



**Whisker Fundamentals Modeling
Group
DOE**

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First Iteration of Proposed DOE

- **This presentation is an outline of possible variables for the DOE open for discussion in the afternoon forum**
- **We are trying to provide Systematic approach to incorporate the survey results into fundamental study of whisker phenomenon.**
- **We will develop DOE matrix for plating process conditions to evaluate the effect of fundamental parameters of whisker growth.**



Topics from Fundamental Group Survey Results

- **Internal stress as a driving force for whisker growth**
- **Substrate Material**
- **Substrate Preparation**
- **Electrolyte Types**
- **Electrolyte Operating Conditions**
- **Deposit Composition**
- **Deposit Thickness**
- **IMC**
- **Impurities/inclusions**
- **Other Factors**

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Proposed Substrate Material

- **OLIN 194**
- **Phosphor Bronze**
- **Copper**
- **Alloy 42**
- **Coating on passive components with Ni plating underlayer**



Proposed Substrate Preparation

- **Coupons prior to stamping mounted on rotating disc electrode with silver paste**
- **Annealed/not annealed**
- **Industry standard pre-treatment procedure (descaling, activation, etc.)**



Proposed Electrolyte Types

- **Sn Bright MSA based**
- **Matte MSA based**
- **Sn Sulfate based**
- **Sn mixed acid**
- **Sn-Pb matte MSA based**
- **Cu added to Bright Sn MSA based**
- **Cu added to Matte Sn MSA based**

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Proposed Deposit Thickness

- **1 um**

This thickness behaves differently than thicker coatings because of the effect of IMC and epitaxial deposit structure

- **3 um**

Close to real life thickness of 3 to 5 um for connector applications

- **10 um**

Close to real life thickness of 10 to 12 um for leadframe applications

Note: 1 um equals 40 microinches

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Proposed Electrolyte Operating Conditions

- **SET Condition- Control agitation with rotating cathode at one rotation speed**
- **SET Condition- Temperature at 40C (or set by bath supplier)**
- **(recrystallization temp of Sn is 51.3 C)**
- **Variable** - Current Densities at 5 and 15 ASD for both SnCu and Sn



Proposed Deposit Composition

- **Pure Sn**
- **Sn-Cu (important to understand the difference between co-deposited Cu and Cu diffused from substrate)**
- **Pb-Sn (90/10) as a control**



Other Factors to Consider

Impurities -

- **Water (everyone needs to measure resistance)**
- **Filtration of bath - set a filter size to remove SnO_2 .**
Variable: Use two Teflon based filters - high 10 um and a low 0.2 um
- **Plating efficiency will be measured during plating and associated with hydrogen incorporation in the deposit**



Objectives of DOE

- **Choose 2-level factorial DOE**
- **Variables:**
 - **Deposit thickness:** 1 (or 3) and 10 micron
 - **Current density:** 5 ASD and 15 ASD
 - **Substrate annealing:** Yes and No
 - **Filtration (inclusions):** Yes and No
- **Need to choose a few combinations of substrate+chemistry and apply the DOE matrix**



Responses/Observables for DOE

- **Internal stress after plating and its change during aging**
 - need to choose a method to measure IS (XRD, MicroDAC, Moiré, etc.)
 - can measure IMC growth at the same time by either stripping remaining tin and taking SEM pictures or FIB (both destructive methods and require additional coupons)
- **Whisker inspection**
 - will use the accelerated test proposed by the main Committee (first DOE)
 - will follow the suggestions for handling samples and SEM inspection from the first DOE
- **Need to discuss methods for characterization of crystalline defects and inclusions**



Summary

- **Choose Fundamental Group Survey responses as factors in whisker study**
- **For DOE Factorial Matrix proposed four plating parameters at two levels**
- **Need to choose a few combinations of substrate+chemistry and apply to the DOE Matrix**
- **Fundamental parameters and DOE Matrix will be discussed in the afternoon forum**