Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Methods of testing portland, blended and masonry cements

Method 18: Determination of water retention of masonry cement

1 SCOPE

This Standard sets out the method for determining the water retention of masonry cement prepared and tested as a standard mortar.

NOTES:

1 These testing procedures may involve the use of materials or equipment that require safety measures to be observed.

2 This Standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use.

3 The user of this Standard should establish appropriate safety and health practices, and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

4 Test data for the determination of statements of repeatability and reproducibility have not yet been evaluated. Such statements will be included in a later revision of this test method or amendment when they become available.

2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS	
2349	Method of sampling portland and blended cements
AS/NZS	
2350	Methods of testing portland and blended cements
2350.3	Method 3: Normal consistency of portland and blended cements
ASTM	
C230	Specification for Flow Table for use in Tests of Hydraulic Cement
C778	Specification for Standard Sand

3 PRINCIPLE

A standard mortar is prepared by mechanically mixing 1 part masonry cement to 3 parts standard sand, by volume, with sufficient water to achieve a standard consistency as measured by the flow table. The standard fresh mortar is subjected to a vacuum and its ability to retain water is calculated from its change in consistency as measured by the flow table.

4 APPARATUS AND RELATED CONDITIONS

4.1 Laboratory

The air within the laboratory in which the specimens will be prepared and tested shall be maintained at a temperature of 23 ±2°C and a relative humidity of not less than 50%.