



Standard Guide for Selection and Use of Flat Strapping Materials¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D4675; 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.

INTRODUCTION

This guide covers two common categories of flat strapping materials: steel and nonmetallic. Within each of these two broad categories there are distinct types that lend themselves in differing degrees to particular applications.

The goal of this guide is to help the user focus on the desired elements of performance or service, and the unique properties of each strapping material in order to judge which of these strapping products is best suited for the intended strapping application. For further information, consult with your strapping supplier, your carrier, and any packaging/loading regulations applicable to your products. It is of particular importance, for both safety and satisfactory performance, that the user informs the strapping supplier of all intended uses and usage conditions that may differ from industry custom and practice or from intended strapping applications. Likewise, the user needs to inform the strapping supplier of any practice of the user's carrier that the user believes may differ from any requirement or recommendation of the carrier's association or of any applicable ASTM or regulatory provisions. The user also should inform the strapping supplier of the following expected conditions: load, unit, or package characteristics (rigid, expanding, shrinking, or combination); severity of handling; nature of transport equipment; storage conditions (stacking height and weight); exposure to environmental conditions; extreme temperatures (particularly if prolonged outdoor exposure is anticipated); exposure to chemicals; exposure to abrasive surfaces; and exposure to sharp or pointed objects that can cause nicks, scratches, or holes in the strapping. There are other materials not covered by this guide, which may also offer acceptable solutions or may be used in conjunction with flat strapping to provide acceptable solutions for the user's intended application. Examples of accessories, such as, edge protectors, seal protectors, etc. are shown in Fig. 1.

Strapping may be recyclable but must never be reused. Contact your supplier for further information.

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