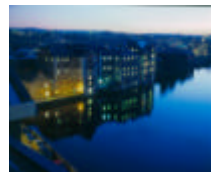


Evaluation of Adhesive Materials for High-Reliability Flip-Chip Assembly



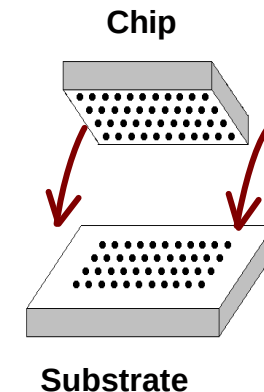
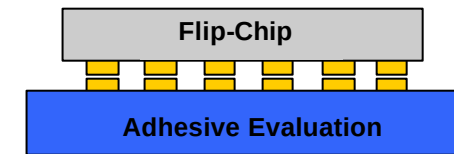
Finbarr Waldron



**Tyndall National Institute,
Lee Maltings, Prospect Row,
Cork, Ireland.**

Presentation Outline

- Objectives & Technology Overview
- Flip-Chip Adhesives Evaluation Programme
 - *Materials Selection & Property Evaluation*
 - *Flip-Chip Test Chip*
 - *VFL Substrate*
 - *Test Vehicle Assembly / Assembly Verification*
 - *Reliability Evaluation*
- Conclusions & Acknowledgements



Introduction - Aims & Objectives

- Evaluate reliability of commercially-available flip-chip adhesives for use in space applications.
- Study a representative range of materials.
- Determine thermomechanical properties & behaviour.
- Assess quality of assembly achievable.
- Measure thermal performance.
- Investigate ability to withstand harsh environmental stresses.

Work Undertaken by:

- Tyndall National Institute, Cork, Ireland (Prime Contractor)
- ASTRIUM, Velizy, France (VFL substrates)



Micropackaging Technology

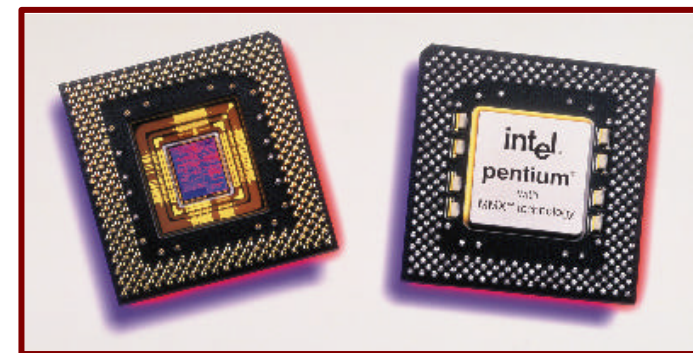
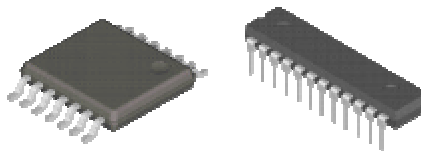
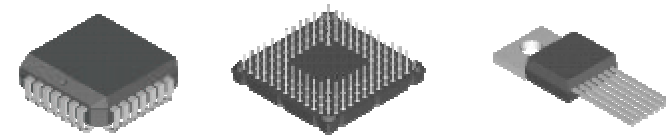
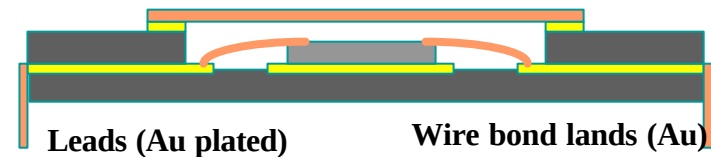
Traditional Packaging Technologies:

■ Advantages:

- Well proven technologies
- Robust & Reliable (especially ceramic & metal-can)
- Good thermal performance (ceramic / metal)
- Cost-effective (plastic)

■ Drawbacks:

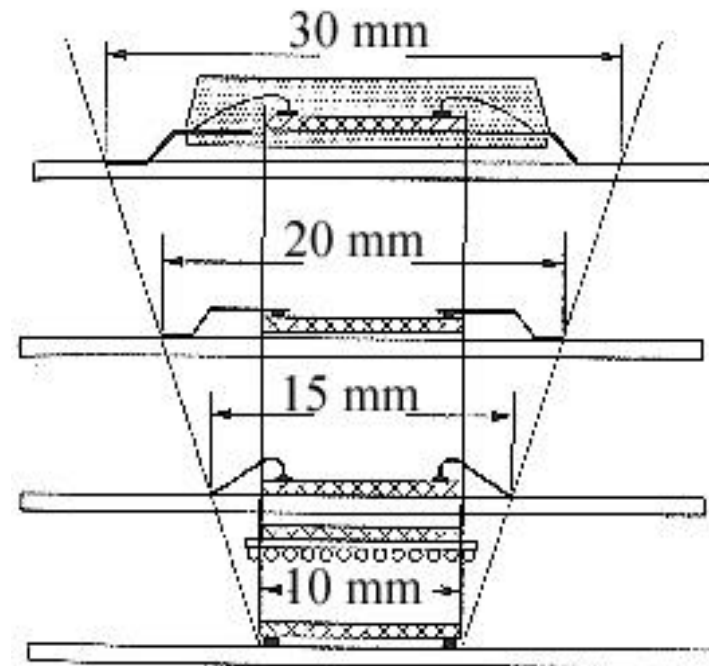
- More complex than necessary
- Electrical performance
- Limited density
- Size & weight



Micropackaging Technology

Comparison of Alternative Packaging Options:

<u>Type</u>	<u>Footprint Area</u>
QFP:	900 mm ² - 100%
TAB:	400 mm ² - 44%
COB:	225 mm ² - 25%
CSP:	115 mm ² - 13%
Flip-Chip:	100 mm ² - 11%

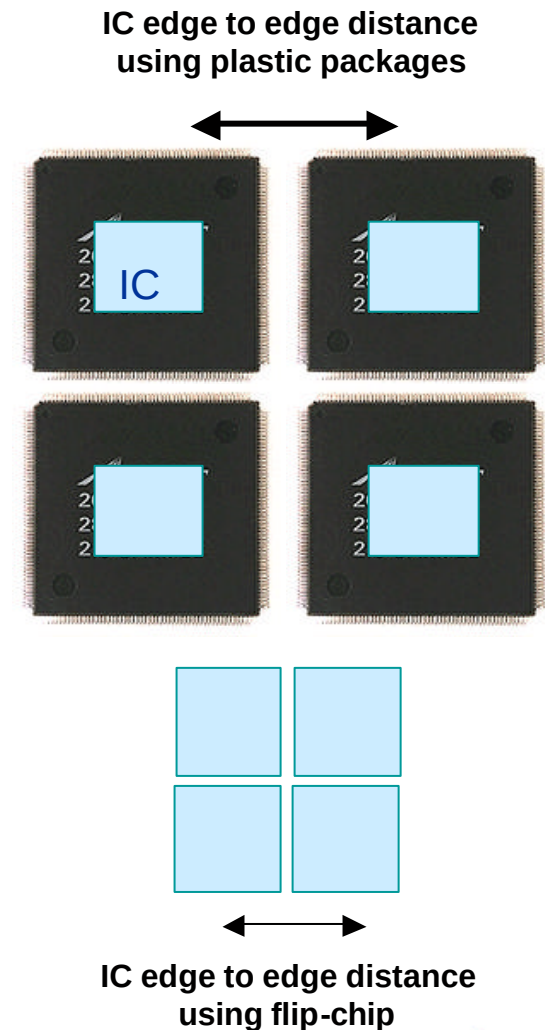


(Source: Hewlett Packard)

Flip-Chip Technology

Flip-Chip Packaging:

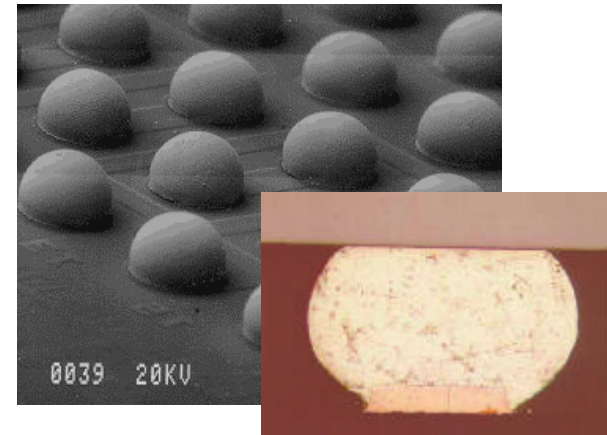
- **What?**
 - *Direct attachment of the IC to a substrate*
- **Why?**
 - *Almost zero interconnection parasitics between chip and package*
 - *Possible to put chips almost edge to edge*
 - *High packing density of ICs*
 - *Standard PCB: 10% of area occupied by silicon ("packing density")*
 - *Flip-chip PCB: 75% packing density*
 - *Very short interconnect – high speed*



Flip-Chip Technology

Solder-based Flip-Chip Assembly:

- Controlled Collapse Chip Connection (C4)
- Originally developed by IBM in 1960's.
 - Form solder bumps on chip pads
 - *Mask & deposit*
 - *Plated bumps*
 - Place chip on substrate & align accurately
 - Reflow (high temp.)
 - Underfill (increases bond area – reduces stress)



Adhesive-based Assembly:

- Chip bumps not always required
- Typical bump metalisation Ni/Au (Electroless deposition)
 - Adhesive applied to substrate (blanket or selective deposition)
 - Place & align chip
 - Cure adhesive (usually low temp. process).



Flip-Chip Assembly Technologies

Solder Flip-Chip:



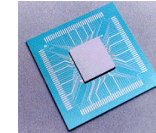
▪ Advantages:

- Very robust joints.
- Solder wetting forces aid alignment.
- Good thermal performance
 - heat transfer through joints.
- Good electrical performance.
- High density, small size & weight.

▪ Disadvantages:

- Thermo-mechanical stresses high
 - joints unyielding.
- Requires very well controlled process.
- High temperature process.
- Cost – need high density to justify.

Adhesive Flip-Chip:



▪ Advantages:

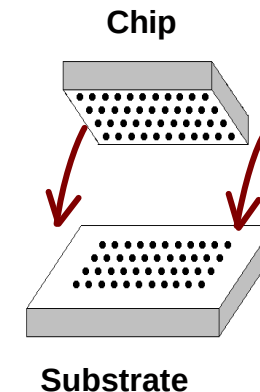
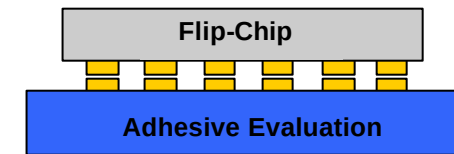
- Compliant nature - low stresses.
- Fine pitch capability.
- Easy assembly process
 - low temp & no fluxes.
- Reasonable cost.

▪ Disadvantages:

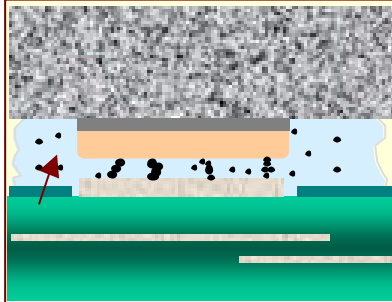
- Poorer electrical performance
- Reduced thermal performance
- Long term reliability questionable
 - harsh environments ??
- Best suited to small-area die.

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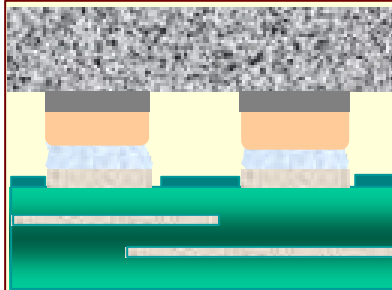
Adhesive Flip-Chip Technology

**ACA:**

- *Need not be selectively deposited*
- *Low filler particle loading*
- *Particles form connections when adhesive is compressed*
- *Z-axis conduction only*

▪ Filler types:

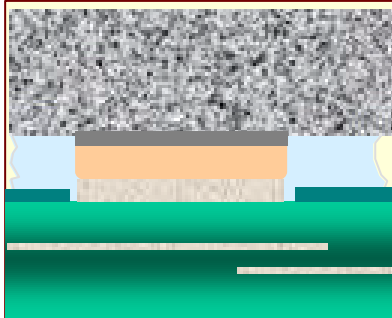
- Au-coated polymer spheres
- Solid metal spheres (plated)
- LMP Solders (Sn-Bi)

**ICA:**

- *High filler particle loading (typically Ag flake)*
- *Conductive in all directions*

▪ Must be selectively deposited:

- Screen / stencil printing with very accurate alignment
- Transfer by contact with thin film

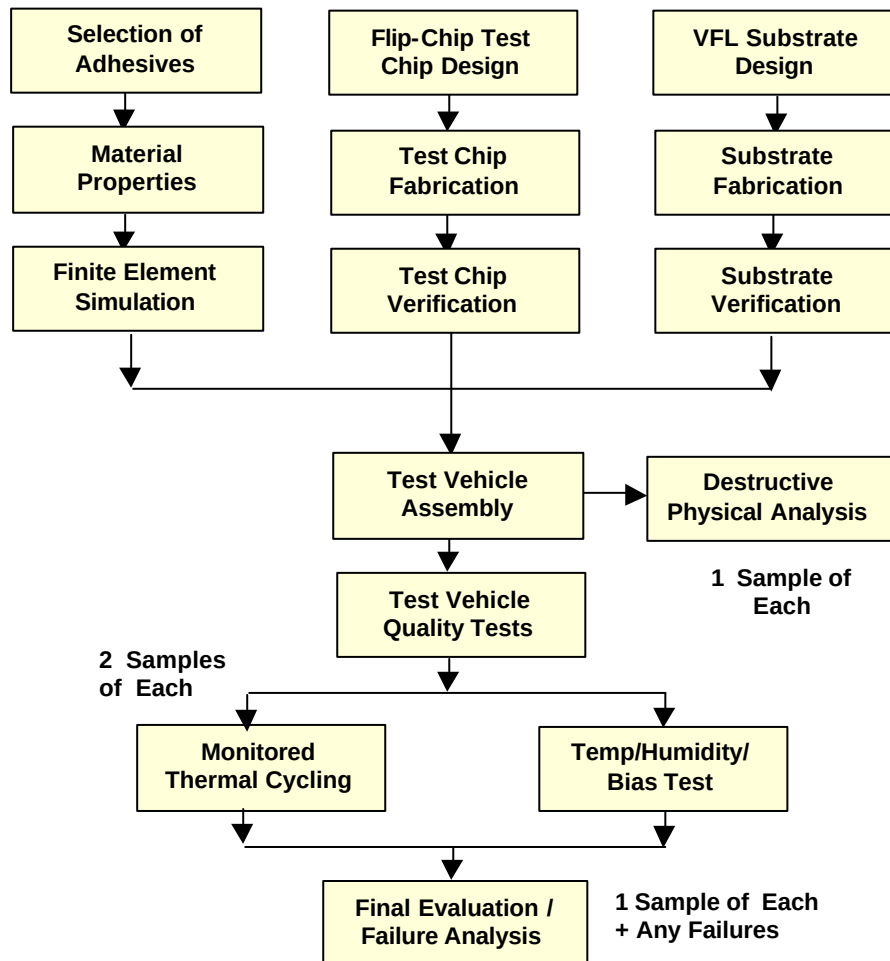
**NCA:**

- *Deposited on entire placement area*
- *Non-conductive – no filler particles*
- *Connection formed by pressure*
- *Connection maintained by high shrinkage forces after cure*

▪ Connection quality enhanced by surface asperities**▪ Can be used with fusible solder coatings on contact surfaces**

- Reflow after high-temp cure
- Robust connection.

Evaluation Programme



Phase 1:

Materials & Technology Selection

WP1: - Selection of Adhesives.

- Physics-of-Failure Investigation.

WP2: - Test Chips Design & Fabrication.

WP3: - VFL Substrate Design & Manufacture.

Phase 2:

Manufacturing & Reliability Evaluation

WP4: - Assembly of Test Structures.

- Non-Destructive Evaluation.

WP5: - Reliability Performance Testing.

Summary of Selected Materials

Anisotropic Conductive Adhesives (ACA)

- ACA 1:** Loctite 3441 - Anisotropic Conductive Adhesive, Gold-coated polymer filler.
- ACA 2:** Loctite 3446 - Anisotropic Conductive Adhesive, Fusible Bismuth Spheres filler.
- ACA 3:** Bondline 2909 - Anisotropic Conductive Adhesive, Gold-coated polymer filler.
- ACA 4:** Creative Materials Inc. - CMI 121-23, Anisotropic Conductive Adhesive, Silver flake filler.
- ACA 5:** Dexter TG 9001 R1 - Anisotropic Conductive Adhesive, Gold particle filler.



Isotropic Conductive Adhesives (ICA)

- ICA 1:** Loctite 3880 - Isotropic Conductive Adhesive - Silver flake filler.
- ICA 2:** Delo ICABOND IC182 -Isotropic Conductive Adhesive - Silver flake filler (75% wt.)
- ICA 3:** Bondline 2920 - Isotropic Conductive Adhesive - Silver Flake filler.
- ICA 4:** Creative Materials Inc. - CMI 118-06-SD -Isotropic Conductive Adhesive - Silver (74% wt.).

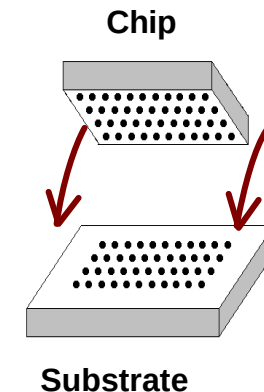
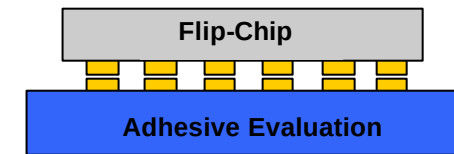


Non-Conductive Adhesives (NCA)

- NCA 1:** Loctite 3565 - Non-Conductive Underfill Adhesive
- NCA 2:** Hysol QMI 536 Non-Conductive Adhesive, PTFE-filled.
- NCA 3:** Creative Materials Inc. - CMI-122-24 Non-Conductive Low-Stress Underfill - Nitride filler.
- NCA 4:** Bondline 6900 - Low Viscosity Non-Conductive Underfill Adhesive

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WP1: Materials Property Evaluation

Material Properties Studied:

- Coefficient of Thermal expansion (CTE) – Thermo-mechanical Analyser (TMA)
- Glass Transition temperature (T_g) – Differential Scanning Calorimeter
- Young's Modulus (E) – DMTA / Instron Tester
- Lap Shear Strength – Instron Tensile Tester

Adhesive	Type	Measured T_g (°C)	Datasheet T_g (°C)
Loctite 3441	ACA	146.3	150
Loctite 3446	ACA	151.7	156
Bondline 2909	ACA	117.8	121
CMI-121-23	ACA	107.3	105
Dex TG9001-R1	ACA	109.3	110
Loctite 3880	ICA	95.3	64
Delo AC-182	ICA	86.7	90
Bondline 2920	ICA	110.6	113
CMI-118-06	ICA	98.1	100
Loctite 3565	NCA	145.3	155
Hysol QMI 536	NCA	N/a	-31
CMI 122-24	NCA	95.3	127
Bondline 6900	NCA	125.4	Not Quoted



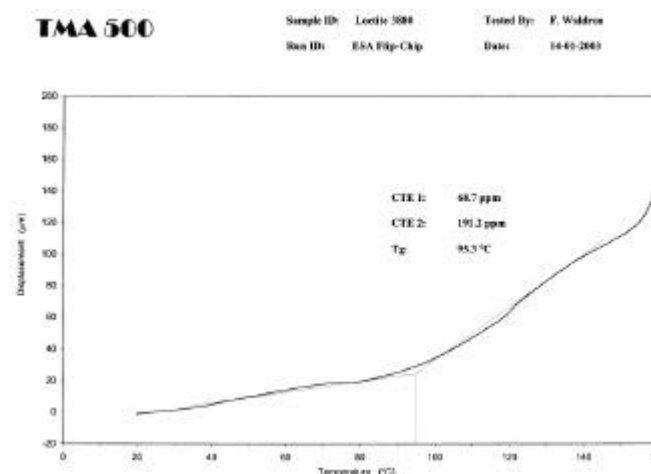
Measured Glass Transition Temp. (T_g) v Datasheet Values.

Tyndall DSC System

WP1: Materials Property Evaluation

Adhesive	Measured Values		Datasheet Values	
	CTE below T _g (ppm)	CTE above T _g (ppm)	CTE below T _g (ppm)	CTE above T _g (ppm)
Loctite 3441	57.3	151.2	55	140
Loctite 3446	54.0	147.8	55	140
Bondline 2909	36.3	104.1	35	100
CMI-121-23	58.7	160.2	Not Quoted	Not Quoted
Dex TG9001-R1	70.1	154.2	67	Not Quoted
Loctite 3880	68.7	191.2	110	188
Delo AC-182	88.3	197.2	Not Quoted	Not Quoted
Bondline 2920	76.7	173.2	79	189
CMI-118-06	28.7	148.2	17	147
Loctite 3565	28.7	92.4	25	80
Hysol QMI 536	N/a	190.9	93	174
CMI 122-24	38.2	160.2	55	168
Bondline 6900	60.5	120.1	31	31

Measured CTE Values v Datasheet Values.



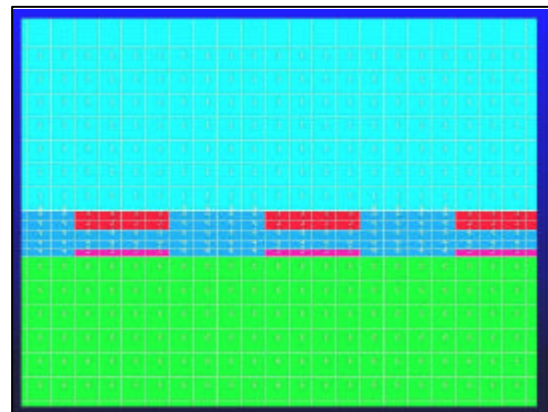
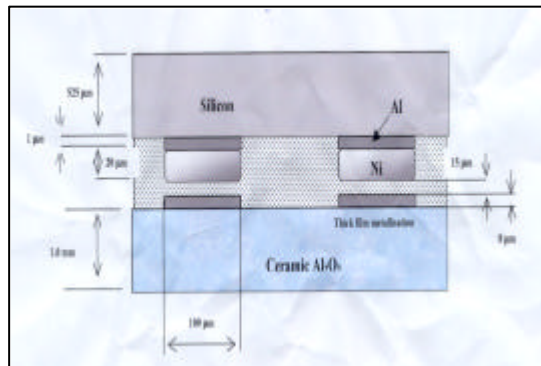
TMA Scan – Loctite 3880

Results:

- CTE, T_g & Bond Strength show reasonable agreement with manufacturer's values (where quoted).
- For CMI-122-24, Measured T_g = 95.3° (Manufacturer's T_g = 127°C).
- In many cases T_g < 125°C
- Modulus values not quoted in many cases.
- Bond strengths generally high, but Loctite 3565 has quoted bond strength of 4.9 MPa.

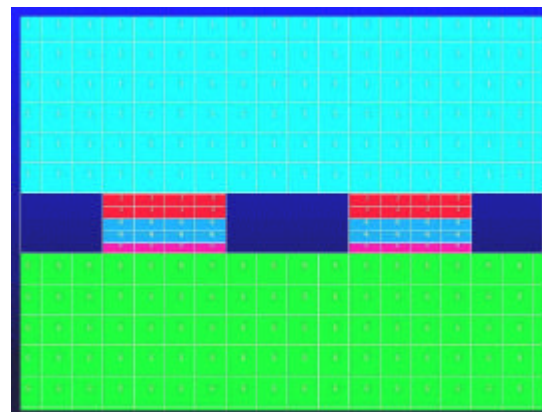
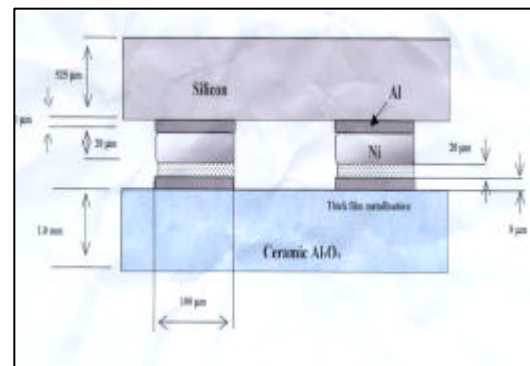
WP1: Materials Property Evaluation

ACA:



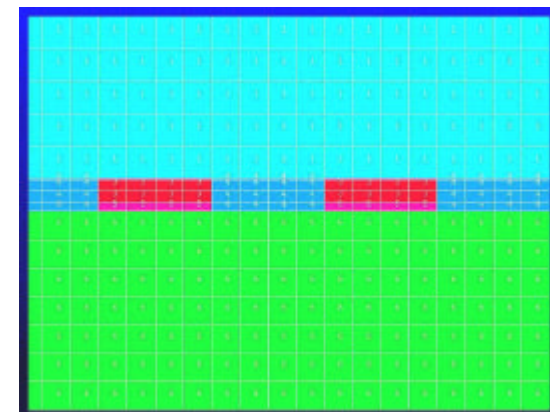
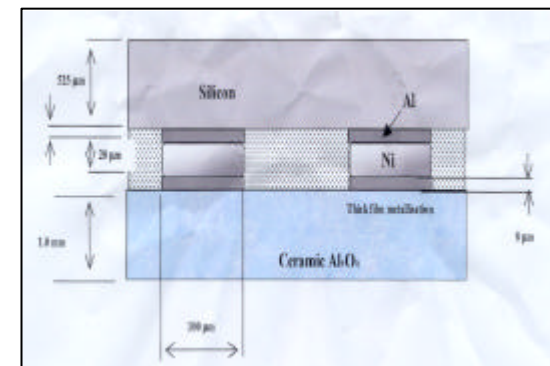
Blanket deposited ACA
with thickness = 8.0 mm

ICA:



Selectively-deposited ICA
with thickness = 8.0 mm

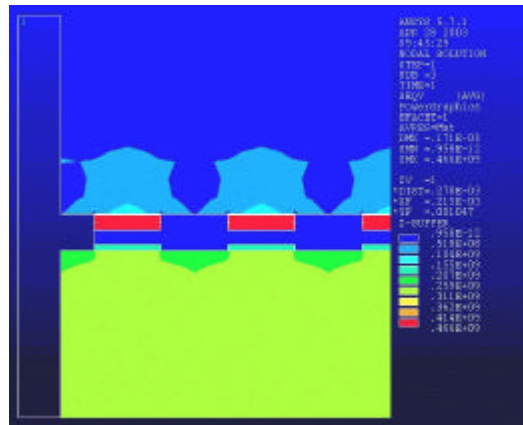
NCA:



Blanket-deposited NCA
No adhesive assumed in joints

WP1: Materials Property Evaluation

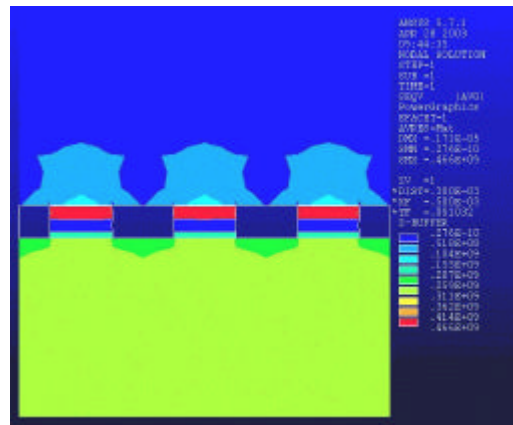
ACA Results:



Finite Element Model at +125°C showing worst case stress condition for ACA materials.

- Acts as own underfill – large bond.
- Compliant & relieves stress.
- Stress negligible at each temp (-55°C and +125°C).
- Unlikely to fail due to stress
- Conduction may be disrupted by movement – 3 mm possible.

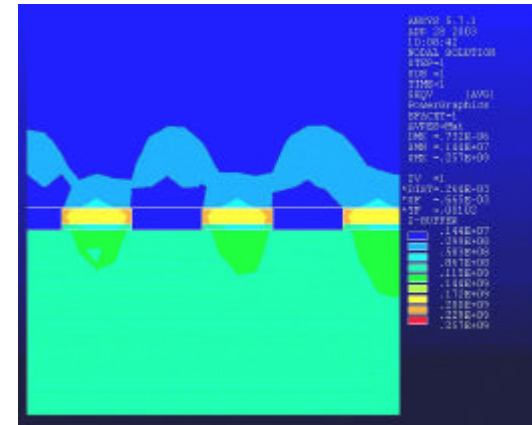
ICA Results:



Finite Element Model at +125°C showing worst case stress condition for ICA materials.

- Smaller bond area.
- Also compliant.
- Stresses higher than ACA, but still low overall.
- Unlikely to fail due to stress
- High filler density – less Affected by movement.

NCA Results:



Finite Element Model at -55°C showing worst case stress condition for NCA materials.

- No adhesive in joint area.
- Compliant.
- Slightly higher stresses than ACA.
- One material could fail due to stress > bond strength (Loctite 3565).

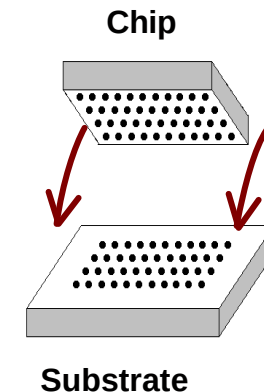
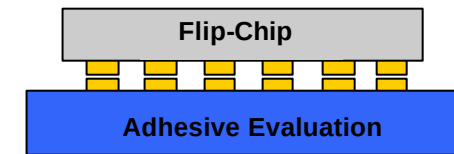
WP1: Materials Property Evaluation

Conclusions – Materials Property Evaluation:

- Greatest choice of adhesives for flip-chip assembly were in the ACA category.
- Measurement of CTE for all of the selected materials showed good agreement with manufacturers values (where quoted).
- Measurements of T_g for the adhesives also agreed closely with the manufacturers figures (except one NCA - CMI-122-24 where $T_g = 95.3^\circ$ (CMI $T_g = 127^\circ\text{C}$)).
- T_g in many cases is lower than the target 125°C upper operating temperature.
- Modulus information not quoted for many adhesives.
- Expected stresses in all materials are low due to their compliant / soft nature.
- ACA may be prone to movement of up to 3.0 mm leading to a risk of open circuits.
- ICA also prone to risk of movement, but open circuits less likely due to filler density.
- Highest risk of stress failure is with NCA material (L 3565) at 125°C where model predicts Von Mises stress of 3.9 MPa. Loctite 3565 has quoted bond strength of 4.9 MPa.

Presentation Outline

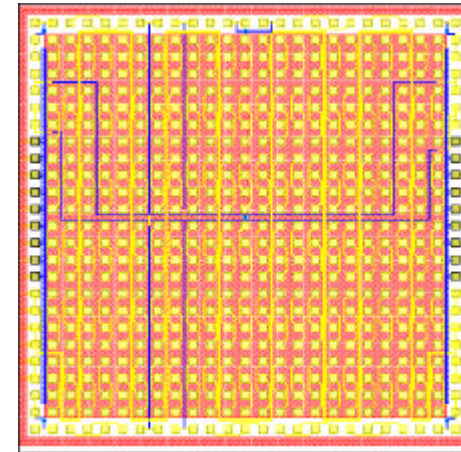
- Objectives & Technology Overview
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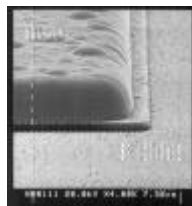
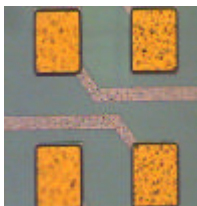
WP2: Flip-Chip Test Chip

Test Chip Details:

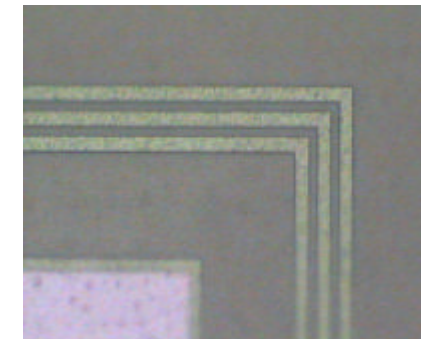
- 1 Polysilicon Heater Resistor.
- 6 Temp-Sensing Diodes.
- 1 Triple-track Corrosion Monitor.
- 14 Peripheral Daisy Chains.
- 1 Pad Array (23 X 23).
- Basic unit size = 5 mm X 5mm.
- Designed to allowed multi-unit die.
 - 10 mm X 10 mm.
 - 15 mm X 15 mm.



Flip-Chip Test Chip (5 mm X 5 mm)



Flip-Chip
Test Chip
with Ni/Au
bumps

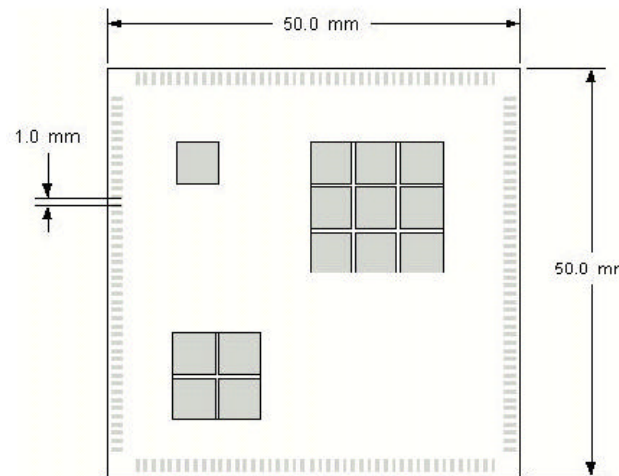


FCTC Test Structures

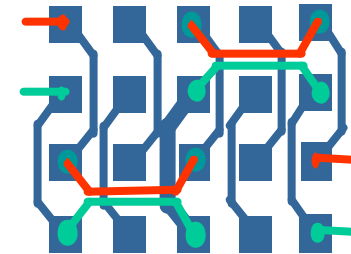
WP3: VFL Substrate

Substrate Details:

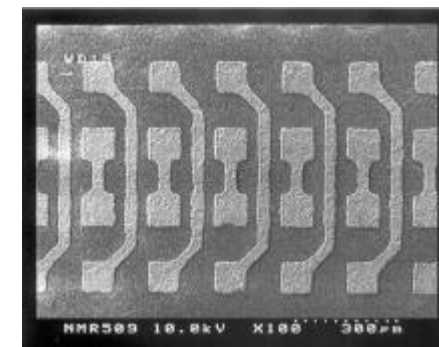
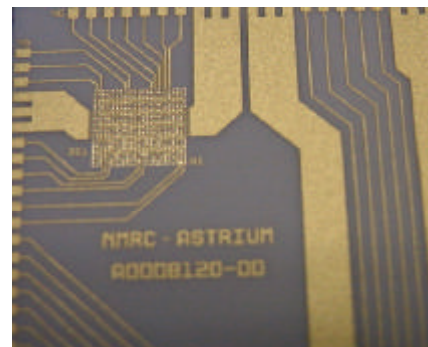
- Very Fine Line (VFL).
- High-reliability substrate.
- Ceramic material.
- Thick film technology.
- Single interconnect layer.
- 3 chip sizes per substrate.
 - 5 mm X 5 mm.
 - 10 mm X 10 mm.
 - 15 mm X 15 mm.
- 50.0 mm X 50.0 mm.
- 50 mm track & gap.
- Edge connector.
- 180 i/o pads.



180 I/O substrate



VFL substrate layout designed for FCTC to allow daisy chains of Joints to be formed.

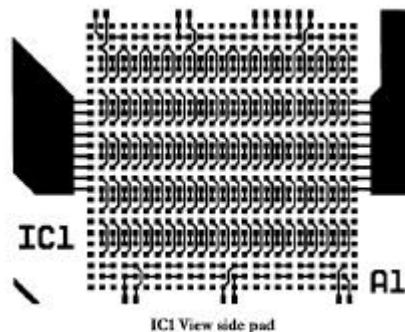


Detail Views – Astrium VFL substrate.

WP3: VFL Substrate

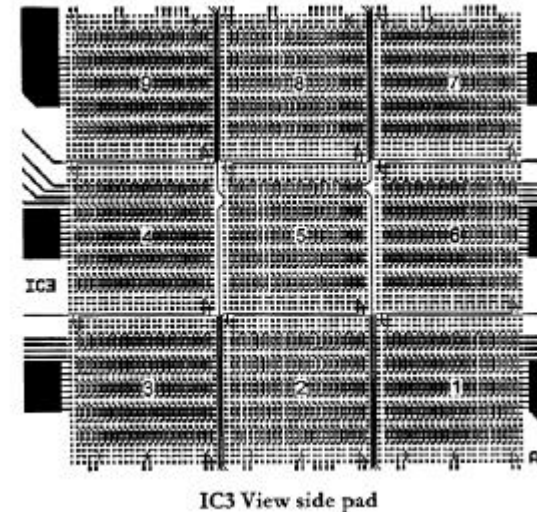
Substrate Verification:

- Electrical continuity
 - *Flying probe tester (Astrium)*
- Optical & SEM Inspection (NMRC)
 - *Dimensions & pitch etc. correct*
 - *Metalisation quality / composition*
- Metal tape adhesion test
- 80 manufactured / 60 required



Single Chip Site

- 2 daisy chains per chip
- Continuity & isolation measurements.
- 2 inputs, 2 outputs & 2 intermediate.
- 1 set of heater & diode connections

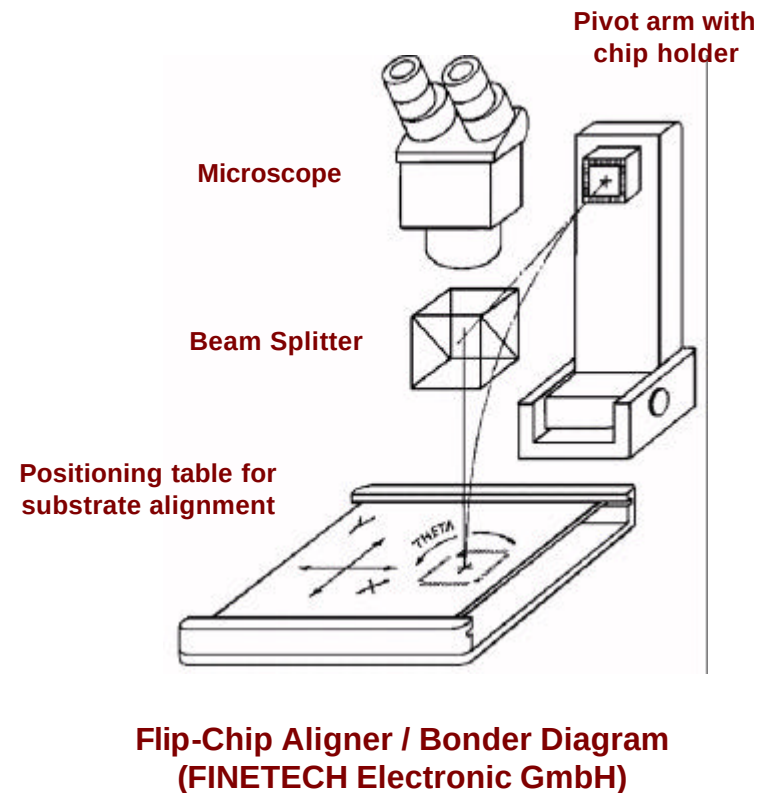
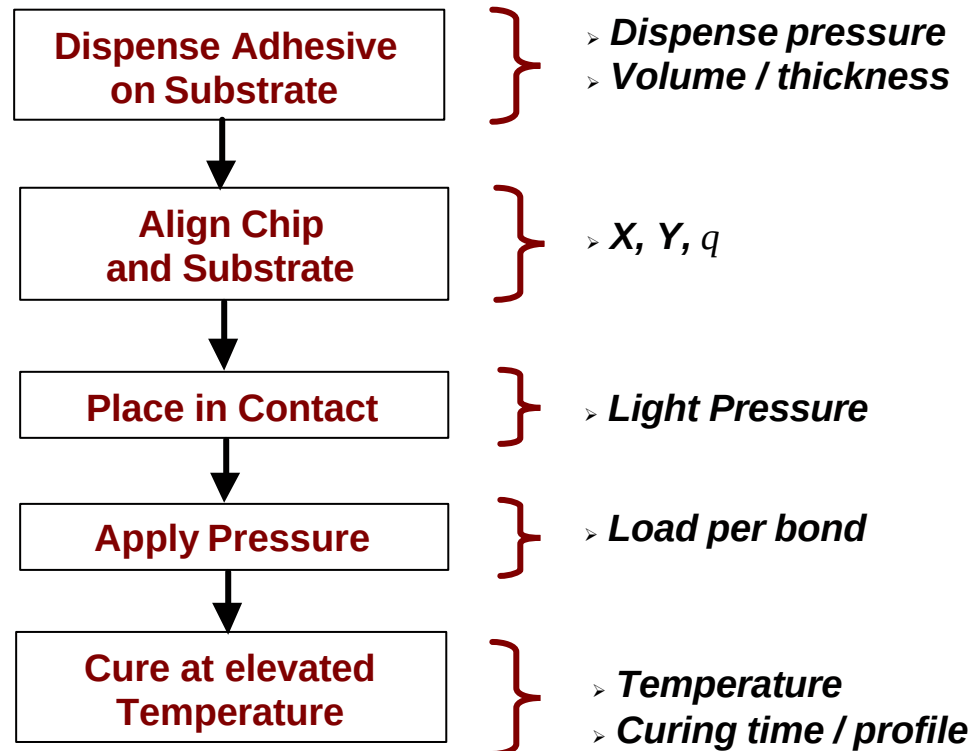


3 X 3 Chip Site (15 mm X 15 mm)

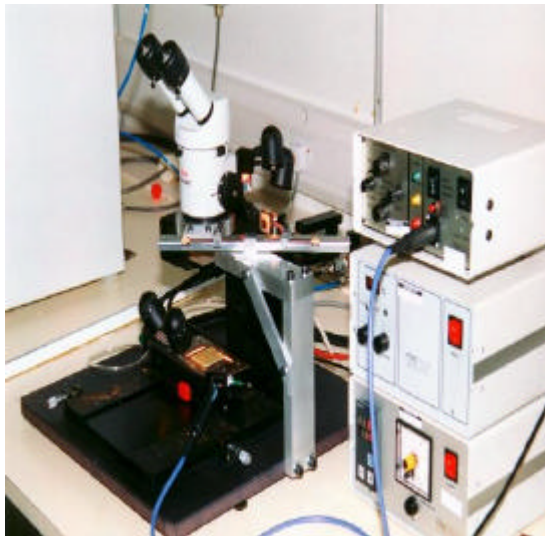
- 2 daisy chains per single chip.
- Continuity & isolation measurements across full area of 15 mm X 15 mm chip.
- 2 inputs, 2 outputs & 11 intermediate connections in total.
- Only 2 intermediate connections for dice 4,5,6.
- 6 sets of heater & diode connections

WP4: Test Vehicle Assembly

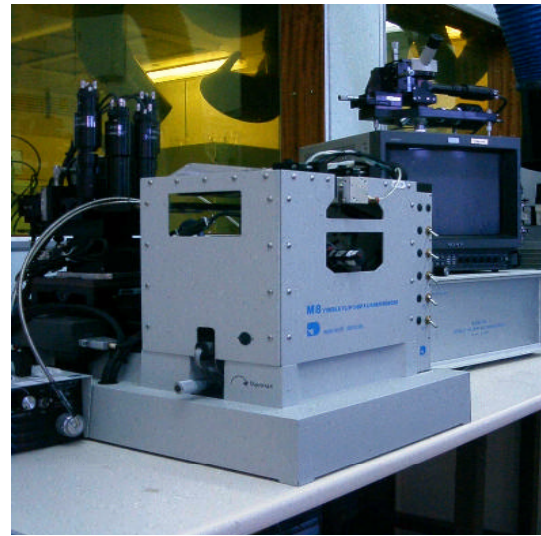
Process Flow:



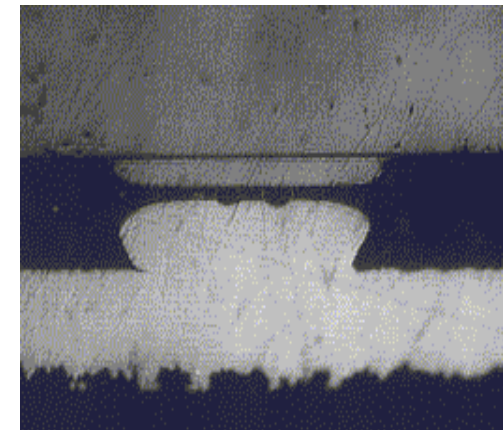
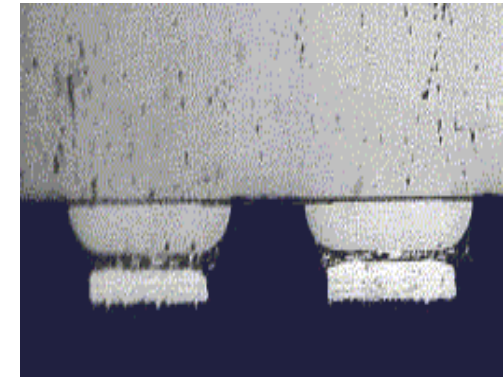
WP4: Test Vehicle Assembly



- Tyndall Fineplacer 145 PICO Flip-Chip Bonder.
- Manual Alignment.
- Small Volume Lab System.



- Tyndall Research Devices M3 Flip-Chip Bonder.
- Semi-automatic.
- Prototyping Quantities.



ACA Flip-Chip Bonds

WP4: Test Vehicle Assembly

Optimised Process Conditions:

Bondline 2909 ACA:

- Recommended cure: 175°C, 30 sec, 35 MPa.
- Optimised cure: 140°C, 30 sec,
160°C, 5 sec
Load = 40 Mpa.

→ Thickness = 7.0 mm.
(approx)
- Bond Strength: > 5 Kg shear for 5x5 die
(non destructive test)
- Joint Resistance: 4.0 to 9.0 W (mean).

Loctite 3565 NCA:

- Recommended cure: 150°C, > 60 min
- Optimised cure: 150°C, 60 min
Load = 50 MPa

→ Thickness ~ 28.0 mm
(between joint areas)
- Bond Strength: > 5 Kg shear for 5X5 die
(non destructive test)
- Joint Resistance: 10.0 W

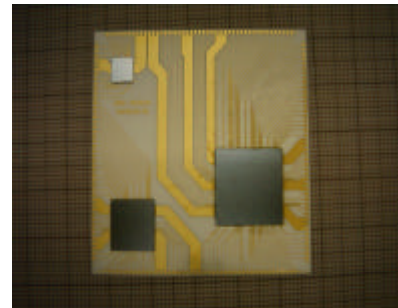
WP4: Test Vehicle Assembly

Verification Procedure:

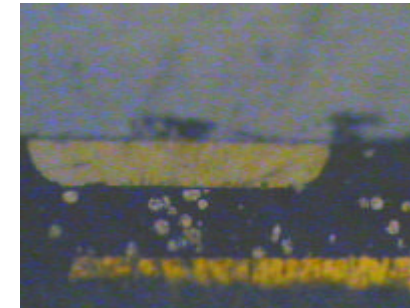
- High Mag. Inspection.
- X-Ray Inspection.
- SAM Inspection.
- Electrical Check.
- Bond Test (5Kg Shear).
- Thermal Resistance.
- Bond Shear Test (Destructive).
- Microsection (Destructive).

Main Problems / Issues:

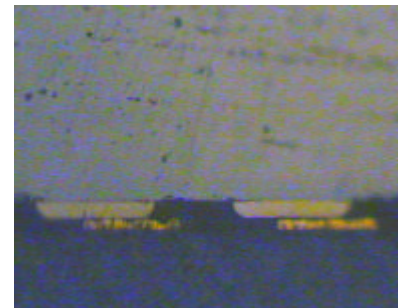
- Misalignment.
 - Excess Adhesive.
 - Inadequate Pressure.
 - Substrate Flatness.
- } Open Circuits



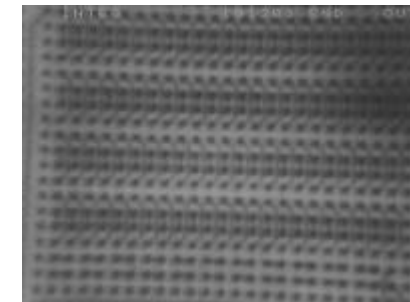
Complete Assembly



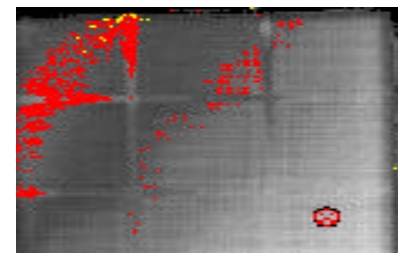
Poor ACA Joint



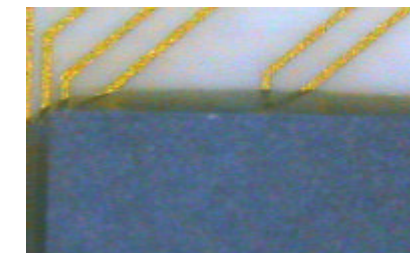
Misalignment



X-ray Alignment Check



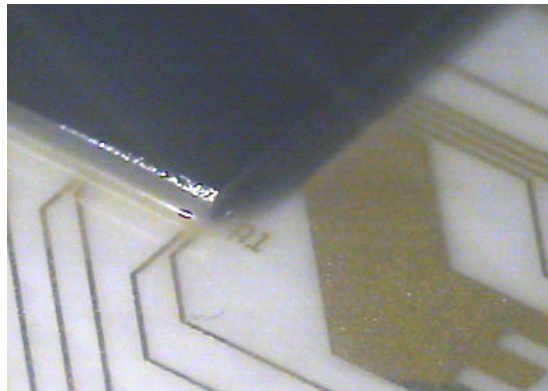
SAM Image - Tilt



Excess Adhesive

WP4: Test Vehicle Assembly

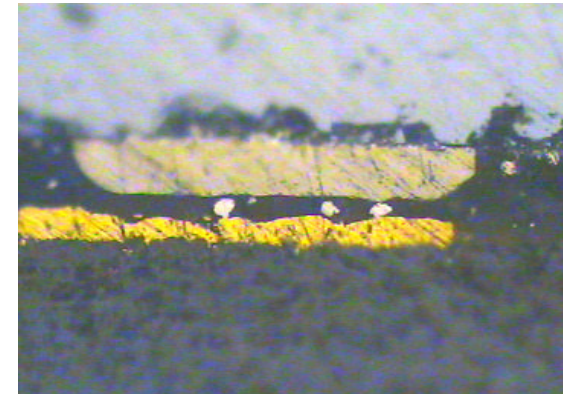
Assembly Verification:



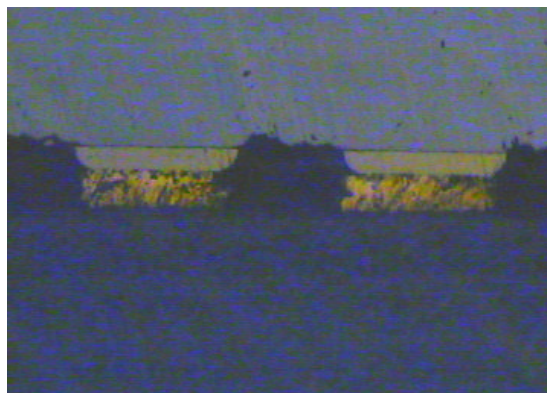
Good Edge Fillet - ACA



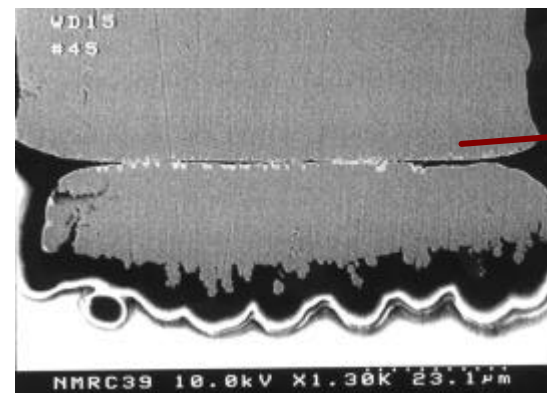
Good ACA Joint



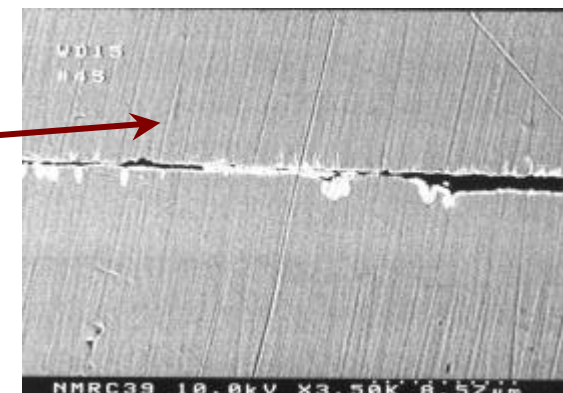
Good ACA Joint



NCA – Well Aligned



Good NCA Joint

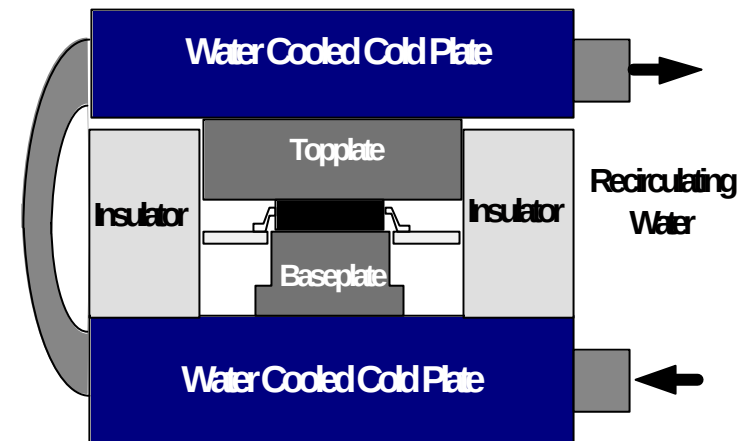


Good NCA Joint

WP4: Test Vehicle Assembly

Summary of Thermal Evaluation:

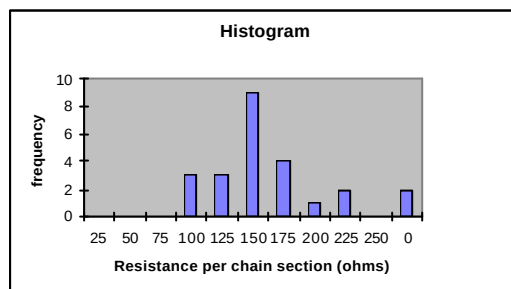
<u>ICA Materials:</u>	Quoted: 2.00 – 3.20 W/m ² K Measured (Av.): 2.57 W/m ² K <i>*High Ag Content but selective deposition</i>
<u>ACA Materials:</u>	Quoted: 0.70 - 1.20 W/m ² K Measured (Av.): 1.05 W/m ² K <i>*Blanket deposition helps conductivity result</i>
<u>NCA Materials:</u>	Quoted: 0.02 - 0.03 W/m ² K Measured (Av.): 0.92 W/m ² K (good) Measured (Av.): 0.22 W/m ² K (poor) <i>*Good bump-to-substrate contact helps result</i>



Dual Cold Plate System

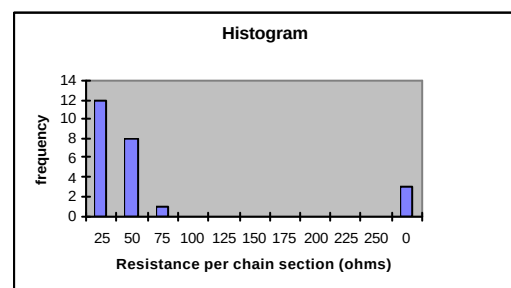
WP4: Test Vehicle Assembly

Electrical Evaluation:



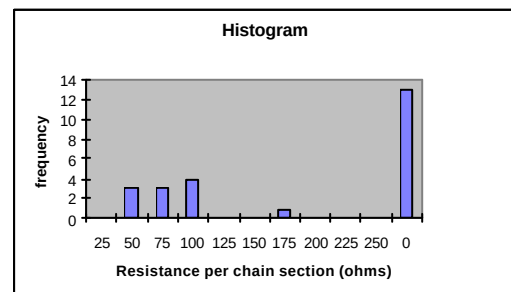
ACA – Loctite 3446:

- Mean Chain Resistance = 127.58 O
- Standard Deviation = 51.54 O
- No of Opens Chains = 2 / 22
- Smallest no. of opens.
- High resistance chains.



ICA – CMI-118-06:

- Mean Chain Resistance = 22.92 O
- Standard Deviation = 13.66 O
- No of Opens Chains = 3 / 22
- Best overall results.
- Small no. of opens.
- Low resistance joints.

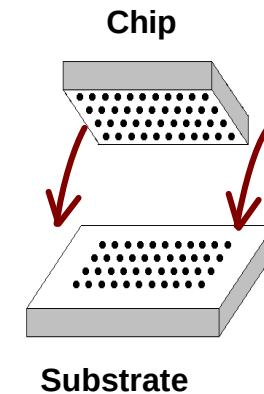
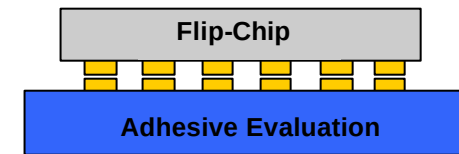


NCA – Bondline 6900:

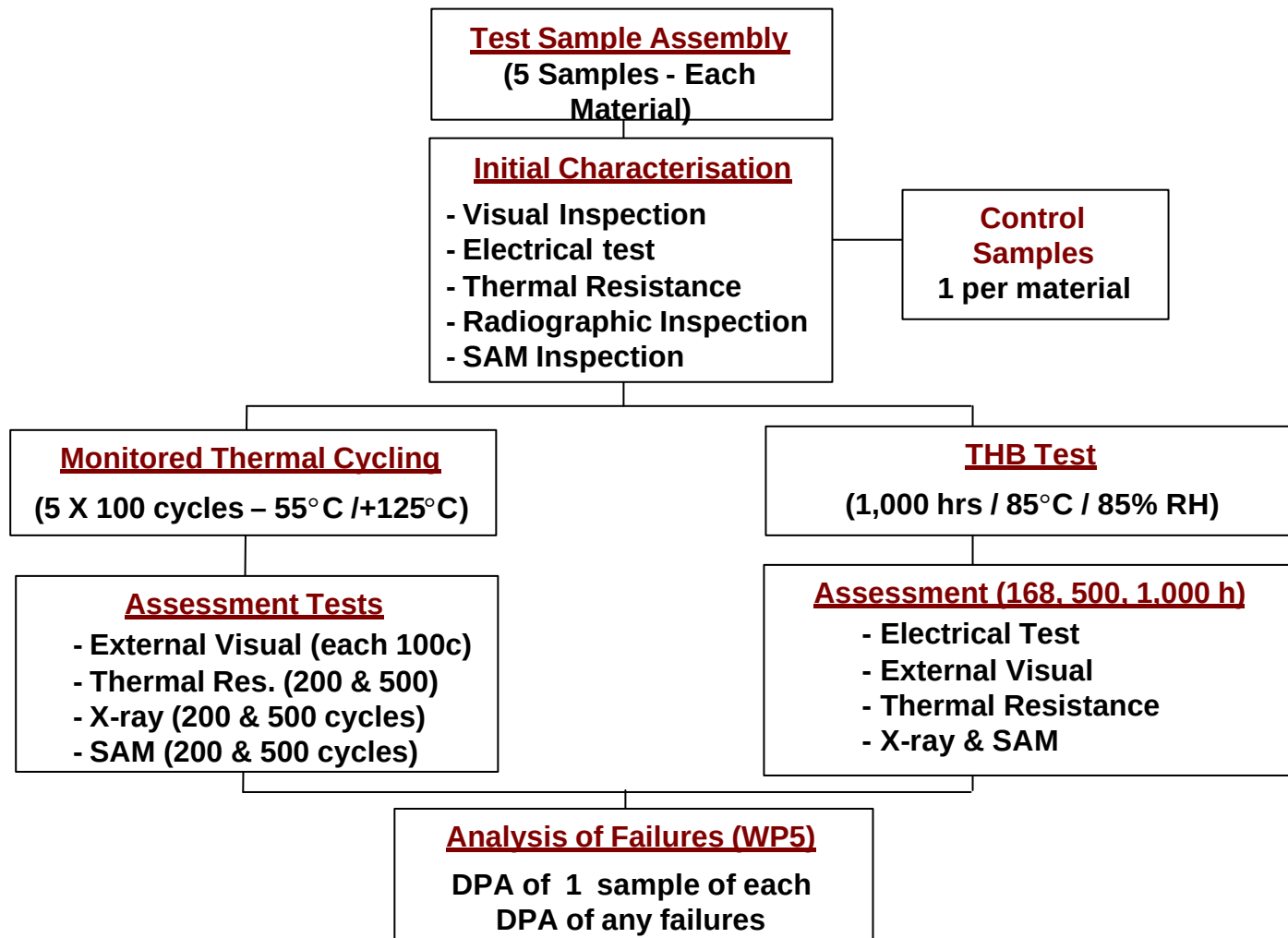
- Mean Chain Resistance = 31.04 O
- Standard Deviation = 42.13 O
- No of Opens Chains = 13 / 22
- Worst overall results.
- Large no. of opens.

Presentation Outline

- Objectives & Technology Overview
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 - *Materials Selection & Property Evaluation*
 - *Flip-Chip Test Chip*
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 - *Reliability Evaluation*
- Conclusions & Acknowledgements



WP5: Reliability Evaluation



WP5: Reliability Evaluation

Monitored Thermal Cycling Test:

- Mil-Std -883E, Method 1010.7
- Upper Temp: +125° C
- Lower Temp: -55° C
- Dwell: 15 Min
- No. of Cycles: 500
- Tests at 100, 200 & 500 cycles.



Monitored Thermal Cycling Test

Temp / Humidity / Bias Test:

- JESD A-101 B
- Temperature: +85° C
- Humidity: 85% RH
- Bias: -10V / Gnd / +10V
- Duration: 1,000 hours
- Interim Tests at 168, 500 & 1,000 hrs.



Humidity Test

Interim Test Sequence:

- Electrical Check
- Visual Inspection
- X-ray Inspection
- SAM Inspection
- Thermal Resistance

WP5: Reliability Evaluation

Monitored Thermal Cycling Test (Daisy Chain Resistance):

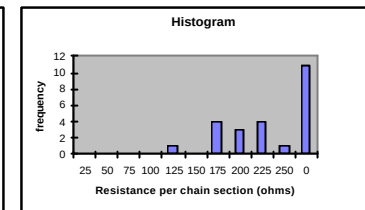
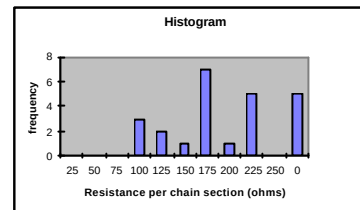
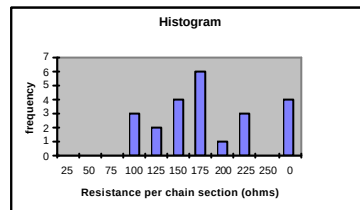
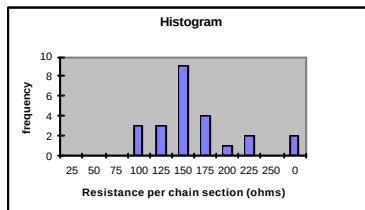
Start

100 Cycles

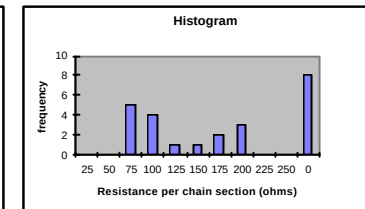
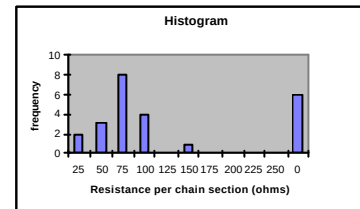
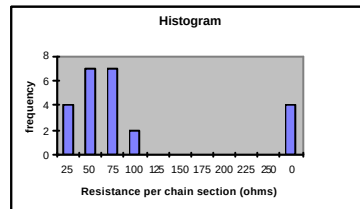
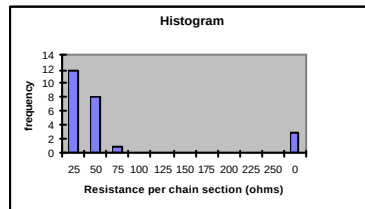
200 Cycles

500 Cycles

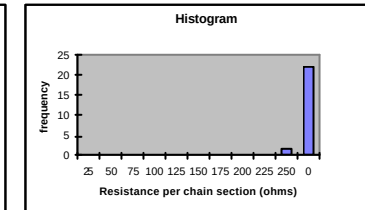
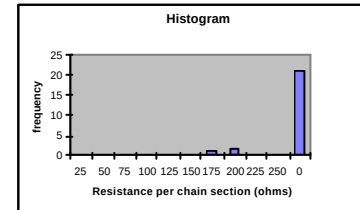
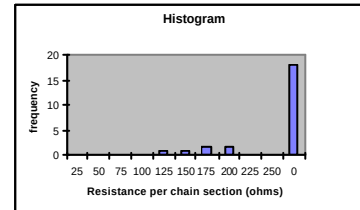
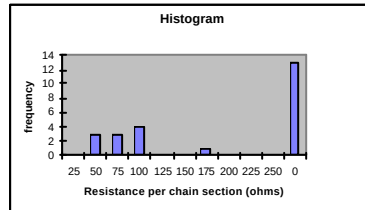
**A
C
A**



**I
C
A**



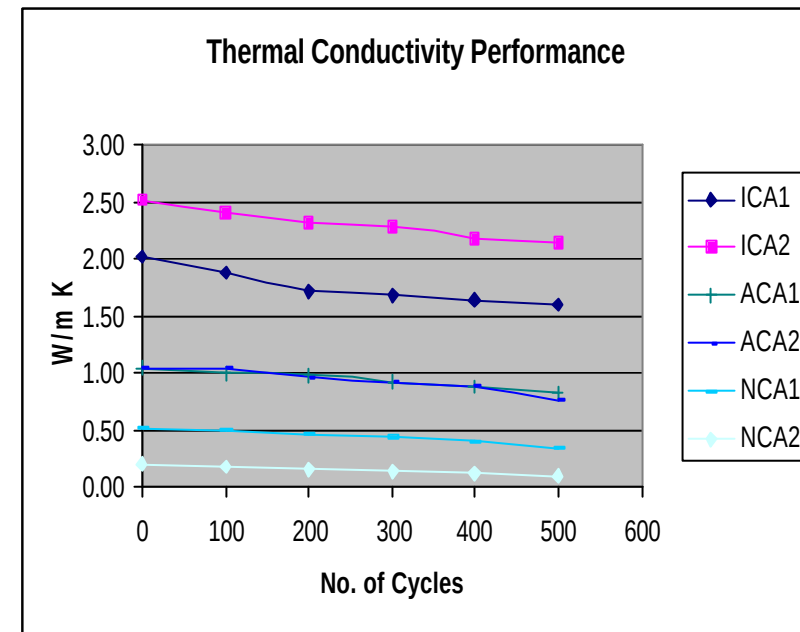
**N
C
A**



WP5: Reliability Evaluation

Monitored Thermal Cycling Test:

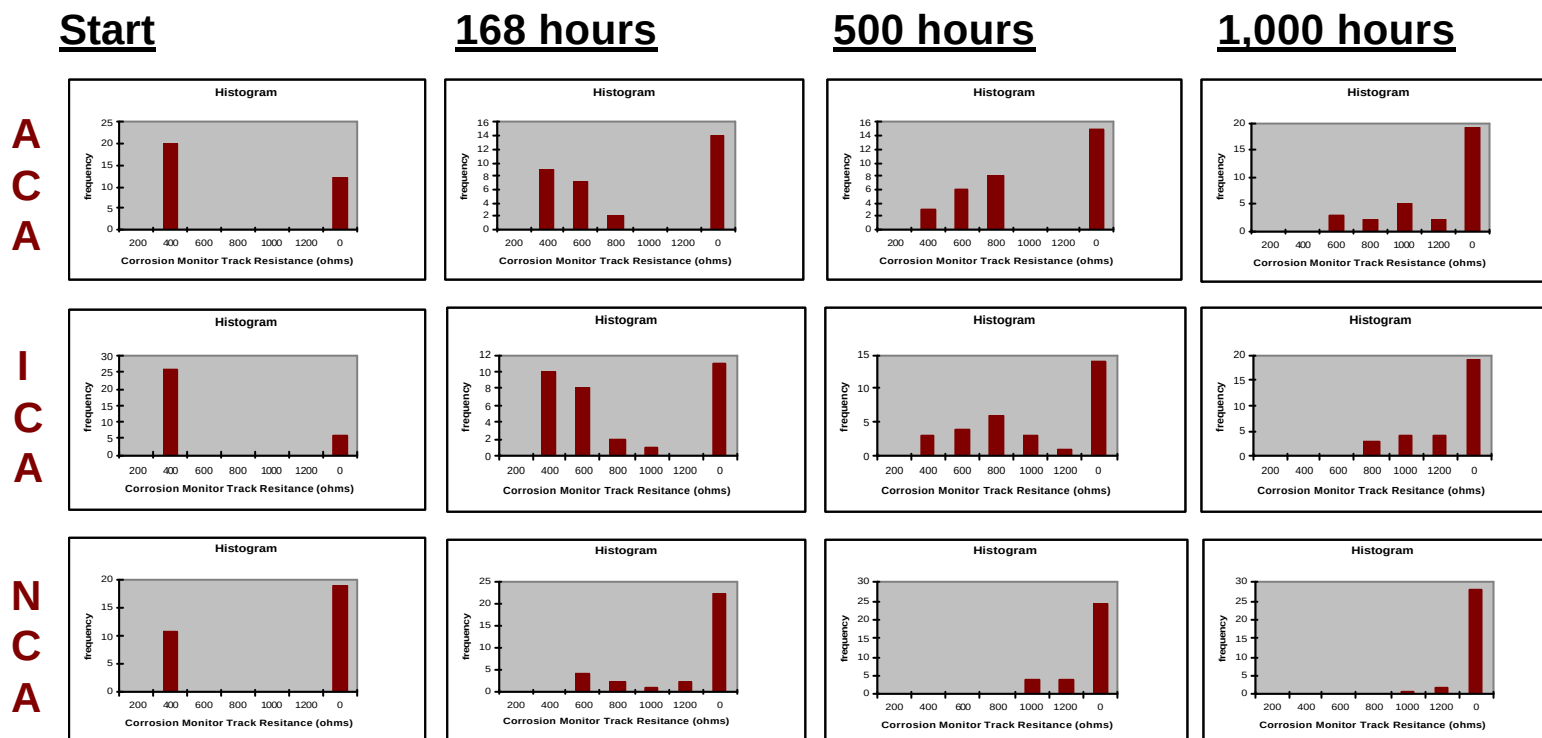
- Significant Electrical Failure Rate from all three adhesive families.
- Significant early failure trend with ACAs.
- More gradual trend with ICA materials.
- Dramatic early failure rate with NCAs.
- Thermal performance also deteriorates.
- Failures due mainly to thermo-mechanical expansion, movement, delamination & softening (T_g).



Thermal Conductivity Change Thermal Cycling Test

WP5: Reliability Evaluation

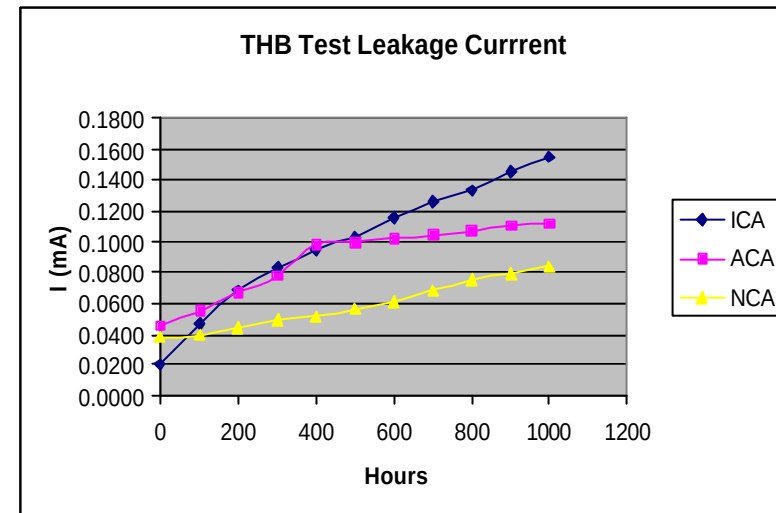
Temperature / Humidity / Bias Test (Corrosion Track Resistance):



WP5: Reliability Evaluation

Temperature / Humidity / Bias Test:

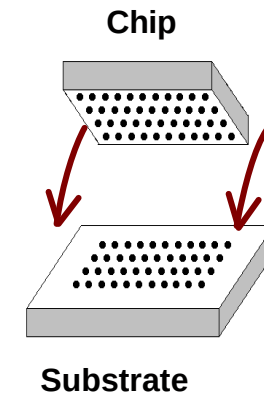
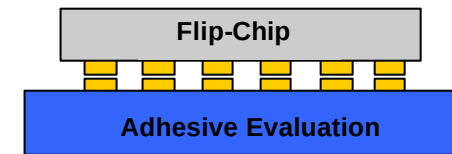
- Significant Electrical Failure Rate from all three adhesive families.
- Least no. open circuits from ICAs.
- Worst open circuit performance from NCAs.
- Highest leakage current in ICA case (Ag).
- Lowest leakage current in NCA case (no filler).
- Open circuit failures due mainly to corrosion.
- High leakage currents due to dendrites, & ionic content of materials.



Leakage Current during THB Test

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Conclusions 1

- Adhesive do not meet demands of harsh-environment stress tests.
- Tg is much lower than + 125°C in many cases:
 - *Poor thermomechanical behaviour.*
 - *Materials soften at elevated temperatures.*
 - *Movements & open circuits occur.*
- Adhesive flip-chip best suited to small-area dice:
 - *More difficult to control deposition quality over a large area*
 - *Substrate roughness an issue*
- Selectively-Deposited ICA materials probably best overall:
 - *Best electrical & thermal properties.*
 - *Selective deposition – lower risk of shorts*
 - *Did show higher leakage currents in THB tests (migration / dendrite growth).*

Conclusions 2

- Performance in Temperature Cycling Test Poor
 - *Large no. of open circuits caused.*
 - *Thermomechanical movement.*
- Corrosion failures occurred in THB test:
 - *Adhesives absorb moisture.*
 - *Non-hermetic protection.*
 - *Adhesives contain ionic elements.*
 - *High leakage currents, especially with ICAs.*
- Adhesives best suited to small are die used in benign environments.
- Not suited to the demands of the space environment !!

Acknowledgements

- **ESA / ESTEC – Funding for Project**
 - *Alberto Boetti – Technical Supervision & Guidance.*
- **Astrium, Velizy, France**
 - *Jean-Claude Tual – Substrate Layout.*
 - *Brigitte Braux – Astrium Project Manager.*
- **Tyndall**
 - *Gary Relihan – Materials Properties.*
 - *Denis O' Mahoney – FE Modelling.*
 - *Adrian Mulcahy – Assembly & Analysis Work.*
 - *Eoin Sheehan – Chip and Substrate Test.*
 - *Tony Compagno – Reliability Tests.*