



Standard Practice for Sampling and Sample Preparation of Iron Ores and Related Materials for Determination of Chemical Composition and Physical Properties¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers procedures for mechanical sampling of iron ores and related materials in a falling stream or stopped-belt sampling and preparing the gross sample to the various test samples required for each characteristic to be measured. Included as Annexes are (1) design criteria to prevent bias, (2) statistical methods to determine quality variation and precisions of sampling and division, and (3) a method for comparing two sampling procedures for possible systematic differences.

1.2 *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.* Specific precautionary statements are given in Section 8.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

E135 Terminology Relating to Analytical Chemistry for Metals, Ores, and Related Materials

E276 Test Method for Particle Size or Screen Analysis at No. 4 (4.75-mm) Sieve and Finer for Metal-Bearing Ores and Related Materials

E279 Test Method for Determination of Abrasion Resistance of Iron Ore Pellets and Sinter by the Tumbler Test

E389 Test Method for Particle Size or Screen Analysis at No. 4 (4.75-mm) Sieve and Coarser for Metal-Bearing Ores and Related Materials

E882 Guide for Accountability and Quality Control in the Chemical Analysis Laboratory

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **E01** on Analytical Chemistry for Metals, Ores, and Related Materials and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **E01.02** on Ores, Concentrates, and Related Metallurgical Materials.

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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.

E1072 Test Method for Low Temperature Breakdown of Iron Ores (Withdrawn 1995)³

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—For definitions of terms used in this test method, refer to Terminology **E135**.

3.1.1 *nominal topsize—in sampling*, the opening of the screen of the standard series that would pass 95 % of a representative sample.

3.1.2 *precision*—a measure of reproducibility of test results, using the same equipment and method, statistically derived from multiple data expressed at 95 % confidence level.

4. Summary of Practice

4.1 The precision required for the sampling and sample preparation steps is calculated based on the objectives of the testing, resulting in a sampling plan specifying the minimum masses and number of increments required for each step in the procedure. Samples are then collected, dried, blended, divided, crushed, pulverized, and ground as required by the test methods to be utilized.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 This practice is to be used for sampling and sample preparation of iron ores and related materials, prior to use of a referee method for testing for compliance with compositional specifications for metal content or physical properties. It is assumed that all who use this procedure will be trained analysts capable of performing common laboratory practices skillfully and safely. It is expected that work will be performed in a properly equipped laboratory and that proper waste disposal procedures will be followed. Appropriate quality control practices must be followed, such as those described in Guide **E882**.

5.2 Adequate methods for obtaining representative samples for testing the chemical and physical properties of a consignment of iron ore are essential. The sale and use are dependent on the chemical or physical properties, or both, of an ore.

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