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

Designation: D5229/D5229M – 14$^{\varepsilon 1}$

Standard Test Method for Moisture Absorption Properties and Equilibrium Conditioning of Polymer Matrix Composite Materials[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D5229/D5229M; 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.

ε[1] NOTE—The appearance of some of the section references was updated and other editorial changes were made throughout in February 2019.

INTRODUCTION

Consistent evaluation and comparison of the response of polymer matrix composites to moisture absorption can only be performed when the material has been brought to a uniform through-the-thickness moisture profile. The procedures described in Test Method D570 and Practices D618 do not guarantee moisture equilibrium of the material. A similar, but more rigorous, procedure for conditioning to equilibrium is described by this test method, which can also be used with fluid moisture other than water, and which, additionally, can provide the moisture absorption properties necessary for the analysis of single-phase Fickian moisture diffusion within such materials.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers a procedure for the determination of moisture absorption or desorption properties in the through-the-thickness direction for single-phase Fickian solid materials in flat or curved panel form. Also covered are procedures for conditioning test coupons prior to use in other test methods; either to an essentially moisture-free state, to equilibrium in a standard laboratory atmosphere environment, or to equilibrium in a non-laboratory environment. Also included are procedures for determining the moisture loss during elevated temperature testing, as well as moisture loss resulting from thermal exposure after removal from the conditioning environment, such as during strain gauge bonding. While intended primarily for laminated polymer matrix composite materials, these procedures are also applicable to other materials that satisfy the assumptions of 1.2.

1.2 The calculation of the through-the-thickness moisture diffusivity constant in Procedure A assumes a single-phase Fickian material with constant moisture absorption properties through the thickness of the specimen. The validity of the equations used in Procedure A for evaluating the moisture diffusivity constant in a material of previously unknown moisture absorption behavior is uncertain prior to the test, as the test results themselves determine if the material follows the single-phase Fickian diffusion model. A reinforced polymer matrix composite material tested below its glass-transition temperature typically meets this requirement, although two-phase matrices such as toughened epoxies may require a multi-phase moisture absorption model. While the test procedures themselves may be used for multi-phase materials, the calculations used to determine the moisture diffusivity constant in Procedure A are applicable only to single-phase materials. Other examples of materials and test conditions that may not meet the requirements are discussed in Section 6.

1.3 The evaluation by Procedure A of the moisture equilibrium content material property does not assume, and is therefore not limited to, single-phase Fickian diffusion behavior.

1.4 The procedures used by this test method may be performed, and the resulting data reduced, by suitable automatic equipment.

1.5 This test method is consistent with the recommendations of CMH-17 Rev G (**1**),[2] which describes the desirable attributes of a conditioning and moisture property determination procedure.

1.6 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in

[1] This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D30 on Composite Materials and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D30.04 on Lamina and Laminate Test Methods.

Current edition approved May 15, 2014. Published May 2014. Originally approved in 1992. Last previous edition approved in 2012 as D5229/D5229M – 12. DOI: 10.1520/D5229_D5229M-14E01.

[2] The boldface numbers in parentheses refer to the list of references at the end of this standard.

Copyright © ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, PO Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959. United States