



Standard Practice for Separation and Examination of Stickies¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D6148; 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.

1. Scope

1.1 This practice is applicable to a wide range of virgin pulps or pulps derived from recovered materials or recovered paper of the type typically used to produce paper, paperboard and other paper products.

1.2 This practice describes laboratory procedures whereby stickies are typically separated from pulp fibers, and then the separated stickies fraction is examined by qualitative or quantitative procedures, or both.

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

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D585 Practice for Sampling and Accepting a Single Lot of Paper, Paperboard, Fiberboard, and Related Product
D1968 Terminology Relating to Paper and Paper Products
D2019 Test Method for Dirt in Paper and Paperboard
E122 Practice for Calculating Sample Size to Estimate, With Specified Precision, the Average for a Characteristic of a Lot or Process

2.2 TAPPI Documents³

T 205 Forming Handsheets for Physical Testing of Pulp
T 210 Sampling and Testing Wood Pulp Shipments for Moisture
T 412 Moisture in Pulp, Paper and Paperboard

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D06 on Paper and Paper Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D06.92 on Standard Documents Relating to Paper and Paper Products.

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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 Available from Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry (TAPPI), 15 Technology Parkway South, Norcross, GA 30092, http://www.tappi.org.

UM 242 Shive Content in Mechanical Pulp (Somerville Fractionator)

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 Definitions used in this practice are those found in Terminology D1968 or the *Dictionary of Paper*.³

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *stickies, n*—particulate, generally non-fibrous, contaminants suspended in pulps of the type used in papermaking which adhere to themselves, other components of the paper structure, components of the papermaking machinery, and in the case where the contaminants are incorporated into finished paper or paper products, cause the unexpected and generally undesirable adherence one to another of units of the finished paper or paper product.

3.2.1.1 *Discussion*—The suspended particulate contaminants are usually of low specific gravity and include, but are not limited to, residual materials such as adhesives and coating residues, films, tapes, rubber-like particles, inks, and hydrolysis products of synthetic sizing materials.

4. Summary of Practice

4.1 A slurry of pulp fibers, after mechanical disintegration if necessary, is placed in a separatory device in contact with a plate or screen of defined area having openings of specified number and size.

4.1.1 The characteristics of the plate or screen shall be such that the stickies contaminants are separated from papermaking fibers at an efficiency required to differentiate and discriminate between test materials that are known to contain different levels of stickies, or that have been found to exhibit different performance in the papermaking process due to the levels of stickies incorporated within them.

4.1.2 In some separatory devices, the slurry is recirculated in contact with the plate or screen within the separator device to achieve stickies separation. In other devices, stickies remaining on the plate or screen are washed free from the plate or screen with a supply of fresh water, or mechanically removed with tweezers or a similar device. Sometimes both procedures occur.