

Subject 268A

November 18, 2005

SUMMARY OF TOPICS

The following changes in requirements are being proposed:

1. Clarification of Fire Test Wood Conditioning Procedures, Proposed by John Parssinen, Underwriters Laboratories

STP BALLOTS DUE: DECEMBER 19, 2005

COMMENTS DUE: DECEMBER 19, 2005

For your convenience in review, proposed additions to existing requirements are shown underlined and proposed deletions are shown ~~lined-out~~.

1. Clarification of Fire Test Wood Conditioning Procedures, Proposed by John Parssinen, Underwriters Laboratories

RATIONALE

Experience has shown that the wood stick conditioning parameters currently specified as absolutes in the standard must sometimes be modified in practice in order to achieve acceptable fire test smoke build up curves. This proposal makes it clear that these parameters are not absolute, and can be varied provided the correct smoke build up rates are obtained.

PROPOSAL

(REVISED)

36.2.1.1 The combustible for this test is to be a group of Ponderosa pine sticks, ~~nonresinous and free from knots or pitches,~~ placed in a spoke pattern on a hot plate so that the sticks are equiangular from each other. The end of each stick is to be flush with the edge of the hot plate. Each stick is to be 3 by 1 by 3/4 inches (76.2 by 25.4 by 19.1 mm) with the 1 by 3 inch face in contact with the hot plate. All surfaces of each stick are to be smooth and free from burrs or holes. The grain of the wood is to be parallel to the stick length. Each stick is to be conditioned for not less than 48 hours at 125°F (52°C) in an air-circulating

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oven. The stick weight is to be 16 ± 2 grams following the oven conditioning. The number of sticks used is to be varied with the duct air speed as shown in Table 36.3. It is appropriate to use two hot plates for higher gray smoke generation.

Note – The following wood stick and test parameters have been found to be suitable. The Ponderosa pine sticks should be nonresinous and free from knots or pitches, placed in a spoke pattern on the hot plate so that the sticks are equiangular from each other. The end of each stick should be flush with the edge of the hot plate. Each stick should be roughly 3 by 1 by $\frac{3}{4}$ inches (76.2 by 25.4 by 19.1 mm) with the 1 by 3 inch face in contact with the hot plate. All surfaces of each stick should be smooth and free from burrs or holes. The grain of the wood should be parallel to the stick length. Each stick should be conditioned for not less than 48 hours at 125°F (52°C) in an air-circulating oven. The stick weight should be 16 ± 2 grams following the oven conditioning. The number of sticks used may be varied with the duct air speed as shown in Table 36.3. It is appropriate to use two hot plates for higher gray smoke generation. The above stick dimensions, conditioning times and temperatures, and the number and placement of sticks are variable as long as the correct smoke build up rates are achieved.

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