



IPC-4101C

Specification for Base Materials for Rigid and Multilayer Printed Boards

Developed by the Laminate/Prepreg Materials Subcommittee (3-11) of
the Printed Board Base Materials Committee (3-10) of IPC

Supersedes:

IPC-4101B with
Amendments 1 & 2 - April 2007
IPC-4101B with
Amendment 1 - February 2007
IPC-4101B - June 2006
IPC-4101A with
Amendment 1 - June 2002
IPC-4101A - December 2001
IPC-4101 - December 1997
IPC-L-108
IPC-L-109
IPC-L-112
IPC-L-115
IPC-AM-361

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

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Table of Contents

1	SCOPE	1	3.4	Qualification Testing	6
1.1	Classification	1	3.4.1	Qualification Testing of Laminate	9
1.1.1	Specification Sheet Description	1	3.4.2	Qualification Testing of Prepreg	9
1.1.2	Nominal Laminate Thickness	1	3.5	Verification of Manufacturer's Quality System	9
1.1.3	Metal Cladding Type and Nominal Weight/Thickness	1	3.6	Conflict	9
1.1.3.1	Metal Cladding Type	1	3.7	Materials	9
1.1.3.2	Nominal Weight/Thickness	1	3.7.1	Metal Cladding	9
1.1.4	Thickness Tolerance (Laminate)	1	3.7.2	Reinforcement Fabric	9
1.1.5	Surface Quality Class	2	3.7.3	Resin Systems	9
1.1.6	Reinforcement Style	2	3.8	General Requirements	9
1.1.7	Prepreg Parameters	3	3.8.1	Fabricated Sheets and Panels	9
1.1.8	Color	3	3.8.1.1	Fabricated Laminate Sheet Material	9
1.1.8.1	Contrast Agents	3	3.8.1.2	Fabricated Laminate Panel Material	9
1.2	Dimensions and Tolerances	3	3.8.1.3	Fabricated Prepreg Panels	9
1.2.1	Metric and Imperial Measurements	3	3.8.1.4	Fabricated Prepreg Rolls	9
2	APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS	3	3.8.2	Inspection Lot	9
2.1	IPC	3	3.8.2.1	Inspection Lot for Laminate	9
2.2	National Conference of Standards Laboratories (NCSL)	4	3.8.2.2	Inspection Lot for Prepreg	10
2.3	International Standards	4	3.8.2.3	Preparation of Samples	10
2.4	Underwriters Laboratories (UL)	4	3.8.2.4	Etching Process and Etchant Removal for Copper Foil Specimens	10
2.5	European Union	5	3.8.2.5	Standard Laboratory Conditions	10
2.6	ASTM International	5	3.8.3	Visual Properties	10
3	REQUIREMENTS	5	3.8.3.1	Laminate Visual Properties	10
3.1	Terms and Definitions	5	3.8.3.1.1	Foil Indentations	10
3.1.1	Qualification Assessment	5	3.8.3.1.2	Wrinkles	10
3.1.2	Quality Conformance Testing	5	3.8.3.1.3	Scratches	10
3.1.3	Manufacturer's Quality System	5	3.8.3.1.4	Plastic Surface Finish of Metal-Clad Single-Sided Base Material	10
3.1.4	Process Control Testing	5	3.8.3.1.5	Surface Finish of Foil after Curing – Except Double Treat	10
3.1.5	Self Declaration	5	3.8.3.1.6	Surface and Subsurface Imperfections	10
3.1.6	Quality Assessment Data	5	3.8.3.2	Prepreg Visual Properties	11
3.1.7	Sample Qualification	5	3.8.3.2.1	Inclusions	11
3.1.8	Production Data	5	3.8.3.2.2	Impregnation Imperfections	11
3.1.9	Customer Test Data	5	3.8.4	Dimensional	11
3.1.10	Internal Assessment	5	3.8.4.1	Length and Width	11
3.1.11	Individual Customer Audit	5	3.8.4.1.1	Length and Width of Laminate	11
3.1.12	Independent Third Party Assessment	5	3.8.4.1.2	Length and Width of Prepreg	11
3.1.13	Epoxy, Multifunctional	5	3.8.4.1.3	Prepreg Roll Width	11
3.1.14	Epoxy, Difunctional	6	3.8.4.1.4	Prepreg Roll Length	11
3.1.15	AABUS	6	3.8.4.2	Thickness	12
3.2	Specification Sheets	6	3.8.4.2.1	Class A, B and C Laminate Materials	12
3.3	Manufacturer Quality Profile	6			

3.8.4.2.2	Class D Laminate Materials	12	3.10.1.7	Delta T _g (Optional Test)	16
3.8.4.2.3	Class K, L and M Laminate Materials	12	3.10.2	Chemical Requirements of Prepreg Materials	16
3.8.4.2.4	Thickness Tolerance of Laminate Materials	12	3.10.2.1	Flammability	16
3.8.4.3	Bow and Twist of Laminate Materials	12	3.10.2.2	Chemical Resistance (Optional Test)	16
3.8.4.3.1	Sheets and Panels with Both Dimensions ≥300 mm [11.81 in]	12	3.11	Electrical Requirements	16
3.8.4.3.2	Panels with One or Both Dimensions <300 mm [11.81 in]	12	3.11.1	Electrical Requirements of Laminate Materials	16
3.9	Physical Requirements	12	3.11.1.1	Permittivity	16
3.9.1	Physical Requirements of Laminate Materials	12	3.11.1.2	Loss Tangent	17
3.9.1.1	Peel Strength	12	3.11.1.3	Volume Resistivity	17
3.9.1.1.1	Peel Strength after Thermal Stress	12	3.11.1.4	Surface Resistivity	17
3.9.1.1.3	Peel Strength after Process Chemicals (Optional Test)	12	3.11.1.5	Arc Resistance	17
3.9.1.2	Dimensional Stability	14	3.11.1.6	Dielectric Breakdown	17
3.9.1.3	Flexural Strength	14	3.11.1.7	Electric Strength	17
3.9.1.4	Flexural Strength at Elevated Temperature ...	14	3.11.2.1	Permittivity	17
3.9.1.5	Thermal Conductivity [=] w/(m°K)	14	3.11.2.2	Loss Tangent	17
3.9.1.6	Coefficient of Thermal Expansion (CTE) (Optional Test)	14	3.11.2.3	Electric Strength	17
3.9.1.7	Z-Axis CTE (Optional Test)	14	3.12	Environmental Requirements	17
3.9.1.8	Fracture Toughness	14	3.12.1	Environmental Requirements of Laminate Materials	17
3.9.2	Physical Requirements of Prepreg Materials	14	3.12.1.1	Moisture Absorption	17
3.9.2.1	Resin Content	14	3.12.1.2	Fungus Resistance	17
3.9.2.1.1	Resin Content Percent (RC) (by Treated Weight)	14	3.12.1.3	Pressure Vessel (Optional Test)	17
3.9.2.1.2	Resin Content Percent (RC) (by Burn-Off) ..	15	3.12.1.4	Total Halogen Content (Optional Test)	17
3.9.2.1.3	Treated Weight Total (TW)	15	3.12.1.5	Conductive Anodic Filament (CAF) Growth (Optional Test)	17
3.9.2.1.4	Variation Within a Panel	15	3.12.2	Environmental Requirements of Prepreg Materials	17
3.9.2.2	Flow Parameter	15	3.12.2.1	Fungus Resistance	17
3.9.2.2.1	Resin Flow Percent (MF)	15	3.12.2.2	Conductive Anodic Filament (CAF) Growth (Optional Test)	17
3.9.2.2.2	Scaled Flow Thickness (SC)	15	3.13	Substitutability	18
3.9.2.2.3	No Flow (NF)	15	3.13.1	Substitutability of Specification Sheet Materials	18
3.9.2.2.4	Rheological Flow (RE)	15	3.13.3	Substitutability of Classes of Thickness Tolerance	18
3.9.2.2.5	Delta H (DH)	15	3.13.4	Remarking of Substituted Laminates	18
3.9.2.2.6	Percent Cure (PC)	15	3.14	Marking	18
3.9.2.2.7	Gel Time (GT) (Optional Test)	15	3.14.1	Marking Laminate Materials	18
3.9.2.2.8	Volatile Content (VC) (Optional Test)	15	3.14.2	Marking Prepreg Materials	18
3.10	Chemical Requirements	15	3.14.3	Marking of Shipping Containers	18
3.10.1	Chemical Requirements of Laminate Materials	15	3.15	Workmanship	18
3.10.1.1	Flammability	15	3.16	Material Safety	18
3.10.1.2	Thermal Stress	16	3.17	Prepreg Shelf Life	18
3.10.1.3	Solderability	16	4	QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS	18
3.10.1.4	Chemical Resistance (Optional Test)	16	4.1	Quality System	18
3.10.1.5	Metal Surfaces Cleanability	16			

Specification for Base Materials for Rigid and Multilayer Printed Boards

1 SCOPE

This specification covers the requirements for base materials, herein referred to as laminate or prepreg, to be used primarily for rigid or multilayer printed boards for electrical and electronic circuits.

1.1 Classification The system shown below identifies clad and unclad laminate or prepreg base materials. The specification sheets serve as a cross-reference connecting the outlined callout system in this document to previously used systems.

Example for laminate base materials where this specification is referenced:

L	Material Designator (see 1.1.1)
25	Specification Sheet Number (see 1.1.1)
1500	Nominal Laminate Thickness (see 1.1.2)
C1/C1	Metal Cladding Type and Nominal Weight/Thickness (see 1.1.3)
A	Thickness Tolerance Class (see 1.1.4)
A	Surface Quality Class (see 1.1.5)

Example for prepreg base materials where this specification is referenced:

P	Material Designator (see 1.1.1)
25	Specification Sheet Number (see 1.1.1)
E7628	Reinforcement Style (see 1.1.6)
TW	Resin Content Method (see 1.1.7)
RE	Flow Parameter Method (see 1.1.7)
VC	Optional Prepreg Method (see 1.1.7)

1.1.1 Specification Sheet Description At the end of this document is a series of specification sheets. Each specification sheet outlines requirements for both laminate and prepreg for each product grade. The specification sheets are organized by a specific reinforcement type, resin system, and/or construction and are provided with a specification sheet number for ordering purposes. For convenience, the laminate and prepreg requirements for materials of the like composition are on the same specification sheet. Material Designator “L” indicates laminate material and Material Designator “P” indicates prepreg material as shown in designation examples in 1.1. When certifying to multiple specification sheets, the strongest performance requirements **shall** apply.

The headings for each specification sheet include reference definitions for the material, which cover the reinforcements, resin systems, flame retardants, and fillers used, as well as its other known identifications and glass transition temperature, T_g . The specific line items within the specification sheets are the requirements that material **shall** meet in order to be certified to this specification.

1.1.2 Nominal Laminate Thickness The nominal thickness is identified by four digits. For all substrates covered by this document, thicknesses may be specified or measured either over the cladding or over the dielectric (see 1.1.4 and 3.8.4.2). For metric specification, the first digit represents whole millimeters, the second represents tenths of millimeters, etc. For orders requiring Imperial units, the four digits indicate the thickness in ten-thousandths of an inch. In the example shown in 1.1, 1500 designates a laminate with thickness of 1.5 mm [0.00591 in], which would be specified as 0591 when using Imperial units.

1.1.3 Metal Cladding Type and Nominal Weight/Thickness The type and nominal weight or thickness of the metallic cladding for laminate base material is identified by five designators. The first and fourth designators indicate the type of cladding; the third designator is a slash mark that differentiates sides of the base material; the second and fifth designators indicate the nominal weight or thickness of the metallic cladding.

1.1.3.1 Metal Cladding Type The types of metallic cladding and the designators representing them are shown in Table 1-1. Table 1-1 is provided as a reference only. The referee document is the latest version of IPC-4562, IPC-4563, or IPC-CF-152 as appropriate. Cladding types C and R, and cladding types H and S, may be used interchangeably as agreed upon between user and supplier. Cladding type H can be used for type C and type S can be used for type R. Cladding type R may be substituted for type C, and cladding type S may be substituted for type H.

1.1.3.2 Nominal Weight/Thickness The weight or thickness of metallic cladding and the designators representing them are listed in Table 1-2. Table 1-2 is provided as a reference only. The referee document is the latest version of IPC-4562, IPC-4563, or IPC-CF-152 as appropriate.

1.1.4 Thickness Tolerance (Laminate) The class of thickness tolerance for laminate base material is identified by either A, B, C, D, K, L, M or X (as agreed upon