



Standard Test Method for Cleanability of Surface Finishes¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C 756; 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 test method covers the numerical evaluation of the ease or difficulty of cleaning soiled surface finishes. This test method is applicable to all surface finishes not affected by water.

1.2 Values given in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. Inch-pound units are provided for information only.

1.3 *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 and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

C 282 Test Method for Acid Resistance of Porcelain Enamels (Citric Acid Spot Test)

C 614 Test Method for Alkali Resistance of Porcelain Enamels

3. Summary of Test Method

3.1 The test method consists of applying an exact amount of a fluorescent water-soluble soiling agent to a specimen surface and then cleaning the surface with a reproducible machine-wiping technique. The soil remaining on the specimen after wiping is extracted with a water solvent and the fluorescence of the solution measured. A standard reference surface is treated in a similar manner. The cleanability index of the surface under test is expressed as the ratio of the fluorescence of the solutions extracted from the test surface and from the standard reference surface. Cleanability indexes greater than 1.0 indicate that the test surface is more difficult to clean than the standard

reference surface, while indexes less than 1.0 indicate that the test surface is more easily cleanable than the standard of comparison.

3.2 The soiling agent used consists of polyethylene glycol, a black dye, and a fluorescent tracer, each of which is readily water soluble.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 This test method was developed to guide the user in selecting a finish coating or material that is resistant to soiling in a particular application.

4.2 The numerical values derived by this test method enables the user to rank finish coatings and materials in regard to soil retention or ease of soil removal.

5. Apparatus

5.1 *Motor-Driven Lapping Plate*, 203-mm (8-in.) diameter, speed 163 r/min.³

5.2 *Automatic Polishing Unit*, 11-s cycle, adjustable to 48-mm (1 $\frac{7}{8}$ -in.) stroke.⁴

5.3 *Hypodermic Syringe*, glass, 2-mL capacity, without needle.

5.4 *Repeating Pipet*, 0.025 mL (25 μ L) capacity.

5.5 *Repeating Pipet*, 10-mL capacity.

5.6 *Desiccator* approximately 254 mm (10 in.) diameter.

5.7 *Cleaning Head*, brass, 57 mm (2 $\frac{1}{4}$ in.), with worm-driven hose clamp for attachment of cleaning tissues (Fig. 1).

5.8 *Soiling Head*, brass, 25 mm (1 in.) diameter, with 25-mm (1-in.) diameter facing of polytetrafluoroethylene attached with a water-proof household cement (Fig. 1).

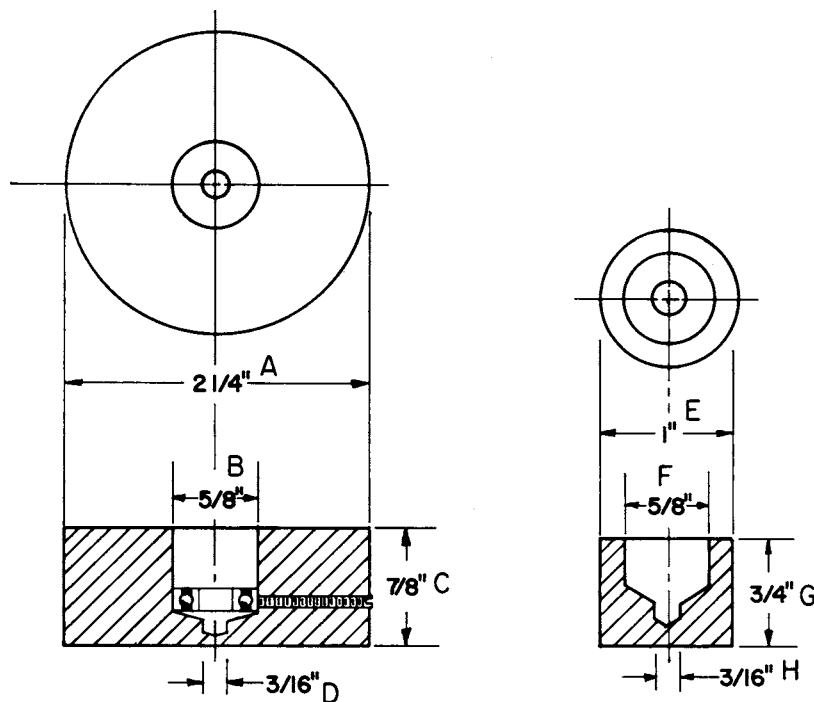
¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B08 on Metallic and Inorganic Coatings and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B08.12 on Materials for Porcelain Enamel and Ceramic-Metal Systems.

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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.

³ Suitable lapping plates are available from Buehler Ltd., 2120 Greenwood St., Evanston, IL 60204, Struers, Inc., 20102 Progress Drive, Cleveland, OH, 44136; or other Metallurgical Supply Sources.

⁴ An Olsen "S.M." Automatic Polisher has been found suitable and is available under the code name OLPOL from Struers, Inc., 20102 Progress Drive, Cleveland, OH 44136.



Cleaning Head, Brass

Soiling Head, Brass

	Metric Equivalents								
in.	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
(mm)	2 1/4 (57)	5/8 (16)	7/8 (22)	3/16 (5)	1 (25)	5/8 (16)	3/4 (19)	3/16 (5)	

FIG. 1 Cleaning and Soiling Heads

5.9 *Extraction Cell*, fitted with a fluorosilicone O-ring, size 3.2 by 57 mm (1/8 by 2 1/4 in.) (Fig. 2).⁵

5.10 *Fluorometer*, for measuring the fluorescence of solutions.⁶

5.11 *0.9 Neutral Density Filter*, 50.8 by 50.8 mm (2 by 2 in.) glass mounted (transmission 12.5 %).

5.12 *Beakers*, borosilicate, 100-mL capacity.

6. Reagents and Materials

6.1 *Cleaning Tissues*, approximately 127 by 229 mm (5 by 9 in.).⁷

6.2 *Potassium Carbonate*.

6.3 *Polyethylene Glycol*, 400.

6.4 *Uranine*, water-soluble, USP.⁸

6.5 *Keco Acid Black*, B(F101).⁹

⁵ O-rings must be fluorosilicone polymer; consult Precision Associates, 742 N. Washington Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55401; Parker Seal Co., 10567 W. Jefferson Blvd., Culver City, CA 90230; & B. W. Rogers (Parker Dis.) 1000 Brookpark Rd., Cleveland, OH 44109. Also see other sources in Thomas Register under SEALS: "O" RINGS. A suitable device for clamping the cell to a specimen is shown in Fig. 3 and Fig. 5.

⁶ Turner Fluorometer, Model 111 (Turner 111-003) available from Curtin Matheson Scientific, Inc., 10727 Tucker St., Beltsville, MD 20705, Sequoia-Turner Dial Model 111, Fisher Scientific Co., 711 Forbes Ave., Pittsburg, PA 15219, and other principal cities for both.

⁷ Cel-Fibe Wipes, Type 1745 or equivalent.

⁸ Uranine is the sodium salt of fluorescein, C₂₀H₁₀O₅Na₂.

⁹ A water-soluble fabric dye used principally for nylon, silk, and wool; available from Keystone Aniline and Chemical Co., 321 N. Loomis, Chicago, IL 60607.

6.6 *Ethyl Alcohol*.

6.7 *Mild Household Detergent*, liquid.

7. Test Specimens

7.1 The preferred specimen size is 114 mm (4 1/2 in.) square, but any other size or shape may be used provided it can be rotated on the lapping wheel and the smaller dimension is between 102 and 127 mm (4 and 5 in.). Sharp or jagged edges shall be filed or honed to prevent snagging of the cleaning tissues during the mechanical cleaning process.

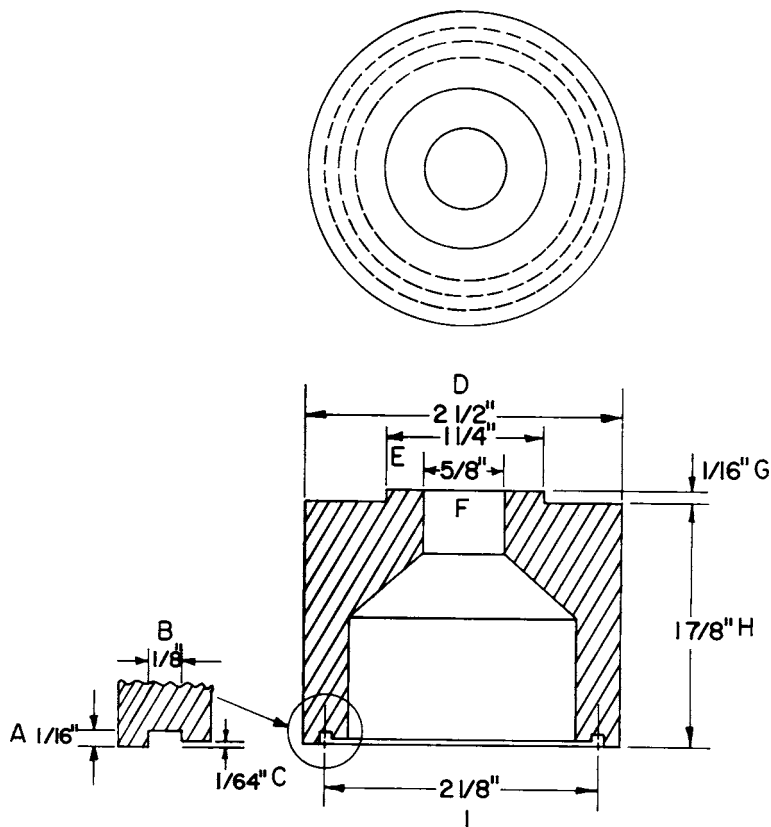
7.2 Twelve specimens are required to evaluate the cleanability index, that is, six of the candidate surface, and six of a porcelain enamel standard reference surface for cleanability. Porcelain enamel specimens are not damaged by the cleanability test and may be cleaned and reused many times. Specimens have been reused as many as 50 times without damage or solid buildup.

NOTE 1—The porcelain enamel covercoat used to coat the standard reference surface shall have the following characteristics: Acid Resistance: AA (Test Method C 282) Alkali Resistance: Maximum 1.55 mg/cm wt. loss (Test Method C 614).

8. Preparation of Standard Soil

8.1 The soiling agent shall consist of the following:

Ingredient	Weight %
Polyethylene glycol	98
Keco Acid Black B	1
Uranine, water-soluble	1



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
in.	1/16	1/8	1/64	2 1/2	1 1/4	5/8	1/16	1 7/8	2 1/8
(mm.)	(1.6)	(3.2)	(0.4)	(64)	(32)	(16)	(1.6)	(47)	(54)

Metric Equivalents

All surfaces to be plated with bright nickel.

FIG. 2 Brass Extraction Cell

8.2 The uranine shall be added to the polyethylene glycol in food blender and mixed by alternate periods of mixing and standing until the crystalline uranine appears to be completely dissolved in the glycol. The black dye which obscures all else shall be added last and thoroughly mixed in the blender. This soiling agent shall be stored in a tightly stoppered glass bottle at least overnight before use.

9. Procedure

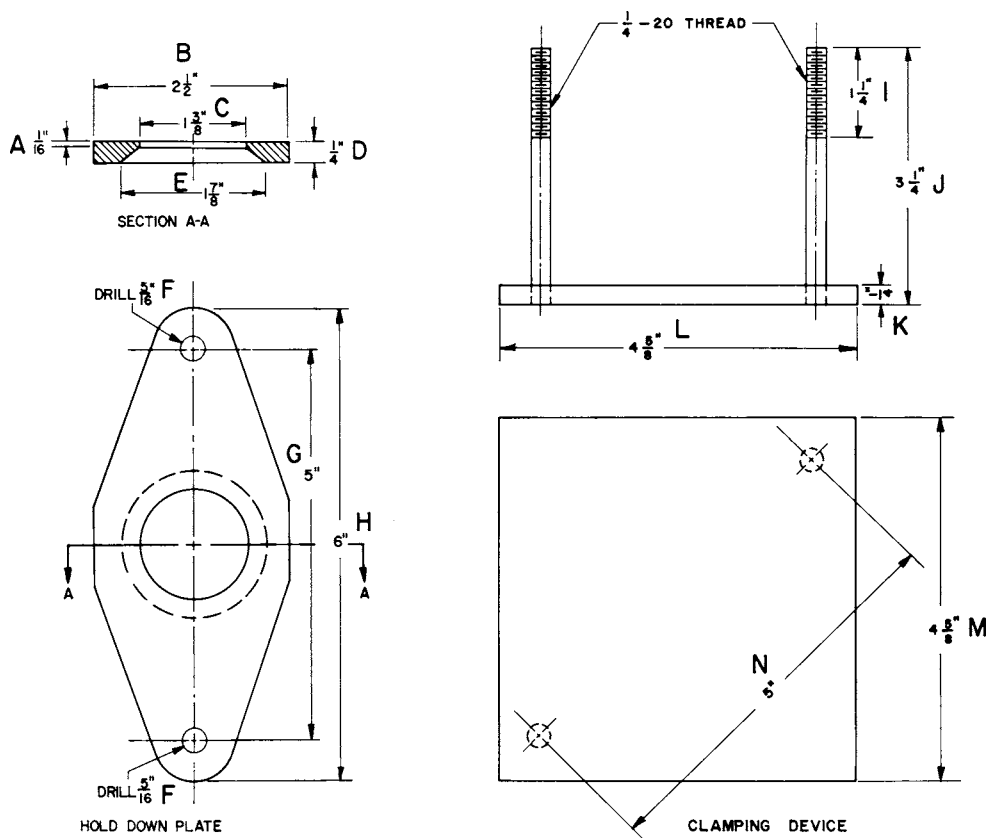
9.1 *Specimen Pretreatment*—Scrub the specimens with a cellulose sponge wet with a 1 % solution of a mild household detergent at room temperature. Rinse in turn with tap water, distilled water, and ethyl alcohol, and allow to dry in a near-vertical position at room temperature. Store the washed and dried specimens overnight in a desiccator charged with a saturated solution of potassium carbonate.

9.2 *Conditioning of Cleaning Tissues*—Cut a supply of tissues ample for use in specimen cleaning treatment in the following paragraph into approximately 102-mm (4-in.) squares and store overnight, before use, in a desiccator charged with a saturated solution of potassium carbonate (relative humidity approximately 45 %). Allow the tissues to remain in the desiccator until just prior to use.

9.3 *Soiling and Cleaning Treatments:*

9.3.1 Lay out six specimens face up on a table. Homogenize the soiling agent by up-ending several times before use. Fill the hypodermic syringe with no needle attached with the soiling agent by withdrawing the plunger. Expel this charge of soil back into the soil bottle. Then fill the syringe again. Wipe the tip of the syringe with a cleaning tissue and expel several drops into the soil bottle. Then, without rewiping the tip, hold the syringe vertically over a specimen and discharge one drop near the center of each of the six specimens. Center the first specimen on the lapping wheel and hold it in place by means of adhesive tape across the specimen corners. Place the polytetrafluoroethylene-faced soiling head on the soil, and engage the spindle (Fig. 4) of the polishing unit. Operate the lapping wheel and the polishing unit for 1 min to distribute the soil over the central portion of the specimen (Fig. 5). Remove the soiling head and clean it with tissue for reuse. Adjust the spindle so that it rests over the center of the soil spot. Prepare two cleaning heads 57 mm (2 1/4 in.) diameter) by covering with four thicknesses of cleaning tissues clamped smoothly in place. With the repeating pipet expel exactly 0.021 mL of distilled water at the center of the tissue on the first cleaning head.

9.3.2 Immediately place the cleaning head with tissue side against the soiled specimen, engage the spindle, and operate for 22 s (so that it will stop as well as start at the center of the



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
in.	$\frac{1}{16}$	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$1\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$1\frac{7}{8}$	$\frac{5}{16}$	5	6	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$4\frac{5}{8}$	$4\frac{5}{8}$	5
(mm)	(1.6)	(64)	(35)	(6.4)	(47)	(8)	(127)	(152)	(32)	(83)	(6.4)	(117)	(117)	(127)

FIG. 3 Device for Clamping Extraction Cell to Specimen

specimen). Remove the cleaning head without sliding motion. Repeat the cleaning operation with the second tissue-covered head, using the same amount of distilled water and for the same 22-s period.

9.3.3 Store the first soiled and cleaned specimen in a near vertical position in a rack while applying exactly the same series of soiling and cleaning treatments to the five remaining specimens.

9.4 *Water Extraction of the Soil Retained*—Remove the small, often nonvisible, amounts of soil from the central portion of the soiled and cleaned specimens with 10 mL of distilled water in the O-ring sealed extraction cell by the following sequence of operations within 30 min after soiling; place the first soiled and cleaned specimen, face up, in the center of the cell clamping frame. Place a clean and dry extraction cell (Fig. 2) on the center of the specimen so that the O-ring defines the area to be extracted (Fig. 5). Clamp the cell in the frame with a light pressure from the wing nuts; introduce 10 mL of distilled water with the 10-mL repeating pipet, swirl the water in the cell momentarily and let stand for 3 min, give the solution in the cell another swirl and pour out into a clean and dry 100 mL beaker; transfer a portion of the extract to a clean, dry cuvette and place the cuvette in a rack until the other five extracts are ready for measurement in the fluorometer.

9.5 *Measurement of Fluorescence*—Operate the fluorometer according to the manufacturer's instructions. Measure and record the fluorescence of a distilled water blank. Measure and record in turn the fluorescence of the solutions extracted from the specimens.

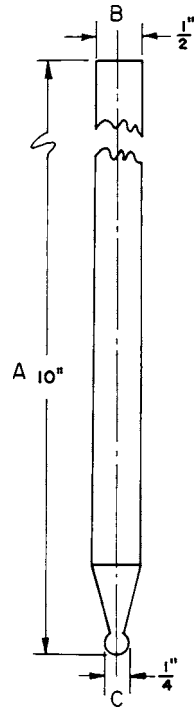
NOTE 2—If concentrated solutions give off-scale readings, a 0.9 neutral-density filter should be inserted between the fluorescing solution and the photomultiplier. This filter transmits only 12.5 % of the light emitted by the solution, reducing the fluorescence readings and bringing them on scale. Redetermine the blank reading with the filter in place and multiply the reduced reading by 8.0 which is 1 divided by the 12.5 % transmission of the neutral density filter.

9.6 *Standard Reference Surface*—Apply the test procedure outlined in 7.1 through 7.5 to the Standard Reference Surfaces at least once during each testing day to obtain the average fluorescence of solutions extracted from these specimens.

9.7 *Preferred Methods of Equipment Cleaning:*

9.7.1 The successful use of the fluorimetric analytical techniques employed in this procedure demands that a scrupulous level of cleanliness be maintained throughout. An oily thumbprint on the glass cuvette containing the solution to be measured may be more fluorescent than the unknown.

9.7.2 Wash the glass beakers and the extraction cells before and after use by brushing in a warm detergent solution; rinse



Metric Equivalents			
	A	B	C
in.	10	1/2	1/4
(mm.)	(254)	(13)	(6.4)

FIG. 4 Spindle for Polisher

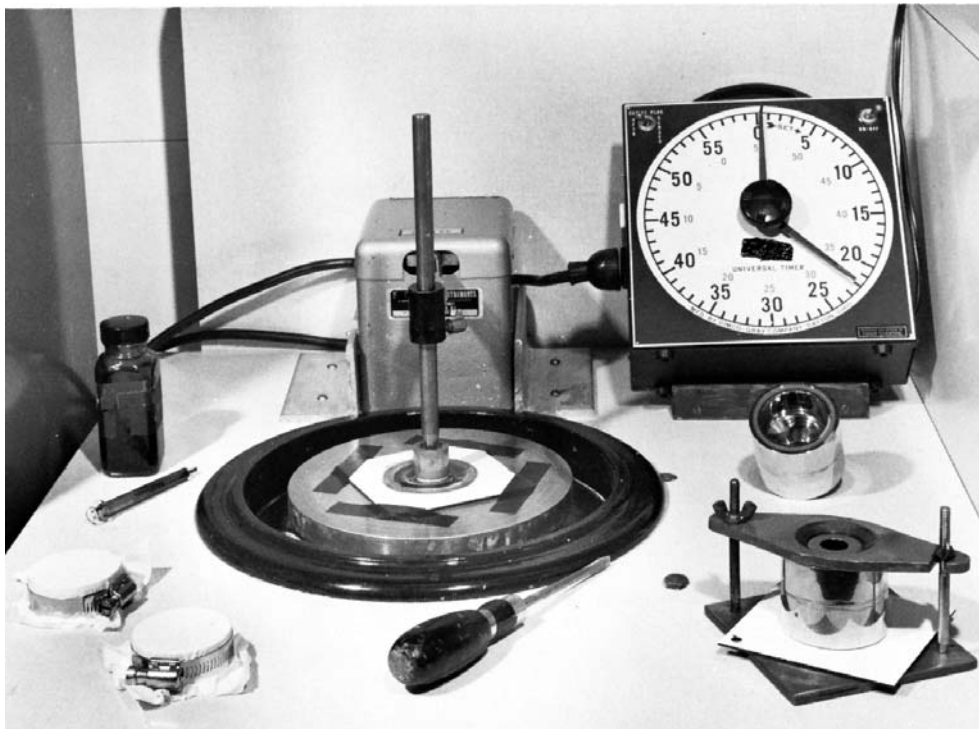


FIG. 5 Equipment Used in Soiling and Cleaning Specimens

copiously with flowing tap water and then with distilled water. The glass beakers may be oven dried. The extraction cells,

without O-ring removal, may be wiped dry with clean tissue. Clean the syringe used for dispensing uniform amounts of soil

on the specimens immediately following use with tap water, distilled water and alcohol, and dry the parts with tissue. Give the glass cuvettes used for measuring fluorescent solutions several rinses with tap water and then alcohol, and allow to drain in an inverted position in a holding rack. Discard the tissue for wiping glassware and other equipment after one use.

10. Calculation of a Cleanability Index

10.1 Subtract the measured fluorescence value for the distilled water blank from the measured fluorescence value for each of the six test surfaces and the six standard reference surfaces. This will result in corrected fluorescence values for the six test surfaces and for the six standard reference surfaces.

10.2 Calculate the average of the corrected fluorescence values for the six test surfaces and for the six standard reference surfaces.

10.3 Calculate the coefficient of variation of the corrected fluorescence values for the six test surfaces and for the six standard reference surfaces.

10.4 Repeat the cleanability determinations on all six specimens (either the test specimens or the six standard reference specimens) if the coefficient of variation is greater than 20 %.

10.5 The cleanability index is calculated as follows:

$$CI = Ft/Fr \quad (1)$$

where:

CI = the cleanability index of the surface being tested,

Ft = the average corrected fluorescence of the test surfaces as calculated in 10.2, and

Fr = the average corrected fluorescence of the standard reference surfaces as calculated in 10.3.

10.6 The method of calculation is shown in the Appendixes.

11. Precision and Bias

11.1 The precision of this test method, when performed by the same operator in the same laboratory, should be sufficient so that the cleanability determination on six standard references should show a coefficient of variation no greater than 20 %. No standard is available by which the bias of the test method can be determined.

APPENDIXES

(Nonmandatory Information)

X1. INITIAL CALCULATIONS

X1.1 The four calculations necessary on the data for the standard reference surfaces and the test surfaces before the cleanability index can be determined are:

X1.1.1 Correcting fluorescence measurements:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Test Surface} \\ CFT = FTS - FB \end{array} \quad (X1.1)$$

where:

CFT = corrected fluorescence measurement for the test surface,

FTS = measured fluorescence of the test surface, and

FB = measured fluorescence of the distilled water blank.

Standard Reference Surface

$$CFS = FSR - FB \quad (X1.2)$$

where:

CFS = corrected fluorescence measurement for the standard reference surface,

FSR = measured fluorescence of the standard reference surface, and

FB = measured fluorescence of the distilled water blank.

X1.1.2 Determining average corrected fluorescence:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Test Surface} \\ Ft = \Sigma CFT/N \end{array} \quad (X1.3)$$

where:

Ft = average corrected fluorescence of the test surfaces,

ΣCFT = sum of the corrected fluorescence measurements for the test surfaces, and

N = number of test surfaces (6).

Standard Reference Surface

$$Fr = \Sigma CFS/N \quad (X1.4)$$

where:

Fr = average corrected fluorescence of the standard surfaces,

ΣCFS = sum of the corrected fluorescence measurements for the standard reference surfaces, and

N = number of standard reference surfaces (6).

X1.1.3 Determining standard deviation:

Test Surface

$$STS = \sqrt{[\Sigma CFT^2 - (\Sigma CFT)^2/N]/(N - 1)} \quad (X1.5)$$

where:

STS = standard deviation of the corrected fluorescence measurements for the test surface,

ΣCFT^2 = sum of the squares of the corrected fluorescence measurements of the test surfaces,

$(\Sigma CFT)^2$ = square of the sums of the corrected fluorescence measurements for the test surfaces, and

N = number of test surfaces (6).

Standard Reference Surface



SRS = sqrt([sum CFS^2 - (sum CFS)^2/N/(N-1)]) (X1.6)

where:

- SRS = standard deviation of the corrected fluorescence measurements for the test surface,
sum CFS^2 = sum of the squares of the corrected fluorescence measurements of the standard reference surfaces,
(sum CFS)^2 = square of the sums of the corrected fluorescence measurements for the standard reference surfaces, and
N = number of standard reference surfaces (6).

X1.1.4 Determining coefficient of variation:

Test Surface
CVT = STS/Ft x 100 (X1.7)

where:

- CVT = coefficient of variation for the test surfaces,
STS = standard deviation for the test surfaces, and
Ft = average corrected fluorescence for the test surfaces.

Standard Reference Surface

CVS = SRS/Fr x 100 (X1.8)

where:

- CVS = coefficient of variation for the standard reference surfaces,
SRS = standard deviation for the standard reference surfaces, and
Fr = average corrected fluorescence for the standard reference surfaces.

X2. CLEANABILITY INDEX CALCULATIONS

X2.1 Once the four calculations in Appendix X1 have been made, the cleanability index may be determined by the following:

CI = Ft/Fr (X2.1)

where:

- CI = cleanability index,
Ft = average corrected fluorescence for the test surfaces, and
Fr = average corrected fluorescence for the standard reference surfaces

A detailed example is given in Appendix X3 which follows.

X3. SAMPLE CALCULATION OF CLEANABILITY INDEX

X3.1 The Measured Values:

Table with 2 columns: Material, Measured Fluorescence Value. Rows include Test surface Specimen number 1-6 and Standard reference surface Specimen number 1-6, plus Distilled water blank.

39.1 37.1 36.0 34.0

X3.3 To calculate the average corrected fluorescence values:

X3.3.1 Compute the sum of the six corrected fluorescence values for both the test surfaces and the standard reference surfaces.

Table with 2 columns: Test Surface, Standard Reference Surface. Rows show measured values and corrected values for both test and standard surfaces.

X3.3.2 Calculate the average corrected fluorescence value by dividing the sum obtained in X3.3.1 by 6 for both the test surfaces and the standard reference surfaces.

Table with 2 columns: Test Surface, Standard Reference Surface. Shows calculations: 247.1/6 = 41.18 and 200.00/6 = 33.33

X3.2 Subtract the measured fluorescence value for the distilled water blank from the measured fluorescence values of the test surface and the standard reference surface.

Table with 4 columns: Test Surface Measured Fluorescence, Test Surface Corrected Fluorescence, Standard Reference Surface Measured Fluorescence, Standard Reference Surface Corrected Fluorescence. Rows show values for specimens 1-6.

X3.4 To calculate the standard deviation of the corrected fluorescence values:

X3.4.1 Compute the sum of the squares of the six corrected fluorescence values for the test surfaces and the standard reference surfaces.



Test Surface	Standard Reference Surface
1980.25	930.25
1296.00	1260.25
1722.25	812.25
1444.00	1190.25
2500.00	1369.00
1376.41	1156.00
10 318.91	6718.00

142.51/5 = 28.50

51.33/5 = 10.27

X3.4.5 Take the square root of the values obtained in X3.4.4 for the test surfaces and the standard reference surfaces.

Test Surface
$\sqrt{28.50} = 5.34$

Standard Reference Surface
$\sqrt{10.27} = 3.20$

X3.4.2 Square the sums computed in X3.3.1 for the six test surfaces and the six standard reference surfaces and divide each sum by 6.

Test Surface	(X3.1)
$(247.1)^2/6 = 61\ 058.41/6 = 10\ 176.40$	
Standard Reference Surface	
$(200.0)^2/6 = 40\ 000/6 = 6666.67$	

Test Surface (X3.2)

5.34/41.18 × 100 = 13.0 %

Standard Reference Surface

3.20/33.33 × 100 = 9.6 %

X3.4.3 Subtract the value obtained in X3.4.2 from the value obtained in X3.4.1 for both the test surfaces and the standard reference surfaces.

Test Surface	Standard Reference Surface
10 318.91	6718.00
-10 176.40	-6666.67
142.51	51.33

X3.5.2 If the values in X3.5.1 are under 20 % proceed with the calculation of the Cleanability Index, X3.6 If the values in X3.5.1 are over 20 %, repeat the cleanability determinations on all six surfaces where indicated.

X3.4.4 Divide the value obtained in X3.4.3 by 5 for both the test surfaces and the standard reference surfaces.

Test Surface	Standard Reference Surface

X3.6 Calculation of Cleanability Index—Calculate the cleanability index by dividing the average corrected fluorescence value of the test surfaces (X3.3.2) by the average corrected fluorescence values of the standard reference surface (also in X3.3.2).

Cleanability index = 41.18/33.33 = 1.24 (X3.3)

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