

Falling sand tester



Simple and effective means to evaluate abrasion resistance

This widely used method of abrasion testing has been employed for over 70 years to evaluate coatings applied to a plane rigid surface, such as a metal or glass panel. Described in internationally recognized test standards such as ASTM D968, this apparatus is normally used for testing paint, varnish, lacquer and other organic coatings. Abrasion Resistance is expressed in terms of the volume of abrasive required to wear through a unit thickness of the coating.

Proven design built for durability

Standardized abrasive particles placed in a reservoir are released and guided by a straight, smooth bore tube to impinge on a specimen fixed under the guide tube at a 45° angle. A sturdy base and support system hold the apparatus in a vertical position. The specimen receptacle includes an opening so used abrasive particles can be collected.

Choice of abrading sands

Standardized natural silica sand, commonly referred to as Ottawa sand, along with silicon carbide grain are popular abrasants for this apparatus. Silica sand has been characterized by its roundness of grains and produces a slower rate of abrasion compared to silicon carbide. However, for certain coatings, the silica sand may provide greater discrimination.

Standard features

- » 8" diameter sand reservoir with 60° funnel
- » 36" guide tube
- » Specimen receptacle with removable viewing window
- » 45° angled specimen holder
- » Specimen receptacle collar with built in "pivot / stop"
- » 1" brass set-up gauge
- » Rigid base and vertical support system

Optional accessories (sold separately)

- » Ottawa silica sand (50 lb. bag)
- » Silicon carbide sand (50 lb. bag)

