

CURING GUIDELINES

Light Cure

Fixture time is defined as the time to develop a shear strength of 0.1 N/mm² [10 psi] between glass slides. Actual cure time typically is 3 to 5 times fixture time. No moisture cure time was allowed for this evaluation.

UV-curing guidelines for 29978-E at 3 mil thickness:

Dymax Curing System (Intensity)	Cure Time or Belt Speed
5000-EC (225 mW/cm ²) ^A	40 s
UVCS Conveyor with Fusion D lamp (2.5 W/cm ²) ^B	1.5 m/min [5 ft/min]
UVCS Conveyor with one 5000-EC (250 mW/cm ²) ^B	0.3 m/min [1 ft/min]
BlueWave [®] 200 (10 W/cm ²) ^A	5 s

A Intensity was measured over the UVA range (320-395 nm) using a Dymax ACCU-CAL™ 50 Radiometer

B Intensity was measured over the UVA range (320-395 nm) using a Dymax ACCU-CAL™ 150 Radiometer.

Full cure is best determined empirically by curing at different times and intensities, and measuring the corresponding change in cured properties such as tackiness, adhesion, hardness, etc. Full cure is defined as the point at which more light exposure no longer improves cured properties. Higher intensities or longer cures (up to 5x) generally will not degrade Dymax light-curable materials.

SECONDARY MOISTURE CURE

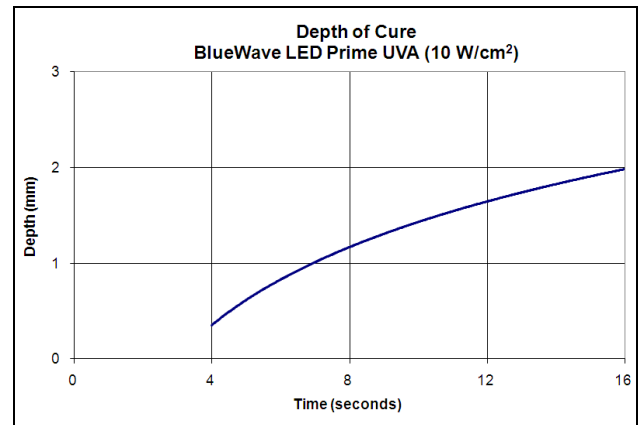
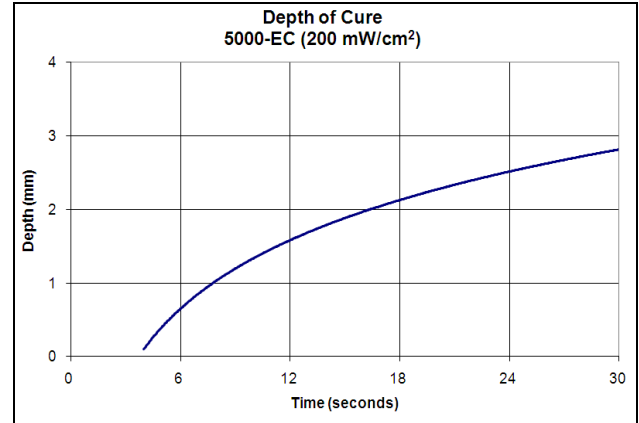
A combination of light and moisture cure is required to achieve full cured mechanical properties. Moisture is also used as a secondary cure mechanism for shadow areas that cannot be cured with light. While moisture cure time in shadow areas is typically 2-3 days at 25°C [77°F], 50% RH, actual moisture cure time is application specific and may vary. For material that has been light cured, typical full property development is after 7 days at 25°C [77°F], 50% RH.

Cure time for both light-cured and shadow areas depends on humidity level, amount of material in shadow areas, and its proximity to humidity. Material entrapped under large components may have a prolonged cure time. Exposure to heat (typically 40°C-60°C) and higher relative humidity will accelerate cure.

Dymax recommends that customers employ a safety factor by curing longer and/or at higher intensities than required for full cure. Although Dymax Application Engineering can provide technical support and assist with process development, each customer must ultimately determine and qualify the appropriate curing parameters required for their unique application.

DEPTH OF CURE

The graphs below show the increase in depth of cure as a function of exposure time with two different lamps at different intensities. A 9.5 mm [0.37 in] diameter specimen was cured in a polypropylene mold and cooled to room temperature. It was then released from the mold and the cure depth was measured.



OPTIMIZING PERFORMANCE AND HANDLING

1. This product cures with exposure to UV and visible light. Exposure to ambient and artificial light should be kept to a minimum before curing. Dispensing components including needles and fluid lines should be 100% light blocking, not just UV blocking.
2. All surfaces in contact with the material should be clean and free from flux residue, grease, mold release, or other contaminants prior to dispensing the material.
3. Cure speed is dependent upon many variables, including lamp intensity, distance from the light source, required depth of cure, coating thickness and amount of material in shadowed areas.
4. Oxygen in the atmosphere may inhibit surface cure. Surfaces exposed to air may require high-intensity (>100 mW/cm²) UV light to produce a dry surface cure. Flooding the curing area with an inert gas, such as nitrogen, can also reduce the effects of oxygen inhibition.
5. Parts should be allowed to cool after cure before testing and subjecting to any loads or electrical testing.
6. Light curing generally produces some heat. If necessary, cooling fans can be placed in the curing area to reduce the heating effect on components.
7. At the point of curing, an air exhaust system is recommended to dissipate any heat and vapors formed during the curing process.
8. Resealing opened containers under nitrogen extends shelf life.

DISPENSING THE MATERIAL

This material may be dispensed with a variety of manual, semi-automated and fully automated fluid delivery systems. Dymax has several dispensing systems that may be suitable for use with conformal coating materials such as our model 110 mountable atomizing needle valve or SG-100-RS handheld spray gun. Small area applications including beads and small dots can be achieved using hand-held dispensers such as our SD-100 syringe dispenser and our Model 400 needle valve systems. These valve systems can be used in a manual, semi-automated or fully automated application. Questions relating to and defining the best fluid delivery system and curing equipment for specific applications should be discussed with the Dymax Application Engineering Team.

CLEANUP

Uncured material may be removed from dispensing components and parts with organic solvents. Cured material will be impervious to many solvents and difficult to remove. Cleanup of cured material may require mechanical methods such as ultrasonic bath, water jet, vacuum tweezers, air knife and/ or warming to aid in the removal.

STORAGE AND SHELF LIFE

Store the material in a low humidity, cool, and dark place when not in use. This product may polymerize upon prolonged exposure to ambient and artificial light as well as moisture. This material has a 12-month shelf life from date of manufacture, unless otherwise specified, when stored between 10°C (50°F) and 32°C (90°F) in the original, unopened container. Resealing large containers under dry inert gas, such as nitrogen, can help maintain the shelf life. Smaller syringes and cartridges should be kept in moisture barrier bags with desiccant when not in use.

GENERAL INFORMATION

This product is intended for industrial use only. Keep out of the reach of children. Avoid breathing vapors. Avoid contact with skin, eyes, and clothing. Wear impervious gloves. Repeated or continuous skin contact with uncured material may cause irritation. Remove material from skin with soap and water. Never use organic solvents to remove material from skin and eyes. For more information on the safe handling of this material, please refer to the Safety Data Sheet before use.

The data provided in this document are based on historical testing that Dymax performed under laboratory conditions as they existed at that time and are for informational purposes only. The data are neither specifications nor guarantees of future performance in a particular application. Dymax does not guarantee that this product's properties are suitable for the user's intended purpose.

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