



Designation: D4228 – 05 (Reapproved 2023)

Standard Practice for Qualification of Coating Applicators for Application of Coatings to Steel Surfaces¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D4228; 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 provides a standard qualifying method for coating applicators to verify their proficiency and ability to attain the required quality for application of specified coatings to steel surfaces including those in safety-related areas in a nuclear facility.

1.2 Variations or simplifications of the practice set forth herein may be appropriate for special coating work such as maintenance or qualifications of equipment suppliers shop personnel. It is not the intent of this practice to mandate a singular basis for all qualifications.

1.3 Evaluation of the coating applicator being qualified in accordance with this practice, shall be by qualified agents as specified in 4.1. Reports shall be prepared as specified in Section 5, and certification as specified in Section 6.

1.4 It is the intent of this practice to judge only the ability of the coating applicator to apply specified coatings with the proper tools and equipment.

1.5 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

1.6 *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.*

1.7 *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. Terminology

2.1 Definitions:

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D33 on Protective Coating and Lining Work for Power Generation Facilities and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D33.05 on Application and Surface Preparation.

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2.1.1 *coating applicator, n*—an individual who has worked in the painting trade sufficiently long enough to master the use of all applicable tools and the materials being applied.

2.1.2 *governing documents, n*—technical specifications, jobsite procedures, and reference documents.

2.1.3 *qualifying agents, n*—the designated representatives of the owner or of the coating organization, or both, who have sufficient experience in the practical application and evaluation of coatings applied to steel surfaces.

3. Application of Coatings

3.1 This practice requires the coating applicator to apply the specified coating in conformance to the governing documents to a test panel similar to that detailed in Fig. 1. A physical test area may be selected by the owner/representative. The test area shall simulate job conditions and acceptance criteria shall be the specification requirement. This panel is typical of the panel used for qualification, and may be modified to suit site configurations.

3.2 This practice requires the coating applicator to perform the application using the proper technique and application equipment consistent with the specified coating materials.

3.3 The surfaces of the test panel shall be prepared in accordance with the governing documents.

3.4 Place the test panel approximately 12 in. (305 mm) above ground level and at approximately 30° from the vertical plane, with the complex side up. This will simulate the types of difficult coating situations encountered by coating applicators.

3.5 The coating applicator shall demonstrate his ability to apply the specified coating to a uniform dry-film thickness in accordance with the governing documents, as evaluated by the qualifying agents.

3.6 Allow required drying as prescribed by the governing documents prior to taking the dry-film thickness reading of the applied coating. If a coating system specified requires multiple coats, treat each coat as a separate application, allowing a specified drying time before inspecting each completed coat.

3.7 The coating applicator shall be provided with the following: