How Do You Measure That Ceramic Property?

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Introduction

By using the dozens of consensus test standards and practices developed by the Advanced Ceramics Committee of ASTM, C-28, the measurement of mechanical, physical, thermal, and performance properties can be properly performed. The “what, how, how not, and why” are clearly illustrated for beginning as well as experienced testers. Using these standards will provide accurate, reliable, and complete data for rigorous comparisons with other test results. The C-28 Committee has involved academics, and producers, and users of ceramics to write and continually update more than 45 standards since the committee’s inception in 1986.

For further information

The C28 Committee and Standards for Ceramics
ASTM C28 Advanced Ceramic Standards are found in Vol. 15.01.

Acknowledgments

We thank the more than 90 industry, government, and academic committee members from many countries (~25% non-USA) who have volunteered many hours to develop these standards via work in six technical and four administrative subcommittees.

C28 Advanced Ceramic Standards

Visit the C28 website (http://www.astm.org/COMMIT/COMMITTEE/C28.htm) to purchase C28 standards or join the C28 committee.

Standardization: Tangible Benefits

Hardness Testing of Ceramics

- The Knoop diamond pyramid indenter.
- A Knoop indentation in a ceramic.

The US Customs service acquired improved dramatically. As a result, it was very difficult to compare ceramic hardness values. This was a severe problem since material specifications were being written for ceramics with hardness requirements.

Furthermore, the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States classified imported ceramic wares in part by hardness, but with the archaic Mohs mineralogical scratch test.

- ASTM Knoop and Vickers ceramic hardness tests were adopted in 1996. An ISO test was adopted in 2000. The procedures are harmonious.
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- NIST developed ceramic Knoop and Vickers hardness SRM’s that complement the test method standards. Confusion has been eliminated and data quality has improved dramatically.

- The US Customs service acquired two Knoop SRM’s disks and is working through NAFTA to replace the Mohs specifications with modern Knoop hardness specifications.