedures but is designed to determine the acceptability of all, or some portion, of a quantity of electrical insulating material that is available for inspection by the user of the material.

1.3 This practice is intended to be used in conjunction with an existing material specification that specifies property characteristic limits, acceptable quality level (AQL), standard test methods, and specific sampling instructions.

1.4 In the absence of a specification as described in 1.3, this practice may be used as a guide, after establishment of agreed-upon property characteristics, limits, AQL, standard test methods, and specific sampling instructions.

1.5 It is intended that this be a practice for inspection by attributes.

1.6 *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.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

E 300 Practice for Sampling Industrial Chemicals²

2.2 Military Standard:

MIL-STD-105D Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes³

2.3 Other Document:

ANSI/ASQC A2 -1987⁴

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *acceptance number, n*—the maximum allowable number of nonconformities for a given AQL and sample size (lot-sample size).

3.1.2 *acceptable quality level (AQL), n*— the maximum percent nonconforming which, for purposes of sampling inspection, is considered satisfactory as a process average.

3.1.3 *critical property, n*—a quantitatively measurable characteristic which is absolutely necessary to be met if a material or product is to provide satisfactory performance for the intended use.

3.1.3.1 *Discussion*—In some situations, specification requirements coincide with customer usage requirements. In other situations, they may not coincide, being either more or less stringent. More stringent sampling (for example, smaller AQL values) is usually used for measurement of characteristics which are considered critical. The selection of sampling plans is independent of whether the term *defect* or *nonconformity* is appropriate.

3.1.4 *defect, n*—a departure of a quality characteristic from its intended level, or state, that occurs with a severity sufficient to cause an associated product or service not to satisfy intended normal, or reasonably foreseeable, usage requirements.

3.1.4.1 *Discussion*—The terms *defect* and *nonconformity* and their derivatives are used somewhat interchangeably in the historical and current literature. *Nonconformity* objectively describes the comparison of test results to specification requirements, while the term *defect* has a connotation of predicting the failure of a product or service to perform its intended function in use. Since this latter connotation is often unintended, the term *nonconformity* is preferred in full consensus standards. The selection of any sample plan is independent of whether the term *defect* or *nonconformity* is appropriate.

The term *defect* may be appropriate for specifications mutually agreed upon by a producer and a user where specific use conditions are

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 15.05.

³ Available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, 732 North Capitol Street, NW, Mail Stop: SDE, Washington, D.C. 20401.

⁴ Available from American National Standards Institute, 11 W. 42nd St., 13th Floor, New York, NY 10036 or American Society for Quality Control, 310 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53203.

