

# Flame Propagation

Product Compliance and Capability &

Alternate Test Method

For Non-Encapsulated Fiber Glass Insulation

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## Flame propagation

Product Compliance and Capability 14 CFR 25.856 (a)





FAA test rig

Alternate test method



# Objective

- Microlite®AA fiber glass insulation blanket
  - Validate product meets FAA requirements
  - Demonstrate product capability
- Develop and qualify an alternate test method for use during manufacturing



**Install Insulation** 



Test



**After Test** 



# Scope

- Density
  - 0.34 pcf to 1.5 pcf
- Thickness
  - -3/8" to 1"
- Binder content range
  - 10% to 20%
- Insulation Surface
  - Top vs bottom surface
- Product evaluation
  - 8 products
  - Multiple production runs (>32)
  - 6 year span



Premium .34 pcf x 1"



Standard 0.42 pcf x 1"



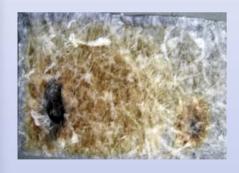
Standard 1.5 pcf x 3/8"



#### **Test Results**

- Flame propagation
- After flame
   >200 samples tested

No failures
No failures



**Pass** 



**Pass** 



**Pass** 

Test equipment – FAA test rig (gas & electric)

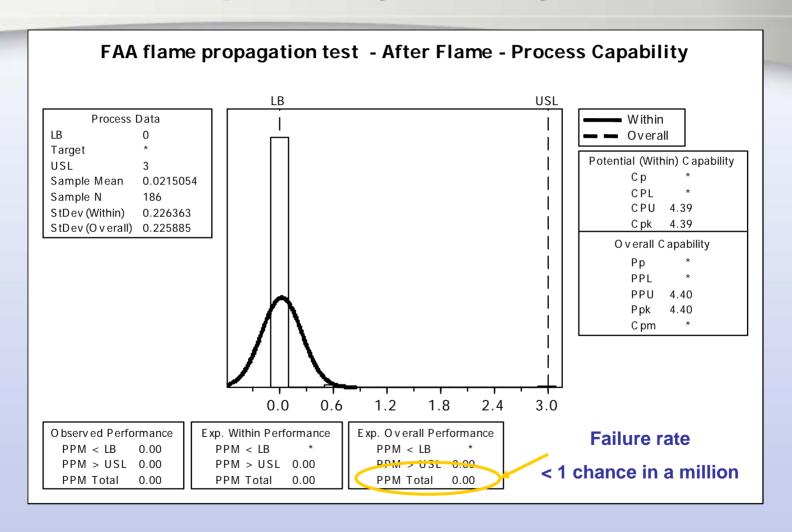


### Test Results – Example

| Product |             | Prem .34 pcf x 1" |      |     | Std 0.42 pcf x 1" |      |     | Std 1.5 pcf x 3/8" |      |     |
|---------|-------------|-------------------|------|-----|-------------------|------|-----|--------------------|------|-----|
| Sample  | Blanket     | AF*               | FP   | R   | AF*               | FP   | R   | AF*                | FP   | R   |
| #       | Orientation | (Sec)             | (ln) | P/F | (Sec)             | (ln) | P/F | (Sec)              | (In) | P/F |
| ID.     |             | 80402636          |      |     | 6246              |      |     | 90203630           |      |     |
| 1       | Тор         | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                  | 0    | Р   |
| 2       | Тор         | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                  | 0    | Р   |
| 3       | Тор         | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                  | 0    | Р   |
| 4       | Bottom      | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                  | 0    | Р   |
| 5       | Bottom      | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                  | 0    | Р   |
| 6       | Bottom      | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                  | 0    | Р   |
| ID.     |             | 102202323         |      |     | 12212223 ½" thick |      |     | 102212323          |      |     |
| 1       | Тор         | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                  | 0    | Р   |
| 2       | Тор         | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                  | 0    | Р   |
| 3       | Тор         | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                  | 0    | Р   |
| 4       | Bottom      | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                  | 0    | Р   |
| 5       | Bottom      | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                  | 0    | Р   |
| 6       | Bottom      | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                 | 0    | Р   | 0                  | 0    | Р   |



# **Capability Analysis**



Product capability - 4.40 6 sigma level



### **Small Scale Test Benefits**

- In process test method
- Simple design/operation
- Simple/quick QA procedure
- Quick start-up
- Short test cycle

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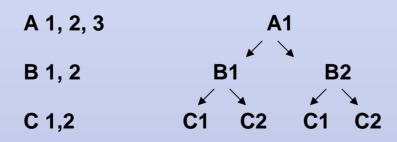
# Methodology

- Establish product standards
  - Utilizing FAA test rig
- Develop multi-factorial design of experiment (DOE)
  - Design samples for flame propagation testing
     Key to develop new test
- Design and build small scale radiant panel
- Develop & verify test parameters
  - Establish robust test settings (2<sup>nd</sup> DOE)
  - Conduct gage R&R (Reproducibility & Repeatability)
- Validate with FAA test rig

### **Multi-Factorial DOE**

- Design layout 3 factor multi-level
- Plant trial to produce samples
  - Goal: Produce one product that will fail the FAA test
- Evaluate samples at FAA
  - Identify which samples show flame propagation and/or after flame

#### **Multi-Factorial Design**





#### **FAA Radiant Panel Tests**

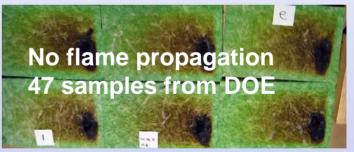
(Electric panel)

- Evaluate DOE samples
- Check for flame propagation
- Check for After flame

#### **Results:**

- One sample showed flame propagation
- No samples showed after flame









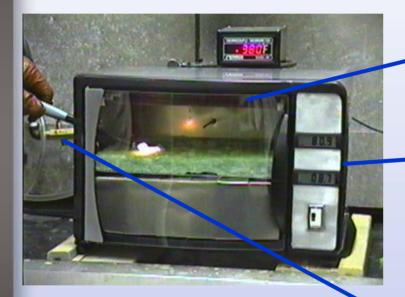
### **Radiant Panel**

- Small oven
- Large viewing window
- Radiant source
  - Horizontal orientation
  - Multiple elements
  - Preset sample height





# Equipment



Radiant heat



Power control



Flame source





### **Power Control**

- Heat flux control
  - Constant power
  - Variable voltage regulator
  - Preset input (voltage/amp)
- Temperature measurement
  - Type "K" thermocouple



### Flame Source

- Butane flame
- Continuous
- Flame length
  - 1" to 1 ½"
- Flame angled
  - 20 to 30 degrees
- Burner distance from sample





### **Develop Small Scale Test Parameters**

- Use FAA test rig as control
  - Goal: Provide similar results as the FAA test
- Establish test parameters (2nd DOE)
  - Power setting
  - Temperature
  - Time
  - Measurement technique



# **Robust Test Setting**

#### Settings

- Power settings
  - voltage & amperage
- Temperature
  - Start temp 385F
- Flame length
  - 1" to 1 1/2"
- Test time
  - 7-10 seconds
     >1700 tests conducted to establish robust settings

#### Results

- Flame propagation
  - Similar results to FAA tests
- After Flame
  - No after flame was observed
  - Results same as FAA

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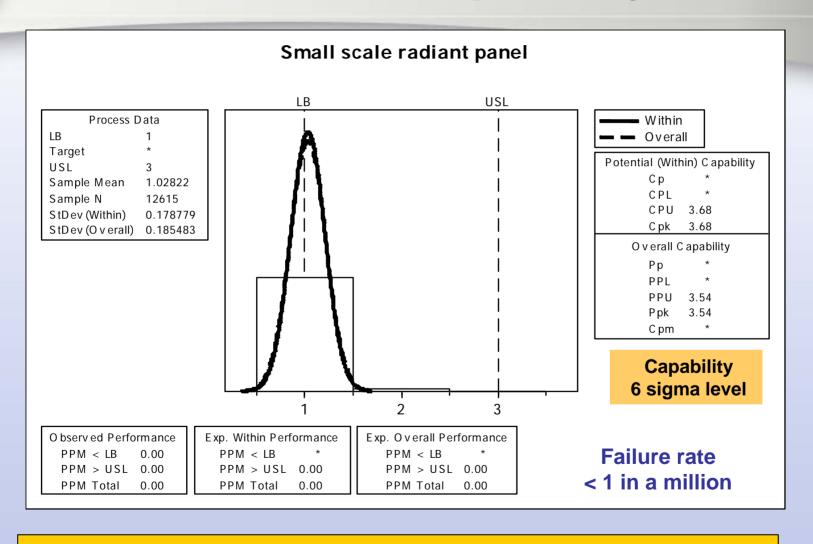
#### Gage R&R

(Reproducibility & Repeatability)

- < 2% for Reproducibility</li>
  - operator factor
- < 23% Repeatability</li>
  - equipment factor
- Gage R&R was < 23%</li>
  - Statistical baseline gage R&R allows for process control <30%</li>



# **Process Capability**

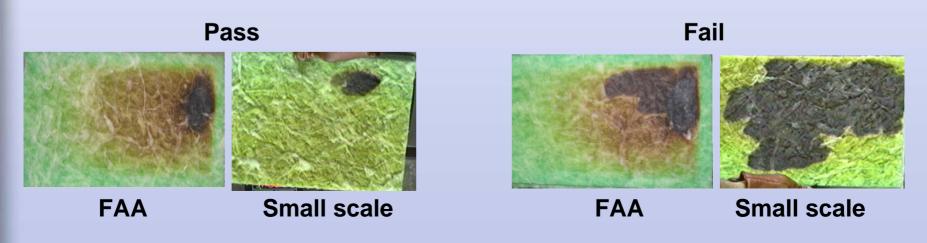


**FAA** and Small scale tests show the same results



### FAA radiant panel vs. Small scale test

- Results same for either method
- FAA radiant panel is primary test standard
- Small scale test method use by JM considered secondary standard
  - Small scale test acceptable for use as process monitor for testing non-encapsulated fiber glass





### Summary

#### Capability analysis

 <1 chance in a million for Microlite AA failure for after flame or flame propagation (using FAA radiant panel)

#### Certification

- JM references FAR 25.856 (a) for un-faced or plain blankets as tested to the small scale radiant panel (periodically verified to the FAA standard)
- JM continues to certify to FAR 25.853 Appendix F part I standard for flame spread and punking

#### Product compliance

 Small scale radiant panel as part of JM QA system (> 13,000 tests performed as process check)

#### Validation

Periodic comparison tests between FAA test rig and small scale test