



Standard Classification System for Chemicals According to Functional Groups¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F1186; 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 standard provides a classification system for chemical compounds whereby chemicals are assigned a 3-digit code based primarily on chemical class.² Poly-functional compounds should be classified by all applicable code numbers associated with their component functional groups.

2. Significance and Use

2.1 In many situations where chemicals are interacting with other chemicals or materials, the interaction is strongly dependent and often correlated with the functional group(s) present. These interactions include chemical reaction, dissolution, and swelling/permeation of polymeric materials. For this reason, it is useful to have a standard means for classifying chemicals.

2.2 One application for this classification system is in the selection of chemical protective clothing based on the chemical resistance of the clothing materials.^{3,4,5} Chemical resistance data are available for only a very small fraction of the chemicals for which protective clothing is used. However, for

chemicals for which no data are available, a knowledge of the chemical class sometimes can give insight into the resistance of a prospective clothing material.

NOTE 1—The present state of knowledge precludes reliable estimates from chemical class alone.

2.3 The classification system also facilitates the development of predictive methodology by researchers in a variety of fields, in addition to protective clothing.

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *functional group*—the atom or group of atoms that defines the chemical class of a particular family of organic compounds and, at the same time, determines their properties.

4. Basis of Classification

4.1 Three-digit numbers were assigned to each class. The major classes generally were a multiple of 10 (printed in bold type), with subclasses numbered between.

4.2 Subcommittee F23.30 has jurisdiction for designating new classes. Proposals should be made to that group. The list will be updated periodically through the ASTM balloting process as needed; interim lists will be made immediately available from the subcommittee.

4.3 See Annex A1 for the classification system.

5. Keywords

5.1 chemical classification; chemical resistance; chemicals; clothing; protective; groups; functional

¹ This classification system is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F23 on Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F23.30 on Chemicals.

Current edition approved Feb. 1, 2013. Published February 2013. Originally approved in 1988. Last previous edition approved in 2008 as F1186 – 03(2008) ^{ϵ 1}. DOI: 10.1520/F1186-03R13.

² Classification in this guide is based on assignment of 3-digit codes, originally found in the *Guidelines for the Selection of Chemical Protective Clothing*, 3rd Ed. (Vols I and II), Schwoppe et al. NTIS Accession Nos. ADA179 516 and ADA179 164, to the groups listed in the Functional Group Index, Kodak Laboratory Chemicals, Kodak Laboratory Products Catalog No. 53, 1987–1988, p 1f–30f.

³ *Chemical Protective Clothing Permeation and Degradation Database*, K. Forsberg et al., Lewis Publisher, CRC Press Inc., 2000 Corporate Blvd., N.W., Boca Raton, FL 33431-9964.

⁴ *Guidelines for the Selection of Chemical Protective Clothing*, Johnson et al., U.S. Dept. of Energy Report DE-02357T, 1991.

⁵ *Quick Selection Guide to Chemical Protective Clothing*, 5th ed., Forsberg and Mansdorf, John Wiley and Sons, Inc., Hoboken, NJ (2007) ISBN 978-0-470-14681-1.

ANNEX
(Mandatory Information)
A1. CLASSIFICATION OF CHEMICALS/CHEMICAL CLASS NUMBERS

		231	Ortho Esters
		232	Carbonates
		233	Carbamates and Others
CLASS	CHEMICAL CLASS/SUBCLASS NAME		
100	Acids Carboxylic	240	Ethers
102	Aliphatic and Alicyclic, Unsubstituted		
103	Aliphatic and Alicyclic, Substituted	241	Aliphatic and Alicyclic
104	Aliphatic and Alicyclic, Polybasic	242	Aromatic
105	Aromatic, Benzoic	243	Alkyl-Aryl
106	Aromatic, Others	244	Ketals, Acetals
		245	Glycol Ethers
		246	Vinyllic
110	Acid Halides, Carboxylic	260	Halogen Compounds
111	Aliphatic and Alicyclic		
112	Aromatic		
113	Chloroformates	261	Aliphatic and Alicyclic
		263	Aromatic
120	Aldehydes	264	Vinyllic
121	Aliphatic and Alicyclic	265	Allylic
122	Aromatic	266	Benzylic
		270	Heterocyclic Compounds
130	Amides	271	Nitrogen, Pyridines
132	Aliphatic and Alicyclic	274	Nitrogen, Others
133	Aromatic	275	Oxygen, Epoxides
134	Acetanilides	276	Carbohydrates
135	Acrylamides	277	Oxygen, Furans
137	Carbamides and Guanidines	278	Oxygen, Others
		279	Sulfur
140	Amines	280	Hydrazines
141	Aliphatic and Alicyclic, Primary		
142	Aliphatic and Alicyclic, Secondary	290	Hydrocarbons
143	Aliphatic and Alicyclic, Tertiary		
145	Aromatic, Primary	291	Aliphatic and Alicyclic, Saturated
146	Aromatic, Secondary and Tertiary	292	Aromatic
147	Alkyl-Aryl, Monoamines	293	Aromatic Polynuclear
148	Aliphatic and Alicyclic Polyamines	294	Aliphatic and Alicyclic, Unsaturated
149	Aromatic Polyamines	295	Acetylenes
		296	Polyenes and Poly-yenes
150	Hydroxylamines and Ketoximes	300	Peroxides
160	Anhydrides	310	Hydroxylic Compounds
161	Aliphatic and Alicyclic		
162	Aromatic	311	Aliphatic and Alicyclic, Primary
		312	Aliphatic and Alicyclic, Secondary
170	Azo/Azox4 Compounds	313	Aliphatic and Alicyclic, Tertiary
		314	Aliphatic and Alicyclic, Polyols
210	Isocyanates	315	Aliphatic and Alicyclic, Substituted
211	Aliphatic and Alicyclic	316	Phenols
212	Aromatic	317	Naphthols
		318	Aromatic, Others
		330	Elements
220	Esters Carboxylic	340	Inorganic Salts and Inorganic Salt Solutions
221	Formates		
222	Acetates	345	Inorganic Cyano Compounds
223	Acrylates and Methacrylates		
224	Aliphatic, Others	350	Inorganic Gases and Vapors
225	Lactones		
226	Benzoates and Phthalates	360	Inorganic Acid Halides
227	Aromatic, Others		
		365	Inorganic Acid Oxides
230	Esters Non-Carboxylic		

370	Inorganic Acids	470	Organo-Metallic Compounds
380	Inorganic Bases	480	Organo-Silicon Compounds
390	Ketones	500	Sulfur Compounds
391	Aliphatic and Alicyclic	501	Thiols
392	Aromatic	502	Sulfides and Disulfides
393	Alkyl-Aryl	503	Sulfones and Sulfoxides
410	Quinones	504	Sulfonic Acids
430	Nitriles	505	Sulfonyl Chlorides
431	Aliphatic and Alicyclic	506	Sulfonamides
432	Aromatic	507	Sulfonates, Sulfates, and Sulfites
440	Nitro Compounds	508	Thiones
441	Unsubstituted	509	Others
442	Substituted	510	Nitrates and Nitrites
450	Nitroso Compounds	520	Ureas
460	Organo-Phosphorus Compounds	530	Zwitterions
461	Phosphines	550	Organic Salts and Organic Salt Solutions
462	Derivates of phosphorus-based acids	590	Miscellaneous

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