



Standard Test Method for Galling Resistance of Materials¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers a laboratory test which ranks the galling resistance of material couples. Most galling studies have been conducted on bare metals and alloys; however, non-metallics, coatings, and surface modified alloys may also be evaluated by this test method.

1.2 This test method is not designed for evaluating the galling resistance of material couples sliding under lubricated conditions because galling usually will not occur under lubricated sliding conditions using this test method.

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:*

G 40 Terminology Relating to Wear and Erosion²

G 83 Test Method for Wear Testing with a Crossed-Cylinder Apparatus²

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definition: Definition used in this test method is given in Terminology G 40.*

3.1.1 *galling*—a form of surface damage arising between sliding solids, distinguished by macroscopic, usually localized, roughening and creation of protrusions above the original surface; it often includes plastic flow or material transfer, or both.

3.1.1.1 *Discussion*—The onset of galling usually requires that the contact pressure exceeds some threshold value. Galling can be a precursor to seizing or loss of function. The identification of galling is somewhat subjective, and complete agreement does not exist, even among experts.

3.2 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.2.1 *threshold galling stress*—the stress midway between the highest non-galled stress and the lowest galled stress as determined by this test method.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 This test method uses available laboratory equipment capable of maintaining a constant, compressive load between two flat specimens, such as hydraulic or screw feed compression testing machines. One specimen is slowly rotated one revolution 360° relative to the other specimen. The surfaces are examined for galling after sliding. The criterion for whether galling occurs is the appearance of the specimens based on unassisted visual examination. If the specimens have not galled, a new set of specimens is tested at increased load. This process is continued until galling occurs.

4.2 Appropriate load intervals are chosen to determine the threshold galling stress within an acceptable range.

4.3 The higher the threshold galling stressing, the more galling resistant is the test couple.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 This test method is designed to rank material couples in their resistance to the failure mode caused by galling and not merely to classify the surface appearance of sliding surfaces.

5.2 This test method should be considered when damaged (galled) surfaces render components non-serviceable. Experience has shown that galling is most prevalent in sliding systems that are slow moving and operate intermittently. The galling and seizure of threaded components is a classic example which this test method most closely simulates.

5.3 Other galling-prone examples include: sealing surfaces of valve trim which may leak excessively due to galling; and pump wear rings that may function ineffectively due to galling.

5.4 If the equipment continues to operate satisfactorily and loses dimension gradually, then mechanical wear should be evaluated by a different test such as the crossed cylinder Test Method (see Test Method G 83). Chain belt pins and bushings are examples of this type of problem.

5.5 This test method should not be used for quantitative or final design purposes since many environmental factors influence the galling performance of materials in service. Lubrication, alignment, stiffness and geometry are only some of the factors that can affect how materials perform. This test method

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee G02 on Wear and Erosion and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee G02.40 on Non-Abrasive Wear.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 03.02.