



UL 263

STANDARD FOR SAFETY

Fire Tests of Building Construction and
Materials

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UL Standard for Safety for Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials, UL 263

Fourteenth Edition, Dated June 21, 2011

Summary of Topics

This revision to ANSI/UL 263 dated March 14, 2022 includes air-dry conditions for test assemblies with SFRM; [5.2A.9](#)

Text that has been changed in any manner or impacted by UL's electronic publishing system is marked with a vertical line in the margin.

The revised requirements are substantially in accordance with Proposal(s) on this subject dated December 31, 2021.

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1

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The most recent designation of ANSI/UL 263 as an American National Standard (ANSI) occurred on March 14, 2022. ANSI approval for a standard does not include the Cover Page, Transmittal Pages, and Title Page.

Comments or proposals for revisions on any part of the Standard may be submitted to UL at any time. Proposals should be submitted via a Proposal Request in UL's On-Line Collaborative Standards Development System (CSDS) at <https://csds.ul.com>.

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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

1	Scope	5
2	General	6
	2.1 Units of measurement	6
	2.2 Undated references	6
3	Control of Fire Tests	6
	3.1 Time-temperature curve	6
	3.2 Furnace temperatures	7
	3.3 Temperatures of unexposed surfaces of floors, roofs, walls, partitions, and ceilings	8
	3.4 Furnace pressure	9
4	Classification as Determined by Test	10

PERFORMANCE

5	General	11
	5.1 Test specimen	11
	5.2 Protection and conditioning of test specimen	12
	5.2A Protection and conditioning of test specimen	12
	5.3 Conduct of fire endurance tests	13
	5.4 Conduct of hose stream test	13
	5.4A Conduct of cotton pad test	14
	5.5 Furnace exposure	16
	5.6 Recording and reporting data	17
6	Bearing Walls and Partitions Test	17
	6.1 Application	17
	6.2 Size and character of specimen	17
	6.3 Loading	17
	6.4 Conditions of acceptance	18
7	Nonbearing Walls and Partitions Test	18
	7.1 Application	18
	7.2 Size and character of specimen	18
	7.3 Conditions of acceptance	18
8	Columns Test	18
	8.1 Application	18
	8.2 Size and character of specimen	19
	8.3 Loading	19
	8.4 Exposure to fire	19
	8.5 Conditions of acceptance	19
9	Alternate Test – Protection for Structural Steel Columns	19
	9.1 Application	19
	9.2 Size and character of specimen	19
	9.3 Temperature measurement	20
	9.4 Exposure to fire	20
	9.5 Conditions of acceptance	20
	9.6 Report of results	20
10	Floor and Roof Assemblies Test	20
	10.1 Application	20
	10.2 Size and character of specimen	21
	10.3 Loading	21
	10.4 Temperature measurement	21
	10.5 Conditions of acceptance – restrained assembly	23
	10.6 Conditions of acceptance – unrestrained assembly	24

11	Loaded Restrained Beams Test	25
	11.1 Application	25
	11.2 Size and character of specimen	25
	11.3 Loading	25
	11.4 Temperature measurement	25
	11.5 Conditions of acceptance	26
12	Loaded Unrestrained Beams Test	27
	12.1 Application	27
	12.2 Size and character of specimen	27
	12.3 Loading	27
	12.4 Conditions of acceptance	27
13	Alternate Test – Protection for Loaded Beams	28
	13.1 Application	28
	13.2 Conditions of acceptance	28
14	Alternate Test – Protection for Solid Structural Steel Beams and Girders	28
	14.1 Application	28
	14.2 Size and character of specimen	28
	14.3 Temperature measurement	29
	14.4 Conditions of acceptance	29
	14.5 Report of results	29
15	Tests of Protective Membranes in Wall, Partition, Floor, or Roof Assemblies	29
	15.1 Application	29
	15.2 Size and character of specimen	29
	15.3 Temperature performance of protective membranes	29
	15.4 Conditions of acceptance	30
	15.5 Report of results	30
16	Ceiling Membrane Test	30
	16.1 Application	30
	16.2 Size and character of specimen	31
	16.3 Test method	31
	16.4 Conditions of acceptance	31
	16.5 Report of results	31

APPENDIX A Standard Time-Temperature Curve for Control of Fire Tests

APPENDIX B Requirements for Thermocouple Pads

APPENDIX C Nonmandatory Guide for Determining Conditions of Restraint for Floor and Roof Assemblies and for Individual Beams

APPENDIX D (Informative) Guidance on Determining the Dampest Portion of a Test Specimen

INTRODUCTION

1 Scope

1.1 These fire tests are applicable to assemblies of masonry units and to composite assemblies of structural materials for buildings, including bearing and other walls and partitions, columns, girders, beams, slabs, and composite slab and beam assemblies for floors and roofs. They are also applicable to other assemblies and structural units that constitute permanent integral parts of a finished building.

1.2 The classifications for building construction and materials are intended to register performance during the period of fire exposure and are not intended to be interpreted as having determined their acceptability for use after fire exposure.

1.3 These requirements are intended to evaluate the length of time that the types of assemblies specified in [1.1](#) will contain a fire or retain their structural integrity, or both, dependent upon the type of assembly involved, during a predetermined test exposure. The test evaluates the assembly's resistance to heat, and in some instances to a hose stream, while carrying an applied load, if the assembly is load bearing.

1.4 Under these requirements a specimen is subjected to a standard fire exposure controlled to achieve specified temperatures throughout a specified time period. In some instances, the fire exposure may be followed by the application of a specified standard fire hose stream. This exposure by itself may not be representative of all fire conditions; conditions may vary with changes in the amount, nature, and distribution of fire loading, ventilation, compartment size and configuration, and heat sink characteristics of the compartment. These requirements provide a relative measure of fire performance of comparable assemblies under these specified fire exposure conditions. Any variation from the construction or conditions that are tested such as size, method of assembly, and materials, may substantially change the performance characteristics of the assembly.

1.5 These requirements cover the following measurements and determinations during the test exposure:

- a) Measurement of the transmission through the assembly of heat, and of gases sufficiently hot to ignite cotton waste in walls, partitions, floors, and roofs.
- b) Measurement of the load carrying ability of load bearing elements in wall, partition, floor, and roof assemblies.
- c) Measurement of the load carrying ability of individual load bearing assemblies, such as beams and columns, with consideration for the end support conditions, either restrained or not restrained.

1.6 These requirements do not cover:

- a) Accumulation of data as to performance of assemblies constructed with components or lengths other than those tested.
- b) Evaluation of the contribution of the assembly to generation of smoke, toxic gases, or other products of combustion.
- c) Measurement of the degree of control or limitation of the passage of smoke or products of combustion through the assembly.
- d) Simulation of the fire behavior of joints between building elements, such as floor-wall or wall-wall, and like connections.
- e) Measurement of flame spread over the surface of the tested element.