



Designation: E 1740 – 012

An American National Standard

Standard Test Method for Determining the Heat Release Rate and Other Fire-Test-Response Characteristics of Wallcovering Composites Using a Cone Calorimeter¹

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INTRODUCTION

This test method provides a means for measuring the fire-test-response characteristics of wallcoverings and wallcovering composites using a bench-scale oxygen consumption calorimeter.

1. Scope

1.1 This fire-test-response test method covers determination of the ignitability and heat release rate of composites consisting of a wallcovering, a substrate, and all laminating adhesives, coatings, and finishes. Heat release information cannot be used alone to evaluate the flammability of wallcoverings. The data are intended to be used for modeling or with other data to evaluate a material.

1.2 This test method provides for measurement of the time to sustained flaming, heat release rate, peak and total heat release, and effective heat of combustion at a constant radiant heat flux of 35 kW/m². Heat release data at different heating fluxes are also obtained by this test method. The specimen is oriented horizontally, and a spark ignition source is used.

1.3 The fire-test-response characteristics are determined using the apparatus and procedures described in Test Method E 1354.

1.4 The tests are conducted on bench-scale specimens combining the components used in the actual installation.

1.5 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard; see Practice E 380.

1.6 Fire testing of products and materials is inherently hazardous, and adequate safeguards for personnel and property shall be used in conducting these tests. This test method potentially involves hazardous materials, operations, and equipment.

1.7 *This standard is used to measure and describe the response of materials, products, or assemblies to heat and flame under controlled conditions, but does not by itself incorporate all factors required for fire hazard or fire risk assessment of the materials, products, or assemblies under actual fire conditions.*

1.8 *Fire testing of products and materials is inherently hazardous, and adequate safeguards for personnel and property shall be employed in conducting these tests. This test method may involve hazardous materials, operations, and equipment. Specific information about hazard is given in Section 6.*

1.9 *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:

C 1186 Specification for Flat Non-Asbestos Fiber-Cement Sheets²

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E05 on Fire Standards and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E05.15 on Furnishings and Contents.

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