Designation: C 618 – 00

Standard Specification for Coal Fly Ash and Raw or Calcined Natural Pozzolan for Use as a Mineral Admixture in Concrete[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C 618; 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.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers coal fly ash and raw or calcined natural pozzolan for use as a mineral admixture in concrete where cementitious or pozzolanic action, or both, is desired, or where other properties normally attributed to finely divided mineral admixtures may be desired, or where both objectives are to be achieved.

NOTE 1—Finely divided materials may tend to reduce the entrained air content of concrete. Hence, if a mineral admixture is added to any concrete for which entrainment of air is specified, provision should be made to ensure that the specified air content is maintained by air content tests and by use of additional air-entraining admixture or use of an air-entraining admixture in combination with air-entraining hydraulic cement.

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard.

1.3 The text of this standard references notes and footnotes, which provide explanatory information. These notes and footnotes (excluding those in tables and figures) shall not be considered as requirements of the standard.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*

C 125 Standard Terminology Relating to Concrete and Concrete Aggregates[2]

C 311 Test Methods for Sampling and Testing Fly Ash or Natural Pozzolans for Use as a Mineral Admixture in Portland-Cement Concrete[2]

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 The terms used in this specification are defined in Terminology C 125.

3.1.2 *fly ash*—the finely divided residue that results from the combustion of ground or powdered coal and that is transported by flue gasses.

NOTE 2—This definition of fly ash does not include, among other things, the residue resulting from: (*1*) the burning of municipal garbage or any other refuse with coal; (*2*) the injection of lime directly into the boiler for sulfur removal; or (*3*) the burning of industrial or municipal garbage in incinerators commonly known as "incinerator ash."

4. Classification

4.1 *Class N*—Raw or calcined natural pozzolans that comply with the applicable requirements for the class as given herein, such as some diatomaceous earths; opaline cherts and shales; tuffs and volcanic ashes or pumicites, calcined or uncalcined; and various materials requiring calcination to induce satisfactory properties, such as some clays and shales.

4.2 *Class F*—Fly ash normally produced from burning anthracite or bituminous coal that meets the applicable requirements for this class as given herein. This class fly ash has pozzolanic properties.

4.3 *Class C*—Fly ash normally produced from lignite or subbituminous coal that meets the applicable requirements for this class as given herein. This class of fly ash, in addition to having pozzolanic properties, also has some cementitious properties.

NOTE 3—Some Class C fly ashes may contain lime contents higher than 10 %.

5. Ordering Information

5.1 The purchaser shall specify any supplementary optional chemical or physical requirements.

5.2 The purchaser shall indicate which procedure, A or B, shall be used when specifying requirements for effectiveness in contribution to sulfate resistance under Table 4.

6. Chemical Composition

6.1 Fly ash and natural pozzolans shall conform to the requirements as to chemical composition prescribed in Table 1. Supplementary optional chemical requirements are shown in Table 2.

7. Physical Properties

7.1 Fly ash and natural pozzolans shall conform to the physical requirements prescribed in Table 3. Supplementary

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[2] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 04.02.

optional physical requirements are shown in Table 4.

8. Methods of Sampling and Testing

8.1 Sample and test the mineral admixture in accordance with the requirements of Test Methods C 311.

8.2 Use cement of the type proposed for use in the work and, if available, from the mill proposed as the source of the cement, in all tests requiring the use of hydraulic cement.

9. Storage and Inspection

9.1 The mineral admixture shall be stored in such a manner as to permit easy access for proper inspection and identification of each shipment.

9.2 Inspection of the material shall be made as agreed upon by the purchaser and the seller as part of the purchase contract.

10. Rejection

10.1 The purchaser has the right to reject material that fails to conform to the requirements of this specification. Rejection shall be reported to the producer or supplier promptly and in writing.

10.2 The purchaser has the right to reject packages varying more than 5 % from the stated weight. The purchaser also has the right to reject the entire shipment if the average weight of the packages in any shipment, as shown by weighing 50 packages taken at random, is less than that specified.

10.3 The purchaser has the right to require that mineral admixture in storage prior to shipment for a period longer than 6 months after testing be retested. The purchaser has the right to reject such material if it fails to meet the fineness requirements.

11. Packaging and Package Marking

11.1 When the mineral admixture is delivered in packages, the class, name, and brand of the producer, and the weight of the material contained therein, shall be plainly marked on each package. Similar information shall be provided in the shipping invoices accompanying the shipment of packaged or bulk mineral admixture.

12. Keywords

12.1 fly ash; mineral admixtures; natural pozzolan; pozzolans

TABLE 1 Chemical Requirements

	Mineral Admixture Class		
	N	F	C
Silicon dioxide (SiO_2) plus aluminum oxide (Al_2O_3) plus iron oxide (Fe_2O_3), min, %	70.0	70.0	50.0
Sulfur trioxide (SO_3), max, %	4.0	5.0	5.0
Moisture content, max, %	3.0	3.0	3.0
Loss on ignition, max, %	10.0	6.0[A]	6.0

[A]The use of Class F pozzolan containing up to 12.0 % loss on ignition may be approved by the user if either acceptable performance records or laboratory test results are made available.

TABLE 2 Supplementary Optional Chemical Requirement

NOTE 1—This optional requirement applies only when specifically requested.

	Mineral Admixture Class		
	N	F	C
Available alkalies, as equivalent, as Na_2O, max, %[A]	1.5	1.5	1.5

[A]Applicable only when specifically required by the purchaser for mineral admixture to be used in concrete containing reactive aggregate and cement to meet a limitation on content of alkalies.

TABLE 3 Physical Requirements

	Mineral Admixture Class		
	N	F	C
Fineness:			
Amount retained when wet-sieved on 45 μm (No. 325) sieve, max, %[A]	34	34	34
Strength activity index:[B]			
With portland cement, at 7 days, min, percent of control	75[C]	75[C]	75[C]
With portland cement, at 28 days, min, percent of control	75[C]	75[C]	75[C]
Water requirement, max, percent of control	115	105	105
Soundness:[D]			
Autoclave expansion or contraction, max, %	0.8	0.8	0.8
Uniformity requirements:			
The density and fineness of individual samples shall not vary from the average established by the ten preceding tests, or by all preceding tests if the number is less than ten, by more than:			
Density, max variation from average, %	5	5	5
Percent retained on 45-μm (No. 325), max variation, percentage points from average	5	5	5

[A]Care should be taken to avoid the retaining of agglomerations of extremely fine material.

[B]The *strength* activity index with portland cement is not to be considered a measure of the compressive strength of concrete containing the mineral admixture. The mass of mineral admixture specified for the test to determine the *strength* activity index with portland cement is not considered to be the proportion recommended for the concrete to be used in the work. The optimum amount of mineral admixture for any specific project is determined by the required properties of the concrete and other constituents of the concrete and is to be established by testing. *Strength* activity index with portland cement is a measure of reactivity with a given cement and may vary as to the source of both the mineral admixture and the cement.

[C]Meeting the 7 day or 28 day *strength* activity index will indicate specification compliance.

[D]If the mineral admixture will constitute more than 20 % by weight of the cementitious material in the project mix design, the test specimens for autoclave expansion shall contain that anticipated percentage. Excessive autoclave expansion is highly significant in cases where water to mineral admixture and cement ratios are low, for example, in block or shotcrete mixes.

TABLE 4 Supplementary Optional Physical Requirements

NOTE 1—These optional requirements apply only when specifically requested.

	Mineral Admixture Class		
	N	F	C
Multiple factor, calculated as the product of loss on ignition and fineness, amount retained when wet-sieved on 45-µm (No. 325) sieve, max, %[A]	... .	255	... .
Increase of drying shrinkage of mortar bars at 28 days, max, difference, in %, over control[B]	0.03	0.03	0.03
Uniformity Requirements:			
In addition, when air-entraining concrete is specified, the quantity of air-entraining agent required to produce an air content of 18.0 vol % of mortar shall not vary from the average established by the ten preceding tests or by all preceding tests if less than ten, by more than, %	20	20	20
Effectiveness in Controlling Alkali-Silica Reaction:[C]			
Expansion of test mixture as percentage of low-alkali cement control, at 14 days, max, %	100	100	100
Effectiveness in Contributing to Sulfate Resistance:[D]			
Procedure A:			
Expansion of test mixture:			
For moderate sulfate exposure after 6 months exposure, max, %	0.10	0.10	0.10
For high sulfate exposure after 6 months exposure, max, %	0.05	0.05	0.05
Procedure B:			
Expansion of test mixture as a percentage of sulfate resistance cement control after at least 6 months exposure, max,%	100	100	100

[A] Applicable only for Class F mineral admixtures since the loss on ignition limitations predominate for Class C.

[B] Determination of compliance or noncompliance with the requirement relating to increase in drying shrinkage will be made only at the request of the purchaser.

[C] Mineral admixtures meeting this requirement are considered as effective in controlling alkali aggregate reactions as the use of the low-alkali control cement used in the evaluation. However, the mineral admixture shall be considered effective only when the mineral admixture is used at percentages by mass of the total cementitious material equal to or exceeding that used in the tests and when the alkali content of the cement to be used with the mineral admixture does not exceed that used in the tests by more than 0.05 %. See Appendix XI, Test Methods C 311.

[D] Fly ash or natural pozzolan shall be considered effective only when the fly ash or natural pozzolan is used at percentages, by mass, of the total cementitious material within 2 % of those that are successful in the test mixtures or between two percentages that are successful, and when the C_3A content of the project cement is less than, or equal to, that which was used in the test mixtures. See Appendix X2 of Test Method C 311.