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Simple Test Indicates Degree of Cure of Polyimide Coatings

A simple qualitative test has been devised to determine whether polyimide resins (used as high-temperature coatings on electrical cables) have been completely cured. To perform the test, a sample of the coated cable is immersed for 1 to 3 minutes in normal methyl-2-pyrrolidone (NMP). After immersion, the sample is removed from the NMP, rinsed in clean water, and wiped dry. It is then examined under 20-power magnification for cracks, crazing, flaking, or peeling of the polyimide coating. Evidence of any of these defects indicates that the coating has not been completely cured.

Note:
This Tech Brief is complete in itself. No additional information is available.

Patent status:
No patent action is contemplated by NASA.
Source: J. R. Uribe and J. R. Wallauch of North American Rockwell Corporation under contract to Manned Spacecraft Center (MSC-15487)