



Dow Electronic Materials Introduces New Autocatalytic Silver Immersion Gold Final Finish Products for Printed Circuit Board Industry

Excellent Lead Free Solderability, Wire Bond and RF Performance

Littau, Switzerland – September 10, 2009 – [Dow Electronic Materials](#) introduces Silveron™ MF 100 autocatalytic silver and Auroelectroless™ SMT immersion gold for ASIG (autocatalytic silver immersion gold) final finish process for the PCB (printed circuit board) industry. The company has signed an agreement with [Polymer Kompositer AB](#) to become the global distributor for the ASIG final finish process, excluding UK and Nordic countries. Silveron™ MF 100 autocatalytic silver and Auroelectroless™ SMT immersion gold offer board fabricators, assemblers and OEMs improvements in solderability, shelf life, wire bonding and reliability due to the unique, dense, pore free silver deposit.

Silveron™ MF 100 autocatalytic silver can be used for reflow or wave solder assembly, and with Auroelectroless™ SMT gold for wire bonding. It offers many advantages over current solderable finish alternatives.

- **Outstanding shelf life and solderability:** Due to the autocatalytic nature of the silver bath, any thickness of silver can be achieved with a dense, crystalline, pore free deposit, showing excellent shelf life and solderability due to prevention of copper migration to the surface through pores.
- **Improved reliability:** The fast intermetallic formation during soldering brings improved reliability due to lower soldering temperatures and time compared to nickel based final finishes, as well as avoiding potentially brittle intermetallic compounds formed with nickel based finishes when used with lead free solders.
- **Excellent conductivity:** The excellent conductivity of the silver makes this the logical choice for high frequency applications, whilst gold or aluminium wire bonding shows exceptional bond strengths when using the complete ASIG process.

“Driven by changes to board design, component design and pitch, lead free assembly and many other evolving variables, the demand for improved multifunctional, high reliability finishes is very real,” said Bob Ferguson, global general manager for Dow Electronic Materials. “The introduction of Silveron™ MF 100 satisfies this demand. Innovative silver technology created by Polymer Kompositer, coupled with the global reach and market position of Dow Electronic Materials, creates exciting opportunities in the evolving PCB final finishes market.”

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About Dow



Dow is a diversified chemical company that combines the power of science and technology with the “Human Element” to constantly improve what is essential to human progress. The Company delivers a broad range of products and services to customers in approximately 160 countries, connecting chemistry and innovation with the principles of sustainability to help provide everything from fresh water, food and pharmaceuticals to paints, packaging and personal care products. In 2008, Dow had annual sales of \$57.5 billion and employed approximately 46,000 people worldwide. The Company has 150 manufacturing sites in 35 countries and produces approximately 3,300 products. On April 1, 2009, Dow acquired Rohm and Haas Company, a global specialty materials company with sales of \$10 billion in 2008, 98 manufacturing sites in 30 countries and approximately 15,000 employees worldwide. References to “Dow” or the “Company” mean The Dow Chemical Company and its consolidated subsidiaries unless otherwise expressly noted. More information about Dow can be found at www.dow.com.

About Dow Electronic Materials

Dow Electronic Materials develops and markets highly sophisticated materials used in the electronic materials segment of the global electronics value chain. The business, with a significant presence and operations throughout Asia, delivers cutting edge technology, provides strong technical support, and closely partners with industry leading customers to develop next generation materials. Its key end-use applications include a broad range of consumer electronics from personal computers, to television monitors, cellular phones, global positioning systems, automobile safety systems, and avionics.

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