Solvay's New Xydar® LCP Resin Meets Stringent Demands of New Gigabyte Surface Mount Connectors

Xydar® MG-850 LCP provides high flow, flatness and dimensional stability for next-generation connectors designed for computers and tablets.

ALPHARETTA, Ga., Jan. 7, 2015 – Solvay Specialty Polymers introduces Xydar® MG-850 liquid crystal polymer (LCP), a new specially designed grade that meets the rigorous performance and processing demands of new high-speed USB 3.0 surface mount connectors. This advanced new material delivers the high flow, flatness, and dimensional stability required for new 12-gigabyte connectors that target applications in desktop and laptop computers, as well as tablets.

“The connector industry’s adoption of advanced fine-pitch technology* has placed even more exacting demands on materials,” said Glenn Cupta, global business development manager for electrical/electronics at Solvay Specialty Polymers. “Xydar MG-850 LCP offers manufacturers exceptional performance for these next-generation connectors, providing even tighter tolerances and lower warpage compared to our standard LCP material.”

Xydar® MG-850 LCP is a 50 percent glass/mineral reinforced polymer that fills thin walls over long flow lengths. The proprietary mineral and glass reinforcement package provides excellent warp resistance. It also exhibits a heat deflection temperature of 271°C (520°F) and infrared reflow capability up to 260°C (500°F). The material’s low moisture absorption facilitates improved IR reflow performance, according to Cupta.

Solvay’s new injection moldable grade offers performance advantages over competitive low-warp LCPs, and doesn’t suffer from corrosion issues exhibited by other rival material technologies, such as halogen-free flame retardant polyphthalamide (PPA) resins. Xydar® LCP is inherently flame retardant, transparent to microwave radiation and resistant to virtually all chemicals. The material has an UL 94 V0 flammability rating from Underwriters Laboratories of 0.2 mm without additives.

Available in black or natural colors, Xydar® MG-850 LCP is sold globally to leading processors and connector manufacturers, with whom Solvay is working closely to help facilitate its application in next-generation USB 3.0 surface mount connectors for the personal computing market.

Xydar® LCPs are part of Solvay's broad specialty polymers portfolio, which includes materials like Lavanta® high-performance polyester (HPP) for production of light-emitting diodes used in televisions and backlight unit applications.

*Fine-pitch technology, or FTP, is generally defined as boards with 15 to 25 mils (thousandths of an inch) applications

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About Solvay Specialty Polymers

As an international chemical group, Solvay (www.solvay.com) assists industries in finding and implementing ever more responsible and value-creating solutions. Solvay generates 90% of its net sales in activities where it is among the world's top three players. It serves many markets, varying from energy and the environment to automotive and aeronautics or electricity and electronics, with one goal: to raise the performance of its clients and improve society's quality of life. The group is headquartered in Brussels, employs about 29,400 people in 56 countries and generated 9.9 billion euros in net sales in 2013. Solvay SA (SOLB) is listed on NYSE Euronext in Brussels and Paris (Bloomberg SOLB:BB – Reuters: SOLB.BR).

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