



Designation: D 6883 – 03a

## Standard Practice for Manual Sampling of Stationary Coal from Railroad Cars, Barges, Trucks, or Stockpiles<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 6883; 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 covers procedures for obtaining a manual gross sample from beneath the surface of coal in railroad cars, barges, trucks, or stockpiles. These procedures are to be used to provide gross samples for estimating the quality of the coal. The gross samples are to be crushed, divided, and further prepared for analysis in accordance with Practice D 2013.

1.2 This practice provides instruction for sampling beneath the exposed surface coal to a depth of approximately 61 cm (24 in.). Samples are collected at this depth to get below the surface of the material, ~~where since drying and oxidation may have occurred at, or near the surface. Change in moisture, in particle size, and in other properties continue to avoid collecting increments that are significantly different from occur deeper in the majority of the lot of coal being sampled due and, although not as drastic as near the surface, will cause the method to environmental effects, be biased.~~ The user is cautioned that samples so obtained do not represent material beyond should review the point conditions of the coal (weather conditions, prior transport, settling time, and so forth, see 8.1) so that the interested parties can agree that potential biases are not overly great or that some adjustment in specifications is warranted. Sample increments collected from the surface layer(s) of coal in railroad cars, barges, or stockpiles are classified condition “D” (see Practice D 2234 section 6, Increment Collection Classification). It is a good practice to require that “details of sampling procedure shall be agreed upon in advance by all parties concerned” whenever collection of sample increments falls under condition “D.” This practice offers a sampling procedure that parties may use to meet requirements of Practice D 2234 for condition “D.” The practice does not produce samples that satisfy precision requirements of Practice D 2234 general-purpose sampling, or Practice D 2234 special-purpose sampling.

1.3 The user is cautioned that samples of this type do not satisfy the minimum requirements for probability sampling and as such cannot be used to draw statistical inferences such as precision, standard error, or bias.

1.4 This sampling method is intended for use only when sampling by more reliable methods that provide a probability sample is not possible.

1.5 The quantities stated in either acceptable SI units or in inch-pound units are regarded separately as standard. The quantities stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system must be used independently of the other, without combining quantities in any way.

1.6 *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.*

<sup>1</sup> This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D05 on Coal and Coke and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D05.23 on Sampling. Current edition approved April 10, Oct. 1, 2003. Published May October 2003. Originally approved in 2003. Last previous edition approved in 2003 as D6883-03.