



IPC-4103A with Amendment 1

# Specification for Base Materials for High Speed/ High Frequency Applications

Developed by the High Speed/High Frequency Base Materials  
Subcommittee (D-23) of the High Speed/High Frequency Committee  
(D-20) of IPC

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Users of this publication are encouraged to participate in the  
development of future revisions.

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# Table of Contents

<b>1 GENERAL</b> .....	1	3.1.6 Quality Assessment Data .....	8
1.1 Scope .....	1	3.1.7 Sample Qualification .....	8
1.2 Type Designation .....	1	3.1.8 Production Data .....	8
1.2.1 Specification Sheets .....	2	3.1.9 Customer Test Data .....	8
1.2.2 Dielectric Permittivity Range .....	2	3.1.10 Internal Assessment .....	8
1.2.3 Dielectric Permittivity Tolerance .....	2	3.1.11 Individual Customer Audit .....	8
1.2.4 Nominal Laminate Thickness .....	2	3.1.12 Independent Third Party Assessment .....	8
1.2.5 Thickness Tolerance, Laminate .....	2	3.2 Specification Sheets .....	8
1.2.6 Metal Foil Indentations .....	2	3.3 Manufacturers Quality Profile .....	8
1.2.7 Metal Cladding Type and Nominal Weight or Thickness of Metal Cladding .....	2	3.4 Qualification Testing .....	8
1.2.8 Test Frequency .....	4	3.5 Verification of Manufacturer's Quality System ..	8
1.2.9 Dielectric Loss Tangent .....	4	3.6 Conflict .....	8
1.2.10 Resin .....	4	3.7 Materials .....	9
1.2.11 Filler .....	4	3.7.1 Metal Cladding .....	9
1.2.12 Reinforcement .....	4	3.7.2 Reinforcement Fabric .....	9
1.2.13 Bonding Layer Reinforcement Style .....	4	3.7.3 Resin System .....	9
1.2.14 Bonding Layer Parameters .....	4	3.7.4 Fillers .....	9
1.2.15 Color .....	4	3.8 General Requirements/Acceptability .....	9
1.3 Dimensions and Tolerances .....	4	3.8.1 Fabricated Sheets and Panels .....	9
1.4 Interpretation .....	5	3.8.2 Inspection Lot .....	9
1.5 Terms and Definitions .....	5	3.8.3 Visual Properties .....	10
1.5.1 As Agreed Between User and Supplier (AABUS) .....	5	3.8.4 Dimensional .....	12
1.7 Revision Level Changes .....	5	3.9 Physical Requirements .....	16
<b>2 APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS</b> .....	5	3.9.1 Physical Requirements Laminate Materials .....	16
2.1 IPC .....	5	3.9.2 Physical Requirements, Bonding Layer Materials .....	16
2.2 Joint Industry Standards .....	6	3.10 Chemical Requirements .....	17
2.3 National Conference of Standards Laboratories .....	6	3.10.1 Chemical Requirements, Laminate .....	17
2.4 Federal Specifications .....	6	3.10.2 Chemical Requirements, Bonding Layer .....	18
2.5 ASTM .....	7	3.11 Electrical Requirements .....	18
2.6 International Standards .....	7	3.11.1 Electrical Requirements, Laminate .....	18
2.7 MIL Specification .....	7	3.12 Environmental Requirements .....	19
2.8 International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) .....	7	3.12.1 Environmental Requirements, Laminate .....	19
<b>3 REQUIREMENTS</b> .....	7	3.12.2 Environmental Requirements, Bonding Layer ..	19
3.1 General .....	7	3.13 Visual and Dimensional Requirements, Laminates .....	19
3.1.1 Qualification Assessment .....	7	3.13.1 Substitutability of Grades of Metal Foil Indentations .....	19
3.1.2 Quality Conformance Testing .....	7	3.13.2 Substitutability of Classes of Thickness Tolerance .....	19
3.1.3 Manufacturers Quality System .....	7	3.13.3 Remarking of Substituted Laminates .....	19
3.1.4 Process Control Testing .....	7	3.14 Marking .....	20
3.1.5 Self Declaration .....	8	3.14.1 Marking, Laminates .....	20
		3.14.2 Marking Bonding Layer .....	20

3.14.3 Marking of Shipping Containers ..... 20

3.15 Workmanship ..... 20

3.16 Material Safety ..... 20

3.17 Bonding Layer Shelf Life ..... 20

**4 QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS ..... 21**

4.1 Quality System ..... 21

4.2 Responsibility for Inspection ..... 21

4.2.1 Test Equipment and Inspection Facilities ..... 21

4.3 Qualification Testing ..... 21

4.3.1 Samples ..... 21

4.3.2 Frequency ..... 21

4.3.3 Laminator Qualification Profile ..... 21

4.3.4 Changes in Composition ..... 21

4.3.5 Qualification Data Retention ..... 21

4.4 Quality Conformance Inspection ..... 21

4.4.1 Frequency ..... 21

4.4.2 Acceptance Criteria ..... 21

4.4.3 Rejected Lots ..... 21

4.4.4 Conformance Data Retention ..... 22

4.4.5 Certificate of Conformance ..... 22

4.5 Statistical Process Control (SPC) ..... 22

**5 PREPARATION FOR DELIVERY ..... 23**

5.1 Packaging Materials ..... 23

5.2 Authorized Distributors ..... 23

**6 NOTES ..... 23**

6.1 End User Responsibilities ..... 23

6.1.1 Background Information ..... 23

6.1.2 AABUS Rational ..... 23

6.2 Ordering Information ..... 23

6.2.1 Ordering Data for Laminate Material ..... 23

6.2.2 Ordering Data for Bonding Layer Material ..... 24

6.3 New Materials ..... 24

**Figures**

Figure 3-1 Thickness Measurement ..... 15

**Tables**

Table 1-1 Conventional Laminate Example ..... 1

Table 1-2 Enhanced Laminate Example ..... 1

Table 1-3 Bonding Layer Example ..... 1

Table 1-4 Copper Foil Weights and Thickness  
(Taken From IPC-4562) ..... 3

Table 1-5 Bonding Layer Testing Parameters ..... 4

Table 3-1 Point Value System for Metal Foil  
Indentations ..... 10

Table 3-2 Permissible Variation in Length and  
Width of Laminates ..... 12

Table 3-3 Reference Information and Testing  
Frequency of Laminates ..... 12

Table 3-4 Reference Information and Testing  
Frequency of Bonding Layer Material ..... 14

Table 3-5 Thickness Tolerance for Laminates  
in mm [in] ..... 15

Table 3-6 Laminate Bow and Twist, Maximum  
Percentage ..... 16

Table 3-7 Flammability Requirements ..... 17

Table 3-8 Dielectric Permittivity Tolerance ..... 18

Table 4-1 Quality Conformance Plan for Monthly,  
Quarterly and Annual Tests - Laminate ..... 22

Table 4-2 Quality Conformance Plan for Monthly,  
Quarterly and Annual Tests - Bonding Layer .... 22

Table 6-1 Summary of Legacy Specification Sheets ..... 25

Table 6-2 Summary of IPC-4103A Specification Sheets .. 25

# Specification for Base Materials for High Speed/High Frequency Applications

## 1 GENERAL

**1.1 Scope** This specification covers the requirements for high speed/high frequency performance plastic substrates to be used for fabrication of printed boards for microstrip, stripline, and high speed digital electrical and electronic circuits. This specification applies to the plastic substrate thickness defined in the specification sheets as measured over the dielectric only. As a general guideline, laminates controlled by this specification usually have a dissipation factor of less than 0.005.

**1.2 Type Designation** The following system identifies clad and unclad plastic laminate and bonding layer materials for conventional and enhanced part number call out. Conventional laminate part numbers reflect traditional specification values, and are consistent with the callouts in Table 1-1. Enhanced laminate part numbering would include the conventional part number in Table 1-1 as well as the enhanced information in Table 1-2. Bonding layer part numbers are covered in Table 1-3.

Table 1-1 provides an example for conventional laminate part numbers where IPC-4103 is referenced as follows: 4103AL001C11500C1/C1AA.

**Table 1-1 Conventional Laminate Example**

4103	A	L	001	C
Specification Number	Specification Revision	Material Designator (see 1.2.1)	Specification Sheet (see 1.2.1)	Dielectric Permittivity Range (see 1.2.2)
<b>1</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>C1/C1</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A</b>
Dielectric Permittivity Tolerance (see 1.2.3)	Nominal Laminate Thickness (see 1.2.4)	Metal Cladding Type and Nominal Weight/Thickness (see 1.2.7)	Thickness Tolerance (see 1.2.5)	Metal Foil Indentations (see 1.2.6)

Table 1-2 provides an example for enhanced laminate part numbers where IPC-4103 is referenced. In addition to the conventional Table 1-2, the following designators could be used to define an enhanced material part number such as: 4103AL001C11500C1/C1AAX1A1A.

**Table 1-2 Enhanced Laminate Example**

X	1	A	1	A
Test Frequency (see 1.2.8)	Dielectric Loss (see 1.2.9)	Resin (see 1.2.10)	Filler (see 1.2.11)	Reinforcement (see 1.2.12)

Table 1-3 provides an example for bonding layer part numbers where IPC-4103 is referenced as follows: 4103AB520CE1080BRCSVC1.

**Table 1-3 Bonding Layer Example**

4103	A	B	520	C
Specification Number	Specification Revision	Material Designator (see 1.2.1)	Specification Sheet (see 1.2.1)	Dielectric Permittivity Range (see 1.2.2)
<b>E</b>	<b>1080</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>RC</b>	<b>SC</b>
Reinforcement Type (see 1.2.13)	Reinforcement Style (see 1.2.13)	Resin System (see 1.2.10)	Resin Content Test Method (see 1.2.14)	Flow Parameter (see 1.2.14)
<b>VC</b>	<b>1</b>			
Optional Test (see 1.2.14)	Filler (see 1.2.11)			