



Designation: E2660 – 22

Standard Digital Reference Images for Investment Steel Castings for Aerospace Applications¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E2660; 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 The digital reference images provided in the adjunct to this standard illustrate various types and degrees of discontinuities occurring in thin-wall steel investment castings.² Use of this standard for the specification or grading of castings requires procurement of the adjunct digital reference images which illustrate the discontinuity types and severity levels. They are intended to provide the following:

1.1.1 A guide enabling recognition of thin-wall steel casting discontinuities and their differentiation both as to type and degree through digital radiographic examination.

1.1.2 Example digital radiographic illustrations of discontinuities and a nomenclature for reference in acceptance standards, specifications, and drawings.

1.2 Two illustration categories are covered as follows:

1.2.1 *Graded*—Six common discontinuity types each illustrated in eight degrees of progressively increasing severity.

1.2.2 *Ungraded*—Twelve single illustrations of additional discontinuity types and of patterns and imperfections not generally regarded as discontinuities.

1.3 The reference radiographs were developed for casting sections up to 1 in. (25.4 mm) in thickness.

1.4 All areas of this standard may be open to agreement between the cognizant engineering organization and the supplier, or specific direction from the cognizant engineering organization. These items should be addressed in the purchase order or the contract.

NOTE 1—The set of digital reference images consists of 16 digital files, software to load the desired format, and specific instructions on the loading process. The 16 reference images illustrate eight grades of severity in six common discontinuity types and twelve ungraded discontinuities and contain an image of a step wedge and two duplex-wire gauges. Available from ASTM International Headquarters. Order number

¹ These digital reference images are under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E07 on Nondestructive Testing and are the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E07.02 on Reference Radiological Images.

Current edition approved Dec. 1, 2022. Published January 2023. Originally approved in 2010. Last previous edition approved in 2017 as E2660 – 17. DOI:10.1520/E2660-22.

² The digital reference images are considered to be applicable to all thin-wall steel castings, requiring close tolerances. They may also be used for nickel-base and cobalt-base cast alloys. Castings for which these images are applicable generally include those made by the lost wax, frozen mercury, ceramicast, or shell mold processes.

RRE2660. Refer to Practice E2002 for wire pair details.

1.5 *Units*—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.

1.6 These digital reference images are not intended to illustrate the types or degrees of discontinuities when performing film radiography. If performing film radiography of thin-wall investment castings, refer to Reference Radiographs E192.

1.7 Only licensed copies of the software and images shall be utilized for production inspection. A copy of the ASTM/User license agreement shall be kept on file for audit purposes.

1.8 *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, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.9 *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*:³

E192 Reference Radiographs of Investment Steel Castings for Aerospace Applications

E1316 Terminology for Nondestructive Examinations

E2002 Practice for Determining Image Unsharpness and Basic Spatial Resolution in Radiography and Radioscopy

2.2 *SMPTE Practice*:⁴

RP133 SMPTE Recommended Practice Specifications for Medical Diagnostic Imaging test Pattern for Television Monitors and Hard-Copy Recording Cameras

³ 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.

⁴ Available from Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers, 3 Barker Avenue, White Plains, NY 10601; or www.smpte.org/smpte_store/

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

2.3 ASTM Adjuncts:

Digital Reference Images of Investment Steel Castings for Aerospace Applications⁵

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Definitions of terms used in this standard may be found in Terminology E1316.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 The terms relating to discontinuities used in these digital reference images are described based upon radiographic appearance when viewed in the negative polarity such that the images appear in the same sense as they would when viewed on X-ray film. If images are viewed in the positive polarity, the terms lighter and darker will need to be reversed.

3.2.2 *aliasing, n*—artifacts that appear in an image when the spatial frequency of the input is higher than the output is capable of reproducing. This will often appear as jagged or stepped sections in a line or as moiré patterns.

3.2.3 *contrast normalization, n*—the adjustment of contrast between the production image and the reference image that makes the change in digital driving level versus change in thickness equal for both images.

3.2.4 *defective mold, n*—illustrated by such common defects as mold crack, mold ridge, rattail, scab, and fin. These conditions appear as areas or lines of different darkness than the adjacent material. Illustrations of the defect include:

3.2.4.1 *mold buckle, negative, n*—a darkened irregularly shaped area darkest near the center and gradually getting lighter away from the center.

3.2.4.2 *mold buckle, positive, n*—a lightened irregularly shaped area lightest near the center and gradually increasing in darkness away from the center.

3.2.5 Discrete Discontinuities, n—

3.2.5.1 *cold cracks, n*—straight or jagged lines usually continuous throughout their length. Cold cracks generally appear singly. They start at the surface.

3.2.5.2 *cold shut, n*—a distinct dark line or band of variable length and definite smooth outline.

3.2.5.3 *core shift, n*—a variation in wall thickness.

3.2.5.4 *hot tears, n*—ragged dark lines of variable width and numerous branches. They have no definite lines of continuity and may exist in groups. They may originate internally or at the surface.

3.2.5.5 *misruns, n*—prominent dark areas of variable dimensions with a definite smooth outline.

3.2.6 *foreign material less dense, n*—irregularly shaped indications darker than the adjacent material, but lighter than gas holes of similar magnitude.

3.2.7 *foreign material more dense, n*—irregularly shaped indications lighter than the adjacent material.

3.2.8 *Gas, n*—

3.2.8.1 *gas holes, n*—round or elongated, smooth edged dark spots, occurring individually, in clusters, or distributed randomly throughout the casting.

3.2.9 *Shrinkage, n*—

3.2.9.1 *shrinkage cavity, n*—an area with distinct jagged boundaries.

3.2.9.2 *shrinkage, dendritic, n*—a distribution of very fine lines or small elongated cavities that may vary in darkness and are usually unconnected.

3.2.9.3 *shrinkage, filamentary, n*—usually a continuous structure of connected lines or branches of variable length, width and darkness, or occasionally, a network.

3.2.9.4 *shrinkage, sponge, n*—an area, lacy in texture, with a very diffuse outline.

4. Significance and Use⁶

4.1 Personnel utilizing reference radiographs to this standard shall be qualified to perform radiographic interpretation in accordance with a nationally or internationally recognized NDT personnel qualification practice or standard and certified by the employer or certifying agency, as applicable. The practice or standard used and its applicable revision shall be identified in the contractual agreement between the using parties. If assistance is needed with interpreting specifications and product requirements as applied to the reference radiographs, a certified Level III shall be consulted before accept/reject decisions are made (if the Level III is the radiographic interpreter, this may be the same person).

4.2 These digital reference images are intended for reference only, but are designed such that acceptance standards, which may be developed for particular requirements, can be specified in terms of these digital reference images. The illustrations are digital images of castings that were produced under conditions designed to develop the discontinuities.

4.2.1 Graded Discontinuities:

4.2.1.1 Gas holes, sponge shrinkage, dendritic shrinkage, less dense foreign material

(1) The images of the 1/8-in (3.2-mm) castings are intended to be used in the thickness range up to and including 1/4-in (6.3-mm). The images of the 3/8-in (9.5-mm) castings are intended to be used in the thickness range of over 1/4-in (6.4-mm), up to and including 1/2-in (12.7-mm). The images of the 3/4-in (19.1-mm) castings are intended to be used in the thickness range of over 1/2-in (12.7-mm), up to and including 1-in. (25.4-mm).

4.2.1.2 Cavity Shrinkage, Filamentary Shrinkage:

(1) The images of the 3/4-in (19.1-mm) castings are intended to be used in the thickness range up to and including 1-in. (25.4-mm).

4.2.2 Ungraded Discontinuities:

⁶ A study was performed that compared film to digital modalities for the classification of aluminum casting discontinuities. Results of this study are available from ASTM as RR:E07-1004. A subsequent study was performed that compared film to digital modalities for the classification of titanium and steel casting discontinuities. Results of this study are available from ASTM as RR:E07-1006.

⁵ Available from ASTM International Headquarters. Order Adjunct No. RRE2660.