

# DuPont™ Solamet® PV21A

photovoltaic metallization

## Preliminary Technical Data Sheet

### Product Description

DuPont™ Solamet® PV21A photovoltaic metallization front side paste is a highly conductive silver composition with innovative material science which enables finer line design and excellent printability. This paste can be co-fired with back side (p-type) aluminum conductors and tabbing silver such as Solamet® PV5xx. It is designed for rapid dry and fast (spike) firing.

### Product Benefit

- Improved efficiency up to 0.1% over DuPont™ Solamet® PV20x series
- Superior metallization contact on LDE/ ultra LDE (standard or PERC cell)
- Excellent ink transfer capability at versatile fine line design
- High electrical conductivity after firing
- Reduced carrier recombination at Ag/Si interface
- Optimized for low stress and good soldered adhesion with excellent solderability
- Fast drying and firing
- Cadmium free\*

\*Cadmium 'free' as used herein means that cadmium is not an intentional ingredient in and is not intentionally added to the referenced product. Trace amounts however may be present.

### Processing Summary

- **Application**  
Standard screen print process
- **Printing**  
Speed: 200 – 350 mm/sec
- **Screen Type**  
325, 360, 380, 400 and 430 mesh stainless steel (SS) preferred for  $\leq 40\mu\text{m}^*$   
High open ratio screens with heavy calendar preferred for  $< 35\mu\text{m}^*$   
\*Narrow side of screen pattern

	( I )	( II )	( III )	( IV )	( V )
Mesh (stainless steel)	325	360	380	400	430
Wire Diameter ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	16	16	14	16	13
Mesh Thickness ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	17-28				
Emulsion Thickness ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	12 - 18				
Mesh Angle (degrees)	22 - 30				

- **Drying**  
Vertical Dryer 170 – 230°C 10 minutes  
IR Belt Dryer 150 – 400°C 1 min  
Flexible in accordance with industry practice. Actual settings to be determined by drier type

- **Typical Line Resolution**  
30 – 40µm\* screen designed width
- **Soldering**  
Compatible with industry standard material & condition.  
Flux type: non-clean, reactivity level L0/M0. (Standard: ANSI/J-STD-004)  
Ribbon: Compatible with Pb contained and Pb free solder material, i.e. 60Sn/40Pb, 62Sn/36Pb/2Ag, 96.5Sn/3.5Ag

**Table 1 Typical Physical Properties**

Viscosity (Pa.S) (Brookfield HBT, 20 rpm, SC4-14/6R utility cup and spindle, 15°C)	200-320
Solids (%) at 750°C	91 – 93
Fineness of Grind (4 <sup>th</sup> / 50%)	≤12µm / ≤6µm
Resistivity (m Ω /sq/10µm)	< 5
Thinner	9450
Shelf Life (months)	6

### Paste Preparation

The composition should be thoroughly mixed before use to ensure good printing performance. Several pre-treatment methods are recommended: a) Hand mixing thoroughly. b) Thinky 60-180 sec, temperature controlled at 25-35°C. c) Jar rolling 12-48 hours under 30 rpm. Jar rolling over 48 hours is not recommended due to changes in rheological behavior. Care should be taken to avoid air entrapment.

### Printing

Printing should be carried out in a clean, well-ventilated area. Solamet® PV21A photovoltaic composition, in its container, should be at ambient temperature prior to commencement of printing.

### Firing

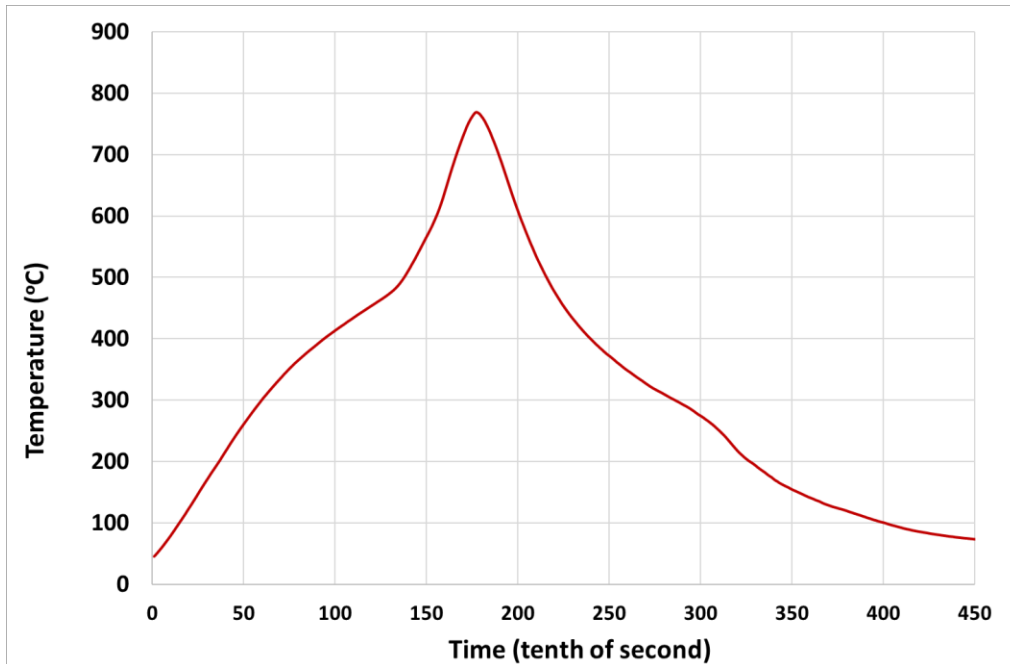
Solamet® PV21A is designed for rapid (spike) firing. To get the best electrical performance, PV21A should be fired at a peak temperature similar to Solamet® PV20x. Firing optimization is strongly recommended.

See chart 1 for typical firing profile.

Actual furnace settings and belt speed will depend on the wafer thickness, texturing and emitter resistivity as these influence the temperature of the wafer during firing.

It is important that wafers are fired in a well ventilated furnace, with a continuous supply of clean filtered air. Airflow and extraction rates should be optimized to ensure that oxidizing conditions exist within the furnace firing chamber, especially when front and back side conductors are co-fired.

**Chart 1**  
**Typical Firing Profile**



### **Thinner**

Solamet® PV21A composition is optimized for screen printing and thinning is not normally required. Use the DuPont recommended thinner for slight adjustments to viscosity or to replace evaporation losses. The use of too much thinner or the use of a non recommended thinner may affect the rheological behavior of the material and its printing characteristics. Please refer to table 1.

### **Storage**

Containers may be stored in a clean, stable environment at room temperature (between 5°C – 25°C) with their lids tightly sealed. Storage in high temperature (>25°C) or in freezers (temperature <0°C) is NOT recommended as this could cause irreversible changes in the material.

### **Safety and Handling**

For information on health and safety regulations please refer to the specific product MSDS.

For more information on DuPont™ Solamet® PV21A or other DuPont Microcircuit Materials products, please contact your local representative:

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