



# Standard Specification for Standard Environment for Conditioning and Testing Paint, Varnish, Lacquer, and Related Materials<sup>1</sup>

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## 1. Scope

1.1 This specification defines the standard atmospheres for normal conditioning and testing of paint, varnish, lacquer, and related materials, at approximately ambient conditions.

NOTE 1—See Terminology E 41, Specification E 171 and Method E 337.

## 2. Referenced Documents

### 2.1 ASTM Standards:

E 41 Terminology Relating to Conditioning<sup>2</sup>

E 171 Specification for Standard Atmospheres for Conditioning and Testing Flexible Barrier Materials<sup>3</sup>

E 337 Test Method for Measuring Humidity with a Psychrometer (The Measurement of Wet- and Dry-Bulb Temperatures)<sup>4</sup>

## 3. Standard Atmosphere

3.1 Unless otherwise specified, conditioning and testing of coating materials known to be sensitive to variations in temperature or relative humidity shall be carried out in an atmosphere having a temperature of  $73.5 \pm 3.5^\circ\text{F}$  ( $23 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ) and a relative humidity of  $50 \pm 5\%$ . If closer tolerances are required,  $\pm 2^\circ\text{F}$  ( $\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ ) or even narrower limits, and  $\pm 2\%$  relative humidity may be specified.

3.2 The standard room or cabinet shall be well-ventilated

but free of drafts, dust, products of combustion, and laboratory fumes. Lighting conditions, unless otherwise specified, shall be that normally maintained in a room used for paint test purposes.

## 4. Standard Temperature

4.1 Unless otherwise specified, the standard test temperature shall be as specified in Section 3.

## 5. Room Temperature

5.1 A temperature in the range from 65 to 85°F (18 to 29.5°C) shall be called room temperature.

## 6. Conditioning and Testing

6.1 Unless otherwise specified in the test method, condition the organic coating materials or dried test films thereof and the test equipment for not less than 3 h in the appropriate atmosphere and verify the temperature of the material before conducting the test in the same atmosphere.

6.2 For routine testing where close temperature control is not critical, conduct all physical tests on organic coating materials or dried test films thereof at the room temperature of 65 to 85°F (18 to 29.5°C).

6.3 For referee testing, unless otherwise specified in the test method, conduct all physical tests on organic coating materials or dried test films thereof in the standard atmosphere as specified in Section 3.

## 7. Keywords

7.1 conditioning environment

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<sup>2</sup> Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 14.02.

<sup>3</sup> Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 15.09.

<sup>4</sup> Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 11.03.

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