



Standard Test Method for Radial Crushing Strength, K , of Powder Metallurgy (P/M) Bearings and Structural Materials¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation B 939; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the equipment and laboratory procedure for the determination of the radial crushing strength of materials using either a plain powder metallurgy (P/M) bearing or a hollow cylindrical test specimen. This is a destructive test that produces quantitative results.

1.2 Limitations:

1.2.1 The principle of this procedure is based on the material being tested having minimal ductility. The permanent deflection of the cylinder during the test should not exceed 10 % of the outside diameter.

1.2.2 The radial crushing strength test results should be used only as a guide if the test specimen has a wall thickness that is greater than one-third of the outside diameter. These test results should then only be used for comparison with data from the test specimens of like materials and similar dimensions.

1.3 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

B 243 Terminology of Powder Metallurgy

B 438/B 438M Specification for Sintered Bronze Bearings (Oil-Impregnated)

B 439 Specification for Iron Base Sintered Bearings (Oil-Impregnated)

B 612 Specification for Iron Bronze Sintered Bearings (Oil-Impregnated)

B 782 Specification for Iron Graphite Sintered Bearings (Oil-Impregnated)

B 925 Practices for Production and Preparation of Powder Metallurgy (P/M) Test Specimens

2.2 MPIF Standard:³

MPIF Standard 55 Determination of Radial Crush Strength (K) of Powder Metallurgy Test Specimens

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Definitions of powder metallurgy (P/M) terms can be found in Terminology **B 243**. Additional descriptive information is available in the related material section of Vol 02.05 of the *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 Radial crushing strength is determined by subjecting a plain sleeve bearing or a thin-walled cylindrical test specimen to a controlled compressive force applied perpendicular to its central axis under uniformly increasing load until fracture occurs.

4.2 The term radial crushing strength as used in this test method is the stress at fracture calculated from the breaking load and the dimensions of the test specimen.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 The radial crushing strength test is a destructive procedure used to determine a material strength characteristic of P/M bearings and hollow cylindrical test specimens. These data can be used to grade, classify, and evaluate the materials.

5.2 The P/M bearing Specifications **B 438/B 438M**, **B 439**, **B 612**, and **B 782** require the use of this test method as an acceptance test for the strength of oil-impregnated sintered bearings.

5.3 This test method may be used by powder producers and parts manufacturers as a lot acceptance test for metal powders and premixes intended for the production of porous parts.

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee B09 on Metal Powders and Metal Powder Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee B09.04 on Bearings.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ Available from Metal Powder Industries Federation (MPIF), 105 College Rd. East, Princeton, NJ, 08540-6692, USA



TABLE 1 Precision Data

Material	Med Graphite Bronze CTG-1001-K23	Iron-Copper FC-1000-K20	Copper-Steel FC-0208-50
Dry Density (g/cm ³)	6.56	5.96	6.76
Outside Diameter, <i>D</i> in. (mm)	1.00 (25.4)	1.00 (25.4)	2.00 (50.8)
Inside Diameter, <i>d</i> in. (mm)	0.75 (19.1)	0.75 (19.1)	0.875 (22.2)
Length, <i>L</i> in. (mm)	0.75 (19.1)	0.75 (19.1)	0.75 (19.1)
Number of Labs	9	9	10
Radial Crushing Strength, <i>K</i> psi (MPa)	31 000 (215)	58 000 (400)	114 000 (785)
Repeatability, <i>r</i> psi (MPa)	2200 (15)	4900 (35)	6900 (50)
Reproducibility, <i>R</i> psi (MPa)	3300 (25)	6600 (45)	6900 (50)

5.4 Companies in the P/M industry use this test as a manufacturing control test because it is appropriate for production practices.

5.5 Radial crushing strength is a property of the P/M material but is not a design value. However, experience has shown that the radial crushing strength of a material is approximately twice its ultimate tensile strength.

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Measuring Equipment*—Micrometers, calipers, and plug gages capable of measuring the inside and outside diameters and length of the test specimen to the nearest 0.001 in. (0.03 mm).

6.2 *Compression Testing Machine*—A compression machine capable of applying a controlled breaking force to the test specimen with an accuracy of 1 % and readable to the nearest 10 lbf (50 N).

6.3 *Loading Plates*—Two flat, ground-hardened steel plates of sufficient size to encompass the test specimen that can be fastened to the press platens and that will remain parallel within 0.002 in./in. (mm/mm) under load.

7. Test Specimens

7.1 The test specimen shall be a right circular thin-walled hollow cylinder.

7.1.1 When metal powders are to be evaluated, the test specimen shall be produced according to the procedure in Practices B 925.

7.1.2 If bearings are to be evaluated, the test specimen may be a plain sleeve bearing taken from a production lot or other bearing machined to a plain cylindrical shape.

8. Procedure

8.1 Clean any surface oil from the specimen and measure the outside diameter, inside diameter, and the length to the nearest 0.001 in. (0.03 mm).

8.2 Wipe the loading plates clean and lay the test specimen in the central region of the lower plate.

8.3 Bring the upper plate and test specimen into contact and slowly apply the diametrical load at a rate that does not exceed 0.2 in./min (5 mm/min) (see Fig. 1).

8.4 Using a scale on the compression testing machine that has a precision of 1 % or better of the crushing load, record to the nearest 10 lbf (50 N) the load at which the test specimen fractures or the first reading at which the applied load drops.

9. Calculation

9.1 Use Eq 1 to calculate the radial crushing strength of the material in the specimen.

$$K = \frac{P \left(\frac{D+d}{2} \right)}{L \left(\frac{D-d}{2} \right)^2} = \frac{P(D-t)}{Lt^2} \quad (1)$$

where:

K = radial crushing strength, psi (MPa),
P = breaking load, lbf (N),
D = outside diameter, in. (mm),
d = inside diameter, in. (mm),
L = length, in. (mm), and
t = wall thickness [(*D* − *d*)/2], in. (mm).

10. Report

10.1 The radial crushing strength, calculated as the average of three determinations, shall be reported to the nearest 1000 psi (10 MPa).

10.2 The following information may also be included in the report:

10.2.1 Origin and processing of the test specimen,

10.2.2 Chemical composition of the material,

10.2.3 Density of the bearing or test specimen before testing, and

10.2.4 Details of any deviation from the test method and any conditions or occurrences that may have affected the test results.

11. Precision and Bias

11.1 *Precision*—The precision of this test method (Table 1) was determined by the Standards Committee of the Metal Powder Industries Federation for MPIF Standard 55.⁴

11.2 *Bias*—Information cannot be presented on the bias of this test method for measuring radial crushing strength because no material having an accepted reference value is available.

12. Keywords

12.1 *K*; material strength; P/M bearings; radial crushing strength

⁴ The precision is used herein with the permission of the Metal Powder Industries Federation (MPIF), 105 College Rd. East, Princeton, NJ, 08540-6692, USA.

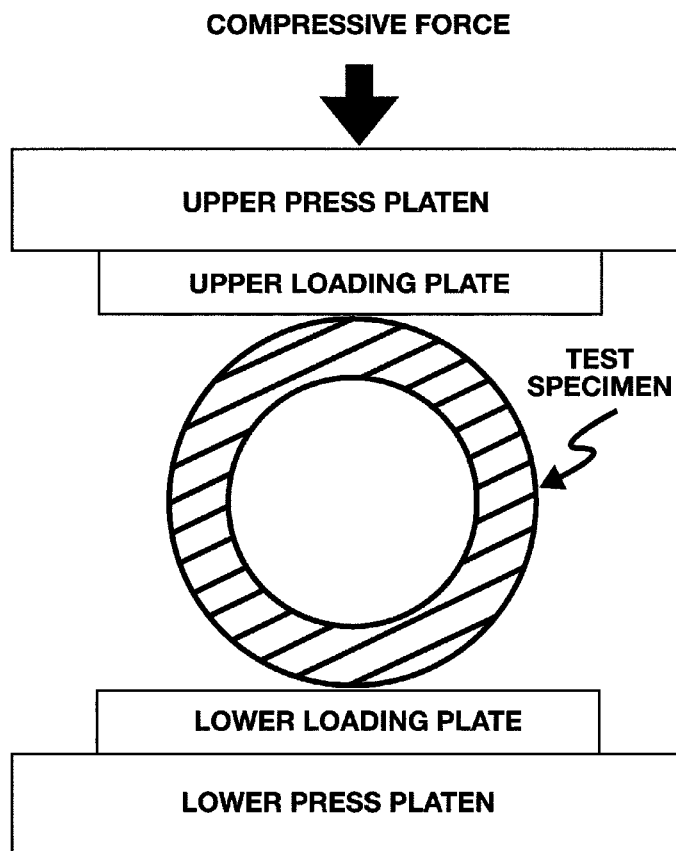


FIG. 1 Diametrical Load Applied to the Upper Plate and Test Specimen

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