Selected Application

Fiber to Ferrule Bonding

What is Fiber to Ferrule Bonding?

Fiber optic cables require proper termination for optimum transmission efficiency and minimal data loss. Selecting the right adhesives assures limited fiber displacement and mitigates interference from mechanical and thermal factors. Epoxies are used to maintain fiber alignment within the ferrule, as well as allowing light to be transmitted.

Where Can Fiber to Ferrule Bonding Materials Be Used?

Epoxies bond well to most substrates; notably glass, stainless steel, zirconia, and ceramic. A small amount of epoxy can be used to pot (fill-in) the void between the outer diameter of the fiber and the inner diameter of the ferrule. This ensures the epoxy holds the fiber within the ferrule, which is then polished to help sustain the fibers' optical properties.

Which EPO-TEK® Products Are Best Suited For Fiber to Ferrule Bonding?

Epoxy Technology manufactures a variety of optical adhesives, listed below by cure type:

- Low Viscosity:
 - Room Temp Cure: 301, 301-2, 302-3M, OM125
 - Thermal Cure: 323LP, 353ND, 354, 377, 383ND
 - UV Cure: OG142-87, OG198-54, OG603
- Low/Non-Flow:
 - Room Temp Cure: OJ2116
 - Thermal Cure: 323LP-T, 353ND-T, 354-T
 - UV Cure: OG116-31, OG198-55

Characteristics To Help Choose the Correct EPO-TEK® Product

EPO-TEK	Key advantages/ Characteristics
301	Low viscosity, RT cure, highly wicking, commonly used in fiber optic catheters
301-2	Low viscosity, long pot life, RT cure, highly wicking ISO-10993, USP Class VI approved
302-3M	Medium viscosity, RT cure, strong moisture and chemical resistance
323LP	Medium viscosity, heat cure, long pot life version of 353ND
323LP-T	Non-flowing version of 323LP
353ND	Well known (Industry standard) in fiber optics, high performance and reliability
353ND-T	Non-flowing version of 353ND
354	Long pot life (3 days) version of 353ND, high strength and reliability USP Class VI approved
354-T	Thixotropic version of 354
377	Low viscosity, heat cure, low stress and strong chemical resistance, ideally suited for fiber optic bundles
383ND	8 hour pot life version of 353ND
OG116-31	Higher viscosity, UV cure, low flow material with high strength and low stress
OG142-87	Low viscosity, UV cure, high strength epoxy
OG198-54	Low viscosity, UV cure, allows for some shadow cure through heat
OG198-55	Non-flowing version of OG198-54, allows for some shadow cure through heat
OG603	Low viscosity, very fast UV cure, acrylate type, for fiber optic pigtails
OJ2116	Medium viscosity, very fast cure for field assembly and repairs
OM125	Medium viscosity, RT cure, low shrinkage and low stress, blue color







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DISCLAIMER: Data presented is provided only to be used as a guide. Properties listed are typical, average values, based on tests believed to be accurate. It is recommended that users perform a thorough evaluation for any application based on their specific requirements. Epoxy Technology makes no warranties (expressed or implied) and assumes no responsibility in connection with the use or inability to use these products. Please refer to the product data sheets and safety data sheets (SDS) for more detailed information.

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N/A - not available/applicable

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POT LIFE	
SHELF LIFE	

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How Do The EPO-TEK Properties Compare?

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OM125	0J2116	06603	0G198-55	0G198-54	0G142-87	0G116-31	383ND	377	354-T	354	353ND-T	353ND	323LP-T	323LP	302-3M	301-2	301	EPO-TEK®
Two	Two	One	One	One	One	One	Two	Two	Two	Two	Two	Two	Two	Two	Two	Two	Two	NO. of Components
Blue/Blue	Clear/ Colorless	Clear/ Colorless	Cloudy	Clear/ Colorless	Clear/ Colorless	White/White	Amber/ Dark Red	Amber/ Dark Amber	Amber	Amber	Tan/ Dark Red	Amber/ Dark Red	Amber/ Dark Amber	Amber/ Dark Amber	Clear/ Colorless	Clear/ Colorless	Clear/ Colorless	COLOR Before/ After CURE (thin film)
80°C – 1 hour 23°C – 24 hours	23°C – 30 min	100mW/cm ² for >5 sec @ 240-365nm	100mW/cm² for >2 min @ 240-365nm	100mW/cm² for >2 min @ 240-365nm	100mW/cm ² for >2 min @ 240-365nm	100mW/cm ² for >2 min @ 240-365nm	90°C – 30 min	150°C – 1 hour	150°C – 10 min 80°C – 2 hours	150°C – 10 min 80°C – 2 hours	150°C – 1 min 80°C – 30 min	150°C – 1 min 80°C – 30 min	90°C – 30 min	90°C – 30 min	65°C – 3 hours 23°C – 24 hours	80°C – 3 hours 23°C – 24 hours	65°C – 2 hours 23°C – 24 hours	CURE TEMPERATURE (minimal)
2,400 - 5,400 cPs @ 50 rpm	N/A	150 - 250 cPs @ 100 rpm	1,200 - 2,000 cPs @ 100 rpm	200 - 450 cPs @ 100 rpm	250 - 600 cPs @ 100 rpm	20,000 - 30,000 cPs @ 10 rpm	3,500 - 6,000 cPs @ 50 rpm	150 - 300 cPs @ 100 rpm	11,000 - 20,000 cPs @ 20 rpm	4,000 - 6,000 cPs @ 50 rpm	9,000 - 15,000 cPs @ 20 rpm	3,000 - 5,000 cPs @ 50 rpm	22,451 cPs @ 10 rpm	3,500 - 5,000 cPs @ 50 rpm	800 - 1,600 cPs @ 100 rpm	225 - 425 cPs @ 100 rpm	100 - 200 cPs @ 100 rpm	VISCOSITY @ 23°C
≥80°C	56°C	≥70°C	≥120°C	≥131°C	≥100°C	≥115°C	>100°C	≥95°C	≥95°C	≥95°C	≥90°C	≥90°C	118°C	≥100°C	≥55°C	≥80°C	≥65°C	GLASS TRANSITION TEMPERATURE (Tg)
≥20 kg/6,800 psi	17 kg/5,780 psi	≥3 kg/1,020 psi	>20 kg/6,800 psi	>10 kg/3,400 psi	>20 kg/6,800 psi	≥10 kg/3,400 psi	>20 kg/6,800 psi	≥10 kg/3,400 psi	≥10 kg/3,400 psi	≥10 kg/3,400 psi	≥15 kg/5,100 psi	≥15 kg/5,100 psi	>20 kg/6,800 psi	>20 kg/6,800 psi	≥10 kg/3,400 psi	≥15 kg/5,100 psi	≥10 kg/3,400 psi	DIE SHEAR STRENGTH @ RT (80mil x 80mil)
N/A	1.5459 (uncured)	1.5037	1.5023 (uncured) 1.5196 (cured)	1.5046 (uncured) 1.5256 (cured)	1.4925	1.5665	1.5715 (uncured)	1.5195 (uncured)	N/A	1.5734 (uncured)	N/A	1.5694 (uncured)	N/A	1.5704 (uncured)	1.5446 (uncured)	1.5318 (uncured)	1.5190 (uncured)	INDEX OF REFRACTION (Nd)
>96% @ 1500nm >98% @ 1000nm >97% @ 800nm	>97% @ 460-1620nm	>98% @ 420-1600nm	>97% @ 560-1680nm	>97% @ 460-1680nm	>97% @ 580-1660nm	>96% @ 660-1640nm >92% @ 500nm	>90% @ 520-1660nm	≥90% @ 600-1000nm ≥98% @ 1000-6800nm	N/A	≥96% @ 600nm ≥99% @ 800nm	N/A	>50% @ 550nm >98% @ 800-1000nm >95% @ 1100-1600nm	N/A	≥94% @ 820-1620nm ≥90% @ 640-800nm	>95% @ 460-1620nm	>94% @ 320nm >99% @ 400-1200nm >98% @ 1200-1600nm	>99% @ 380-980nm >97% @ 980-1640nm >95% @ 1640-2040nm	SPECTRAL TRANSMISSION
367°C	347°C	385°C	354°C	369°C	384°C	409°C	415°C	375°C	485°C	487°C	409°C	412°C	419°C	413°C	351°C	360°C	430°C	TGA DEGRADATION TEMPERATURE
28 x 10 ⁻⁶ 114 x 10 ⁻⁶	N/A	69 x 10 ⁻⁶ 170 x 10 ⁻⁶	72 x 10 ⁻⁶ 120 x 10 ⁻⁶	74 x 10 ⁻⁶ 145 x 10 ⁻⁶	50 x 10 ⁻⁶ 162 x 10 ⁻⁶	41 x 10 ⁻⁶ 170 x 10 ⁻⁶	34 x 10 ⁻⁶ 129 x 10 ⁻⁶	57 x 10 ⁻⁶ 210 x 10 ⁻⁶	51 x 10 ⁻⁶ 179 x 10 ⁻⁶	96 x 10 ⁻⁶ 175 x 10 ⁻⁶	43 x 10 ⁻⁶ 231 x 10 ⁻⁶	54 x 10 ⁻⁶ 206 x 10 ⁻⁶	N/A	31 x 10 ⁻⁶ 132 x 10 ⁻⁶	56 x 10 ⁻⁶ 193 x 10 ⁻⁶	61 x 10 ⁻⁶ 180 x 10 ⁻⁶	39 x 10 ⁻⁶ 98 x 10 ⁻⁶	CTE Below Tg/ Above Tg (in/in/°C)
<1 hour	<5 min	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8 hours	24 hours	3 days	3 days	3 hours	≤3 hours	24 hours	24 hours	1 hour	8 hours	1-2 hours	POT LIFE (@ room temp.)
1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year refrigerated	1 year refrigerated	1 year refrigerated	1 year	6 months	1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year	SHELF LIFE (@ room temp. unless noted)						