

High-Temperature Circuit Boards for Use in Geothermal Well Monitoring Applications

May 19, 2010

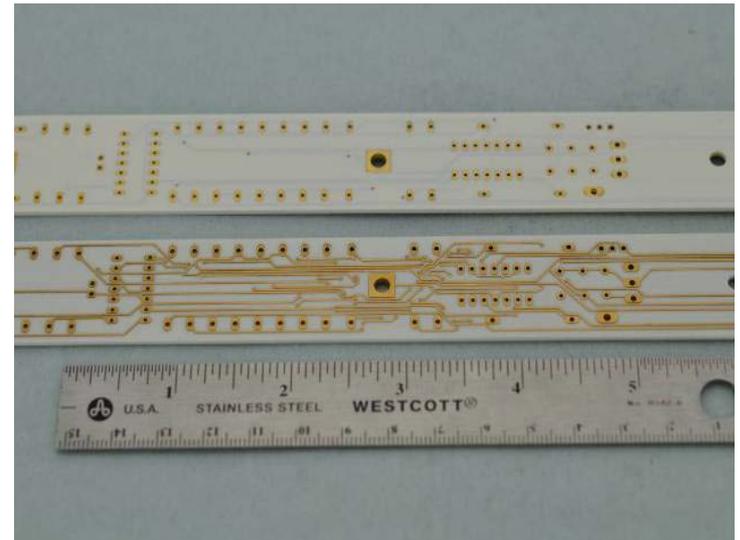
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Development, Inc.**

High-Temperature Tools and Sensors, Downhole
Pumps and Drilling

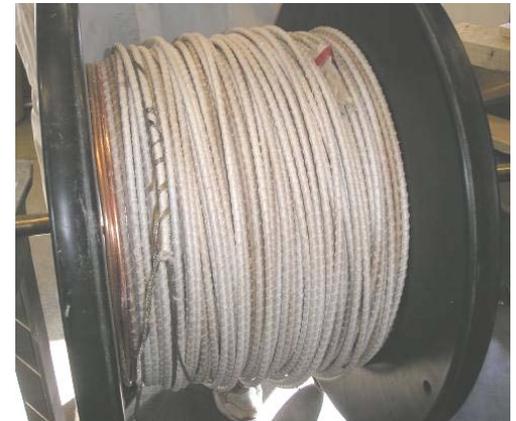
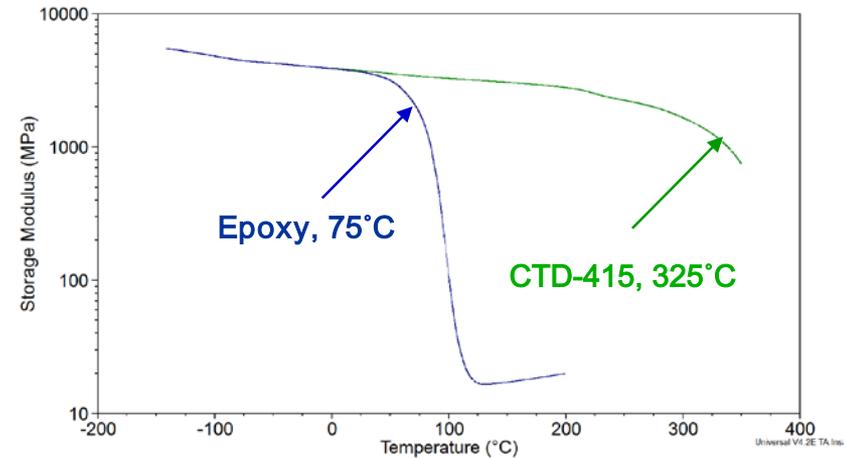
- Goal: Develop and demonstrate high-temperature, multilayer electronic circuits capable of sustained operation at 300°C
- Timeline
 - Start date: Jan 2010
 - End date: Jan 2012
 - Total budget: \$737,150
 - DOE share: \$557,150, awardees share: \$180,000
- Barriers: Barrier D, Site/Well Characterization
 - High-temperature logging tools
- Partners:
 - Calumet
 - A-Power
 - Sandia National Laboratory

- EGS wells can be up to 10 km beneath the surface and reach temperatures in excess of 300°C
- Electronic packages are needed to enable the construction of data-logging tools for characterizing EGS wells
 - High-aspect-ratio circuits (e.g., 18" x 1")
 - Measure temperature, pressure, etc.
 - Current materials and systems limited to 150°C for long-term use, and 200-250°C for short-term use

- Design and demonstrate multilayer circuit materials based on high-temperature inorganic and organic polymer materials
 - Thermal stability
 - Adhesion to copper (including after repeated thermal cycling)
 - Compatible with existing multilayer PC-board manufacturing processes
- Project tasks and milestones
 - Develop and characterize high-temperature multilayer systems (currently in progress)
 - Downselect best 2-5 systems (Month 6)
 - Fabricate and test 2-layer circuits
 - Downselect best 1-2 systems (Month 11)
 - Fabricate and test 6-layer circuits



- Identifying high-temperature polymers for use in multilayer fabrication
 - Cyanate ester-based systems (e.g., CTD-415)
 - Inorganic polymers
- Builds on CTD experience in high-performance electrical insulations
- Evaluating copper/composite adhesion
 - Short-beam-shear test specimen
 - Initial shear strength at metal/composite interface
 - Measure shear strength after thermal cycling to 300°C

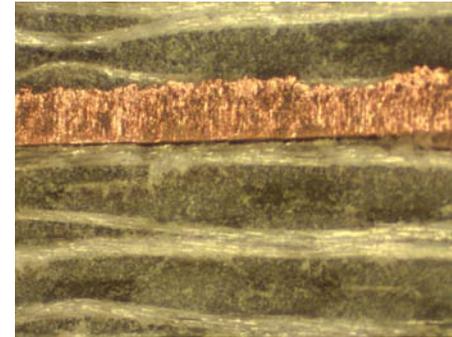
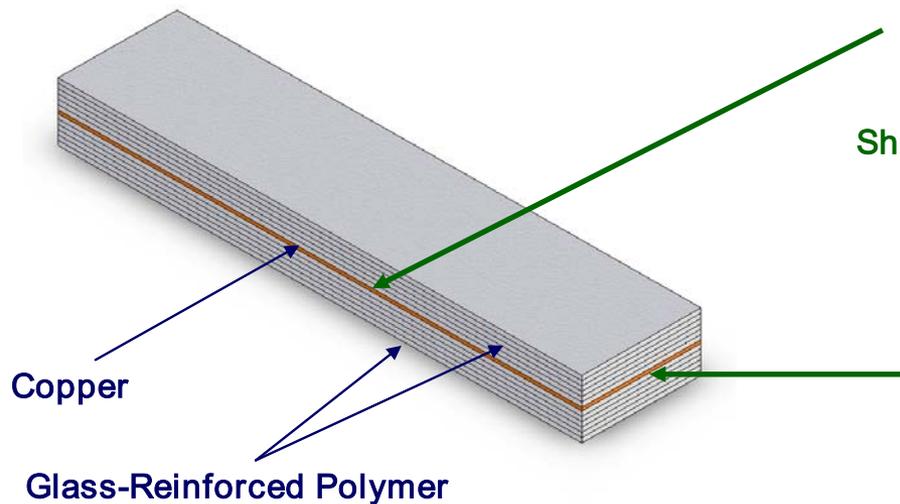


Inorganic composite insulation for cable applications

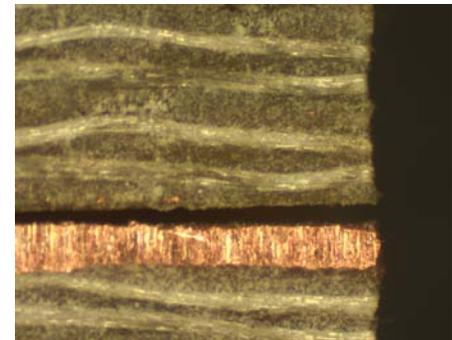
Copper/Composite Adhesion Test Specimen and Failure Modes

Short-beam-shear Test

- Destructive test to assess strength at interface
- Three-point mechanical loading
- Specimen design allows for thermal cycling and environmental testing



Shear failure along length of specimen



Shear failure at end of specimen

- Project management activities
 - Oversight of technical work
 - Establish priorities of technical staff
 - DOE reporting and documentation requirements
 - Budget management
- Coordination of work with collaborators
- Project integration
 - Leverages previous and ongoing work at Sandia on high-temperature electronics and downhole data logging
- Schedule
 - 24-month project, beginning Jan 2010

- Work planned for FY10
 - Complete evaluation of high-temperature materials
 - Fabricate 2-layer circuits (using a Sandia design)
 - Test performance of circuits to 300°C
 - Downselect best multilayer systems for continued RD&D
- Work planned for FY11
 - Fabricate 6-layer circuits (using a Sandia design) based on FY10 results
 - Test performance of circuits to 300°C to qualify materials for future use

- High-temperature, multilayer circuit materials are being developed for use in EGS applications
- Project leverages ongoing commercial and DOE activities
 - High-performance, composite insulation development at CTD
 - Downhole data logging and test capabilities at Sandia
 - Compatible with conventional circuit manufacture
- Related markets and applications
 - Power electronics (including those for EGS and other downhole systems)
 - Automotive systems