

# San Diego Chapter of the SMTA presents: "Eliminating the WAG in Final Finish Selection"

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#### **Member Of:**

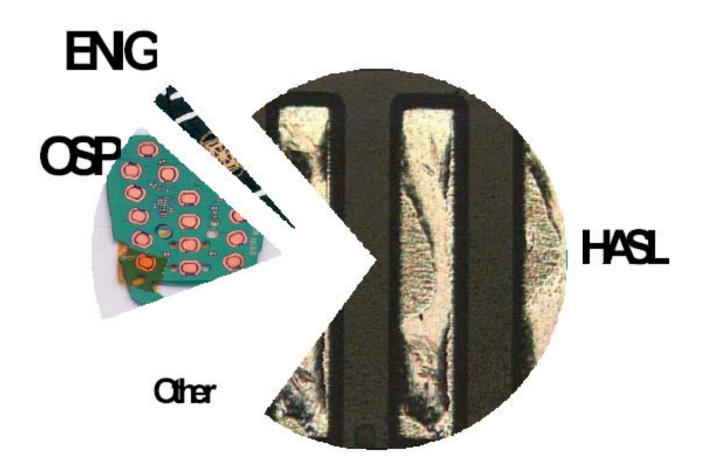




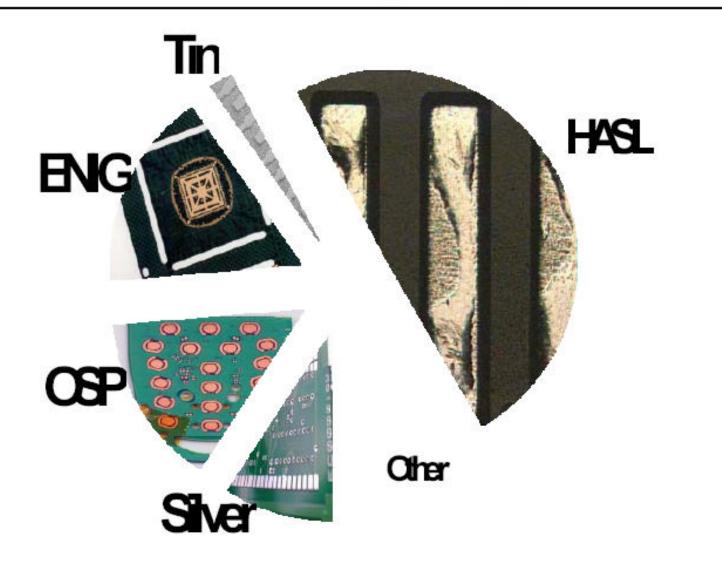


# Final Finish Products Use

#### Final Finish Products Use IPC Technology Marketing Research Council 1995

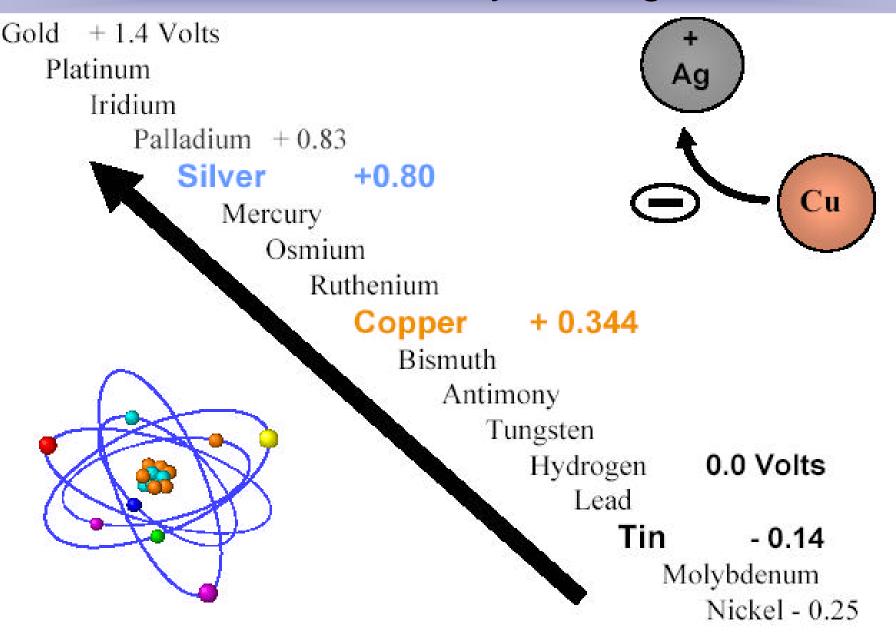


#### Final Finish Products Use IPC Technology Marketing Research Council 2002



Conductivity Rating

### **Conductivity Rating**



Things to Consider

#### THINGS TO CONSIDER – Internal Needs

# Internal Needs

- Must Maintain Pristine Signal Integrity
  - Especially True When Dealing With Assemblies That Run at Very High Frequencies...mostly Above 3 GHz
    - Despite the Mass of the Trace Lines, the Electrical Signals Run Along the Outer Perimeter of the Traces
    - This Phenomenon Is Referred to As the "Skin Effect"

#### THINGS TO CONSIDER – Internal Needs

Finishes That Rely on Electroless Nickel (ENIG, Ni-PD-AU) Do Not Perform Well on Boards That Run Speeds in Excess of 5 Ghz

- Due to Nickel Plate Remaining on Copper Traces
- Due to the "Skin Effect"
- Slows the Signal Because Copper Is a Much Better Conductor

#### THINGS TO CONSIDER – Internal Needs

- High Joint Strength
- Assist in Controlling Electromagnetic
   Interference
- Low Contact Resistance for Life of Product (Some Systems)
  - Touch Pads (Such As Keyboards)
  - Plated Edge Rails (Make Electrical Contact With the System's Chassis)

✓ Wire Bonding May Also Be a Requirement

#### THINGS TO CONSIDER – External Needs

# External Needs

- ✓#1 Need Is Wetting & Solderability
  - Wettability Is an Indication of the Solderability
    - Solderability Must Result in High Joint Strength
  - Cost, Cost, Cost!
    - Not Just Economical, but Reliable As Well
    - Remember the Hidden Cost of Yield Loss

#### THINGS TO CONSIDER – External Needs

- Inspectable & Testable
- Prevents Bridging and Misprints
- Shelf Life
  - Short Shelf Life Leads to Reduced Solderability and an Increase in Replacement Costs

Reworkable (Saves Expensive Re-makes)

Maintains All of Its Properties for the Life of the Product

# **Types of Final Finishes**

# **Types of Final Finishes**

# ≻HASL

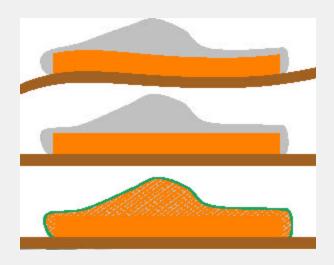
- Gold Immersion (over Electroless Nickel)
- Silver Immersion (directly over Copper)
- ➤Tin Immersion
- >OSP (Organic Solderability)
- >Bare Copper
- PPT (Precision Pad Technology or SIPAD)

Final Finishes Overview HASL Surface Finish Overview

- HASL=HOT AIR SOLDER LEVEL(directly over Copper)
  - ✓ Fabrication Design Note
    - Copper Lands/Pads Are to Be Coated With a Solder Composition of Sn60, or Sn63 of ANSI/J-STD-004 & ANSI/J-STD-006. PCB Must Pass ANSI/J-STD-003 Solderability Test C Category 2 by an Independent Lab. Certificate of **Conformance and Passing Lab Report** Shall Be Provided Prior to Lot Acceptance.

HASL Surface Finish Overview

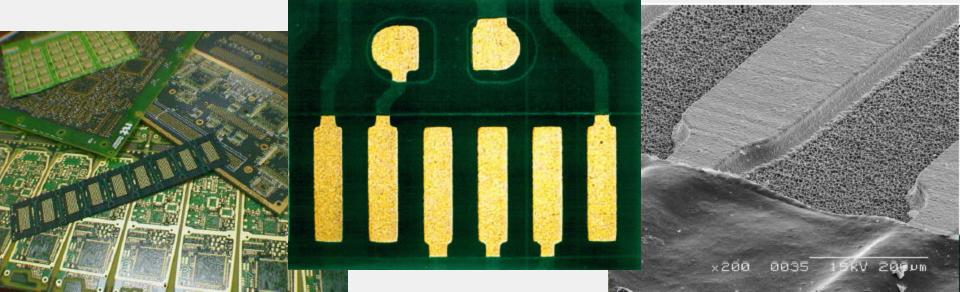
- A Solder Coating Directly Over Bare Copper, Which Is Intended to Preserve the Bare Copper During Storage and Prior to Assembly
- Can Be Applied in Horizontal or Vertical
  - Equipment



### HASL Surface Finish Overview

- ✓Advantages
  - Widely Available
  - In-expensive
  - Cu/Sn Solder Joint
- ✓Concerns
  - High Maintenance / High Waste
  - Poor Process Controls
  - Not Flat / Paste Mis-Prints / No Fine Pitch Assembly
  - To Thin Intermetallics
  - Additional Thermal Excursion Affects MTBF of PCB
     Not Lead Free

- Gold Immersion (over Electroless Nickel)
  ✓Fabrication Design Note
  - Copper Lands/Pads Are to Be Overplated With a Minimum of 150 Micro Inches of Low Stress Nickel Followed With 5 to 7 Micro Inches of Flash Gold

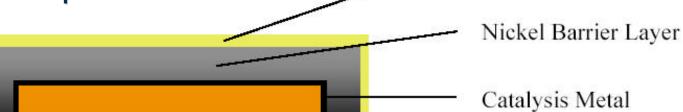


- Gold Immersion (over Electroless Nickel)
  - ✓ Selective Metallization of Copper Surfaces
  - ✓ Specified by OEM's for Critical End-use Applications
  - ✓ Advantages
    - Widely Available
    - Surface Contact (wire bonding & keypads)
    - Durable & Flat (Ideal for Fine Pitch/BGA & Directchip Attach Assembly)
    - Good Solderability Both As Plated and After Accelerated Aging
    - Depending on Chemistry Supplier (& Fabricators Ability) Could Be Used in Aluminum Wire Bond Applications

#### ✓Concerns

- Expensive
- Attacks Soldermask
- Porosity Issues
- Not Reworkable
- Brittle Ni/Sn Solder Joint
- Interfacial Fracture (black pad)



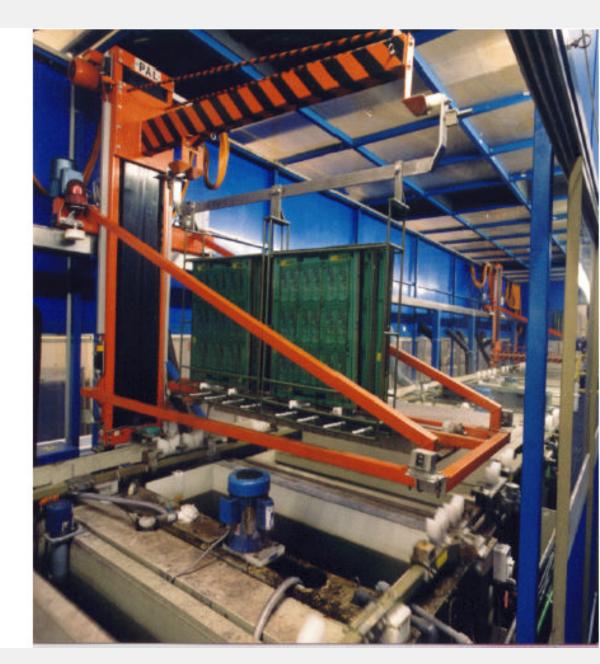


Solderable Gold Finish

Copper Pad

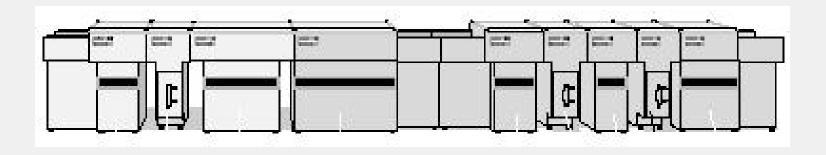
Substrate



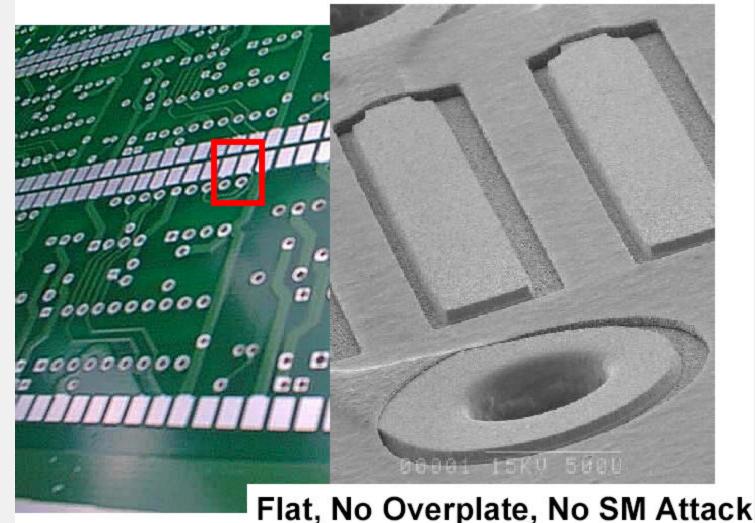


Silver Immersion Surface Finish Overview
 Silver Immersion (directly over Copper)
 ✓ Fabrication Design Note

Copper Lands/Pads Are to Be Over-plated With 4 to 10 Micro Inches of Silver Using the Alpha Level Process or MacDermid Sterling Silver Process



- A Metallic Solderability Preservative That Provides a Precious Metal, Oxide-resistant Board Coating
- ✓ Can Be Applied in Horizontal or Vertical Equipment

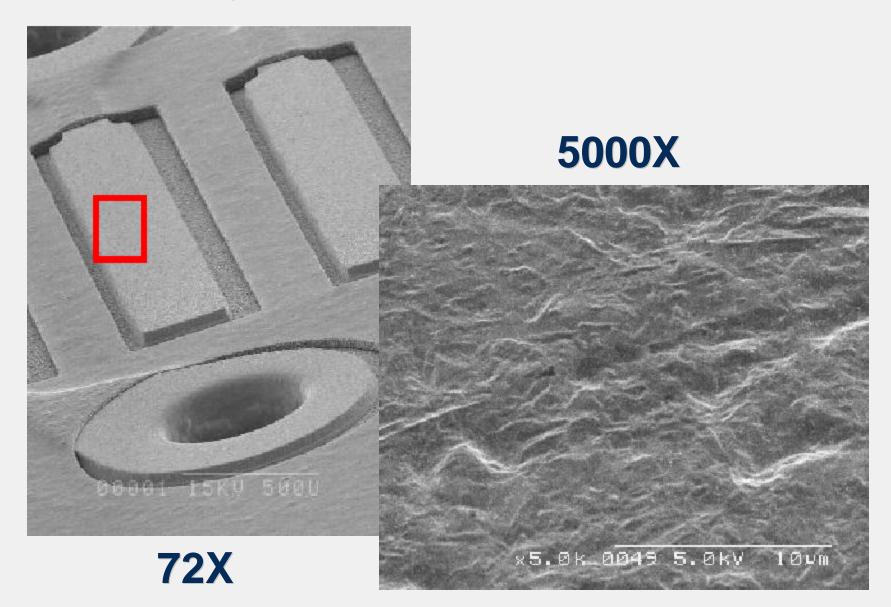


✓ Top Choice Among OEM's Worldwide

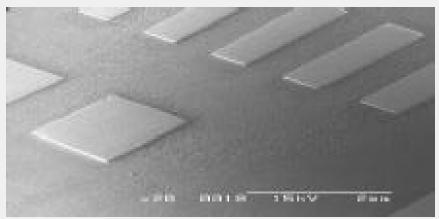
### ✓ Advantages

- Superior Solderability in a Variety of Assembly Applications
- Surface Contact (wire bonding, keypads, ICT)
- Compatible With All Solder Masks, Fluxes, and Pastes
- User Friendly Chemistry Is Stable, Versatile, & Flexible
- Low Cost
- Reworkable
- Simple Process
- Short Cycle Time

#### No Porosity Issues



#### Really Flat & Really Thin





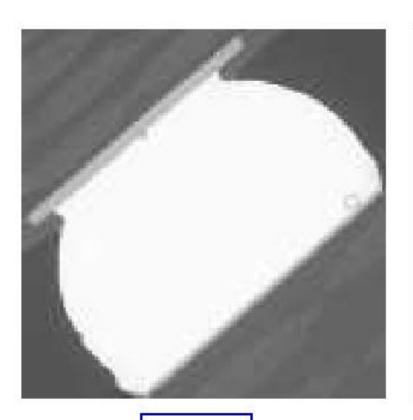
#### • HASL:

• up to 1500 μin.



- Immersion Ag:
  - $\sim 10~\mu in.$
  - < 1/100th of human hair

# Silver Immersion Surface Finish Overview Strong Cu/Sn Solder Joint



Visual

Ref: D.Hillman, Rockwell; APEX 2000

Ag Dot-Map

- Good Shelf Life No Intermetallic Formation
- Visually Inspectable
- High Speed Signal Integrity



#### ✓ Concerns

- Tarnish Concerns
- Sliding Connector Limitation
- Electromigration Resolved



- Tin Immersion (directly over Copper)
   Fabrication Design Note
  - Copper Lands/Pads Are to Be Over-plated With .7 to 1 Micrometers (Microns) of
    - Immersion Tin.

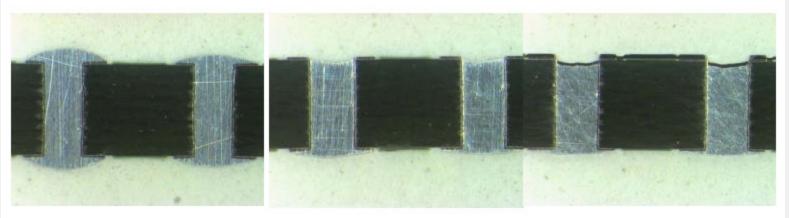


- Selective Metallization of Copper Surfaces
- Depending on Chemistry May Be Applied Automatically With Horizontal or Vertical Processing Equipment
- ✓ Advantages
  - Low Cost
  - Reworkable
  - Flat Surface
  - Cu/Sn Solder Joint
  - Laser Structuring Capability
  - Excellent for Use in Compliant Pin and Press Fit Applications



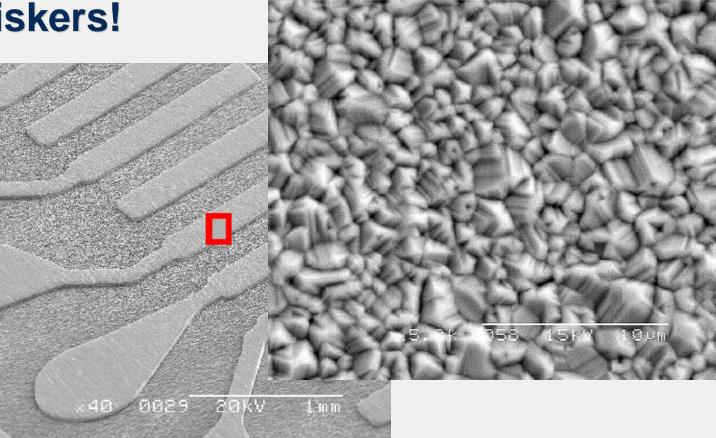
#### ✓ Concerns

- Solderability, Storage, & Handling Issues Are More Prevalent
- Quick Intermetallic Reduced Shelf Life / Surface Conductivity
- Thickness Measurement
- Soldermask Attack Like Ni
- Bath Contains Thiourea A Known Carcinogen IPC-J-STD-003 Test C



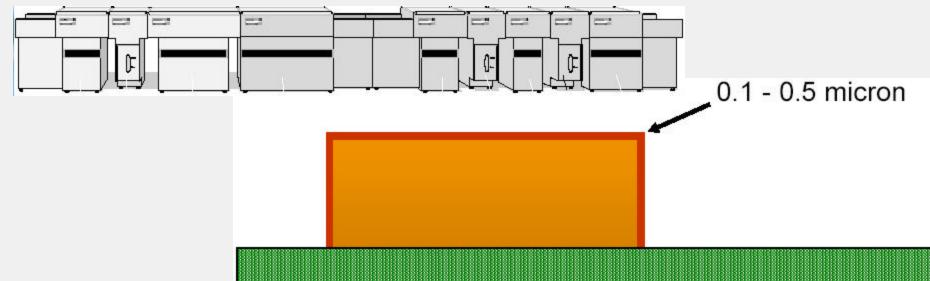
As Plated 4 h, 155 °C 8 h, 155 °C

- Long Dwell Time Required
- Extra Rinsing Should be Considered
- Oxidized Tin in Plating Bath (By-Product Plating Reaction) Compromises Coating Integrity
- Tin Whiskers!



OSP Surface Finish Overview

- OSP=Organic Solderability Preservative (directly over Copper)
  - ✓ Fabrication Design Note
    - Copper Lands/Pads Are to Be Over
      - coated With a Uniform Coating of OSP.



#### **OSP Surface Finish Overview**

- A Benzimidizole Based Solderability Preservative Coating Intended to Maintain Solderability of Bare Copper Boards Through Shipment, Storage, and Multiple Solder Paste Assembly Operations.
- Coating Thickness Uniformity Achieved Through Acidic Carrier
  - Thick Enough to Preserve Solderability
  - Thin Enough to Be Displaced by Low-clean Fluxes
- ✓ Advantages
  - Low Cost
  - Extremely Flat
  - Fast Process / Low Cycle Time
  - Reworkable
  - Cu/Sn Solder Joint

#### **OSP Surface Finish Overview**

- ✓ Concerns
  - Limited Shelf Life Degrades with Temperature
  - Minimum Thermal Cycles & Sensitive to Elevated Reflow Temperatures (Such As Those Needed for Lead Free)
  - Solderability, Storage, and Handling Issues Are More Prevalent
  - No Surface Contact (No ICT, No Wire bonding)
  - Difficult to Inspect for Skip Plating and Residues Left From Previous Process Steps
  - Coating Thickness Critical Yet Impossible to Validate – Dissolve Coating and Perform UV Spectrometer Analysis
  - Solderability Testing with Steam Age Pre-Conditioning a Must

Bare Copper Surface Finish Overview

## Bare Copper

- Cleaned Prior to Packaging and Shipment
- ✓ Cost Effective
- ✓ Solderability Is Good for at Least 3 Days
  - More If Proper Environmental and Handling Controls Are in Place
- ✓ Limited Thermal Cycles
- ✓ Excellent Solderability
- ✓ Fabrication Design Note
  - Copper Lands/pads Are to Be Clean Bare Copper.

PPT Surface Finish Overview
PPT (Precision Pad Technology or SIPAD)

- ✓ Patented Solid Solder Deposit Process
- Coating Over HASL, Immersion Gold, Immersion Silver, Immersion Tin, OSP, or Just Plain Copper
- ✓ Surface Is Flat With a "Mesh" Impression
- ✓ CCA Does Gross Print With Tacky Flux
- Capable of Handling Multiple Thermal Cycles

**PPT Surface Finish Overview** 

- ✓ Fabrication Design Note
  - Copper Lands/pads Are to Be Coated With a Solder Composition of Sn63 Using the Patented Precision Pad Technology or SIPAD Process. Solder Quantity Shall Allow for the Formation of Acceptable Solder Fillets Per IPC-A-610 CCA Requirements.

The Really Big Question...

### The Big Question

# Is There One Surface Finish That Can Fulfill All of My Needs?

## The Closest Is Silver Immersion

Not Well Suited for Back Panel

**Applications** 

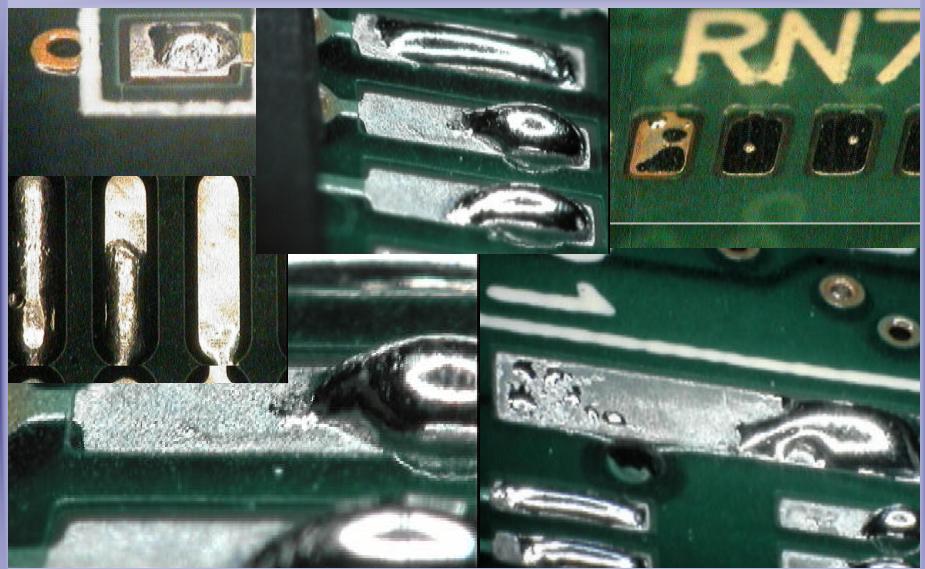
Final Finishes From A CCA Point of View

### HASL Surface Finish – CCA View

#### ≻HASL

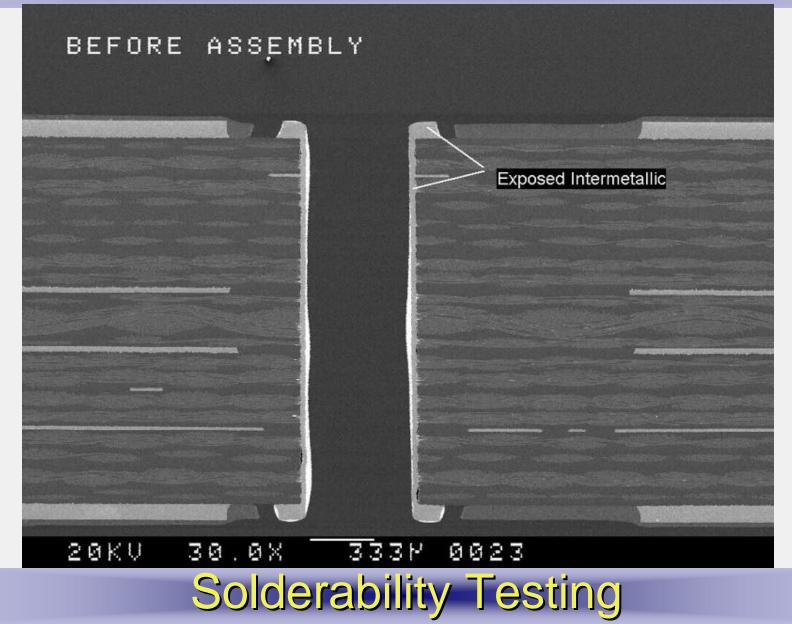
- ✓ Many Board Houses Sub-out Their HASL Process
- ✓ Many HASL Shops Lack Process Controls
  - If It Didn't Solder the First Time (Probably Due to Dirty Copper) They Send It Back Through
  - Each Thermal Excursion Affects PCB MTBF Rate
  - HASL Shops Do Not Properly Maintain Solder Bath
    - Copper Level Is Too High, Which Causes Dewetting
    - Dewetting? No Turning Back...it Can't Be Fixed!
- ✓ HASL Hides "Real" Issues
  - Solderability Testing with Steam-Age Pre-Conditioning An Absolute Must!
- ✓ Lead Free Not Likely

## Reasons For...



## Solderability Testing

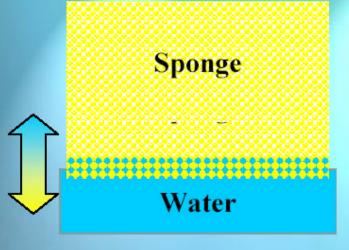
#### Reasons For...

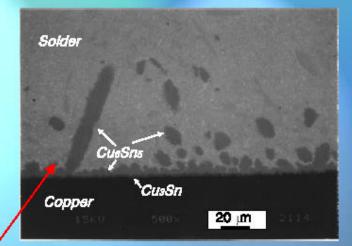


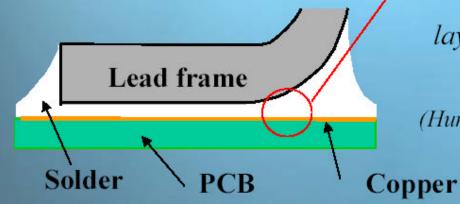
#### Reasons For...











Micrograph showing Intermetallic layers at interface between PCB and solder

(Human hair approximately 50µm)

#### Solderability Testing

#### **Reasons For...** Intermetallic Impact on Solder Joint Reliability

- Intermetallics are present in SnPb joints.
- Intermetallics continually grow at ambient temperatures and rapidly at higher temp.
- Initial Intermetallic thickness is directly linked to soldering temperatures.
- Lead-Free processes will operate higher soldering temperatures.
- Hence thicker Intermetallic layer with lead-free soldering.

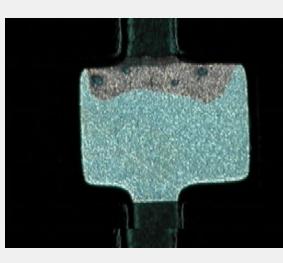
#### Solderability Testing

- Silver Immersion
  - ✓ Silver Molecular Structure Related to Solder
  - ✓ Silver Amalgamates Into the Solder
  - ✓ Surface Is FLAT, FLAT, FLAT!
  - ✓ Great Shelf Life
  - ✓ Neutral PH Bath at Low Temperatures
  - ✓ Silver Migration...no!
    - Never Proven Silver Is Too Thin of Coating
  - ✓ Silver Won't Stick to Dirty Copper
  - ✓ Great Contrast...allows Naked Eye Detection
  - ✓ Silver Finish Is Actually REWORKABLE
    - Silver Can Be Removed, Copper Cleaned, and Recoated
  - ✓ Lead Free YES

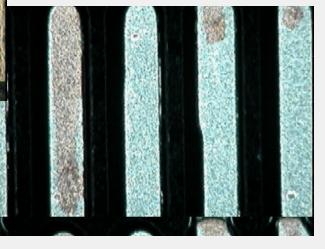
Silver Won't Stick to Dirty Copper

✓ Great Contrast Allows Naked Eye Detection

- Silver Finish Is Actually REWORKABLE
  - ✓ Silver Can Be Removed, Copper Cleaned, and Recoated







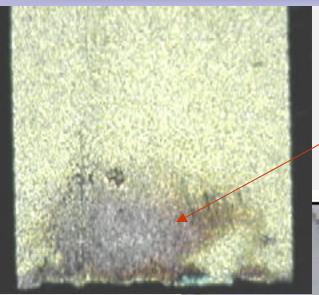
## >WHAT EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SILVER IMMERSION...

- ✓ Millions in the Field & No Reported Defects
- ✓ Co-deposition of an Organic Compound Reduces Electromigration and Tarnishing
- ✓ Most Tested Surface Finish on the Market Today
- ✓ Minor Tarnishing From Improper Drying or Storage Will Not Degrade Functionality of the Deposit (Signal Integrity and EMI Leakage)
   ✓ Inexpensive
   ✓ Safe

- ✓ Co-planar
- ✓ Best for High Speed Signals and RF Boards
- ✓ Easy to Process
- ✓ Less Polluting
- ✓ Has a Long Shelf Life
- ✓ Can Be Stripped and Re-applied
- ✓ Doesn't Affect the Final Hole Size
- ✓ Incurs No Added Thermal Excursions to the PCB
- ✓ Is a Drop-in Process for the Assemblers
- Can Be Reworked Multiple Times by Fabricator and Assembler
- ✓ Excessive Tarnish Is Easily Detected

#### Gold Surface Finish – CCA View

- Immersion Gold over Electroless-Nickel
  - ✓ Can't Get Silver...then It Will Have to Do
  - $\checkmark\,$  Gold Is Porous and Does Not Seal Nickel Well
    - Nickel Will Oxidize Over Time
    - Becomes Impervious to Solder
    - Typical Max Shelf Life = 3 Months
  - ✓ Sensitive to Handling
  - ✓ Ni Bath High Ph / High Temp
    - Attacks Soldermask
    - Another Thermal Cycle...Affects MTBF of PCB
    - Major Issues With Black Pad
  - ✓ Requires a HOTTER Oven Profile During CCA Reflow Process
  - ✓ Lead Free YES

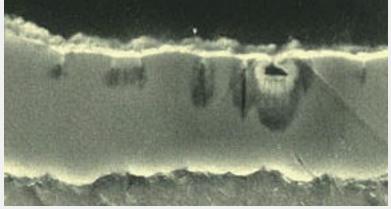


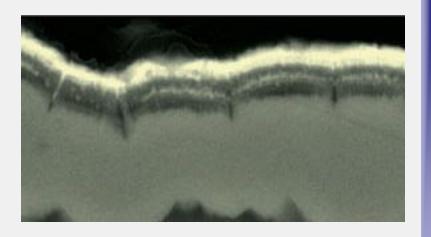
Copper Migration

## Nickel Surface

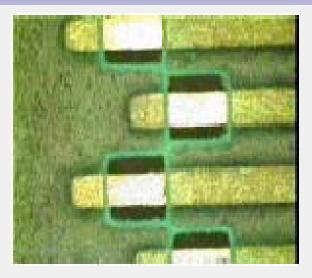
Early 1990s ENIG Was Almost Qualified As a **Universal Finish** Rise of "Black Pad" **Dashed Those** Hopes Defect Has Not **Been Solved** 

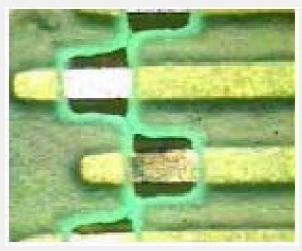
#### Examples of Black Pad



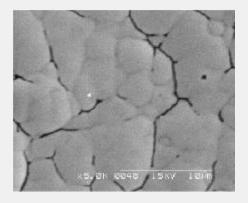


Every ENIG Process on the Market Is Prone to This Defect > Tight Process **Controls & Proper** Service From Vendor Can Limit Its Formation





Fine Pitch Boards More Prone to Black Pad ✓ Reduced Spacing **Cause PCB Feature** to Exhibit a "Galvanic" Effect ✓ Essential for Formation of a Hypercorrosive Nickel Species, AKA: Black Pad



#### Tin Surface Finish – CCA View

#### Tin immersion

- Soldering Issues Are More Prevalent
- Multiple Handling Issues
- ✓ Poor Shelf Life
- ✓ Oxidizes Easily
- ✓ Soldering Process Requires...
  - Lots and Lots of Highly Active Flux
    - Typical Activator is Fluoride or Chloride
      - Both are Extremely Corrosive
  - Lots and Lots of Heat

Hazardous Waste Generated by Bath is Costly

✓ Lead Free - Yes

#### Reasons Most CCA's Tend To Avoid



LEAD FLICKED OUT OF SOLDER WITH FINGER NAIL

LEAD WILL NOT FLICK OUT OF SOLDER

## Tin Surface Finish

#### Reasons Most CCA's Tend To Avoid **Whisker Growth Examples** Sn plating (on nickel) chip resister (0805)





Zero cyc. No whiskers 100 cyc. 10.2 µm

1. Whisker growth was confirmed with both

SnPb & Sn after TCY -55 / +125 °C\*

2. No whiskers were confirmed after high temp high humidity test 60 °C @85%RH

\* 70 minutes @ 55 °C - 30 minutes @ '125 °C



500 cyc. 13.5 µm



1000 cyc 8.2 µm

#### Tin Surface Finish

## OSP Surface Finish – CCA View

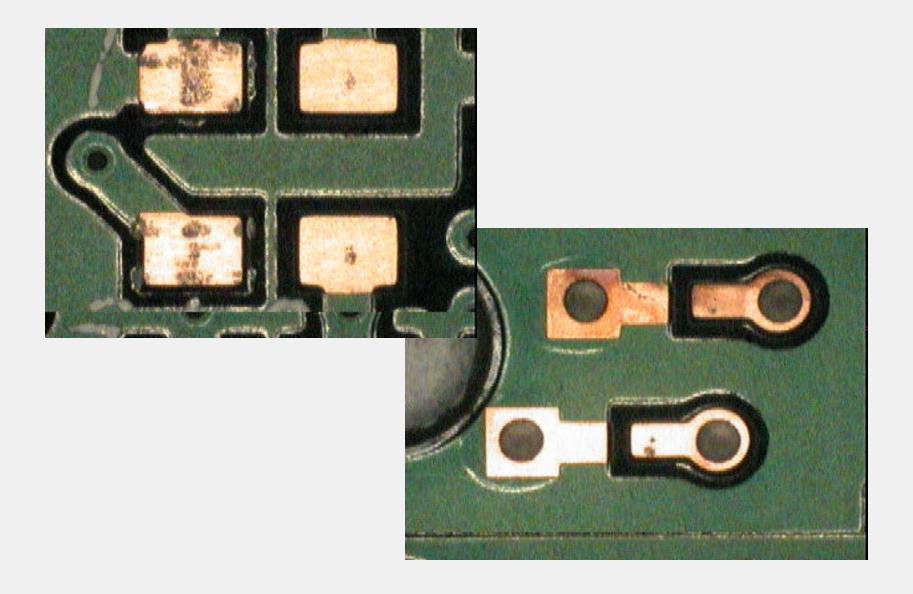
>OSP

- Proper Thickness...No Problem...Otherwise
   Forget It...
  - Be Prepared for Soldering Issues
- ✓Major Handling Issues
  - ✤No Finger Cots or Gloves...then OSP Is
    - Not for You
- ✓Major Storage Issues

**OSP Surface Finish – CCA View** 

- No Environmental Controls...then OSP Is Not for You
  - Storage of Raw Materials Is by the Back Door With the Wind Blowing Through
- Typical Shelf Life With Good Controls Is 3 Months or Less
- ✓Lead Free Yes, the Coating Is; However Evidence Has Shown That OSP's Can Not Withstand the Elevated Temperatures Needed for Lead Free Soldering...so, NO...

#### **OSP Surface Finish – CCA View**



Bare Copper Surface Finish – CCA View

- Copper Just Bare Copper
  - A Clean Copper Surface Can Remain
     Solderable for up to 3 Days
    - Copper Will Only Oxidize So Far, and Then It Will Stop

 ✓ Great Approach to Consider for Prototype Builds PPT Surface Finish – CCA View

#### PPT or SIPAD

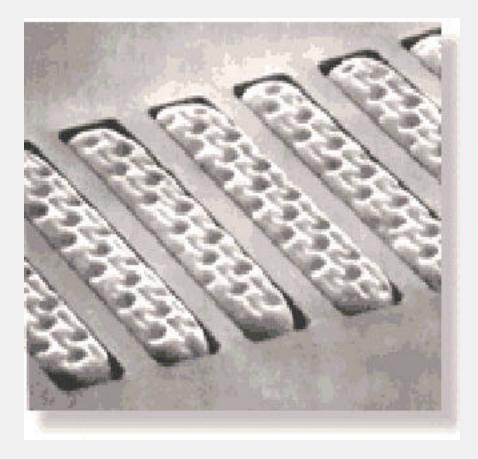
- ✓ Extremely Flat Solder Coating With "Mesh" Impression
- ✓ CCA Does Gross Print With Tacky Flux
  - Phenomenally Better End Results
  - 100% Yields
  - PPT Passed HALT & HASS Testing
    - Pad & Laminate Tore While Solder Joint Remained in Tact
- Ideal For:
  - Parts With a Pitch of .015" (.381mm) or Less

 PPT Surface Finish – CCA View
 uBGA's With Solder Spheres .015" (.381mm) or Less
 0201 Devices

✓ Cost:

- 5-cents/sq. Inch for Single-sided PCB
- 10-cents/sq. Inch for Double-sided PCB
- Potential Cost Center for a PCB House
  - Typical Charge for HASL = 1 Cent/sq.
     Inch
  - Catch 22 If You Don't Ask, They Don't Offer! So Ask!

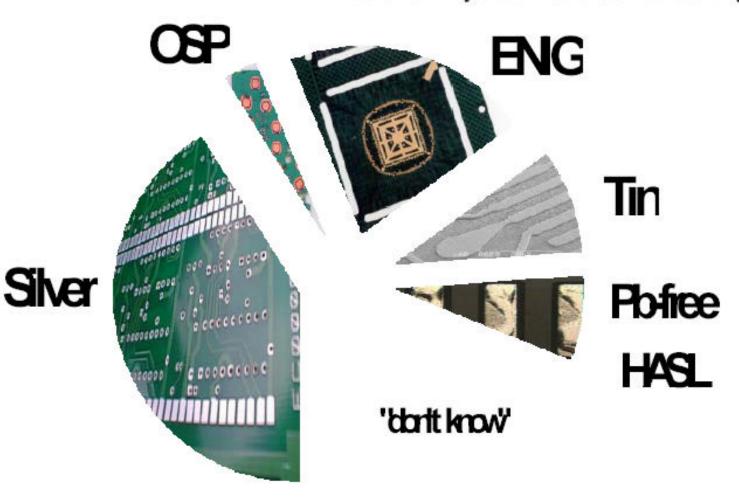
#### **PPT Surface Finish – CCA View**



What Lead Free Finish Will You Use?

#### What Pb-Free Finish Will You Use?

#### Continued Growth? National Physical Laboratories Survey 2003



105 OEM/EMS/Fab respondents: "What Pb-free finish will your company use for RoHS compliance" Final Finish PRO's & CON's

## FINAL FINISH PRO'S & CON'S GUIDE

Category	Sn Pb	A g	A u	Sn	O S P	Cu	PPT
Applied Directly Over Bare Copper	Y	Y	Ν	Y	Y	N/A	Υ
Good Application Controls	Ν	Y	Ν	Y	Ν	N/A	Υ
Low Maintenance / User Friendly	Ν	Y	N	Y	Ν	N/A	Y
Either Vertical or Horizontal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N/A	N/A
No Additional Thermal Stresses	Ν	Y	N	Y	Y	N/A	Υ

# FINAL FINISH PRO'S & CON'S GUIDE

Category	Sn Pb	A g	A u	Sn	O S P	Cu	PPT
Coating Thickness Controllable	Ν	Y	Y	Y	Ν	N/A	Y
Stable Chemistry	Ν	Υ	Ν	Y	Ν	N/A	N/A
Finish is Reworkable	N	Y	Ν	Y	Ν	Y	Y
Same or Less Cost (vs. HASL)	N/ A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Ν
Readily Available	Y	Y	Υ	Y	Y	Y	Ν

# FINAL FINISH PRO'S & CON'S GUIDE

Category	Sn Pb	A g	A u	Sn	O S P	Cu	PPT
Flat/ Planar Surface	Ν	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Storage Life (G=Good, F=Fair, P=Poor)	F	G	F	Ρ	Ρ	Ρ	G
No Finger Cots Required	Y	Y	Y	Ν	Ν	Ν	Y
Multiple Reflow Compatible	Y	Y	Y	Ν	Ν	Y	Y

# FINAL FINISH PRO'S & CON'S GUIDE

Category	Sn Pb	A g	A u	Sn	O S P	Cu	PPT
LF Compatible	Ν	Y	Υ	Υ	Ν	Y	Y
Wire Bond Capable	Ν	Y	Y	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν
Touch Pad Functionality	Ν	Y	Y	Ν	N	Ν	Ν

PCB Fab House Technology Guide

Category	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Board Thickness	=.054	=.034	=.025	=.020
Part Pin Pitch	=.050	=.025	=.025	=.025
Surface Finish	HASL LF = Ag/Au	HASL LF = Ag/Au	LF = Ag/Au	LF = Ag/Au /LF PPT
Line Width	=.010	=.008	=.004	=.003
Line Spacing	=.010	.008	.004	=.004

Category	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Impedance	None	= <b>50</b> O	= <b>28</b> O	= <b>28</b> O
Smallest Hole Size	=.030	=.010	=.010	=.010
Layer to Layer Precision	=.005	.004	.003	.002
Solder Mask Material	LPI	LPI	LPI	LPI
<b>Buried Via's</b>	NO	NO	NO	Yes

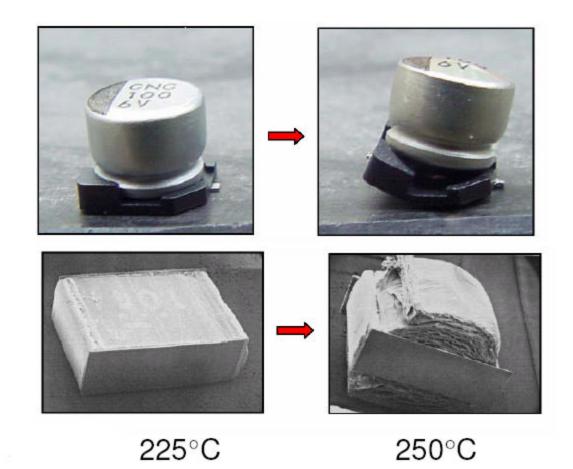
Category	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Blind Via's	NO	NO	NO	Yes
Via any Layer	NO	ΝΟ	NO	Yes
Copper Weight (oz.)	1	1	1/2	= <b>3/8</b>
Minimum Core Thickness	.008	.006	.0025	= <b>.0025</b>

Category	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Edge Contact Plating	Sn	Au/Tin	Au	TBD
Plating Technique	Panel	Panel	Pattern	Pattern
Imbedded Resistors	Νο	Νο	Νο	Yes
Imbedded Capacitors	Νο	Νο	Νο	Yes
HDI (Micro- Via's)	Νο	Νο	No	Yes

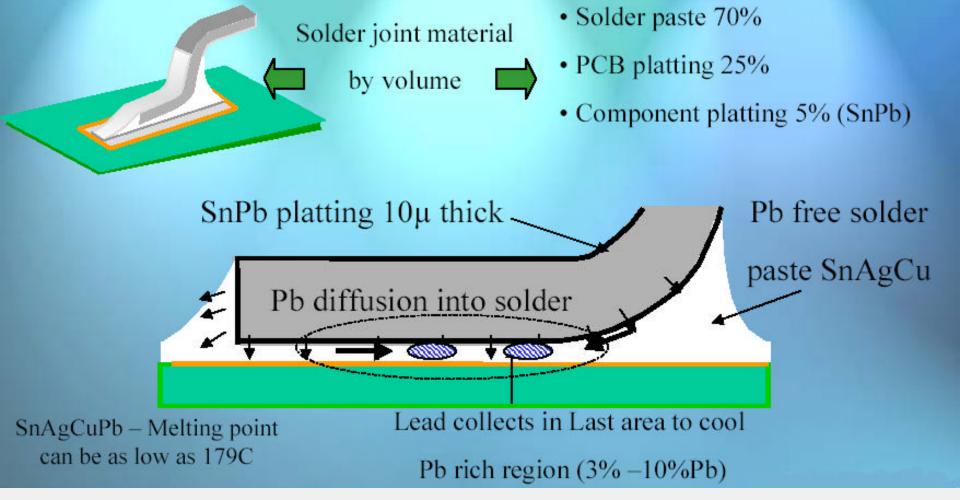
Category	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV
Material Type	IPC- 4101/21	IPC- 4101/24	IPC- 4101/24	TBD
IPC-2221 Class	1	1,2	1,2	1,2,3
IPC-2222 Type	1,2,3	1,2,3	1,2,3	1,2,3,4, 5,6

# LEAD FREE & & WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

# Effects of High Temp Soldering Process On Non-lead Free Devices



#### Lead-free Solder Joint Failure via Lead Contamination.



# Lead-free Technology – Barrel Electroplating (Sn passives)

Paste	Peak.	Termination Finish				
1000 M. W. B. W. B.	Peak. (℃)	Sn/Pb	Sn			
Sn-37Pb	200					
Sn-3.0Ag-0.5Cu	230					

Note: Lead-free joints may look slightly duller and uneven Not recommended because of lead contamination issue

### Lead-free component Implementation Summary

- Lead-free components can be reliably mixed with leaded components in a <u>SnPb</u> assembly process with NO adjustment to the current process parameters.
- □ Lead-free component plating gives solder joint strengths equivalent or superior to current SnPb plating in a leaded solder process. *(Improved thermal cycling)*
- Wetting times of lead-free components in a leaded solder process are comparable with current soldering systems.
  - *Component wetting is slower in a totally lead-free process. Increase solder temperature / Nitrogen gas.*

## **Solder Machine Erosion with**

# **Lead-Free Solders**

- Solder bath and impellor shaft erosion
- New problem within lead-free trials.
- Iron erosion of metal parts & contamination of expensive lead-free solder.



• High Sn(Tin) content solders will erode metal bath.

Manufacturing survey and investigation by TWI, DTI and NPL Two views of a 6mm diameter, 316 stainless steel shaft after rotating at 1,500rpm in tin/silver/copper solder at 400°C for only 30 hours