

PTC Documents - General

1) Performance Test Codes provide uniform rules and procedures for the conduct and report of tests of mechanical equipment, process or system to determine its capability to meet performance criteria or to measure phenomena related to its operation or use. The basic philosophy of Performance Test Codes is given in Section 1 of PTC 1 on General Instructions. Independent of the object of the test, accuracy and reliability must underlie the work from beginning to end. This emphasis on accuracy and reliability refers to the methods of measurement and to the instruments required to establish the conditions and quantities under which the test is to be done. Each PTC committee must ascertain the level of accuracy appropriate for the equipment involved. Performance Test Codes provide validity to the comparisons between expected and actual performance. The Codes provide both the information to determine measurement uncertainty and an expected value for tests conducted in accordance with the Code.

2) “PTC Documents” collectively refers to Test Codes, Supplements, Reports and Guidelines, unless specified otherwise.

- PTC Documents entitled “Reports” may be prepared which define alternative testing procedures and instrumentation for tests of lesser accuracy.
- PTC Documents entitled “Guidelines” may be developed for tests of good relative accuracy for use in determining significant performance trends to aid in the performance of maintenance during the service lifetime of the equipment.
- PTC Documents entitled “Supplements on Instruments and Apparatus” (PTC 19 Series) describe the use, calibration, accuracy and limitations of measuring devices likely to be required by the Test Codes. The PTC 19 Series also includes documents, which provide guidance on the application of specialized techniques, which may be common to several Test Codes, such as test uncertainty, model testing and use of digital systems. The Supplements are not mandatory but contain reference information, which may be cited selectively by individual Test Codes to avoid duplication. Any provision of the PTC Supplements so referenced in individual Test Codes is binding on the parties to a test in the same manner and to the same extent as the Test Code itself.