



# Advances in Printed Electronic Materials that Meet Cost and Performance Needs



*The miracles of science™*



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# Agenda

- **DuPont & Printed Electronics**
- **Applications & Materials Enable Lower Cost**
- **Trends & Challenges**
- **New, Differentiated Material & Process Solutions**
- **Summary**

## DuPont 2012 Segment Sales



**\$3.4B**  
**Nutrition &  
Health**



**\$10.4B**  
**Agriculture**



**\$1.2B**  
**Industrial  
Biosciences**



**\$2.7B**  
**Electronics &  
Communications**

**\$34.8B\***

**\$6.4B**  
**Performance  
Materials**



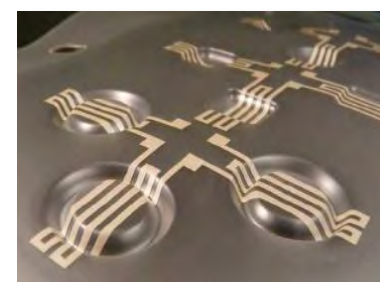
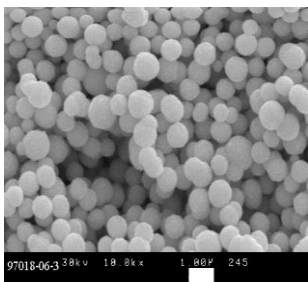
**\$7.2B**  
**Performance  
Chemicals**

**\$3.8B**  
**Safety &  
Protection**



\* Total company sales exclude transfers.

# Microcircuit Materials Business Over 40 Years





# Traditional Printed Electronics at DuPont

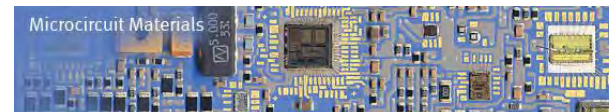
## Materials

(>95% Screen Print)

- Conductors: Silver, Gold, Copper, Alloys
- Dielectrics – Multilayer, Cross-over, Encapsulant
- Resistors – Carbon, Ruthenium
- Specialty – PTC, Phosphor, ITO

## Applications / Substrates

- Membrane Switch, EL / PET Film
- Rear Window Defogger / Glass
- Hybrid Microelectronics / Alumina
- Photovoltaic / Silicon
- Thin Film PV / Foil



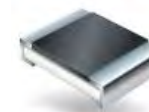
Thick Film Multilayer Hybrid



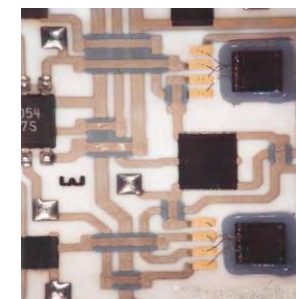
Battery Tester



Bio Test Strip



Chip Resistors



"Hybrid IC" on Alumina



RFID Antenna



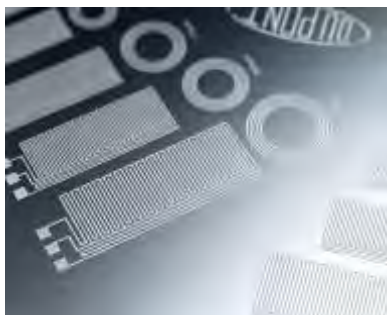
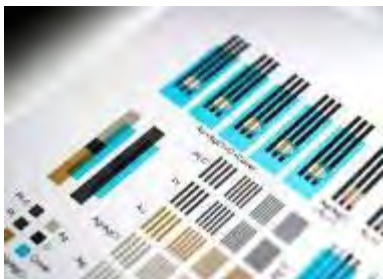
EL Lamps/Backlight



Membrane Touch Switch



Photovoltaic Si Cells

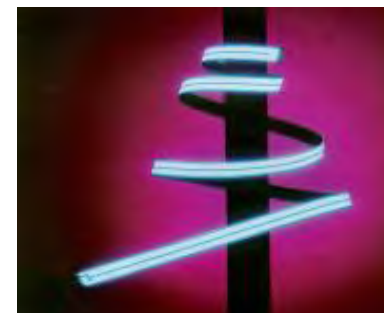


## Current Products & Applications

- **Flexible TF Photovoltaics**  
*Ag grid and bus bar*
- **Biomedical sensors**  
*Au, Ag/AgCl, carbon electrodes*
- **Interconnects and membrane switches**  
*Ag, C, dielectric*
- **Electroluminescent lamps**  
*Ag, phosphor, dielectric, carbon*
- **RFID**  
*Ag antenna*
- **Displays, OLEDs, touch screens**  
*Ag and C grid lines and connectors*



*The miracles of science™*



## R&D

- Ink-jet inks
- Nano-Ag powders and inks
- Transparent conductors

## Core Competencies

- Fine powder production
- Polymer chemistry
- Dispersion techniques
- Imaging techniques
- Rheology
- Coating and Casting

## Deposition

- Flat Screen
- Rotary screen
- Flexography
- Dip
- Spray



*Courtesy of Ascent*  
**Flex TF PV**



## Displays



## Touch Screens



*Courtesy of Holst Centre*

## OLEDs



*Courtesy of Power Paper*

## Printed Batteries



## Flexible Displays



*Courtesy of Holst Centre*

## Smart Packaging



*Courtesy of Storaenso*

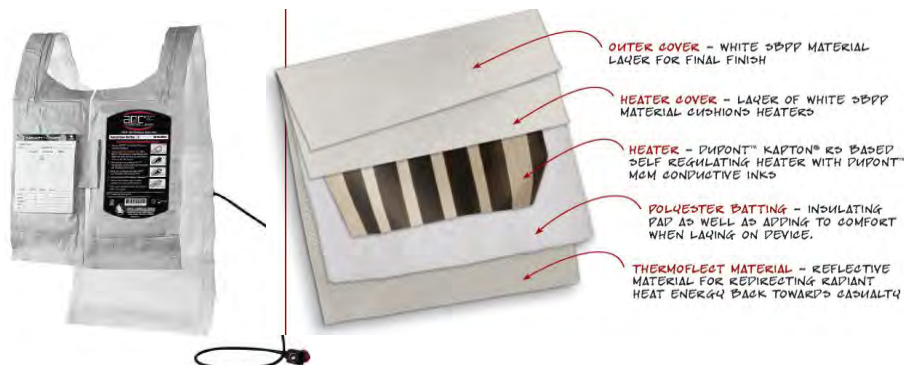


## Current Focus Area

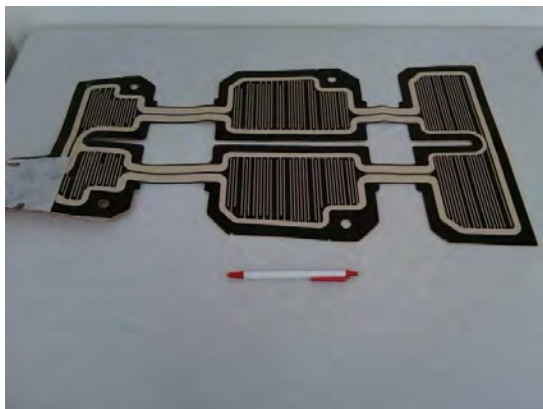
**Technology Leadership & New  
Product/Application Development with Superior  
Functionality and Lower Total Cost to Customers**



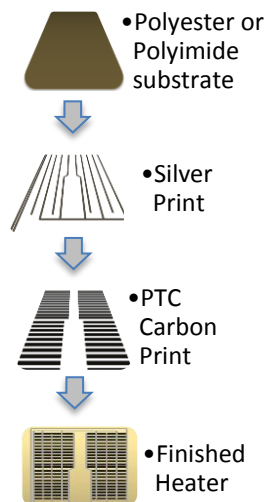
# Screen Printed, Self Limiting Heaters



North American Rescue  
Hypothermia Prevention Vests



Seat Heater  
WET Automotive



## Enabling Ink Materials

- **NEW, Robust PTC Carbon Inks!**
  - Heats, but is Self Limiting (fails cold)
  - New Formulations Replace 7282
  - Improved Temperature Stability
  - No Pre-Conditioning
  - Improved Compatibility w/Adhesives
- **NEW, High Conductivity Silver Inks!**
  - Low Enough R for Single Print
  - Excellent Crease Resistance/Flexibility

## PTC Self Limiting Auto Seat Heaters

- Address Liability Concerns
- Eliminate Controller and Temperature sensors, providing ~35% savings\* vs. Incumbent Heated Wire Technology
- Lowest Energy Consumption technology

\* Estimate

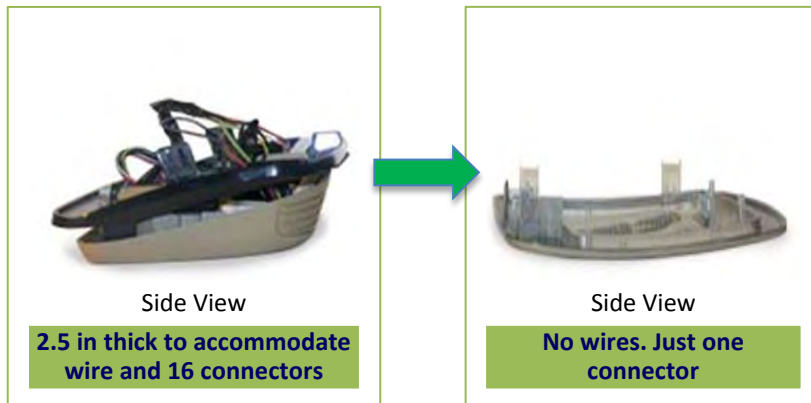
# Silver Conductors for 3D Thermoforming In-Mold Electronics



Standard Ag Ink Reference



***New, Stretchable/Flexible Ag Ink !***



Courtesy of T-Ink



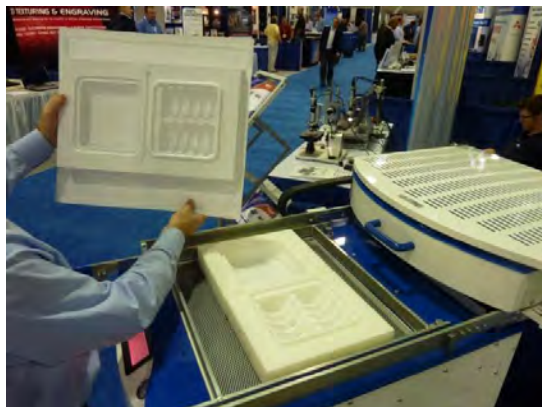
## Enabling Ink Materials

- **NEW, Ultra Flexible Silver Conductors**
  - **STRETCH >75%**
  - Can withstand high temperature thermoform and In-Mold processing
  - Maintains Electrical Performance
- **NEW, Barrier & Insulating Dielectrics**
  - Can withstand high temperature, thermoform and In-Mold processing
  - UV & Thermal Processing

## Automotive, Appliance, Medical, etc.

- Capacitive Touch Design replaces Mechanical Switches for Simplicity, Reliability, Aesthetics
- Space & Weight Reduction, plus easier to assemble

# Thermoforming / In-Mold Electronics



Courtesy of Formech Inc.

## *Trends & Applications*

- Eliminate electro-mechanical switches / knobs / etc.
- Reduced cost
- Reduced tooling and assembly costs
- Simpler supply chain
- Smaller, thinner, lighter
- More reliable
- Unlimited design options
- Drag and Drop design
- Quick turn prototyping

## *Prototyping Capability at DuPont 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr 2013*

- Design Capabilities
- 20"x 20"x4" Printing & Thermoforming capability
- Multi-color UV, Thermoset, Hard-Coat Processing
- Injection Molding via DuPont Performance Polymers
- Polycarbonate, Polyolefin substrates & Others

# Trends in Materials Cost & Performance



## Trend # 1

### Impact of Precious Metals Price

Unpredictable, especially Silver since 2005



Silver < \$10/T.O. 1985 → 2005 with relatively low volatility;

**Silver Peaked at \$49/T.O. in 2011;**

Silver is around \$20/T.O. today but what about 2014? 2016?

**How can users protect themselves against future cost spikes?**

## **Solution # 1**

# **Introduce New, Lower Cost Conductors**

*It isn't always that simple, however....*

### **What is the Cost Target?**

- **>20% Reduction** in Price (\$/gr), and/or more **Price Stability** vs Ag cost?
- Other considerations such as Coverage (cm<sup>2</sup>/g); Screen Life?
- Additional capital equipment required for processing?

### **What is Acceptable Electrical Performance?**

- Resistivity (mΩ/□/mil)--How efficiently does the ink utilize % Ag?
- Resistance (mΩ/□)--How thick do you have to print to get **"Low Ohms"**?

### **Physical Performance?**

- Adhesion, Crease Resistance, Line & Space Resolution
- Substrates other than PET film? (Coated Papers, Woven, Polyolefins)
- Long Term Aging Stability; Migration Resistance

**New ! (July 2013)**

## **Lower Cost Thermal Cure Ag/Composite Conductors**

### **Targeted Resistivity Ranges**

- Allows designers to use inks with lower cost, based on track dimensions
- Each application has different conductivity requirements
- PE850, PE825 commercially available now
- Reduced-cost, higher resistivity versions under development
- **Resistivity decade targets between 5 – 50 milliohms/sq/mil**

### **“Drop-In” Replacement in Most Cases**

- No additional equipment required
- Use current printing/drying process
- Designed to meet ASTM specifications for generic MTS and Printed Electronics applications
- **Conventional Solution for the Conventional Approach**

## **Trend # 2**

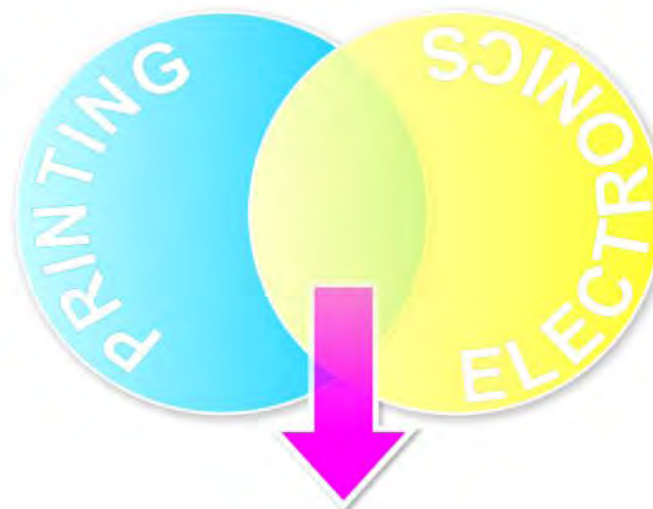
# **Convergence of Two Industries**

### **Graphics Printing**

- Visual Performance
- Roll-2-Roll Assets
- High Speed, Low Cost Printing

### **Electronics**

- Functional Performance
- Precision Patterning
- Clean Rooms



Wide-spread, low-cost, lower-performance circuits  
with unconventional use *(at least in theory)*

### **Universities are Playing a Key Role**

- Currently with Western Michigan (CAPE), Clemson (Sonoco), & Cal Poly State
- Long History of DuPont Collaboration with University Programs in Electronics

**GOAL: Higher Speed, Lower Cost electronics**



## **Solution #2**

### **Develop Faster Curing Techniques**

### **High Volume R2R Printing Requires Fast Drying**

- **Highly Conductive Materials = Thicker Prints (solvent removal critical)**
- **Commercial Polymer Thick Film Inks have limitations**
- **Traditional drying equipment generally not sufficient**
  - Belt Oven: 120C for 2-6 minutes; Reel2Reel: 140C for 1 minute
  - Slow ramp-up of heat to substrate; limited airflow & turnover
  - Area of printed ink per impression too large
- **Other Issues for High Speed Printing Include:**
  - Limited # of Commercial Electronic Inks
  - Sample size too small to make cost-effective prototypes

# Curing Techniques for Printed Electronics

## Thermal

Traditional process--may require high temps for extended times

## UV

Limited Mostly to Dielectrics; Inefficient for opaque conductors

## Photonic

Pulsed light, rapid sintering of particles, rapid solvent evaporation

## Other

- Laser  
Selective exposure by scanning with focused laser
- Microwave  
Rapid sintering, low penetration depths ( $\sim 1.5 \mu$ )
- Electrical  
Apply voltage across a printed structure, rapid sintering possible
- Plasma  
Sintering by exposure to low pressure plasma, e.g. argon
- Chemical  
Room temp process, chemically induced coalescence

# Photonic Curing/ Pulsed Sintering

- High intensity strobe sinters metal containing inks on a variety of conventional and low cost substrates
- Sintering times are in the millisecond range
- High temperatures achieved locally for short periods of time
- Convenient: noncontact process, ambient conditions
- Process variables are adjusted to accommodate ink and application (strobe energy, pulse length, # of pulses, web speed)
- **New Focus on Photonic Curing of Base Metal Inks for High Speed Printing Applications**

## Commercial Units:

NovaCentrix PulseForge®

Xenon SINTERON™

Holst Center / Philips Aachen

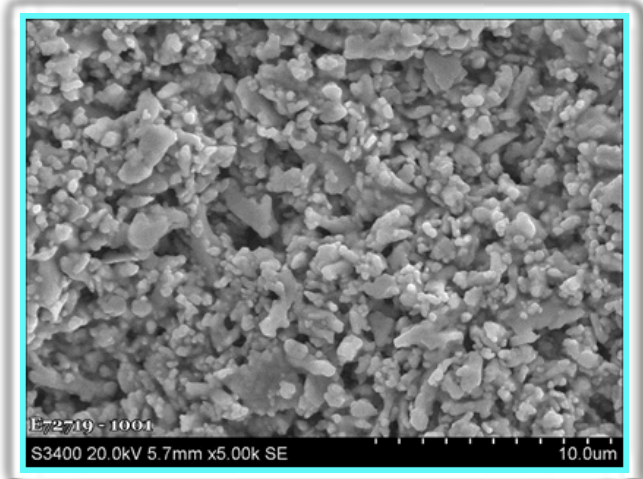


SINTERON 2000

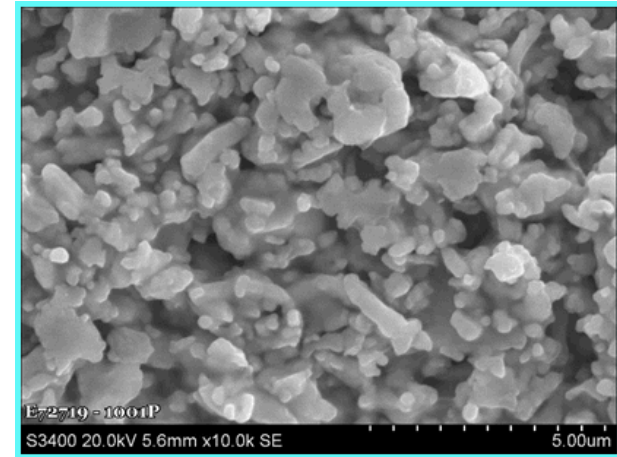


PULSEFORGE® 3300

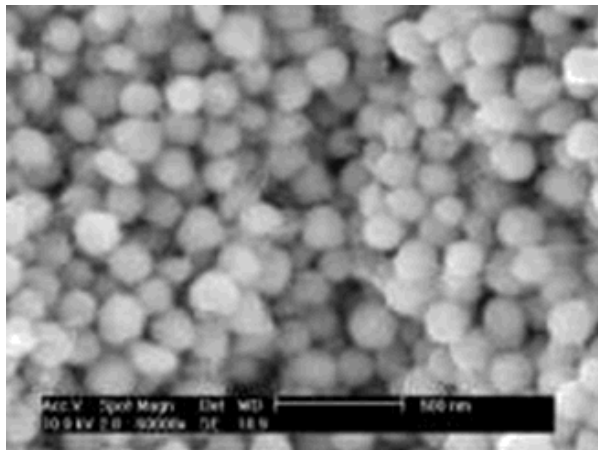
# Low Cost Conductors Before / After Photonic Curing



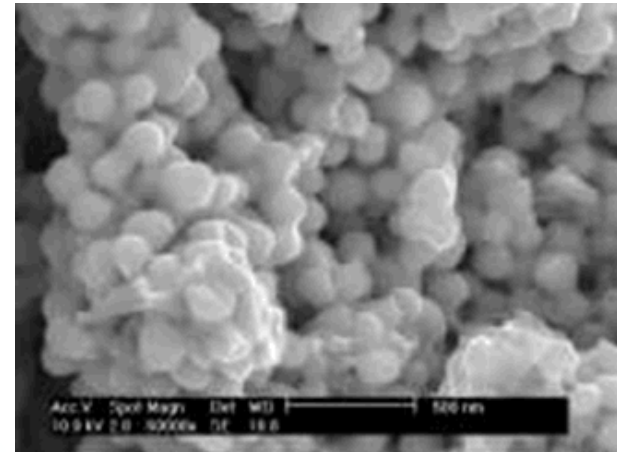
**Thermal Cure 140C / 10min**



**Photonic Cure**

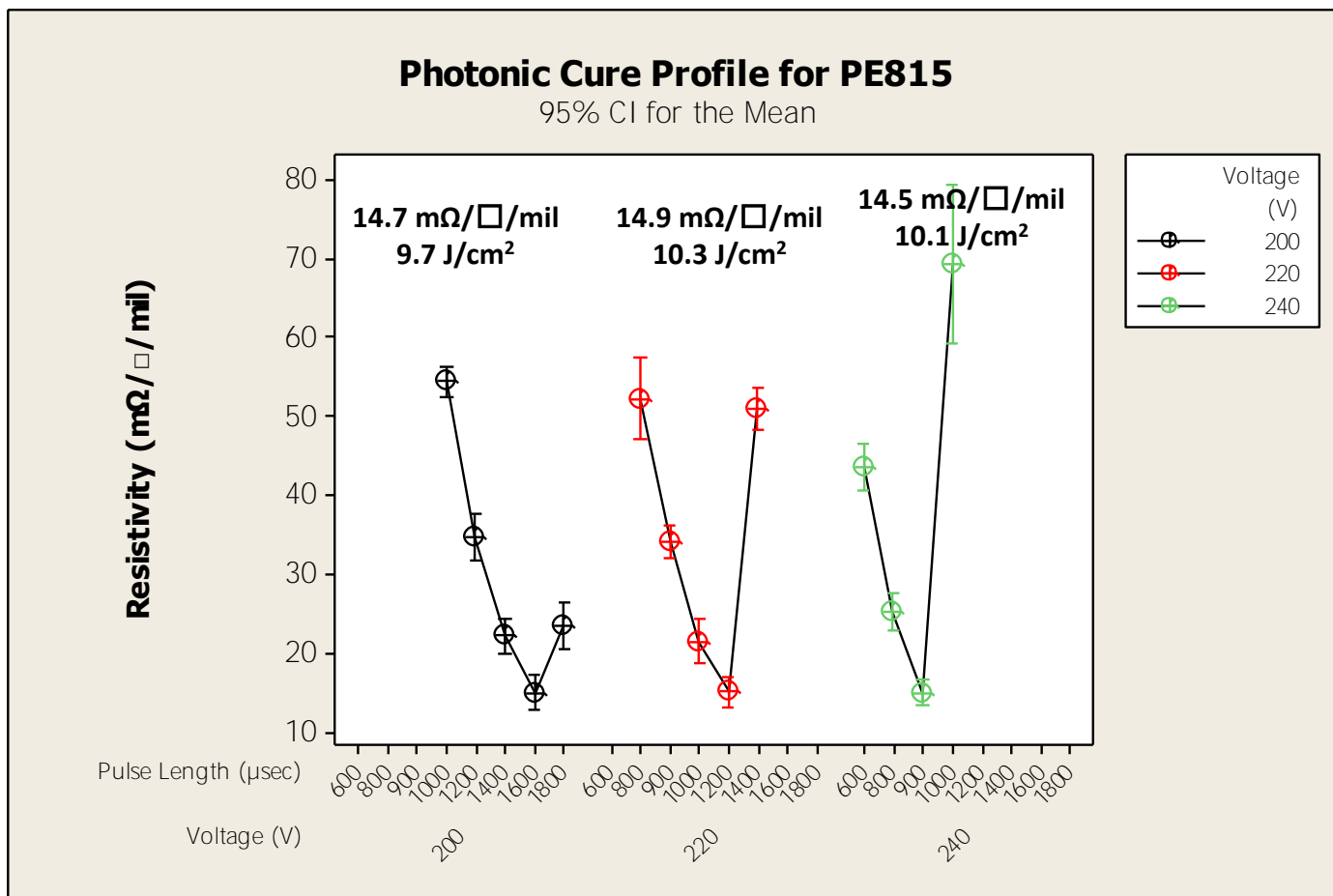


**Ag Sphere**





# Photonic Curing Behavior for PE815



**Minimum Resistivity achieved with several pulse voltage / pulse length combinations**  
**Total exposure dose for each resistivity minimum is similar**

## Lower Cost Conductors w/ Photonic Curing

		Resistivity (mOhms/sq/mil)	
Product ID	Material	Oven (140C, 10 min)	Photonic Curing(*)
5064H	<b>Silvers</b>	5	4
5025		12	9
<b>PE850</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>
7102	<b>Carbons</b>	28,400	28,000
7105		16,200	16,400
<b>PE815</b>	<b>Alloys &amp; Composites</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>PE825</b>		<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>
5524		40	35

- PE815 Designed for Photonic Curing / Lamination/ Hot Roll Calendering
- PE850, PE825 Designed for Thermal Cure only
- **PE815, PE825, PE850 Available Now**
- Controlled Lab Testing with NovaCentrix PulseForge® 3200
- Printed/dried on DuPont Teijin Films Melinex® ST505

The data above reflects results under a given experimental design and under controlled conditions, and should not be used to establish specification limits or used alone as the basis of design or appropriateness for use in a particular process or product configuration. The data provided herein shall not constitute a warranty of any kind.

# Improved Performance Using Lamination / Hot Roll Calendering



Smart Card Production Unit  
Courtesy Muhlbauer



Lab-Scale Calendering Unit  
Courtesy Mathis AG

## Trends & Applications

- Contactless Smart Cards in Production since early 1990's
- Calendering used in paper & film manufacturing
- Desire to switch from high Ag-content to new Alloys
- Additive High-Speed Screen Printing vs Etched Foil
- In use with DuPont 5029 Ag; PE815 & New Alloy Inks\*
- New, targeted resistivity inks under development
- Smart Card, RFID, MTS, Biomedical, Smart Packaging
- Uniaxial Lamination or Continuous Hot Roll Calendering\*

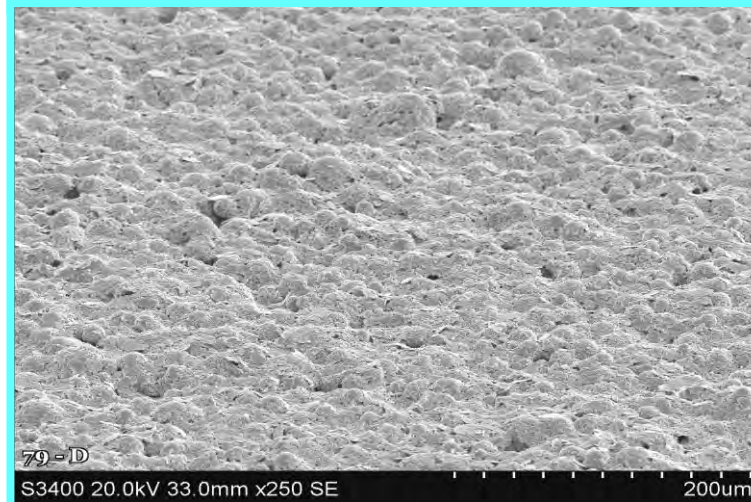
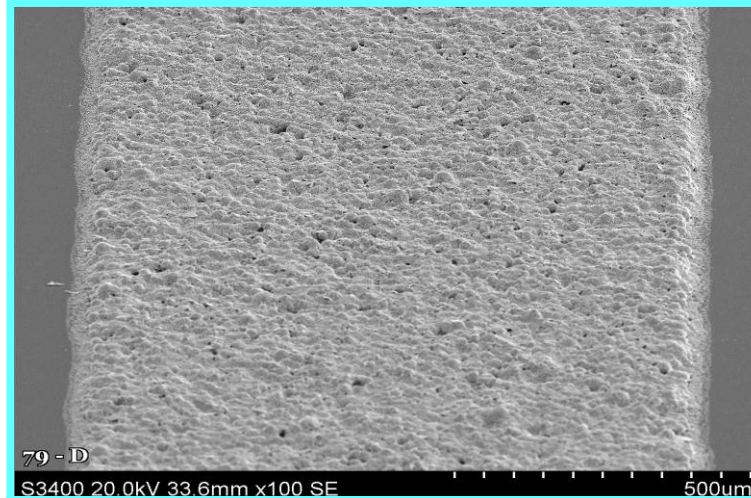
*\*Patents Pending*

## Prototyping Capability at DuPont

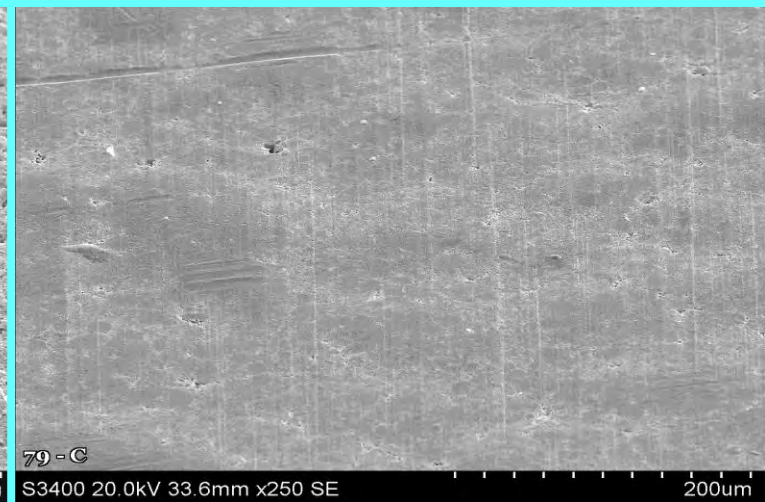
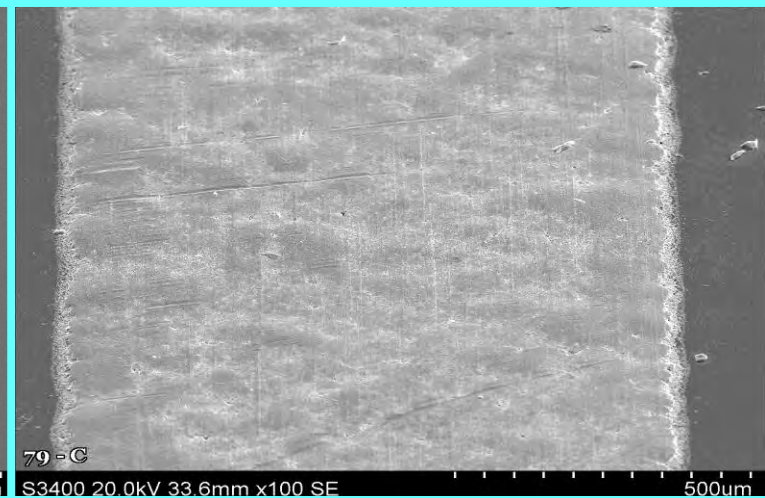
- Small scale Sheet or Roll Calendering up to 130C
- 18"x18" Uniaxial Lamination up to 130C
- New Printed Electronics Lab @ RTP 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr 2013

# Lamination / Calendered Surface

**Dried Print**



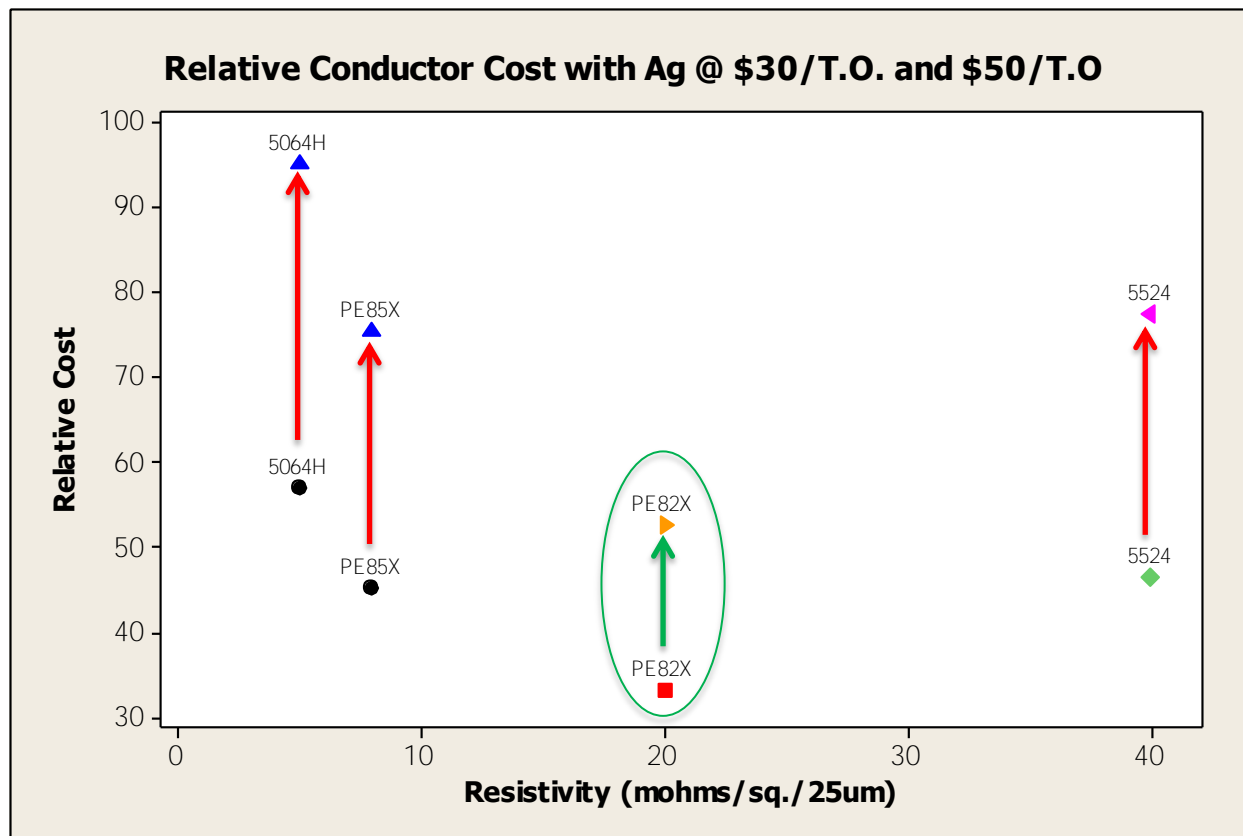
**Laminated / Hot Roll Calendered**





# Conductor Costs – Thermal (140C) Cure

*Protection against rising Silver Costs*



## **PE850 (Silver)**

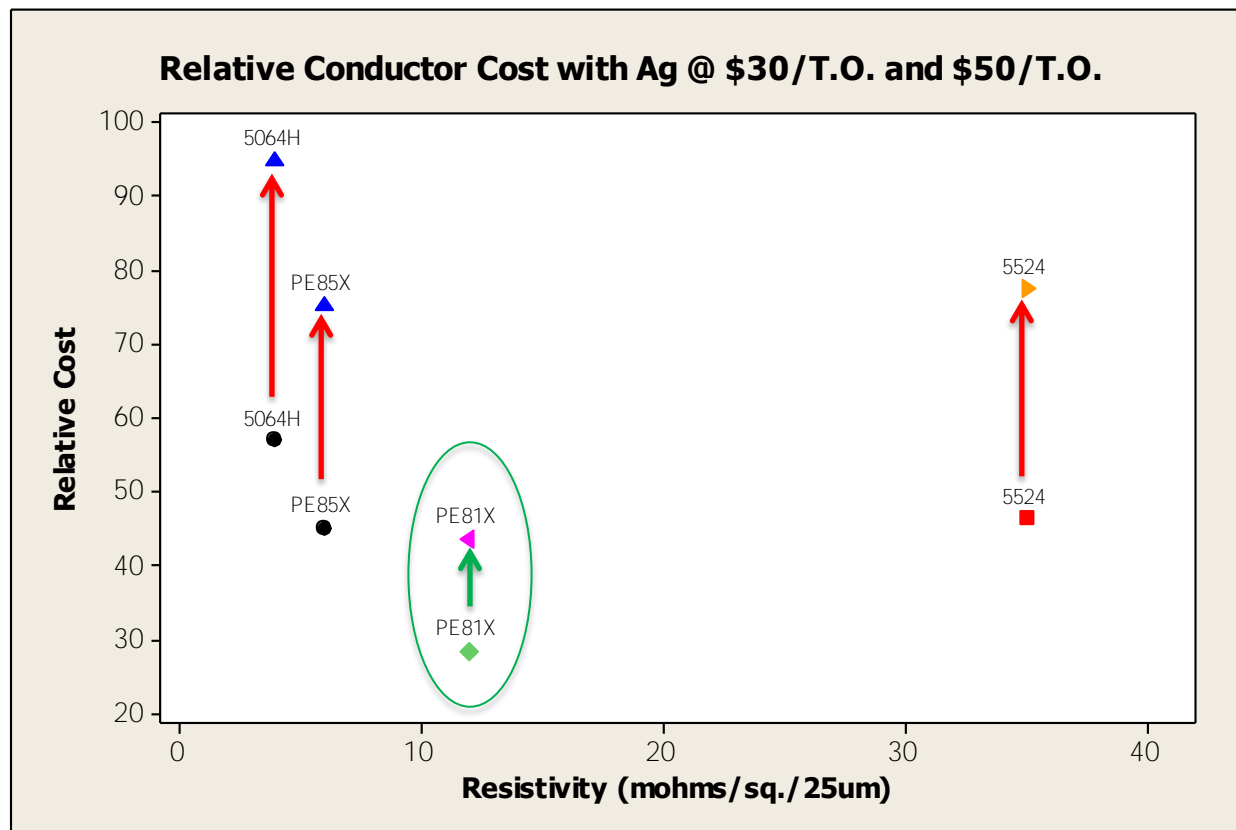
- ✓ Lower Ag content
- ✓ Low Resistivity
- ✓ High Coverage

## **PE825 (Composite)**

- ✓ Lowest Cost
- ✓ Good Resistivity
- ✓ Lower \$/TO Sensitivity

# Conductor Costs – Photonic Cure / Lamination / Calendering

*Protection against rising Silver Costs*



## **PE815 (Alloy)**

- ✓ Lowest Cost
- ✓ Good Resistivity
- ✓ Lower \$/TO Sensitivity

# Printed Electronics on Paper



## **Trends & Applications**

- RFID Labels for Inventory/Supply Chain
- Passports/IDs/Document Security
- I/C Connect to USB/Readers (IntelliPaper)
- Solvent or Water Based Flexo/Screen Print
- Electrical Performance vs Non-Permeable
- Number of New Substrate Technologies

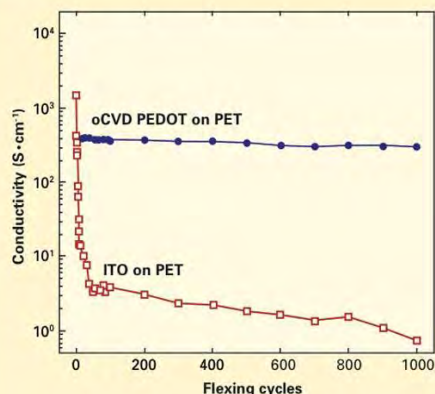
# Printed Solar Cells on Paper



**PV Cells Screen Printed  
on Newspaper**



**250 PV Cells = 50 Volts**



## **Trends & Applications**

- Low Cost PV need Low Cost Substrate & Inks
- Thin Film Electrode PEDOT vs High-Cost ITO
- High Speed Reel-2-Reel Printing for Volume
- Flexibility = Better Efficiency/Crease Performance
- Laminated w/ Plastic Film for Moisture Resistance



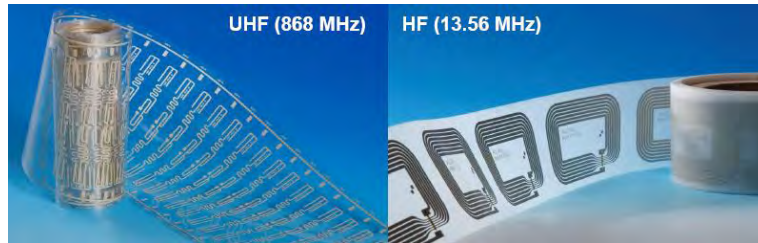
# Printed Electronic Packaging

## Packaging

- Diversification
- Logistics
- Traceability
- Sensing
- Medical

## Advertising

- Diversification
- Interactivity
- Visual Impact





# Printed Electronics on Paper



Courtesy T-Ink



Hallmark Interactive



McDonald's Toy



Interactive Cereal Box



Kent Touch/LED Package

## Summary

### New Printed Functional Inks can Enable Lower Cost Solutions

- Enabled by advances in design, processing, and materials
- In-Mold Electronics & lower cost help drive innovation
- Alternative substrates to traditional PET film (Paper, etc.)
- **Screen Printing is still the dominant printing technique**

### Introduction of NEW Lower Cost Conductor Technology

- For traditional thermal curing & emerging photonic curing
- Can be used with lamination & hot roll calendering
- **Provides protection against precious metal pricing**
- More new formulations & unique applications going forward

### There are many Commercial / Developmental Material Options

- Application / Design Dependent
- **Work with the Ink Materials Suppliers**

Thank you



*The miracles of science™*