

APPLICATION NOTES

Prepreg Shelf Life

Vince Weis, Arlon 2017

Prepreg Shelf Life

All Arlon prepreg is certified to IPC-4101 and meets the shelf life requirements stated in this document in paragraph 3.17. In essence prepreg supplied shall be capable of and certified to meet all the requirements specified when stored per condition 1 or condition 2 for the specification sheet requirements. These conditions are applicable to the date the prepreg is received.

Condition 1: Six months (180 days) when stored at <5 C (41 F)

Condition 2: Three months (90 days) when stored at <23 C (73 F) and <50% relative humidity

Prepreg should be stored in the absence of a catalytic environment such as UV light or excessive radiation. Prepreg should be allowed to equilibrate at processing conditions before use.

Arlon recommends vacuum desiccation of all prepreg prior to use.

Prepreg stored under refrigeration at < 5 C (41 F) must be allowed to stabilize at ambient temperatures prior to use. This time can be included as part of the vacuum desiccation process. Vacuum desiccation of Arlon's prepreg is recommended to remove moisture. Moisture trapped in a multiplayer PCB can cause excess resin flow, measles, delamination and depressed Tg values. Store the prepreg in either a nitrogen dry box or chemical desiccation box. Control the temperature and humidity in these chambers per the conditions stated above.

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The logo for Arlon Electronic Materials features the word "ARLON" in a large, bold, red, sans-serif font. Below it, the words "ELECTRONIC MATERIALS" are written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

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