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**Compression and
Recovery of
Insulation Paddings**

SAE Recommended Practice
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Submitted for Recognition as
an American National Standard

COMPRESSION AND RECOVERY OF INSULATION PADDINGS

1. SCOPE: This test method is applicable for determining the relative compression and recovery of various insulation paddings.
2. PURPOSE: The purpose of this testing method is to establish a means of measuring the ability of insulation composites to retain their resiliency when compressed, dry or wet.
3. APPARATUS:
 - 3.1 Platen:
 - 3.1.1 Method A, 100 x 100 mm with a mass of 300 g.
 - 3.1.2 Method B, 100 x 100 mm with a mass of 100 g.
 - 3.2 Compression Machine: Capable of compressing the specimen at a rate of 50 mm/min without impact.
4. TEST SPECIMEN: From the material to be tested, cut enough specimens 100 x 100 mm to achieve a minimum thickness of 25 mm when plied together.
5. CONDITIONING: Tests for material classification and for arbitration purposes shall be made on material conditioned to a constant weight in a controlled atmosphere of $21 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ and $50 \pm 5\%$ relative humidity. Quality control tests can be conducted on unconditioned specimens unless otherwise specified by the user.

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6. PROCEDURE - METHOD A, NORMAL:

- 6.1 Ply sufficient layers of the specimen together to achieve a minimum thickness of 25 mm.
- 6.2 Add the 300 g platen and place in the compression apparatus.
- 6.3 Apply a load of 2.25 kg for 1 min. Remove the load and measure the thickness of the specimen at the center of the four sides and record the average as T_1 .
- 6.4 Apply a load of 35 kg at the rate of 50 mm/min. Measure the average thickness as soon as the full load is attained and record as T_2 .
- 6.5 Hold this load for 5 min, then remove the load and allow specimen to recover for 5 min with the platen on the specimen.
- 6.6 Measure the average thickness and record as T_3 .

7. PROCEDURE - METHOD B, NORMAL:

- 7.1 Ply sufficient layers of the specimen together to achieve a minimum thickness of 25 mm.
- 7.2 Add 100 g platen and measure the thickness of the specimen at the center of the four sides of the platen. Record the average as T_1 .
- 7.3 Apply a load of 3 kg for 1 min. Measure the average thickness as soon as full load is attained and record as T_2 .
- 7.4 Remove the load and allow the specimen to recover for 3 min.
- 7.5 Measure the average thickness and record as T_3 .

8. PROCEDURE - METHOD C; COMPRESSION AND RECOVERY - WET:

- 8.1 Determine and record T_1 as described in paragraphs 7.1 and 7.2, Method B.
- 8.2 Immerse specimen in distilled water at $21 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ for 30 min.
- 8.3 Shake out excess water and follow Method B for determining T_2 and T_3 .

9. PROCEDURE - METHOD D; RECOVERY - WET:

- 9.1 Determine and record T_1 as described in paragraphs 7.1 and 7.2, Method B.
- 9.2 Immerse specimen in distilled water at $21 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ for 30 min.
- 9.3 Determine T_2 as in Method C.

- 9.4 After T_2 is measured, remove load and platen and dry separated samples in a 102°C oven for 1 h. Remove from oven and bring back to standard conditions.
- 9.5 Stack the samples, apply the 100 g platen and after 3 min measure and record T_3 .
10. REPORT: Calculate the percent compression and recovery dry or wet, as follows:

$$\% \text{ Compression} = \frac{T_1 - T_2}{T_1} \times 100$$

$$\% \text{ Recovery} = \frac{T_3 - T_2}{T_1 - T_2} \times 100$$

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