The Committee for Conformity Assessment of Accreditation and Certification on Functional and Technical Textiles
Specified requirements of fire hoods for firefighters
Document No. FTTS-FP-107e
Last revised date : August 30, 2005

1.Scope：

This standard specifies test methods and minimum requirements of fire hoods for firefighters. It does not cover the practical performance test in conjunction with other items of PPE and the assessment of innocuousness.

2.Terminology：

2.1 hole: A break in the test specimen at least 5 mm×5 mm in size caused by melting, glowing or flaming. The hole may be discontinuous.

2.2 afterflame time: The time for which a material continues to flame after the ignition source has been removed.

2.3 heat transfer index, HTI_{24} and HTI_{12}: The time in seconds to achieve a temperature rise of (24.0±0.2)℃ and (12.0±0.1)℃ when testing by using a copper disc of mass (18.00±0.05) g and a starting temperature of (25±5)℃.

2.4 radiant heat transfer time, t_{24} and t_{12}: The time in seconds to achieve a temperature rise of (24.0±0.2)℃ and (12.0±0.1)℃ when testing by using a copper plate of mass 35.9~36.0 g.

3. Requirements：

3.1 Flame spread: The assembly shall be tested after the pretreatment and the following requirements shall be satisfied.

3.1.1 No specimen shall give flaming to top or either side edge.

3.1.2 No specimen shall give flaming debris.

3.1.3 Any afterglow shall not spread from the carbonized area to the undamaged area after the cessation of flaming.

3.1.4 No specimen shall give hole formation in any layer.

3.1.5 The mean value of afterflame time shall be ≦ 2 s.

3.1.6 No specimen containing a seam shall permit the seam to open.

3.2 Heat transfer (flame): The assembly shall be tested after the pretreatment and give HTI_{24}≧8 s and (HTI_{24}- HTI_{12})≧3 s.

3.3 Heat transfer (radiation): The assembly shall be tested after the pretreatment and give t_{24}≧11 s, (t_{24}-t_{12})≧3 s.

3.4 Heat resistance: Each material shall be tested after the pretreatment and not melt, drip, ignite or break, and shall not shrink more than 10%.

3.5 Dimensional change: Each material shall give a dimensional change ≦±5% in both length and width direction.

4. Test items

(1) Flame spread

(2) Heat transfer (flame)

(3) Heat transfer (radiation)

(4) Heat resistance

(5) Dimensional change

5.Test method（Summary）：

5.1 Pretreatment

5.1.1 Apparatus and materials

(1) Washer of the front loading, horizontal drum type

Diameter of inner drum is (51.5±0.5) cm, depth of inner drum is (33.5±0.5) cm. Three lifting vanes, each (5.0±0.5) cm high, extending the depth of the inner drum and spaced 120° apart. Distance between inner and outer drums is (2.8±0.1) cm. Rotating action for normal is (12.0±0.1) s clockwise, (3.0±0.1) s stop, (12.0±0.1) s anticlockwise, (3.0±0.1) s stop; for gentle is (3.0±0.1) s clockwise, (12.0±0.1) s stop, (3.0±0.1) s anticlockwise, (12.0±0.1) s stop. Rotational frequency during washing is 52 min^{-1}, during hydroextraction (spin) is (500±20) min^{-1}.Water supply normal is (25±5) L/min。Filling time is less than 2 min when filled to 13 cm, draining time is less than 1 min when drained from 13 cm. Heater capacity is (5.40±0.11) kW.

(2) Dryer of the rotary tumble type

Controlled exhaust temperature is maximum 80℃. Drum volume is 80 L to 120 L. Drum diameter is minimum 55 cm. Drum reversal. Lifting vanes shall be at least three in number, regularly spaced within the drum. Each 4 cm to 8 cm high. Heating input is maximum 3.5 kW. Cool-down period is minimum 5 min.

(3) Non-phosphate ECE Reference Detergent A (without optical brightener) or Non-phosphate IEC Reference Detergent A (with optical brightener)。

(4) Ballast: The pieces shall be square and measure (20±4) cm×(20±4) cm, and shall consist of four thicknesses of 100% knitted polyester texturized filament fabric having a mass per unit area of (310±20) g/㎡, overlocked together on all four sides.

5.1.2 Procedure: The test specimens shall be washed and dried five times in a

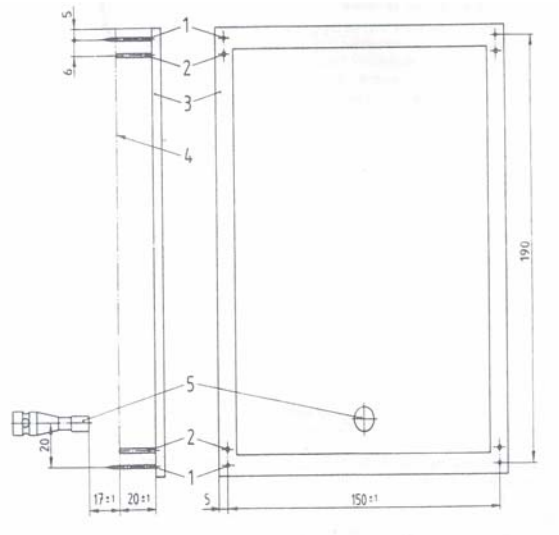
front loading washer in accordance with the procedures 3A(at (60±3)℃) and E of ISO 6330.

5.2 Flame spread

5.2.1 Apparatus and materials

(1) Mounting frame (see figure 1)

(2) Gas burner (see figure 2-5)

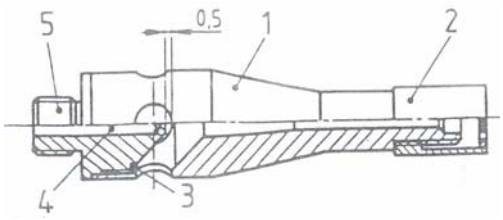


Dimensions in mm

1. Pin
2. Spacer stub
3. Specimen holder
4. Specimen
5. Burner

Figure 1. Mounting frame

Dimensions in mm



1. Burner tube 2. Flame stabilizer
3. Notch 4.Choke tube
5. Gas jet

Figure 2. Gas burner

Dimensions in mm

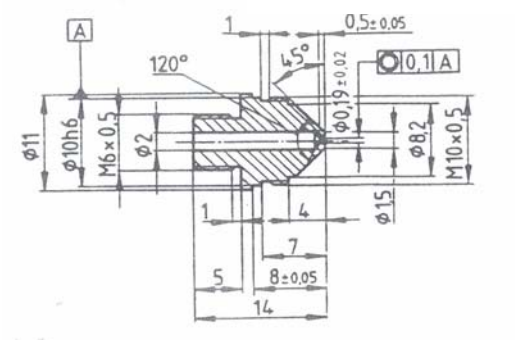
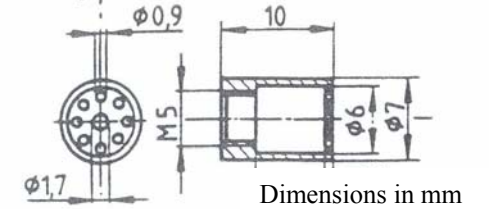
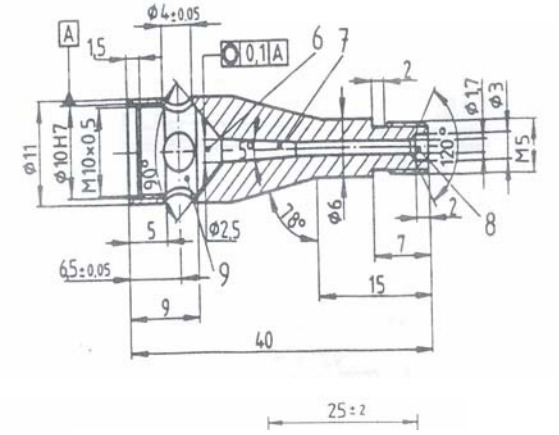


Figure 3. Gas jet



Dimensions in mm



6. Gas mixing zone 7.Diffusion zone
8. Outlet 9.Air chamber

Figure 5. Burner tube

Dimensions in mm

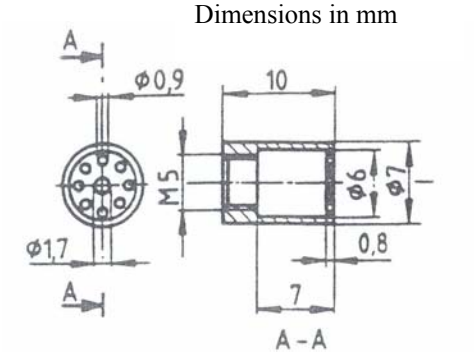
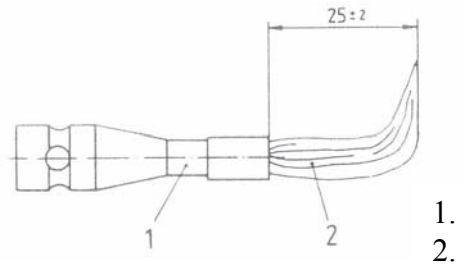


Figure 4. Flame stabilizer

Dimensions in mm



1. Burner
2. Flame

Figure 6. Horizontal reach

Figure 6. Horizontal reach

5.2.2 Test specimens and condition: Cut the assembly after the pretreatment a set of six test specimens (200±2) mm×(160±2) mm, three with the longer dimension in the length direction of the material and three with the longer dimension in the width direction. If the two sides are different, six in both directions. Each test specimen shall arrange in the order as used. If there is the closure system, take at least one specimen including it in the central. An extra test specimen is required for the setting up procedure. Condition each specimen for at least 24 h in an atmosphere of (20±2)℃ and (65±5)% R.H.

5.2.3 Procedure

(1) If testing is not carried out immediately after conditioning, place the conditioned test specimens in a sealed container. Begin testing each specimen within 2 min of removing it from either the conditioning atmosphere or the sealed container.

(2) Place the extra test specimen on the specimen holder and each layer shall be arranged in the order as used. Fit the specimen holder to the mounting frame. Move the burner into the horizontal standby position and adjust the horizontal reach of the flame (propane gas) to (25±2) mm(see figure

6). Move the burner from the standby position to the horizontal operating position. Confirm that the flame impinges on the test specimen in the correct location.

(3) Position a test specimen on the specimen holder and each layer shall be arranged in the order as used. Fit the specimen holder to the mounting frame. Move the burner from the standby position to the horizontal operating position. Apply the igniting flame for 10 s to the surface. Repeat on the remaining test specimens.

5.2.4 Report: Record whether flaming to top or either side edge; whether the occurrence flaming debris; whether a hole formation in any layer; whether afterglow spread from the carbonized area to the undamaged area after the cessation of flaming; whether the seam to open; the mean value of afterflame time.

5.3 Heat transfer (flame)

5.3.1 Apparatus and materials

(1) Gas burner: A Meker burner with a perforated top area of (38±2) mm diameter and a jet suitable for propane gas shall be used.

(2) Copper disc calorimeter: Copper disc has a diameter of (40±1) mm, thickness (1.6±0.1) mm, and a weight of (18.00±0.05) g. Be located in a mounting block which shall be non combustible, heat insulating board(see figure 7). A copper-constantan thermocouple is used.

(3) Calorimeter location plate: The plate shall weigh (264±13) g (see figure 8).

(4) Specimen support frame: The specimen support frame consists of a piece of copper (see figure 9).

(5) Support stand (see figure 10)

.

Dimensions in mm

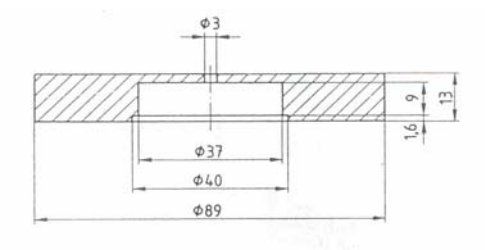


Figure 7. Calorimeter mounting block

Dimensions in mm

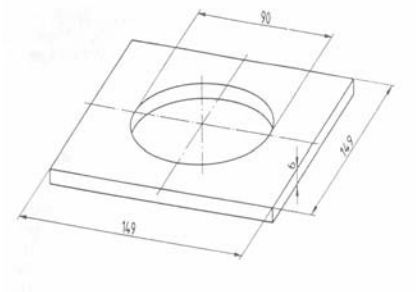


Figure 8. Calorimeter location plate

Dimensions in mm

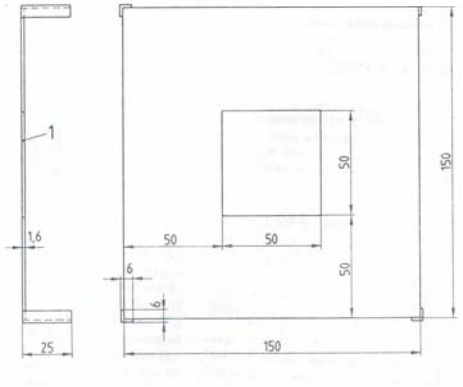
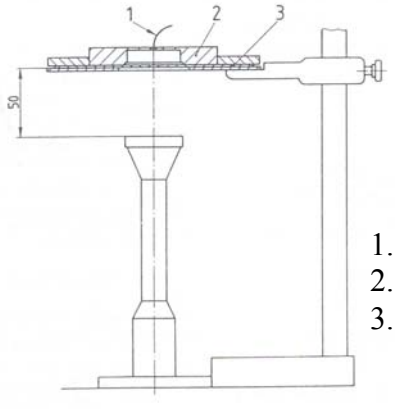


Figure 9. Specimen support frame

Dimensions in mm



1. Thermocouple
2. Calorimeter block
3. Specimen

Figure 10. Support stand

5.3.2 Test specimens and condition: A minimum of three specimens 140 mmx140 mm shall be cut for assembly after the pretreatment. Each test specimen shall arrange in the order as used. Condition each specimen for at least 24 h in an atmosphere of (20±2)℃ and (65±2)% R.H.

5.3.3 Procedure

(1) If testing is not carried out immediately after conditioning, place the conditioned test specimens in a sealed container. Begin testing each specimen within 3 min of removing it from either the conditioning atmosphere or the sealed container.

(2) Light the gas burner and wait until the flame (propane gas) is stable. Adjust the heat flux density. Allow the burner to remain in position without specimen for about 10 s. Determine the rate of rise of temperature in linear region. The heat flux density is calculated from the following equation:

$$Q = \frac{M \times Cp \times R}{A}$$

Q is heat flux density (kW/㎡)

M is the mass of the copper disc (kg)

Cp is the specific heat of the copper (0.385 kJ/kg℃)

R is the rate of rise of temperature in linear region (℃/s)

A is the disc area (㎡)

Adjust the gas flow rate until the heat flux density is (80±4) kW/㎡. Repeat until three consecutive values are obtained which fall within the required limits.

(3) Place the specimen face downwards on the specimen support frame. Allow the test to continue until a temperature rise of (24.0±0.2)℃ is observed.

5.3.4 Report: Measure the time in seconds for a temperature rise (24.0±0.2)℃ and (12.0±0.1)℃ as HTI_{24} and HTI_{12}. The values of HTI_{24} and (HTI_{24}- HTI_{12}) quoted is the lowest single result rounded to 0.1 s.

5.4 Heat transfer (radiation)

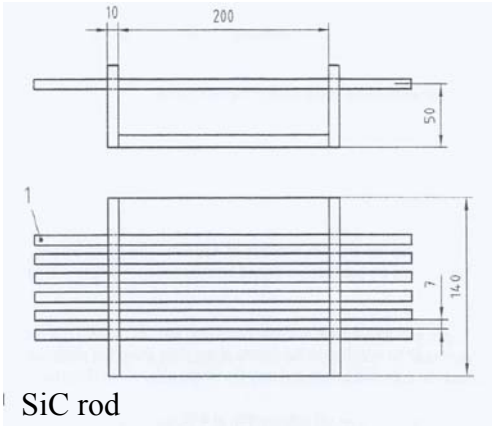
5.4.1 Apparatus and materials

(1) Source of radiation: Consists of six SiC heating rods, with diameter (7.9± 0.1) mm and electrical resistance (3.60±0.36) Ω at 1070℃ (see figure 11)。

(2) Calorimeter: The copper sheet shall be 50.0 mm×50.3 mm, 1.6 mm thick and have a mass of 35.9~36.0 g. This copper plate is bent in the longer direction into an arc with a radius of 130 mm, a chord of 50 mm. The calorimeter is located in a mounting block which is non-combustible and heat insulation board (see figure 12). A copper constantan thermocouple is used.

(3) Specimen holder (see figure 13)

Dimensions in mm



1. SiC rod

Figure 11. Source of radiation

Dimensions in mm

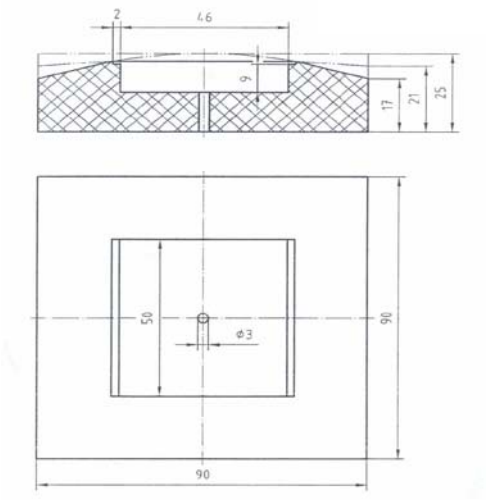


Figure 12. Calorimeter mounting block

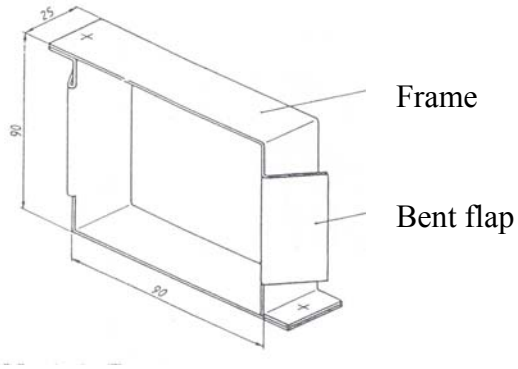


Figure 13. Specimen holder

5.4.2 Test specimens and condition: A minimum of three specimens 230 mm×80 mm shall be cut for assembly after the pretreatment. Each test specimen shall arrange in the order as used. Condition each specimen for at least 24 h in an atmosphere of (20±2)℃ and (65±2)% R.H.

5.4.3 Procedure

(1) Begin testing each specimen within 3 min of removing it from the conditioning atmosphere.

(2) Light the source of radiation and wait until to be stable. Adjust the heat flux density. The calorimeter without test specimen is fixed in its position in the opening of the vertical plate of the test frame. After the measuring device has been switched on, the movable screen is withdrawn and again returned to its position when a temperature rise of about 30℃ has been reached. Determine the rate of rise of temperature in linear region. The heat flux density is calculated from the following equation:

$$Q = \frac{M \times Cp \times R}{A \times \alpha}$$

Q is heat flux density (kW/㎡)

M is the mass of the copper plate (kg)

Cp is the specific heat of copper (0.385 kJ/kg℃)

R is the rate of rise of temperature in linear region (℃/s)

A is the area of the copper plate (㎡)

α is the absorption coefficient of the painted surface of the calorimeter

(greater than 0.9)

Before the start of every measurement the temperature of the calorimeter should be within ±2℃ of ambient temperature. Adjust the distance between the radiant source and the calorimeter until the heat flux density is (20.0±0.4) kW/m^2.

(3) The test specimen is fastened to specimen holder and held in contact with the face of the calorimeter, applying a force of 2 N. The calorimeter with test specimen is fixed in its position in the opening of the vertical plate of the test frame. The distance is same as 5.4.3(2). After the measuring device has been switched on, the movable screen is withdrawn, the starting point of the irradiation is recorded, and again returned to its position when a temperature rise of about 30℃ has been reached. The measurement may be stopped earlier if the specimen is obviously destroyed by the radiation.

5.4.4 Report: Measure the time in seconds for a temperature rise (24.0±0.2)℃ and (12.0±0.1)℃ as t_{24} and t_{12} . The values of t_{24} and (t_{24}- t_{12}) quoted is the lowest single result rounded to 0.1 s.

5.5 Heat resistance

5.5.1 Apparatus and materials

(1) Forced air circulating oven: Capable of sufficient internal volume to allow the test specimen to be suspended, and is not less than 50 mm from any inner surface of the oven. The oven shall have an airflow rate of 0.5~1.5 m/s (20℃、1 atm), measured at the centre-point of the oven.

(2) Rule marked in mm.

5.5.2 Test specimens and condition: A minimum of three specimens 375 mm×375 mm shall be cut for each material after the pretreatment used in the assembly, when the specimens are not subjected to measurement of shrinkage, the specimen may be using 150 mm×150 mm. Small items may be tested whole. Condition each specimen for at least 24 h in a standard atmosphere of (20±2)℃ and (65±5)% R.H.

5.5.3 Procedure

(1) Lay the specimen flat on the smooth, flat surface without stretching the

specimen. Make at least three pairs of marks on it in both length and width directions. Ensure that the distance between marks of each pair is at least 350 mm, that no mark is less than 5 mm from the edges of the specimen and that the measuring points are regularly spaced across the specimen.

(2) Hang the specimens in the oven of 260~270 ℃ for 5.00~5.15 min.

(3) After the specified exposure, remove the specimen without stretching the specimen.

(4) Examine it for evidence of melting, dripping, ignition or break. Five minutes after the specified exposure, measure the specimen's dimensional changes. (Using the stretching frame, pull knit fabric specimens to their original dimensions for 10 min, then remove the specimens from the frame, and allow the specimens to relax for 10 min prior to measurement.)

5.5.4 Report: Record the evidence of melting, dripping, ignition or break, and calculate the mean changes in dimensions in both length and width directions(%).

5.6 Dimensional change

5.6.1 Apparatus and materials

(1) Washer of the front loading, horizontal drum type: As specified in 5.1.1(1)

(2) Dryer of the rotary tumble type: As specified in 5.1.1(2)

(3) Non phosphate reference detergent: As specified in 5.1.1(3)

(4) Ballast: As specified in 5.1.1(4)

(5) Rule marked in mm.

5.6.2 Test specimens and condition: Cut three specimens for each material used in the assembly, each measuring at least 500 mm×500 mm. For materials less than 500 mm×500 mm, full material may be used. Condition each specimen for at least 24 h in an atmosphere of (20±2)℃ and (65±5)% R.H.

5.6.3 Procedure

(1) Lay the specimen flat on the smooth, flat surface without stretching. Make at least three pairs of marks on it in both length and width directions. Ensure that the distance between marks of each pair is at least 350 mm. No mark is less than 50 mm from the edges of the specimen and that the measuring points are regularly spaced across the specimen.

(2) Wash and dry the specimens according to the procedure specified in 5.1.2.

(3) After drying, condition each specimen for at least 24 h in an atmosphere of (20±2)℃ and (65±5)% R.H. Measure the specimens.

5.6.4 Report: Calculate the mean changes in dimensions in both length and width directions. State whether the dimension has decreased (shrinkage) by means of a minus sign (－) or increased (extension) by means of a plus sign (＋). Express the average dimensional changes to the nearest 0.5%.

$$DC = \frac{L' - L}{L} \times 100$$

DC = Percentage change in dimensions (%)

L= Original (mm)

L' = Final (mm)

6.Reference standard：

6.1 EN 13911：2004 Protective clothing for firefighters – Requirements and test methods for fire hoods for firefighters

6.2 EN 367：1992 Protective clothing - Protection against heat and fire – Method determining heat transmission on exposure to flame

6.3 EN 533：1997 Protective clothing – Protection against heat and flame – Limited flame spread material assemblies

6.4 ISO 5077：1984 Textiles – Determination of dimensional change in washing and drying

6.5 ISO 6330：2000 Textiles – Domestic washing and drying procedures for textile testing

6.6 ISO 6942：2002 Protective clothing - Protection against heat and fire – Method of test: Evaluation of materials and material assemblies when exposed to a source of radiant heat

6.7 ISO 15025：2000 Protective clothing – Protection against heat and flame – Method of test for limited flame spread

6.8 ISO 17493：2000 Clothing and equipment for protection against heat – Test method for convective heat resistance using a hot air circulating oven