



Standard Specification for Foaming Agents Used in Making Preformed Foam for Cellular Concrete¹

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1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers foaming agents specifically formulated for making preformed foam for use in the production of cellular concrete.

1.2 The function of this specification is to provide the means for evaluating the performance of a specific foaming agent. This is accomplished by using the foaming agent in making a standard cellular concrete test batch (see Test Method C796) from which test specimens are cast. Then, significant properties of the concrete are determined by tests and compared with the requirements of Section 3.

1.3 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C09 on Concrete and Concrete Aggregates and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C09.23 on Chemical Admixtures.

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2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:²

C796 Test Method for Foaming Agents for Use in Producing Cellular Concrete Using Preformed Foam

3. Performance Requirements

3.1 The test batch shall conform to the requirements prescribed in Table 1.

4. Test Methods

4.1 The foaming agent being tested shall be used in making the test specimens required.

4.2 For each of the properties listed in Table 1, the test procedure, the number and type of test specimens, and the method of molding, curing, and testing shall be as described in Test Method C796.

5. Keywords

5.1 cellular concrete; foaming agents

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.

TABLE 1 Physical Requirements

Property	Requirement
<i>Density</i> —The density shall satisfy either of the following:	
Density after pumping (see Test Method C796)	640 ± 50 kg/m ³ [40 ± 3 lb/ft ³]
Oven dry density ^A (see Test Method C796)	
For Type I cement	490 ± 40 kg/m ³ [30.4 ± 2.5 lb/ft ³]
For Type III cement	470 ± 40 kg/m ³ [30 ± 2.5 lb/ft ³]
<i>Compressive Strength</i> (see Test Method C796), min	1.4 MPa [200 psi]
<i>Tensile Splitting Strength</i> (see Test Method C796), min	0.17 MPa [25 psi]
<i>Water Absorption</i> (see Test Method C796), max	25 % by volume
<i>Loss of Air During Pumping</i> (see Test Method C796), max ^B	4.5 % by volume

^A For this comparison, the calculated oven-dry density of the test batch may be determined by assuming that the water of hydration is 20 % of the weight of the cement. Then the oven – dry density = $\frac{W_c + (0.2 W_c)}{V_{\text{batch}}}$, where W_c = weight of cement; and V_{batch} = volume of batch.

For example, using the test batch specified in Test Method **C796** for Type I cement ($w/c = 0.58$) and with 45 kg [100 lb] of cement, the total mass of the batch is 1.58 x 45 kg [100 lb] = 71.1 kg [158 lb]. If the wet density, after pumping, is measured to be 640 kg/m³ [40 lb/ft³], the batch volume is 71.1/640 = 0.111 m³ [158/40 = 3.95 ft³]. The calculated oven-dry density is then 1.2 x 45/0.111 = 486 kg/m³ [1.2 x 100/3.95 = 30.4 lb/ft³].

^B The loss of air during pumping includes air that is accidentally entrapped during mixing of the concrete.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Committee C09 has identified the location of selected changes to this specification since the last issue, C869–91 (2006), that may impact the use of this specification. (Approved July 1, 2011)

(1) Revised the standard as a dual units specification and reversed the order of units so that SI units appear first.

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