# TECHNICAL BULLETIN

(R)

SM-970-1

# ALPHA Vaculoy SACX PLUS<sup>TM</sup>0807/ SACX PLUS<sup>TM</sup>0800 LEAD FREE WAVE SOLDER ALLOY

### DESCRIPTION

ALPHA Vaculoy SACX Plus<sup>™</sup>0807 is a low silver lead-free alloy specially designed with proprietary additives to deliver soldering and reliability performance similar to higher silver SAC alloys (ie. SAC305, 405, etc...). The SACX Plus<sup>™</sup>0800 variant is used to stabilize / reduce the copper content in the wave solder bath; this requirement will depend on process conditions. As with all Alpha Metals wave solder alloys, Alpha's proprietary Vaculoy<sup>™</sup> process is used to remove certain impurities, particularly oxides. SACX Plus<sup>™</sup>0807 can be used for the widest range of assemblies and under the widest range of operating conditions of any low silver or silver free alloy available today. SACX Plus<sup>™</sup>0807 is available in a variety of forms including solid wire for replenishment and rework requirements.

### **FEATURES & BENEFITS**

| Feature                                  | Benefit   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Low Silver Content                       | Lower material costs vs SAC305  |  |  |  |
| Low Operating Temperature<br>Requirement | Wide processing window and energy cost savings. Drop<br>in to most current lead free wave soldering machine<br>temperature profiles |  |  |  |
| Low Dross Rate                           | Less dross means higher alloy utilization and less time spent on pot "maintenance"  |  |  |  |
| Low Copper Erosion Rate                  | Less risk during high temperature, high exposure time processes (i.e. rework, selective soldering, etc)                             |  |  |  |
| Low Surface Tension Alloy                | Fast wetting with high wetting force delivering excellent hole fill and low SMD related defects                                     |  |  |  |
| Strong, Ductile Joints                   | Lower warranty claims related to mechanical joint failures  |  |  |  |

The proprietary Vaculoy process is a highly effective method for removing included oxides from solder. This is extremely important because included oxides generate excessive drossing and increase the viscosity of the solder. Solder with higher viscosity can result in increased soldering defects (i.e. solder bridging).

### APPLICATION

ALPHA Vaculoy SACX Plus<sup>™</sup>0807 is suitable for wave soldering and selective soldering for electronic assemblers interested in implementing a lead-free process. It is suitable for nearly all types of boards (single & double-sided) and works particularly well on assemblies with OSP pad finishes that have been exposed to prior reflow excursions and where lower silver or silver free alloys have not worked. For suitable wave solder fluxes, please visit www.alphametals.com and navigate to the Wave Solder Flux Selector tool on the Wave Solder flux main page. Lead free Reclaim services including dedicated lead free containers are also available; please consult your local sales office.

### AVAILABILITY

ALPHA Vaculoy SACX Plus™0807 is available in a variety of sizes including 1kg bar, chunks, Feeder Ingots and Autofeed solid wire.

#### Patent Pending PCT/GB2005/004609



### Cookson Electronics ASSEMBLY MATERIALS



## Cookson Electronics ASSEMBLY MATERIALS

### **HEALTH & SAFETY**

Please refer to MSDS for advice on proper handling and safety instructions.

### **TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION**

Complies with all requirements of RoHS Directive (Article 4.1 of the European Directive 2002/95/EC). Alloy specification for Maximum Lead (Pb) Content = 0.1%

| Material Property    | SACX Plus       | Test Method                                 |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------|-----------------|---|--|--|--|--|
|                      | 0807            |   |  |  |  |  |
| Solidus              | 216°C           | Differential Scanning Colorimeter (DSC)     |  |  |  |  |
| Liquidus (peak)      | 225°C           | Cooling Curve                               |  |  |  |  |
| Density              | 7.4 g / cm³     | Calculated                                  |  |  |  |  |
| Resistivity          | 0.1399 μΩm      | Measured resistance of solid wire at 22°C   |  |  |  |  |
| Coefficient of       | 19.5 x 10-6 / C | 30 - 100°C at 1°C / minute                  |  |  |  |  |
| Thermal<br>Expansion | 20.2 x 10-6 / C | 100 - 180°C at 1°C / minute                 |  |  |  |  |
| Spread Factor        | > 75%           | JIS Z 3197                                  |  |  |  |  |
| Specific Heat        | 0.23 J/g/°C     | At 100°C, Differential Scanning Colorimeter |  |  |  |  |
| Hardness             | 16.4 HV         | Vickers Hardness (as cast)                  |  |  |  |  |
| Tensile Strength     | 30.7 MPa        | Strain rate 10 <sup>-3</sup> per second     |  |  |  |  |
| Elongation           | 21.0 %          | Strain rate 10 <sup>-3</sup> per second     |  |  |  |  |
| Creep Strength       | > 1000 Hours    | 400 g/mm <sup>2</sup> load @ 100°C          |  |  |  |  |

### **RECOMMENDED PROCESS SETTINGS**

| Wave<br>Configuration | Process Parameter | Suggested Process Settings         |  |  |  |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Single Wave           | Pot temperature   | 255 - 265 Celsius (491 - 509 F)    |  |  |  |
|                       | Conveyor speed    | 0.8 - 1.5 m/min (2.6 – 5.3 ft/min) |  |  |  |
|                       | Contact time      | 2.3 - 2.8 seconds                  |  |  |  |
|                       | Wave Height       | 1/2 to 2/3 of board thickness      |  |  |  |
|                       | Dross removal     | Once per 8 hour run time           |  |  |  |
|                       | Copper Check      | Every 8,000 boards until 40,000    |  |  |  |
| Dual Wave             | Pot temperature   | 255 - 265 Celsius (491 - 509 F)    |  |  |  |
|                       | Conveyor speed    | 0.8 - 1.5 m/min (2.6 – 5.3 ft/min) |  |  |  |
|                       | Contact time      | 3.0 – 4 seconds                    |  |  |  |
|                       | Wave Height       | 1/2 to 2/3 of board thickness      |  |  |  |
|                       | Dross removal     | Once per 8 hour run time           |  |  |  |
|                       | Copper Check      | Every 8,000 boards until 40,000    |  |  |  |

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### Cookson Electronics ASSEMBLY MATERIALS

### MANAGEMENT OF COPPER LEVELS IN THE SOLDER BATH

#### Copper should be controlled in the solder bath between 0.7% and 1.0%

Management of the copper level in the wave solder bath is critical to ensure low defects in the soldering process. There is a tendency for the copper levels within a high tin bearing alloy wave solder bath to increase due to copper dissolution from the PCB. This effect increases based on the level of exposed copper on the assembly, as in the case of boards using OSP pad finishes.

Studies have shown a typical leaching rate of **0.01% Cu per 1000 boards**. As each process is unique, this rate should be viewed as a guideline only.

It is recommended that the copper is controlled at between 0.7% and max 1.0% for **SACX Plus<sup>™</sup>0807 alloy**. If the copper levels are higher than 1.0% then this will increase the liquidus temperature which in turn may mean that the solder bath temperature has to be increased to maintain the process yields.

The copper levels in the bath can be controlled by means of adding SACX Plus<sup>™</sup> 0800 to the wave solder pot. It may be the case that equilibrium can be attained by continuing with SACX Plus<sup>™</sup> 0800 additions as the only means of solder top up, however each process is unique and we would recommend regular analysis of the solder bath so that good control of copper can be maintained. This analysis service is available from **Cookson**, contact your local sales office for details.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION LEVELS FOR WAVE SOLDER IMPURITES**

Please find below a list of recommended action levels for wave solder bath impurities. For information of specific action plans to bring your solder bath back to an acceptable condition please contact your local sales office.

| Element | ACTION<br>Levels | Notes   |
|---------|------------------|---|
| Sn      | BAL              | No Action level.  |
| Pb      | 0.10             | RoHS Directive 2002/95/EC states a maximum Lead content of 0.1%   |
| As      | 0.03             | Levels greater than 0.03% can cause de-wetting.   |
| Cu      | 0.50 - 1.00      | SACX <sup>®</sup> 0807 is tolerant to copper levels up to 1.0%, SACX <sup>®</sup> 0800 copper free should be added to maintain copper levels. Levels above 1.0% may cause more bridging.                            |
| Bi      | 0.08 - 0.20      | Lead Free alloys are tolerant to Bi up to 1.0%, however if levels above 0.20% are detected this indicates some contamination issues that should be investigated   |
| Zn      | 0.003            | Levels greater than 0.003% may cause higher levels of bridging and icicling and a greater level of surface oxidation in the solder bath.  |
| Fe      | 0.02             | Greater than 0.02% Iron can be an indicator of pot erosion and may cause gritty joint formation and the formation of FeSn <sub>2</sub> IMC needles that can cause bridging.   |
| Ag      | 0.5 - 1.00       | Silver levels of 4% are used in some SAC alloys, however if the levels in SACX <sup>®</sup> 0807 rise above 1% then some investigations should be held to establish the cause. Solderability should not be affected |
| Sb      | 0.20             | Lead Free alloys are tolerant to Sb up to 1.0%, however if levels above 0.20% are detected this indicates some contamination issues that should be investigated   |
| Ni      | 0.05             | Levels greater than 0.025% may start to slow the wetting speed and could affect the hole fill performance. If process performance is OK then levels up to 0.05% are acceptable.                                     |
| Cd      | 0.003            | RoHS Directive 2002/95/EC states a maximum Cadmium content of 0.01%. Levels of 0.003% may cause higher level of bridging and icicling.  |
| AI      | 0.002            | Levels greater than 0.002% may cause higher levels of bridging and icicling and a greater level of surface oxidation in the solder bath.  |
| Au      | 0.1              | Levels above 0.1% may result in poor joint strength.  |

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