



**IPC-CA-821**

*THE INSTITUTE FOR  
INTERCONNECTING  
AND PACKAGING  
ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS*

# **General Requirements for Thermally Conductive Adhesives**

Developed by the SMT Mounting Adhesives Task Group of the Assembly Processes Committee of the Institute for Interconnecting and Packaging Electronic Circuits

Users of this standard are encouraged to participate in the development of future revisions.

Contact:

IPC  
2215 Sanders Road  
Northbrook, Illinois  
60062-6135  
Tel 847 509.9700  
Fax 847 509.9798

## Table of Contents

		<b>Tables</b>
<b>1.0</b>	<b>SCOPE .....</b>	1
1.1	Purpose .....	1
1.2	Adhesive Classification .....	1
<b>2.0</b>	<b>APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS.....</b>	1
2.1	Institute for Interconnecting and Packaging Electronic Circuits (IPC) .....	1
2.2	Government.....	1
2.3	American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) .....	1
<b>3.0</b>	<b>REQUIREMENTS .....</b>	1
3.1	Terms and Definitions.....	1
3.2	General Requirements.....	2
3.3	Physical Requirements .....	3
3.4	Chemical Requirements .....	3
3.5	Electrical Requirements.....	3
3.6	Environmental Requirements .....	4
<b>4.0</b>	<b>QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS.....</b>	4
4.1	Responsibility for Inspection.....	4
4.2	Classification of Inspections.....	4
4.3	Qualification Inspection.....	4
4.4	Quality Conformance Inspection.....	5
<b>5.0</b>	<b>NOTES.....</b>	5
5.1	Ordering Data .....	5
5.2	Intended Use .....	6
5.3	Marking and Labeling .....	6
5.4	Safety.....	6
5.5	Waste Disposal.....	6
5.6	Packaging Material .....	6
5.7	Storage.....	6

# General Requirements for Thermally Conductive Adhesives

## 1.0 SCOPE

This document covers requirements and test methods for paste type dielectric adhesives used to bond components in place and for their long term properties as a part of the printed wiring board.

**1.1 Purpose** This standard defines dielectric thermally conductive adhesives through specification of test methods and inspection criteria.

## 1.2 Adhesive Classification

**1.2.1 Permanent** Removal of the component is not intended.

**1.2.2 Removable** Reduced strength to allow component removal.

**1.2.3 Self-shimming** To maintain dielectric spacing.

## 2.0 APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

The following documents, of the issue currently in effect, form a part of this specification to the extent specified herein.

### 2.1 Institute for Interconnecting and Packaging Electronic Circuits (IPC)<sup>1</sup>

**IPC-T-50** Terms & Definitions for Interconnecting and Packaging Electronic Circuits

**IPC-TM-650<sup>2</sup>** Test Methods Manual

2.3.10 Flammability of Printed Wiring Laminate

2.4.42.1 High Temperature Mechanical Strength Retention of Adhesives

2.4.51 Self Shimming Thermally Conductive Adhesives

2.6.1 Fungus Resistance, Printed Wiring Materials

2.6.3.1 Moisture and Insulation Resistance

2.6.14 Resistance to Electromigration, Polymer Solder Masks

## 2.2 Government<sup>3</sup>

### 2.2.1 Military<sup>3</sup>

**MIL-STD-116** Methods of Preservation

**MIL-STD-129** Marking for Shipping and Storage

**MIL-STD-45662** Calibration Requirements

### 2.3 American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)<sup>4</sup>

**ASTM-D-149** Test methods for Dielectric Breakdown Voltage and Dielectric Strength of Solid Insulating Materials at Commercial Power Frequencies

**ASTM-D-150** Test methods for AC Loss Characteristics and Permittivity (Dielectric Constant) of Solid Insulating Materials

**ASTM-C-177** Standard Test Method for Steady-State Heat Flux Measurements and Thermal Properties by Means of the Guarded-Hot-Plate Apparatus

**ASTM-D-257** Test methods for A-C Resistance or Conductance of Insulating Materials

**ASTM-C-518** Standard Test Method for Steady State Heat Flux Measurements and Thermal Transmission Properties by Means of the Heat Flow Meter Apparatus

**ASTM-E-595** Standard Test Method for Total Mass Loss and Collected Volatile Condensable Materials from Outgassing in a Vacuum Environment

**ASTM-D-1002** Standard Test Method for Strength Properties of Adhesives in Shear by Tension Loading (Metal to Metal)

**ASTM-D-1210** Test for Fineness of Grind of Adhesives

**ASTM-D-2556** Standard Test Method for Apparent Viscosity of Adhesives Having Shear-Rate-Dependent Flow Properties

**ASTM-D-3386** Standard Test Method for Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion of Electrical Insulating Materials

## 3.0 REQUIREMENTS

**3.1 Terms and Definitions** The definition of terms shall be in accordance with IPC-T-50, except as defined below.

1. Publications are available from IPC, 2215 Sanders Road, Northbrook, IL 60062-6135.

2. For convenience, applicable test methods from IPC-TM-650 are reprinted in the back of this standard.

3. To obtain documents, write Standardization Documents Order Desk, Building 40, 700 Robbins Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094.

4. Application for copies should be addressed to the American Society for Testing and Materials, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103-1187.