

Standard Guide for Visual Inspection of Electrical Protective Rubber Products¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 1236; 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 The purpose of this guide is to present methods and techniques for the visual inspection of electrical protective rubber products. This guide also includes descriptions and photographs of irregularities found in these products.

NOTE 1—It is not the purpose of this guide to establish the acceptance level of any irregularity described herein. That shall be established by the standard for each product.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The SI units in parentheses are for information only.

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:*

F 496 Specification for In-Service Care of Insulating Gloves and Sleeves²

F 819 Definitions of Terms Relating to Electrical Protective Equipment for Workers²

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 *abrasions and scratches*—surface damage that normally occurs when a product makes contact with an abrasive surface. Scuff-like damage can also occur from a brush contact with a hot object such as a soldering iron. This can sometimes look like the graining on leather (see Fig. 1 and Fig. 2).

3.1.2 *age cracks*—surface cracks that may look like the crazing of glazed ceramics and become progressively worse with time. It is normally a slow oxidation process caused by exposure to sunlight and ozone in the atmosphere and starts in areas of the rubber that are under stress (see Fig. 3).



FIG. 1 Abrasion

3.1.3 *breakdown*—the electrical discharge or arc occurring between the electrodes and through the equipment being tested (see Fig. 4).

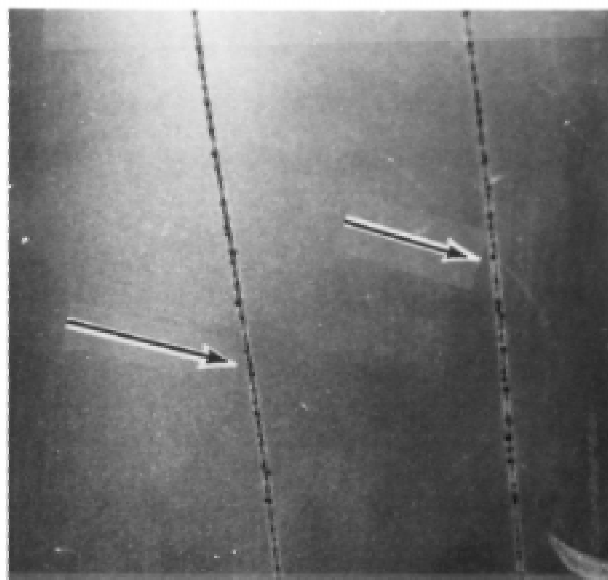


FIG. 2 Scratches

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F18 on Electrical Protective Equipment for Workers and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F18.60 on Terminology.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 10.03.