Designation: D 4000 – 04

Standard Classification System for Specifying Plastic Materials[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 4000; 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.

1. Scope*

1.1 This standard provides a classification system for tabulating the properties of unfilled, filled, and reinforced plastic materials suitable for processing into parts.

NOTE 1—The classification system may serve many of the needs of industries using plastic materials. The standard is subject to revision as the need requires; therefore, the latest revision should always be used.

1.2 The classification system and subsequent line callout (specification) is intended to be a means of identifying plastic materials used in the fabrication of end items or parts. It is not intended for the selection of materials. Material selection should be made by those having expertise in the plastics field after careful consideration of the design and the performance required of the part, the environment to which it will be exposed, the fabrication process to be employed, the inherent properties of the material not covered in this document, and the economic factors.

1.3 This classification system is based on the premise that plastic materials can be arranged into broad generic families using basic properties to arrange the materials into groups, classes, and grades. A system is thus established which, together with values describing additional requirements, permits as complete a description as desired of the selected material.

1.4 In all cases where the provisions of this classification system would conflict with the referenced ASTM specification for a particular material, the latter shall take precedence.

NOTE 2—When using this classification system the two-letter, three-digit suffix system applies.

NOTE 3—When a material is used to fabricate a part where the requirements are too specific for a broad material callout, it is advisable for the user to consult the supplier to secure callout of the properties to suit the actual conditions to which the part is to be subjected.

1.5 *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:* [2]

D 149 Test Method for Dielectric Breakdown Voltage and Dielectric Strength of Solid Electrical Insulating Materials at Commercial Power Frequencies

D 150 Test Methods for A-C Loss Characteristics and Permittivity (Dielectric Constant) of Solid Electrical Insulating Materials

D 256 Test Method for Determining the Izod Pendulum Impact Resistance of Notched Specimens of Plastics

D 257 Test Methods for D-C Resistance or Conductance of Insulating Materials

D 395 Test Methods for Rubber Property—Compression Set

D 412 Test Methods for Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Rubbers and Thermoplastic Elastomers—Tension

D 471 Test Method for Rubber Property—Effect of Liquids

D 495 Test Method for High-Voltage, Low-Current, Dry Arc Resistance of Solid Electrical Insulation

D 569 Method for Measuring the Flow Properties of Thermoplastic Molding Materials

D 570 Test Method for Water Absorption of Plastics

D 573 Test Method for Rubber—Deterioration in an Air Oven

D 575 Test Methods for Rubber Properties in Compression

D 618 Practice for Conditioning Plastics for Testing

D 624 Test Method for Tear Strength of Conventional Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Elastomers

D 635 Test Method for Rate of Burning and/or Extent and Time of Burning of Self-Supporting Plastics in a Horizontal Position

D 638 Test Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics

D 648 Test Method for Deflection Temperature of Plastics

[1] This classification system is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D20 on Plastics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D20.94 on Government/Industry Standardization (Section D20.94.01).

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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.

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

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