

New Transparent OSU-Compliant Polycarbonate Copolymers



LEXAN* FST

International Aircraft
Fire & Cabin Safety
Research
Conference

Nov 1, 2007

Transparent OSU-Compliant Polycarbonate Copolymers

Gary Davis, Moitreyee Sinha, Mike Takemori, Kate Jackson, Bill Richards,
Rob Colborn, Amitabh Bansal, Irene Dris

GE Global Research

Paul Sybert, Jianbo Di, Constantin Donea, Randy Myers, Ralph Buoniconti

SABIC Innovative Plastics

Karen Hills, Gregory Bell

The Boeing Company

Special Thanks To

William Hughes Technical Center, Federal Aviation

Rich Lyon, Stas Stoliarov, Rich Walters

Herb Curry Lab

Scott van Wormer

Boeing Labs

Vasan Sundaram, Hank Lutz, Joel Peterson, Pete Guard, Jim Griffing, Kjersta Larson, Steve Moffitt



Plastics in Aircraft Applications



Highly regulated market

FST Tests Required by FAA & OEMs

Ignitability, Melting/Dripping

60-sec vertical
Bunsen burner

6" burn length

15-s specimen
extinguishing time

3-s drip
extinguishing time

Heat release

**Ohio State Univ
calorimeter**

**65 kW • min/m²
total
(during first 2 min)**

**65 kW/m² peak rate
(during first 5 min)**

Smoke release

National Bureau
of Standards
smoke chamber

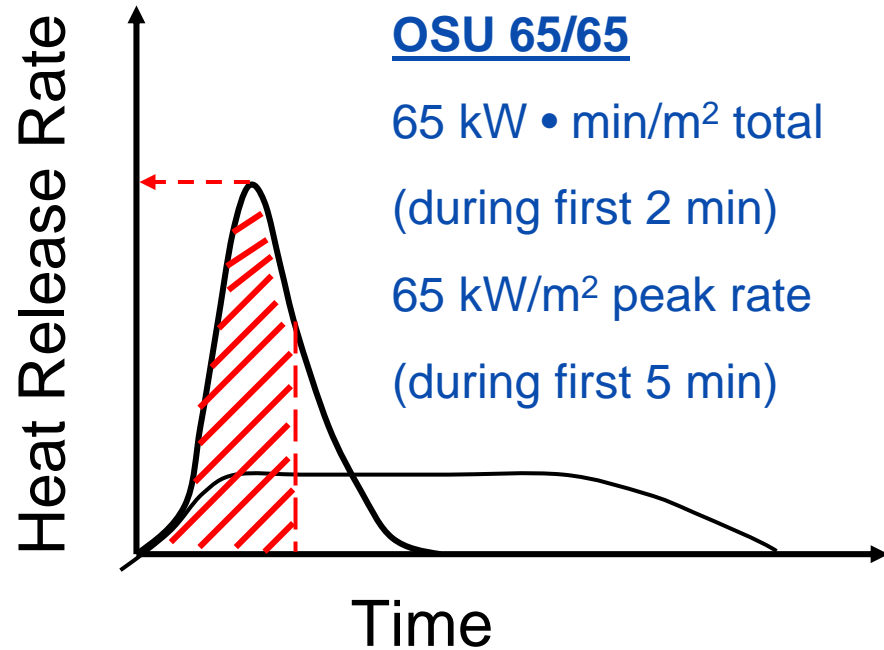
specific optical
density < 200
(during 4-min test)

Toxicity (OEM):
CO, HCN, HF, HCl,
SO₂, NOX

OSU 65/65 most challenging requirement



OSU Test



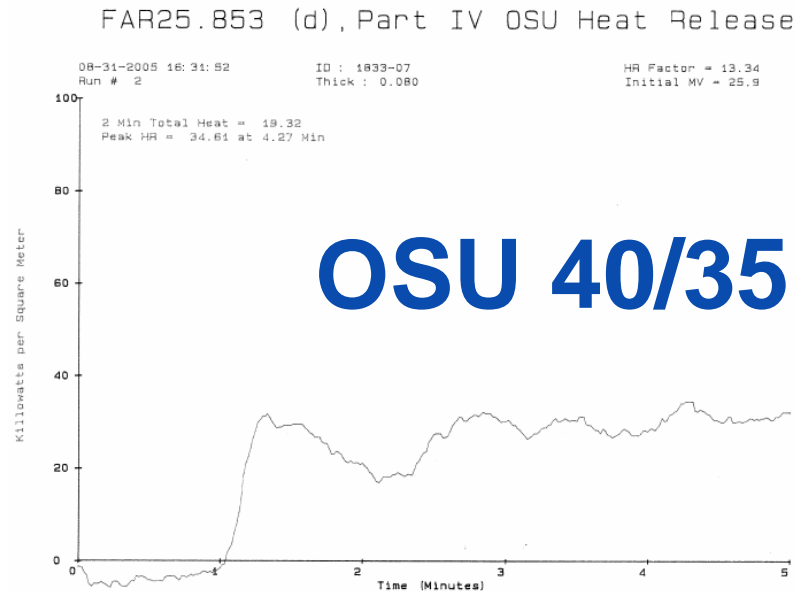
Existing commercial materials
all opaque:
Polyetherimide, polysulfone

Need for transparent OSU compliant polymer

New Transparent Polycarbonate Copolymers



t = 0.08"
for aircraft dust
cover application



Heat release capacity & char forming
controlled at molecular level

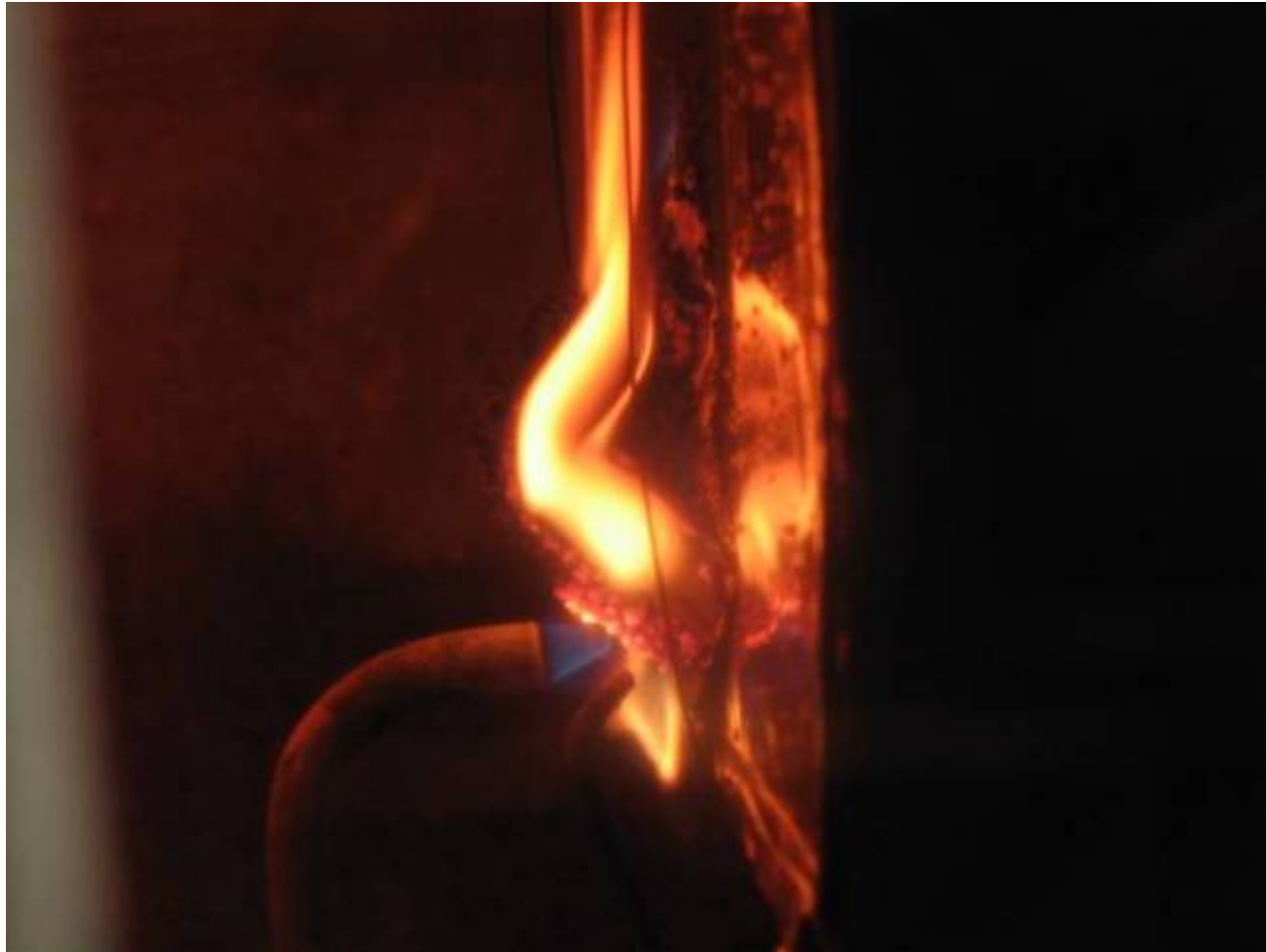
OSU Performance: Flame & Heat Applied



t=0

Heat & Flame Applied

OSU Performance: Start of burning & char



t=30 sec

Key factors:

- **Low fuel value**
- **Formation of char**
- **Rheology**

Sample starts to char with low heat release

OSU Performance: Full Burning



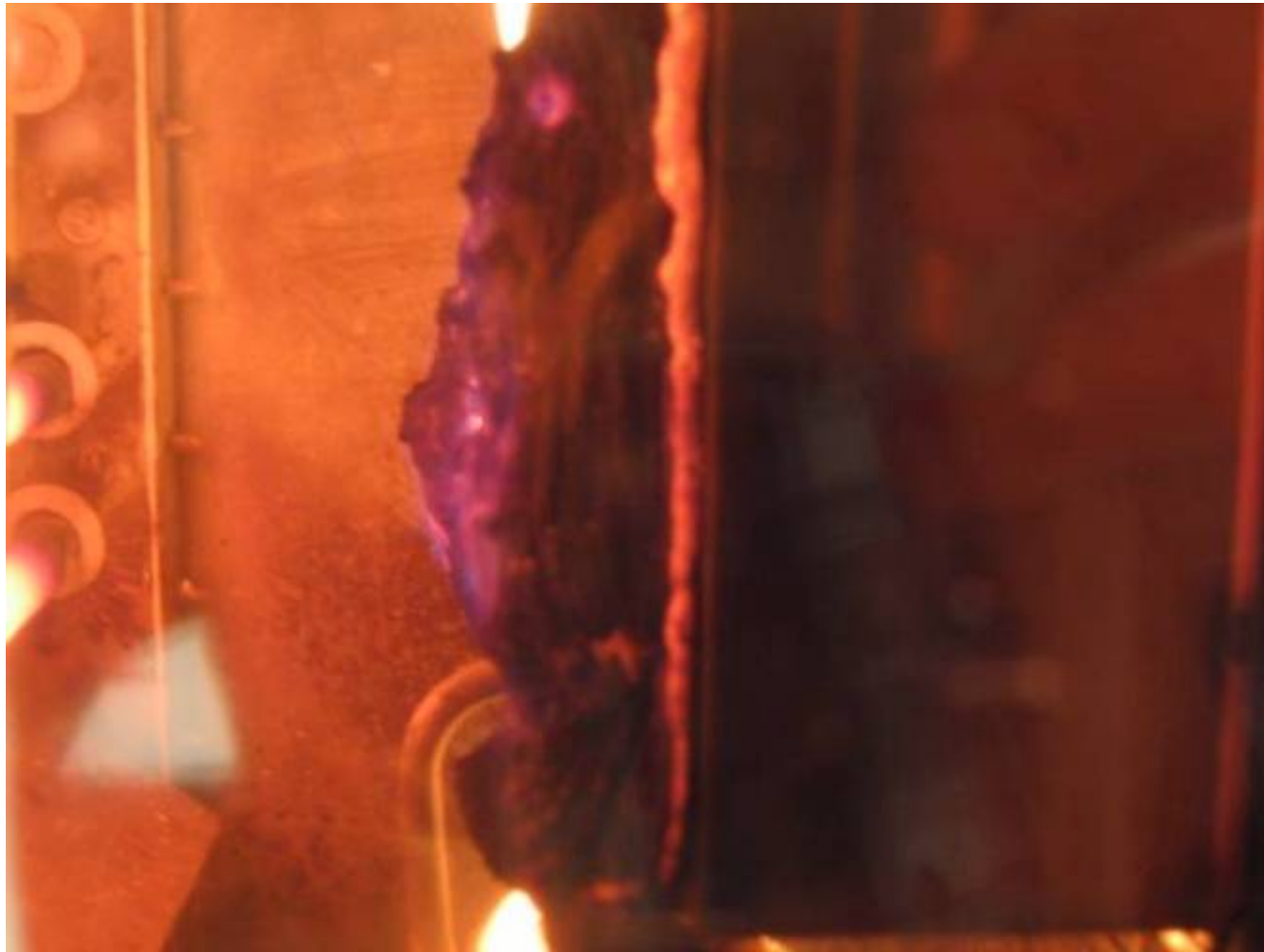
t=2 min

Key factors:

- **Char layer forming**
- **Char layer needs good integrity**
- **Low sagging & running**
- **No exposure of fresh fuel**

Polymer composition and structure key to char layer integrity

OSU Performance: Burning stops

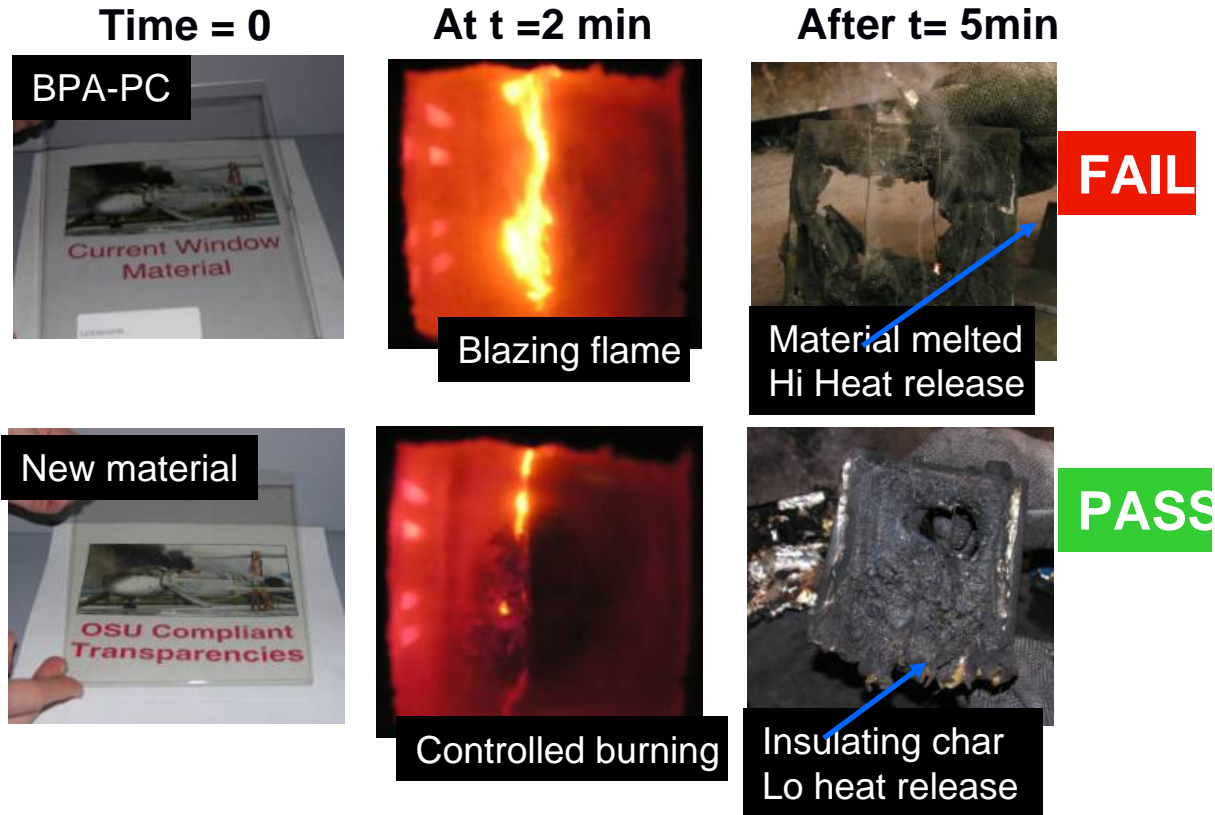


t=5 min

**Char layer
slows burn
rate & holds
sample in
place**

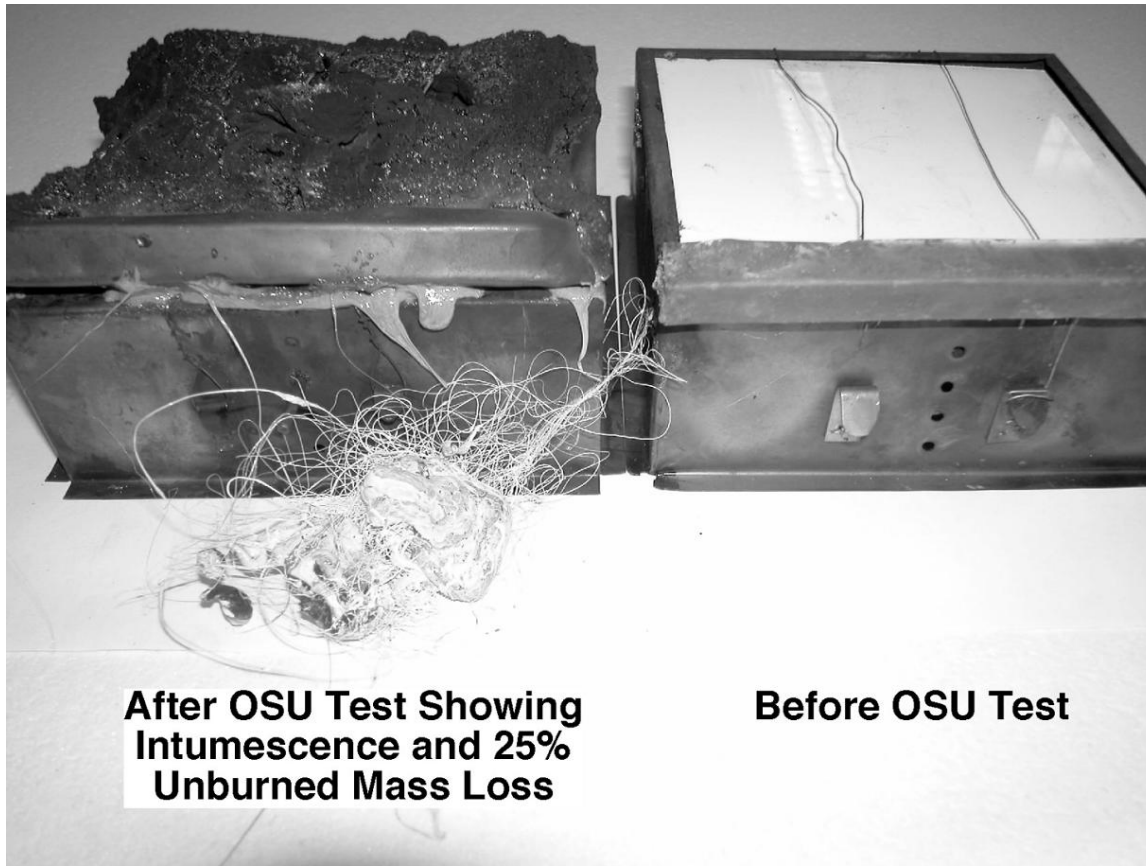
First halogen-free transparent materials to meet OSU

FR Performance of New Copolymers



Validated at Boeing labs

FR Performance of New Copolymers



Thickness (mm)	Peak HRR (kW/m ²)	2-min HR (kW-min/m ²)	NBS Smoke Density (4Dm)
CLEAR/TRANSPARENT			
1.5	37	25	6
1.5	39	29	6

Source: Non-halogen Fire Resistant Plastics for Aircraft Interiors, Rich Lyon, FAA, Oct 2007

Smoke, Vertical Burn, Toxicity



Smoke Density (3 sample avg.)

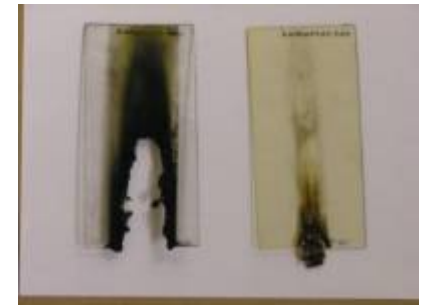
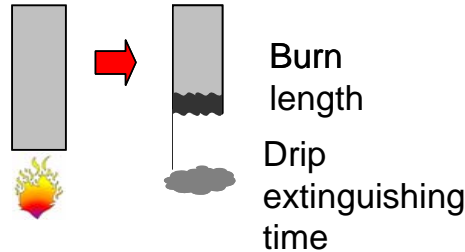
Smoke Generation	Max	New Mat.
(Ds) @ 4 min	200	23.15



Toxicity

Component	Max (ppm)	New Mat.
HF	200	1
HCL	500	0
HCN	150	1
H2S	-	0
Nox	100	1
HBr	-	0
PO4	-	0
SO2	100	0

60 Second Vertical Burn (3 sample avg.)



PC

Mat Sys 1

Vertical Burn	Max	New Mat.
Extinguishing Time	15 sec	2.3
Burned Length	6 inches	0.6
Drip Extinguishing Time	3 sec	no drips

Exceeding FAA requirements

Beyond Fire, Smoke, Toxicity Performance



Optical

Total Transmission
Haze
Color/Yellowness



Mechanical

Tensile
Flex
Impact



Physical

Density
Specific Gravity
Molecular Weight



Aging

UV Resistance
Temp/Humidity Cycling



Thermal

Glass Transition
CTE
HDT



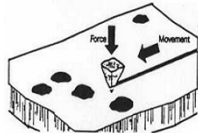
Processing

MFI
Capillary Rheology
Dynamic Rheology



Solvent Sensitivity

Discoloration
Crazing



Abrasion Resistance

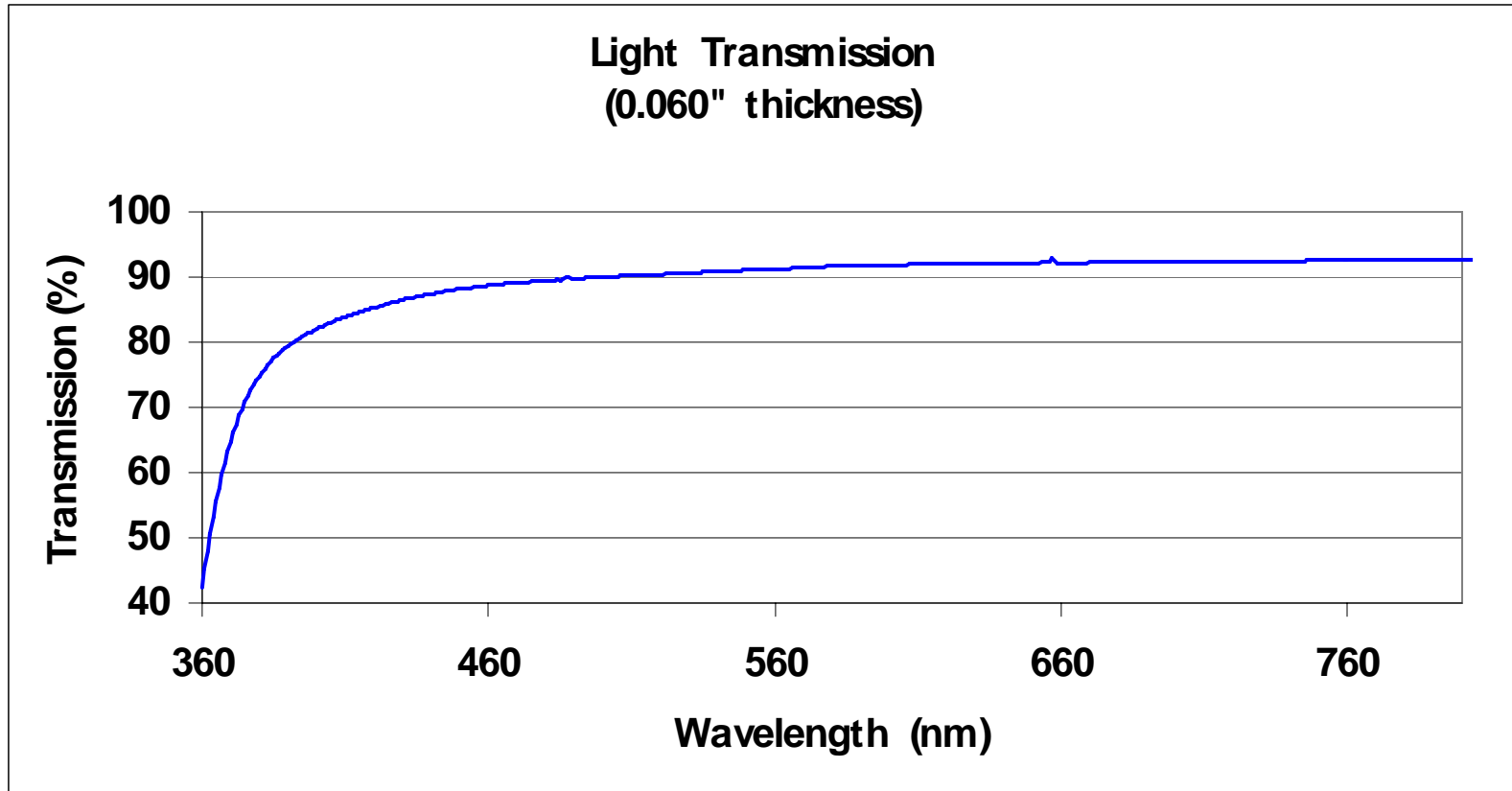
New copolymers extensively tested across mechanical, chemical, optical and rheological properties

Injection molding, sheet and film extrusion Thermal forming, profile extrusion...

Extruded sheet of
new copolymer
(GE Plastics)



Visible Spectrum



Light transmission close to BPA-PC

Color Space



Low color & high transmission expand color space

Gardner Impact & Reverse Scratch

Production- quality coated sheets with varying levels of UV protection evaluated

Boeing Specification = No scratch 80 in-lbs min/
Scratched reverse impact 26 in-lbs min

New material = no scratch 172-210 in-lbs/
Scratch reverse Impact 144-170 in-lbs

MRAC = no scratch 174 in-lbs/
Scratch reverse impact 170 in-lbs



Strong performance, well above minimum requirements

Physical Properties

PROPERTY	Units	Method	PC	Transparent OSU Resin
MECHANICAL				
Tensile Stress at Yield, 50 mm/min	MPa	ASTM D 638	62	74.2
Tensile Stress at Break, 50 mm/min	MPa	ASTM D 638	66	72.8
Tensile Elongation at Yield, 50 mm/min	%	ASTM D 638	7	6.9
Tensile Elongation at Break, 50 mm/min	%	ASTM D 638	110	99
Tensile Modulus, 50 mm/min	MPa	ASTM D 638	2,351	2,510
Flexural Modulus 1.27 mm/min	MPa	ASTM D 790	2,344	2,480
Flexural Stress@Yield, 1.27mm/min	MPa	ASTM D 790	93	116
IMPACT				
Notch Izod Impact, 23°C	J/m	ASTM D 256	801	719
THERMAL				
HDT, 0.455MPa	°C	ASTM D 648	138	131
HDT, 1.82MPa	°C	ASTM D 648	127	120
Tg	°C	DSC	150	140
PHYSICAL				
Melt Flow Rate, 300°C/1.2 kgf	g/10 min	ASTM D 1238	10.5	6

Polycarbonate-like physical properties

Chemical Resistance

Production- quality coated sheets with varying levels of UV protection evaluated

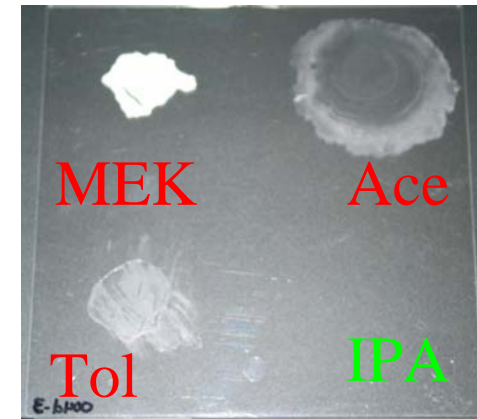
✓ Solvent Sensitivity (per BMS8-246):

All pass

✓ No visible response to acetone, toluene, and IPA

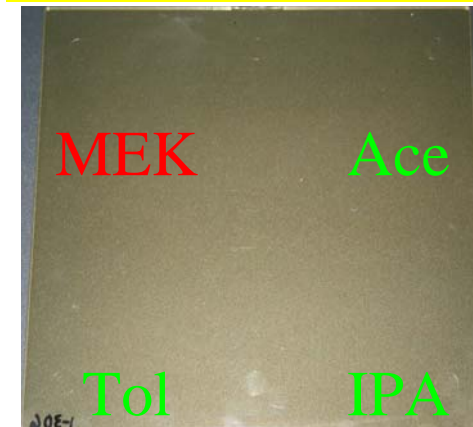
Chemical resistance better than BPA-PC

Uncoated
PC Base for MRAC sheet



Pass: IPA

Uncoated
LEXAN* FST



Pass: Ace, Tol, IPA

Hardcoat Adhesion

✓ Adhesion- Wet & Dry:

All perform excellently
(10s on scale of 0-10)

Ground-Air-Ground Cycling: **All pass**

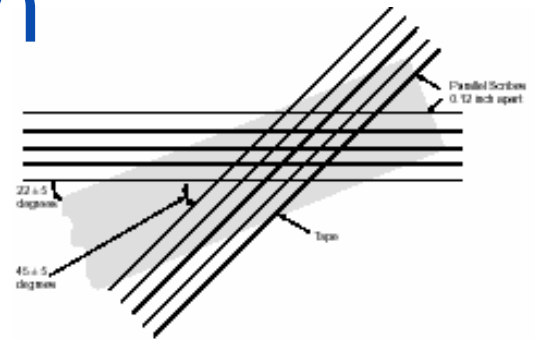
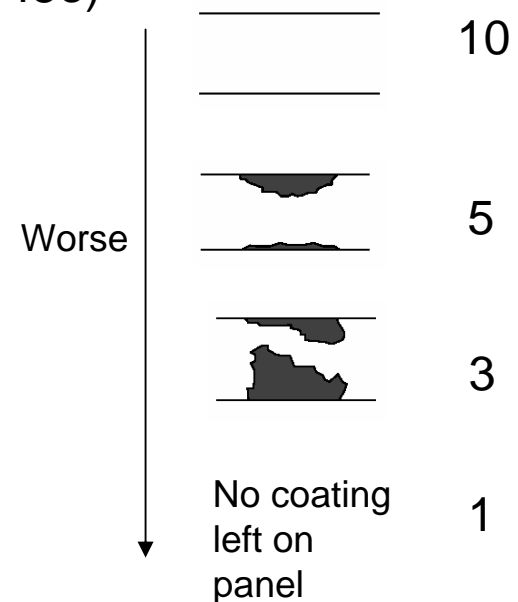
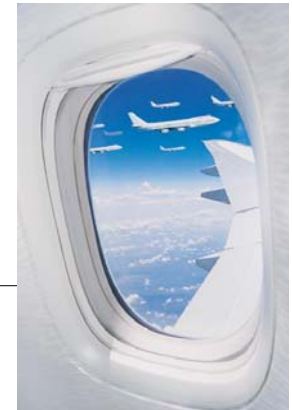
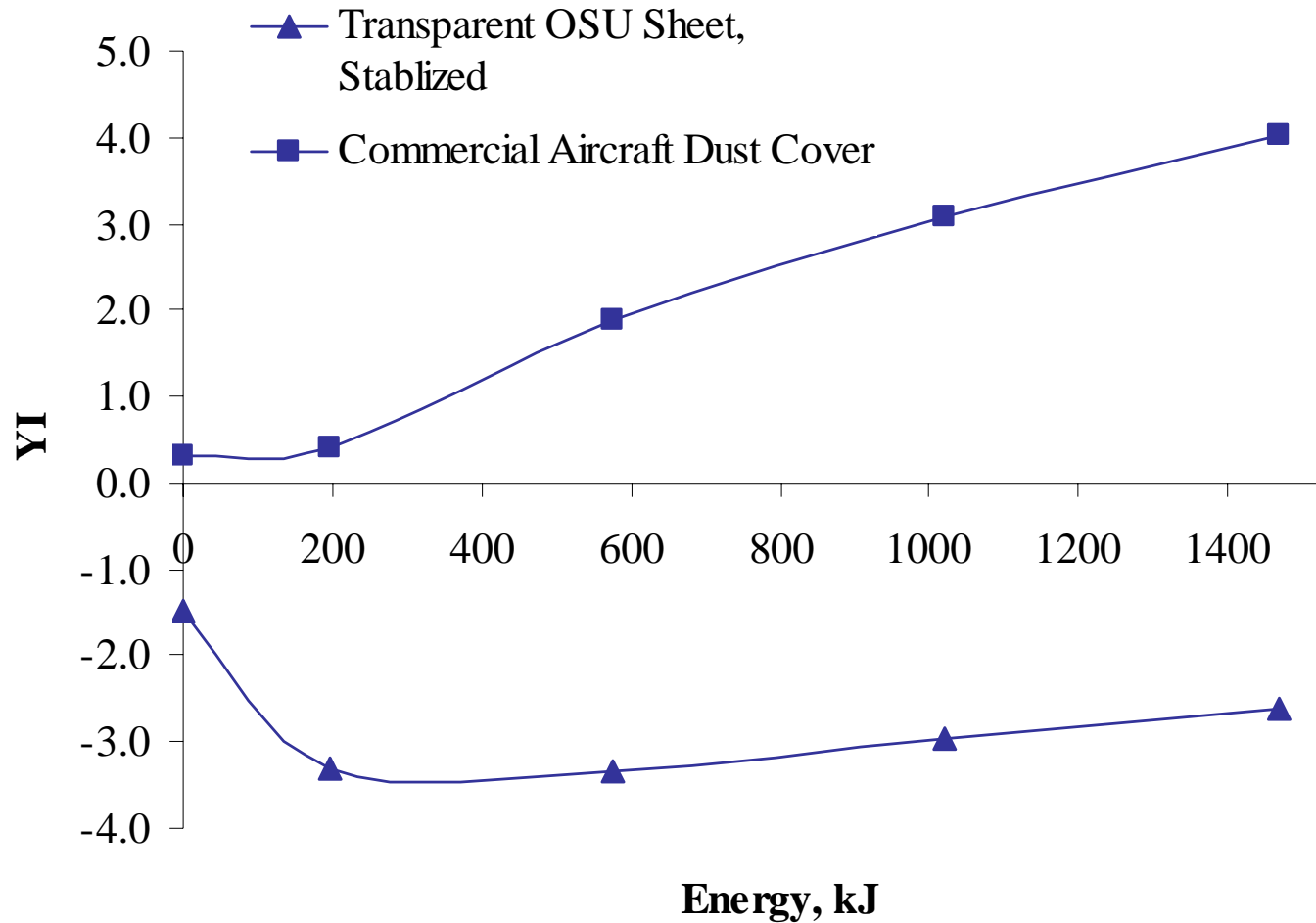


Figure 4 45-DEGREE CROSS-HATCH SCRIBE (CLASS 5)

Numerical Ratings are per Boeing BSS7225 w Class 5 Cross-hatches (6 x 3 mm at 45o)



Weathering



Color change during Xenon Arc weathering of transparent OSU formulations

Weathering resistance good compared to current product

Hard Coating

- Good adhesion with standard BPA-PC hard coat
- Improved scratch resistance
- Same fire performance
- Good light transmission
- Works with commercial coating for BPA-PC

“Drop in” for existing process

Special Thanks To

*Goodness Gracious
Great Balls of Fire !!!*

Gary “Hell Fire” Davis



Acknowledgements

Tom Shaginaw, Airplane Program Leader, GE Global Research

Bill Kernick, Business Program Manager, GE Global Research

John McDermott, Lab Manager, GE Global Research

Greg Chambers, Global Technology Leader, GE Global Research

Rich Decristofaro, Legal Counsel, GE Global Research

Tammy Rucker, Product Manager, Sheets, GE Plastics

Benny David, Industry Manager, Aerospace, GE Plastics

Gina Harm, Market Director, Transportation, GE Plastics

Paul Discuillo, Industry Manager, SF&S, GE Plastics

Mike Vanderwel, 787 Program Leader, Boeing

Vanessa Gemmell, 787 Program Leader, Boeing

Don Retallack, 787 Program Leader, Boeing

Dan Cushing, Global Partners, Boeing