



Standard Test Method for Evaluating the Fire-Test-Response of Deck Structures to Burning Brands¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E2726/E2726M; 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 test method determines the fire-test-response characteristics of deck structures attached to or in close proximity to primary structures. The burning brand exposures test is intended to determine the degradation modes of decking materials when exposed to a burning brand on the upper surface of a deck structure.

1.2 The use of paints, coatings, stains, or other surface treatments for fire protection purposes are beyond the scope of this test method. This test method excludes the use of paints, stains, or coatings for this fire-test-response determination.

1.3 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

1.4 *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.*

1.5 *Fire testing of products and materials is inherently hazardous. Adequate safeguards for personnel and property shall be employed in conducting these tests.*

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.*

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E05 on Fire Standards and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E05.14 on External Fire Exposures.

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2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D2898 Practice for Accelerated Weathering of Fire-Retardant-Treated Wood for Fire Testing

D6662 Specification for Polyolefin-Based Plastic Lumber Decking Boards

D7032 Specification for Establishing Performance Ratings for Wood-Plastic Composite Deck Boards and Guardrail Systems (Guards or Handrails)

E84 Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials

E108 Test Methods for Fire Tests of Roof Coverings

E176 Terminology of Fire Standards

2.2 ICC Evaluation Services, Inc.:³

AC 109 Acceptance Criteria for Thermoplastic Composite Lumber Products

AC 174 Acceptance Criteria for Deck Board Span Ratings and Guardrail Systems (Guards and Handrails)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—For definitions of terms used in this test method, refer to Terminology E176.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *deck structure, n*—exterior structures comprised of deck boards or panels, stair treads, risers, and landings of decks, porches, and balconies.

3.2.2 *test material, n*—members that constitute the exposed surface of the deck structures.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 This test method is intended to establish the test protocol for decking materials and systems. This test method is intended

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 International Code Council Evaluation Service, 5600 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA.