

## **Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals**

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### **Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods**

#### **Forty-fifth session**

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Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda

#### **Explosives and related matters: review of tests in parts I and II of the Manual of Tests and Criteria**

## **Review of tests in parts I and II of the Manual of Tests and Criteria**

**Transmitted by the Chairman of the Working Group on Explosives**

### **Introduction**

1. In document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2013/43, submitted for the 44th session, proposals for the improvement of Test Series A, C and E and the corresponding tests in Test Series 1, 2, 8 and Appendix 7 are given. This informal document was earlier submitted as informal document INF.6 at the 44<sup>th</sup> session and gives the proposed changes to the current text of the Manual of Tests and Criteria highlighted with “track changes”. The full text is given on the next pages.
2. In order to keep the size of this document manageable the description of Test 1(c)(i), Test 2(c)(i), Appendix 7, Test 1(b), Test 2(b) and Test 8(c) is not reproduced in this document. The applicable sections are specifically mentioned in document .../C.3/2013/43.
3. Comprehensive changes to all tests involved will either be given in the Annex to the report of the Working Group on Explosives or will be the subject of a separate paper for the 46th session.

## SECTION 11

### TEST SERIES 1

#### 11.1 Introduction

11.1.1 The question "Is it an explosive substance?" (box 4 of Figure 10.2) is answered on the basis of ~~national and international definitions of an explosive substance and~~ the results of three types of test to assess possible explosive effects. The question in box 4 is answered "yes" if a "+" is obtained in any of the three types of test.

#### 11.2 Test methods

Test Series 1 is comprised of three types of test:

- Type 1 (a): for determining propagation of detonation;
- Type 1 (b): for determining the effect of heating under confinement; and
- Type 1 (c): for determining the effect of ignition under confinement

The test methods currently used are listed in Table 11.1.

**Table 11.1: TEST METHODS FOR TEST SERIES 1**

Test code	Name of Test	Section
1 (a)	UN gap test <sup>a</sup>	11.4.1
1 (b)	Koenen test <sup>a</sup>	11.5.1
1 (c) (i)	Time/pressure test <sup>a</sup>	11.6.1
1 (c) (ii)	Internal ignition test	11.6.2

<sup>a</sup> *Recommended test*

#### 11.3 Test conditions

11.3.1 As the apparent density of the substance has an important effect on the results from the type 1 (a) test, it should always be recorded. The apparent density of solids should be determined from measurement of the tube volume and sample mass.

11.3.2 If a mixture can separate out during transport, [handling and storage](#), the test should be performed with the initiator in contact with the potentially most explosive part, [if known](#).

11.3.3 The tests should be performed at ambient temperature unless the substance is to be transported under conditions where it may change its physical state or density.

11.3.4 If a liquid is being considered for transport in tank-containers, or intermediate bulk containers with a capacity exceeding 450 litres, a cavitated version of the type 1 (a) test should be performed (see special provision 26 of Chapter 3.3 of the Model Regulations).

11.3.5 For organic substances and mixtures of organic substances with a decomposition energy of 800 J/g or more, test 1 (a) need not be performed if the outcome of the ballistic mortar Mk.IIIId test (F.1), or the ballistic mortar test (F.2) or the BAM Trauzl test (F.3) with initiation by a standard No. 8 detonator (see Appendix 1) is "No". In this case, the result of test 1 (a) is deemed to be "-". If the outcome of the F.1 or F.2 or F.3 test is "Low" or "Not low", the result of test 1 (a) shall be deemed "+". In this case, a "-" can only be obtained by performing test 1 (a).

## 11.4 Series 1 type (a) test prescription

### 11.4.1 Test 1 (a): UN gap test

#### 11.4.1.1 Introduction

This test is used to measure the ability of a substance, under confinement in a steel tube, to propagate a detonation by subjecting it to the detonation from a booster charge.

#### 11.4.1.2 Apparatus and materials

##### 11.4.1.2.1 Solids

The apparatus for solids is shown in Figure 11.4.1.1. The test sample is contained in a ~~cold-drawn~~, seamless, carbon steel tube with an external diameter of  $48 \pm 2$  mm, a wall thickness of  $4.0 \pm 0.1$  mm and a length of  $400 \pm 5$  mm. If the test substance may react with the steel, the inside of the tube may be coated with fluorocarbon resin. The bottom of the tube is closed with ~~a plastics two layers of 0.08 mm thick polythene~~ sheet pulled tightly (so that it plastically deforms) over the bottom of the tube and held ~~tightly in place with rubber bands and insulating tape. For samples which affect polythene, polytetrafluoroethylene sheet can be used. The plastics sheet shall be compatible with the substance under test.~~ The booster charge consists of 160 g RDX/wax (95/5) or PETN/TNT (50/50),  $50 \pm 1$  mm in diameter with a density of  $1\,600 \pm 50$  kg/m<sup>3</sup> giving a length of about 50 mm. ~~The RDX/wax charges may be pressed in one or more pieces, as long as the total charge is within the specifications, and the PETN/TNT charge is cast. A mild steel witness plate,  $150 \pm 10$  mm square and  $3.2 \pm 0.2$  mm thick, is mounted at the upper end of the steel tube and separated from it by spacers  $1.6 \pm 0.2$  mm thick.~~

##### 11.4.1.2.2 Liquids

The apparatus for liquids is the same as that for solids. When a cavitating version of the test is performed (see 11.3.4), one of the methods of cavitation given in Appendix 3 may be used.

#### 11.4.1.3 Procedure

11.4.1.3.1 The sample is loaded to the top of the steel tube. Solid samples are loaded to the density attained by tapping the tube until further settling becomes imperceptible. The sample mass is determined and, if solid, the apparent density calculated using the measured internal volume of the tube. ~~The density should be as close as possible to the shipping density.~~

11.4.1.3.2 The tube is placed in a vertical position and the booster charge is placed in direct contact with the sheet which seals the bottom of the tube. The detonator is fixed in place against the booster charge and initiated. Two tests should be performed unless detonation of the substance is observed.

11.4.1.4 *Test criteria and method of assessing results*

The test results are assessed on ~~the basis of the type of~~ fragmentation length of the tube ~~and on whether a hole is punched through the witness plate~~. The test giving the most severe assessment should be used for classification. The test result is considered "+" and the substance to propagate detonation if ~~:-~~

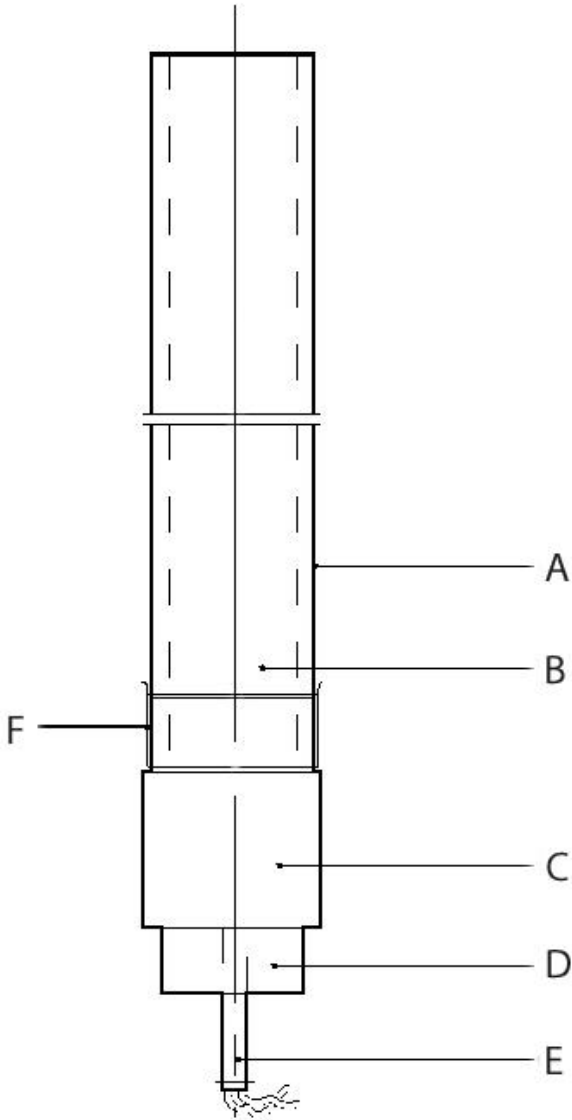
~~\_\_\_\_\_The tube is fragmented completely.:- or~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_A hole is punched through the witness plate.~~

Any other result is considered "-" and the substance is not able to propagate a detonation.

11.4.1.5 *Examples of results*

Substances	Apparent density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Fragmentation length (cm)	Witness plate	Result
Ammonium nitrate, prills	800	40	Domed	+
Ammonium nitrate, 200 µm	540	40	Holed	+
Ammonium nitrate/fuel oil, 94/6	880	40	Holed	+
Ammonium perchlorate, 200 µm	1 190	40	Holed	+
Nitromethane	1 130	40	Holed	+
Nitromethane/methanol, 55/45	970	20	Domed	-
PETN/lactose, 20/80	880	40	Holed	+
PETN/lactose, 10/90	830	17	No damage	-
TNT, cast	1 510	40	Holed	+
TNT, flaked	710	40	Holed	+
Water	1 000	<40	Domed	-



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- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| (A) Spacers                            | (B) Witness plate                 |
| (C) Steel tube                         | (D) Substance under investigation |
| (E) RDX/wax or PETN/TNT booster charge | (F) Detonator holder              |
| (G) Detonator                          | (H) Plastics membrane             |
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Figure 11.4.1.1: UN GAP TEST

## SECTION 12

### TEST SERIES 2

#### 12.1 Introduction

12.1.1 The question "Is the substance too insensitive for inclusion in Class 1?" (box 6 of Figure 10.2) is answered on the basis of three types of test to assess possible explosive effects. The question in box 6 is answered "no" if a "+" is obtained in any of the three types of test.

#### 12.2 Test methods

Test Series 2 comprises three types of test:

- Type 2 (a): for determining sensitivity to shock;
- Type 2 (b): for determining the effect of heating under confinement; and
- Type 2 (c): for determining the effect of ignition under confinement

The test methods currently used are listed in table 12.1.

**Table 12.1: TEST METHODS FOR TEST SERIES 2**

Test code	Name of Test	Section
2 (a)	UN gap test <sup>a</sup>	12.4.1
2 (b)	Koenen test <sup>a</sup>	12.5.1
2 (c) (i)	Time/pressure test <sup>a</sup>	12.6.1
2 (c) (ii)	Internal ignition test	12.6.2

<sup>a</sup> *Recommended test.*

#### 12.3 Test conditions

12.3.1 As the apparent density of the substance has an important effect on the results from the type 2 (a) test, it should always be recorded. The apparent density of solids should be determined from measurement of the tube volume and sample mass.

12.3.2 If a mixture can separate out during transport, the test should be performed with the initiator in contact with the potentially most explosive part, [if known](#).

12.3.3 The tests should be performed at ambient temperature unless the substance is to be transported under conditions where it may change its physical state or density.

12.3.4 For organic substances and mixtures of organic substances with a decomposition energy of 800 J/g or more, test 2 (a) need not be performed if the outcome of the ballistic mortar Mk.IIIId test (F.1), or the ballistic mortar test (F.2) or the BAM Trauzl test (F.3) with initiation by a standard No. 8 detonator (see

Appendix 1) is "No". In this case, the result of test 2 (a) is deemed to be "-". If the outcome of the F.1 or F.2 or F.3 test is "Low" or "Not low", the result of test 2 (a) shall be deemed "+". In this case, a "-" can only be obtained by performing test 2 (a).

## 12.4 Series 2 type (a) test prescription

### 12.4.1 Test 2 (a): UN gap test

#### 12.4.1.1 Introduction

This test is used to measure the sensitivity of a substance, under confinement in a steel tube, to detonative shock.

#### 12.4.1.2 Apparatus and materials

The apparatus is shown in Figure 12.4.1.1. The test sample is contained in a cold-drawn, seamless, carbon steel tube with an external diameter of  $48 \pm 2$  mm, a wall thickness of  $4.0 \pm 0.1$  mm and a length of  $400 \pm 5$  mm. If the test substance may react with the steel, the inside of the tube may be coated with fluorocarbon resin. The bottom of the tube is closed with a plastics two layers of 0.08 mm thick polythene sheet pulled tightly (so that it plastically deforms) over the bottom of the tube and held tightly in place with rubber bands and insulating tape. For samples which affect polythene, polytetrafluoroethylene sheet can be used. The plastics sheet shall be compatible with the substance under test. The booster charge consists of 160 g RDX/wax (95/5) or PETN/TNT (50/50),  $50 \pm 1$  mm in diameter with a density of  $1\ 600 \pm 50$  kg/m<sup>3</sup> giving a length of about 50 mm. The RDX/wax charges may be pressed in one or more pieces, as long as the total charge is within the specifications, and the PETN/TNT charge is cast. A polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA) spacer is required of diameter  $50 \pm 1$  mm and length  $50 \pm 1$  mm. A mild steel witness plate,  $150 \pm 10$  mm square and  $3.2 \pm 0.2$  mm thick, is mounted at the upper end of the steel tube and separated from it by spacers  $1.6 \pm 0.2$  mm thick.

#### 12.4.1.3 Procedure

12.4.1.3.1 The sample is loaded to the top of the steel tube. Solid samples are loaded to the density attained by tapping the tube until further settling becomes imperceptible. The sample mass is determined and, if solid, the apparent density calculated using the measured internal volume of the tube. The density should be as close as possible to the shipping density.

12.4.1.3.2 The tube is placed in a vertical position and the PMMA spacer placed in direct contact with the sheet which seals the bottom of the tube. After positioning the booster charge in contact with the PMMA spacer, the detonator is fixed in place against the bottom of the booster charge and initiated. Two tests should be performed unless detonation of the substance is observed.

#### 12.4.1.4 Test criteria and method of assessing results

The test results are assessed on the basis of the type of fragmentation length of the tube and whether the witness plate is holed. The test giving the most severe assessment should be used for classification. The test result is considered "+" and the substance is considered to be sensitive to shock if:

(a) The tube is fragmented completely, or

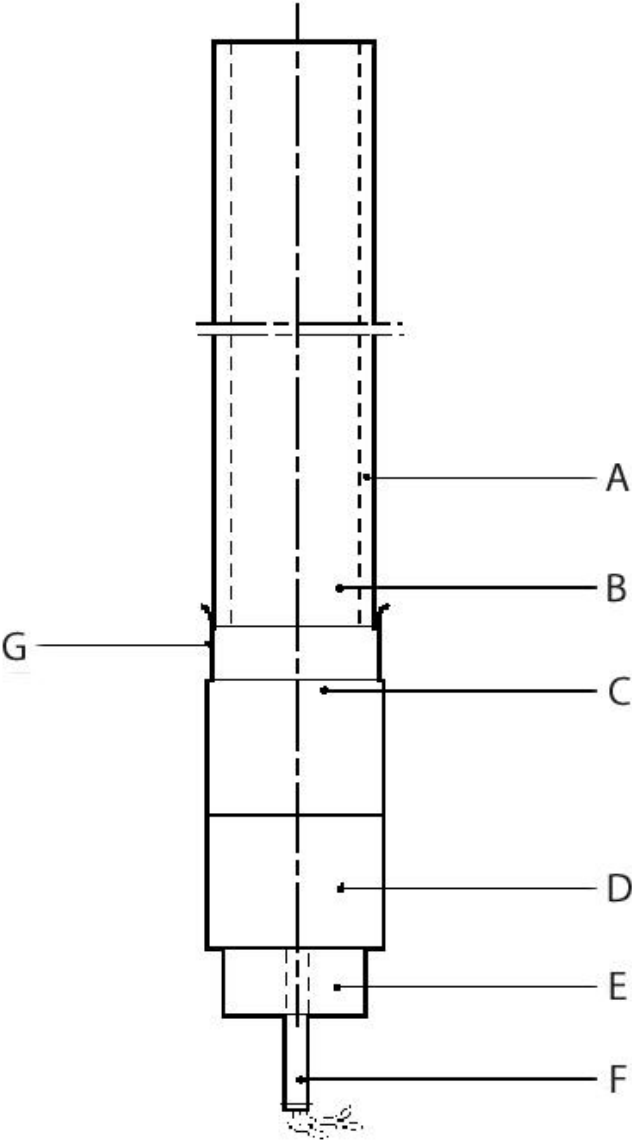
(b) The witness plate is holed.

Any other result is considered "—" and the substance [is considered to be](#) not sensitive to detonative shock.

#### 12.4.1.5 *Examples of results*

Substances	Apparent density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Fragmentation length (cm)	Witness plate	Result
Ammonium nitrate, prills	800	25	Domed	-
Ammonium nitrate, 200 µm	540	40	Holed	+
Ammonium nitrate/fuel oil, 94/6	880	40	Holed	+
Ammonium perchlorate, 200 µm	1 190	0	No damage	-
Nitromethane	1 130	0	No damage	-
PETN/lactose, 20/80	880	40	Holed	+
TNT, cast	1 510	20	No damage	-
TNT, flaked	710	40	Holed	+





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(A) Spacers	(B) Witness plate
(CA) Steel tube	(DB) Substance under investigation
(EC) PMMA spacer	(FD) RDX/wax or PETN/TNT booster charge
(GE) Detonator holder	(HF) Detonator
(JG) Plastics membrane	

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Figure 12.4.1.1: UN GAP TEST

## SECTION 21

### TEST SERIES A

#### 21.1 Introduction

20.1.1 Test series A comprises laboratory tests and criteria concerning propagation of detonation as requested in box 1 of Figure 20.1.

#### 21.2 Test methods

21.1.2 The question "Does it propagate a detonation?" (box 1 of Figure 20.1) is answered on the basis of the results of one of the test methods in Table 21.1. If a liquid is being considered for transport in tank-containers or IBCs with a capacity exceeding 450 litres, a cavitated version of a Series A test ~~may~~ should be ~~performed~~used (see Appendix 3).

**Table 21.1: TEST METHODS FOR TEST SERIES A**

Test code	Name of test	Section
A.1	BAM 50/60 steel tube test	21.4.1
<del>A.2</del>	<del>TNO 50/70 steel tube test</del>	<del>21.4.2</del>
A.5	UN gap test	21.4.3
A.6	UN detonation test <sup>a</sup>	21.4.4

<sup>a</sup> *Recommended test*

All tests are considered to be equivalent and only one test method has to be used.

21.2.2 For organic peroxides and self-reactive substances, a combination of a test for explosive power (any test of series F except test F.5 for peroxides, and any test of series F except tests F.4 and F.5 for self-reactive substances) with two tests for the effects of heating under confinement may be used as a screening procedure for assessing the ability to propagate a detonation. A test of series A need not be performed if:

- (a) A "No" result is obtained from the explosive power test; and
- (b) A "No" or "Low" result is obtained from test E.2 and either test E.1 or E.3.

For transport in packages (excluding IBCs), if the screening procedure indicates that a Series A test is not needed, the question in box 1 is answered with a "No". However, if the substance is being considered for transport in tank containers or IBCs, or for exemption, then a series A test is required unless the result of a series A test on a formulation of the substance with a higher concentration and the same physical state is "No".

### 21.3 Test conditions

21.3.1 As the apparent density of the substance has an important effect on the results from series A tests, it should always be recorded. The apparent density of solids should be determined from measurement of the tube volume and sample mass.

21.3.2 If a mixture can separate out during transport, the test should be performed with the initiator in contact with the potentially most explosive part, [if known](#).

21.3.3 The tests should be performed at ambient temperature unless the substance is to be transported under conditions where it may change its physical state or density. Organic peroxides and self-reactive substances which require temperature control should be tested at the control temperature if below ambient temperature.

21.3.4 The preliminary procedure should be performed before performing these tests (see section 20.3).

21.3.5 When a fresh batch of steel tubes is used, calibration tests using water (for tests on liquids) and an inert, organic solid (for tests on solids) should be performed to determine the average blank fragmentation length. The "No" / "Partial" criteria should be set to 1.5 times the average blank fragmentation length.

## 21.4 Series A test prescriptions

### 21.4.1 *Test A.1: BAM 50/60 steel tube test [\(to be checked by BAM\)](#)*

#### 21.4.1.1 *Introduction*

This test is used to measure the ability of a substance to propagate a detonation by subjecting it to a detonating booster charge under confinement in a steel tube. It may be used to answer the question in box 1 of Figure 20.1.

#### 21.4.1.2 *Apparatus and materials*

A seamless drawn steel tube of 500 mm length, 60 mm external diameter and 5 mm wall-thickness (e.g. according to DIN 2448) should be used, made from steel St 37.0 with tensile strength of 350 to 480 N.mm<sup>-2</sup> (e.g. according to DIN 1629). The tube is closed by a malleable cast iron screwing cap or by an appropriate plastic cap, put over the open end of the tube. The booster consists of a cylindrical pellet of 50 g RDX/wax (95/5) compressed to a pressure of 1 500 bar and with dimensions shown in Figure 21.4.1.1. The upper part of the booster has an axial recess of 7 mm diameter and 20 mm depth which accepts a detonator of sufficient strength to initiate the booster reliably. Substances which may react dangerously with steel St. 37.0 are tested in tubes with an internal polythene coating<sup>1</sup>.

#### 21.4.1.3 *Procedure*

21.4.1.3.1 Normally, the steel tube is filled with the substance as received, the sample mass determined and, if solid, the apparent density calculated using the measured internal tube volume. However, lumps are crushed and paste-like or gel-type substances are carefully packed to eliminate voids. In all cases, the final density of the substance in the tube should be as close as possible to its shipping density. The booster is placed centrally in the upper end of the tube, so that it is surrounded by the substance. When liquids are tested, the booster is separated from the liquid by wrapping it in a thin foil of aluminium or an appropriate plastic material. The wrapped booster is then attached to the malleable iron cap by means of thin wires passing through four additional drillings in the cap. The cap is carefully screwed onto the tube and the detonator inserted into the booster through the central hole in the screw cap. The detonator is then initiated.

21.4.1.3.2 At least two tests, which may be instrumented (e.g. by a continuous velocity probe), are performed unless detonation of the substance is observed. An instrumented third test may be necessary if no conclusion can be drawn from two uninstrumented tests.

#### 21.4.1.4 *Test criteria and method of assessing results*

21.4.1.4.1 The test results are assessed on the basis of:

- (a) The type of fragmentation of the tube;
- (b) The completeness of the reaction of the substance; and
- (c) If the occasion arises, the measured rate of propagation in the substance.

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<sup>1</sup> *In special cases, pure aluminium or steel 1.4571 according to DIN 17440 may be used as tube material.*

The test giving the most severe assessment should be used for classification.

21.4.1.4.2 The test criteria are as follows:

- "Yes":
- The tube is fragmented completely; or
  - The tube is fragmented at both ends; or
  - A velocity measurement shows that the rate of propagation in the non-fragmented part of the tube is constant and above the velocity of sound in the substance.
- "Partial":
- The tube is fragmented only at the initiator end and the average tube fragmentation length (average over two tests) is greater than 1.5 times the average fragmentation length found with an inert material having the same physical state; and
  - A significant portion of unreacted substance remains or a velocity measurement shows that the rate of propagation in the non-fragmented part of the tube is lower than the velocity of sound in the substance.
- "No":
- The tube is fragmented only at the initiator end and the average fragmentation length (average of two tests) not more than 1.5 times the average fragmentation length found with an inert material having the same physical state; and
  - A significant portion of unreacted substance remains or a velocity measurement shows that the rate of propagation in the non-fragmented part of the tube is lower than the velocity of sound in the substance.

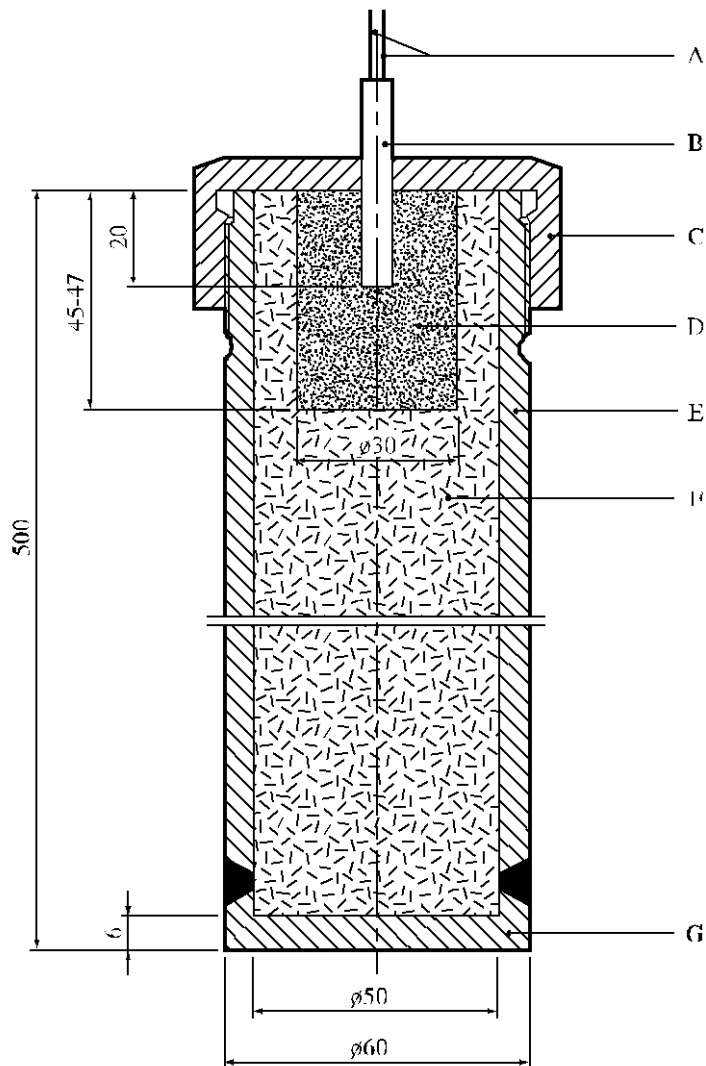
21.4.1.5 *Examples of results*

Substances	Apparent density (km/m <sup>3</sup> )	Fragmented length (cm)	Result
Azodicarbonamide	627	15	No
2,2'-Azodi(2,4-dimethylvaleronitrile)	793	16	No
Benzene-1,3-disulphohydrazide	640	50	Yes
Benzene sulphohydrazide	630	17	No
tert-Butyl peroxybenzoate	-	30	Partial
tert-Butyl peroxy-2-ethylhexanoate	-	18	No
3-Chloroperoxybenzoic acid, not more than 86% with 3-chlorobenzoic acid	610	24, 6 <sup>a</sup>	Yes
Cumyl hydroperoxide, 84% in cumene	-	15	No
Cyclohexanone peroxide(s)	620	50	Yes
2-Diazo-1-naphthol-5-sulphochloride	690	20	No <sup>b</sup>
Dibenzoyl peroxide	730	30, 12 <sup>a</sup>	Yes
Dibenzoyl peroxide, 75% with water	740	20	No
Di-tert-butyl peroxide	-	16	No
Dicetyl peroxydicarbonate	590	13	No
Dicumyl peroxide	520	14	No
Diisopropyl peroxydicarbonate	790	50	Yes
Dilauroyl peroxide	580	25	Partial
Dimyristyl peroxydicarbonate	460	20	No
Dimyristyl peroxydicarbonate, 42% stable dispersion in water	-	15	No
N,N'-Dinitrosopentamethylene tetramine, 90% with mineral oil	590	50	Yes <sup>c</sup>
N,N'-Dinitrosopentamethylene tetramine, 80% with 17% inorganic solid and 3% mineral oil	500	50	Yes
N,N'-Dinitrosopentamethylene tetramine, 75% with 15% calcium carbonate and 10% mineral oil	-	26	Partial
<i>Inert substances:</i>			
Air		8	
Dimethyl phthalate		13	
Icing sugar	682	14	
Sand		13	
Water		14	

<sup>a</sup> *Both ends fragmented.*

<sup>b</sup> *Substance completely reacted by deflagration.*

<sup>c</sup> *Detonation velocity 3 040 m/s.*



- (A) Detonator wires  
(B) Detonator inserted 20 mm into the booster charge  
(C) Screw cap of malleable cast iron or a plastics cap  
(D) Booster charge of RDX/wax (95/5) with 30 mm diameter and length of approximately 46 mm  
(E) Steel tube 500 mm long with internal diameter 50 mm, external diameter 60 mm  
(F) Substance under test  
(G) Welded steel based 6 mm thick

**Figure 21.4.1.1: BAM 50/60 STEEL TUBE TEST**

### 21.4.3 *Test A.5: UN gap test*

#### 21.4.3.1 *Introduction*

This test is used to measure the ability of a substance to propagate a detonation by subjecting it to a detonating booster charge under confinement in a steel tube. It may be used to answer the question in box 1 of Figure 20.1.

#### 21.4.3.2 *Apparatus and materials*

The apparatus is shown in Figure 21.4.3.1. The test sample is contained in an annealed cold-drawn, seamless, carbon steel tube with an external diameter of  $48 \pm 2$  mm, a wall thickness of  $4.0 \pm 0.1$  mm and a length of  $400 \pm 5$  mm. If the test substance may react with the steel, the inside of the tube may be coated with fluorocarbon resin. The bottom of the tube is closed with a plastics two layers of 0.08 mm thick polythene sheet pulled tightly (so that it plastically deforms) over the bottom of the tube and held tightly in place ~~with rubber bands and insulating tape~~. ~~For samples which affect polythene, polytetrafluoroethylene sheet can be used.~~ The plastics sheet shall be compatible with the substance under test. The booster charge consists of 160 g RDX/wax (95/5) or PETN/TNT (50/50),  $50 \pm 1$  mm in diameter with a density of  $1\,600 \pm 50$  kg/m<sup>3</sup> giving a length of about 50 mm. ~~The RDX/wax charges may be pressed in one or more pieces, as long as the total charge is within the specifications, and the PETN/TNT charge is cast. A mild steel witness plate,  $150 \pm 10$  mm square and  $3.2 \pm 0.2$  mm thick, is mounted at the upper end of the steel tube and separated from it by spacers  $1.6 \pm 0.2$  mm thick.~~

#### 21.4.3.3 *Procedure*

21.4.3.3.1 The sample is loaded to the top of the steel tube. Solid samples are loaded to the density attained by tapping the tube until further settling becomes imperceptible. The sample mass is determined and, if solid, the apparent density calculated using the measured internal volume of the tube. ~~The density should be as close as possible to the shipping density.~~

21.4.3.3.2 The tube is placed in a vertical position and the booster charge is placed in direct contact with the sheet which seals the bottom of the tube. The detonator is fixed in place against the booster charge and initiated. Two tests should be performed unless detonation of the substance is observed.

#### 21.4.3.4 *Test criteria and method of assessing results*

21.4.3.4.1 The test results are assessed on the basis of the fragmentation pattern of the tube. ~~The witness plate is used only to provide supplemental information on the violence of the reaction.~~ The test giving the most severe assessment should be used for classification.

21.4.3.4.2 The test criteria are as follows:

"Yes": - The tube is fragmented over its entire length.

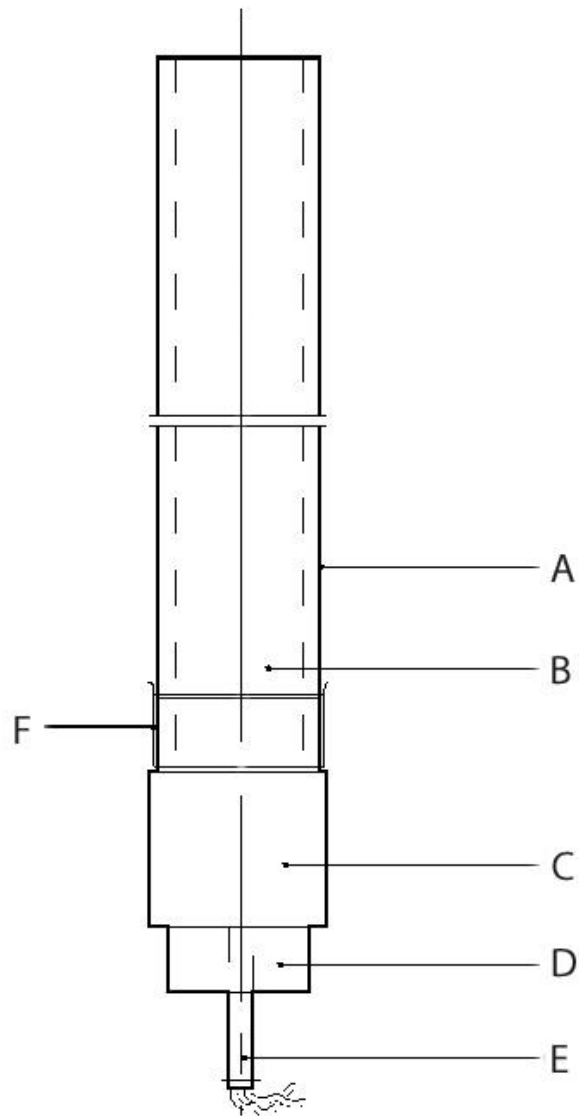
"Partial": - The tube is not fragmented over its entire length but the average tube fragmentation (average over the two tests) is greater than 1.5 times the average fragmentation length found with an inert material with the same physical state.



"No": - The tube is not fragmented over its entire length and the average tube fragmentation (average over the two tests) is not more than 1.5 times the average fragmentation length found with an inert material with the same physical state.

21.4.3.5 *Examples of results*

<b>Substance</b>	<b>Apparent density (kg/m<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>Fragmented length (cm)</b>	<b>Result</b>
2,2'-Azodi(isobutyronitrile)	366	40	Yes
tert-Butyl peroxybenzoate		25	Partial
tert-Butyl peroxy-2-ethylhexanoate		25	Partial
Dibenzoyl peroxide, 75% with water	685	40	Yes
2,5-Di-(tert-butylperoxy)-2,5-dimethylhexyne-3		34	Partial
Dilauroyl peroxide	564	28	No



(A) Spacers	(B) Witness plate
(C) Steel tube	(D) Substance under test
(E) RDX/wax or PETN/TNT booster charge	(F) Detonator holder
(G) Detonator	(H) Plastics sheet

Figure 21.4.3.1: UN GAP TEST

## 21.4.4 *Test A.6: UN detonation test*

### 21.4.4.1 *Introduction*

This test is used to measure the ability of a substance to propagate a detonation by subjecting it to a detonating booster charge under confinement in a steel tube. It may be used to answer the question in box 1 of Figure 20.1.

### 21.4.4.2 *Apparatus and materials*

The apparatus is shown in Figure 21.4.4.1 and is identical for solids and liquids. The test sample is contained in ~~an annealed cold drawn~~, seamless, carbon steel tube with an external diameter of  $60 \pm 1$  mm, a wall thickness of  $5 \pm 1$  mm and a length of  $500 \pm 5$  mm. If the test substance may react with the steel, the inside of the tube may be coated with fluorocarbon resin. The bottom of the tube is closed with a plastics two layers of 0.08 mm thick polythene sheet held tightly in place with rubber bands and insulating tape. For samples which affect polythene, polytetrafluoroethylene sheet can be used. The plastics sheet shall be compatible with the substance under test. The booster charge is a 200 g RDX/wax (95/5) or PETN/TNT (50/50),  $60 \pm 1$  mm in diameter and about 45 mm long with a density of  $1\,600 \pm 50$  kg/m<sup>3</sup>. The ~~RDX/wax charges~~ may be pressed in one or more pieces as long as the total charge is within the specifications ~~and the PETN/TNT charge is cast~~. The tube may be instrumented, e.g. by a continuous wire velocity probe, to measure the velocity of propagation in the substance. ~~Additional information on the explosive behaviour of the test sample can be gained by the use of a witness plate, as shown in Figure 21.4.4.1. The mild steel witness plate, 150 mm square and 3.2 mm thick, is mounted at the upper end of the tube and separated from it by spacers 1.6 mm thick.~~

### 21.4.4.3 *Procedure*

The sample is loaded to the top of the steel tube. Solid samples are loaded to the density attained by tapping the tube until further settling becomes imperceptible. The sample mass is determined and, if solid, the apparent density calculated. ~~The density should be as close as possible to the shipping density.~~ The tube is placed in a vertical position and the booster charge is placed in direct contact with the sheet which seals the bottom of the tube. The detonator is fixed in place against the booster charge and initiated. Two tests should be performed unless detonation of the substance is observed.

### 21.4.4.4 *Test criteria and method of assessing results*

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ 21.4.4.4.1 The test results are assessed on the basis of ~~;~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ (a) ~~T~~the type of fragmentation of the tube ~~;~~ and

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ (b) ~~If the occasion arises, the measured rate of propagation in the substance.~~

The test giving the most severe assessment should be used for classification.

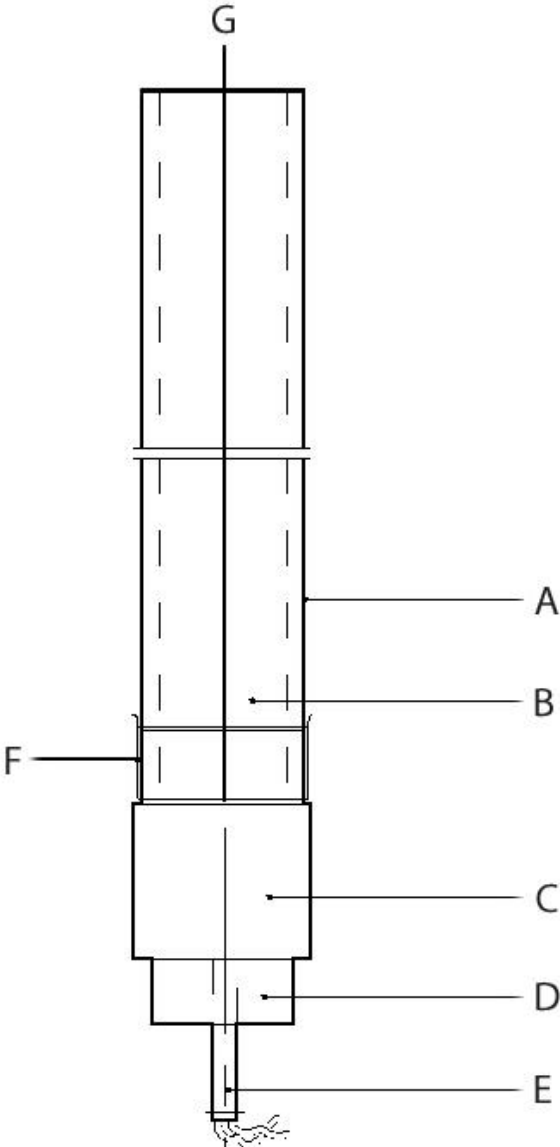
21.4.4.4.2 The test criteria are as follows:

"Yes": - The tube is fragmented completely.

- "Partial": - The tube is not fragmented over its entire length but the average tube fragmentation (average over the two tests) is greater than 1.5 times the average fragmentation length found with an inert material with the same physical state.
- "No": - The tube is not fragmented over its entire length and the average tube fragmentation (average over the two tests) is not more than 1.5 times the average fragmentation length found with an inert material with the same physical state.

21.4.4.5 *Examples of results*

Substance	Apparent density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Fragmented length (cm)	Result
2,2'-Azodi(isobutyronitrile)	346	50	Yes
tert-Butyl peroxybenzoate		28	Partial
tert-Butyl peroxy-2-ethylhexanoate		23	No
Dibenzoyl peroxide, 75% with water	697	22	No
2,5-Di-(tert-butylperoxy)-2,5-dimethylhexyne-3	870	30	Partial
Dilauroyl peroxide	580	32	Partial



- 
- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| (A) Spacers                             | (B) Witness plate         |
| (CA) Steel tube                         | (DB) Substance under test |
| (EC) RDX/wax or PETN/TNT booster charge | (FD) Detonator holder     |
| (GE) Detonator                          | (HF) Plastics sheet       |
| (G) Velocity probe (optional)           |                           |
- 

Figure 21.4.4.1: UN DETONATION TEST

## SECTION 23

### TEST SERIES C

#### 23.1 Introduction

Test series C comprises laboratory tests and criteria concerning propagation of deflagration as requested in boxes 3, 4 and 5 of Figure 20.1.

#### 23.2 Test methods

23.2.1 The question "~~Does~~ Can it propagate a deflagration?" (boxes 3, 4 and 5 of Figure 20.1) is answered on the basis of the results of one, or if necessary both, of the test methods in Table 23.1.

**Table 23.1: TEST METHODS FOR TEST SERIES C**

Test code	Name of test	Section
C.1	Time/pressure test <sup>a</sup>	23.4.1
C.2	Deflagration test <sup>a</sup>	23.4.32

<sup>a</sup> *Recommended test.*

23.2.2 The answer is "Yes, rapidly" if shown to be so by either test. The answer is "Yes, slowly" if the deflagration test result is "Yes, slowly" and the time/pressure test result is not "Yes, rapidly". The answer is "No" if the deflagration test result is "No" and the time/pressure test is not "Yes, rapidly".

#### 23.3 Test conditions

23.3.1 *The preliminary procedure (see section 20.3) should be carried out before performing these tests.*

#### 23.4 Series C test prescriptions

##### 23.4.1 Test C.1: Time/pressure test

###### 23.4.1.1 Introduction

This test is used to measure the ability of a substance<sup>1</sup> under confinement to propagate a deflagration. It may be used to answer the question in boxes 3, 4 and 5 of Figure 20.1.

###### 23.4.1.2 Apparatus and materials

23.4.1.2.1 The time/pressure apparatus (Figure 23.4.1.1) consists of a cylindrical steel pressure vessel 89 mm in length and 60 mm in external diameter. Two flats are machined on opposite sides (reducing the cross-section of the vessel to 50 mm) to facilitate holding whilst fitting the firing plug and vent plug. The

<sup>1</sup> *When testing liquids, variable results may be obtained because the substance may give two pressure peaks.*

vessel, which has a bore of 20 mm diameter, is internally rebated at either end to a depth of 19 mm and threaded to accept 1" British Standard Pipe (BSP). A pressure take-off, in the form of a side-arm, is screwed into the curved face of the pressure vessel 35 mm from one end and at 90° to the machined flats. The socket for this is bored to a depth of 12 mm and threaded to accept the 1/2" BSP thread on the end of the side-arm. A washer is fitted to ensure a gas-tight seal. The side-arm extends ~~55-59~~ mm beyond the pressure vessel body and has a bore of 6 mm. The end of the side-arm is rebated and threaded to accept a diaphragm type pressure transducer. Any pressure-measuring device may be used provided that it is not affected by the hot gases or decomposition products and is capable of responding to rates of pressure rise of 690 to 2 070 kPa in not more than 5 ms.

23.4.1.2.2 The end of the pressure vessel furthest from the side-arm is closed with a firing plug which is fitted with two electrodes, one insulated from and the other earthed to the plug body. The other end of the pressure vessel is closed by an aluminium bursting disc 0.2 mm thick (bursting pressure approximately 2 200 kPa) held in place with a retaining plug which has a 20 mm bore. A ~~soft lead~~deformable washer or rubber ring is used with both plugs to ensure a good seal. A support stand (Figure 23.4.1.2) holds the assembly in the correct attitude during use. This comprises a mild steel base plate measuring 235 mm × 184 mm × 6 mm and a 185 mm length of square hollow section (S.H.S.) 70 × 70 × 4 mm.

23.4.1.2.3 A section is cut from each of two opposite sides at one end of the length of S.H.S. so that a structure having two flat sided legs surmounted by an 86 mm length of intact box section results. The ends of these flat sides are cut at an angle of 60° to the horizontal and welded to the base plate.

23.4.1.2.4 A slot measuring 22 mm wide × 46 mm deep is machined in one side of the upper end of the base section such that when the pressure vessel assembly is lowered, firing plug end first, into the box section support, the side-arm is accommodated in this slot. A packing piece of steel 30 mm wide and 6 mm thick is welded to the lower internal face of the box section to act as a spacer. Two 7 mm thumb screws, tapped into the opposite face, serve to hold the pressure vessel firmly in place. Two 12 mm wide strips of 6 mm thick steel, welded to the side pieces abutting the base of the box section, support the pressure vessel from beneath.

23.4.1.2.5 The ignition system consists of an electric fusehead of the type commonly used in low tension detonators, or an insulated resistance wire, together with a 13 mm square piece of primed cambric. Fuseheads with equivalent properties may be used. Primed cambric consists of a linen fabric coated on both sides with a potassium nitrate/silicon/sulphurless gunpowder pyrotechnic composition<sup>2</sup>.

23.4.1.2.6 The procedure for the preparation of the ignition assembly for solids starts with separation of the brass foil contacts of an electric fusehead from its insulator, (see Figure 23.4.1.3). The exposed portion of insulation is then cut off. The fusehead is then fixed onto the terminals of the firing plug by means of the brass contacts such that the tip of the fusehead is 13 mm above the surface of the firing plug. An approximately 13 mm square piece of primed cambric is pierced through the centre and positioned over the attached fusehead around which it is then folded and secured with fine cotton thread. Alternatively, an insulated resistance wire can be used instead of a fusehead. The insulation is removed from the middle of the wire and the primed cambric is folded around the exposed resistance wire. The assembly is then fixed onto the terminals of the firing plug in the same way as mentioned for the fusehead.

23.4.1.2.7 For liquids samples, ~~leads are fixed onto the contact foils of the fusehead. The leads are then threaded through an 8 mm length of 5 mm outer diameter and 1 mm inner diameter silicone rubber tubing~~

<sup>2</sup> Obtainable from the national contact for test details in United Kingdom (see Appendix 4).

~~and the tubing is pushed up over the fusehead contact foils as shown in Figure 23.4.1.4. The primed cambric is then wrapped around the fusehead and~~ a single piece of thin PVC sheathing, or equivalent, is used to cover the primed cambric in such a way that the primed cambric is not in contact with the liquid sample. and the silicone rubber tubing. The sheathing is sealed in position by twisting a length of thin wire tightly round the sheathing and rubber tubing. The leads of the resistance wire are then fixed onto the terminals of the firing plug such that the tip of the fusehead-primed cambric is ~~13 mm~~ above the surface of the firing plug.

### 23.4.1.3 Procedure

23.4.1.3.1 The apparatus assembled, complete with pressure transducer but without the aluminium bursting disc in position, is supported firing plug end down. 5.0 g<sup>3</sup> of the substance is introduced into the apparatus so as to be in contact with the ignition system. Normally no tamping is carried out when filling the apparatus unless it is necessary to use light tamping in order to get the 5.0 g charge into the vessel. If, even with light tamping, it is impossible to get all the 5.0 g of sample in, then the charge is fired after filling the vessel to capacity. Note should be taken of the charge weight used. The ~~lead-washer~~ or rubber ring and aluminium bursting disc are placed in position and the retaining plug is screwed in tightly. The charged vessel is transferred to the firing support stand, bursting disc uppermost, which should be contained in a suitable, armoured fume cupboard or firing cell. ~~An exploder dynamo power source~~ is connected to the external terminals of the firing plug and the charge is fired. The signal produced by the pressure transducer is recorded on a suitable data acquisition system which allows both evaluation and a permanent record of the time/pressure profile to be achieved ~~(e.g. transient recorder coupled to a chart recorder).~~

23.4.1.3.2 The test is carried out three times. The time taken for the pressure to rise from 690 kPa to 2 070 kPa above atmospheric is noted. The shortest time interval should be used for classification.

### 23.4.1.4 Test criteria and method of assessing results

23.4.1.4.1 The test results are interpreted in terms of whether a gauge pressure of 2 070 kPa is reached and, if so, the time taken for the pressure to rise from 690 kPa to 2 070 kPa gauge.

23.4.1.4.2 The test criteria are as follows:

- "Yes, rapidly": - The time for a pressure rise from 690 kPa to 2 070 kPa is less than 30 ms.
- "Yes, slowly": - The time for a pressure rise from 690 kPa to 2 070 kPa is greater than or equal to 30 ms.
- "No": - A pressure rise to 2 070 kPa above atmospheric is not achieved.

**NOTE:** If necessary, the deflagration test, Test C.2, should be performed to distinguish between "Yes, slowly" and "No".

### 23.4.1.5 Examples of results

<sup>3</sup> ***If preliminary safety-in-handling tests (e.g. heating in a flame) or {burning} tests (e.g. a series 3 type (d) test) indicate that a rapid reaction is likely to occur, then the sample size should be reduced to 0.5 g until the severity of the confined reaction is known. If it is necessary to use a 0.5 g sample size, the sample size is gradually increased until either a "Yes, rapidly" result is obtained or the test is performed with a 5.0 g sample.***



Substance	Maximum pressure (kPa)	Time for a pressure rise from 690 to 2 070 kPa (ms)	Result
Azodicarbonamide	> 2 070	63	Yes, slowly
Azodicarbonamide, 67% with zinc oxide	> 2 070	21	Yes, rapidly
2,2'-Azodi(isobutyronitrile)	> 2 070	68	Yes, slowly
2,2'-Azodi(2-methylbutyronitrile)	> 2 070	384	Yes, slowly
tert-Butyl hydroperoxide, 70% with water	1 380	-	No
tert-Butyl peroxybenzoate	> 2 070	2 500	Yes, slowly
tert-Butyl peroxy-2-ethylhexanoate	> 2 070	4 000	Yes, slowly
Cumyl hydroperoxide, 80% with cumene	< 690 <sup>a</sup>	-	No
2-Diazo-1-naphthol-5-sulphohydrazide	> 2 070	14	Yes, rapidly
Dibenzoyl peroxide	> 2 070	1	Yes, rapidly
Di-tert-butyl peroxide	> 2 070	100	Yes, slowly
Dicetyl peroxydicarbonate	< 690	-	No
Dicumyl peroxide	< 690 <sup>a</sup>	-	No
Dicumyl peroxide, with 60% inert solid	< 690 <sup>a</sup>	-	No
2,5-Diethoxy-4-morpholinobenzene-diazonium tetrafluoroborate, 97%	> 2 070	308	Yes, slowly
Dilauroyl peroxide	990	-	No
2,5-Dimethyl-2,5-di-(tert-butylperoxy)-hexyne-3	> 2 070	70	Yes, slowly
Magnesium monoperoxyphthalate hexahydrate, 85% with magnesium phthalate	900	-	No
4-Nitrosophenol	> 2 070	498	Yes, slowly

<sup>a</sup> No ignition.



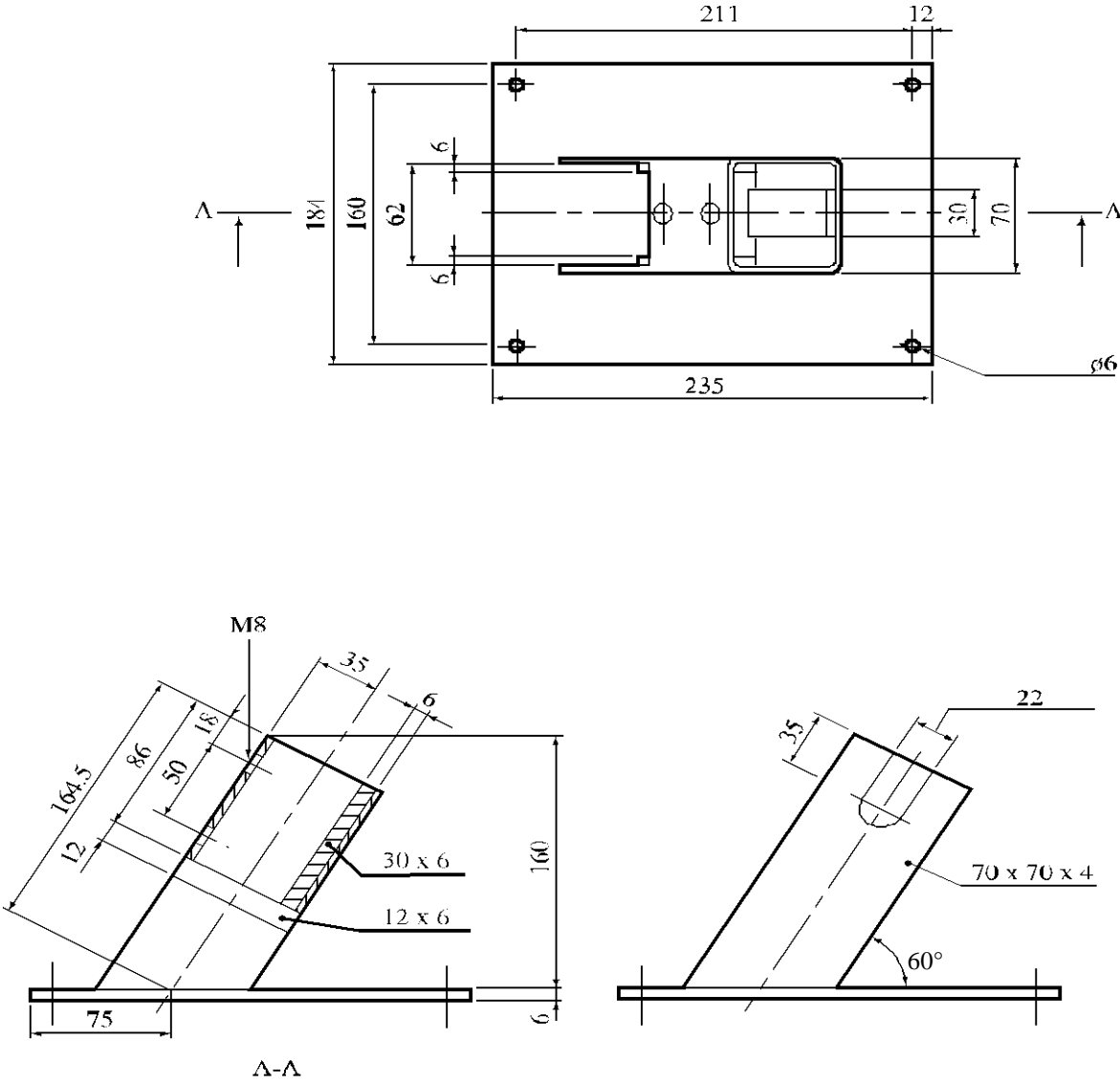
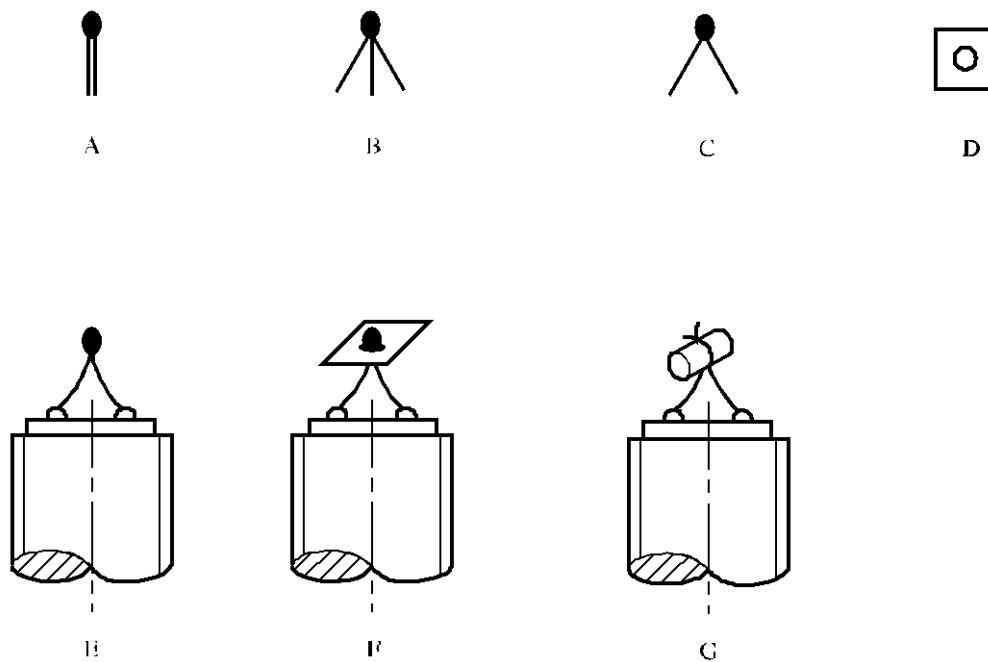
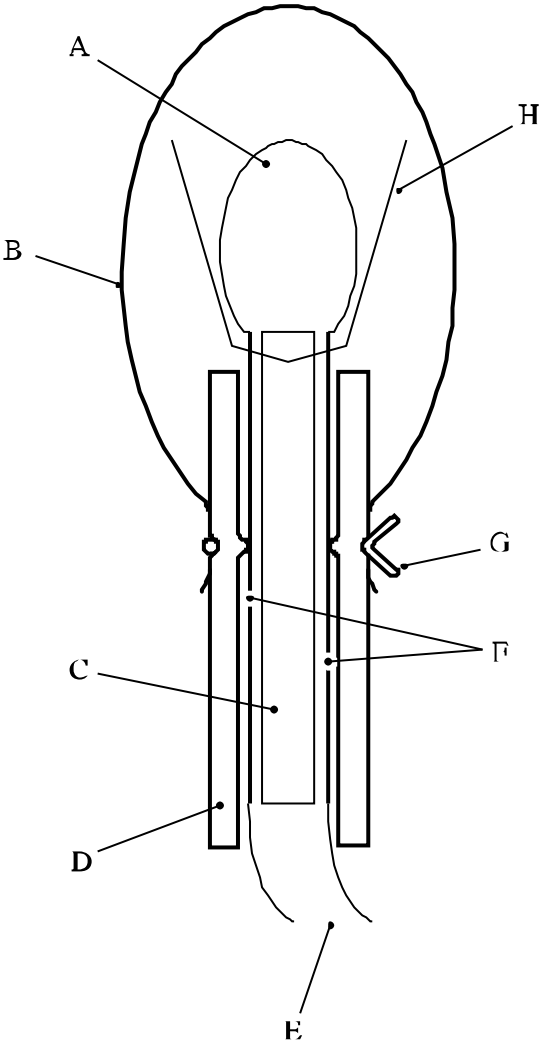


Figure 23.4.1.2: SUPPORT STAND



- 
- (A) Electrically ignited fusehead as manufactured
  - (B) Brass foil contacts parted from card insulator
  - (C) Insulating card cut off
  - (D) Primed cambric SR252 13 mm square with centre hole
  - (E) Fusehead fixed to pins on firing plug
  - (F) Cambric positioned on fusehead
  - (G) Cambric folded around and tied with thread
- 

**Figure 23.4.1.3: IGNITION SYSTEM FOR SOLIDS**



- (A) Fusehead
- (B) PVC sheath
- (C) Insulating card
- (D) Silicone rubber tubing
- (E) Firing leads
- (F) Foil contacts
- (G) Wire to make liquid-tight seal
- (H) Primed cambric

Figure 23.4.1.4: IGNITION SYSTEM FOR LIQUIDS

## 23.4.2 Test C.2: Deflagration test

### 23.4.2.1 Introduction

This test is used to measure the ability of a substance to propagate a deflagration. It may be used to answer the question in boxes 3, 4 and 5 of Figure 20.1.

### 23.4.2.2 Apparatus and materials

23.4.2.2.1 The test is performed with a Dewar vessel (see Figure 23.4.2.1) which is provided with vertical observation windows on opposite sides. The windows are not necessary when using thermocouples to measure the deflagration rate. A timer with an accuracy of 1 second is used to measure the deflagration rate.

23.4.2.2.2 The Dewar vessel has a volume of about 300 cm<sup>3</sup>, an internal diameter of 48 ± 1 mm, an external diameter of 60 mm and a length between 180 and 200 mm. The half-time of cooling with ~~265 cm<sup>3</sup> of~~ water or other suitable material filled to a height of 20 mm below the rim (i.e. 265 cm<sup>3</sup>) of the Dewar vessel, closed by a tight fitting cork, should be longer than 5 hours. Horizontal graduation marks are drawn at 50 and 100 mm from the top of the Dewar vessel. The time it takes for the decomposition front to propagate from the 50 mm mark to the 100 mm mark yields the deflagration rate. A glass thermometer with an accuracy of 0.1 °C is used to measure the temperature of the test substance prior to ignition. Alternatively, the deflagration rate and sample temperature may be determined by using two thermocouples at distances of 50 mm and 100 mm from the top of the Dewar vessel.

23.4.2.2.3 Any gas flame with a flame length of at least 20 mm can be used for igniting the substance.

23.4.2.2.4 ***For personal protection, the test is performed in an explosion-proof fume-chamber or in a well-ventilated test-cell. The capacity of the exhaust fan shall be large enough to dilute the decomposition products to the extent that no explosive mixtures with air can be obtained. A shield is placed between the observer and the Dewar vessel.***

### 23.4.2.3 Procedure

23.4.2.3.1 ***If preliminary safety-in-handling tests (e.g. heating in a flame) or a small scale burning test (e.g. the series 3 type (d) test) indicate that a rapid reaction is likely to occur, exploratory tests in borosilicate glass tubes should be performed, with suitable safety precautions, prior to the Dewar vessel test.*** In this case, it is recommended that the test be performed in a 14 mm diameter tube first and subsequently in a 28 mm diameter tube. If the deflagration rate in any of these exploratory tests exceeds 5 mm/s, the substance can forthwith be classified as a rapidly deflagrating substance and the main test, using a Dewar vessel, can be omitted.

23.4.2.3.2 The Dewar vessel and the substance are brought to the emergency temperature as defined in the Model Regulations. If the substance is sufficiently stable as to require no emergency temperature, a test temperature of 50 °C is used. The Dewar vessel is filled to a height of 20 mm below the rim with ~~265 cm<sup>3</sup> of~~ the substance. Granular substances are filled into the Dewar vessel in such a way that the bulk density of the substance will be comparable with that in transport and there are no lumps.

23.4.2.3.3 Pasty materials are introduced into the Dewar vessel in such a way that no air pockets will be present in the sample to be tested. The height of filling ~~should~~shall be about 20 mm below the rim of the Dewar vessel. The mass and the temperature of the substance are recorded. The Dewar vessel is placed in the test-cell or fume-chamber behind a shield, after which the substance is heated at the top by means of a gas

burner. At the moment when ignition is observed or, alternatively, if no ignition occurs within five minutes, the gas burner is removed and extinguished. The period of time that is required for the reaction zone to pass the distance between the two marks is measured with the timer. If the reaction stops before reaching the lower mark, the substance is considered to be non-deflagrative. The test is performed in duplicate and the shortest time interval is used for the calculation of the deflagration rate. Alternatively, the rate may be determined by locating thermocouples down the centre of the Dewar at distances 50 mm and 100 mm from the top of the Dewar vessel. The thermocouple outputs are monitored continuously. The passage of the reaction front causes a steep increase in output. The time between the increases in output is determined.

#### 23.4.2.4 *Test criteria and method of assessing results*

23.4.2.4.1 The test results are interpreted in terms of whether a reaction zone will propagate downwards through the substance and, if so, the rate of propagation. The participation of oxygen from the air in the reaction at the sample surface is negligible after the reaction zone has propagated over a distance of 30 mm. The reaction zone will extinguish if the substance does not deflagrate under the test conditions. The propagation velocity of the reaction zone (deflagration rate) is a measure of the susceptibility of the substance to deflagration under atmospheric pressure.

23.4.2.4.2 The test criteria are as follows:

- "Yes, rapidly": - the deflagration rate is greater than 5.0 mm/s.
- "Yes, slowly": - the deflagration rate is less than or equal to 5.0 mm/s and greater than or equal to 0.35 mm/s.
- "No": - the deflagration rate is less than 0.35 mm/s or the reaction stops before reaching the lower mark.

**NOTE:** *The time/pressure test, test C.1, is carried out if "Yes, rapidly" is not obtained.*

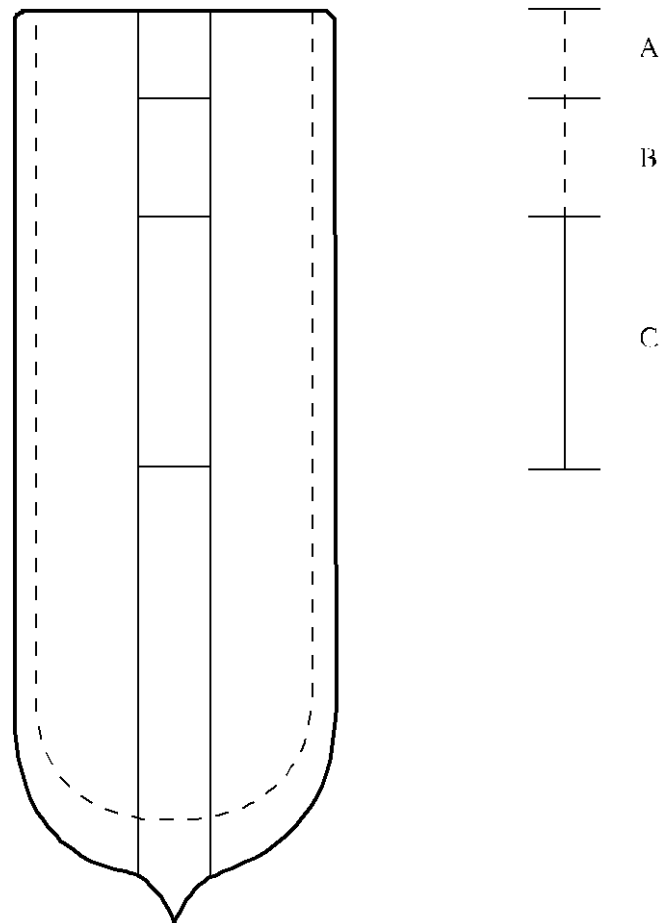
23.4.2.5 *Examples of results*

Substance	Sample mass (g)	Temperature (°C)	Propagation rate (mm/s)	Result
Azodicarbonamide	174	50	0.35	Yes, slowly
2,2'-Azodi(isobutyronitrile)	101	45	<sup>a</sup>	No
tert-Butyl peroxybenzoate	276	50	0.65	Yes, slowly
tert-Butyl peroxy-2-ethylhexanoate	237	25	0.74	Yes, slowly
tert-Butyl peroxy-3,5,5-trimethylhexanoate, 75% in solvent	238	50	0.27	No
Cumyl hydroperoxide, 80% with cumene	273	50	0.12	No
Dibenzoyl peroxide	158	20	100 <sup>b</sup>	Yes, rapidly
Di-tert-butyl peroxide	212	50	0.27	No
Di-(4-tert-butylcyclohexyl) peroxydicarbonate	123	35	4.3	Yes, slowly
Dicetyl peroxydicarbonate	159	35	No ignition	<u>No</u>
Dicumyl peroxide	292	50	No ignition	No
Dicyclohexyl peroxydicarbonate	-	26	26	Yes, rapidly
Dicyclohexyl peroxydicarbonate, 90% with water	-	15	13	Yes, rapidly
Dilauroyl peroxide	130	45	No ignition	No
Dilauroyl peroxide, 42% stable dispersion in water	265	45	No ignition	No
2,5-Dimethyl-2,5-di-(tert-butylperoxy)-hexyne-3	235	50	2.9	Yes, slowly
2,5-Dimethyl-2,5-di-(benzoylperoxy)-hexane	231	50	6.9	Yes, rapidly
4-Nitrosophenol	130	35	0.90	Yes, slowly

<sup>a</sup> Pulsating flame followed by extinguishing of flame; no stable propagation under test conditions.

<sup>b</sup> Performed with an exploratory test using a glass tube with a diameter of 14 mm at 20 °C instead of 50 °C.





- 
- (A) Height of filling 20 mm below rim  
(B) 30 mm region for deflagration to be established  
(C) 50 mm region for measuring the deflagration rate
- 

**Figure 23.4.2.1: DEWAR VESSEL WITH OBSERVATION WINDOWS**

## SECTION 25

### TEST SERIES E

#### 25.1 Introduction

25.1.1 Test series E comprises laboratory tests and criteria concerning the determination of the effect of heating under defined confinement as requested in boxes 7, 8, 9 and 13 of Figure 20.1.

#### 25.2 Test methods

25.2.1 The question "What is the effect of heating it under defined confinement?" (boxes 7, 8, 9 and 13 of Figure 20.1) is answered on the basis of combinations of the results from the test methods in Table 25.1.

**Table 25.1: TEST METHODS FOR TEST SERIES E**

Test code	Name of test	Section
E.1	Koenen test <sup>a</sup>	25.4.1
E.2	Dutch pressure vessel test <sup>b</sup>	25.4.2
E.3	USA pressure vessel test	25.4.3

<sup>a</sup> *Recommended test for self-reactive substances in combination with one of the other tests.*

<sup>b</sup> *Recommended test for organic peroxides in combination with one of the other tests.*

25.2.2 The combination of the Koenen test and either the Dutch pressure vessel or USA pressure vessel test should be used for self-reactive substances. The combination of the Dutch pressure vessel test and either the Koenen test or the USA pressure vessel test should be used for organic peroxides. For classification, the highest hazard rating should be applied.

#### 25.3 Test conditions

25.3.1 *The preliminary procedure (see section 20.3) should be carried out before performing these tests.*

#### 25.4 Series E test prescriptions

##### 25.4.1 Test E.1: Koenen test

###### 25.4.1.1 Introduction

This test is used to determine the sensitiveness of substances to the effect of intense heat under high confinement. It may be used, in conjunction with an additional heating under confinement test, to answer the question in boxes 7, 8, 9 and 13 of Figure 20.1.

### 25.4.1.2 Apparatus and materials

25.4.1.2.1 The apparatus consists of a non-reusable steel tube, with its re-usable closing device, installed in a heating and protective device. The tube is deep drawn from sheet steel conforming to specification DC04 (EN 10027-1), or equivalent A620 (AISI/SAE/ASTM), or equivalent SPEN (JIS G 3141). (to be checked) The dimensions are given in Figure 25.4.1.1. The open end of the tube is flanged. The closing plate with an orifice, through which the gases from the decomposition of the test substance escape, is made from heat-resisting chrome steel. For classification the following diameter holes shall be used and is available with the following diameter holes: 1.0 - 1.5 - 2.0 - 2.5 - 3.0 - 5.0 - 8.0 - 12.0 - 20.0 mm. In addition, other diameters can be used for hazard assessment. The dimensions of the threaded collar and the nut (closing device) are given in Figure 25.4.1.1.

For quality control of the steel tubes, 1% of the tubes from each production lot shall be subjected to quality control and the following data shall be verified:

- (a) The mass of the tubes shall be  $26.5 \pm 1.5$  g (to be checked), tubes to be used in one test sequence shall not differ in mass by more than 1 g;
- (b) The length of the tubes shall be  $75 \pm 0.5$  mm (to be checked);
- (c) The wall thickness of the tubes measured 20 mm from the bottom of the tube shall be  $0.5 \pm 0.05$  mm (to be checked); and
- (d) The bursting pressure as determined by quasi-static load through an incompressible fluid shall be  $30 \pm 3$  MPa (to be checked).

25.4.1.2.2 Heating is provided by propane, from an industrial cylinder fitted with pressure regulator, via a flow meter and distributed by a manifold to the four burners. Other fuel gases may be used provided the specified heating rate is obtained. The gas pressure is regulated to give a heating rate of  $3.3 \pm 0.3$  K/s when measured by the calibration procedure. Calibration involves heating a tube (fitted with a 1.5 mm orifice plate) filled with 27 cm<sup>3</sup> of dibutyl phthalate (to be replaced by other liquid). The time taken for the temperature of the liquid (measured with a 1 mm diameter thermocouple centrally placed 43 mm below the rim of the tube) to rise from 135 °C to 285 °C is recorded and the heating rate calculated.

25.4.1.2.3 Because the tube is likely to be destroyed in the test, heating is undertaken in a protective welded box, the construction and dimensions of which are given in Figure 25.4.1.2. The tube is suspended between two rods placed through holes drilled in opposite walls of the box. The arrangement of the burners is given in Figure 25.4.1.2. The burners are lit simultaneously by a pilot flame or an electrical ignition device. ***The test apparatus is placed in a protected area.*** Measures should be taken to ensure that the burner

flames are not affected by any draughts. Provision should be made for extracting any gases or smoke resulting from the test.

### 25.4.1.3 Procedure

~~25.4.1.3.1 Normally substances are tested as received although in certain cases it may be necessary to test the substance after crushing it. For solids, the mass of material to be used in each test is determined using a two stage dry run procedure. A tared tube is filled with 9 cm<sup>3</sup> of substance and the substance tamped with 80 N force applied to the total cross-section of the tube. If the material is compressible then more is added and tamped until the tube is filled to 55 mm from the top. The total mass used to fill the tube to the 55 mm level is determined and two further increments, each tamped with 80 N force, are added. Material is then either added, with tamping, or taken out as required to leave the tube filled to a level 15 mm from the top.~~

~~A second dry run is performed, starting with a tamped increment a third of the total mass found in the first dry run. Two more of these increments are added with 80 N tamping and the level of the substance in the tube adjusted to 15 mm from the top by addition or subtraction of material as required. The amount of solid determined in the second dry run is used for each trial filling being performed in three equal increments, each compressed to 9 cm<sup>3</sup> by whatever force is necessary. (This may be facilitated by the use of spacing rings.) Liquids and gels are loaded into the tube to a height of 60 mm taking particular care with gels to prevent the formation of voids. The threaded collar is slipped onto the tube from below, the appropriate orifice plate is inserted and the nut tightened by hand after applying some molybdenum disulphide based lubricant. It is essential to check that none of the substance is trapped between the flange and the plate, or in the threads. The tube is filled to a height of 60 mm from the bottom of the tube. Cast solids should be cast to the internal dimensions of the steel tube with a height of 60 mm and then placed inside the tube. Powders are filled in approximately three equal increments with tamping<sup>1</sup> to 80 N force between each increment. Liquids and gels are loaded into the tube to a height of 60 mm taking particular care with gels to prevent the formation of voids. Determine the total mass used to fill the tube to this level and use this amount of solid for each trial filling being performed. The threaded collar is slipped onto the tube from below, the appropriate orifice plate is inserted and the nut tightened by hand after applying some molybdenum disulphide based lubricant. It is essential to check that none of the substance is trapped between the flange and the plate, or in the threads.~~

25.4.1.3.2 With orifice plates from 1.0 mm to 8.0 mm diameter, nuts with an orifice of 10.0 mm diameter should be used; if the diameter of the orifice is above 8.0 mm, that of the nut should be 20.0 mm. Each tube is used for one trial only. The orifice plates, threaded collars and nuts may be used again provided they are undamaged.

25.4.1.3.3 The tube is placed in a rigidly mounted vice and the nut tightened with a spanner. The tube is then suspended between the two rods in the protective box. The test area is vacated, the gas supply turned on and the burners lit. The time to reaction and duration of reaction can provide additional information useful in interpreting the results. If rupture of the tube does not occur, heating is continued for at least five minutes before the trial is finished. After each trial the fragments of the tube, if any, should be collected and weighed.

<sup>1</sup> *For reasons of safety, e.g. the substance is friction sensitive, the substance need not be tamped. In cases where the physical form of the sample can be changed by compression or compression of the sample is not related to the transport conditions, e.g. for fibrous materials, more representative filling procedures may be used.*

25.4.1.3.4 The following effects are differentiated:

- "O": Tube unchanged;
- "A": Bottom of tube bulged out;
- "B": Bottom and wall of the tube bulged out;
- "C": Bottom of tube split;
- "D": Wall of tube split;
- "E": Tube split into two<sup>2</sup> fragments;
- "F": Tube fragmented into three<sup>2</sup> or more mainly large pieces which in some cases may be connected with each other by a narrow strip;
- "G": Tube fragmented into many mainly small pieces, closing device undamaged; and
- "H": Tube fragmented into many very small pieces, closing device bulged out or fragmented.

Examples for the effect types "D", "E" and "F" are shown in Figure 25.4.1.3. If a trial results in any of the effects "O" to "E", the result is regarded as "no explosion". If a trial gives the effect "F", "G" or "H", the result is evaluated as "explosion".

25.4.1.3.5 The series of trials is started with a single trial using an orifice plate with a certain diameter of 20.0 mm. If, in this trial, the result "explosion" is observed, the series is continued with single trials at increasing diameters until only negative results in three tests are obtained at the same level. using tubes without orifice plates and nuts but with threaded collars (orifice 24.0 mm). If in the first trial at 20.0 mm "no explosion" occurs, the series is continued with single trials using plates with the decreasing diameters following orifices 12.0—8.0—5.0—3.0—2.0—1.5 and finally 1.0 mm until, at one of these diameters, the result "explosion" is obtained. Subsequently, trials are carried out at increasing diameters, according to the sequence given in 25.4.1.2.1, until only negative results in three tests are obtained at the same level diameter. The limiting diameter of a substance is the largest diameter of the orifice at which the result "explosion" is obtained. If no "explosion" is obtained with a diameter of 1.0 mm, the limiting diameter is recorded as being less than 1.0 mm.

25.4.1.4 *Test criteria and method of assessing results*

25.4.1.4.1 The test criteria are as follows:

- "Violent": - The limiting diameter is greater than or equal to 2.0 mm.
- "Medium": - The limiting diameter is equal to 1.5 mm.
- "Low": - The limiting diameter is equal to or less than 1.0 mm and the effect in any test is different from type "O".
- "No": - The limiting diameter is less than 1.0 mm and the effect in all tests is of type "O".

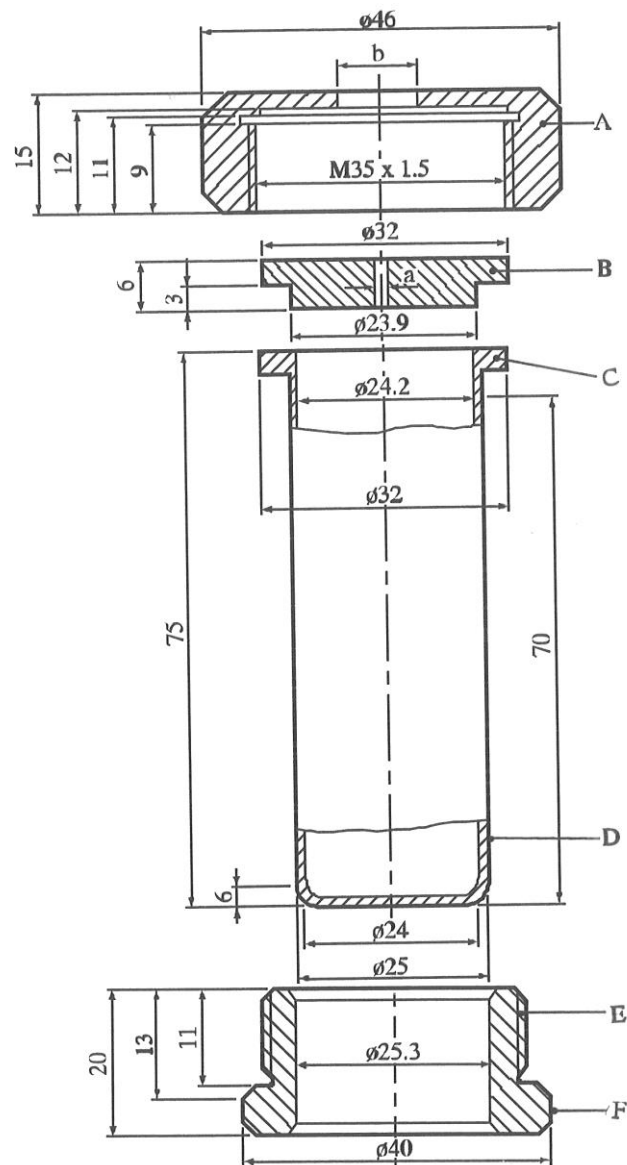
<sup>2</sup> *The upper part of the tube remained in the closing device is counted as one fragment.*

25.4.1.5 *Examples of results*

Substance	Sample mass (g)	Limiting diameter (mm)	Type of fragmentation <sup>a</sup>	Result
Azodicarbonamide	20.0	1.5	"F"	Medium
Azodicarbonamide, 67% with zinc oxide	24.0	1.5	"F"	Medium
2,2'-Azodi(2,4-dimethylvaleronitrile)	17.5	< 1.0	"O"	No
2,2'-Azodi(isobutyronitrile)	15.0	3.0	"F"	Violent
Benzene-1,3-disulphohydrazide		12.0	"F"	Violent
Benzene-1,3-disulphohydrazide, 70% with mineral oil		2.0	"F"	Violent
Benzene sulphohydrazide	18.5	1.0	"F"	Low
tert-Butyl peroxybenzoate	26.0	3.5	"F"	Violent
tert-Butyl peroxy-2-ethylhexanoate	24.2	2.0	"F"	Violent
Cumyl hydroperoxide, 84.1% in cumene	27.5	1.0	"F"	Low
2-Diazo-1-naphthol-5-sulphochloride	19.0	2.5	"F"	Violent
Dibenzoyl peroxide	17.5	10.0	"F"	Violent
Dibenzoyl peroxide, 75% with water	20.0	2.5	"F"	Violent
Di-tert-butyl peroxide,	21.5	<1.0	"O"	No
Dicetyl peroxydicarbonate	16.0	<1.0	"O"	No
2,4-Dichlorobenzoyl peroxide	21.0	6.0 <sup>b</sup>	"F"	Violent
Dicumyl peroxide	18.0	<1.0	"O"	No
Diisopropyl peroxydicarbonate	21.0	8.0	"F"	Violent
Dilauroyl peroxide	14.0	<1.0	"O"	No
2,5-Dimethyl-2,5-di(tert-butylperoxy)-hexane	23.0	1.5	"F"	Medium
Dimyristyl peroxydicarbonate	16.0	<1.0	"O"	No
N,N'-Dinitroso-N,N'-dimethyl-terephthalamide 70%, with mineral oil	18.0	4.0	"F"	Violent
Diperoxy isophthalic acid	18.0	24.0	"H"	Violent
Disuccinic acid peroxide	18.0	6.0	"F"	Violent
4-Nitrosophenol	17.0	< 1.0	"A"	Low

<sup>a</sup> *At the limiting diameter.*

<sup>b</sup> *With a sample mass of 13 g the limiting diameter is < 1.0 mm*



(A) Nut ( $b = 10.0$  or  $20.0$  mm) with flats for size 41 spanner

(B) Orifice plate ( $a = 1.0$  to  $20.0$  mm diameter)

(C) Flange

(D) Tube

(E) Threaded collar

(F) Flats for size 36 spanner

Figure 25.4.1.1: TEST TUBE ASSEMBLY

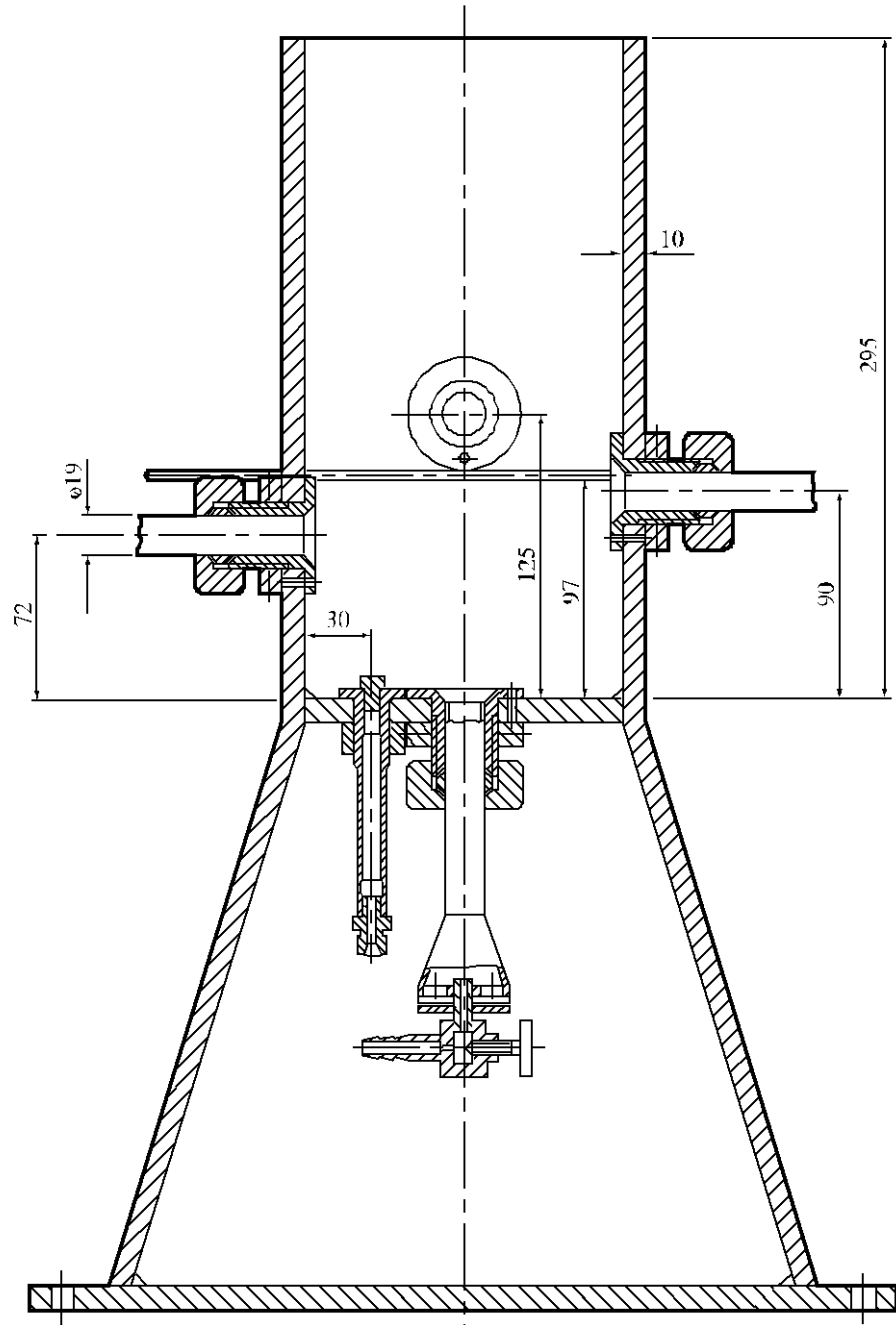


Figure 25.4.1.2: HEATING AND PROTECTIVE DEVICE



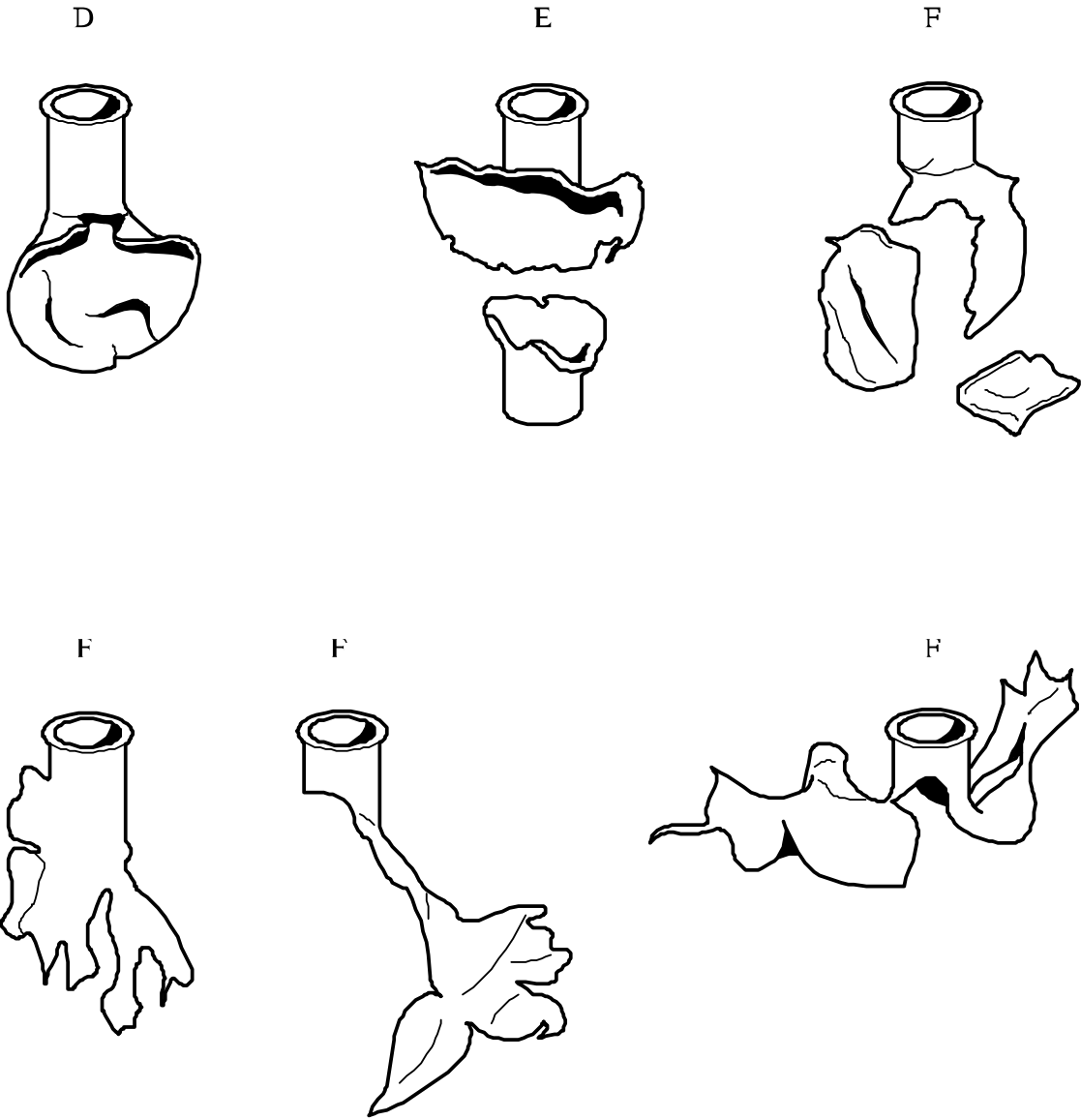


Figure 25.4.1.3: EXAMPLES OF EFFECT TYPES D, E AND F

## 25.4.2 *Test E.2: Dutch pressure vessel test*

### 25.4.2.1 *Introduction*

This test is used to determine the sensitiveness of substances to the effect of intense heat under defined confinement. It may be used, in conjunction with an additional heating under confinement test, to answer the question in boxes 7, 8, 9 and 13 of Figure 20.1.

### 25.4.2.2 *Apparatus and materials*

#### 25.4.2.2.1 Description of the pressure vessel

Figure 25.4.2.1 shows the apparatus used. The vessel is made of stainless steel, type AISI 316. 8 aperture discs are used, the diameters of the orifices being: 1.0 - 2.0 - 3.5 - 6.0 - 9.0 - 12.0 - 16.0 and 24.0 mm. [In addition other diameters may be used for hazard assessment.](#) These discs have a thickness of  $2.0 \text{ mm} \pm 0.2 \text{ mm}$ . The bursting discs are 38 mm diameter aluminium discs rated to burst at  $620 \pm 60 \text{ kPa}$  at  $22 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  (see Figure 25.4.2.2).

#### 25.4.2.2.2 Heating device

The pressure vessel is heated by technical-grade butane taken from a cylinder fitted with a pressure regulator. A Teclu burner is used. Other gases may be used, with a suitable burner, provided that a heating rate of  $3.5 \pm 0.3 \text{ K/s}$  is obtained. The heating rate should be checked by heating 10 g of dibutyl phthalate ([to be replaced by other liquid](#)) in the pressure vessel and measuring its temperature. The time taken for the temperature of the oil to rise from  $50 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  to  $200 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  is recorded and the heating rate calculated.

### 25.4.2.3 *Procedure*

25.4.2.3.1 For a normal test, 10.0 g of the substance should be placed in the vessel. The bottom of the vessel should be evenly covered with the substance. ~~The 16.0 mm orifice plate is used first.~~ The bursting disc, [the selected central](#)-orifice plate and retaining ring are then put in place. The wing nuts are tightened by hand and the box nut with a spanner. The bursting disc is covered by enough water to keep it at a low temperature. The pressure vessel is placed on a tripod (with an inside ring diameter of 67 mm) which [may be placed is](#)-inside a protective cylinder. The ring at the middle of the vessel rests on the tripod.

25.4.2.3.2 The burner is lit, the flow of gas is set to the required rate and the flow of air adjusted so that the colour of the flame is blue and the inner cone of the flame light blue. The tripod should be of such a height that the inner cone just touches the bottom of the vessel. The burner is then placed under the vessel through an opening in the protective casing. ***The test area should be very well ventilated and entry prohibited during the test.*** The vessel is observed from outside the test area either by mirrors or by an aperture in the wall fitted with armoured glass. The time to reaction and duration of reaction can provide additional information useful in interpreting the results. Finally the receptacle is cooled in water and cleaned.

25.4.2.3.3 [The series of trials is started with a single trial using an orifice plate with a certain diameter.](#) If there is no rupture of the disc with ~~a 16.0 mm~~[this](#) orifice, experiments are performed [with single trial using plates with decreasing diameters in sequence with the diameters 6.0, 2.0 and 1.0 mm \(one experiment at each diameter\)](#)-until rupture of the disc occurs. In cases where no disc rupture is observed with an orifice of 1.0 mm, the next test with an orifice of 1.0 mm is carried out with 50.0 g of the substance instead of 10.0 g. If still no rupture of the disc is observed the experiment is repeated until three successive experiments without rupture are obtained. In the event of rupture of the disc, the experiments are repeated at the next higher level

(10 g instead of 50 g or next higher diameter of the orifice) until the level is found at which there are no ruptures in three successive experiments.

#### 25.4.2.4 *Test criteria and method of assessing results*

25.4.2.4.1 The relative degree of sensitivity of a substance to heating in a pressure vessel is expressed by the limiting diameter. This being the orifice with the largest diameter in millimetres with which, in three tests, the bursting disc is broken at least once, while having remained unbroken during three tests with the next larger diameter.

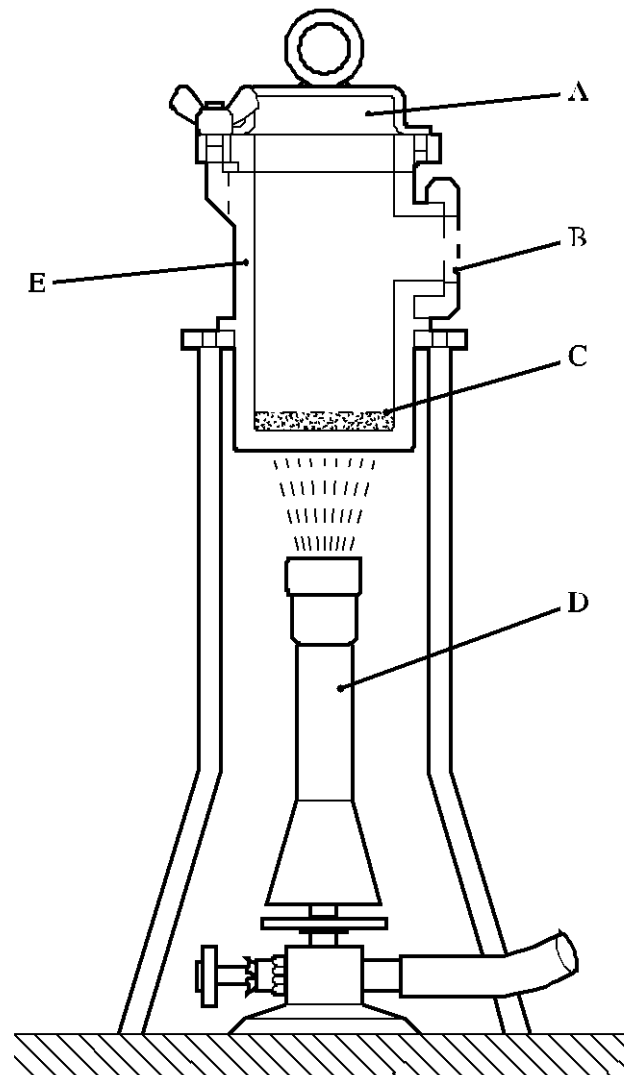
25.4.2.4.2 The test criteria are as follows:

- "Violent": - Rupture of the disc with an orifice of 9.0 mm or greater and a sample mass of 10.0 g.
- "Medium": - No rupture of the disc with an orifice of 9.0 mm but rupture of the disc with an orifice of 3.5 mm or [larger but smaller than 9.0 mm](#)~~6.0 mm~~ and a sample mass of 10.0 g.
- "Low": - No rupture of the disc with an orifice of 3.5 mm and a sample mass of 10.0 g but rupture of the disc with an orifice of 1.0 mm or [larger but smaller than 3.5 mm](#)~~2.0 mm~~ and a sample mass of 10.0 g or rupture of the disc with an orifice of 1.0 mm and a sample mass of 50.0 g.
- "No": - No rupture of the disc with an orifice of 1.0 mm and a sample mass of 50.0 g.

25.4.2.5 *Examples of results*

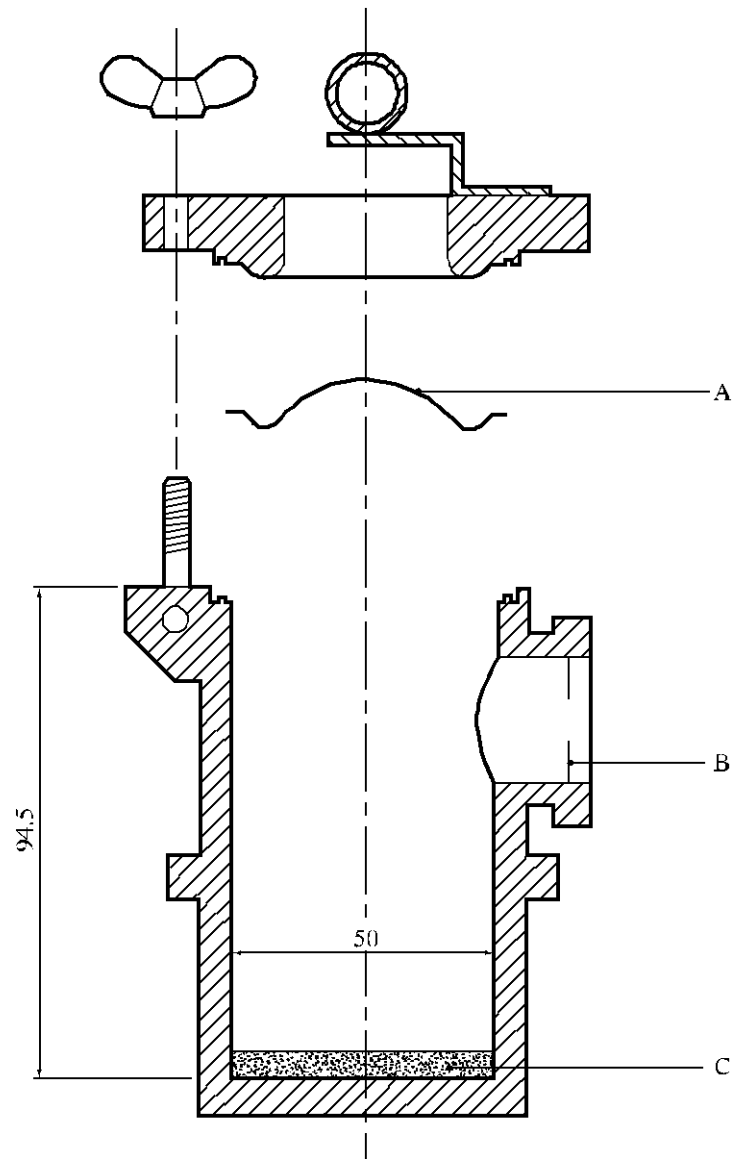
<b>Substance</b>	<b>Limiting diameter (mm)</b>	<b>Result</b>
Azodicarbonamide	1.5	Low
2,2'-Azodi-(2,4-dimethylvaleronitrile)	6.0	Medium
2,2'-Azodi(isobutyronitrile)	5.5	Medium
2,2'-Azodi(2-methylbutyronitrile)	6.0	Medium
tert-Butyl peroxybenzoate	9.0	Violent
tert-Butyl peroxy-2-ethylhexanoate	6.0	Medium
Cumyl hydroperoxide, 80% with cumene	1.0	Low
Dibenzoyl peroxide, 75% with water	6.0	Medium
Di-tert-butyl peroxide	3.5	Medium
Dicetyl peroxydicarbonate	1.0	Low
Dicumyl peroxide	3.5	Medium
2,5-Diethoxy-4-morpholinobenzenediazonium zinc chloride, 90%	< 1.0 <sup>a</sup>	No
2,5-Diethoxy-4-morpholinobenzenediazonium tetrafluoroborate, 97%	< 1.0	No
2,5-Diethoxy-4-(phenylsulphonyl)-benzenediazonium zinc chloride, 67%	< 1.0 <sup>a</sup>	No
Dilauroyl peroxide	2.0	Low
Dilauroyl peroxide, 42%, stable dispersion in water	< 1.0 <sup>a</sup>	No
3-Methyl-4-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)benzene- diazonium tetrafluoroborate, 95%	< 1.0 <sup>a</sup>	No
4-Nitrosophenol	1.0 <sup>a</sup>	Low

<sup>a</sup> *Test carried out with a 50 g sample.*



- (A) Bursting disc
- (B) Orifice plate
- (C) Test sample (10 g or 50 g)
- (D) Teclu burner
- (E) Pressure vessel with an internal diameter of 50 mm and internal height of 94.5 mm

**Figure 25.4.2.1: DUTCH PRESSURE VESSEL TEST**



- 
- (A) Bursting disc
  - (B) Orifice plate
  - (C) Test sample
- 

**Figure 25.4.2.2: BURSTING DISC ASSEMBLY**

### 25.4.3 *Test E.3: United States pressure vessel test to be checked by regular users of this test.*

#### 25.4.3.1 *Introduction*

This test is used to determine the sensitiveness of substances to the effect of intense heat under defined confinement. It may be used, in conjunction with an additional heating under confinement test, to answer the question in boxes 7, 8, 9 and 13 of Figure 20.1.

#### 25.4.3.2 *Apparatus and materials*

The following apparatus and materials are used:

- (a) Test-vessel: 316 stainless steel cylindrical pressure vessel (see Figure 25.4.3.1);
- (b) Pressure vessel holder (see Figure 25.4.3.2);
- (c) Electrical heater (e.g. 700 W);
- (d) Sample holder: aluminium cup 28 mm × 30 mm;
- (e) Rupture discs: 38 mm aluminium rupture discs rated  $620 \pm 50$  kPa at 22 °C;
- (f) 2 mm thick orifice plates with the following orifice diameters (mm): 1.0, 1.2, 2.0, 3.0, 3.5, 5.0, 6.0, 8.0, 9.0, 12.0, 16.0 and 24.0.

#### 25.4.3.3 *Procedure*

25.4.3.3.1 The general assembly of the apparatus is shown in Figure 25.4.3.1. The heating rate should be checked by heating 5.0 g of dibutyl phthalate in a sample cup in the pressure vessel and measuring the temperature of the dibutyl phthalate. The time taken for the temperature of the dibutyl phthalate to rise from 50 °C to 200 °C is recorded and the heating rate calculated. The heating rate should be  $0.5 \pm 0.1$  K/s. An orifice plate, with an orifice diameter larger than the expected vent needed to cause rupture, is selected and inserted into the side port.

25.4.3.3.2 A 5.0 g sample of the substance to be tested is weighed accurately into an aluminium cup. The cup is then lowered and positioned with the aid of forceps in the centre of the pressure vessel. The rupture disc is positioned and secured tightly by the flange bolts. Water is poured over the rupture disc to keep the disc relatively cool. The heating is switched on to the correct setting at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the test. The test-vessel is inserted into the pressure vessel holder onto the heater. This plate holder prevents the test-vessel from falling over. It also prevents escaping vent vapours from reaching the hot plate. The time to decomposition is noted.

25.4.3.3.3 If the disc does not rupture, the experiment is repeated using a smaller orifice diameter until rupture of the disc occurs. In the event of a rupture of the disc, the experiment is repeated at the next higher diameter of the orifice until the level is found at which there are no ruptures in three successive experiments.

#### 25.4.3.4 *Test criteria and method of assessing results*

25.4.3.4.1 The smallest orifice diameter which does not cause a rupture disc to burst during decomposition is designated as the USA-PVT number. This value is used as a measure of the effects of

heating a substance under defined confinement. USA-PVT ratings for all substances are based on the same test conditions and heating rate.

25.4.3.4.2 The effect of heating under confinement of the substance is defined by the following criteria:

"Violent": - Substances having USA-PVT numbers 9.0 to 24.0.

"Medium": - Substances having USA-PVT numbers 3.5 to 8.0.

"Low": - Substances having USA-PVT numbers 1.2 to 3.0.

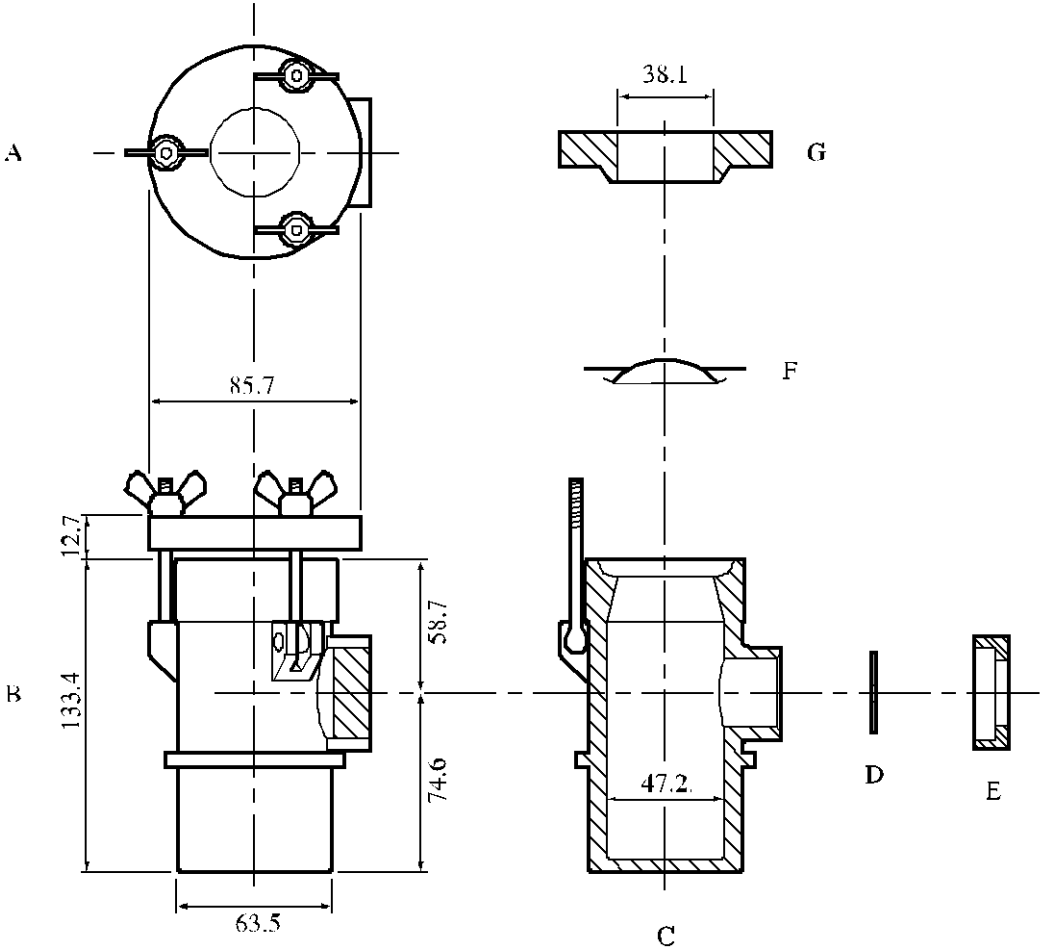
"No": - Substances having USA-PVT number 1.0.

25.4.3.5 *Examples of results*

Substance	USA-PVT No	Result
tert-Butyl hydroperoxide, 70% with water	1.0	No
tert-Butyl peroxy acetate, 75% in solution	8.0	Medium
tert-Butyl peroxybenzoate	8.0	Medium
tert-Butyl peroxy isopropyl carbonate, 75% in solution	2.0	Low
tert-Butyl peroxy pivalate, 75% in solution	4.5 <sup>a</sup>	Medium
Cumyl hydroperoxide, 85% with cumene	1.0	No
Dibenzoyl peroxide	18.0 <sup>a</sup>	Violent
Di-tert-butyl peroxide	1.0	No
Dicumyl peroxide	2.0	Low
Dicumyl peroxide, with 60% inert solid	1.0	No
Dilauroyl peroxide	6.0	Medium
2,5-Dimethyl-2,5-di-(tert-butylperoxy) hexyne-3	9.0	Violent

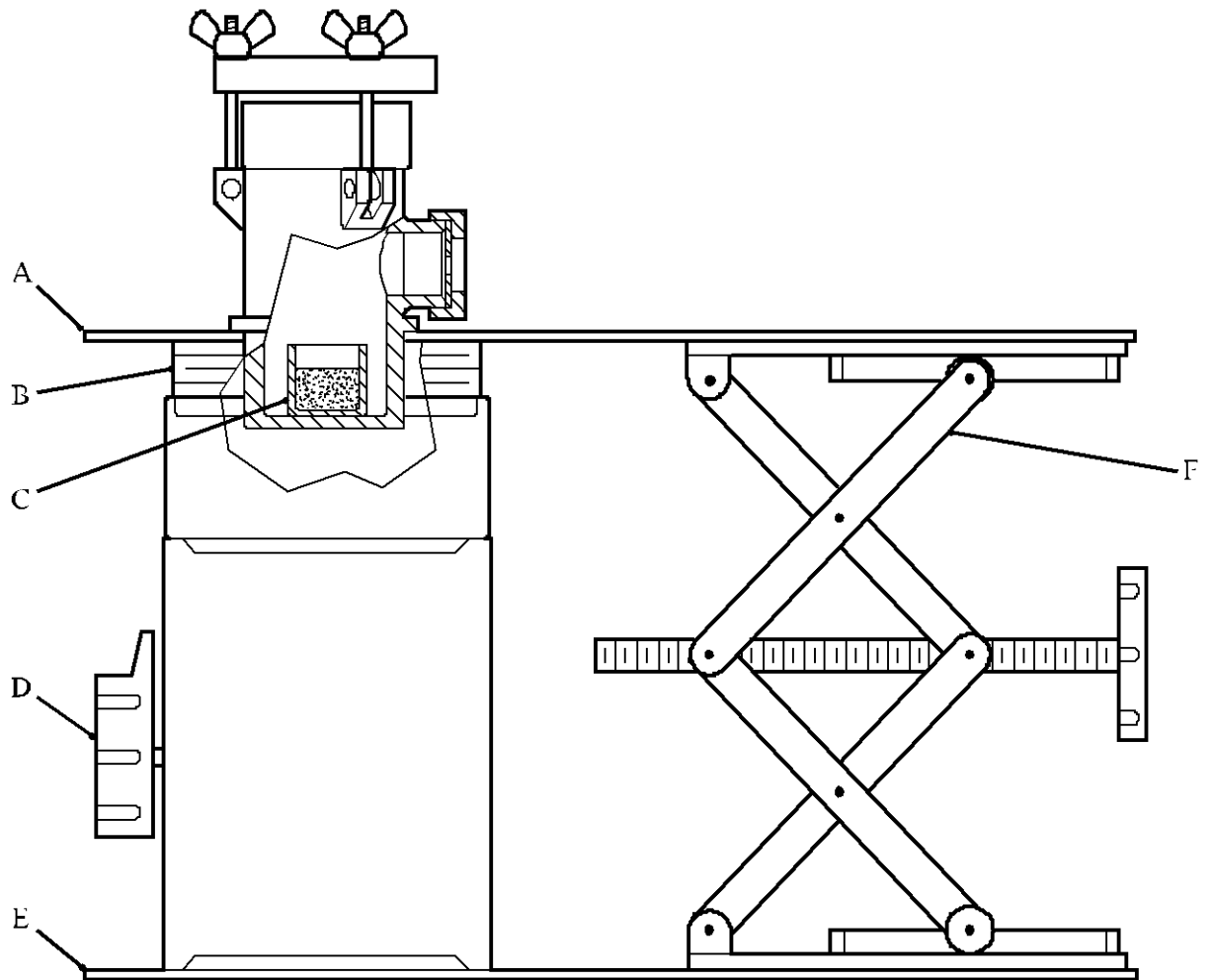
<sup>a</sup> *Intermediate diameters, no longer used.*





- (A) Top view of lid
- (B) Side view of assembly
- (C) Body of pressure vessel
- (D) Orifice plate
- (E) Orifice plate retaining nut
- (F) Bursting disc
- (G) Cap

Figure 25.4.3.1: UNITED STATES PRESSURE VESSEL TEST



- 
- (A) Shield
  - (B) Thermal insulation
  - (C) Sample cup
  - (D) Electrical heater
  - (E) Base
  - (F) Laboratory jack
- 

**Figure 25.4.3.2: TEST APPARATUS AND STAND (side view)**