



Designation: G210 – 13 (Reapproved 2023)

Standard Practice for Operating the Severe Wastewater Analysis Testing Apparatus¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation G210; 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 basic apparatus, procedures, and conditions required to create and maintain the severe wastewater analysis testing apparatus used for testing a protective coating or lining.

1.2 This apparatus may simulate the pertinent attributes of a typical domestic severe wastewater headspace (sewer) environment. The testing chamber comprises two phases: (1) a liquid phase containing a prescribed acid and saline solution, and (2) a vapor phase consisting of air, humidity, and concentrated sewer gas (**Note 1**). The temperature of the test chamber is elevated to create accelerated conditions and reaction rates.

NOTE 1—For the purposes of this practice, sewer gas is composed of hydrogen sulfide, carbon dioxide, and methane gas.

1.3 **Caution**—This practice can be extremely hazardous. All necessary precautions need to be taken when working with sewer gas, sulfuric acid, and a glass tank. It is highly recommended that a professional testing laboratory experienced in testing with hydrogen sulfide, carbon dioxide, and methane gases perform this practice.

1.4 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.5 *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. Some specific hazards statements are given in Section 8 on Hazards.*

1.6 *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

- A36/A36M Specification for Carbon Structural Steel
- C307 Test Method for Tensile Strength of Chemical-Resistant Mortar, Grouts, and Monolithic Surfacing
- C387/C387M Specification for Packaged, Dry, Combined Materials for Concrete and High Strength Mortar
- C580 Test Method for Flexural Strength and Modulus of Elasticity of Chemical-Resistant Mortars, Grouts, Monolithic Surfacing, and Polymer Concretes
- D610 Practice for Evaluating Degree of Rusting on Painted Steel Surfaces
- D638 Test Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics
- D660 Test Method for Evaluating Degree of Checking of Exterior Paints
- D661 Test Method for Evaluating Degree of Cracking of Exterior Paints
- D714 Test Method for Evaluating Degree of Blistering of Paints
- D790 Test Methods for Flexural Properties of Unreinforced and Reinforced Plastics and Electrical Insulating Materials
- D2370 Test Method for Tensile Properties of Organic Coatings
- D4541 Test Method for Pull-Off Strength of Coatings Using Portable Adhesion Testers
- D6677 Test Method for Evaluating Adhesion by Knife
- D7091 Practice for Nondestructive Measurement of Dry Film Thickness of Nonmagnetic Coatings Applied to Ferrous Metals and Nonmagnetic, Nonconductive Coatings Applied to Non-Ferrous Metals
- G193 Terminology and Acronyms Relating to Corrosion

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee G01 on Corrosion of Metals and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee G01.05 on Laboratory Corrosion Tests.

Current edition approved June 1, 2023. Published June 2023. Originally approved in 2013. Last previous edition approved in 2018 as G210 – 13 (2018). DOI: 10.1520/G0210-18R23.

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.

2.2 ISO Standards:³

ISO 16773 Paints- and Varnishes- Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy (EIS) on High Impedance Coated Samples. Part 1: Terms and Definitions

ISO 16773 Paints- and Varnishes- Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy (EIS) on High Impedance Coated Samples. Part 2: Collection of Data

ISO 16773 Paints- and Varnishes- Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy (EIS) on High Impedance Coated Samples. Part 3: Processing and Analysis of Data from Dummy Cells

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.1.1 *domestic wastewater, n*—wastewater discharged from residences and from commercial, institutional, and similar facilities.

3.1.2 *sewer headspace, n*—the air space between the water surface and the top of the pipe (crown) or other enclosed structure.

3.2 For definitions of terms used in this practice, see Terminology **G193**.

4. Summary of Practice

4.1 The corrosion protection of steel, ductile iron, and concrete by a protective coating or lining may be altered by exposure to sewer gases and by the composition of the corrosive reagents found in headspace environments of domestic wastewater conveyance and treatment structures.⁴

4.2 This practice provides a controlled corrosive environment, which has been utilized to produce a simulated severe sewer headspace condition by wetting the coated samples in a cyclic fashion with a corrosive solution and then exposing the samples to air containing sewer gas. This condition is responsible for reducing the barrier properties of protective coatings and linings.

4.3 Test specimens are positioned on a carousel and placed inside an airtight testing apparatus (chamber) maintained at a temperature of 150 °F ± 5 °F (65 °C ± 3 °C). The chamber contains a prescribed aqueous solution (liquid phase) at the bottom and a headspace (vapor phase) containing sewer gas. The test specimens are immersed into liquid phase for a period of 15 min each. After immersion, the specimens are exposed to the vapor phase the balance of the time. This constitutes one complete cycle with three cycles occurring per day. This cyclic exposure continues for a period of 28 days.

4.4 The specified operating temperature, aqueous solution, sewer gases, and duration parameters are considered the standard for the purposes of this practice. The specifications may be adjusted to replicate specific environments if mutually

agreed upon between the client and testing facility. Any deviations from this practice shall be reported.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 Domestic wastewater headspace environments are corrosive due to the presence of sewer gases and sulfuric acid generated during the biogenic sulfide corrosion process.⁵ This operating procedure provides an accelerated exposure to sewer gases and concentration of sulfuric acid commonly produced by bacteria within these sewer environments.⁶

5.2 The results obtained by the use of this practice can be a means for estimating the protective barrier qualities of a protective coating or lining for use in severe sewer conditions.

5.3 Some protective coatings or linings may not withstand the exposure temperature specified in this practice but have demonstrated satisfactory performance in actual sewer exposures, which are at lower temperatures.

6. Apparatus

6.1 The testing apparatus consists of the following:

6.1.1 *Glass Tank*—Minimum diameter 16 in. by 12 in. (40 cm by 30 cm) tall. The glass tank, when fitted with a polypropylene lid (tank cover) and elastomeric seal, creates an air-tight test chamber. The glass tank is inert to the aggressive reagents at the testing temperature. The glass tank shall be transparent to permit visual examination of the test specimens throughout specified testing duration.

6.1.2 *Polypropylene Lid*—Octagon or round shaped, minimum 1 in. (2.54 cm) thick by 18 in. (46 cm) span. The polypropylene lid has a 1.5 in. (3.81 cm) diameter center port to accommodate the shaft of the sample carousel. The shaft slides through an O-ring seal which is secured and tensioned with a polypropylene fitting (**Note 2**). The shaft slides easily up and down through the O-ring seal while preventing the release of test gases. Silicone grease lubricant can be used to facilitate movement of the shaft.

NOTE 2—Polypropylene has been found to be an acceptable material for this service. Other materials, such as polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) or polyetheretherketone (PEEK) may also provide acceptable service.

6.1.2.1 The polypropylene lid is designed with two ports for fittings, which accommodate inlet and outlet lines.

6.1.2.2 The side of the polypropylene lid which faces into the tank has a circular, shallow 1 in. (2.54 cm) wide groove. The groove accommodates a suitable corrosion resistant elastomeric seal (gasket) required to seal the lid of the glass tank.

6.1.2.3 The polypropylene lid also includes eight equally-spaced holes along the outer edge to accommodate eight threaded rod fasteners with wing nuts, nuts, and washers. The eight threaded rods connect the polypropylene lid to a solid, chemical resistant base plate made of laminated wood or

³ Available from International Organization for Standardization (ISO), 1, ch. de la Voie-Creuse, CP 56, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, <http://www.iso.org>.

⁴ O'Dea, V. et al., "Testing Permeation Resistance in Coatings for Wastewater Structures," *Journal of Protective Coatings and Linings*, September 2010, pp. 16–28.

⁵ O'Dea, V., "Understanding Biogenic Sulfide Corrosion," *Materials Performance*, November 2007, pp. 36–39.

⁶ O'Dea, V. et al., "Assessing Coatings & Linings for Wastewater: Accelerated Test Evaluates Resistance to Severe Exposures," *Journal of Protective Coatings and Linings*, April 2008, pp. 44–57.