This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.

Designation: D883 – 26

Standard Terminology Relating to Plastics[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D883; 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.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.

1. Scope*

1.1 This terminology covers definitions of technical terms used in the plastics industry. Terms that are generally understood or adequately defined in other readily available sources are not included.

1.2 When a term is used in an ASTM document for which Committee D20 is responsible it is included only when judged, after review, by Subcommittee D20.92 to be a generally usable term.

1.3 Definitions that are identical to those published by another standards body are identified with the abbreviation of the name of the organization; for example, IUPAC is the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry.

1.4 A definition is a descriptive phrase or a single sentence with additional information included in discussion notes.

NOTE 1—It is recommended that definitions be reviewed periodically.

1.4.1 When a new definition is added to this terminology standard, or the wording of a definition is revised, the date of the change shall be appended to the new or revised definition.

1.5 For literature related to plastics terminology, see Appendix X1.

1.6 Subsections 1.6.1 – 1.6.5 contain references to specific terminology standards that are relevant to specific plastic products or applications. In case of conflict between a definition contained in Terminology D883 and one contained in another standard, the definition given in Terminology D883 shall prevail.

1.6.1 For terms related to thermal insulation, the applicable definitions are contained in Terminology C168.

1.6.2 For terms related to electrical or electronic insulating materials, the applicable definitions are contained in Terminology D1711.

1.6.3 For terms relating to fire, the applicable definitions are contained in Terminology E176 and ISO 13943. In case of conflict between Terminology E176 and ISO 13943, the definitions given in Terminology E176 shall prevail.

1.6.4 For terms relating to precision and bias and associated issues, the applicable definitions are contained in Terminology E456.

1.6.5 For terms related to plastic piping systems, the applicable definitions are contained in Terminology F412.

1.7 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*[2]

C162 Terminology of Glass and Glass Products
C168 Terminology Relating to Thermal Insulation
C1147 Practice for Determining the Short Term Tensile Weld Strength of Chemical-Resistant Thermoplastics
D256 Test Methods for Determining the Izod Pendulum Impact Resistance of Plastics
D638 Test Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics
D731 Test Method for Molding Index of Thermosetting Molding Powder
D747 Test Method for Apparent Bending Modulus of Plastics by Means of a Cantilever Beam (Withdrawn 2019)[3]
D785 Test Method for Rockwell Hardness of Plastics and Electrical Insulating Materials
D790 Test Methods for Flexural Properties of Unreinforced and Reinforced Plastics and Electrical Insulating Materials
D882 Test Method for Tensile Properties of Thin Plastic Sheeting
D907 Terminology of Adhesives
D953 Test Method for Pin-Bearing Strength of Plastics

[1] This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D20 on Plastics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D20.92 on Terminology.

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[2] For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at www.astm.org/contact. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

[3] The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

***A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard**

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D955 Test Method of Measuring Shrinkage from Mold Dimensions of Thermoplastics
D1003 Test Method for Haze and Luminous Transmittance of Transparent Plastics
D1056 Specification for Flexible Cellular Materials—Sponge or Expanded Rubber
D1248 Specification for Polyethylene Plastics Extrusion Materials for Wire and Cable
D1430 Classification System for Polychlorotrifluoroethylene (PCTFE) Plastics
D1593 Specification for Nonrigid Vinyl Chloride Plastic Film and Sheeting
D1622 Test Method for Apparent Density of Rigid Cellular Plastics
D1667 Specification for Flexible Cellular Materials—Poly (Vinyl Chloride) Foam (Closed-Cell)
D1709 Test Methods for Impact Resistance of Plastic Film by the Free-Falling Dart Method
D1711 Terminology Relating to Electrical Insulation
D1894 Test Method for Static and Kinetic Coefficients of Friction of Plastic Film and Sheeting
D1896/D1896M Practice for Transfer Molding Test Specimens of Thermosetting Compounds
D1929 Test Method for Determining Ignition Temperature of Plastics
D1972 Practice for Generic Marking of Plastic Products (Withdrawn 2014)[3]
D1998 Specification for Polyethylene Upright Storage Tanks
D2103 Specification for Polyethylene Film
D2105 Test Method for Longitudinal Tensile Properties of "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting-Resin) Pipe and Tube
D2143 Test Method for Cyclic Pressure Strength of Reinforced, Thermosetting Plastic Pipe
D2463 Test Method for Drop Impact Resistance of Blow-Molded Thermoplastic Containers
D2561 Test Method for Environmental Stress-Crack Resistance of Blow-Molded Polyethylene Containers
D2578 Test Method for Wetting Tension of Polyethylene and Polypropylene Films
D2582 Test Method for Puncture-Propagation Tear Resistance of Plastic Film and Thin Sheeting
D2659 Test Method for Column Crush Properties of Blown Thermoplastic Containers
D2673 Specification for Oriented Polypropylene Film
D2684 Test Method for Permeability of Thermoplastic Containers to Packaged Reagents or Proprietary Products
D2765 Test Methods for Determination of Gel Content and Swell Ratio of Crosslinked Ethylene Plastics
D2838 Test Method for Shrink Tension and Orientation Release Stress of Plastic Film and Thin Sheeting
D2863 Test Method for Measuring the Minimum Oxygen Concentration to Support Candle-Like Combustion of Plastics (Oxygen Index)
D2911 Specification for Dimensions and Tolerances for Plastic Bottles
D2924 Test Method for External Pressure Resistance of "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting-Resin) Pipe
D2925 Test Method for Beam Deflection of "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting Resin) Pipe Under Full Bore Flow
D2990 Test Methods for Tensile, Compressive, and Flexural Creep and Creep-Rupture of Plastics
D2992 Practice for Obtaining Hydrostatic or Pressure Design Basis for "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting-Resin) Pipe and Fittings
D2996 Specification for Filament-Wound "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting-Resin) Pipe
D2997 Specification for Centrifugally Cast "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting-Resin) Pipe
D3262 Specification for "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting-Resin) Sewer Pipe
D3295 Specification for PTFE Tubing, Miniature Beading and Spiral Cut Tubing
D3296 Specification for FEP Resin Tube
D3308 Specification for PTFE Resin Skived Tape
D3350 Specification for Polyethylene Plastics Pipe and Fittings Materials
D3419 Practice for In-Line Screw-Injection Molding Test Specimens From Thermosetting Compounds
D3420 Test Method for Pendulum Impact Resistance of Plastic Film
D3489 Test Methods for Microcellular Urethane Materials
D3517 Specification for "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting-Resin) Pressure Pipe
D3567 Practice for Determining Dimensions of "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting Resin) Pipe and Fittings
D3574 Test Methods for Flexible Cellular Materials—Slab, Bonded, and Molded Polyurethane Foams
D3575 Test Methods for Flexible Cellular Materials Made from Olefin Polymers
D3641 Practice for Injection Molding Test Specimens of Thermoplastic Molding and Extrusion Materials
D3675 Test Method for Surface Flammability of Flexible Cellular Materials Using a Radiant Heat Energy Source
D3676 Specification for Rubber Cellular Cushion Used for Carpet or Rug Underlay
D3679 Specification for Rigid Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Siding
D3681 Test Method for Chemical Resistance of "Fiberglass" (Glass–Fiber–Reinforced Thermosetting-Resin) Pipe in a Deflected Condition
D3754 Specification for "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting-Resin) Sewer and Industrial Pressure Pipe
D3795 Test Method for Thermal Flow, Cure, and Behavior Properties of Pourable Thermosetting Materials by Torque Rheometer
D3801 Test Method for Measuring the Comparative Burning Characteristics of Solid Plastics in a Vertical Position

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D3826 Practice for Determining Degradation End Point in Degradable Polyethylene and Polypropylene Using a Tensile Test
D3835 Test Method for Determination of Properties of Polymeric Materials by Means of a Capillary Rheometer
D3839 Guide for Underground Installation of "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber Reinforced Thermosetting-Resin) Pipe
D3840 Specification for "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting-Resin) Pipe Fittings for Nonpressure Applications
D3851 Specification for Microcellular Polyurethane Shoe Soling Materials
D3895 Test Method for Oxidative-Induction Time of Polyolefins by Differential Scanning Calorimetry
D3965 Classification System and Basis for Specifications for Rigid Acrylonitrile-Butadiene-Styrene (ABS) Materials for Pipe and Fittings
D3982 Specification for Contact Molded "Fiberglass" (Glass Fiber Reinforced Thermosetting Resin) Ducts
D4020 Specification for Ultra-High-Molecular-Weight Polyethylene Molding and Extrusion Materials
D4068 Specification for Chlorinated Polyethylene (CPE) Sheeting for Concealed Water-Containment Membrane
D4093 Test Method for Photoelastic Measurements of Birefringence and Residual Strains in Transparent or Translucent Plastic Materials
D4097 Specification for Contact-Molded Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermoset Resin Corrosion-Resistant Tanks
D4101 Classification System and Basis for Specification for Polypropylene Injection and Extrusion Materials
D4204 Practice for Preparing Plastic Film Specimens for a Round-Robin Study
D4216 Specification for Rigid Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) and Related PVC and Chlorinated Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (CPVC) Building Products Compounds
D4218 Test Method for Determination of Carbon Black Content in Polyethylene Compounds by the Muffle-Furnace Technique
D4226 Test Methods for Impact Resistance of Rigid Poly-(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Building Products
D4272 Test Method for Total Energy Impact of Plastic Films by Dart Drop
D4321 Test Method for Package Yield of Plastic Film
D4385 Practice for Classifying Visual Defects in Thermosetting Reinforced Plastic Pultruded Products
D4397 Specification for Polyethylene Sheeting for Construction, Industrial, and Agricultural Applications
D4441 Specification for Aqueous Dispersions of Polytetrafluoroethylene
D4477 Specification for Rigid (Unplasticized) Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Soffit
D4495 Test Method for Impact Resistance of Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Rigid Profiles by Means of a Falling Weight
D4551 Specification for Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Plastic Flexible Concealed Water-Containment Membrane
D4603 Test Method for Determining Inherent Viscosity of Poly(Ethylene Terephthalate) (PET) by Glass Capillary Viscometer
D4659 Test Methods for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Determination of Specific Gravity of Isocyanates
D4660 Test Methods for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Determination of the Isomer Content of Toluenediisocyanate
D4662 Test Methods for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Determination of Acid and Alkalinity Numbers of Polyols
D4663 Test Method for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Determination of Hydrolyzable Chlorine of Isocyanates
D4669 Test Method for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Determination of Specific Gravity of Polyols
D4703 Practice for Compression Molding Thermoplastic Materials into Test Specimens, Plaques, or Sheets
D4726 Specification for Rigid Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Exterior-Profile Extrusions Used for Assembled Windows and Doors
D4745 Classification System and Basis for Specification for Filled Polytetrafluoroethlyene (PTFE) Molding and Extrusion Materials Using ASTM Methods
D4802 Specification for Poly(Methyl Methacrylate) Acrylic Plastic Sheet
D4803 Test Method for Predicting Heat Buildup in PVC Building Products
D4804 Test Method for Determining the Flammability Characteristics of Nonrigid Solid Plastics
D4875 Test Methods of Polyurethane Raw Materials: Determination of the Polymerized Ethylene Oxide Content of Polyether Polyols
D4894 Specification for Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) Granular Molding and Ram Extrusion Materials
D4895 Specification for Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) Resin Produced From Dispersion
D4986 Test Method for Horizontal Burning Characteristics of Cellular Polymeric Materials
D5028 Test Method for Curing Properties of Pultrusion Resins by Thermal Analysis
D5047 Specification for Polyethylene Terephthalate Film and Sheeting
D5048 Test Method for Measuring the Comparative Burning Characteristics and Resistance to Burn-Through of Solid Plastics Using a 125-mm Flame
D5117 Test Method for Dye Penetration of Solid Fiberglass Reinforced Pultruded Stock
D5138 Classification System and Basis for Specification for Liquid Crystal Polymers Molding and Extrusion Materials (LCP)
D5155 Test Methods for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Determination of the Isocyanate Content of Aromatic Isocyanates
D5204 Classification System and Basis for Specification for Polyamide-Imide (PAI) Molding and Extrusion Materials
D5206 Test Method for Windload Resistance of Rigid Plastic Siding
D5224 Practice for Compression Molding Test Specimens of Thermosetting Molding Compounds

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D5319 Specification for Glass-Fiber Reinforced Polyester Wall and Ceiling Panels
D5336 Classification System and Basis for Specification for Polyphthalamide (PPA) Injection Molding Materials
D5364 Guide for Design, Fabrication, and Erection of Fiberglass Reinforced (FRP) Plastic Chimney Liners with Coal-Fired Units
D5365 Test Method for Long-Term Ring-Bending Strain of "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting-Resin) Pipe
D5419 Test Method for Environmental Stress Crack Resistance (ESCR) of Threaded Plastic Closures
D5420 Test Method for Impact Resistance of Flat, Rigid Plastic Specimen by Means of a Striker Impacted by a Falling Weight (Gardner Impact)
D5421 Specification for Contact Molded "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting Resin) Flanges
D5491 Classification for Recycled Post-Consumer Polyethylene Film Sources for Molding and Extrusion Materials
D5492 Test Method for Determination of Xylene Solubles in Propylene Plastics
D5511 Test Method for Determining Anaerobic Biodegradation of Plastic Materials Under High-Solids Anaerobic-Digestion Conditions
D5523 Test Method for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Acidity by Argentometric Determination of Hydrolyzable Chlorine in Monomeric, Aromatic Isocyanates
D5575 Classification System for Copolymers of Vinylidene Fluoride (VDF) with Other Fluorinated Monomers
D5577 Guide for Techniques to Separate and Identify Contaminants in Recycled Plastics
D5628 Test Method for Impact Resistance of Flat, Rigid Plastic Specimens by Means of a Falling Dart (Tup or Falling Mass)
D5629 Test Method for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Determination of Acidity in Low-Acidity Aromatic Isocyanates and Polyurethane Prepolymers
D5675 Classification for Low Molecular Weight PTFE and FEP Micronized Powders
D5677 Specification for Fiberglass (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting-Resin) Pipe and Pipe Fittings, Adhesive Bonded Joint Type, for Aviation Jet Turbine Fuel Lines
D5748 Test Method for Protrusion Puncture Resistance of Stretch Wrap Film
D5814 Practice for Determination of Contamination in Recycled Poly(Ethylene Terephthalate) (PET) Flakes and Chips Using a Plaque Test
D5857 Specification for Polypropylene Injection and Extrusion Materials Using ISO Protocol and Methodology
D5926 Specification for Poly (Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Gaskets for Drain, Waste, and Vent (DWV), Sewer, Sanitary, and Storm Plumbing Systems
D5930 Test Method for Thermal Conductivity of Plastics by Transient Line-Source Technique
D5946 Test Method for Corona-Treated Polymer Films Using Water Contact Angle Measurements
D5947 Test Methods for Physical Dimensions of Solid Plastics Specimens
D5948 Specification for Molding Compounds, Thermosetting
D5989 Specification for Extruded and Monomer Cast Shapes Made from Nylon (PA)
D5991 Practice for Separation and Identification of Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Contamination in Poly(Ethylene Terephthalate) (PET) Flake
D6040 Guide to Standard Test Methods for Unsintered Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) Extruded Film or Tape
D6041 Specification for Contact-Molded "Fiberglass" (Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Thermosetting Resin) Corrosion Resistant Pipe and Fittings
D6068 Test Method for Determining ***J-R*** Curves of Plastic Materials
D6099 Test Method for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Determination of Acidity in Moderate to High Acidity Aromatic Isocyanates
D6100 Specification for Extruded, Compression Molded and Injection Molded Polyoxymethylene Shapes (POM)
D6108 Test Method for Compressive Properties of Plastic Lumber and Shapes
D6111 Test Method for Bulk Density And Specific Gravity of Plastic Lumber and Shapes by Displacement
D6112 Test Methods for Compressive and Flexural Creep and Creep-Rupture of Plastic Lumber and Shapes
D6117 Test Methods for Mechanical Fasteners in Plastic Lumber and Shapes
D6226 Test Method for Open Cell Content of Rigid Cellular Plastics
D6247 Test Method for Determination of Elemental Content of Polyolefins by Wavelength Dispersive X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry
D6261 Specification for Extruded and Compression Molded Basic Shapes Made from Thermoplastic Polyester (TPES)
D6263 Specification for Extruded Rods and Bars Made From Rigid Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) and Chlorinated Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (CPVC)
D6288 Practice for Separation and Washing of Recycled Plastics Prior to Testing
D6338 Classification System for Highly Crosslinked Thermoplastic Vulcanizates (HCTPV) Based on ASTM Standard Test Methods
D6341 Test Method for Determination of the Linear Coefficient of Thermal Expansion of Plastic Lumber and Plastic Lumber Shapes Between –30 and 140°F (–34.4 and 60°C)
D6342 Practice for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Determining Hydroxyl Number of Polyols by Near Infrared (NIR) Spectroscopy
D6394 Classification System for and Basis for Specification for Sulfone Plastics (SP)
D6437 Test Method for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Alkalinity in Low-Alkalinity Polyols (Determination of CPR Values of Polyols)
D6474 Test Method for Determining Molecular Weight Distribution and Molecular Weight Averages of Polyolefins by High Temperature Gel Permeation Chromatography

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D6576 Specification for Flexible Cellular Rubber Chemically Blown
D6585 Specification for Unsintered Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) Extruded Film or Tape
D6594 Test Method for Evaluation of Corrosiveness of Diesel Engine Oil at 135 °C
D6662 Specification for Polyolefin-Based Plastic Lumber Decking Boards
D6712 Specification for Ultra-High-Molecular-Weight Polyethylene (UHMW-PE) Solid Plastic Shapes
D6713 Specification for Extruded and Compression Molded Shapes Made from Poly(Vinylidene Fluoride) (PVDF)
D6779 Classification System for and Basis of Specification for Polyamide Molding and Extrusion Materials (PA)
D6783 Specification for Polymer Concrete Pipe
D6868 Specification for Labeling of End Items that Incorporate Plastics and Polymers as Coatings or Additives with Paper and Other Substrates Designed to be Aerobically Composted in Municipal or Industrial Facilities
D6954 Guide for Exposing and Testing Plastics that Degrade in the Environment by a Combination of Oxidation and Biodegradation
D6979 Test Method for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Determination of Basicity in Polyols, Expressed as Percent Nitrogen
D6988 Guide for Determination of Thickness of Plastic Film Test Specimens
D7029/D7029M Test Method for Determination of Reactivity of Unsaturated Polyesters and Vinyl Esters at 180.0°F [82.2°C]
D7192 Test Method for High Speed Puncture Properties of Plastic Films Using Load and Displacement Sensors
D7193 Specification for Unsintered Pigmented Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) Extruded Film or Tape
D7253 Test Method for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Determination of Acidity as Acid Number for Polyether Polyols
D7254 Specification for Polypropylene (PP) Siding
D7258 Specification for Polymeric Piles
D7292 Specification for Extruded, Compression-Molded, and Injection-Molded Basic Shapes of Polyamide-Imide (PAI)
D7293 Specification for Extruded and Compression-Molded Shapes Made from Polyetherimide (PEI)
D7309 Test Method for Determining Flammability Characteristics of Plastics and Other Solid Materials Using Microscale Combustion Calorimetry
D7310 Practice for Defect Detection and Rating of Plastic Films Using Optical Sensors
D7445 Specification for Rigid Poly(Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Siding with Foam Plastic Backing (Backed Vinyl Siding)
D7473/D7473M Test Method for Weight Attrition of Non-floating Plastic Materials by Open System Aquarium Incubations
D7475 Test Method for Determining the Aerobic Degradation and Anaerobic Biodegradation of Plastic Materials under Accelerated Bioreactor Landfill Conditions
D7486 Test Method for Measurement of Fines and Dust Particles on Plastic Pellets by Wet Analysis
D7487 Practice for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Polyurethane Foam Cup Test
D7568 Specification for Polyethylene-Based Structural-Grade Plastic Lumber for Outdoor Applications
D7711 Guide for Description of Polymer Pellet Defects
D7856 Specification for Color and Appearance Retention of Solid and Variegated Color Plastic Siding Products using CIELab Color Space
D7990 Test Method for Using Reflectance Spectra to Produce an Index of Temperature Rise in Polymeric Siding
D7997 Practice for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Gel Tests for Polyurethane Non-Foam Formulations
D8033 Classification System for Poly(Ether Ether Ketone) (PEEK) Molding and Extrusion Materials
D8036 Test Method for Polyurethane Raw Materials: Determination of Dimer Ratio in Pure MDI
D8136 Test Method for Determining Plastic Film Thickness and Thickness Variability Using a Non-Contact Capacitance Thickness Gauge
D8280 Test Method for Determination of the Blooming of Brominated Flame Retardants onto the Surface of Plastic Materials by Ion Chromatography
D8366 Specification for Extruded and Compression Molded Shapes Made from Unfilled Poly(Vinylidene Fluoride) PVDF
D8484 Specification for Plastic Lumber Materials and Wood-Plastic Composite Materials Used as Exterior Wall Coverings
D8501 Classification System for and Basis for Specification for Unfilled Poly(Ether Ketone Ketone) (PEKK) Materials for Molding, Extrusion, Composites, Powder Coating and Additive Manufacturing
D8600 Test Method for Quantitative Exudation Measurement of Flexible Poly(Vinyl Chloride) Plastics
E176 Terminology of Fire Standards
E308 Practice for Computing the Colors of Objects by Using the CIE System
E456 Terminology Relating to Quality and Statistics
F412 Terminology Relating to Plastic Piping Systems

2.2 *ISO Standards:*[4]
ISO 472:2013 Plastics—Vocabulary
ISO 10303-2:2024 Industrial Automation Systems and Integration. Product data representation and exchange—Part 2: Vocabulary
ISO 13943:2023 Fire Safety—Vocabulary

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

A-stage, *n*—an early stage in the preparation of certain thermosetting resins in which the material is still soluble in certain liquids, and may be liquid or capable of becoming liquid upon heating.

DISCUSSION—Sometimes referred to as Resol. (See also **B-stage** and **C-stage**.) (1978)[5]

[4] Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 1180 6th Avenue, New York, NY, 10036, http://www.ansi.org.
[5] Date indicates year of introduction or latest revision.

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acetal plastics, *n*—plastics based on polymers having a predominance of acetal linkages in the main chain. (See also **polyoxymethylene**.) (1985)

acrylic plastics, *n*—plastics based on polymers made with acrylic acid or a structural derivative of acrylic acid. (1982)

addition polymerization—polymerization in which monomers are linked together without the splitting off of water or other simple molecules. (1983)

adiabatic extrusion—a method of extrusion in which, after the extrusion apparatus has been heated sufficiently by conventional means to plastify the material, the extrusion process can be continued with the sole source of heat being the conversion of the drive energy, through viscous resistance of the plastic mass in the extruder. (1978)

aging, *n—(1)* the effect on materials of exposure to an environment for an interval of time. *(2)* the process of exposing materials to an environment for an interval of time. (1973)

alkyd plastics, *n*—plastics based on alkyd resins. (1980)

alkyd resin, *n*—a polyester convertible into a crosslinked form; requiring a reactant of functionality higher than two, or having double bonds. (1982)

alloy, *n—(in plastics)*, two or more immiscible polymers united, usually by another component, to form a plastic resin having enhanced performance properties.

allyl plastics, *n*—plastics based on allyl resins. (1978)

allyl resin, *n*—a resin made by polymerization of chemical compounds containing the allyl group. (1978)

amino plastics, *n*—plastics based on amino resins. (1978)

amino resin, *n*—a resin made by polycondensation of a compound containing amino groups, such as urea or melamine, with an aldehyde, such as formaldehyde, or an aldehyde-yielding material. (1985)

*apparent density***—**See **density, apparent**.

aromatic polyester, *n*—a polyester derived from monomers in which all the hydroxyl and carboxyl groups are linked directly to aromatic nuclei. (1986)

artificial weathering, *n*—exposure to laboratory conditions, which may be cyclic, involving changes in temperature, relative humidity, radiant energy, and any other elements found in the atmosphere in various geographical areas.

Discussion—The laboratory exposure conditions are usually intensified beyond those encountered in actual outdoor exposure in an attempt to achieve an accelerated effect. (1980)

average injection velocity, *n*—the mean value of the velocity of the molten plastic flow front within a cavity during the injection time that is calculated from the shot volume and injection time.

B-stage, *n*—an intermediate stage in the reaction of certain thermosetting resins in which the material swells when in contact with certain liquids and softens when heated, but may not entirely dissolve or fuse.

Discussion—The resin in an uncured thermosetting molding compound is usually, in this stage, sometimes referred to as Resitol. (See also **A-stage** and **C-stage**.) (1978)

bag molding, *n*—a method of molding or laminating which involves the application of fluid pressure, usually by means of air, steam, water or vacuum, to a flexible barrier material which transmits the pressure to the material being molded or bonded.

Discussion—The process is usually employed for forming shapes from preformed laminates comprising a fibrous sheet impregnated with an A-stage or a B-stage thermosetting resin. (1986)

binder, *n*—in a reinforced plastic, the continuous phase which holds together the reinforcement.

Discussion—During fabrication, the binder, which may be either thermoplastic or thermoset, usually undergoes a change in state. (1978)

biodegradable plastic, *n*—See **degradable plastic**.

blister, *n*—an imperfection, a rounded elevation of the surface of a plastic, with boundaries that may be more or less sharply defined, somewhat resembling in shape a blister on the human skin. (1983)

block copolymer, *n*—an essentially linear copolymer in which there are repeated sequences of polymeric segments of different chemical structure. (1982)

blocking, *n*—unintentional adhesion between plastic films or between a film and another surface. (1983)

bloom, *n*—a visible exudation or efflorescence on the surface of a material. (1972)

blowing agent, *n*—a compounding ingredient used to produce gas by chemical or thermal action, or both, in manufacture of hollow or cellular articles. (1983)

blow molding, *n*—a method of fabrication in which a heated parison is forced into the shape of a mold cavity by internal gas pressure. (1985)

branched polyethylene plastics, *n*—those containing significant amounts of both short-chain and long-chain branching and having densities in the 0.910 to 0.940 g/cm^3 range.

Discussion—These plastics, usually produced commercially by free radical polymerization, are subcategorized by density level; low density polyethylene plastic and medium density polyethylene plastic.

bulk density, *n*—the weight per unit volume of a loosely packed material, such as a molding powder or pellets.

Discussion—This term should not be used synonymously with apparent density.

bulk factor, *n*—ratio of the volume of a given mass of molding material to its volume in the molded form.

Discussion—The bulk factor is also equal to the ratio of the density of the material to its apparent density in the unmolded form. (ISO 472) (2013)

bulk molding compound (BMC), *n*—a putty-like mixture of any thermosetting resin containing fillers, fiber reinforcements, catalysts and thickening agents, or thermoplastic polymers, often extruded into logs or ropes.

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DISCUSSION—BMC is suitable for molding by any one of three matched-metal-mold processes—compression molding, transfer molding, or injection molding. (1983)

butylene plastics, *n*—plastics based on resins made by the polymerization of butene or copolymerization of butene with one or more unsaturated compounds, the butene being in greatest amount by weight. (1975)

C-stage, *n*—the final stage in the reaction of certain thermosetting materials in which they have become practically insoluble and infusible.

DISCUSSION—The resin in a fully cured thermoset molding is, in this stage, sometimes referred to as Resite. (See also **A-stage** and **B-stage**.) (1986)

cast film, *n*—a film made by depositing a layer of plastic, either molten, in solution, or in a dispersion, onto a surface, solidifying and removing the film from the surface. (1982)

cavity, *n*—in specimen preparation, the part of the hollow space of a mold that forms one specimen.

cell, *n*—a small cavity surrounded partially or completely by walls. (1983)

cell, closed, *n*—a cell totally enclosed by its walls and hence not interconnecting with other cells. (See **cell** and **cell, open**.) (2024)

cell, open, *n*—a cell not totally enclosed by its walls and hence interconnecting with other cells. (See **cell** and **cell, closed**.) (1983)

cellular plastic, *n*—a plastic containing numerous cells, intentionally introduced, interconnecting or not, distributed throughout the mass. (See also **syntactic cellular plastics**.) (1983)

cellular striation, *n*—a condition characterized by a layer within a cellular material that differs greatly from the characteristic cell structure.

cellulosic plastics, *n*—plastics based on cellulose compounds, such as esters (cellulose acetate) and ethers (ethyl cellulose). (1985)

chalking, *n*—*(plastics)*, a powdery residue on the surface of a material resulting from degradation or migration of an ingredient, or both.

DISCUSSION—Chalking may be designed-in characteristic. (1980)

chemically foamed polymeric material, *n*—a cellular material in which the cells are formed by gases generated from thermal decomposition or other chemical reaction. (1982)

chlorinated poly(vinyl chloride), *n*—a poly(vinyl chloride) (PVC) polymer modified by additional chlorination. (2000)

chlorinated poly(vinyl chloride) plastics, *n*—plastics based on chlorinated poly(vinyl chloride) in which the chlorinated poly(vinyl chloride) is in the greatest amount by weight. (1978)

chlorofluorocarbon plastics, *n*—plastics based on polymers made with monomers composed of chlorine, fluorine, and carbon only. (2024)

chlorofluorohydrocarbon plastics, *n*—plastics based on polymers made with monomers composed of chlorine, fluorine, hydrogen, and carbon only. (2024)

circuit, *n*—*in filament winding*, the winding produced by a single revolution of mandrel or form. (1978)

closed-cell cellular plastics, *n*—cellular plastics in which almost all the cells are noninterconnecting. (1983)

cold flow, *n*—See **creep**. (1983)

cold molding, *n*—a special process of compression molding in which the molding is formed at room temperature and subsequently baked at elevated temperatures. (1982)

collapse, *n*—inadvertent densification of cellular material during manufacture resulting from breakdown of cell structure. (1982)

composite, *n*—a solid product consisting of two or more distinct phases, including a binding material (matrix) and a particulate or fibrous material.

DISCUSSION—Examples are moulding material containing reinforcing fibers, particulate fillers, or hollow spheres. (1991)

compost, *n*—the product of composting.

compostable plastic, *n*—a plastic that undergoes biological degradation during composting to yield carbon dioxide, water, inorganic compounds, and biomass at a rate consistent with other known compostable materials and leaves no visually distinguishable or toxic residues. (1996)

compound, *n*—an intimate admixture of (a) polymer(s) with all the materials necessary for the finished product. (1983)

compression molding, *n*—the method of molding a material already in a confined cavity by applying pressure and usually heat. (1986)

condensation polymer, *n*—a polymer made by condensation polymerization. (1983)

condensation polymerization, *n*—polymerization in which monomers are linked together with the splitting off of water or other simple molecules. (1983)

contact pressure molding, *n*—a method of molding or laminating in which the pressure, usually less than 70 kPa (10 psi), is only slightly more than necessary to hold the materials together during the molding operation. (1985)

cooling time, *n*—in molding, the time interval from the start of forward screw movement until the mold starts to open.

copolymer, *n*—See **polymer**. (1983)

copolymerization, *n*—See **polymerization**. (1983)

crater, *n*—a small, shallow surface imperfection. (1978)

crazing, *n*—apparent fine cracks at or under the surface of a plastic.

DISCUSSION—The crazed areas are composed of polymeric material of lower density than the surrounding matrix. (1978)

creep, *n*—the time-dependent part of strain resulting from stress. (1983)

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cross laminate, *n*—a laminate in which some of the layers of material are oriented approximately at right angles to the remaining layers with respect to the grain or strongest direction in tension. (See also **parallel laminate**). (1982)

crosslinking, *n*—the formation of a three dimensional polymer by means of interchain reactions resulting in changes in physical properties. (1983)

cross section of the cavity, *n*—in a mold for test specimens, the area of a planar section perpendicular to the flow pattern during filling of the mold that forms the critical portion of the test specimen.

cure, *v*—to change the properties of a polymeric system into a more stable, usable condition by the use of heat, radiation, or reaction with chemical additives.

DISCUSSION—Cure may be accomplished, for example, by removal of solvent or by crosslinking. (2024)

cure cycle, *n*—the schedule of time periods, at specified conditions, to which a reacting thermosetting material is subjected to reach a specified property level. (1983)

cure time, *n*—the period of time that a reacting thermosetting material is exposed to specific conditions to reach a specified property level. (1983)

cut-layers, *n*—as applied to laminated plastics, a condition of the surface of machined or ground rods and tubes and of sanded sheets in which cut edges of the surface layer or lower laminations are revealed. (1978)

cycle time, *n*—in molding, the total time used to carry out a complete sequence of operations making up the molding cycle.

degradable plastic, *n*—a plastic designed to undergo a significant change in its chemical structure under specific environmental conditions resulting in a loss of properties as measured by standard test methods appropriate to the plastic and the application in a period of time that determines its classification. (1991)

biodegradable plastic, *n*—a degradable plastic in which the degradation results from the action of naturally-occurring micro-organisms such as bacteria, fungi, and algae.

DISCUSSION—The level of biodegradability may be indicated as shown in subordinate definitions for biodegradable plastics. (1991)

hydrolytically degradable plastic, *n*—a degradable plastic in which the degradation results from hydrolysis.

DISCUSSION—The level of hydrolytic degradability may be indicated as shown in subordinate definitions for hydrolytically degradable plastic. (1991)

oxidatively degradable plastic, *n*—a degradable plastic in which the degradation results from oxidation.

DISCUSSION—The level of oxidative degradability may be indicated as shown in subordinate definitions for oxidatively degradable plastic. (1991)

photodegradable plastic, *n*—a degradable plastic in which the degradation results from the action of natural daylight.

DISCUSSION—The level of photodegradability may be indicated as shown in subordinate definitions for photodegradable plastic. (1991)

degradation, *n*—a deleterious change in the chemical structure, physical properties, or appearance of a plastic. (1980)

delamination, *n*—the separation of the layers of material in a laminate. (1978)

density, apparent, *n*—the weight in air of a unit volume of a material.

DISCUSSION—This term is sometimes used synonymously with bulk density. (1973)

density, bulk, *n*—the weight per unit volume of a material including voids inherent in material as tested.

DISCUSSION—This term is commonly used for material such as molding powder. (1973)

depth, *n*—in the case of a beam, the dimension parallel to the direction in which the load is applied. (1978)

dome, *n*—in reinforced plastics, an end of a filament-wound cylindrical container. (1985)

dry-blend, *n*—a dry compound prepared without fluxing or addition of solvent (also called powder blend). (1983)

dry-spot, *n*—an imperfection in reinforced plastics, an area of incomplete surface film where the reinforcement has not been wetted with resin. (1983)

durometer, *n*—an instrument for measuring indentation hardness.

elastomer, *n*—a macromolecular material that at room temperature returns rapidly to approximately its initial dimensions and shape after substantial deformation by a weak stress and release of the stress. (1985)

engineered plastic, *n*—a material that has been made by specific design and through use of particular monomers and monomer sequences to produce a plastic with desired properties, possibly for a specific application. (1991)

engineering plastics, *n*—those plastics and polymeric compositions for which well-defined properties are available such that engineering rather than empirical methods can be used for the design and manufacture of products that require definite and predictable performance in structural applications over a substantial temperature range.

epoxy plastics, *n*—thermoplastic or thermosetting plastics containing ether or hydroxyalkyl repeating units, or both, resulting from the ring-opening reactions of lower molecular weight polyfunctional oxirane resins, or compounds, with catalysts or with various polyfunctional acidic or basic coreactants.

DISCUSSION—Epoxy plastics often are modified by the incorporation of diluents, plasticizers, fillers, thixotropic agents, or other materials. (1985)

ethylene plastics, *n*—plastics based on polymers of ethylene or copolymers of ethylene with other monomers, the ethylene being in greatest amount by mass. (2024)

expandable plastic, *n*—a plastic in a form capable of being made cellular by thermal, chemical, or mechanical means. (1985)

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expanded plastics, *n*—See **cellular plastic**. (1985)

extrusion, *n*—a process in which heated or unheated plastic is forced through a shaping orifice (a die) in one continuously formed shape, as in film, sheet, rod, or tubing. (1983)

fabricating, *n*—the manufacture of plastic products from molded parts, rods, tubes, sheeting, extrusions, or other forms by appropriate operations such as punching, cutting, drilling, and tapping including fastening plastic parts together or to other parts by mechanical devices, adhesives, heat sealing, or other means. (1978)

fiber show, *n*—strands or bundles of fibers not covered by resin which are at or above the surface of a reinforced plastic. (1985)

filler, *n*—a relatively inert material added to a plastic to modify its strength, permanence, working properties, or other qualities, or to lower costs. (See also **reinforced plastic**.) (1978)

film, *n*—in plastics, an optional term for sheeting having a nominal thickness not greater than 0.25 mm (0.01 in.). (1985)

fish-eye, *n*—small globular mass that has not blended completely into the surrounding material. See **gel**. (1978)

fluorocarbon plastic, *n*—a plastic based on polymers made with perfluoromonomers.

Discussion—When the monomer is essentially tetrafluoroethylene, the prefix TFE is sometimes used to designate these materials. It is preferable to use the accepted abbreviation, PTFE. TFE should not be used by itself to mean PTFE. When the resins are copolymers of tetrafluoroethylene and hexafluoropropylene, the resins may be designated with the prefix FEP. Other prefixes may be adopted to designate other fluorocarbon plastics. (2024)

fluorohydrocarbon plastics, *n*—plastics based on polymers made with monomers composed of fluorine, hydrogen, and carbon only. (2024)

fluoroplastic, *n*—a plastic based on polymers made from monomers containing one or more atoms of fluorine, or copolymers of such monomers with other monomers, the fluorine-containing monomer(s) being in greatest amount by mass.

Discussion—For specific examples of fluoroplastic see **fluorocarbon plastic, chlorofluorocarbon plastics, fluorohydrocarbon plastics**, and **chlorofluorohydrocarbon plastics**. (1983)

foamed plastics, *n*—See **cellular plastics** (the preferred terminology). (1983)

forming, *n*—a process in which the shape of plastic pieces such as sheets, rods, or tubes is changed to a desired configuration.

Discussion—The use of the term "forming" in plastics technology does not include such operations as molding, casting, or extrusion, in which shapes or pieces are made from molding materials or liquids. (1982)

furan plastics, *n*—plastics based on furan resins. (ISO) (1982)

furan resin, *n*—resin in which the furan ring is an integral part of the polymer chain, the furan monomer being in the greatest amount by mass. (ISO 472) (2013)

gate, *n*—in an injection mold, a constriction in the flow channel between the runner and the mold cavity. (1983)

gel, *n*—

(1) a semisolid system consisting of a network of solid aggregates in which liquid is held.

(2) the initial jelly-like solid phase that develops during the formation of a resin from a liquid.

(3) with respect to vinyl plastisols, gel is a state between liquid and solid that occurs in the initial states of heating, or upon prolonged storage.

Discussion—All three types of gels have very low strengths and do not flow like a liquid. They are soft, flexible, and may rupture under their own weight unless supported externally. (1978)

(*4*) in plastic film and sheet, a nodule of plastic material composed of one or more of oxidized, high-molecular-weight, unmelted, nonsolvated, or cross-linked material of the same composition as the matrix that, for a variety of reasons, has not blended with the matrix. See **fish-eye**.

Discussion—Gel in the film or sheet is to be distinguished from contamination such as particles of dirt, carbon, or lint. (1992)

gel point, *n*—the stage at which a liquid begins to exhibit pseudo-elastic properties.

Discussion—This stage may be detected as the inflection point on a viscosity-time plot. (See **gel** (2).) (1985)

gel time, *n*—the period of time from the initial mixing of the reactants of a liquid material composition to the time when gelation occurs, as defined by a specific test method.

Discussion—For a material that must be processed by exposure to some form of energy, the zero time is the start of exposure. (1983)

glass, *n*—an inorganic product of fusion which has cooled to a rigid condition without crystallizing.

Discussion—The definition contains the first sentence of the definition of the term "glass" by Committee C14 on Glass and Glass Products in Terminology C162. Further discussions related to the term "glass" follow.

(a) Glass is typically hard and brittle and has a conchoidal fracture. It may be colorless or colored, and transparent to opaque. Masses or bodies of glass may be made colored, translucent, or opaque by the presence of dissolved, amorphous, or crystalline material.

(b) When a specific kind of glass is indicated, such descriptive terms as flint glass, barium glass, and window glass should be used following the basic definition, but the qualifying term is to be used as understood by trade custom.

(c) Objects made of glass are loosely and popularly referred to as glass; such as glass for a tumbler, a barometer, a window, a magnifier or a mirror. (2024)

glass finish, *n*—a material applied to the surface of glass fibers used to reinforce plastics and intended to improve the physical properties of such reinforced plastics over that obtained using glass reinforcement without finish. (1982)

glass transition, *n*—the reversible change in an amorphous polymer or in amorphous regions of a partially crystalline polymer from (or to) a viscous or rubbery condition to (or from) a hard and relatively brittle one.

Discussion—The glass transition generally occurs over a relatively narrow temperature region and is similar to the [illegible] liquid

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to a glassy state; it is not a phase transition. Not only do hardness and brittleness undergo rapid changes in this temperature region but other properties, such as thermal expansibility and specific heat also change rapidly. This phenomenon has been called second order transition, rubber transition and rubbery transition. The word transformation has also been used instead of transition. Where more than one amorphous transition occurs in a polymer, the one associated with segmental motions of the polymer backbone chain or accompanied by the largest change in properties is usually considered to be the glass transition. (1980)

glass transition temperature (Tg), *n*—the approximate midpoint of the temperature range over which the glass transition takes place.

DISCUSSION—The glass transition temperature can be determined readily only by observing the temperature at which a significant change takes place in a specific electrical, mechanical, or other physical property. Moreover, the observed temperature can vary significantly depending on the specific property chosen for observation and on details of the experimental technique (for example, rate of heating, frequency). Therefore, the observed Tg should be considered only an estimate. The most reliable estimates are normally obtained from the loss peak observed in dynamic mechanical tests or from dialatometric data. (1978)

graft copolymer, *n*—a copolymer in which polymeric side chains have been attached to the main chain of a polymer of different structure. (1973)

gusset, *n*—

(1) a piece used to give additional size or strength in a particular location of an object.

(2) the folded-in portion of flattened tubular film. (1972)

halocarbon plastics, *n*—plastics based on resins made by the polymerization of monomers composed only of carbon and a halogen or halogens. (1978)

haze, *n*—the cloudy or turbid aspect or appearance of an otherwise transparent specimen caused by light scattered from within the specimen or from its surfaces. (2024)

heat mark, *n*—extremely shallow depression or groove in the surface of a plastic visible because of a sharply defined rim or a roughened surface. (See also **shrink mark.**) (1978)

high density polyethylene plastics, (HDPE), *n*—those linear polyethylene plastics, g. v., having a standard density of 0.941 g/cm^3 or greater. (2025)

high-pressure molding, *n*—a method of molding or laminating in which the pressure used is greater than 1400 kPa (200 psi). (1985)

hold pressure, *n*—in molding, the melt pressure during the hold time interval in injection molding.

homopolymer, *n*—a polymer resulting from polymerization involving a single monomer. (1983)

hydrocarbon plastics, *n*—plastics based on resins made by the polymerization of monomers composed of carbon and hydrogen only. (1985)

hydrolytically degradable plastics, *n*—See **degradable plastic**.

inhibitor, *n*—a substance used in low concentration which suppresses a chemical reaction.

DISCUSSION—Inhibitors, unlike catalysts, are consumed during the reaction. (1983)

injection molding, *n*—the process of forming a material by forcing it, in a fluid state and under pressure, through a runner system (sprue, runner, gate(s)) into the cavity of a closed mold.

DISCUSSION—Screw injection molding and reaction injection molding are types of injection molding. (1983)

injection time, *n*—the time interval from the beginning of screw forward movement until switching over to hold pressure. (1995)

insert, *n*—part made of metal or other material, which can be molded into position in a molding or can be pressed into the molding after the completion of the molding operation. (ISO 472) (2013)

intumescence, *n*—the formation of a swelling/foaming substance in response to heat that insulates the underlying substrate material. (2022)

isotactic, *adj*—pertaining to a type of polymeric molecular structure containing a sequence of regularly spaced asymmetric atoms arranged in like configuration in a polymer chain. (1985)

knit-line, *n*—See **weld-line** (the preferred terminology). (1983)

knuckle area, *n*—in reinforced plastics, the area of transition between sections of different geometry in a filament-wound part. (1985)

laminate[6]**,** *n*—product made by bonding together two or more layers of material or materials. (See also **cross laminate** and **parallel laminate**.) (ISO 10303-2) (2024)

DISCUSSION—A single resin-impregnated sheet of paper, fabric, or glass mat, for example, is not considered a laminate. Such a single-sheet construction may be called a "lamina." (See also **reinforced plastic**.) (1983)

lattice pattern, *n*—in reinforced plastics, a pattern of filament winding with a fixed arrangement of open voids. (1985)

lay, *n*—

(1) the length of twist produced by stranding filaments, such as fibers, wires, or roving;

(2) the angle that such filaments make with the axis of the strand during a stranding operation.

DISCUSSION—Length of twist of a filament is usually measured as the distance parallel to the axis of the strand between successive turns of the filament. (1985)

lay up, *n*—in reinforced plastics, an assembly of layers of resin-impregnated material ready for processing. (1982)

lay up, *v*—in reinforced plastics, to assemble layers of resin-impregnated material for processing. (1985)

[6] These definitions are identical with those appearing in Terminology D907, which were prepared by ASTM Committee D14 on Adhesives.

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let-go, *n*—an area in laminated glass over which an initial adhesion between interlayer and glass has been lost. (1985)

lignin plastics, *n*—plastics based on lignin resins. (2024)

lignin resin, *n*—resin made by heating lignin or by reaction of lignin with chemicals or resins, lignin being in the greatest amount by mass. (ISO 472) (2013)

linear low density polyethylene plastics, (LLDPE), *n*—those linear polyethylene plastics, q.v., having a standard density of 0.919 to 0.925 g/cm^3. (2025)

linear medium density polyethylene plastics, (LMDPE), *n*—those linear polyethylene plastics, q. v., having a standard density of 0.926 to 0.940 g/cm^3. (2025)

linear polyethylene plastics, *n*—those containing insignificant amounts of long-chain branching but which may contain significant amounts, by design, of short-chain branching.

Discussion—These plastics, usually produced commercially by processes not employing free radical polymerization, are subcategorized by density level; linear low density polyethylene plastic, linear medium density polyethylene plastic, and high density polyethylene plastic. For differentiation among high molecular versions of these plastics produced commercially by stereo-specific catalysts, see extra-high molecular weight polyethylene plastic and ultra-high molecular weight polyethylene plastic.

low density polyethylene plastics, (LDPE), *n*—those branched polyethylene plastics, q. v., having a standard density of 0.910 to 0.925 g/cm^3. (2025)

low-pressure molding, *n*—a method of molding or laminating in which the pressure is 1400 kPa (200 psi) or less. (1985)

lubricant bloom, *n*—See **bloom.** (1982)

luminous transmittance, *n*—the ratio of the luminous flux transmitted by a body to the flux incident upon it.

Discussion—Parallel definitions apply to spectral and radiant transmittance. See Test Method E308 for a detailed discussion of terminology. (1982)

mat, *n*—a fibrous material consisting of randomly oriented chopped or swirled filaments loosely held together with a binder. (1982)

mechanically foamed plastic, *n*—a cellular plastic in which the cells are formed by the physical incorporation of gases. (1985)

medium density polyethylene plastics, (MDPE), *n*—those branched polyethylene plastics, q. v., having a standard density of 0.926 to 0.940 g/cm^3. (2025)

melamine plastics, *n*—plastics based on resins made by the condensation of melamine and aldehydes. (1985)

melt temperature, *n*—the temperature of the molten plastic. (1995)

mold open time, *n*—the time interval from the instant the mold begins to open until it is closed again. (1995)

mold temperature, *n*—the mean temperature of the mold cavity surface measured after the system has obtained thermal equilibrium and immediately after opening the mold. (1995)

molding, bag, *n*—See **bag molding**. (1985)

molding, blow, *n*—See **blow molding**. (1985)

molding, compression, *n*—See **compression molding**. (1985)

molding, contact pressure, *n*—See **contact pressure molding**. (1985)

molding, high-pressure, *n*—See **high-pressure molding**. (1985)

molding, injection, *n*—See **injection molding**. (1985)

molding, low-pressure, *n*—See **low-pressure molding**. (1985)

molding, transfer, *n*—See **transfer molding**. (1985)

molding pressure, compression, *n*—the calculated fluid pressure applied to the material in the mold. (1985)

molding pressure, injection, *n*—the pressure applied to the cross-sectional area of the material cylinder. (1982)

molding pressure, transfer, *n*—the pressure applied to the cross-sectional area of the material pot or cylinder. (1982)

monomer, *n*—a low-molecular-weight substance consisting of molecules capable of reacting with like or unlike molecules to form a polymer. (1983)

necking, *n*—the localized reduction in cross-section which may occur in a material under tensile stress. (1982)

nonrigid plastic, *n*—for purposes of general classification, a plastic that has a modulus of elasticity either in flexure or in tension of not over 70 MPa (10 000 psi) at 23°C and 50 % relative humidity when tested in accordance with Test Methods D790, Test Method D747, Test Method D638, or Test Methods D882. (1983)

novolac (or novolak), *n*—a phenolic-aldehyde resin which, unless a source of methylene groups is added, remains permanently thermoplastic. (See also **resinoid** and **thermoplastic**.) (1977)

nylon plastics, *n*—plastics based on resins composed principally of a long-chain synthetic polymeric amide which has recurring amide groups as an integral part of the main polymer chain. (1985)

olefin plastics, *n*—plastics based on polymers made by the polymerization of olefins or copolymerization of olefins with other monomers, the olefins being at least 50 mass %. (1983)

oligomer, *n*—a substance composed of only a few nonomeric units repetitively linked to each other, such as a dimer, trimer, tetramer, etc., or their mixtures.

Discussion—The physical properties of an oligomer vary with the addition or removal of one or a few constitutional units from its molecules. (1983)

oligomerization, *n*—the process of converting a monomer or mixture of monomers into a oligomer. (1983)

open-cell cellular plastic, *n*—a cellular plastic in which there is a predominance of interconnected cells. (1985)

organosol, *n*—a suspension of a finely divided polymer in a plasticizer, together with a volatile organic liquid.

Discussion—The volatile liquid evaporates at elevated temperatures, and the resulting residue is a homogeneous polymer-plasticized

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the temperature is high enough to accomplish mutual solution of the polymer and plasticizer. (1985)

oxidatively degradable plastic, *n*—See **degradable plastic.**

parallel laminate, *n*—a laminate in which all the layers of material are oriented approximately parallel with respect to the grain or strongest direction in tension. (See also **cross laminate**.) (1985)

parison, *n*—shaped plastic mass, generally in the form of a tube, used in blow molding. (ISO 472) (2013)

phenolic plastics, *n*—plastics based on resins made by the condensation of phenols, such as phenol or cresol, with aldehydes. (1985)

phenolic resin compound, single-stage, *n*—a phenolic material in which the resin, because of its reactive groups, is capable of further polymerization by application of heat. (See also **phenolic resin compound, two-stage**.) (1978)

phenolic resin compound, two-stage, *n*—a phenolic material in which the resin is essentially not reactive at normal storage temperatures, but contains a reactive additive which causes further polymerization upon the application of heat. (1978)

photodegradable plastic, *n*—See **degradable plastic**.

pimple, *n*—an imperfection, a small, protuberance of varied shape on the surface of a plastic product. (1983)

pit, *n*—an imperfection, a small crater in the surface of the plastic, with its width of approximately the same order of magnitude as its depth. (1983)

plastic(s), *n*—a material that contains as an essential ingredient one or more organic polymeric substances of large molecular weight, is solid in its finished state, and, at some stage in its manufacture or processing into finished articles, can be shaped by flow.

DISCUSSION—Rubber, textiles, adhesives, and paint, which may in some cases meet this definition, are not considered plastics. See ASTM definitions of these terms.

DISCUSSION—The above definition may be used as a separate meaning from the definitions contained in the dictionary for the adjective "plastic."

DISCUSSION—The plural form may be used as an adjective to refer to two or more plastic materials, for example, plastics industry. However, when the intent is to distinguish "plastic products" from "wood products" or "glass products," the singular form should be used. As a general rule, if the adjective is to restrict the noun modified with respect to the type of material, "plastic" should be used; if the adjective is to indicate that more than one type of plastic material is or may be involved, "plastics" is permissible. (1982)

plastic composite, *n*—a material consisting of two or more distinct immiscible materials, at least one of which is a plastic. (2019)

DISCUSSION—Codes identify plastic lumber and wood/plastic composites as plastic composites, for application as materials for exterior decking, stair treads, handrails and guardrails. Codes define plastic composite as "a generic designation that refers to wood/plastic composites and plastic lumber." Outside of code use, a wide variety of plastic composites exist, which are used for many applications. Such plastic composites can contain multiple types of fibrous fillers other than wood fibers (including glass reinforcements) or even contain no fibrous components. Plastic composites have in common only that they are composed of two or more constituent materials, one of which is a plastic.

plastic foam, *n*—See **cellular plastic** (the preferred terminology). (1983)

plasticizer, *n*—a substance incorporated in a material to increase its workability, flexibility, or distensibility. (1983)

plastic lumber, *n*—a manufactured product made primarily from plastic materials (filled or unfilled), typically used as a building material for purposes similar to those of traditional lumber, which is usually rectangular in cross-section.

DISCUSSION—Plastic lumber is typically supplied in sizes similar to those of traditional lumber board, timber and dimension lumber; however the tolerances for plastic lumber and for traditional lumber are not necessarily the same.

plastic pipe, *n*—a hollow cylinder of a plastic material in which the wall thicknesses are usually small when compared to the diameter and in which the inside and outside walls are essentially concentric. (1982)

plastic tubing, *n*—(*1*) a particular size of plastic pipe in which the outside diameter is essentially the same as the corresponding size of copper tubing.

(*2*) small diameter flexible pipe. (See **plastic pipe**.) (1982)

plastisol, *n*—a liquid suspension of a finely divided PVC polymer or copolymer in a plasticizer.

DISCUSSION—The polymer does not dissolve appreciably in the plasticizer at room temperature, but does at elevated temperatures, to form a homogeneous plastic mass (plasticized polymer). (1985)

plate-mark, *n*—any imperfection in a pressed plastic sheet resulting from the surface of the pressing plate. (1982)

polepiece, *n*—in reinforced plastics, the supporting part of the mandrel used in filament winding, usually on one of the axes of rotation. (1985)

polyaddition, *n*—See **addition polymerization**. (1982)

polyamide plastics, *n*—See **nylon plastics**. (1982)

polyarylate, *n*—See **aromatic polyester**. (1986)

polyaryletherketone, *n*—a polymer in which aryl groups are connected by one or more ether as well as one or more Ketone linkages. (1991)

polybutylene, *n*—a polymer prepared by the polymerization of butene as the sole monomer. (See **polybutylene plastics** and **butylene plastics**.) (1985)

polybutylene plastics, *n*—plastics based on polymers made with butene as essentially the sole monomer. (1985)

polycarbonate, *n*—a polyester polymer in which the repeating structural unit in the chain is of the carbonate type. (1983)

polycarbonate plastics, *n*—polyester plastics based on polymers in which the repeating structural units in the chains are essentially all of the carbonate type. (1983)

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polycondensation, *n*—See **condensation polymerization**. (1982)

polydicyclocpentadiene plastic, *n*—a crosslinked thermoset polymer formed by the ring-opening metathesis polymerization of dicyclopentadiene.

polyester, *n*—a polymer in which the repeated structural unit in the chain is of the ester type.

DISCUSSION—The polyester is linear and thermoplastic if derived, either actually or formally, from *(a)* mono-hydroxy-mono-carboxylic acids by self-esterification, or *(b)* the interaction of diols and dicarboxylic acids. (2024)

polyester plastics, *n*—synonymous with **alkyd plastics**.

polyether, *n*—a polymer in which the repeated structural unit in the chain is of the ether type. (1985)

polyethersulfone, *n*—a polymer in which the repeated structural unit includes diphenylene sulfone and aromatic ether (PESU).

polyethylene, *n*—a polymer prepared by the polymerization of ethylene as the sole monomer. (See **polyethylene plastics** and **ethylene plastics**.) (1982)

polyethylene plastics, *n*—plastics based on polymers made with ethylene as essentially the sole monomer.

DISCUSSION—In common usage for this plastic, essentially means no less than 85 percent ethylene and no less than 95 percent total olefins. (1975)

polymer, *n*—a substance consisting of molecules characterized by the repetition (neglecting ends, branch junctions and other minor irregularities) of one or more types of monomeric units. (2024)

polymerization, *n*—a chemical reaction in which the molecules of monomers are linked together to form polymers. (See also **polycondensation** and **polyaddition**.) (1971)

polymethylmethacrylimide (PMMI), *n*—a thermoplastic polymer formed from a reaction of poly(methyl methacrylate) and monomethyl amine. (1992)

polyol, *n*—an alcohol having many hydroxyl groups, also known as a polyhydric alcohol or polyalcohol.

DISCUSSION—In cellular plastics usage, the term includes compounds containing alcoholic hydroxyl groups such as polyethers, glycols, polyesters, and castor oil used in urethane foams. (1983)

polyolefin, *n*—a polymer prepared by the polymerization of an olefin(s) as the sole monomer(s). (See **polyolefin plastics** and **olefin plastics**.) (1982)

polyolefin plastics, *n*—plastics based on polymers made with an olefin(s) as essentially the sole monomer(s). (1985)

polyoxymethylene, *n*—a polymer in which the repeated structural unit in the chain is oxymethylene.

DISCUSSION—Polyoxymethylene is theoretically the simplest member of the generic class of polyacetals. (2024)

polyoxymethylene plastics, *n*—acetal plastics based on polymers in which oxymethylene is essentially the sole repeated structural unit in the chains. (See also **acetal plastics**.) (2024)

polyphenylene (PPH), *n*—a polymer with a backbone consisting of repeating units containing six carbon atoms arranged in aromatic rings joined directly through carbon-carbon bonds between carbon atoms in the aromatic rings. (2008)

polyphenylsulfone, *n*—a polymer in which the repeated structural unit includes diphenylene sulfone, aromatic ether and diphenylene (PPSU).

polyphthalamide (PPA), *n*—a polyamide in which residues of terephthalic acid or isophthalic acid or a combination of the two comprise at least 55 molar percentage of the dicarboxylic acid part of the repeating structural units in the polymer chain. (2007)

polypropylene, *n*—a polymer prepared by the polymerization of propylene as the sole monomer. (See **polypropylene plastics** and **propylene plastics**.) (1978)

polypropylene plastics, *n*—plastics based on polymers made with propylene as essentially the sole monomer. (1975)

polystyrene, *n*—a polymer prepared by the polymerization of styrene as the sole monomer. (2018)

polysulfone, *n*—a polymer in which the repeated structural unit is oxy-1,4-phenylenesulfonyl-1,4-phenyleneoxy1,4-phenylene(dimethylmethylene)-1,4-phenylene (PSU).

polyterephthalate, *n*—a thermoplastic polyester in which the terephthalate group is one of the repeating structural unit in the polymer chain. (1985)

polyterephthalate plastics, *n*—a thermoplastic polyester in which the terephthalate group is a repeated structural unit in the chain, the terephalate being in greater amount than other dicarboxylates which may be present. (1985)

polyurethane, *n*—a polymer prepared by the reaction of an organic diisocyanate with compounds containing hydroxyl groups.

DISCUSSION—Polyurethanes or urethanes, as they are sometimes called, may be thermosetting, thermoplastic, rigid or soft and flexible, cellular, or solid. (1983)

poly(vinyl acetate), *n*—a polymer prepared by the polymerization of vinyl acetate as the sole monomer. (1985)

poly(vinyl alcohol), *n*—polymers prepared by the essentially complete hydrolysis of polyvinyl esters. (1978)

poly(vinyl chloride), *n*—a polymer prepared by the polymerization of vinyl chloride as the sole monomer (vinyl chloride content in monomer not less than 99 %). (2000)

postforming, *n*—the forming of cured or partially cured thermosetting plastics. (1982)

pot life, *n*—the period of time during which a reacting thermosetting composition remains suitable for its intended processing after mixing with reaction-initiating agents. (1973)

powder blend, *n*—See **dry-blend**. (1982)

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preform, *n*—a coherent, shaped mass of powdered, granular or fibrous plastic molding compound, or of fibrous filler material with or without resin. (2024)

premix, *n*—in reinforced thermosetting plastics, the admixture of resin, reinforcements, fillers, etc., not in web or filamentous form, ready for molding. (1982)

prepolymer, *n*—polymer of degree of polymerization intermediate between that of the monomer or monomers and that of the final polymer. (ISO 472) (2013)

prepreg, *n*—in reinforced thermosetting plastics, the admixture of resin, reinforcements, fillers, etc., in web or filamentous form, ready for molding. (1982)

pressure-break, *n*—as applied to a defect in a laminated plastic a break apparent in one or more outer sheets of the paper, fabric, or other base visible through the surface layer of resin which covers it. (1982)

propylene plastics, *n*—plastics based on polymers of propylene or copolymers of propylene with other monomers, the propylene being in the greatest amount by mass. (2024)

pulled-surface, *n*—as applied to a defect in a laminated plastic imperfections in the surface ranging from a slight breaking or lifting in spots to pronounced separation of its surface from its body. (1982)

recycled plastic, *n*—those plastics composed of post-consumer material or recovered material only, or both, that may or may not have been subject to additional processing steps of the types used to make products such as recycled-regrind or reprocessed or reconstituted plastics. (1991)

regular transmittance, *n*—ratio of the light flux transmitted without diffusion to the flux incident. (1985)

reinforced plastic, *n*—a plastic with high strength fillers imbedded in the composition, resulting in some mechanical properties superior to those of the base resin. (See also **filler**.)

Discussion—The reinforcing fillers are usually fibers, fabrics, or mats made of fibers. (1973)

reinforced reaction injection molding (RRIM), *n*—the process of using solid reinforcements, such as, glass fiber, mica, or talc in the reaction injection molding process. (1983)

release agent, *n*—a material added to a compound or applied to the mold cavity, or both, to reduce parts sticking to the mold. (1983)

reprocessed plastic, *n*—a thermoplastic prepared from usually melt processed scrap or reject parts by a plastics processor, or from non-standard or non-uniform virgin material.

Discussion—Use of the term "scrap" in this definition does not connote that the feed stock is necessarily less desirable or useable than the virgin material from which it may have been generated. Reprocessed plastic may or may not be reformulated by the addition of fillers, plasticizers, stabilizers, pigments, etc. See **reworked plastic** and **recycled plastic**. (1985)

resin, *n*—a solid or pseudosolid organic material often of high molecular weight, which exhibits a tendency to flow when subjected to stress, usually has a softening or melting range, and usually fractures conchoidally.

Discussion—In a broad sense, the term is used to designate any polymer that is a basic material for plastics. (1982)

resin streak, *n*—a streak of excess resin on the surface of a laminated plastic. (1982)

resistance, volume, *n*—the ratio of the dc voltage applied to two electrodes (on or in a specimen) to the current in the volume of the specimen between the electrodes.

resistivity, volume, *n*—the volume resistance multiplied by that ratio of specimen volume dimensions (cross-sectional area of the specimen between the electrodes divided by the distance between electrodes), which transforms the measured resistance to that resistance obtained if the electrodes had formed the opposite sides of a unit cube.

Discussion—Volume resistivity is usually expressed in ohm-centimeters (preferred) or in ohm-meters. Volume resistivity is the reciprocal of volume conductivity.

reworked plastic, *n*—a plastic from a processor's own production that has been reground, pelletized, or solvated after having been previously processed by molding, extrusion, etc. See **recycled plastic** and **reprocessed plastic**. (1991)

rigid plastic, *n*—for purposes of general classification, a plastic that has a modulus of elasticity, either in flexure or in tension, greater than 700 MPa (100 000 psi) at 23°C and 50 % relative humidity when tested in accordance with Test Method D747, Test Methods D790, Test Method D638, or Test Methods D882. (1983)

rise time, *n*—the time required for a free-rise cellular plastic to achieve its ultimate expansion under controlled conditions. (1983)

room temperature, *n*—a temperature in the range from 20 to 30°C (68 to 86°F). (2026)

runner, *n*—(*1*) the secondary feed channel in an injection or transfer mold that runs from the inner end of the sprue or pot to the cavity gate.

(*2*) the piece formed in a secondary feed channel or runner. (1986)

sample, *n*—a small part or portion of a material or product intended to be representative of the whole. (1972)

saran plastics, *n*—See **vinylidene chloride plastics**. (1972)

semirigid plastic, *n*—for purposes of general classification, a plastic that has a modulus of elasticity either in flexure or in tension of between 70 and 700 MPa (10 000 and 100 000 psi) at 23°C and 50 % relative humidity when tested in accordance with Test Method D747, Test Methods D790, Test Method D638, or Test Methods D882. (1983)

set, *n*—strain remaining after complete release of the force producing the deformation. (1975)

sheet, *n*—an individual piece of sheeting. (See also **film, sheeting**.) (1973)

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sheeting, *n*—a form of plastic in which the thickness is very small in proportion to length and width and in which the plastic is present as a continuous phase throughout, with or without filler. (See also **film**.) (1972)

sheet molding compound (SMC), *n*—a fiber-reinforced thermosetting compound, in sheet form.

DISCUSSION—The resin is usually a polyester. SMC can be compression molded into complex shapes with little scrap. (1983)

short, *n*—an imperfection in a molded plastic part due to an incompletely filled out condition.

DISCUSSION—In reinforced plastics, this may be evident either through an absence of surface film in some areas, or as lighter unfused particles of material showing through a covering surface film, accompanied possibly by thin-skinned blisters. In thermoplastics, the term short shot is often used to describe this condition. (1983)

shot volume, *n*—the total hollow space of a mold including cavity or cavities, runner(s), and sprue. (1995)

shrink mark, *n*—an imperfection, a depression in the surface of a molded material where it has retracted from the mold. (1983)

silicone plastics, *n*—plastics based on polymers in which the main polymer chain consists of alternating silicone and oxygen atoms. (1985)

skin, *n*—a relatively dense layer at the surface of a cellular polymeric material. (1985)

specimen, *n*—a piece or portion of a sample used to make a test. (ASTM D6594) (2024)

specular transmittance, *n*—See **regular transmittance** (the preferred terminology). (1983)

sprue, *n*—

(1) the primary feed channel that runs from the outer face of an injection or transfer mold to the mold gate in a single cavity mold.

(2) the piece formed in a primary feed channel or sprue. (1972)

standard laboratory atmosphere, *n*—a temperature of 23 ± 2°C [73.4 ± 3.6°F] and a relative humidity of 50 ± 10 %. (2025)

standard laboratory temperature, *n*—a temperature of 23 ± 2°C [73.4 ± 3.6°F]. (2025)

stress-crack, *n*—an external or internal crack in a plastic caused by tensile stresses less than its short-time mechanical strength.

DISCUSSION—The development of such cracks is frequently accelerated by the environment to which the plastic is exposed. The stresses which cause cracking may be present internally or externally or may be combinations of these stresses. (1972)

styrenic plastics, *n*—plastics based on polymers of styrene or copolymers of styrene with other monomers, the styrene being in greatest amount by mass. (2018)

styrenic-rubber plastics, *n*—plastics based on styrenic polymers and elastomers, the styrenic polymers being in the greatest amount by mass. (2018)

styrenic thermoplastic elastomer (TES), *n*—a copolymer material comprising styrenic end-block segments bound to a rubbery segment that may be saturated or unsaturated.

DISCUSSION—These products normally contain substantial amounts of added materials such as other polymers, oils, fillers, resins, and colorants. (1992)

surfacing mat, *n*—a thin mat of fine fibers used primarily to produce a smooth surface on a reinforced plastic. (1985)

syneresis, *n*—the contraction of a gel accompanied by the separation of a liquid. (1985)

syntactic cellular plastics, *n*—materials consisting of hollow sphere fillers in a resin matrix. (1985)

telomer, *n*—polymer composed of molecules having terminal groups incapable, under the conditions of the synthesis, of reacting with additional monomers to form larger polymer molecules of the same chemical type. (ISO 472) (2013)

thermal break, *n*—a solid or cellular material or combination of materials of low thermal transmission placed between components of high thermal transmission in order to reduce the heat flow across the assembly.

thermally foamed plastic, *n*—a cellular plastic produced by applying heat to effect gaseous decomposition or volatilization of a constituent. (1985)

thermoplastic, *n*—a plastic that repeatedly can be softened by heating and hardened by cooling through a temperature range characteristic of the plastic, and that in the softened state can be shaped by flow into articles by molding or extrusion. (1985)

thermoplastic, *adj*—capable of being repeatedly softened by heating and hardened by cooling through a temperature range characteristic of the plastic, and that in the softened state can be shaped by flow into articles by molding or extrusion for example.

DISCUSSION—Thermoplastic applies to those materials whose change upon heating is substantially physical. (1985)

thermoplastic elastomers (TPE), *n*—a diverse family of rubber-like materials that, unlike conventional vulcanized rubbers, can be processed and recycled like thermoplastic materials.

thermoset, *n*—a plastic that, after having been cured by heat or other means, is substantially infusible and insoluble. (1983)

thermoset, *adj*—pertaining to the state of a plastic in which it is substantially infusible. (1985)

thermosetting, *adj*—capable of being changed into a substantially infusible or insoluble product when cured by heat or other means. (1985)

transfer molding, *n*—a method of forming articles by fusing a plastic material in a chamber and then forcing essentially the whole mass into a hot mold where it solidifies. (1985)

transition, first order, *n*—a change of state, associated with crystallization or melting in a polymer. (1985)

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