



Approval Standard for Flammability of Absorbent Battery Acid Spill Containment Pillows

Class Number 4955

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Foreword

The FM Approvals certification mark is intended to verify that the products and services described will meet FM Approvals' stated conditions of performance, safety and quality useful to the ends of property conservation. The purpose of Approval Standards is to present the criteria for FM Approval of various types of products and services, as guidance for FM Approvals personnel, manufacturers, users and authorities having jurisdiction.

Products submitted for certification by FM Approvals shall demonstrate that they meet the intent of the Approval Standard, and that quality control in manufacturing shall ensure a consistently uniform and reliable product. Approval Standards strive to be performance-oriented. They are intended to facilitate technological development.

For examining equipment, materials and services, Approval Standards:

- a) must be useful to the ends of property conservation by preventing, limiting or not causing damage under the conditions stated by the Approval listing; and
- b) must be readily identifiable.

Continuance of Approval and listing depends on compliance with the Approval Agreement, satisfactory performance in the field, on successful re-examinations of equipment, materials, and services as appropriate, and on periodic follow-up audits of the manufacturing facility.

FM Approvals LLC reserves the right in its sole judgment to change or revise its standards, criteria, methods, or procedures.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Purpose.....	1
1.2 Scope.....	1
1.3 Basis for Requirements	1
1.4 Basis for Approval	1
1.5 Basis for Continued Approval	2
1.6 Effective Date	2
1.7 System of Units.....	2
1.8 Applicable Documents.....	2
1.9 Definitions	3
2 GENERAL INFORMATION.....	3
2.1 Product Information	3
2.2 Approval Application Requirements	3
2.3 Requirements for Samples for Examination	4
3 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.....	4
3.1 Review of Documentation	4
3.2 Markings	4
3.3 Manufacturer's Installation and Operation Instructions	5
3.4 Calibration	5
4 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS.....	5
4.1 Flame Spread Resistance Parameter	5
4.2 Non-combustibility of the Absorbent Battery Acid Spill Containment Pillow Fill.....	6
4.3 Color Change Upon Exposure to Battery Acid.....	6
5 OPERATIONS REQUIREMENTS	7
5.1 Demonstrated Quality Control Program	7
5.2 Facilities and Procedures Audit (F&PA)	8
5.3 Installation Inspections	8
5.4 Manufacturer's Responsibilities	8
5.5 Manufacturing and Production Tests	8
APPENDIX A: UNITS OF MEASUREMENT	9
APPENDIX B: FM APPROVALS CERTIFICATION MARKS.....	10

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

- 1.1.1 This standard states Approval requirements for absorbent battery acid spill containment pillows.
- 1.1.2 Approval criteria may include, but are not limited to, performance requirements, marking requirements, examination of manufacturing facility(ies), audit of quality assurance procedures, and a follow-up program.

1.2 Scope

- 1.2.1 This standard applies to absorbent battery acid containment pillow components intended for use in the containment of a battery acid spill. This standard evaluates the ability of pillows filled with a neutralizing absorbent to limit flame spread across the fabric exterior of the pillow units. Other components of the spill control system such as the liners, pans or dikes are the responsibility of the end-user and manufacturer to determine what the need and requirements for such additional components should be. This standard only addresses the flammability of the absorbent battery acid spill containment pillow. No other attributes are evaluated.

1.3 Basis for Requirements

- 1.3.1 The requirements of this standard are based on experience, research and testing, and/or the standards of other organizations. The advice of manufacturers, users, trade associations, jurisdictions and/or loss control specialists was also considered.
- 1.3.2 The requirements of this standard reflect tests and practices used to examine characteristics of absorbent battery acid spill containment pillows for the purpose of obtaining Approval. Absorbent battery acid spill containment pillows having characteristics not anticipated by this standard may be FM Approved if performance equal, or superior, to that required by this Standard is demonstrated, or if the intent of the standard is met. Alternatively, absorbent battery acid spill containment pillows which meet all of the requirements identified in this Standard may not be FM Approved if other conditions which adversely affect performance exist or if the intent of this standard is not met.

1.4 Basis for Approval

Approval is based upon satisfactory evaluation of the product and the manufacturer in the following major areas:

- 1.4.1 Examination and tests on production samples shall be performed to evaluate
 - the suitability of the product;
 - the performance of the product as specified by the manufacturer and required by FM Approvals; and as far as practical,
 - the durability and reliability of the product.
- 1.4.2 An examination of the manufacturing facilities and audit of quality control procedures is made to evaluate the manufacturer's ability to consistently produce the product which is examined and tested, and the marking procedures used to identify the product. These examinations may be repeated as part of FM Approvals' product follow-up program.

1.5 Basis for Continued Approval

Continued Approval is based upon:

- production or availability of the product as currently FM Approved;
- the continued use of acceptable quality assurance procedures;
- satisfactory field experience;
- compliance with the terms stipulated in the Approval report;
- satisfactory re-examination of production samples for continued conformity to requirements; and
- satisfactory Facilities and Procedures Audits (F&PAs) conducted as part of FM Approvals' product follow-up program.

Also, as a condition of retaining Approval, manufacturers may not change a product or service without prior authorization by FM Approvals.

1.6 Effective Date

The effective date of an Approval standard mandates that all products tested for Approval after the effective date shall satisfy the requirements of that standard. Products FM Approved under a previous edition shall comply with the new version by the effective date or else forfeit Approval.

The standard is effective immediately for compliance with all requirements.

1.7 System of Units

Units of measurement used in this Standard are United States (U.S.) customary units. These are followed by their arithmetic equivalents in International System (SI) units, enclosed in parentheses. The first value stated shall be regarded as the requirement. The converted equivalent value may be approximate. Appendix A lists the selected units and conversions to SI units for measures appearing in this standard. Conversion of U.S. customary units is in accordance with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)/American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) SI 10-97, "Standard for Use of the International System of Units (SI): The Modern Metric System."

1.8 Applicable Documents

The following standards, test methods, and practices are referenced in this standard:

1. Society of Fire Protection Engineers Handbook, Third Edition, Section Three, Chapter 4, Generation of Heat and Chemical Compounds in Fires.
2. ASTM E 2058, Standard Test Methods for Measurement of Synthetic Polymer Material Flammability Using a Fire Propagation Apparatus (FPA).
3. ISO 1716:2002: Determination of the Heat of Combustion
4. Flammability Test Procedure for Fabrics, Class 4955