The Barcol Impressor

Hand-Held Portable Hardness Tester

manufactured by Barber-Colman

Official barcol impressor scale, for testing of:

- **Aluminum Alloys**
- **Soft Metals**
- **Plastics**
- **Fiberglass Sheet, Tanks, Surfaces**
- **Fire Department Ladders**
- **Composite Materials**
- **Rubber or Leather**
- **Laminates**
- **Lead**

The Barcol Impressor meets the following ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) standards: E140-97; D2583-75; B648-78: E140-97 Standard Hardness Conversion Tables for Metals; D2583-75 Standard Method of Testing for Indentation Hardness of Plastics by means of a Barcol Impressor; B648-78 Standard Method of Testing for Indentation Harness of Aluminum Alloys by means of a Barcol Impressor.
Fire Department version: The Barcol Impressor meets the following NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) standards: NFPA 1931 Design of and Design Verification Tests for Fire Department Ground Ladders; NFPA 1932 Use, Maintenance, and Service Testing of Fire Department Ground Ladders.

The original Barcol Impressor was invented by Walter Colman (who founded Barber-Colman) to assist the US Army Air Corps in avoiding sabotage in WW II. Fifty years later, the same Barcol product has been used to perform hardness testing on repairs to the USA Space Shuttle.

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