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Standard Specification for Rubber Household or Beautician Gloves¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers requirements for gloves made of rubber latex, unsupported and unlined, intended for household or beautician use.

1.2 This specification is intended to serve as a guide to permit obtaining gloves of consistent performance. The safe and proper use of gloves is excluded from the scope of this specification.

1.3 The following safety hazards caveat pertains only to the test method portion, Section 8, of this specification: *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety problems, 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:

D 412 Test Methods for Vulcanized Rubbers and Thermoplastic Rubbers and Thermoplastic Elastomers—Tension²

D 573 Test Method for Rubber—Deterioration in an Air Oven,²

D 865 Test Method for Rubber—Deterioration by Heating in Air (Test Tube Enclosure)²

D 3767 Practice for Rubber—Measurement of Dimensions²

D 5151 Test Method for Detection of Holes in Medical Gloves³

2.2 ISO Standard:

ISO 2859 Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes⁴

3. Materials and Manufacture

3.1 Any rubber or polymer compound that permits the glove to meet the requirements of this specification is acceptable.

4. Workmanship, Finish, and Appearance

4.1 The gloves shall have a uniform finish and be free of

discoloration, thin spots, air bubbles, embedded particles, tackiness, and other blemishes likely to affect serviceability.

5. Precautions

5.1 Performance requirements are limited to minimum physical properties initially, and after heat aging, performance testing for all possible use situations is impractical. Gloves covered under this specification are not intended for use with, or exposure to, chlorinated or aromatic solvents, or other strong chemicals.

6. Performance Requirements

6.1 Gloves, sampled in accordance with Section 7, shall meet the following requirements:

6.1.1 Free from holes when tested in accordance with 8.2,

6.1.2 Consistent design in accordance with 8.3,

6.1.3 Consistent physical dimensions in accordance with 8.4, and

6.1.4 Have acceptable physical property characteristics in accordance with 8.5.

7. Sampling and Inspection

7.1 For referee purposes, gloves shall be sampled and inspected in accordance with ISO 2859. The inspection levels and acceptable quality levels (AQL) shall conform to those in Table 1, or as agreed upon between the purchaser and the seller, if the latter is more comprehensive.

8. Test Methods

8.1 The following tests shall be conducted to assure the requirements of Section 6, as prescribed in Table 1.

8.2 *Freedom From Holes*—Testing for freedom from holes shall be conducted in accordance with Test Method D 5151.

8.2.1 Manufacturers may use process controls for hole detection but for qualification and referee testing, the test method described in 8.2 shall be used.

8.3 *Design*—The glove surface may be smooth or textured, with or without a pattern on the finger surface, and the glove may have a rolled, natural edge or cut cuff. In any case, the gloves shall be furnished as pairs (right hand, left hand) and matched in design.

8.4 Physical Dimensions Test:

8.4.1 The gloves shall comply with the dimension requirements prescribed in Table 2. The length shall be expressed in millimetres as measured from the tip of the second finger to the outside edge of the cuff.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D-11 on Rubber and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D11.40 on Consumer Rubber Products.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 09.01.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 09.02.

⁴ Available from American National Standards Institute, 11 W. 42nd St., 13th Floor, New York, NY 10036.