



Standard Specification for Engineered Wood Fiber for Use as a Playground Safety Surface Under and Around Playground Equipment¹

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INTRODUCTION

The need for a systematic means of evaluating engineered wood fiber for use as a playground safety surface from the standpoint of particle size, consistency, purity, and ability to drain, has become a growing concern of the designers, operators, and manufacturers of engineered wood fiber systems. There has been no qualitative method to assess these parameters of engineered wood fiber (that is, particle size, consistency, purity, and ability to drain) to ensure its quality. Therefore, the goal of this specification is to establish a uniform means to measure the characteristics of engineered wood fiber in order to provide the potential buyer with performance specifications to select an engineered wood fiber suitable to meet the needs of playground designers, operators and manufacturers.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification establishes minimum characteristics for those factors that determine particle size, consistency, purity, and ability to drain.

1.2 Engineered wood fiber that meets the requirements of this specification must comply with Specification **F1292**, if the surface is in the use zone as defined in Specification **F1487**.

1.3 A sample of wood fiber that meets the requirements of this specification may be designated engineered wood fiber and be suitable for playground safety surfacing.

1.4 This specification does not imply that an injury cannot be incurred if the engineered wood fiber complies with this specification.

1.5 To meet the requirements of this specification, the material shall perform as follows:

1.5.1 The material shall meet particle size requirements.

1.5.2 The material shall meet the requirement for metal particles.

1.5.3 The material shall meet the allowable heavy metal concentrations considered hazardous to children.

1.5.4 The material shall meet the requirements of Specification **F1292**.

1.6 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values in parentheses are mathematical

conversions. SI units, which are provided for information, are not considered the standard, except in **8.4**.

1.7 **Warning**—Mercury has been designated by EPA and many state agencies as a hazardous material that can cause central nervous system, kidney, and liver damage. Mercury, or its vapor, may be hazardous to health and corrosive to materials. Caution should be taken when handling mercury and mercury-containing products. See the applicable product Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for details and EPA's website (<http://www.epa.gov/mercury/faq.htm>) for additional information. Users should be aware that selling mercury or mercury-containing products, or both, in your state may be prohibited by state law.

1.8 The following precautionary statement pertains to the test method portions only, in **7.4**, **8.4**, and **9.4** of this specification: *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*:²

C136 Test Method for Sieve Analysis of Fine and Coarse Aggregates

D1193 Specification for Reagent Water

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **F08** on Sports Equipment, Playing Surfaces, and Facilities and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **F08.63** on Playground Surfacing Systems.

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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.