



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 22 MARCH 2010

RE: NEWLY Qualified Micro-D Insulator Materials

Great news! Effective on ALL Micro-D shipments beginning in 2010, Cristek will be providing all Micro-D products using our recently DSCC qualified Polyphenylene Sulfide (PPS) material. After feedback from our customers requesting Cristek to qualify our Micro-D products using the thermoplastic PPS, we heard you and we have answered your requests!

Cristek received notification from DSCC on 23-July-09 that our Mini qualification test plan/results #83513-2469-09 had been accepted. Prior to this material change, Cristek had been using Diallyl Phthalate (DAP) per MIL-M-14, Type SDG-F or Type GDI-30F. Now on all products, Cristek will provide PPS in accordance with ASTM D5927 or MIL-M-24519 as stated below.

Per the current Mil-Dtl-83513 Rev G, Para 3.3.6.1 specification, acceptable materials:

3.3.6.1 Inserts, class M. Inserts for class M connector material shall conform to the requirements of type GDI-30F or type SDG-F in accordance with ASTM D5948, or shall be glass filled thermoplastic materials in accordance with ASTM D5927 or MIL-M-24519 (color optional) or Liquid Crystal Polymer (LCP) in accordance with ASTM D5138, color optional..

Technical advantages of PPS over DAP: DAP is a thermoset material whereas PPS is a thermoplastic material. Thermoplastic materials offer a better overall strength and toughness over a compatible Thermoset, due to the material flowing during its molding process, forming a stronger crystalline structure. Due to that increased toughness, a Thermoplastic is much more resistant to micro cracking or chipping. Although both materials are widely used, qualified and accepted in various Military Specifications/Applications, industry experts believe that the PPS material is preferred and superior to DAP. In the interest of providing all our customers and war fighters with the best available materials, Cristek felt the choice was easy.

What you will expect to see: For Nearly 20 years, our customers have become accustom to seeing our “Cristek Blue” DAP insulators. We are sorry to say that you will no longer see our traditional blue anymore. In order to have a clear visible difference for our customers we have chosen to begin production of our PPS products in Black. You will notice the difference in the photo below. Please allow your folks in receiving and production to understand these differences as they will be of the first to visually notice. We want to place their mind at ease.

Cristek's new
PPS material that
is BLACK in
color



Cristek's old
DAP
material in the
recognizable BLUE
color

FAQ's:

Will Cristek continue to provide DAP materials in their products? Or, is it now Obsolete?

The answer is yes, Cristek can continue to provide DAP material in our products, however at a considerable price increase. Even though currently qualified and tooled to either material, our standard offering is now PPS, therefore to run DAP would be considered as an “order by order” basis.

What if old drawings have DAP specifically called out on drawings?

In some cases that is very likely, as many drawings could have been generated prior to the availability of DSCC allowing the use of both materials and/or the more widely accepted use/qualification of PPS by the Micro-D manufacturers. PPS meets or

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exceeds nearly any material performance criteria in a side by side desktop comparison. In addition, Cristek specifically conducted an extensive test plan through a wide variety of visual, mechanical and electrical tests that have been accepted by DSCC for use in their Military Standard (M83513) hardware. Because of the sheer volume of drawings and specifications involved, and the extremely low risk involved with the change, there should be no reason why this changeover should NOT be acceptable. Should your company require any further test data, that allows the changeover to this material, we would be happy to provide it to you upon request.

What if a Cristek current drawing states DAP on them as the provided material?

Considering that both materials are accepted without exception by DSCC, all Cristek drawings referencing DAP will NOW be provided with PPS insulators rather than DAP. This letter/notification shall serve as a superseding notice to any of those documents.

What if our company would still like to use DAP on our programs/projects?

Cristek has no problem honoring your request for DAP material. Please notify your sales representative at your next requirement and we will handle it accordingly. However, as stated above, there would be a considerable price increase that would be applicable. We don't like imposing price increases without good cause. This price increase is strictly due to the reduced volume required for DAP components as nearly all of our customers prefer to use PPS. Based on our knowledge of this product, we would recommend processing the changeover, as we feel paying an increased price for an inferior material is not preferred by anyone.

Can parts using DAP & PPS be mixed within the same build/shipment lot?

DSCC has given Cristek explicit permission that mixing of material lots is allowed and poses no risk. Although we strive to take every avenue to separate build lots and ship them separately, and will be depleting our DAP inventory, there may be instances where mixing the lots will be the exception. As with any customer directed QAP requiring homogeneous lots of material on specific contracts, Cristek will comply with those requirements.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS CONTACT

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