

Submitted for recognition as an American National Standard

**TEST METHOD FOR MEASURING THE RELATIVE DRAPEABILITY  
OF FLEXIBLE INSULATION MATERIALS**

**Foreword**—This Reaffirmed Document has been changed only to reflect the new SAE Technical Standards Board Format.

1. **Scope**—This SAE Recommended Practice describes a method of determining the relative flexibility of padding and/or acoustical composites.

1.1 **Purpose**—The purpose of this testing method is to establish a means for measuring the three-dimensional drapeability of flexible insulation materials, such as automotive floor pan insulation composites.

2. **References**—There are no references specified herein.

3. **Apparatus**

3.1 **Cylinder**—Inside diameter 305 mm (12 in), length 305 mm (12 in).

3.2 **Clamps**—Hoffman, screw compressor, open side—maximum opening 19 mm (0.75 in).

3.3 **Scale**—610 mm (24 in) minimum—graduated in millimeters or 0.01 in.

3.4 **Chocks**—Any type capable of preventing the cylinder from rolling.

4. **Test Specimen**—From the material to be tested, cut a 610 mm x 610 mm (24 in x 24 in) specimen.

5. **Conditioning**

5.1 Test for material classification and for arbitration purposes shall be made on material conditioned to a constant weight in a controlled atmosphere of 21 °C ± 1 °C (70 °F ± 2 °F) and 50% ± 5% relative humidity. Quality control tests can be conducted on unconditioned specimens unless otherwise specified by the user.

5.2 Lay the specimen on a flat surface for a minimum of 24 h before conducting the test.

6. **Procedure**

6.1 Lay the cylinder horizontally on top of a table, using the chocks to prevent rolling of the cylinder. See Figure 1.

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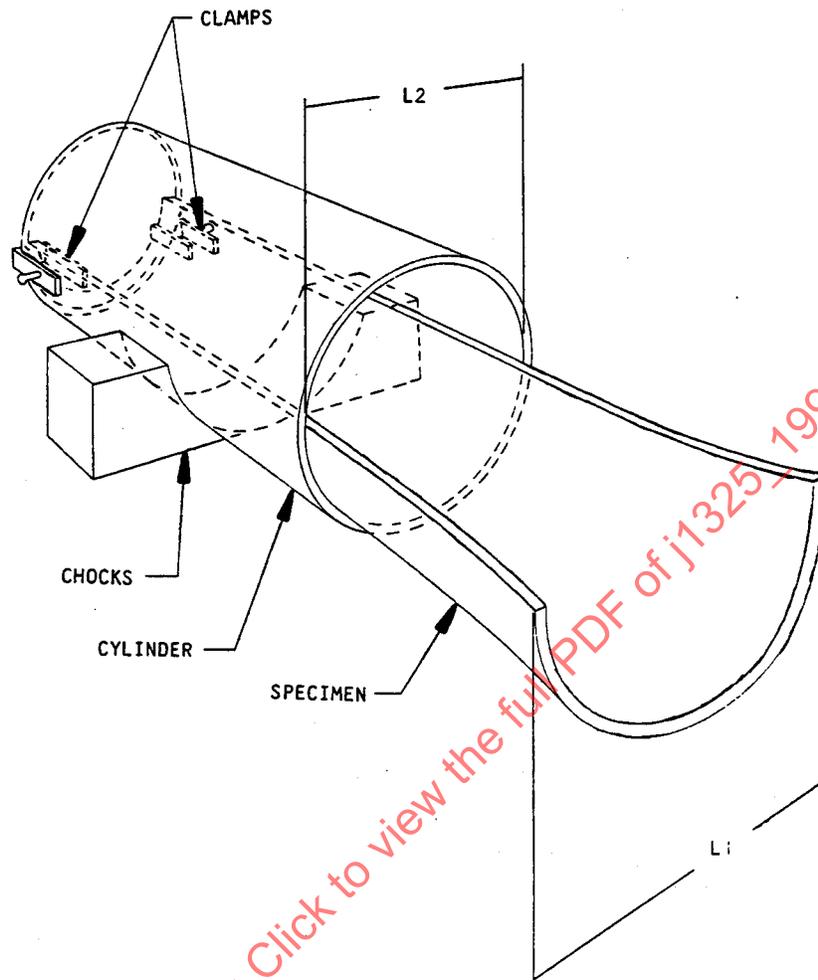


FIGURE 1—DRAPEABILITY APPARATUS

- 6.2 Place the specimen in the interior of the cylinder, matching one end of the specimen with the end of the cylinder.
- 6.3 Orient the specimen so that the surface which would face toward the supporting structure in the proposed application faces downward in the cylinder.
- 6.4 Smooth the specimen against the inner circumference of the cylinder, making sure the sides of the specimen are equidistant from the base of the cylinder.
- 6.5 Securely clamp the corners of the specimen, at the flush end, to the cylinder. See Figure 1.
- 6.6 The specimen should protrude 305 mm (12 in) out of the other end of the cylinder.
- 6.7 Measure the distance (outside dimension) between the corners of the protruding portion of the specimen. Record this distance as  $L_1$ . See Figure 1.
- 6.8 Measure the distance (outside dimension) from edge to edge of the specimen at the end of the cylinder. Record this distance as  $L_2$ . See Figure 1.

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6.9 Rotate the specimen 90 degrees in the same plane and repeat 6.1 to 6.8.

7. **Report**—Calculate the percent drape and record the results. Use Equation 1 for calculation:

$$D = \frac{L_1 - L_2}{L_2} \times 100 \quad (\text{Eq. 1})$$

where:

D = % drape

L<sub>1</sub> = measurement taken in 6.7

L<sub>2</sub> = measurement taken in 6.8

PREPARED BY THE SAE SOUND AND HEAT INSULATION COMMITTEE

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