



Standard Test Methods for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Determination of the Isocyanate Content of Aromatic Isocyanates¹

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1. Scope*

1.1 These test methods are used to measure the isocyanate content of aromatic isocyanates used as polyurethane raw materials.

1.1.1 *Test Method A*—Unheated toluene-dibutylamine determines the toluene diisocyanate content, the amine equivalent and the isocyanate content of refined toluene-2,4-diisocyanate and toluene-2,6-diisocyanate, or mixtures of the two. Other isomers, if present, will be included in the determination. This test method is also applicable to other isocyanates of suitable reactivity and solubility.

1.1.2 *Test Method B*—Heated toluene-dibutylamine determines the amine equivalent and the isocyanate content of crude or modified isocyanates derived from toluene diisocyanate, methylene di-(4-phenylisocyanate) and polymeric (methylene phenylisocyanate).

1.1.3 *Test Method C*—Unheated trichlorobenzene-toluene-dibutylamine determines the amine equivalent and the isocyanate content of crude or modified isocyanates derived from toluene diisocyanate, methylene-di-(4-phenylisocyanate) and polymeric (methylene phenylisocyanate).

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.3 *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, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

NOTE 1—Method C of this test method is equivalent to Method B of ISO 14896.

1.4 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recom-*

mendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D883 Terminology Relating to Plastics

D1193 Specification for Reagent Water

E180 Practice for Determining the Precision of ASTM Methods for Analysis and Testing of Industrial and Specialty Chemicals (Withdrawn 2009)³

E456 Terminology Relating to Quality and Statistics

E691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method

E2935 Practice for Conducting Equivalence Testing in Laboratory Applications

2.2 ISO Standard:

ISO 14896 Polyurethane Raw Materials-Determination of Isocyanate Content

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Terms used in this standard are defined in accordance with Terminology D883, unless otherwise specified. For terms relating to precision and bias and associated issues, the terms used in this standard are defined in accordance with Terminology E456.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *amine equivalent*—the weight of sample that will combine with 1.0-g equivalent weight of dibutylamine.

3.2.2 *assay*—the percent by weight of toluene diisocyanate present in the sample.

3.2.3 *isocyanate (NCO) content*—the percent by weight of NCO groups present in the sample.

4. Summary of Test Methods

4.1 In all three test methods, the isocyanate sample is reacted with an excess amount of dibutylamine to form the

¹ These test methods are under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D20 on Plastics and are the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D20.22 on Cellular Materials - Plastics and Elastomers.

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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.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.