

ACOUSTIC INFORMATION

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Test Report

SPONSOR: **Altispace Inc**
Tillsonburg, ON, Canada

Sound Absorption
RAL™-A20-506

CONDUCTED: 2020-12-02

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ON: Acoustic Blade (10 objects, spaced 6 in. apart, nonstandard mounting)

TEST METHODOLOGY

Riverbank Acoustical Laboratories™ is accredited by the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) under the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) as an ISO 17025:2017 Laboratory (NVLAP Lab Code: 100227-0) and for this test procedure. The test reported in this document conformed explicitly with ASTM C423-17: "Standard Test Method for Sound Absorption and Sound Absorption Coefficients by the Reverberation Room Method." A description of the measurement procedure and room specifications are available upon request. The results presented in this report apply to the sample as received from the test sponsor.

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY SPONSOR

The test specimen was designated by the sponsor as Acoustic Blade (10 objects, spaced 6 in. apart, nonstandard mounting). The following nominal product information was provided by the sponsor prior to testing. The accuracy of such sponsor-provided information can affect the validity of the test results.

Product Under Test

Trade Name: Acoustic Blade
Material ID: ABLADE-053-09
Materials: Folded polyethylene terephthalate sheet material, bonded to pine frame with honeycomb core
Manufacturer: Altispace Inc

SPECIMEN MEASUREMENTS & TEST CONDITIONS

Through a full external visual inspection performed on the test specimen, Riverbank personnel verified the following information:

Test Specimen

Face Materials: Solid top with folded semirigid PET sheet material on sides
Dimensions: 10 @ 140 mm (5.5 in.) by 2413 mm (95 in.)
Thickness: 48 mm (1.892 in.)
Overall Weight: 29.37 kg (64.75 lbs)

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Physical Measurements (per object)

Dimensions: 0.14 m (5.5 in.) wide by 2.41 m (95 in.) long
Thickness: 48 mm (1.892 in.)
Weight: 2.94 kg (6.5 lbs)

Test Environment

Room Volume: 291.98 m³
Temperature: 21.8 °C ± 0.1 °C (Requirement: ≥ 10 °C and ≤ 5 °C change)
Relative Humidity: 56.4 % ± 0.8 % (Requirement: ≥ 40 % and ≤ 5 % change)
Barometric Pressure: 99.9 kPa (Requirement not defined)

Each sound absorbing object had an absorptive area (all exposed surfaces) of 0.92 m² (9.90 ft²). The total absorptive area (all exposed surfaces) of all sound-absorbing objects was 9.20 m² (98.98 ft²). The array of objects covered 4.47 m² (48.08 ft²) of the horizontal test surface (total treated area).

MOUNTING METHOD

Nonstandard Mounting: The specimen is an array of 10 spaced sound absorbing objects suspended from cables such that the closest face is located approximately 1.42 m (56.0 in.) from the horizontal test surface. This approximates the mounting method of a typical ceiling baffle installation. The objects were evenly distributed in a single row, spaced 152 mm (6 in.) apart.

Note: The mounting method used for this test is similar to that used in the Type J mounting specified in ASTM E795-16 Section 15, though the absorptive area of the specimen (9.20 m²) is less than the minimum absorptive area of 10 m² specified in Section 15.4. The specimen was mounted with the intent of maximizing absorptive area while preserving the object spacing of interest and maintaining adequate distance from test room walls.

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Figure 1 – Specimen mounted in test chamber



Figure 2 – Underside of mounted specimen

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Figure 3 – Detail of specimen material



Figure 4 – Detail of specimen material

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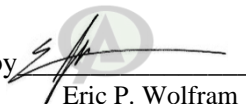
TEST RESULTS

Note: There is currently no standardized method for calculating Absorption Coefficients from spaced object absorbers. The sound absorption performance of spaced object absorbers should not be compared directly with specimens tested as a single rectangular area (e.g. mounting types A, E, etc.).

1/3 Octave Center Frequency (Hz)	Total Absorption		Absorption per Object	
	(m ²)	(Sabins)	(m ² / Object)	(Sabins / Object)
100	-0.36	-3.85	-0.04	-0.38
** 125	-0.36	-3.87	-0.04	-0.39
160	0.02	0.16	0.00	0.02
200	0.15	1.60	0.01	0.16
** 250	0.32	3.49	0.03	0.35
315	0.53	5.73	0.05	0.57
400	0.85	9.10	0.08	0.91
** 500	1.54	16.56	0.15	1.66
630	2.13	22.97	0.21	2.30
800	2.44	26.21	0.24	2.62
** 1000	3.08	33.18	0.31	3.32
1250	4.02	43.26	0.40	4.33
1600	4.92	52.95	0.49	5.29
** 2000	5.50	59.20	0.55	5.92
2500	6.40	68.84	0.64	6.88
3150	6.64	71.43	0.66	7.14
** 4000	6.84	73.61	0.68	7.36
5000	6.74	72.50	0.67	7.25

Tested by 
Marc Sciaky
Senior Experimentalist

Report by 
Malcolm Kelly
Test Engineer, Acoustician

Approved by 
Eric P. Wolfram
Laboratory Manager

Test Report

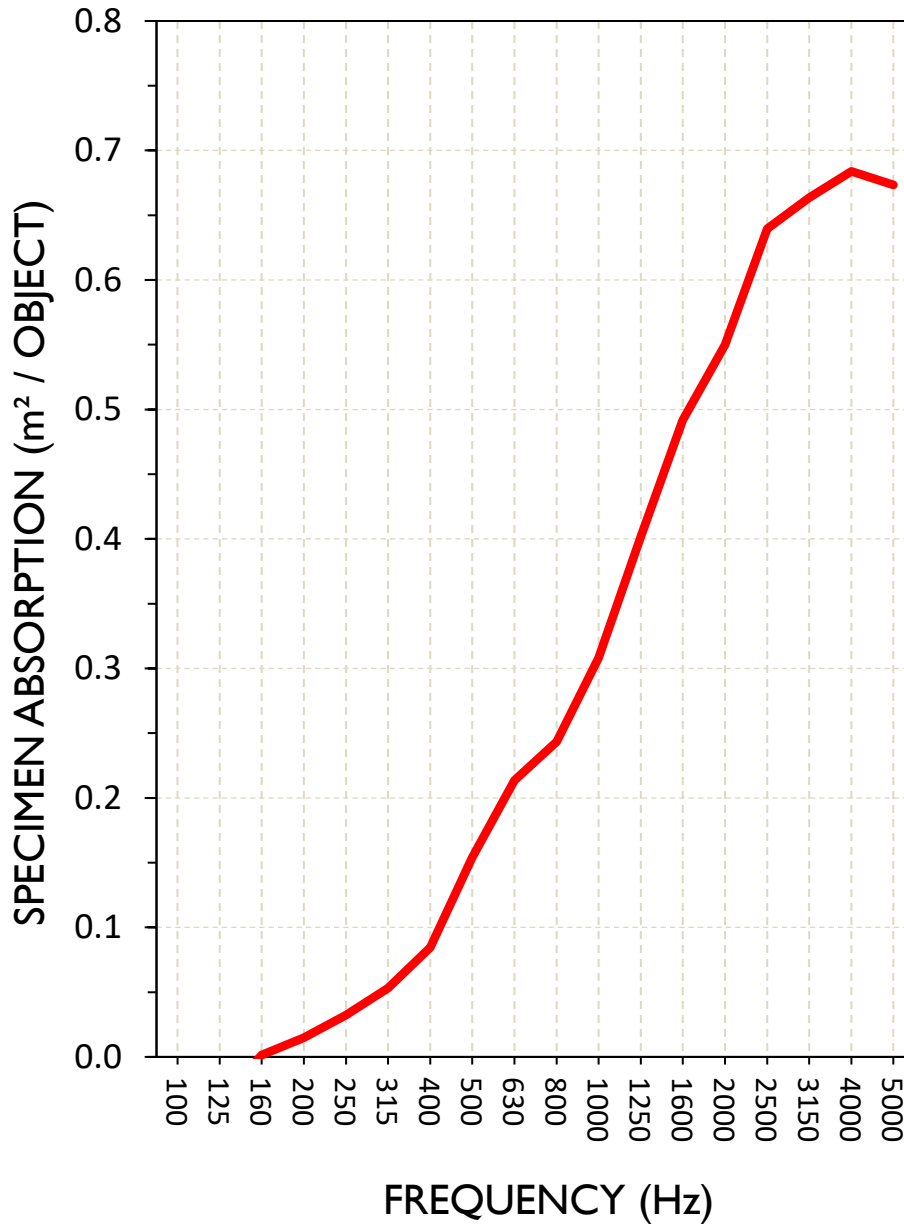
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SOUND ABSORPTION REPORT

Acoustic Blade (10 objects, spaced 6 in. apart, nonstandard mounting)



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APPENDIX A: Extended Frequency Range Data

Specimen: Acoustic Blade (10 objects, spaced 6 in. apart, nonstandard mounting) (See Full Report)

The following non-accredited data were obtained in accordance with ASTM C423-17, but extend beyond the defined frequency range of 100Hz to 5,000Hz. These unofficial results are representative of the RAL test environment only and intended for research & comparison purposes.

1/3 Octave Band Center Frequency (Hz)	Total Absorption		Absorption per Object	
	(m ²)	(Sabins)	(m ² / Object)	(Sabins / Object)
31.5	-0.18	-1.95	-0.02	-0.20
40	-0.63	-6.77	-0.06	-0.68
50	-0.07	-0.71	-0.01	-0.07
63	0.03	0.28	0.00	0.03
80	-0.66	-7.06	-0.07	-0.71
100	-0.36	-3.85	-0.04	-0.38
125	-0.36	-3.87	-0.04	-0.39
160	0.02	0.16	0.00	0.02
200	0.15	1.60	0.01	0.16
250	0.32	3.49	0.03	0.35
315	0.53	5.73	0.05	0.57
400	0.85	9.10	0.08	0.91
500	1.54	16.56	0.15	1.66
630	2.13	22.97	0.21	2.30
800	2.44	26.21	0.24	2.62
1000	3.08	33.18	0.31	3.32
1250	4.02	43.26	0.40	4.33
1600	4.92	52.95	0.49	5.29
2000	5.50	59.20	0.55	5.92
2500	6.40	68.84	0.64	6.88
3150	6.64	71.43	0.66	7.14
4000	6.84	73.61	0.68	7.36
5000	6.74	72.50	0.67	7.25
6300	6.82	73.43	0.68	7.34
8000	6.15	66.25	0.62	6.62
10000	5.60	60.25	0.56	6.02
12500	5.12	55.11	0.51	5.51

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APPENDIX B: Instruments of Traceability

Specimen: Acoustic Blade (10 objects, spaced 6 in. apart, nonstandard mounting) (See Full Report)

<u>Description</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>Serial Number</u>	<u>Date of Certification</u>	<u>Calibration Due</u>
System 1	Type 3160-A-042	3160-106968	2020-06-26	2021-06-26
Bruel & Kjaer Mic And Preamp A	Type 4943-B-001	2311428	2020-09-30	2021-09-30
Bruel & Kjaer Pistonphone	Type 4228	2781248	2020-08-12	2021-08-12
Omega Digital Temp., Humid. And Pressure Recorder	OM-CP-PRHTemp2000	P97844	2020-02-18	2021-02-18

APPENDIX C: Revisions to Original Test Report

Specimen: Acoustic Blade (10 objects, spaced 6 in. apart, nonstandard mounting) (See Full Report)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Revision</u>
2020-12-08	Original report issued

END

SPONSOR: **Altispace Inc**
Tillsonburg, ON, Canada

Report Referenced: **RAL™-A20-506**
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CONDUCTED: 2020-12-02

ON: Acoustic Blade (10 objects, spaced 6 in. apart, nonstandard mounting) (See Full Test Report for Details)

Appendix D to ASTM C423 Sound Absorption Test

Non-standard calculation of equivalent NRC Rating and Absorption Coefficients from spaced absorbers

At this time, ASTM C423 does not provide a standard method for determining absorption coefficients of spaced object absorbers. Tests of a set of sound absorbing objects spaced apart from each other will yield higher absorption rates than a specimen joined together as a single patch (A-Mount or E-Mount). For this reason it is unfair to provide NRC or absorption coefficient ratings for specimens that consist of a spaced set of absorbers. Despite this, the architectural industry has expressed great demand for a simple "single number" rating for these treatments. Likewise, acoustical consultants desire equivalent absorption coefficient data for use in acoustical modeling software. The following is an attempt to appease these demands until ASTM develops a standard method for calculation. Several alternate non-standard calculation methods are provided. Riverbank Acoustical Laboratories prefers method 1; ratings yielded from this method have titles with the prepended word "Equivalent". Rating titles for the remaining methods are prepended with the word "Apparent". These rating names and their associated acronyms are provided by RAL and shall not be misconstrued as originating from any current standard.

Method 1) Apparent Sound Absorption Coefficient calculated from extended test specimen envelope

The total sound absorption yielded by the specimen is divided by the surface area of the test surface covered by the suspended objects, including intermediate spaces, with additional added area to allow theoretical extrapolation for larger arrays. The object rigging covered 4.47 m² (48.08 ft²) of horizontal test surface area. With an extra 152.4 mm (6 in.) of width to account for the space between the tested array and what would be the next objects in a larger array, the total covered surface area comes to 4.83 m² (52.04 ft²). Apparent sound absorption coefficients, and subsequently the Apparent Noise Reduction Coefficient (A*NRC) and Apparent Sound Absorption Average (A*SAA) ratings, are calculated using this surface area based on the methods described in ASTM C423-17. This may be the most accurate method for comparing object arrays to ceiling tile products. The apparent sound absorption coefficient data can be assigned to a single horizontal surface or plane in acoustical modeling software for approximation of object array performance. Such approximations rely on the assumptions that object spacing is similar to that of the tested array across the entire surface, that gaps are negligibly small between adjacent rows of objects if the test specimen consists of a single row, and that the installation occurs over a perfectly reflective surface material.

Method 2) Apparent Sound Absorption Coefficient calculated from total exposed surface area of specimen

The total sound absorption yielded by the specimen is divided by the total surface area of all exposed specimen faces (0.92 m² (9.90 ft²) per object x 10 objects = 9.20 m² (98.98 ft²) total surface area). Apparent sound absorption coefficients, and subsequently the Apparent Noise Reduction Coefficient (A*NRC) and Apparent Sound Absorption Average (A*SAA) ratings, are calculated using this surface area based on the methods described in ASTM C423-17. This method shows the actual absorption occurring at the exposed surfaces but does not provide a fair comparison with materials mounted as a uniform patch (in A-mount or E-mount).

Appendix D (continued)

Method 3) Apparent Sound Absorption Coefficient calculated from one face per object

The total sound absorption yielded by the specimen is divided by the surface area of one side of one large face for each object in the specimen (0.34 m^2 (3.63 ft^2) per object x 10 objects = 3.37 m^2 (36.28 ft^2) total surface area). Apparent sound absorption coefficients, and subsequently the Apparent Noise Reduction Coefficient (A*NRC) and Apparent Sound Absorption Average (A*SAA) ratings, are calculated using this surface area based on the methods described in ASTM C423-17. This method is favored by some material manufacturers since it yields very high NRC figures, but does not provide a fair comparison with other ceiling tile or wall panel products. Riverbank Acoustical Laboratories recommends that results obtained from this method be used for research and comparison purposes only; such results should not be used for marketed claims of product performance.

Method 4) Apparent Sound Absorption Coefficient calculated from specimen envelope without extension

The total sound absorption yielded by the specimen is divided by the rectangular test surface area covered by the suspended objects, including intermediate spaces. The object rigging covered 4.47 m^2 (48.08 ft^2) of horizontal test surface area. Apparent sound absorption coefficients, and subsequently the Apparent Noise Reduction Coefficient (A*NRC) and Apparent Sound Absorption Average (A*SAA) ratings, are calculated using this surface area based on the methods described in ASTM C423-17. While similar in concept to Method 1, attempting to model any array larger than the tested specimen using these results would imply instances of adjacent objects with zero spacing scattered throughout the extrapolated array. Riverbank Acoustical Laboratories recommends that results obtained from this method be used for research and comparison purposes only; such results should not be used for marketed claims of product performance.

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2020-12-02

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Appendix D: Data Note: See full test report for details of mounting position, spacing, and configuration, as these parameters greatly affect sound absorption performance.

Specimen Absorption (ft ²)			Method 1	Method 2	Method 3	Method 4
Freq. (Hz)	Sabins	Sabins / Object	Apparent Abs. Coefficient From Total Coverage Area (52.04 ft ²)	Apparent Abs. Coefficient From Total Exposed Surface Area (98.98 ft ²)	Apparent Abs. Coefficient From One Face per Object (36.28 ft ²)	Apparent Abs. Coefficient From Unextended Envelope Area (48.08 ft ²)
31.5	-1.95	-0.20	-0.04	-0.02	-0.05	-0.04
40	-6.77	-0.68	-0.13	-0.07	-0.19	-0.14
50	-0.71	-0.07	-0.01	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01
63	0.28	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01
80	-7.06	-0.71	-0.14	-0.07	-0.19	-0.15
100	-3.85	-0.38	-0.07	-0.04	-0.11	-0.08
125	-3.87	-0.39	-0.07	-0.04	-0.11	-0.08
160	0.16	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
200	1.60	0.16	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.03
250	3.49	0.35	0.07	0.04	0.10	0.07
315	5.73	0.57	0.11	0.06	0.16	0.12
400	9.10	0.91	0.17	0.09	0.25	0.19
500	16.56	1.66	0.32	0.17	0.46	0.34
630	22.97	2.30	0.44	0.23	0.63	0.48
800	26.21	2.62	0.50	0.26	0.72	0.55
1,000	33.18	3.32	0.64	0.34	0.91	0.69
1,250	43.26	4.33	0.83	0.44	1.19	0.90
1,600	52.95	5.29	1.02	0.53	1.46	1.10
2,000	59.20	5.92	1.14	0.60	1.63	1.23
2,500	68.84	6.88	1.32	0.70	1.90	1.43
3,150	71.43	7.14	1.37	0.72	1.97	1.49
4,000	73.61	7.36	1.41	0.74	2.03	1.53
5,000	72.50	7.25	1.39	0.73	2.00	1.51
6,300	73.43	7.34	1.41	0.74	2.02	1.53
8,000	66.25	6.62	1.27	0.67	1.83	1.38
10,000	60.25	6.02	1.16	0.61	1.66	1.25
12,500	55.11	5.51	1.06	0.56	1.52	1.15
Apparent NRC:			0.55	0.30	0.80	0.60
Apparent SAA:			0.55	0.29	0.79	0.59

Prepared by 
Malcolm Kelly
Test Engineer, Acoustician

Test Report

SPONSOR: **Altispace Inc**
Tillsonburg, ON, Canada

Sound Absorption
RAL™-A20-507

CONDUCTED: 2020-12-02

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ON: Acoustic Shape: Circle (10 objects, square array, 6 in. apart, nonstandard mounting)

TEST METHODOLOGY

Riverbank Acoustical Laboratories™ is accredited by the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) under the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) as an ISO 17025:2017 Laboratory (NVLAP Lab Code: 100227-0) and for this test procedure. The test reported in this document conformed explicitly with ASTM C423-17: "Standard Test Method for Sound Absorption and Sound Absorption Coefficients by the Reverberation Room Method." A description of the measurement procedure and room specifications are available upon request. The results presented in this report apply to the sample as received from the test sponsor.

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY SPONSOR

The test specimen was designated by the sponsor as Acoustic Shape: Circle (10 objects, square array, 6 in. apart, nonstandard mounting). The following nominal product information was provided by the sponsor prior to testing. The accuracy of such sponsor-provided information can affect the validity of the test results.

Product Under Test

Trade Name: Acoustic Shape: Circle
Material ID: ASHAPE-2-02-09
Materials: Polyethylene terephthalate sheet material bonded to pine
and particle board frame structure
Manufacturer: Altispace Inc

SPECIMEN MEASUREMENTS & TEST CONDITIONS

Through a full external visual inspection performed on the test specimen, Riverbank personnel verified the following information:

Test Specimen

Face Material: PET sheet material covering all surfaces
Dimensions: 10 cylinders, 746 mm (29.375 in.) diameter x 46.3 mm
(1.822 in.) high
Overall Weight: 29.03 kg (64 lbs)

Test ReportAltispace Inc
2020-12-02**RAL™-A20-507**
Page 2 of 8**Physical Measurements (per object)**

Dimensions: 0.75 m (29.375 in.) wide by 0.75 m (29.375 in.) long
Thickness: 46.3 mm (1.822 in.)
Weight: 2.9 kg (6.4 lbs)

Test Environment

Room Volume: 291.98 m³
Temperature: 21.7 °C ± 0.1 °C (Requirement: ≥ 10 °C and ≤ 5 °C change)
Relative Humidity: 55.85 % ± 0.1 % (Requirement: ≥ 40 % and ≤ 5 % change)
Barometric Pressure: 99.8 kPa (Requirement not defined)

Each sound absorbing object had an absorptive area (all exposed surfaces) of 0.98 m² (10.58 ft²). The total absorptive area (all exposed surfaces) of all sound-absorbing objects was 9.83 m² (105.80 ft²). The array of objects covered 7.02 m² (75.59 ft²) of the horizontal test surface (total treated area).

MOUNTING METHOD

Nonstandard Mounting: The specimen is an array of 10 spaced sound absorbing objects suspended from cables such that the closest face is located approximately 1.12 m (44.0 in.) from the horizontal test surface. This approximates the mounting method of a typical ceiling baffle installation. The objects were evenly distributed in a 5 x 2 rectangular array, with adjacent objects spaced 152 mm (6 in.) apart.

Note: The mounting method used for this test is similar to that used in the Type J mounting specified in ASTM E795-16 Section 15, though the absorptive area of the specimen (9.83 m²) is less than the minimum absorptive area of 10 m² specified in Section 15.4. The specimen was mounted with the intent of maximizing absorptive area while preserving the object spacing of interest and maintaining adequate distance from test room walls.

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2020-12-02

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Figure 1 – Specimen mounted in test chamber



Figure 2 – Specimen mounted in test chamber

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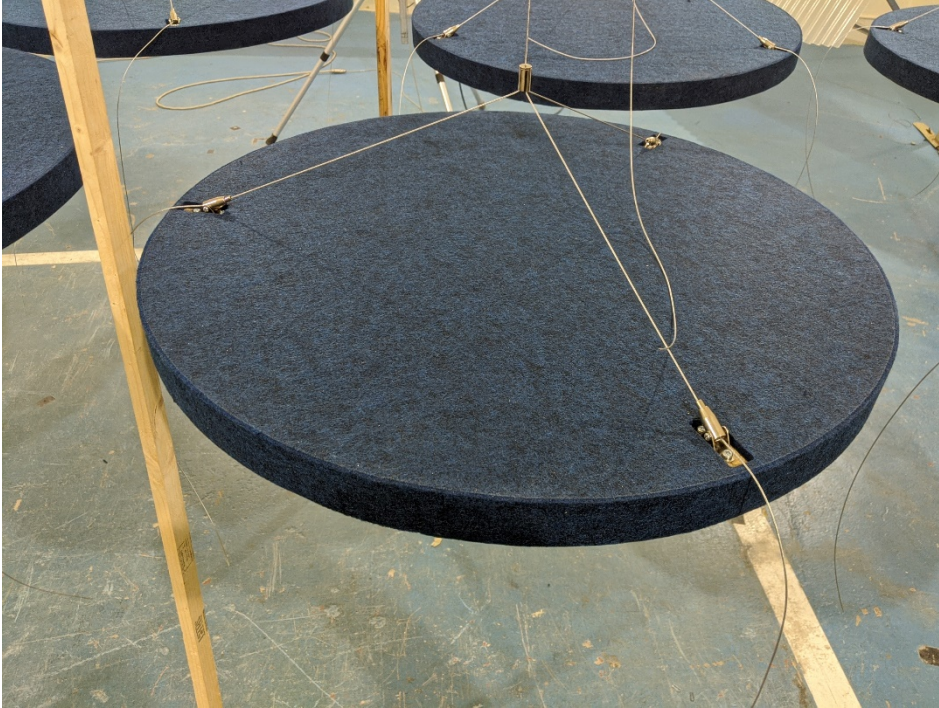


Figure 3 – Detail of specimen material



Figure 4 – Underside of individual specimen object

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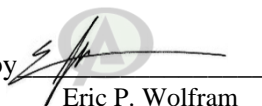
TEST RESULTS

Note: There is currently no standardized method for calculating Absorption Coefficients from spaced object absorbers. The sound absorption performance of spaced object absorbers should not be compared directly with specimens tested as a single rectangular area (e.g. mounting types A, E, etc.).

1/3 Octave Center Frequency (Hz)	Total Absorption		Absorption per Object	
	(m ²)	(Sabins)	(m ² / Object)	(Sabins / Object)
100	2.48	26.66	0.25	2.67
** 125	1.80	19.39	0.18	1.94
160	1.73	18.62	0.17	1.86
200	2.27	24.42	0.23	2.44
** 250	3.34	35.91	0.33	3.59
315	3.32	35.74	0.33	3.57
400	3.93	42.27	0.39	4.23
** 500	4.40	47.32	0.44	4.73
630	4.78	51.46	0.48	5.15
800	5.62	60.52	0.56	6.05
** 1000	6.25	67.30	0.63	6.73
1250	6.68	71.88	0.67	7.19
1600	7.09	76.29	0.71	7.63
** 2000	7.40	79.60	0.74	7.96
2500	7.63	82.09	0.76	8.21
3150	7.77	83.63	0.78	8.36
** 4000	7.89	84.93	0.79	8.49
5000	7.80	84.01	0.78	8.40

Tested by 
Marc Sciaky
Senior Experimentalist

Report by 
Malcolm Kelly
Test Engineer, Acoustician

Approved by 
Eric P. Wolfram
Laboratory Manager

Test Report

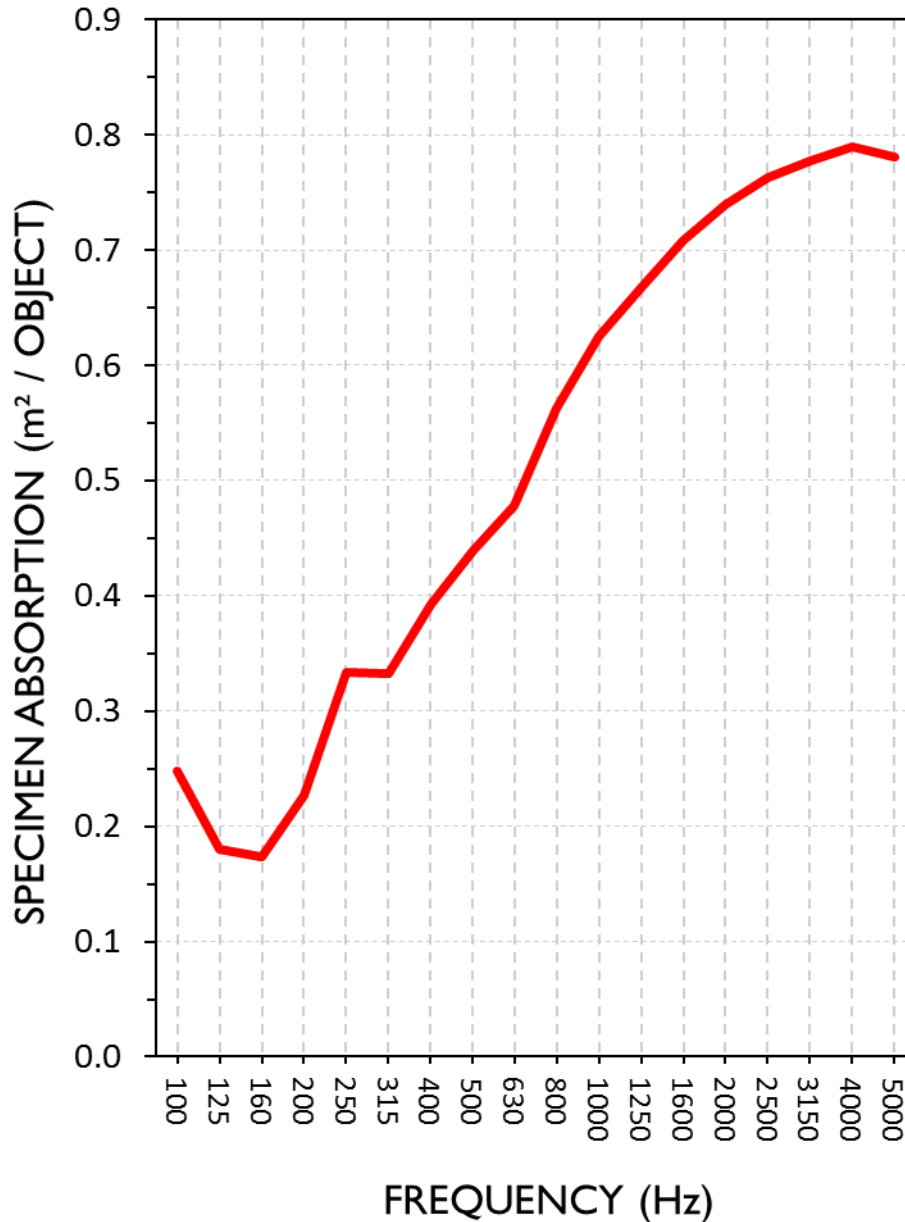
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SOUND ABSORPTION REPORT

Acoustic Shape: Circle (10 objects, square array, 6 in. apart, nonstandard mounting)



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APPENDIX A: Extended Frequency Range Data

Specimen: Acoustic Shape: Circle (10 objects, square array, 6 in. apart, nonstandard mounting) (See Full Report)

The following non-accredited data were obtained in accordance with ASTM C423-17, but extend beyond the defined frequency range of 100Hz to 5,000Hz. These unofficial results are representative of the RAL test environment only and intended for research & comparison purposes.

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31.5	0.40	4.33	0.04	0.43
40	-0.26	-2.80	-0.03	-0.28
50	0.49	5.30	0.05	0.53
63	0.91	9.82	0.09	0.98
80	0.44	4.69	0.04	0.47
100	2.48	26.66	0.25	2.67
125	1.80	19.39	0.18	1.94
160	1.73	18.62	0.17	1.86
200	2.27	24.42	0.23	2.44
250	3.34	35.91	0.33	3.59
315	3.32	35.74	0.33	3.57
400	3.93	42.27	0.39	4.23
500	4.40	47.32	0.44	4.73
630	4.78	51.46	0.48	5.15
800	5.62	60.52	0.56	6.05
1000	6.25	67.30	0.63	6.73
1250	6.68	71.88	0.67	7.19
1600	7.09	76.29	0.71	7.63
2000	7.40	79.60	0.74	7.96
2500	7.63	82.09	0.76	8.21
3150	7.77	83.63	0.78	8.36
4000	7.89	84.93	0.79	8.49
5000	7.80	84.01	0.78	8.40
6300	8.08	86.96	0.81	8.70
8000	7.70	82.83	0.77	8.28
10000	7.16	77.09	0.72	7.71
12500	6.23	67.01	0.62	6.70

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APPENDIX B: Instruments of Traceability

Specimen: Acoustic Shape: Circle (10 objects, square array, 6 in. apart, nonstandard mounting) (See Full Report)

<u>Description</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>Serial Number</u>	<u>Date of Certification</u>	<u>Calibration Due</u>
System 1	Type 3160-A-042	3160-106968	2020-06-26	2021-06-26
Bruel & Kjaer Mic And Preamp A	Type 4943-B-001	2311428	2020-09-30	2021-09-30
Bruel & Kjaer Pistonphone	Type 4228	2781248	2020-08-12	2021-08-12
Omega Digital Temp., Humid. And Pressure Recorder	OM-CP-PRHTemp2000	P97844	2020-02-18	2021-02-18

APPENDIX C: Revisions to Original Test Report

Specimen: Acoustic Shape: Circle (10 objects, square array, 6 in. apart, nonstandard mounting) (See Full Report)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Revision</u>
2020-12-08	Original report issued

END

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Tillsonburg, ON, Canada

Report Referenced: **RAL™-A20-507**
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CONDUCTED: 2020-12-02

ON: Acoustic Shape: Circle (10 objects, square array, 6 in. apart, nonstandard mounting) (See Full Test Report for Details)

Appendix D to ASTM C423 Sound Absorption Test

Non-standard calculation of equivalent NRC Rating and Absorption Coefficients from spaced absorbers

At this time, ASTM C423 does not provide a standard method for determining absorption coefficients of spaced object absorbers. Tests of a set of sound absorbing objects spaced apart from each other will yield higher absorption rates than a specimen joined together as a single patch (A-Mount or E-Mount). For this reason it is unfair to provide NRC or absorption coefficient ratings for specimens that consist of a spaced set of absorbers. Despite this, the architectural industry has expressed great demand for a simple "single number" rating for these treatments. Likewise, acoustical consultants desire equivalent absorption coefficient data for use in acoustical modeling software. The following is an attempt to appease these demands until ASTM develops a standard method for calculation. Several alternate non-standard calculation methods are provided. Riverbank Acoustical Laboratories prefers method 1; ratings yielded from this method have titles with the prepended word "Equivalent". Rating titles for the remaining methods are prepended with the word "Apparent". These rating names and their associated acronyms are provided by RAL and shall not be misconstrued as originating from any current standard.

Method 1) Apparent Sound Absorption Coefficient calculated from extended test specimen envelope

The total sound absorption yielded by the specimen is divided by the surface area of the test surface covered by the suspended objects, including intermediate spaces, with additional added area to allow theoretical extrapolation for larger arrays. The object rigging covered 7.02 m² (75.59 ft²) of horizontal test surface area. With an extra 152 mm (6 in.) of width and length to account for the space between the tested array and what would be the next objects in a larger array, the total covered surface area comes to 7.95 m² (85.55 ft²). Apparent sound absorption coefficients, and subsequently the Apparent Noise Reduction Coefficient (A*NRC) and Apparent Sound Absorption Average (A*SAA) ratings, are calculated using this surface area based on the methods described in ASTM C423-17. This may be the most accurate method for comparing object arrays to ceiling tile products. The apparent sound absorption coefficient data can be assigned to a single horizontal surface or plane in acoustical modeling software for approximation of object array performance. Such approximations rely on the assumptions that object spacing is similar to that of the tested array across the entire surface, that gaps are negligibly small between adjacent rows of objects if the test specimen consists of a single row, and that the installation occurs over a perfectly reflective surface material.

Method 2) Apparent Sound Absorption Coefficient calculated from total exposed surface area of specimen

The total sound absorption yielded by the specimen is divided by the total surface area of all exposed specimen faces (0.98 m² (10.58 ft²) per object x 10 objects = 9.83 m² (105.80 ft²) total surface area). Apparent sound absorption coefficients, and subsequently the Apparent Noise Reduction Coefficient (A*NRC) and Apparent Sound Absorption Average (A*SAA) ratings, are calculated using this surface area based on the methods described in ASTM C423-17. This method shows the actual absorption occurring at the exposed surfaces but does not provide a fair comparison with materials mounted as a uniform patch (in A-mount or E-mount).

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Appendix D (continued)

Method 3) Apparent Sound Absorption Coefficient calculated from one face per object

The total sound absorption yielded by the specimen is divided by the surface area of one side of one large face for each object in the specimen (0.44 m^2 (4.71 ft^2) per object x 10 objects = 4.37 m^2 (47.06 ft^2) total surface area). Apparent sound absorption coefficients, and subsequently the Apparent Noise Reduction Coefficient (A*NRC) and Apparent Sound Absorption Average (A*SAA) ratings, are calculated using this surface area based on the methods described in ASTM C423-17. This method is favored by some material manufacturers since it yields very high NRC figures, but does not provide a fair comparison with other ceiling tile or wall panel products. Riverbank Acoustical Laboratories recommends that results obtained from this method be used for research and comparison purposes only; such results should not be used for marketed claims of product performance.

Method 4) Apparent Sound Absorption Coefficient calculated from specimen envelope without extension

The total sound absorption yielded by the specimen is divided by the rectangular test surface area covered by the suspended objects, including intermediate spaces. The object rigging covered 7.02 m^2 (75.59 ft^2) of horizontal test surface area. Apparent sound absorption coefficients, and subsequently the Apparent Noise Reduction Coefficient (A*NRC) and Apparent Sound Absorption Average (A*SAA) ratings, are calculated using this surface area based on the methods described in ASTM C423-17. While similar in concept to Method 1, attempting to model any array larger than the tested specimen using these results would imply instances of adjacent objects with zero spacing scattered throughout the extrapolated array. Riverbank Acoustical Laboratories recommends that results obtained from this method be used for research and comparison purposes only; such results should not be used for marketed claims of product performance.

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Appendix D: Data Note: See full test report for details of mounting position, spacing, and configuration, as these parameters greatly affect sound absorption performance.

Specimen Absorption (ft ²)			Method 1	Method 2	Method 3	Method 4
Freq. (Hz)	Sabins	Sabins / Object	Apparent Abs. Coefficient From Total Coverage Area (85.55 ft ²)	Apparent Abs. Coefficient From Total Exposed Surface Area (105.80 ft ²)	Apparent Abs. Coefficient From One Face per Object (47.06 ft ²)	Apparent Abs. Coefficient From Unextended Envelope Area (75.59 ft ²)
31.5	4.33	0.43	0.05	0.04	0.09	0.06
40	-2.80	-0.28	-0.03	-0.03	-0.06	-0.04
50	5.30	0.53	0.06	0.05	0.11	0.07
63	9.82	0.98	0.11	0.09	0.21	0.13
80	4.69	0.47	0.05	0.04	0.10	0.06
100	26.66	2.67	0.31	0.25	0.57	0.35
125	19.39	1.94	0.23	0.18	0.41	0.26
160	18.62	1.86	0.22	0.18	0.40	0.25
200	24.42	2.44	0.29	0.23	0.52	0.32
250	35.91	3.59	0.42	0.34	0.76	0.48
315	35.74	3.57	0.42	0.34	0.76	0.47
400	42.27	4.23	0.49	0.40	0.90	0.56
500	47.32	4.73	0.55	0.45	1.01	0.63
630	51.46	5.15	0.60	0.49	1.09	0.68
800	60.52	6.05	0.71	0.57	1.29	0.80
1,000	67.30	6.73	0.79	0.64	1.43	0.89
1,250	71.88	7.19	0.84	0.68	1.53	0.95
1,600	76.29	7.63	0.89	0.72	1.62	1.01
2,000	79.60	7.96	0.93	0.75	1.69	1.05
2,500	82.09	8.21	0.96	0.78	1.74	1.09
3,150	83.63	8.36	0.98	0.79	1.78	1.11
4,000	84.93	8.49	0.99	0.80	1.80	1.12
5,000	84.01	8.40	0.98	0.79	1.78	1.11
6,300	86.96	8.70	1.02	0.82	1.85	1.15
8,000	82.83	8.28	0.97	0.78	1.76	1.10
10,000	77.09	7.71	0.90	0.73	1.64	1.02
12,500	67.01	6.70	0.78	0.63	1.42	0.89
Apparent NRC:			0.65	0.55	1.20	0.75
Apparent SAA:			0.66	0.53	1.20	0.74

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