Minutes of TelCo Test Methods Work Group

Date of the Meeting: 2022-02-23, 10:00 – 11:00

Participants

Members WG		
Bathsheba Fulton	BS	✓
Ralf Rönisch	RR	✓
Thorsten Meier	TM	✓
David Vanraes	DV	✓
Klaus Menzel	KM	
Uwe Maurieschat	UM	✓
Jürgen Pomorin	JP	✓
Karsten Seitz	KS	✓
Others		
Reinhard Storbeck	RS	✓
Andre Hilgenstock		✓

Chair of Meeting: KS

Minutes: KS

Date of the Minutes: 2022-04-06

The meeting was performed as TelCo via TEAMS. After the welcome, topics were addressed as follows:

TOP I Agenda, minutes of last TelCo, Competition Law

Agenda adopted as proposed, minutes of TelCo 2022-01-13 accepted.

Attachment 1 “Draft Agenda…”

The necessity to comply with EU competition law addressed by KS, attached compliance charts shown and explained. No questions on the topic.

Attachment 2 “Compliance Charts”

TOP II Test Method “dynamic shear”

Discussion Points of the draft (version 5, attachment 3):

Description of apparatus, subclause 6.1

The new text is using elements of the Afera 5001, but also considers parts of DIN EN 1465, FINAT 18 and has a reference to ISO 7500. The latter has been introduced after discussion with Zwick/Roell. The new text after discussion in the WG: “A constant rate of extension (CRE) tension testing machine shall be used. The device shall have two self-aligning clamps with centres in the same plane, parallel with the direction of the motion of the stressing clamp, a means of moving the stressing clamp at a uniform rate of 12.7 mm/min and a device for recording load. The testing machine shall be calibrated in accordance with the requirements of DIN EN ISO 7500-1, class 1 (corresponding to an accuracy of 1%), or better. The response time of the machine shall be sufficiently short so that the accuracy of the measurement at the moment of failure is not affected”.

Description of steel plates, subclause 9.1

Decision not to mention commercial source for plates in the method. May be added in a new version of the manual in an additional list of possible suppliers. The recommendation from Rocholl to exclude the use of gate shears during production of the plates is accepted. The rest stays as is.

➲ The items will be implemented in the next draft by KS, accordingly (the attached version already has these amendments – attachment 3).

Results of first experimental round on fixation method of test specimens – ref. subclause 6.2

The results are shown in attachment 4. To summarize, the results indicate that the fixation of the specimen directly in the clamps may produce lower values than the other two which seem to be fairly equivalent. However, the number of results is too small for valid statements so that the decision was to repeat the measurements on a broader scale, however with some changes to keep the workload on a decent level and to distribute the workload better:

- The comparison will be done between the direct clamping and one of the other two, only. After some discussion, the majority of the WG members voted for the splints as the alternative to be tested vs. the direct clamping. Responses so far: Henkel – splints, IFAM – hooks, certoplast – splints, Coroplast – splints, tesa – will decide later (feedback after meeting: splints).
- Other members of the TC will be invited to take part in the second round.
- The specimens will prepared by each participating party for themselves. Just the products (same as last time) will be distributed to the participants.

➲ KS to ask TC members who wants to participate in the next round and prepare accordingly.

TOP III Round Robin test for standard test methods

The topic was skipped and will be taken up next meeting.

TOP IV Test Manual

KS reported on his work on the TM Manual, so far there are 12 methods screened (the easier ones) and first proposals for amended versions. Findings shown at two examples:

Afera 4022 “Flagging”:

- There are only a few obvious mistakes. The most important one for this method is that the text refers to drawings, but these drawings are missing in the manual (Later discussion with Lutz Jacob: an earlier version of the Manual – 2008? - contained these drawings).
- There is a point that is not an obvious mistake but can be corrected relatively easy: the scope is no scope but a description of flagging. To correct it, one can take the

scope of the corresponding EN12035:1996 and transfer the informative part to a new clause “Definitions”. This would be an easy-to-correct formality.
- There are numerous peculiarities, e. g. description of two different rod geometries but only referring to one throughout the method.
- The text is in large parts identical to EN12035:1996, this EN is listed as equivalent in the cross-reference table of the manual (Separate discussion with Lutz: early EN versions adopted the texts of Afera methods).
- The method is not in use at tesa, Coroplast or certoplast, companies that are definitely experts in flagging. They use a different methods.
- The method is described with almost identical words and contents in DIN 60454

Afera 5004 = GTF 6005 = PSTC 131 “Breaking Strength”

- There are a few obvious mistakes: no conditioning time given, wrong speed (50 mm/s instead of 5).
- There are numerous peculiarities, e. g. option to calculate energy at break of tape and report in Megajoule/cubic metre.
- The text is almost 100 % identical to PSTC131:2007.

Conclusions out of this after discussion:

- For the time being, the changes to the current methods in the manual should be as little as possible. Reasons why:
    - As they are now, they are in-line with current status of norms from other sources and we are not sure how much we can deviate from those without sacrificing equivalence.
    - Significant changes would require a huge workload without clear benefits (e. g. improving the Flagging method that does not seem to be widely used anyways).

  For the Afera methods, we will correct the obvious mistakes and those easy-to-correct formalities.

- For the GTFs even small changes have to be agreed with the other committees; here, we will do only changes for the obvious mistakes in our manual versus the other ones (PSTC), e. g. wrong speed, no conditioning time and leave.the rest as is.
- The manual is a living document, we have to improve it step by step and must accept that it will not be perfect after the first round.
- KS will take care that a subfile to the TC file on the Afera Website will be installed where the drafts will be uploaded for consultation and review by the TC members. The plan is to have the drafts ready for upload by the end of April.
- KS will prepare a list with items that should be changed in the GTFs (that RR can use for discussions during the PSTC conference in May.

Karsten Seitz