



# What's Happening in Committee F02 on Flexible Barrier Packaging

Spring 2013

## Message from the Chair

**Dhuanne Dodrill**

Committee F02 Chair

It's very exciting to see all of the activity that's occurring within F02. Our members are identifying areas where standards are needed and stepping up to address those gaps. At our April meeting in Indianapolis we had some lively discussions around six new standards that are actively under development and an additional seven new standards that have just been proposed for development. This was in addition to reviewing the ballot results for thirteen items and discussing several existing standards that are in the process of being revised.

To make the process of writing a test method easier, F02 is developing a test method template. The template lists the sections that our committee typically includes in a test method and highlights the ones that are mandatory, it provides guidance on ASTM expectations as to what should be included in each section, and details our committee's preferred wording for various elements of a test method. Look for it by the end of summer in the Committee Documents section the website.

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## What's New!

### WVTR Test Method Comparison Study

**Mike Troedel** – Cardinal Health

*Subcommittee Chair, F02.10 on Permeation*

Subcommittee F02.10 was contacted by Committee E-06 on Building Materials and has been collaborating with its' members for the past four years on an Interlaboratory Study to compare the various methods available of Water Vapor Transmission Rate testing,. Test methods included were E96 Water Vapor Transmission in Materials, E398 WVTR of Sheet Materials Using Dynamic Relative Humidity Method, and F1249 WVTR through Plastic Film and Sheeting Using a Modulated Infrared Sensor. Twenty-six (26) labs participated in analyzing 7 different barrier materials.

The data was compiled and analyzed by the ASTM ILS Group at Headquarters and was presented and discussed initially at our Subcommittee meeting last fall in Barcelona. During our meeting in April in Indianapolis, the recently prepared updated Precision and Bias statements for each individual method were presented and discussed. These new updates for P&B are now being balloted for approval.

Several members have agreed to help task group chairman Mike Troedel prepare a detailed analysis and presentation of all activities for eventual publication in a leading packaging journal. This is expected to be available in the next 6 to 9 months. ❖

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Also included in the Committee Documents is a presentation titled *Developing Standards* that walks you through the process of registering and submitting a standard. Of course if you have questions or want some assistance with the process, Diane Trinsey, our Staff Manager, or I would be very happy to help.

To help promote participation within F02, our meeting locations in 2014 will be independent of ASTM Committee Week. Our spring meeting will be held in conjunction with D10 on 7-9 April 2014 in East Lansing Michigan, home of Michigan State University and their wonderful School of Packaging. The committee meetings will be paired with a packaging workshop, poster show by students, and a tour of the School of Packaging to provide learning opportunities for both our members and students.

In the fall of 2014 we will be returning to Europe. We're very excited to be meeting in Belfast, Northern Ireland, named one of the top ten World Class conference locations by The Financial Times, Best of the World must see destinations for 2012 by National Geographic Traveler, and one of the 15 places to visit this decade by Huffington Post.

Our meetings provide wonderful opportunities to gain insight into testing nuances, discuss challenges with other packaging professionals, and network with a terrific group of people. Our next meeting is 23-24 October 2013 at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront in Jacksonville, Florida, USA. I hope to see you there.

❖

## News from Committee F02 Staff Manager



**Diane  
Trinsey**

### Proposed Change to ASTM Regulations:

The ASTM Committee on Technical Committee Operations (COTCO) proposed the below revisions to the Regulations. The proposed revisions are to be considered and voted on by each technical committee prior to submission to the Board of Directors for approval. The F02 Executive Committee **approved** the following revisions to the Regulations at their April meeting in Indianapolis.

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### **Proposed Change:**

#### Proposed Revision of Section 10.6.3 and 10.6.3.1

### **Rationale:**

*Section 10.6.3.1 requires automatic ballot for withdrawal of a standard that has no ballot action in process as of January 1 of its sixth year. This requirement has been in place since 1992. Since this time, ASTM has developed electronic tools and automated alert systems which have greatly assisted with the management of standards due for review. Consequently, we have noticed a drastic reduction in ballots for withdrawing standards in their 6th year.*

*In addition, it is counterproductive to place a 6 year old standard on ballot for withdrawal when the responsible subcommittee has an open work item and is actively working on a revision. In most cases, standards entering their sixth year have a work item or are planned to be registered as a work item and are considered in process.*

*In addition, it is counterproductive to place a 6 year old standard on ballot for withdrawal when the responsible subcommittee has an open work item and is actively working on a revision. In most cases, standards entering their sixth year have a work item or are planned to be registered as a work item and are considered in process.*

*Committee members will be notified of standards having no action in their seventh and eighth years. This notification will include an explanation that standards are not published in their ninth year.*

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Therefore, the following update in the provision for overdue standards is proposed.

10.6.3 *Frequency of Review* A standard should be reviewed in its entirety by the responsible subcommittee and shall be balloted for reapproval, revision, or withdrawal within five years of its last approval date. If the standard has not received a new approval date by December 31 of the eighth year since the last approval date, the standard will be withdrawn.

### **Virtual Officers' Training Week 2013**

ASTM International is pleased to announce Virtual Officers' Training Week 2013. ASTM staff will be conducting Officers' training modules online from September 23 – 26, 2013.

The online training is intended primarily for committee officers, subcommittee chairmen, technical contacts or others in leadership positions who are aspiring to become officers. It will provide you with valuable information that will enable you to efficiently manage your ASTM responsibilities.

This online training will use WebEx technology. WebEx combines teleconference capability with real-time sharing of presentations via the internet.

These modules will cover topics such as:

- ASTM Online
- Balloting and Handling Negative Votes
- Main Officer and Subcommittee Chairman's Duties and Responsibilities
- Interlaboratory Study Program (ILS)
- Developing and Revising a Standard
- Task Group & Technical Contact Responsibilities

These modules are similar to those offered during past Officers' Training Workshops at ASTM Headquarters. Registration for the virtual workshop will open in early **June**. If you have any questions, please contact your Staff Manager.



### **A New ASTM Canadian Office Opens!**

In tandem with SCC's accreditation, ASTM has established a physical presence in Canada. Located in Ottawa, the new ASTM International Canada Office is being led by Diane Thompson, an internationally recognized consultant specializing in standardization and trade. As director of the new office, Thompson will work with SCC and assist with outreach opportunities with industry and government agencies.

Headquartered outside of Philadelphia, ASTM International also has offices in Beijing, Brussels, Mexico City and Washington, D.C. In addition to SCC accreditation, ASTM International is also accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

For more information on the SCC accreditation or the ASTM Canada Office, contact Diane Thompson, director, ASTM International Canada Office (phone: 301-754-0248; [dthompson@astm.org](mailto:dthompson@astm.org)). ❖



# Subcommittee Blurbs

## F02.10 Permeation

Mike Troedel

Subcommittee Chair

Samples are distributed for the ILS of F2476 CO<sub>2</sub> Infrared Detector. This standard is overdue because of no P&B statement.

E398 and F1249 will be put on the main committee ballot with new P&B statements developed as a result of the WVTR comparative study data.

The new method for verifying resistance to the passage of air using a Gurley densometer will undergo an ILS and be reballoted.

A WVTR whole package test alternative to USP gravimetric test was discussed and will be drafted. Mocon proposed the withdrawn standard D6701 for high permeability for water vapor, originally in D13 on Textiles, be reinstated in F02.10. They will present their case at the next meeting.

## F02.15 Chemical & Safety

Marilyn Baker

Subcommittee Chair

F34, Practice for Liquid Extraction, is approved with balloted comments addressed as editorial. This standard has been a defacto custodian for FDA food regulations in this area.

Many of the microwave susceptor standards are due for review. The standards have on champion and the subcommittee has no expertise in this area.

Therefore, consideration will be given to withdraw these standards.

**Note:** Marilyn Baker has a new job assignment and cannot continue as Subcommittee Chair. We wish her well and thanks for her service.

## F02.20 Physical Properties

Marie Tkacik,

Subcommittee Chair

F1140, F2054, F2203, F2217, F2250, and F2252 were all reapproved with the last ballot. F2251 on thickness measurement will be reballoted to provide guidance for a range of foot pressures.

F88 on seal strength will be reviewed to add

guidance on comparative differences with 15mm vs. 1 inch seal width results.

Modifications to the test stylus and mandrel for the abrasion test are needed after preliminary review of the method and apparatus. There will be a reballot at subcommittee for the revised method to be followed by an ILS.

Jan Gates will be adding impulse sealing to F2029 on making heat seals.

Measurement of seal width and measurement of 'springiness' of film that is folded were discussed as possible new standards.

## F02.40 Package Integrity

Nick Winters

Subcommittee Chair

A new standard test method using airborne ultrasound was balloted and negatives found persuasive. Nick Winters will reballot.

F2095, F2227, F2228, F3078 and F2714 will be balloted for reapproval.

An ILS will be started for oxygen analysis of packages using headspace sampling.

A new method using vacuum deflection will be balloted in subcommittee to include r & R data along with a force decay method.

Adding a mass flow measurement to F2338 vacuum decay will be demonstrated at the next meeting.

## F02.50 Package Design & Development

Matt Gibney

Subcommittee Chair

Definitions for "hot tack" and "nonporous packaging material" were approved as balloted and will be revised in F17 Terminology. The definitions for "permeation" and "pinhole" received persuasive negatives and will be reballoted.

Two new possible standards were discussed. One being a guidance to standardize how to test labels, and the other is test method validation guidance. Both will need to define the scope and provide a basic outline at the next meeting. ❖



## COMMITTEE LIAISONS

### ASTM COMMITTEE D10 ON PACKAGING

Committee D10 continues to fully investigate where the current data comes from in D4169 *Standard Practice for Performance Testing of Shipping Containers and Systems* and will be updating as needed. The random vibration spectrum for truck will be revised and balloted. As new or revised data is developed, the Committee only intends to revise the standard practice only annually to minimize revisions.

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT (4/18/2013)

Producer	43
User	63
Consumer	0
General Interest	88
Unclassified	<u>4</u>
Totals	198

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS (10/20/2012-4/18/2013)

Alder, L D	C R Bard
Ciscar, Alberto	BD Medical
Devis, Alejandro	Itene
Erickson, Ryan	Vention Medical
Gallegos, Georgianna	Mangar Industries Inc
Havel, Jan	TUV SUD Product Service
Johnson, Peter	DDL, Inc.
Keefe, Tim	
Kronenberg, Diana	Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH
Lahde, Mika	Bayer Oy
Malavasi, Irina	Techno Analysis s.r.l
Mavor, Charlotte	Amcort Flexibles
Mizia, Richard S	TM Electronics, Inc.
Mondon, Matthias	TUV SUD Product Service
Ragusa, Maria	Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH
Sagi, Hemi	ATC, Inc
Sarantos, Chris	Stryker Corporation
Sievers, Nick	CFI Medical Solutions
Simon, Christophe M	Arjowiggins Healthcare
Smith, Laurie T	Taber Industries
Smith, Paul P	Sepha Ltd
Taggart, Benjamin	Medrad, Inc
Taylor, Charles	J&J Vision Care
Tillaeus, Nina	Wipak Oy
Wessell, Lauren	Becton, Dickinson
Wood, Tres	Smithers Pira
Wrigley, David J	

## ISO TC122/SC 4 PACKAGING AND ENVIRONMENT

The ISO 18600 series environmental standards on general requirements, optimization, reuse, material recovery, energy recovery, and organic recycling have been issued. These standards are currently in publication and should be available shortly.

### ADMINISTRATIVE DEADLINES

Subcommittee Ballot #1	20 May 2013
Main Committee Ballot	26 June 2013
Meeting Minutes	26 June 2013
Subcommittee Ballot #2	7 August 2013
Meeting Agendas	11 September 2013

### FUTURE MEETINGS

#### 23-24 OCT 2013

Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Waterfront  
Jacksonville, FL, USA

#### 7-9 APRIL 2014

Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI

#### SEPTEMBER 2014

Belfast, Northern Ireland

### HEADQUARTERS STAFF SUPPORT

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## Picture Gallery from Indianapolis

