

**Monday 3/10/14 10:30am**

## **A CLEAN START**

There's no doubt about it, clean contacts in contactors and sockets work a lot better than dirty ones. So what better place to start looking at burn-in and test strategies than with a close look at contamination control and cleaning processes to improve yields, test time and re-test reduction? This session begins with three hypotheses of the causes for contact contamination, Along with guidance on procedural changes for improved performance. The next presentation offers a solution to the havoc high temperature burn-in can wreak on devices under test (DUTs) with a specialized coating process to prevent solder contamination of contacts and deformation of the solder bumps on the DUT. The final two presentations examine online cleaning processes. The first focuses on a characterization tool that determines the effectiveness of online cleaning, while the second is directed at an automatic cleaning solution for a bowl fed handler used with a RF contactor. Hey, it's a dirty job, but somebody's got to do it.

### **Contamination Mechanisms of Contact Probes**

Jon Diller, Kevin DeFord—Smiths Connectors | IDI



This Paper

### **Special Coating Cleans-Up a Mess**

Paul Ruo—Aries Electronics, Inc.  
Erik Orwoll—Contact Coatings, LLC

### **Unique Methodologies for Investigating On-line Cleaning Process Parameters and Recipe Optimization**

Jerry J. Broz, Ph.D., Soheil Khavandi, Bret Humphrey—International Test Solutions

### **Yield and Test Time Improvement via Automated Online Cleaning**

Brent Edington—TriQuint

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## Special Coating Cleans-Up a Mess

**Paul Ruo--Aries Electronics, Inc.**  
**Erik Orwoll--Contact Coatings, LLC**



2014 BiTS Workshop  
March 9 - 12, 2014



### Probes Get Dirty

- Each time a ball/bump/pad from an IC “contacts” a probe, residue/deposits can form.
- This residue manifests itself in ANY/EVERY type of situation (burn-in, test or characterization).

## Where does this occur?

- RF Test and Characterization
- High Temp Operating Life (HTOL)
- Highly Accelerated Stress Test (HAST)
- Burn-In (125°C)
- High Temp Burn-In (150°C)
- IC Programming

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## What are the typical problems?

- Burn-In--Residue and “stickiness”
- RF & Programming--CRes consistency

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## Here is our Specific Problem (and Solution)

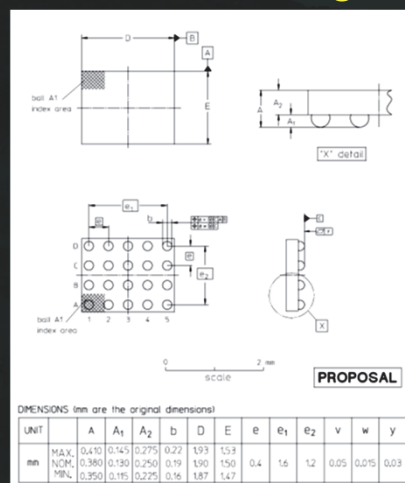
- Device package
- Socket
- Environment: Burn-In (HTOL)
- Problems encountered
- Solution rendered

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## Device Package

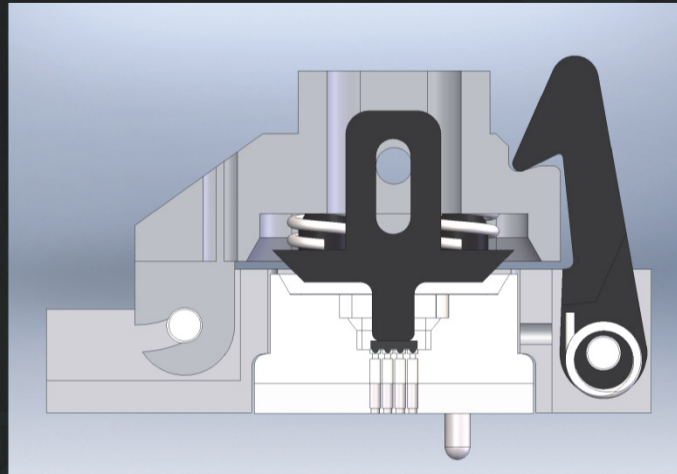


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## Socket



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## Environment: Burn-In (HTOL)

- 20 Balls: SAC 405 Pb-free Tin/Silver/Copper (95.5%/4%/0.5%)
- Ball pitch: 0.35mm
- Temperature: 150°C
- Burn Time: 168/300/1000/1500 hours
- 44 sockets per Burn-In-Board (BIB)
- 9 BIBs

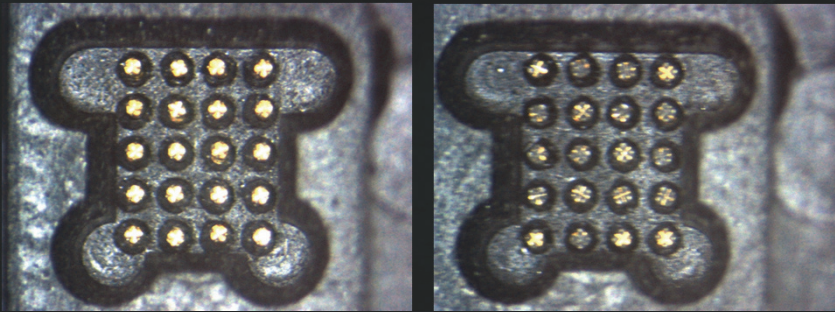
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## Problems Encountered

- SAC 405 residue deposits on probes



Before HTOL

After HTOL Stress 24-168 hrs

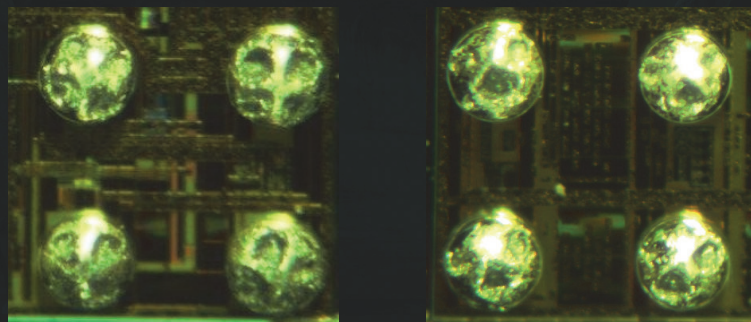
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## Problems Encountered

- SAC 405 ball condition



60 hours Sample 1

60 hours Sample 2

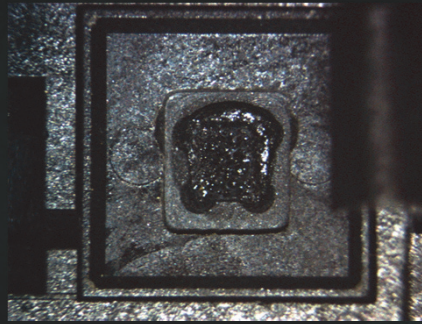
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## Problems Encountered

- Causes device to “stick” to probes



Stuck probes can easily short-out, which can melt the device

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## Problems Encountered

- Probes or pans? Residue is a problem.



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## Problems Encountered

- Cleaning becomes necessary



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## Problem/Solution

- But what if the residue was reduced?
- Or (better yet) if it doesn't occur?
  
- What happens then?

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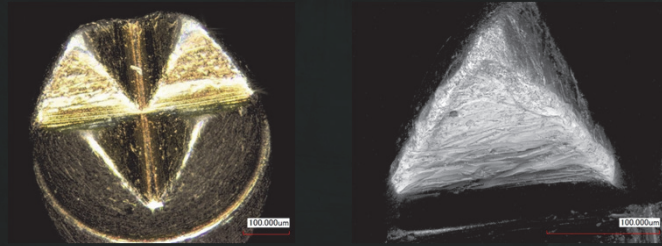
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## Solution

- Current solution:
- Cleaning/brushing of probe pins



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## Solution

- Our better solution:
- “Teflon” for your probes....

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## Solution

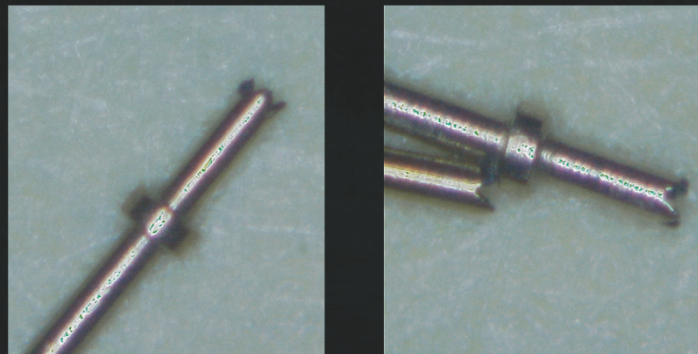
- Proprietary Gold (Au) alloy
- Resists Sn diffusion into Gold
- Uniform coating over entire probe
- Good for 10 (or 10 million) pieces
- Non-porous/anti-diffusion properties

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## Solution: Extended Burn-In



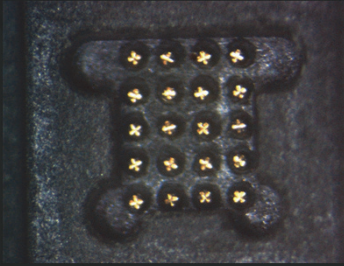
Probe Pins Coated with Au Anti-Diffusion Coating

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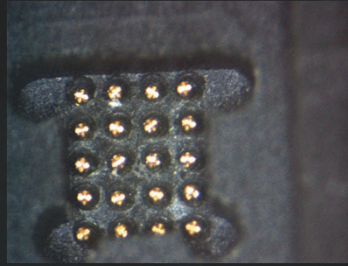
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## Solution: Extended Burn-In



Probes after 168 hours



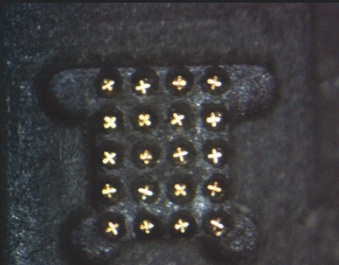
Probes after 300 hours

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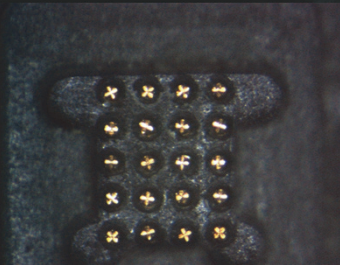
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## Solution: Extended Burn-In



1000 hours (PCB #1)



1000 hours (PCB #2)

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## Solution: Standard Burn-In

- 135°C
- 20 Hour Cycle
- QFP Device
- Average 250 mA Applied

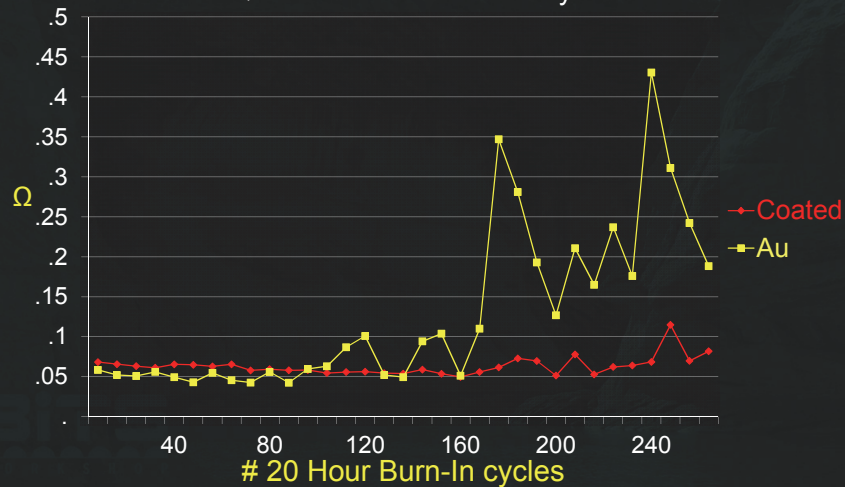
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## Solution: Standard Burn-In

QFP C-Res vs. Burn-In Cycles



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## Solution: Standard Burn-In

- 2000 Hours

Coated

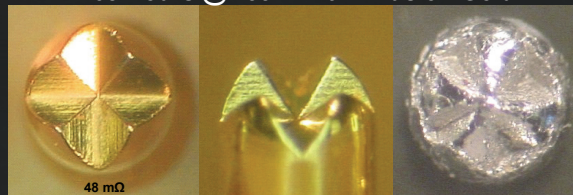


Standard Au Plating

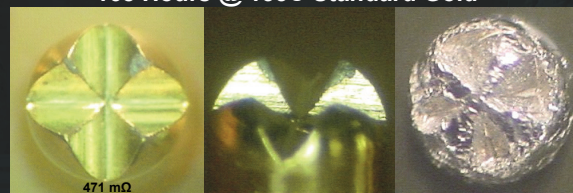


## Solution: 1.00mm Probe

168 Hours @ 155C Anti-Diffusion Gold



168 Hours @ 155C Standard Gold



## Benefits for Burn-In Apps

- No ball sticking/easy device removal
- Good for apps at 150°C+
- No shorts or socket melting
- No “dead” sockets on BIB
- More efficient BIB oven utilization
- Less downtime = less cost

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## Benefits for Test Apps

- No ball sticking/easy device removal
- Ensures max current carrying capability
- CR is more consistent, longer
- Less (or no) contact cleaning required
- More efficient testing throughput
- Less cleaning time = less cost

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