Designation: F 1471 – 93 (Reapproved 2001)

Standard Test Method for Air Cleaning Performance of a High-Efficiency Particulate Air Filter System[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 1471; 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 covers the procedure and equipment for measuring the penetration of test particles through high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter systems using a laser aerosol spectrometer (LAS). This test method provides the capability of evaluating the overall effectiveness of HEPA filter systems consisting of one or two filter stages.

1.2 The aerosols used for testing have a heterodisperse size distribution in the submicrometer diameter range from 0.1 to 1.0 µm.

1.3 The purpose for conducting in-place filter testing by this test method is in the ability to determine penetration of multi-stage installations, without individual stage tests. Particle penetration as low as 10^{-8} can be measured by this test method. Also, the LAS provides a measure of penetration for discrete particle sizes.

1.4 Maximum penetration for an installed HEPA filter system is 5×10^{-4} for one filter stage, and 2.5×10^{-7} for two stages in series is recommended.

NOTE 1—Acceptance penetration criteria must be specified in the program, or owners specifications. The penetration criteria suggested in this test method is referenced in Ref **(1)**.[2]

1.5 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard.

1.6 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety problems, 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 9.6.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*

F 328 Practice for Calibration of an Airborne Particle Counter Using Monodisperse Spherical Particles[3]

2.2 *Military Standard:*

MIL-STD 282 Military Standard Filter Units, Protective Clothing, Gas Mask Components, and Related Products: Performance Test Method[4]

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 *diluter*—a device used to reduce the aerosol particle concentration to eliminate coincidence counting is in the LAS.

3.1.2 *dilution ratio*—the ratio of the undiluted aerosol particle concentration entering the diluter to the diluted portion of the particle concentration. Because diluters have inherent particle losses that may vary according to the particle size, the dilution ratio may not be constant with respect to size.

3.1.3 *laser aerosol spectrometer (LAS)*—a precision particle detector that allows single particle counting and sizing by the amount of scattered light from individual particles, where the signals can be grouped into categories corresponding to particle size.

3.1.4 *penetration*—the number of particles passing through the filter stage, to the number of particles challenging the upstream side of the filter stage. The penetration, or the challenge aerosol, may be associated for each particle size of interest.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 A challenge aerosol produced by Di(2-Ethylhexyl) Sebacate (DOS) or Di(2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate (DOP) is injected upstream of the filter system and allowed to mix with the airstream. Using a LAS, samples of the aerosol are collected from the airstream through probes, both upstream and downstream of the filter system. With this test method, the penetration of the filter system can be calculated either as a function of particle size, or in a particular size of interest. Due to high particle concentrations that may be required to evaluate the performance of HEPA filter systems, it may become necessary

[1] This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D22 on Sampling and Analysis of Atmospheres and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D22.09 on ISO TAG for ISO/TC 146.

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[2] The boldface numbers in parentheses refer to a list of references at the end of this standard.

[3] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 14.02.

[4] Available from Standardization Documents Order Desk, Bldg. 4 Section D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094, Attn: NPODS.

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