



NEWS FLASH

RJR Polymers is a leader and innovator in electronic component packaging technology. RJR offers the industry's most advanced products and processes and provides unique total solutions in Adhesive Technology, Automation Systems and Air Cavity Packages. RJR's comprehensive applications portfolio includes microwaves, cellular/RF, optical image sensors, aviation, automotive, and information technologies.

FEATURE

STORY

RJR POLYMERS' NEW PROCESS HAS RESISTOR TERMINATIONS "COVERED"

For many years covering and sealing high-powered resistor terminations has been a messy venture to say the least. The active material in these devices, typically made of thick film tantalum nitride, has been covered and sealed with flat ceramic covers made of 96% alumina ceramic, sealed in place with epoxies, to protect the resistor material. The process has historically involved the in-house dispensing of a nonconductive epoxy on one side of the ceramic cover, which is then flipped onto the thick film resistor material, pressed down, and cured into place. This process is inherently very difficult to control. It will often result in either excessive bleedout of the epoxy, causing cosmetic problems for the end product, or leave voids in the epoxy beneath the cover. Voids compromise the performance of the resistor due to "hotspots." In either case, the result is the same: unnecessary yield loss.

Utilizing the accuracy of the same proprietary high-speed epoxy application technology, RJR has fine-tuned this process specifically to be used for the application of epoxy on flat ceramic resistor termination covers. The result is a very evenly applied coating of B-staged epoxy that can be controlled to +/- .002" of a given thickness across the entire cover. Voiding or epoxy "highpoints" that create loss or rework are eliminated. This offers resistor termination manufacturers a very consistent result from part to part while allowing ease of storage and handling. It also eliminates the need for messy dispensing equipment, reduces internal processing labor steps, and increases overall production yields. The bottom line for these manufacturers is overall reduction in manufacturing costs and higher quality products for the resistor termination market.

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