## Lead-Free No Clean Solder Paste

## **Features:**

- Long Pause-to-Print Capabilities
- Enhances Fine Print Definitions
- No Head-in-Pillow

- Excellent Wetting, Even Leadless Devices
- Reduced Voiding

- RoHS Compliant

# **Description:**

NC258 has been developed to offer long pause-to-print capabilities while enhancing fine print definitions. NC258 reduces such defects as voiding and eliminates head-in-pillow. The superior wetting ability of NC258 results in bright, smooth and shiny solder joints. It also offers very low post process residues, which remain crystal clear even at the elevated temperatures required for today's lead-free alloys.

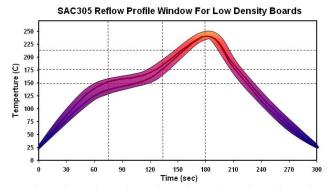
## **Printing:**

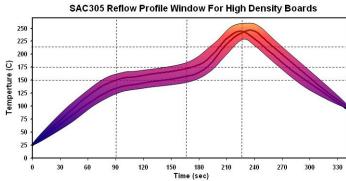
- Apply sufficient paste to the stencil to allow a smooth, even roll during the print cycle (a bead diameter of 12 to 16 mm ( $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch) is normally sufficient to begin).
- Apply small amounts of fresh solder paste to the stencil at controlled intervals to maintain paste chemistry and workable properties.
- NC258 provides the necessary tack time and force for today's high speed placement equipment, which will enhance product performance and reliability.
- Cleaning of your stencil will vary by application; however, it can be accomplished using AIM DJAW-10 stencil cleaner.

| RECOMMENDED INITIAL PRINTER SETTINGS BELOW ARE DEPENDENT ON PCB AND PAD DESIGN |                              |                         |                              |  |  |  |  |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| PARAMETER  | RECOMMENDED INITIAL SETTINGS | PARAMETER               | RECOMMENDED INITIAL SETTINGS |  |  |  |  |
| Squeegee Pressure  | 0.9 - 1.5 lbs/inch of blade  | PCB Separation Distance | 0.75-2.0 mm (.030080")       |  |  |  |  |
| Squeegee Speed   | 0.5 - 6 inches/second        | PCB Separation Speed    | 0.5 - 2 mm/second            |  |  |  |  |
| Snap-off Distance  | On Contact 0.00 mm (0.00")   |                         |                              |  |  |  |  |

## **Reflow Profile:**

Two unique profile families are depicted below; both can be used in ramp-spike or ramp-soak-spike applications, and they each have similar reflow temperatures. The two profiles differ in where they reach their respective peak temperatures, as well as the time above liquidus (TAL). The shorter profile of the two would apply to smaller assemblies, where as the longer profile would apply to larger assemblies, such as backplanes or high-density boards. The shaded area defines the process window. Oven efficiency, board size/mass, component type and density all influence the final profile for a given assembly. These profiles are starting points, and processing boards with thermal-couples attached is recommended to optimize the process.





| RATE OF<br>RISE 2°C /<br>SEC MAX | RAMP TO<br>150°C<br>(302°F) | PROGRESS<br>THROUGH<br>150°C-175°C<br>(302°F-347°F) | TO PEAK<br>TEMP 230°C-<br>245°C (445°F-<br>474°F) | TIME ABOVE<br>217°C (425°F) | COOLDOWN<br>≤4°C/SEC | PROFILE<br>LENGTH<br>AMBIENT TO<br>PEAK |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Short Profiles                   | ≤ 60 Sec                    | 15-45 Sec   | 45-75 Sec   | 45-60 Sec                   | 45± 15 Sec           | 2.75-3.75 Min                           |
| Long Profiles                    | ≤ 90 Sec                    | 60-90 Sec   | 45-60 Sec   | 45-75 Sec                   | 45± 15 Sec           | 4.0-5.0 Min                             |

- THE RECOMMENDED REFLOW PROFILE FOR NC258 IS PROVIDED AS A GUIDELINE. OPTIMAL PROFILE MAY DIFFER DUE TO OVEN TYPE, ASSEMBLY LAYOUT, OR OTHER PROCESS VARIABLES. CONTACT AIM TECHNICAL SUPPORT IF YOU REQUIRE ADDITIONAL PROFILING ASSISTANCE.
- ❖ THE REFLOW PROFILE FOR THE SnAgCu PASTES USING A VAPOR PHASE REFLOW OVEN: PEAK TEMPERATURE RANGE IS 230°C − 245°C.

# **Compatible Products:**

- AIM Lead-Free Electropure Solder Bar
- NC Paste Flux, No-Clean Tacky Flux
- NC270WR VOC-Free No-Clean Spray Flux
- NC264-5 No-Clean Flux Spray/Foam

- Glowcore No-Clean Cored Wire
- One-Step Underfill FF35
- Epoxy 4044 Chip Bonding Epoxy
- 200AX Stencil Cleaner

## **Cleaning:**

- NC258 can be cleaned if necessary with saponified water or an appropriate solvent cleaner.
- Please refer to the AIM cleaner matrix for a list of compatible cleaning materials.

# **Handling and Storage:**

- NC258 is best used within 9 months at 4° C-12° C (40° F-55° F) or 4 months at room temperature.
- Allow the solder paste to warm up completely and naturally to ambient temperature (8 hrs.) prior to breaking the seal for use.
- Mix the product lightly and thoroughly (1-2 mins. max) to ensure even distribution of any separated material.
- Do not store new and used paste in the same container, and reseal any opened containers while not in use.
- Replace the internal plug and cap of the 500 gram jars to ensure the best possible seal.

# **Physical Properties:**

| ITEM          | SPECIFICATION                                 |  |
|---------------|---|--|
| Appearance    | Gray, Smooth, Creamy                          |  |
| Alloy         | SAC305  |  |
| Melting Point | 217° -218° C                                  |  |
| Particle Size | T3 , T4, T5                                   |  |
| Metal Loading | 89% (T3), 88.5% (T4, T5)                      |  |
| Viscosity     | Print/dispense versions available.            |  |
| Packaging     | Available in all industry standard packaging. |  |

# **Test Data Summary:**

| CLASSIFICATI | ON                                     |   |  |
|--------------|--|---|--|
| Product Name | IPC Classification to J-STD-004        | Copper Mirror to J-STD-004                                  | Silver Chromate to J-STD-004                                   |
| NC258        | REL0                                   | LOW   | PASS   |
| POWDER TEST  | TING                                   |   |  |
| No.          | <u>Item</u>                            | <u>Results</u>  | Test Method  |
| 1            | Powder Size                            | Type 3 – 45-25 micron Type 4 – 38-20 micron                 | IPC TM 650 2.2.14  |
| 2            | Powder Shape                           | Spherical   | Microscope   |
| FLUX MEDIUN  | M TESTING                              |   |  |
| No.          | <u>Item</u>                            | Results   | Test Method  |
| 1            | Acid Value                             | 146.8 mg KOH/ g flux  | J-STD-004 IPC TM 650 2.3.13                                    |
| 2            | Halide Content                         | Silver Chromate Paper - Pass                                | J-STD-004 IPC TM 650 2.3.35                                    |
| 3            | Fluorides Spot Test                    | No fluoride   | J-STD-004 IPC TM 650 2.3.35.1<br>J-STD-004 IPC TM 650 2.3.35.2 |
| 4            | Corrosivity Test/ Copper Mirror        | Low   | J-STD-004 IPC TM 650 2.3.32                                    |
| 5            | Corrosion Flux                         | Pass  | J-STD-004 IPC TM 650 2.6.15                                    |
| 6            | Halide-Free/Silver Chromate Paper Test | Pass  | J-STD-004 IPC TM 650 2.3.33                                    |
| 7            | Surface Insulation Resistance          | Pass – See AIM Qualification Test Report # NC2580525        | J-STD-004 IPC TM 650 2.6.3.7                                   |
| 8            | Compatibility Test                     | See list of recommended products above                      | GR-78-CORE   |
| 9            | Oxygen Bomb                            | Bromine 269 mg/Kg<br>Chlorine <99.9 mg/Kg                   | EN 14582:2007<br>SW 9056 SW 5050                               |
| VISCOSITY TE | STING                                  | <u> </u>  |  |
| No.          | <u>Item</u>                            | Results   | Test Method  |
| 1            | T-Bar Spindle Test Method              | 900 ± 10% kcps  | J-STD-005 IPC TM 650 2.4.34                                    |
| SOLDER PAST  | E TESTING                              |   |  |
| No.          | <u>Item</u>                            | Results   | Test Method  |
| 1            | Tack Test                              | 37.9 g  | J-STD-005 IPC TM 650 2.4.44                                    |
| 2            | Tack Test                              | 94.8 g  | JIS Z 3284 Annez 9   |
| 3            | Solder Ball Test                       | Pass  | J-STD-005 IPC TM 650 2.4.43                                    |
| 4            | Wetting Test                           | Pass  | J-STD-005 IPC TM 650 2.4.45                                    |
| 5            | Paste Shelf Life                       | $4^{\circ}\text{C }(39^{\circ}\text{F}) = 9 \text{ months}$ | AIM TM 125-11  |
| 6            | Solder Paste Slump Test                | Pass  | J-STD-005 IPC TM 650 2.4.35                                    |

# Manufacturing and Distribution Worldwide

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