



Designation: C750 – 18

Standard Specification for Nuclear-Grade Boron Carbide Powder¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C750; 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 specification defines the chemical and physical requirements for boron carbide powder intended for a variety of nuclear applications. Because each application has a different need for impurity and boron requirements, three different chemical compositions of powder are specified. In using this specification, it is necessary to dictate which type of powder is intended to be used. In general, the intended applications for the various powder types are as follows:

1.1.1 *Type 1*—For use as particulate material in nuclear reactor core applications.

1.1.2 *Type 2*—Powder that will be further processed into a fabricated shape for use in a nuclear reactor core or used in non-core applications when the powder directly or indirectly may cause adverse effects on structural components, such as halide stress corrosion of stainless steel.

1.1.3 *Type 3*—Powder that will be used for non-core applications or special in-core applications.

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 international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

[B527 Test Method for Tap Density of Metal Powders and Compounds](#)

[B822 Test Method for Particle Size Distribution of Metal](#)

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C26 on Nuclear Fuel Cycle and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C26.03 on Neutron Absorber Materials Specifications.

Current edition approved June 1, 2018. Published July 2018. Originally approved in 1974. Last previous edition approved in 2014 as C750–09 (2014). DOI: 10.1520/C0750-18.

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.

- [Powders and Related Compounds by Light Scattering](#)
- [B923 Test Method for Metal Powder Skeletal Density by Helium or Nitrogen Pycnometry](#)
- [C371 Test Method for Wire-Cloth Sieve Analysis of Non-plastic Ceramic Powders](#)
- [C791 Test Methods for Chemical, Mass Spectrometric, and Spectrochemical Analysis of Nuclear-Grade Boron Carbide](#)
- [C859 Terminology Relating to Nuclear Materials](#)
- [E11 Specification for Woven Wire Test Sieve Cloth and Test Sieves](#)
- [E105 Practice for Probability Sampling of Materials](#)
- 2.2 *ANSI Standard:*³
- [ANSI/ASME NQA-1 Quality Assurance Program Requirements for Nuclear Facilities](#)
- 2.3 *U.S. Government Document:*⁴
- [Title 10, Part 50 \(Appendix B\) NRC Regulations, Code of Federal Regulations, Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 *buyer*—organization issuing the purchase order.

3.1.2 *powder lot*—that quantity of boron carbide powder blended together such that samples taken in accordance with the procedures of 8.1 can be considered as representative of the entire powder lot.

3.1.3 *seller*—boron carbide powder supplier.

4. Ordering Information

4.1 The buyer may specify the following information on the order:

4.1.1 Quantity (weight of delivered product).

4.1.2 Nominal particle size, particle size range, and applicable tolerance.

4.1.3 Density and method of measurement.

4.1.4 Angular or spherical shape.

4.1.5 Shape factor.

4.1.6 Lot size.

³ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.

⁴ Available from U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/cfr/>.