



Designation: D3361/D3361M – 22

Standard Practice for Unfiltered Open-Flame Carbon-Arc Exposures of Paint and Related Coatings¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D3361/D3361M; 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 practice covers the selection of test conditions for accelerated exposure testing of coatings and related products in unfiltered open-flame carbon-arc devices conducted according to Practice [G151](#) and [G152](#). This practice also covers the preparation of test specimens, the test conditions suited for coatings, and the evaluation of test results.

1.2 This practice covers unfiltered open-flame carbon-arc exposures of paints and related coatings, and covers the exposure cycle that has been commonly referred to as the “dew cycle.” Practice [D822/D822M](#) describes filtered open-flame carbon-arc devices, and Practice [D5031/D5031M](#) describes enclosed carbon-arc exposures. The radiation from an unfiltered open-flame carbon arc produces shorter wavelengths and higher levels of short wavelength radiation than either filtered open-flame or enclosed carbon arcs.

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 are not necessarily exact equivalents; therefore, to ensure conformance with the standard, each system shall be used independently of the other, and values from the two systems shall not be combined.

1.4 *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, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.5 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

- [D358 Specification for Wood to Be Used as Panels in Weathering Tests of Coatings](#) (Withdrawn 2014)³
- [D523 Test Method for Specular Gloss](#)
- [D609 Practice for Preparation of Cold-Rolled Steel Panels for Testing Paint, Varnish, Conversion Coatings, and Related Coating Products](#)
- [D610 Practice for Evaluating Degree of Rusting on Painted Steel Surfaces](#)
- [D659 Method for Evaluating Degree of Chalking of Exterior Paints](#) (Withdrawn 1990)³
- [D660 Test Method for Evaluating Degree of Checking of Exterior Paints](#)
- [D662 Test Method for Evaluating Degree of Erosion of Exterior Paints](#)
- [D714 Test Method for Evaluating Degree of Blistering of Paints](#)
- [D772 Test Method for Evaluating Degree of Flaking \(Scaling\) of Exterior Paints](#)
- [D822/D822M Practice for Filtered Open-Flame Carbon-Arc Exposures of Paint and Related Coatings](#)
- [D823 Practices for Producing Films of Uniform Thickness of Paint, Coatings and Related Products on Test Panels](#)
- [D1005 Test Method for Measurement of Dry-Film Thickness of Organic Coatings Using Micrometers](#)
- [D1186 Test Methods for Nondestructive Measurement of Dry Film Thickness of Nonmagnetic Coatings Applied to a Ferrous Base](#) (Withdrawn 2006)³
- [D1400 Test Method for Nondestructive Measurement of Dry Film Thickness of Nonconductive Coatings Applied to a Nonferrous Metal Base](#) (Withdrawn 2006)³
- [D1729 Practice for Visual Appraisal of Colors and Color Differences of Diffusely-Illuminated Opaque Materials](#)
- [D1730 Practices for Preparation of Aluminum and Aluminum-Alloy Surfaces for Painting](#)

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee [D01](#) on Paint and Related Coatings, Materials, and Applications and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee [D01.27](#) on Accelerated Testing.

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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.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.



D2244 Practice for Calculation of Color Tolerances and Color Differences from Instrumentally Measured Color Coordinates

D2616 Test Method for Evaluation of Visual Color Difference With a Gray Scale

D3980 Practice for Interlaboratory Testing of Paint and Related Materials (Withdrawn 1998)³

D4214 Test Methods for Evaluating the Degree of Chalking of Exterior Paint Films

D5031/D5031M Practice for Enclosed Carbon-Arc Exposure Tests of Paint and Related Coatings

D5796 Test Method for Measurement of Dry Film Thickness of Thin-Film Coil-Coated Systems by Destructive Means Using a Boring Device

D5870 Practice for Calculating Property Retention Index of Plastics

D8331 Test Method for Measurement of Film Thickness of Thin-Film Coatings by Non-Destructive Means Using Ruggedized Optical Interference

E691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method

E1347 Test Method for Color and Color-Difference Measurement by Tristimulus Colorimetry

G113 Terminology Relating to Natural and Artificial Weathering Tests of Nonmetallic Materials

G141 Guide for Addressing Variability in Exposure Testing of Nonmetallic Materials

G147 Practice for Conditioning and Handling of Nonmetallic Materials for Natural and Artificial Weathering Tests

G151 Practice for Exposing Nonmetallic Materials in Accelerated Test Devices that Use Laboratory Light Sources

G152 Practice for Operating Open Flame Carbon Arc Light Apparatus for Exposure of Nonmetallic Materials

G169 Guide for Application of Basic Statistical Methods to Weathering Tests

3. Terminology

3.1 The definitions given in Terminology **G113** are applicable to this practice.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 The ability of a paint or coating to resist deterioration of its physical and optical properties caused by exposure to light, heat, and water can be very significant for many applications. This practice is intended to induce property changes associated with end-use conditions, including the effects of sunlight, moisture, and heat. The exposure used in this practice is not intended to simulate the deterioration caused by localized weather phenomena such as atmospheric pollution, biological attack, and saltwater exposure.

4.2 *Cautions*—Variation in results may be expected when different operating conditions are used. Therefore, no reference to the use of this practice shall be made unless accompanied by a report prepared according to Section 10 that describes the specific operating conditions used. Refer to Practice **G151** for detailed information on the caveats applicable to use of results obtained according to this practice.

NOTE 1—Additional information on sources of variability and on

strategies for addressing variability in the design, execution, and data analysis of laboratory accelerated exposure tests is found in Guide **G141**.

4.2.1 The spectral power distribution of light from an unfiltered open-flame carbon arc is significantly different from that produced in light and water exposure devices using other carbon-arc configurations or other light sources. The type and rate of degradation and the performance rankings produced by exposures to unfiltered open-flame carbon-arcs can be much different from that produced by exposures to other types of laboratory light sources. Typically, exposures conducted according to this practice will produce degradation faster than similar exposures conducted in accordance with Practice **D822/D822M** or **D5031/D5031M** and may cause different types of degradation.

4.2.2 Interlaboratory comparisons are valid only when all laboratories use the same type of carbon-arc and exposure conditions.

4.3 Reproducibility of test results between laboratories has been shown to be good when the stability of materials is evaluated in terms of performance ranking compared to other materials or to a control.^{4,5} Therefore, exposure of a similar material of known performance (a control) at the same time as the test materials is strongly recommended. It is recommended that at least three replicates of each material be exposed to allow for statistical evaluation of results.

4.4 Test results will depend upon the care that is taken to operate the equipment in accordance with Practice **G152**. Significant factors include regulation of line voltage, freedom from salt or other deposits from water, temperature and humidity control, and conditions of the electrodes.

4.5 *All references to exposures in accordance with this practice must include a complete description of the test cycle used.*

5. Apparatus

5.1 Use filtered open-flame carbon-arc apparatus with automatic humidity control that conforms to the requirements defined in Practices **G151** and **G152**.

5.2 Do not place any filters between the open flame carbon arc and the test specimens.

6. Hazards

6.1 **Warning**—In addition to other precautions, never look directly at the carbon arc because UV radiation can damage the eye. Most carbon-arc machines are equipped with door safety switches, but users of old equipment must be certain to turn off the power to the carbon arc before opening the test-chamber door.

6.2 This light source generates ozone and nitrous oxides. Vent exhaust from the exposure device to the atmosphere.

⁴ Fischer, R., "Results of Round Robin Studies of Light- and Water-Exposure Standard Practices," *Accelerated and Outdoor Durability Testing of Organic Materials*, ASTM STP 1202, ASTM, 1993.

⁵ Ketola, W., and Fischer, R., "Characterization and Use of Reference Materials in Accelerated Durability Tests," *VAMAS Technical Report No. 30*, NIST, June 1997.