# 38N

# **Polyimide Low-Flow Prepreg**





38N is an improved polyimide low-flow prepreg suitable for bonding multilayer polyimide rigid-flex, attaching heat sinks to polyimide MLBs, or other applications where minimal and uniform resin flow is required.

### Features:

- Novel chemistry ensuring faster and more uniform resin cure for minimal and consistent resin flow, preventing excessive flow into clearance/relief areas
- Improved bond strength to Kapton® polyimide of up to 50% compared with conventional polyimide low-flow or no-flow products
- Tg = 200°C and expansion characteristics typical of polyimide greatly improves PTH reliability
- Curable at temperatures as low as 350°F (177°C)
- Excellent thermal stability
- Improved bond strength to copper and other metals for excellent performance in heat sink bonding applications
- Electrical and mechanical properties meeting the requirements of IPC-4101/42
- Compatible with lead-free processing
- RoHS/WEEE compliant

### **Typical Applications:**

- Bonding multilayer rigid-flex boards
- Finished PCB assemblies requiring excellent thermal stability
- Dielectric insulators
- Other applications where minimal and uniform resin flow is required





## **Typical Properties:**

Property	Units	Value	Test Method
1. Electrical Properties			
Dielectric Constant			
@ 1 MHz	-	4.25	IPC TM-650 2.5.5.3
@ 1 GHz	-		IPC TM-650 2.5.5.9
Dissipation Factor			
@ 1 MHz	-	0.010	IPC TM-650 2.5.5.3
@ 1 GHz	-		IPC TM-650 2.5.5.9
Volume Resistivity			
C96/35/90	MΩ-cm	8.2 x 10 <sup>7</sup>	IPC TM-650 2.5.17.1
E24/125	MΩ-cm	4.7 x 10 <sup>9</sup>	IPC TM-650 2.5.17.1
Surface Resistivity			
C96/35/90	MΩ	4.4 x 10 <sup>6</sup>	IPC TM-650 2.5.17.1
E24/125	MΩ	1.2 x 10 <sup>9</sup>	IPC TM-650 2.5.17.1
Electrical Strength	Volts/mil (kV/mm)	1600 (63.0)	IPC TM-650 2.5.6.2
Dielectric Breakdown	kV		IPC TM-650 2.5.6
Arc Resistance	sec	125	IPC TM-650 2.5.1
2. Thermal Properties			
Glass Transition Temperature (Tg)			
ТМА	°C	200	IPC TM-650 2.4.24
DSC	°C		IPC TM-650 2.4.25
Decomposition Temperature (Td)			
Initial	°C	311	IPC TM-650 2.3.41
5%	°C	330	IPC TM-650 2.3.41
T260	min	50	IPC TM-650 2.4.24.1
T288	min	5	IPC TM-650 2.4.24.1
T300	min	3	IPC TM-650 2.4.24.1
CTE (X,Y)	ppm/°C	17	IPC TM-650 2.4.41
CTE (Z)			
< Tg	ppm/°C	54	IPC TM-650 2.4.24
> Tg	ppm/°C	157	IPC TM-650 2.4.24
z-axis Expansion (50-260°C)	%	1.5	IPC TM-650 2.4.24
3. Mechanical Properties			
Peel Strength to Copper (1 oz/35 micron)			
After Thermal Stress	lb/in (N/mm)	8.5 (1.5)	IPC TM-650 2.4.8
At Elevated Temperatures	lb/in (N/mm)		IPC TM-650 2.4.8.2
After Process Solutions	lb/in (N/mm)		IPC TM-650 2.4.8
Peel Strength to Kapton			
As Received	lb/in (N/mm)	5.9 (1.0)	
After Solder	lb/in (N/mm)	5.2 (0.9)	
Young's Modulus	Mpsi (GPa)	2.1 (14.5)	IPC TM-650 2.4.18.3
Flexural Strength	kpsi (MPa)	60 (414)	IPC TM-650 2.4.4
Tensile Strength CD/MD	kpsi (MPa)	32 (221)	IPC TM-650 2.4.18.3
Poisson's Ratio	-	0.18	ASTM D-3039
4. Physical Properties			
Water Absorption (0.062")	%	<1.0	IPC TM-650 2.6.2.1
Specific Gravity	g/cm3	1.30	ASTM D792 Method A
Thermal Conductivity	W/mK	0.3	ASTM E1461
Flammability	class	Meets V-O	UL-94

Results listed above are typical properties, provided without warranty, expressed or implied, and without liability. Properties may vary, depending on design and application. Arlon reserves the right to change or update these values.

### Availability:

Arlon Part Number	Glass Style	Resin %	Pressed Thickness	Flow Range
38N0666	106	66	1.9 mils	70 - 120 mils
38N8060	1080	60	2.9 mils	70 - 120 mils

### **Recommended Process Conditions:**

Because of varying storage conditions, it is recommended that 38N prepreg be dried at 29" (736mm) Hg for 12 to 24 hours.

38N Low-Flow prepreg is very process tolerant. It laminates well with either a cold platen press start or with a hot start. Vacuum or vacuum assist lamination is recommended for the removal of moisture and air. Low-Flow products do not displace air voids as well as standard prepregs, and vacuum will help assure a void-free final product.

Lamination Cycle:

- 1) Vacuum draw down the package for 30 minutes at <29" (736mmHg) prior to applying pressure in the press. Maintain the vacuum beyond the set point of the resin, i.e., above 320°F (160°C)
- 2) Use a platen temperature in the range of 360°F 380°F (182°C 193°C). Tg at epoxy cure temperature will be 200°C.
- 3) Control the heat rise to about 8°F 12°F per minute (4°C 6°C) between 200°F and 300°F (93°C and 149°C)
- 4) Use a pressure of 180 to 350 psi (12.6 to 24 kg/sq.cm), depending on panel size and complexity. Following are recommended pressures relative to panel size to use as starting points:

Panel Size		Pressure		
in	cm	psi	kg/cm <sup>2</sup>	
9 x 12	22 x 30	180	13	
12 x 12	30 x 30	200	14	
12 x 18	30 x 46	250	18	
16 x 18	40 x 46	290	20	
18 x 24	46 x 61	330	23	
24 x 24	61 x 61	350	25	

Cure time is 90 minutes at temperature.

The subsequent processing should be the same as those normally used for rigid-flex PCBs.



# Arlon Electronic Substrates... Challenge Us

For samples, technical assistance, customer service or for more information, please contact Arlon Materials for Electronics Division at the following locations:

#### **NORTH AMERICA:**

Arlon LLC Electronic Substrates 9433 Hyssop Drive Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730 Tel: (909) 987-9533 Fax: (909) 987-8541

Arlon LLC Microwave Materials 1100 Governor Lea Road Bear, DE 19701 Tel: (800) 635-9333 Outside U.S. & Canada: (302) 834-2100 Fax: (302) 834-2574

### **NORTHERN EUROPE:**

Arlon LLC 44 Wilby Avenue Little Lever Bolton, Lancashire BL31QE United Kingdom Tel: (44) 120-457-6068 Fax: (44) 120-479-6463

### SOUTHERN CHINA:

Arlon LLC Room 601, Unit 1, Bldg 6 Liyuan, Xincun Shahe Shenzhen, China 518053 Tel: (86) 755-269-066-12 Fax: (86) 755-26910475

### **NORTHERN CHINA:**

Arlon LLC Room 11/401, No. 8 Hong Gu Road Shanghai, China 200336 Tel/Fax: (86) 21-6209-0202

### SOUTHERN EUROPE:

Arlon LLC 6 cours des Juilliottes 94700 Maisons-Alfort France Phone : (33) 1 84 23 41 51 Fax: (33) 9 55 62 43 26

### www.arlon-med.com