

# **Manual of Petroleum Measurement Standards Chapter 9.2**

## **Standard Test Method for Density or Relative Density of Light Hydrocarbons by Pressure Hydrometer**

THIRD EDITION, DECEMBER 2012



AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE



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Density of Light Hydrocarbons by Pressure  
Hydrometer**

**Measurement Coordination**

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## Standard Test Method for Density or Relative Density of Light Hydrocarbons by Pressure Hydrometer<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D1657; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

<sup>ε1</sup> NOTE—Corrected API *MPMS* naming convention throughout editorially in October 2012.

### 1. Scope\*

1.1 This test method covers the determination of the density or relative density of light hydrocarbons including liquefied petroleum gases (LPG) having Reid vapor pressures exceeding 101.325 kPa (14.696 psi).

1.2 The prescribed apparatus should not be used for materials having vapor pressures higher than 1.4 MPa (200 psi) at the test temperature. This pressure limit is dictated by the type of equipment. Higher pressures can apply to other equipment designs.

1.3 The initial pressure hydrometer readings obtained are uncorrected hydrometer readings and not density measurements. Readings are measured on a hydrometer at either the reference temperature or at another convenient temperature, and readings are corrected for the meniscus effect, the thermal glass expansion effect, alternate calibration temperature effects and to the reference temperature by means of calculations and Adjunct to **D1250** Guide for Petroleum Measurement Tables (API *MPMS* Chapter 11.1) or API *MPMS* Chapter 11.2.4 (GPA TP-27), as applicable.

1.4 Values determined as density or relative density can be converted to equivalent values in the other units or alternative reference temperatures by means of Interconversion Procedures API *MPMS* Chapter 11.5, or Adjunct to **D1250** Guide for Petroleum Measurement Tables (API *MPMS* Chapter 11.1) or API *MPMS* Chapter 11.2.4 (GPA TP-27), as applicable.

1.5 The calculations required in Section 11 shall be applied to the initial pressure hydrometer reading with observations and results reported as required by Section 11 prior to use in a

subsequent calculation procedure (measurement ticket calculation, meter factor calculation, or base prover volume determination).

1.6 **Annex A1** contains a procedure for verifying or certifying the equipment for this test method.

1.7 The values in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. US Customary values shown in adjacent parentheses are for information only and may not be exactly equivalent. Both SI and customary units have been rounded so that they may not be exactly equivalent.

1.8 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

### 2. Referenced Documents

#### 2.1 ASTM Standards:<sup>2</sup>

**D1250** Guide for Use of the Petroleum Measurement Tables  
**D1265** Practice for Sampling Liquefied Petroleum (LP)  
Gases, Manual Method

**D1298** Test Method for Density, Relative Density, and API  
Gravity of Crude Petroleum and Liquid Petroleum Products  
by Hydrometer Method (API *MPMS* Chapter 9.1)

**E1** Specification for ASTM Liquid-in-Glass Thermometers  
**E100** Specification for ASTM Hydrometers

#### 2.2 API Standards:<sup>3</sup>

**MPMS Chapter 9.1** Test Method for Density, Relative  
Density, and API Gravity of Crude Petroleum and Liquid  
Petroleum Products by Hydrometer Method (ASTM Test  
Method **D1298**)

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **D02** on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and the API Committee on Petroleum Measurement, and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **D02.02**/COMQ, the joint ASTM-API Committee on Hydrocarbon Measurement for Custody Transfer (Joint ASTM-API).

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<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

<sup>3</sup> Available from American Petroleum Institute (API), 1220 L. St., NW, Washington, DC 20005-4070, <http://www.api.org>.