

ABYC Marine ‘Buoyancy’ Test Results

ABYC Standard Test Method – Section 8.10 – Materials - Immersion in 5% Trisodium Phosphate Solution	
Water Temperature	25 - 29°C
Immersion Time	Up to 30 days
Sample Density	42 kg / m ³
% Volume Change after 30 days ABYC Standard is a Maximum of 5%	+ 1.4 % = PASS
% Volume Solution Up-take [w/v]	12.3 kg / m ³
Change in Buoyancy Effect [No ABYC Standard]	
after 72 hours: - 2.1 %	after 30 days: - 2.4 %
Surface Absorption Rate after 30 days Immersion	
311 grams per square metre of exposed surface	
Water Absorption – AUS Test – see Note 1	
Water Temperature	25 - 29°C
Exposure Time	Up to 30 days
Sample Density	39 kg / m ³
% Volume Change after 30 days No ABYC Standard	No change
% Volume Water Up-take [w/v]	11.6 kg / m ³
Change in Buoyancy Effect [No ABYC Standard]	
after 72 hours: - 1.2 %	after 30 days: - 1.8 %
Surface Absorption Rate after 30 days Immersion	
293 grams per square metre of exposed surface	

Note 1 Testing in Tap Water does not form part of the ABYC Test requirements.

Notes regarding ABYC Marine ‘Buoyancy’ Testing

Under the ABYC¹ Standards, **Section H-8 –BUOYANCY IN THE EVENT OF SWAMPING** sets out in **Section 8.10 - Materials**, the properties of materials that can be used in nominated sections of the boat.

In **Section 8.10.3 - Performance Specifications** this sets out the requirements for Flotation material installed in and outside the engine compartment.

Section 8.10.3.1 states

“Flotation material installed in an engine compartment less than 12 inches [.30m] above the lowest point where liquid can collect in that compartment [area A in Figure 16] when the boat is in its static floating position must not reduce in volume by more than five percent after being immersed in any of the following liquids for 30 days at 84°F [29°C]. [See the note following H-8.10.3.2.3] “

Section 8.10.3.2 states

“Flotation material installed outside the engine compartment [this includes inside the hull of outboard boats] less than four inches above the lowest point where liquid can collect in that compartment [area B in Figure 16] when the boat is in its static floating position must not reduce in volume by more than five percent after being immersed in any of the following liquids for 24 hours at 84°F [29°C] [See the note following H-8.10.3.2.3] “

¹ Under Items H - 8.10.3.1.3 and H - 8.10.3.2.3, the nominated Test Liquid is a **five percent aqueous solution of Trisodium Phosphate**. This solution is generally referred to as a ‘Bilge Cleaner’.

Limitations and Hazards

- In all external exposure and some internal applications the PU foam surface must be protected from weathering / physical deterioration by:
 - the application of a selected elastomeric membrane coating , typically acrylic, polyurethane or bituminous types.
 - the application of fibreglass / Polyester Resin FRP skin.
 - the application of metal sheeting or other weatherproof treatment.
- In specific temperature and humidity conditions the effects of water vapour ‘drive’ must be considered in system design and application requirements.
- Special precautions need to be taken in regard to system design and specification under possible water vapour condensation temperature conditions, or in conditions where high levels of water vapour/high humidity conditions may occur.
- When spraying or pouring, excessive thickness should not be applied in a single application as the exotherm of the reaction may lead to spontaneous combustion, excessive pressure build up or thermal expansion from the significant heat developed in the foaming reaction.
- All polyurethane & polyisocyanurate foams may present a fire hazard in certain applications if exposed to fire and/or excessive heat e.g. welding, and cutting torches, in the presence of oxygen / air.

Health and Safety

Before using this Polyurethane System please refer to the MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS for both the Components for information on the correct handling procedures for these products and the Safety Issues and Hazards associated with their use.

EXCLUSION OF WARRANTIES

THESE SYSTEMS ARE NOT INTENDED FOR USE BY NON-PROFESSIONAL OR INEXPERIENCED DESIGNERS AND APPLICATORS.

The information presented in this Product Bulletin requires experience and background knowledge for correct interpretation and application.

The potential user must perform any pertinent tests in order to determine the product's performance and suitability in the intended application since determination of fitness of the product for any particular use is the responsibility of the buyer.

The data, information and suggestions covered in this data sheet, are given on the basis that the materials will be used correctly and professionally and at the sole risk of the user.

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