



# Standard Test Method for Acidity of Benzene, Toluene, Xylenes, Solvent Naphthas, and Similar Industrial Aromatic Hydrocarbons<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D847; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

*This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.*

## 1. Scope\*

1.1 This test method is intended for the detection of acidity of benzene, toluene, xylenes, solvent naphthas, and similar industrial aromatic hydrocarbons.

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.3 *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.* For specific hazard statements see Section 9.

## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*<sup>2</sup>

D1193 Specification for Reagent Water

D3437 Practice for Sampling and Handling Liquid Cyclic Products

2.2 *Other Documents:*

OSHA Regulations, 29CFR paragraphs 1910.1000 and 1910.1200<sup>3</sup>

## 3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 *acidity, n*—for purposes of this standard, acidity is defined as producing a persistent pink phenolphthalein end

point with the addition of two (2) drops or more (0.1 mL) of 0.1 N sodium hydroxide solution.

3.1.2 *acid reaction, n*—a characteristic of materials producing the acid-color of the indicator used under the conditions prescribed in this test method.

3.1.3 *alkaline or basic reaction, n*—a characteristic of the materials producing the alkali-color of the indicator used under the conditions prescribed in this test method.

## 4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 The acidity of aromatic hydrocarbons is detected using a sodium hydroxide titration and a color change using a phenolphthalein indicator.

## 5. Significance and Use

5.1 This test method is suitable for setting specifications, for use as an internal quality control tool, and for use in development or research work on industrial aromatic hydrocarbons and related materials. This test method gives an indication of residual acidity and is a measure of the quality of the finished product. It is an indication of the tendency of the product to corrode equipment.

## 6. Interferences

6.1 Tests for acidity are not applicable in the presence of contaminating acidic or alkaline gases, soaps, salts, or other compounds derived from the atmosphere or apparatus. The container holding the specimen, and the apparatus, water, indicator, and other materials used in the test shall be chosen so that they themselves shall not appreciably affect the results. Since new corks used in specimen bottles often are bleached with oxalic acid, it is advisable to rinse them thoroughly and check them for neutrality with the indicator used in the test. Glassware shall be of acid-resistant and alkali-resistant glass<sup>4</sup> and shall be rinsed with neutral distilled water before use. The room in which the test is performed shall be chosen so as to prevent undue contamination by carbon dioxide, ammonia, or other interfering substances that may be present in the atmosphere.

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D16 on Aromatic Hydrocarbons and Related Chemicals and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D16.01 on Benzene, Toluene, Xylenes, Cyclohexane and Their Derivatives.

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<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> Available from U.S. Government Printing Office Superintendent of Documents, 732 N. Capitol St., NW, Mail Stop: SDE, Washington, DC 20401, http://www.access.gpo.gov.

<sup>4</sup> Borosilicate glass or the equivalent has been found satisfactory for this purpose.

\*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard