

Micromax™ 5504N

Electronic Inks & Pastes

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Conductive Silver Compositions for General Purpose Air-Dry Applications

The composition described in this bulletin is a suspension of specially prepared silver powder combined with an organic binder system. This air-dry or low temperature cure formulation is for application on substrates which will not tolerate high-temperature firing. It is formulated to produce electrically conductive paths on paper, plastics, cloth, wood, etc., and can be screen printed.

This highly conductive air dry/thermoset (epoxy) composition can be useful over a broad range of applications. Suggested uses are:

- Printed Electronics
- Tantalum Capacitors
- Static Shielding
- Electrical Games and Toys
- Microwave Applications
- PC Board Repair
- Electroplating Base

READ ENTIRE TECHNICAL DATA SHEET BEFORE USING THIS PRODUCT

PRODUCT INFORMATION

General Properties	Value Unit
Application	Tantalum capacitor
Solvent or thinner	Micromax™ 4987

TECHNICAL DATA

Rheological Properties	Value Unit
Viscosity ¹	68 to 92 Pa.s

Application Technique	Value	Unit
Theoretical coverage ²	72	cm ² /g
Thermal Properties	Value	Unit
Linear Coefficient of Thermal Expansion	3E-11	1/K
Electrical Properties	Value	Unit
Volume resistivity	30	μOhm.cm
Resistivity ³	≤100	mOhm per square
Storage and Stability	Value	Unit
Shelf life ⁴	3	months

¹Brookfield HBF, #4 spindle, 10 rpm

²Screen print, at 50μm wet film thickness.

³Screen print, at 25μm film thickness.

⁴in unopened containers, from date of shipment, stable environment at refrigerated temperature between 0°C - 5°C.

PROCESSING GUIDELINES

Design & Compatibility

Design

Micromax™ 5504N compositions are single component, epoxy based preparations suitable for use as conductive cements in lead and discrete component attachment. They exhibit good conductivity, high adhesion and excellent resistance to abrasion. These compositions are divided into two types: anhydride-cured and amine-cured. Anhydride-cured compositions display excellent thermal stability up to 250°C whereas amine-cured products start to degrade appreciably at temperatures above 200°C with attendant loss of properties. Both systems, however, can withstand short excursions to higher temperatures.

See the CB selector guide for a selection of CB products for use in circuit board applications.

While not suggested for direct solder, the compositions may be electroplated to provide a solderable surface.

Optimum cure for Micromax™ 5504N will depend on process and equipment parameters as well as the mass, heat capacity and transfer, and sensitivity of the materials involved. The drying time can be accelerated by heating to 50°C. Longer cure schedules may be required to optimize properties depending on end-use requirements.

Application methods

Micromax™ conductive silver compositions are formulated for application by screen printing, spraying, dipping, brushing, banding or stylus. In most cases the compositions are produced to a consistency suitable for use as received and require only stirring to redisperse the solids.

Recommended thinners for individual compositions may be added, with thorough blending, to replace solvent losses or to make slight adjustments for ease of application. Only the recommended thinner should be used. In handling and using organic solvents, the safety precautions recommended by the solvent supplier should be observed.

Effect of curing temperatures

This bulletin discusses two types of compositions: air dry and thermoset (epoxy). In an air-dry system, the metal-binder film is formed when the solvent system is evaporated or "dried". In a thermoset system, there is a drying step where the solvent is removed, followed by a chemical reaction of binder materials in the system to give a higher temperature resistant binder film for the metal. The later chemical reaction is called "curing" and is different than drying.

While some compositions, if given sufficient time, will adequately dry or cure at room temperature, a more effective result is achieved in much less time through low temperature thermal exposure with a moderate time/temperature drying or curing. Optimum properties in air & dry and low-temperature-cure compositions are developed only after the compositions have been properly dried or cured. The drying or curing cycle for most compositions in a function of time versus temperature up to the point of degradation of the organic system. In a system which will dry or cure in from 12 to 16 hours at room temperature (25°C) the same degree of drying or curing can be achieved in less than 2 hours at 60°C and in less than 1 hour at 100°C.

Elevated temperature drying or curing of these compositions can be continuous, box oven or infrared. The heat should be applied from the bottom up to permit internal gases to escape before the top surface is completely dry. "Flash drying", a momentary exposure to excessively high temperatures, is likely to form a surface skin that traps internal gases, resulting in bubbles in the dried film.

Failure to achieve rated conductivity indicates either that the applied composition is too thin with poor uniformity or that it has been incorrectly dried and/ or cured.

Soldering

Some Micromax™ air dried and thermoset compositions are more commonly used as conductive cements in lead attachment, attachment of discrete components or in simple interconnections. For these applications, solderability is not important and is not generally recommended.

Coverage

Coverage of silver compositions depends on metal content and thickness of application. Screen print compositions printed with a 165 or 200-mesh screen will generally result in a cured film 12-20µm (0.48-0.8mil) thick. Brush band, dip or spray application will normally result in film thickness of 13-18µm (0.5-0.7mil). Thinner films (increases coverage) can be applied by thinning the compositions with the recommended thinner; however, this will result in a cured film with a higher sheet resistivity. Thicker films can be achieved by brushing or spraying simply by applying more material.

The coverage Micromax™ 5504N compositions are for typical cured thickness of 12-20µm (0.48-0.8mil) as outlined above.

Recommended Cure Schedules

Temperature (°C)	Time (hours)
200	0.7
180	1.5
160	2.5

Typical Physical Properties of Thermosetting Compositions (Cured Film)

Test	Properties
Thermal Conductivity (J/(cm•s•°C))	0.04
Specific Heat (J/(g•°C))	0.30
Modulus of Elasticity (tensile) (Pa)	4 x 10 ¹⁰
Poisson's Ratio	0.35

Storage and shelf life

Containers should be stored, tightly sealed, in a clean, stable environment at refrigerated temperature between 0°C - 5°C. Storage at room temperature is not recommended. Shelf life of material in unopened containers is 3 months from date of shipment. Gradual polymerization and associated viscosity increase, and mechanical separation can be expected over a period of a few months. When refrigerating conditions are used for storage, materials should be allowed to equilibrate to room temperature before opening to prevent pick up of moisture from condensation. After the containers are opened, use and storage conditions and the possible effects of contamination make shelf limits unpredictable.

Storage conditions on the product data sheets are intended to represent long-term material storage recommendations and not a shipping or temperature-at-receipt requirement.

Transportation: Under normal shipping conditions, without temperature control, Micromax™ products are not expected to exhibit a change in quality or fitness for use. Should extraordinary events result in extended transportation periods, Micromax™ recommends customers confirm products remain suitable for the intended application.

SAFETY & WARNING

It is recommended that the company/operator read and review the Safety Data Sheets for the appropriate health and safety warnings before use.

Safety Data Sheets are available.

WASTE TREATMENT

Prior to using any recommendations or suggestions for waste treatment, the user is required to know the appropriate local/state/federal regulations for on-site or off-site treatment which may

require permits. If there is any conflict regarding our recommendations, local/state/federal regulations take precedence.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Also read carefully warning and safety information on the Safety Data Sheet. This data sheet contains technical information required for safe and economical operation of this product. READ IT THOROUGHLY PRIOR TO PRODUCT USE. Emergency safety directory assistance: US 1 202 464 2554, Europe + 44 1235 239 670, Asia + 65 3158 1074, Brazil 0800 707 7022 and 0800 172 020, Mexico 01800 002 1400 and (55) 5559 1588

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