



Designation: D5179 – 16 (Reapproved 2021)

# Standard Test Method for Measuring Adhesion of Organic Coatings in the Laboratory by Direct Tensile Method<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D5179; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the laboratory determination of organic coating adhesion to plastic substrates by mounting and removing a metal stud from the surface of the coating and measuring the force required to break the coating/substrate bond with a tensile tester. This test method may also be applied to substrates other than plastic.

1.2 This test method requires that the metal stud be adhered directly to the surface of a coated, cured panel (Fig. 1).

1.3 This test method is used to compare the adhesion of coatings to plastic or other substrates, thus allowing for a quantitative comparison of various coating/substrate combinations in laboratory conditions.

1.4 Other tensile test methods are Test Methods D4541, D7234, D7522, and ISO 4624 (but are not technically equivalent).

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

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. Referenced Documents

### 2.1 ASTM Standards:<sup>2</sup>

D4541 Test Method for Pull-Off Strength of Coatings Using Portable Adhesion Testers

D7234 Test Method for Pull-Off Adhesion Strength of Coatings on Concrete Using Portable Pull-Off Adhesion Testers

D7522 Test Method for Pull-Off Strength for FRP Laminate Systems Bonded to Concrete or Masonry Substrates

### 2.2 Other Standard:

ISO 4624 Paints and Varnishes—Pull-off test for adhesion<sup>3</sup>

## 3. Summary of Test Method

3.1 A metal stud is bonded directly to a coated cured panel. The adhesive is allowed to cure according to manufacturer's recommendations. The specimen is then subjected to test on a tensile tester equipped with an upper coupling adapter (Fig. 2), and a restraining device (Fig. 3).

3.2 If a coating is to fulfill its function of protecting or decorating a substrate, it must adhere to it for the expected service life. Because the substrate and its surface preparation (or lack of it) has a drastic effect on the adhesion of coatings, a method of evaluating the adhesion of a coating to different substrates or surface treatments, or of different coatings to the same substrate and treatment, is of considerable usefulness in the industry.

## 4. Significance and Use

4.1 The pull-off strength (commonly referred to as adhesion) of a coating is an important performance property that has been used in specifications. This test method serves as a means for uniformly preparing and testing organic coatings on plastic or other substrates.<sup>4</sup> Further information may be found in Appendix X1.

<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

<sup>3</sup> Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.

<sup>4</sup> Gray, K. N., Buckley, S. E., and Nelson, G. L., "Assessing Measurement Standards for Coating Adhesion to Plastics," *Modern Paint and Coatings Journal*, Vol 75, No. 10, October 1985, p. 160.

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D01 on Paint and Related Coatings, Materials, and Applications and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D01.23 on Physical Properties of Applied Paint Films.

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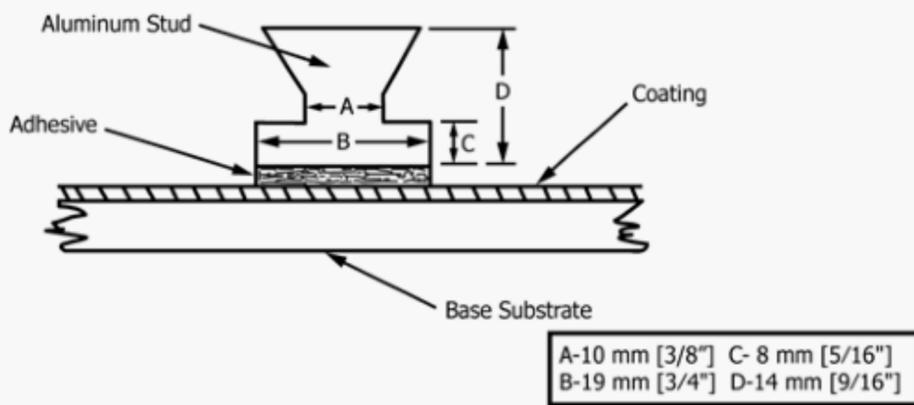


FIG. 1 Direct Tensile Model

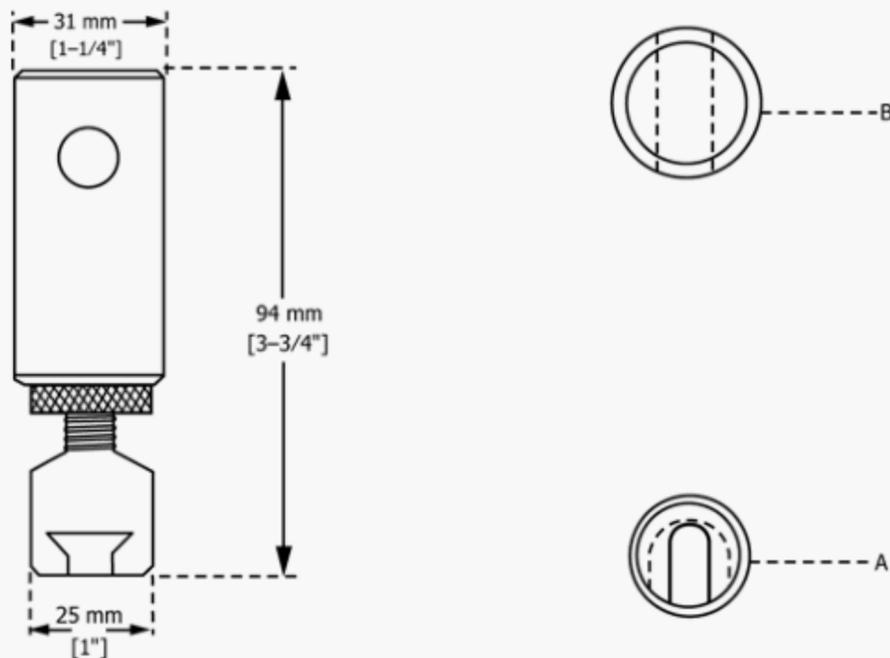


FIG. 2 Upper Coupling Adaptor

## 5. Apparatus and Materials

5.1 *Tensile Tester*—A properly calibrated testing machine that can be operated at constant rates of crosshead motion, and in which the error in the load measuring system shall not exceed  $\pm 1\%$  of the maximum load expected to be measured.

NOTE 1—A computer-controlled machine is preferable.

5.2 *Metal Stud*—The shape and dimensions of the stud are shown in Fig. 1. If aluminum studs are used, the surface for bonding may require treatment to improve adhesion. Such aluminum treatments are commercially available.

5.3 *Upper Coupling Adaptor*—The apparatus is shown in Fig. 2. The adaptor is 94 mm [3 3/4 in.] long, 31 mm [1 1/4 in.] in diameter at the top, and 25 mm [1 in.] in diameter at the bottom. The hole, indicated by “B,” is used to attach the adaptor to the tensile tester load cell. The hole has a 13-mm [1/2-in.] diameter. The machined opening indicated by “A,” is to receive the head of the metal stud.

5.4 *Restraining Device*—The apparatus is shown in Fig. 3A and 3B. The 13-mm [1/2-in.] diameter hole, marked “A,” in the 63.5-mm [2 1/2-in.] long, 31-mm. [1 1/4-in] diameter lower coupling adapter, is used to mount the device in the tensile tester. The top portion is 100 mm [4 in.] in diameter, 19 mm [3/4 in.] high, and is fitted with a hole slightly larger than 19 mm [3/4 in.] in diameter to allow stud clearance. The bottom screw portion is machined to fit with the top portion and is 13 mm [1/2 in.] thick. Fig. 3C illustrates the final appearance of the test assembly before it is tested.

5.5 *Wooden Applicators, or Cotton Swabs* or other means to clean excess adhesive from around the metal stud.

5.6 *Adhesive*, a suitable glue.<sup>5</sup>

5.7 *Bonding Weight*, a weight found suitable for consistently establishing the desired adhesive bond line for the chosen adhesive during samples preparation.

## 6. Preparation and Conditioning of Specimen

6.1 *Sanding Procedure*—Sand the large face of the stud with appropriate sandpaper, making certain that the surface is uniformly roughened. When sanding studs, sand straight up and down; rotate stud one quarter of a turn and continue sanding. Make certain the surface of the stud is flat but rough. While sanding, keep the stud face parallel to the sandpaper. Nonplanar surfaces cannot be used in testing because they lead to nonuniform bonding of the stud to the coated surface. Only flat (planar) studs should be used in testing. Planarity may be assessed by placing a stud on a flat surface and checking to see if the stud wobbles. Careful preparation of studs is essential for good adhesive adhesion.

6.2 *Cleaning Procedure*—Use a cleaning and surface treatment method known to be effective for metal studs. Commercial cleansers and metal surface treatments are available in form of liquids or ready-to-use wipes for many commonly used metals, including aluminum. Avoid touching the face of studs after cleaning.

6.3 Prepare the adhesive in accordance with the adhesive manufacturer’s recommendations. Apply the adhesive to the metal stud or the surface to be tested, or both, using a method recommended by the adhesive manufacturer. After assuring that the adhesive application surface is completely covered, press the metal stud onto the coated test substrate. Place the appropriate bonding weight on the stud to ensure good contact between the stud, adhesive, and surface of the coating. Clean the excess adhesive from the edge of the stud. Carefully remove the weight after allowing sufficient time for the adhesive to set.

NOTE 2—Substrate panels may be cut to any size that fits the restraining device in a manner that prevents the substrate from flexing. Be aware that as the area of the sample increases, the placement of the stub may become more critical in fitting the sample in the device.

NOTE 3—When the stud is pressed, excess adhesive should escape from under the stud. Excess adhesive buildup at the edge of the stud is a major source of error if allowed to cure. This excess must be removed from around the stud. The adhesive may be removed using a wooden applicator, cotton swabs, or another suitable method.

6.4 Based on the adhesive manufacturer’s recommendations and the anticipated environmental conditions, allow enough time for the adhesive to cure (see Note 4).

NOTE 4—A curing time of 2 h at room temperature using Elmer’s,

<sup>5</sup> Fast-curing adhesives may be used if they provide adequate adhesion between the metal stud and the coating being tested as long as they remain neutral to the coating. Cyanoacrylate or epoxy adhesives were found to be suitable for some coatings. From other work, it is noted, that some adhesives may penetrate certain coatings and soften the coating or the plastic substrate. Care in observation of unusual results is necessary to ensure against the possibility of error. The error may be suspected if an adhesive gives an unexpectedly low result. Adhesives that yield a brittle adhesive layer should not be used.

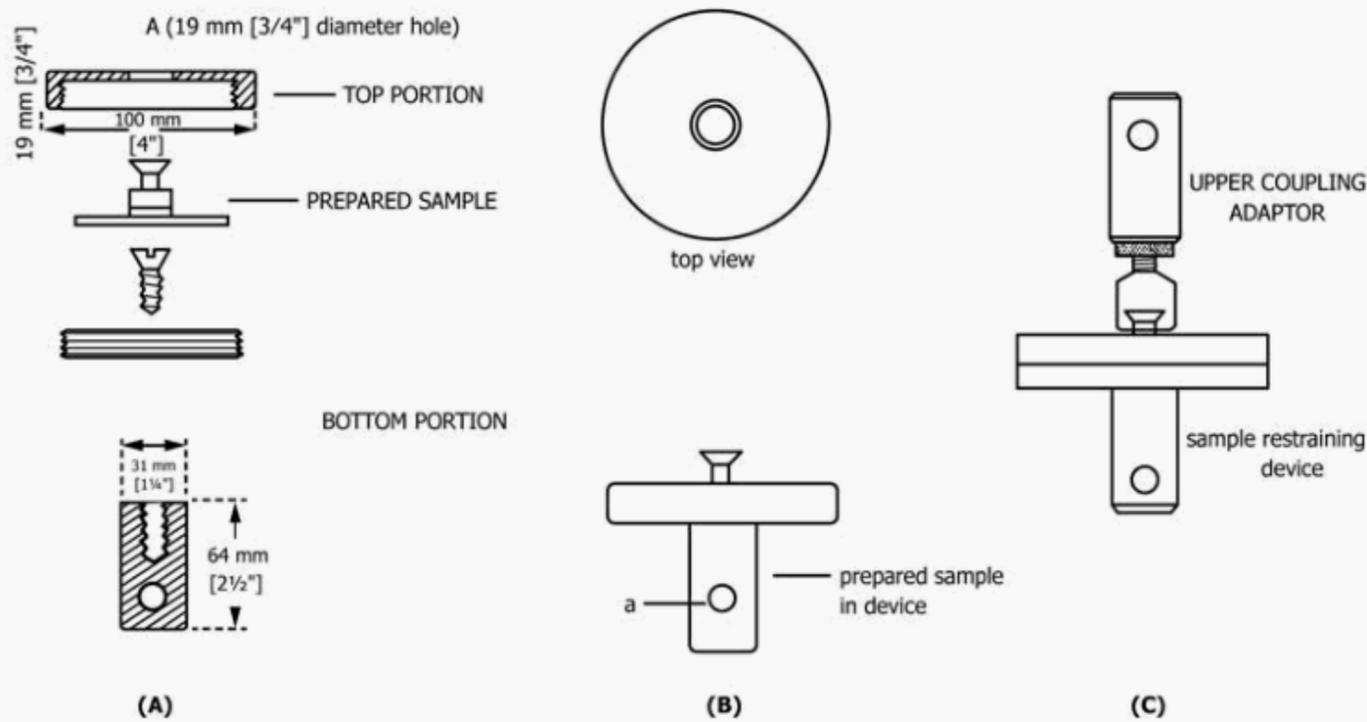


FIG. 3 Direct Tensile Restraining Device

Wonder Bond Plus, Super Glue<sup>6</sup> led to the results reported in the Precision and Bias Section.

NOTE 5—Studs should be cleaned from the remains of coating and adhesive, and the bonding surface prepared as described in 6.1 and 6.2. Seek adhesive manufacturer advice if removal of the adhesive becomes difficult.

6.5 *Conditioning*—Condition the coated substrates and test in the same environment or immediately on removal therefrom, as specified by manufacturer’s recommendations or agreed upon by the purchaser and the seller.

6.6 *Scoring*—Scored samples constitute a different test, and this procedure should be clearly reported with the results. If scoring around the test surface adhered to the metal stud is employed, extreme care is required to prevent micro-cracking in the coating, since such cracks may cause reduced adhesion values. Scoring is only recommended for thicker film coatings, that is, thicknesses greater than 500 μm [20 mil].

## 7. Procedure

7.1 Install the restraining device and upper adaptor into a calibrated tensile tester.

7.2 Verify that the crosshead speed is set at 1 mm/min [0.04 in./min] or such that the test is completed in about 100 s or less.

7.3 Place the specimen to be tested in the restraining device (Fig. 3A and 3B). Pre-position the crosshead and then slowly lower it so the upper coupling adaptor can be attached to the test specimen. Take care to prevent the crosshead from impacting into the top of the specimen. Carefully attach the upper coupling adaptor to the stud (Fig. 3C).

NOTE 6—Make sure that the substrate is not deformed during testing.

7.4 Start the tensile test. Stop the test when the stress returns to zero.

7.5 Examine the test area on each specimen to determine the type of coating failure, rating it according to the following:

- 7.5.1 Adhesive failure of the coating at the substrate, A,
- 7.5.2 Cohesive failure in the coating, C,
- 7.5.3 Combination of adhesive failure at the coating/substrate interface and cohesive failure in the coating, AC,
- 7.5.4 Adhesive failure at the stud, S, and
- 7.5.5 Combination of adhesive failure at the stud and cohesive failure in the coating, CS, with assessment of the percentage of adhesive and cohesive failure.

7.6 For multilayer coatings, note if the failure is between the layers. If so, label as *CM*.

7.7 Number and retain all test specimens for adhesion failure calculations. Test five specimens of each coated substrate. If one specimen differs significantly from the other four at the same time, fails because of an uneven (nonplanar) stud, or for any other reason performs unlike the other four, test a replacement specimen.

NOTE 7—Examine the stud and specimen carefully. Adhesive should have been applied uniformly to the entire stud surface. Coating should have pulled off uniformly over the entire stud surface either with adhesive failure from the substrate (A) or cohesive failure in the coating (C). If failure is less than 90 % A or C or (or CM), if the adhesive has failed at the stud, retest exercising particular care in the specimen and stud preparation.

NOTE 8—The percentage of adhesive failure at the coating/substrate interface is determined by inspecting the tested area on the substrate. This may be assessed by overlaying a transparent sheet grid marked in 2.54-mm [0.10-in.] squares and estimating the percentage of adhesive failure in each square that lies over the tested area. These percentages may then be averaged to obtain failure for each specimen.

## 8. Report

8.1 Report the following information:

8.1.1 Number of tests, the maximum stress obtained in each test, and the type of failure. Calculate and report mean and standard deviation for tensile strength for each coating/substrate combination tested

8.1.2 Conditioning of the specimens.

8.1.3 Temperature and relative humidity during the test period.

<sup>6</sup> Elmer’s glue is a registered trademark of Elmer’s Products, Inc.

8.1.4 Description of the coating, including its thickness and method of application.

8.1.5 Description of the substrate, including its type, surface preparation, thickness, orientation, etc.

8.1.6 Description of tensile tester used, including manufacturer and model number, load cell and crosshead speed used.

8.1.7 Description of test system preparation, including the type of metal stud, adhesive, and adhesive curing conditions used.

8.1.8 Date of test.

8.1.9 Indicate if scoring was employed for any test and note any other deviations from the procedure.

**9. Precision and Bias<sup>7</sup>**

9.1 The precision and bias are primarily dependent upon the accuracy of the force measurements, the alignment of the

<sup>7</sup> A complete report with additional data is available. See Nelson, G. L., "Testing of EMI/RFI Coating Adhesion to Plastics by a Tensile Test Method," *Final Report for Computer and Business Manufacturers Association and Society of the Plastics Industry*, University of Southern Mississippi, June, 1989.

device, the care exercised in stud and specimen preparation, and the care in testing.

9.2 A round robin involving five different types of coatings and seven different plastic substrates, and ten different laboratories yielded interlaboratory reproducibility data as shown in **Table 1**. Within laboratory repeatability data is shown in **Table 2** and **Table 3**.

9.3 *Bias*—No information can be provided on the bias of this test method for measuring adhesion because no material having an accepted reference value is available.

**10. Keywords**

10.1 adhesion; adhesive; bond strength; plastic substrate; pull-off strength; pull testing; tensile tester

**TABLE 1 Overall Test Reproducibility**

NOTE 1—This data was generated with lesser cautionary language than found in **Note 3** and includes laboratories who had not removed excess adhesive. With experienced operators, reproducibility data can be anticipated to be better than shown in **Table 1**.

Ten Laboratories		
Sample	Kilogram Force	Standard Deviation
1	34.6	6.7
2	36.2	9.3
3	19.8	4.5
4	26.7	8.7
5	31.7	9.9
6	26.0	7.2
7	41.6	9.2
8	16.6	6.5
9	60.5	20.5
10	28.3	9.8

TABLE 2 Average Tensile Strength Measurements<sup>A</sup>

NOTE 1—Units for tensile strength and standard deviation are kilograms of force. Multiply by 4.99 to convert to pounds per square inch.

Sample Number		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Laboratory 1	$\bar{X}$	33.2	32.2	12.9	23.5	25.3	20.8	38.8	5.8	63.9	21.8
	SD <sup>B</sup>	4.3	4.6	2.2	3.5	10.6	3.8	6.3	2.1	12.2	2.5
Laboratory 2	$\bar{X}$	29.2	30.9	19.9	28.0	33.9	22.3	36.8	9.1	80.3	26.0
	SD	5.5	5.8	2.8	3.7	9.2	6.3	7.5	4.0	10.7	5.7
Laboratory 3	$\bar{X}$	33.5	35.7	24.2	32.2	33.8	31.2	49.8	18.6	79.1	39.7
	SD	7.0	4.4	3.9	11.8	5.4	6.4	9.5	4.5	9.6	7.2
Laboratory 4	$\bar{X}$	41.9	45.1	26.2	31.8	43.2	37.2	50.5	17.2	>72.7	33.0
	SD	10.4	4.8	6.1	7.6	6.4	7.7	8.8	5.8	18.7	9.4
Laboratory 5	$\bar{X}$	27.5	23.0	16.7	19.3	24.3	21.1	32.1	26.4	44.6	19.9
	SD	1.1	2.0	3.7	2.2	4.0	2.5	5.3	14.3	11.1	3.1
Laboratory 6	$\bar{X}$	42.4	>41.9	26.2	31.6	48.3	34.1	53.1	23.9	>85.2	33.7
	SD	6.7	5.2	3.0	4.8	6.7	3.5	11.7	6.5	4.8	2.2
Laboratory 7	$\bar{X}$	42.6	42.0	19.0	29.4	31.9	28.9	45.8	16.8	72.4	37.3
	SD	4.1	10.0	2.4	3.7	5.0	4.7	9.9	9.5	26.1	6.3
Laboratory 8	$\bar{X}$	23.2	30.9	18.6	8.6	20.6	21.8	32.8	19.8	32.1	11.2
	SD	5.6	5.1	4.8	1.8	4.7	7.7	9.7	7.5	6.2	2.6
Laboratory 9	$\bar{X}$	34.0	26.4	16.2	25.6	17.4	13.9	27.1	10.4	36.6	20.8
	SD	8.4	8.2	8.8	7.6	2.5	5.3	8.8	5.5	12.4	5.8
Laboratory 10	$\bar{X}$	38.9	53.4	17.6	41.8	38.5	28.5	49.3	18.1	38.4	40.0
	SD	9.9	6.5	2.8	8.7	10.2	9.2	7.4	8.5	14.9	9.0

<sup>A</sup> Each is the average tensile strength using ten samples.

<sup>B</sup> Standard deviation.

TABLE 3 Average Tensile Strengths, Standard Deviations (SD) and Ranks

NOTE 1—Units for tensile strength and standard deviation are kilograms of force. Multiply by 4.99 to convert to pounds per square inch.

Sample Number	Coating	Substrate	Failure Mode	Collaborator A			Collaborator B		
				Average	SD	Rank	Average	SD	Rank
1	Lacquer	polymer alloy	C	10.7	3.8	12	12.5	2.5	13
2	Lacquer	polycarbonate resin	A	5.8	1.0	14	8.8	2.4	15
3	Lacquer	ABS <sup>A</sup>	C	10.2	0.8	13	22.8	3.8	12
4	Lacquer	polycarbonate	A	5.4	2.7	15	9.6	1.9	14
5	Lacquer	ABS	C	12.6	3.4	11	24.8	4.5	11
6	Lacquer	PVC <sup>B</sup>	AC	15.4	3.3	10	25.9	3.1	10
7	Enamel	polycarbonate	A	55.6	29.1	5	67.7	9.5	6
8	Urethane	ABS	A	133.5	23.6	2	122.5	24.9	2
9	Urethane	ABS	A	98.9	12.4	3	91.7	16.9	3
10	Urethane	metal	S	133.7	46.1	1	133.4	51.5	1
11	Enamel	metal	A <sup>C</sup>	61.6	14.8	4	75.4	14.3	4
12	Lacquer	GTX 901	C	27.8	4.9	8	62.9	6.8	7
13	Enamel	GTX 901	C	24.7	6.8	9	66.0	17.9	5
14	Enamel	GTX 901	A	40.9	14.1	6	56.0	14.6	8
15	Enamel	GTX 901	A	34.6	10.4	7	50.6	19.1	9

<sup>A</sup> ABS = acrylonitrile butadiene styrene.

<sup>B</sup> PVC = poly(vinyl chloride).

<sup>C</sup> Failure rate is 75 %.

## APPENDIX

### (Nonmandatory Information)

#### X1. COMMENTARY

##### X1.1 Introduction

X1.1.1 Given the complexities of the adhesion process, can adhesion be measured? As Mittal (1-5)<sup>8</sup> has pointed out, the answer is both yes and no. It is reasonable to state that at the present time no test exists that can precisely assess the actual

physical strength of an adhesive bond. But it can also be said that it is possible to obtain an indication of relative adhesion performance.

X1.1.2 Practical adhesion test methods are generally of two types: “implied” and “direct.” “Implied” tests include indentation or scribe techniques, rub testing, and wear testing. Criticism of these tests arises when they are used to quantify the strength of adhesive bonding. But this, in fact, is not their

<sup>8</sup> The boldface numbers in parentheses refer to the list of references at the end of this test method.

purpose. An “implied” test should be used to assess coating performance under actual service conditions. “Direct” measurements, on the other hand, are intended expressly to measure adhesion. Meaningful tests of this type are highly sought after, primarily because the results are expressed by a single discrete quantity, the force required to fracture the coating/substrate bond under prescribed conditions. Direct tests include certain knife removal methods (2). Common methods which approach the direct test are peel, lap-shear, and tensile tests.

## X1.2 Test Methods

X1.2.1 In practice, numerous types of tests have been used to attempt to evaluate adhesion by inducing bond rupture by different modes. Criteria deemed essential for a test to warrant large-scale acceptance are: use of a straightforward and unambiguous procedure; relevance to its intended application; repeatability and reproducibility; and quantifiability, including a meaningful rating scale for assessing performance.

X1.2.2 Test methods used for coatings on metals are: peel adhesion or “tape testing;” Gardner impact flexibility testing; and adhesive joint testing including shear (lap joint) and direct tensile (butt joint) testing. These tests do not strictly meet the criteria listed, but an appealing aspect of these tests is that in most cases the equipment/instrumentation is readily available or can be obtained at reasonable cost.

X1.2.3 A wide diversity of test methods have been developed over the years that measure aspects of adhesion (1-5). There generally is difficulty, however, in relating these test to basic adhesion phenomena.

## X1.3 Direct Tensile Testing

X1.3.1 A long-used approach to coating adhesion testing is the direct tensile test, perhaps “conceptually” the simplest of all methods for measuring adhesion. A dolly or stud is bonded to the coating film. The normally applied force that is required to remove the film is measured. If failure occurs at the substrate/film interface, this force is taken to be the “force of adhesion.” An obvious limitation is, of course, the strength of the adhesive bond of the stud to the cured coating. Such methods have been available since the 1930s. Many of these test methods have unfortunately suffered from their own lack of reproducibility. This is not unexpected since the forces involved are not quite as simple as appearance would have it.

X1.3.2 It is essential that the force be applied strictly in the direct normal to the sample and that no bending moment is active across the test area. Deviations from symmetry in the test arrangement, poor alignment, deviations from homogeneity and of thickness of the adhesive/coating, and random variations in the strength of the bond between film and substrate affect test results.

X1.3.3 The stress at locations where the adhesive film is thinner will be higher than the average stress and will be transmitted to the film under test. Another factor may be peeling during test, which is not easily identified or analyzed.

X1.3.4 The adhesive used to bond a stud to the coating has the potential to influence the coating film properties by

penetration through the film into microcracks and possibly into the substrate. Test adhesive flexibility may also be an issue, as well as the flexibility of the substrate, if the sample is unrestrained. Some adhesives, including cyanoacrylate adhesives, may attack some coatings resulting in a loss of adhesion.

X1.3.5 There exist now within ASTM both laboratory and field versions of direct tensile-tests for coatings. This test method, D5179, while limited to organic coatings on plastics, uses a restrained sample and commonly available tensile test apparatus. The second, Test Method D4541, defines a class of portable pull-off adhesion testers for field evaluation of coating adhesion. Test Method D5179 is the successor to numerous attempts to develop a reproducible coating tensile test and was approved in 1991.

## X1.4 Test Method D5179

X1.4.1 As stated in 1.1, this test method covers the laboratory determination of adhesion of organic coatings to plastic substrates by mounting and removing a metal stud from the surface of a coating and measuring the force required to break the coating/substrate bond with a tensile tester. It is noted that this method may also be suitable for substrates other than plastic. This test method provides an inexpensive test assembly that can be used with most tensile test machines. The method is used to compare the pull-off strength (commonly referred to as adhesion) of coatings to various substrates, thus allowing for a quantitative comparison of various coating/substrate combinations.

X1.4.2 Again, as stated in 3.1, a carefully prepared metal stud is bonded directly to a coated, cured panel using a suitable adhesive. The adhesive is cured according to manufacturer’s recommendations. Adhesive buildup is removed from around the stud. The specimen is then subjected to test on a tensile tester equipped with an upper coupling adapter and a restraining device to provide for sample alignment and minimal substrate flexing. The sample bearing the stud is installed in the restraining device, with only the stud protruding. The tensile machine crosshead is lowered so the upper coupling adaptor can be attached to the specimen.

X1.4.3 When testing thin substrates, a piece of plastic is placed in the restraining device behind the specimen to ensure a rigid assembly. The tensile test is conducted, and pull strength recorded. Each specimen is rated according to the type of coating failure.

X1.4.4 For multilayer coatings, failure between the layers is noted and labeled. Five specimens of each coated substrate are tested. If one specimen differs significantly from the other four tested at the same time, fails because of an uneven (nonplanar) stud, or for another reason performs unlike the other four, a replacement specimen is tested. The stud and specimen are carefully examined. The adhesive should have been applied uniformly to the entire stud surface. Coating should have pulled off uniformly over the *entire* stud surface either with adhesive failure from the substrate (A) or cohesive failure in the coating (C). A retest is performed exercising particular care in specimen and stud preparation, if failure is less than 90 %,

see *A* or *C* (or *CM*), or if the adhesive has failed at the stud. Pull strength for each coating substrate combination are averaged and reported.

X1.4.5 The precision and bias are primarily dependent upon the accuracy of the force measurements, the alignment of the device, the care exercised in stud and specimen preparation,

and in the care in testing. A ten-laboratory round robin on ten samples gave an average standard deviation of 29 % for reproducibility and 22 % for repeatability. A range of pull strengths of two orders of magnitude has been observed for diverse coating plastic combinations.

## REFERENCES

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