



Classification System and Basis for Specification for Polyphenylene Ether (PPE) Materials¹

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1. Scope*

1.1 This classification system covers the basic polymers and copolymers known as polyphenylene ethers and polyphenylene oxides, as well as filled, modified, and reinforced versions. Recycled materials are included in this standard as Class 5 of Table PPE.

NOTE 1—Addition to the natural polymer or copolymer of pigments, colorants, or other additives can cause the final composition to no longer meet the requirements specified for the natural polymer or copolymer.

NOTE 2—The preferred abbreviation for polyphenylene ether is PPE, as noted in Terminology **D1600**.

1.2 This classification system and subsequent line callout (specification) are intended to provide a means of calling out 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 plastic 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 costs involved, and the inherent properties of the material other than those covered by this standard.

1.3 There may be other requirements necessary to identify particular characteristics important to specific applications. These are to be specified by using the suffixes described in Section 5.

1.4 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard.

NOTE 3—There is no known ISO equivalent to this standard.

¹ This classification system is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **D20** on Plastics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **D20.15** on Thermoplastic Materials.

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2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- D256** Test Methods for Determining the Izod Pendulum Impact Resistance of Plastics
 - D618** Practice for Conditioning Plastics for Testing
 - D638** Test Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics
 - D648** Test Method for Deflection Temperature of Plastics Under Flexural Load in the Edgewise Position
 - D790** Test Methods for Flexural Properties of Unreinforced and Reinforced Plastics and Electrical Insulating Materials
 - D792** Test Methods for Density and Specific Gravity (Relative Density) of Plastics by Displacement
 - D883** Terminology Relating to Plastics
 - D1600** Terminology for Abbreviated Terms Relating to Plastics
 - D3892** Practice for Packaging/Packing of Plastics
 - D4000** Classification System for Specifying Plastic Materials
 - D7209** Guide for Waste Reduction, Resource Recovery, and Use of Recycled Polymeric Materials and Products (Withdrawn 2015)³
 - E29** Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications
- ### 2.2 Underwriters Laboratories:
- UL 94** Standards for Tests for Flammability for Parts in Devices and Appliances⁴

3. Terminology

3.1 The terminology used in this classification is in accordance with Terminologies **D883** and **D1600**.

3.2 The polyphenylene ether materials will be designated PPE as specified in Terminology **D1600**.

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 The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

⁴ Available from Underwriters Laboratories (UL), 2600 N.W. Lake Rd., Camas, WA 98607-8542, <http://www.ul.com>.