



Standard Specification for Metric Outside Diameter Polyethylene (PE) Plastic Pipe (DR- PN)¹

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1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers metric outside diameter polyethylene (PE) pipe made from polyethylene compound that qualifies for MRS, HDB and HDS ratings and for PE100 and PE4710 designations. Included are requirements for polyethylene compound, workmanship, dimensions, short-term stress and ductility, long-term stress, marking, quality assurance and verification of joining.

1.1.1 Polyethylene pipe in accordance with this specification is intended to be compatible with nominal diameters and nominal pressures in accordance with ISO 161-1 and wall thickness in accordance with ISO 4065.

1.2 Pipes produced under this specification are intended for the pressure or non-pressure conveyance of liquid or gaseous media. Pipes produced under this specification are not intended as enclosures for electrical or communications components. See **Appendix X1**.

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.4 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. The ANS label on this international standard certifies the development of this international standard in accordance with requirements for openness, balance, consensus and due process in accordance with *ANSI Essential Requirements: Due Process Requirements for American National Standards* and denotes in addition that this international standard is an American National Standard.

1.5 The following safety hazards caveat pertains only to the test methods portion, Section 7, of this specification: *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

- D618 Practice for Conditioning Plastics for Testing
- D638 Test Method for Tensile Properties of Plastics
- D746 Test Method for Brittleness Temperature of Plastics and Elastomers by Impact
- D792 Test Methods for Density and Specific Gravity (Relative Density) of Plastics by Displacement
- D1238 Test Method for Melt Flow Rates of Thermoplastics by Extrusion Plastometer
- D1435 Practice for Outdoor Weathering of Plastics
- D1505 Test Method for Density of Plastics by the Density-Gradient Technique
- D1598 Test Method for Time-to-Failure of Plastic Pipe Under Constant Internal Pressure
- D1599 Test Method for Resistance to Short-Time Hydraulic Pressure of Plastic Pipe, Tubing, and Fittings
- D1600 Terminology for Abbreviated Terms Relating to Plastics
- D1603 Test Method for Carbon Black Content in Olefin Plastics
- D2122 Test Method for Determining Dimensions of Thermoplastic Pipe and Fittings
- D2290 Test Method for Apparent Hoop Tensile Strength of Plastic or Reinforced Plastic Pipe
- D2565 Practice for Xenon-Arc Exposure of Plastics Intended for Outdoor Applications
- D2837 Test Method for Obtaining Hydrostatic Design Basis for Thermoplastic Pipe Materials or Pressure Design Basis for Thermoplastic Pipe Products
- D3350 Specification for Polyethylene Plastics Pipe and Fittings Materials

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F17 on Plastic Piping Systems and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F17.26 on Olefin Based Pipe.

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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.

- D3895** Test Method for Oxidative-Induction Time of Polyolefins by Differential Scanning Calorimetry
- D4218** Test Method for Determination of Carbon Black Content in Polyethylene Compounds By the Muffle-Furnace Technique
- F412** Terminology Relating to Plastic Piping Systems
- F905** Practice for Qualification of Polyethylene Saddle-Fused Joints
- F1056** Specification for Socket Fusion Tools for Use in Socket Fusion Joining Polyethylene Pipe or Tubing and Fittings
- F1290** Practice for Electrofusion Joining Polyolefin Pipe and Fittings
- F1473** Test Method for Notch Tensile Test to Measure the Resistance to Slow Crack Growth of Polyethylene Pipes and Resins
- F2620** Practice for Heat Fusion Joining of Polyethylene Pipe and Fittings
- F2928** Practice for Specimens and Testing Conditions for Testing Polyethylene (PE) Pipe Butt Fusions Using Tensile and Hydrostatic Test Methods
- G155** Practice for Operating Xenon Arc Light Apparatus for Exposure of Non-Metallic Materials

2.2 ISO Documents³

- ISO 161-1** Thermoplastics pipes for the conveyance of fluids—Nominal outside diameters and nominal pressures—Part 1: Metric series
- ISO 4065** Thermoplastics pipes—Universal wall thickness table
- ISO 9000** Quality management
- ISO 9080** Plastics piping and ducting systems—Determination of the long-term hydrostatic strength of thermoplastics materials in pipe form by extrapolation
- ISO 12162** Thermoplastics materials for pipes and fittings for pressure applications—Classification and designation—Overall service (design) coefficient
- ISO 13477** Thermoplastics pipes for the conveyance of fluids—Determination of resistance to rapid crack propagation (RCP)—Small-scale steady-state test (S4 test)
- ISO 13478** Thermoplastics pipes for the conveyance of fluids—Determination of resistance to rapid crack propagation (RCP)—Full-scale test (FST)
- ISO 16871** Plastics piping and ducting systems—Plastics pipes and fittings—Method for exposure to direct (natural) weathering
- ISO 18553** Method for the assessment of the degree of pigment or carbon black dispersion in polyolefin pipes, fittings and compounds

2.3 NSF International Standards:⁴

- NSF/ANSI Standard No. 14** for Plastic Piping Components and Related Materials
- NSF/ANSI Standard No. 61** for Drinking Water System Components—Health Effects

2.4 PPI Documents:⁵

- TR-3 Policies and Procedures** for Developing Hydrostatic Design Basis (HDB), Pressure Design Basis (PDB), Strength Design Basis (SDB), and Minimum Required Strength (MRS) Ratings for Thermoplastic Piping Materials or Pipe
- TR-4 Listing** of Hydrostatic Design Bases (HDB), Strength Design Bases (SDB), Pressure Design Bases (PDB) and Minimum Required Strength (MRS) Ratings for Thermoplastic Piping Materials or Pipe
- TN-30 Requirements** for the Use of Rework Materials in Manufacturing of Polyethylene Gas Pipe
- Handbook of Polyethylene Pipe, Second Edition**

2.5 Other Documents:

- ANSI Essential Requirements** : Due process requirements for American National Standards⁶
- Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations**⁷
- Guidelines for Drinking-Water Quality, Third Edition** Incorporating the First and Second Addenda, Volume 1: Recommendations, World Health Organization, Geneva, 2008⁸
- EU Council Directive 98/83/EC** of 3 November 1998 on the quality of water intended for human consumption⁹

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Unless otherwise specified, definitions are in accordance with Terminology **F412**, and abbreviations are in accordance with Terminology **D1600**.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *application factor, f_A , n* —a coefficient of 1 or less that accounts for estimated long-term application effects such as chemical effects of fluid media or environment, variation of external or internal temperature or stress, and installation.

3.2.2 *design stress, σ_s , n* —the quotient of MRS divided by C_{min} . Design stress is at 20°C and applicable to the conveyance of water.

3.2.3 *maximum allowable operating pressure, PFA, n* —the maximum operating pressure in bar determined by the designer/user that accounts for polyethylene compound properties, the media being conveyed and the conditions of conveyance.

⁵ Available from Plastics Pipe Institute (PPI), 105 Decker Court, Suite 825, Irving, TX 75062, <http://www.plasticpipe.org>.

⁶ Available from the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) at https://share.ansi.org/shared%20documents/Standards%20Activities/American%20National%20Standards/Procedures,%20Guides,%20and%20Forms/2016_ANSI_Essential_Requirements.pdf

⁷ Available from the World Trade Organization at https://docs.wto.org/dol2fe/Pages/FE_Browse/FE_B_009.aspx

⁸ Available from WHO Press, World Health Organization, 20 Avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland (tel.: +41 22 791 3264; fax: +41 22 791 4857; e-mail: bookorders@who.int).

⁹ Available from Publications Office of the European Union 2, rue Mercier 2985 Luxembourg LUXEMBOURG Tel: +352 2929-1 E-mail: info@publications.europa.eu.

³ Available from International Organization for Standardization (ISO), 1, ch. de la Voie-Creuse, CP 56, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, <http://www.iso.org>.

⁴ Available from NSF International, P.O. Box 130140, 789 N. Dixboro Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105, <http://www.nsf.org>.



3.2.4 *minimum design coefficient, C_{min}* , n —a factor from ISO 12162 having a value of 1.25 that accounts for the properties of the piping material when transporting water at 20°C.

3.2.5 *minimum required strength, MRS* , n —a property of the material in accordance with ISO 12162 that represents a classification range in MPa of the 97.5% lower confidence limit of the mean long-term strength at 20°C and 50 years.

3.2.6 *nominal pressure, PN* , n —a nominal design rating in bar for internal pressure water at 20°C, but without consideration of media other than water or conditions other than sustained internal pressure and sustained temperature.

NOTE 1— PN is a nominal design rating for sustained internal pressure for water at 20°C that provides for product comparison under specific, limited conditions. Actual allowable operating pressure (PFA) is determined by the designer/user in consideration of the media being conveyed and conditions of conveyance such as pressure and temperature stability or variation, installation and quality thereof, and desired degree of reliability. (See 3.2.3, X1.1, and X1.2 for additional information.)

3.2.7 *relation between dimension ratio, MRS and nominal pressure, n* —the following equation is used in this specification to relate pressure number (PN), dimension ratio (DR), minimum required strength (MRS), minimum design coefficient (C_{min}), and design stress (σ_S):

$$PN = \frac{20}{(DR - 1)} \times \frac{MRS}{C_{min}} = \frac{20 \times \sigma_S}{(DR - 1)} \quad (1)$$

where:

PN = nominal pressure design rating, bar,
 DR = dimension ratio
 $= D_o/t$,
 D_o = nominal outside diameter, mm,
 t = minimum wall thickness, mm,
 MRS = minimum required strength at 20°C, MPa,
 C_{min} = minimum design coefficient, and
 σ_S = design stress at 20°C.

3.2.8 *relation between nominal pressure and maximum allowable operating pressure, n* —the following equation is used in this specification to relate maximum allowable operating pressure (PFA) and pressure number (PN):

$$PFA = PN \times f_T \times f_A \quad (2)$$

where:

PN = nominal pressure, bar,
 PFA = maximum allowable operating pressure, bar,
 f_T = temperature factor, and
 f_A = application factor.

3.2.9 *temperature factor, f_T* , n —a coefficient that accounts for the long term strength of the polyethylene compound at temperatures other than 20°C.

3.2.10 *lower confidence limit of the predicted hydrostatic strength, σ_{LPL}* , n —a property of the polyethylene compound in accordance with ISO 12162 that represents a stress value in MPa for the 97.5 percent lower confidence limit of the predicted hydrostatic strength at a specified temperature in °C and time in years.

4. Pipe Classification

4.1 *General*—This specification covers 32 mm through 2500 mm metric outside diameter polyethylene pipe having wall thickness in accordance with standard dimension ratios (DR 33 through DR 7.4) and nominal pressures in bar for water at 20°C (PN5 through PN25).

4.2 Pipe manufacturing and verification of compliance with the requirements of this standard are in accordance with a written quality assurance program that specifies policies and procedures for manufacturing, frequency of inspection, sampling and testing of materials and products, and policies and procedures for documenting compliance with the requirements of this specification.

5. Polyethylene Compound and Requirements

5.1 *Polyethylene Compound*—Polyethylene compound for the manufacture of pipe in accordance with this specification shall be designated in accordance with PPI TR-3 as PE100 and as PE4710 (“PE100/PE4710”), and shall comply with the following requirements:

5.1.1 See Table 1.

5.1.2 Polyethylene compound shall contain sufficient antioxidant so that the minimum induction temperature shall not be less than 220°C when tested for thermal stability in accordance with Specification D3350.

TABLE 1 PE100/PE4710 Polyethylene Compound Requirements

Requirement	Required Value or Value Range
MRS at 20°C, per ISO 9080, ISO 12162 and PPI TR-3, ^A MPa	≥ 10
HDB at 23°C, per Test Method D2837 and PPI TR-3, ^{A,B} MPa	≥ 11.03
HDB at 60°C, per Test Method D2837 and PPI TR-3, ^{A,B} MPa	≥ 6.89
HDS for water at 23°C, per Test Method D2837 and PPI TR-3, ^{A,B} MPa	≥ 6.89
Melt flow rate (high load) per Test Method D1238, g/10 min	>4.0 to ≤ 20 ^C
Nominal natural base resin density per Specification D3350, ^D g/cm ³	>0.947 to ≤ 0.955
Minimum average SCG Resistance (PENT) per Test Method F1473, ^E hr	≥ 500

^A MRS, HDB and HDS determinations shall be listed in accordance with PPI TR-3.

^B HDB ratings expressed in inch-pound units are standard in Test Method D2837. Per 1.3, SI units are standard herein; therefore, the SI values specified in Table 1 are the SI equivalent values per Test Method D2837. Inch-pound values for the SI equivalent values in Table 1 are 73°F = 23°C; 140°F = 60°C; 1600 pound/in² = 11.03 MPa; 1000 pound/in² = 6.89 MPa.

^C Per 5.1.6.

^D Per 1.7 excluding carbon black. See Specification D3350 for determination of carbon black content effects on density.

^E SCG resistance determined in accordance with Test Method F1473 requirements for molded plaque specimens, notching per Test Method F1473 Table 1, and testing at 80°C, 2.4 MPa. Average failure time for two test specimens.

5.1.3 The brittleness temperature shall not be warmer than -60°C when tested in accordance with Test Method **D746**.

5.1.4 The oxidation induction time at 200°C shall not be less than 20 minutes when tested in accordance with Test Method **D3895**.

5.1.5 The minimum nominal tensile strength at yield shall be 20.6 MPa, and the failure mode shall be ductile when determined in accordance with Test Method **D638**. Testing temperature shall be 23°C and the speed of testing shall be 50 mm/min. Specimens shall conform to the dimensions and requirements for Type IV in Test Method **D638** with a thickness of 1.9 ± 0.2 mm. Specimens shall be either die cut or machined. The minimum elongation at break shall be 400 percent.

5.1.6 The polyethylene compound melt flow rate (high load) shall be tested in accordance with Test Method **D1238**, Condition 190/21.6.

5.1.7 The polyethylene compound density in accordance Specification **D3350** shall be tested in accordance with Test Method **D792** or Test Method **D1505**.

5.1.8 Black polyethylene compound shall contain 2.0–2.5 percent carbon black when pipe is tested in accordance with **6.1.2**.

5.1.9 Polyethylene compound shall be stabilized against deterioration from UV exposure for not less than 18 months for color polyethylene compounds, or for not less than 180 months for black polyethylene compounds.

NOTE 2—UV resistance is typically determined by exposure to actual outdoor (natural sunlight) weathering in accordance with Practice **D1435**, or by accelerated weathering in accordance with Practice **D2565** and Practice **G155**. Characterization of UV resistance is typically by tension testing (per **5.1.5**) for an elongation at break value that is at least 50% of the elongation at break value when compared to unexposed control specimens. Studies of high density polyethylene indicate that exposure to Xenon Arc via Practice **G155**—A Cycle 1 gives approximately 4.4 times the acceleration of outdoor Florida exposure. Therefore approximately 2000 hours Xenon Arc testing would approximate 1-year outdoor exposure in Florida (approx. 30th degree of latitude) or about 2-years in southern Canada (approx. 50th degree of latitude). A minimum resistance to an accumulation of 3.5 GJ/m^2 per ISO 16871 represents the yearly exposure to sunlight near the 50th degree of latitude.

5.1.10 *Certification*—When required by the purchaser, polyethylene compound shall be evaluated, tested, and certified in accordance with one or more of the following standards by an accredited laboratory that is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction. The required certification standard(s) shall be by mutual agreement between purchaser and manufacturer.

NOTE 3—Because regulatory requirements vary, it is necessary that the purchaser identify and specify the applicable certification standard(s) to the manufacturer before product purchase.

5.1.10.1 NSF/ANSI Standard No. 61.

5.1.10.2 The health effects portion of NSF/ANSI Standard No. 14.

5.1.10.3 Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality, World Health Organization, Geneva, 2008.

5.1.10.4 EU Council Directive 98/83/EC.

5.1.11 *Listing*—MRS, HDB and HDS ratings for the polyethylene compound shall be listed in accordance with PPI TR-3.

5.2 *Polyethylene Rework Material*—Polyethylene rework material for the manufacture of pipe in accordance with this specification is to be used only when blended with new polyethylene compound that complies with **5.1**. Polyethylene rework material shall comply with the following requirements:

5.2.1 Polyethylene rework material shall comply with PPI TN-30 and shall be from production in accordance with this specification that complies with the melt filtration requirements of PPI TN-30.

5.2.2 The melt flow rate in accordance with Test Method **D1238**, Condition 190/21.6 for polyethylene rework material shall be within ± 20 percent of the test value per **5.1.6**.

5.2.3 The oxidation induction time at 200°C for polyethylene rework material shall not be less than 20 minutes when tested in accordance with Test Method **D3895**.

6. Pipe Requirements

6.1 *Workmanship*—The pipe shall be homogeneous throughout and free from visible cracks, holes, foreign inclusions, or other defects. The pipe shall be as uniform as commercially practicable in color, opacity, density, and other physical properties. Pipe shall be produced using polyethylene material that complies with Section 5. Pipe shall be produced in accordance with a quality assurance program that complies with Section 9.

6.1.1 Excluding color stripes, the dispersion of carbon black in black pipe and color in solid color pipe shall meet an arithmetic grading mean of 3 or less and an appearance rating not worse than micrograph B when tested in accordance with ISO 18553.

6.1.2 *Carbon Black*—Black pipe shall contain 2.25 ± 0.25 percent carbon black when tested in accordance with Test Method **D1603** or Test Method **D4218**.

6.2 Dimensions and Tolerances:

6.2.1 *Outside Diameter*—Outside diameter and tolerance shall be as shown in **Table 2** or in accordance with **6.2.1.1** when measured in accordance with Test Method **D2122**.

6.2.1.1 *Special Size Pipe*—Special size pipe is pipe that is not shown in **Table 2** that has diameter dimensions that are mutually agreed upon by purchaser and manufacturer, but otherwise complies with this standard. For minimum diameter, d_n , special size pipe, plus tolerance shall be 0.009 times d_n , and minus tolerance shall be zero. For average diameter special size pipe, the plus tolerance shall be 0.0045 times the average diameter, and the minus tolerance shall be 0.0045 times the average diameter. For average diameter special size pipe, minimum diameter, d_n , shall be average diameter less minus tolerance.

NOTE 4—Special size pipe is intended for the manufacture of pipe to dimensions that are by mutual agreement between the purchaser and the manufacturer and not shown in **Table 2**, but is not intended for the routine manufacture of pipe to inch-based pipe or tubing sizing conventions or “soft metric” conversions of inch-based pipe or tubing.

6.2.2 *Out-of-roundness*—Out of roundness, OOR, shall be measured in accordance with Test Method **D2122** at the time of manufacture, but before packaging, storage and shipment. Out of roundness tolerance shall be in accordance with **Table 2** or