

Proper Storage of Florida RF Labs and EMC Technology Component

Many customers deal with the issue of the proper storage of EMC Technology and Florida RF Labs electronic passive components. It is the goal of this guideline to indicate our recommended proper storage method for components with the materials outlined in the note. In order to maintain a high degree of component termination solderability, the following component storage criteria should be met.

1. Storage temperature not to exceed 30°C
2. Relative humidity maintained at 50% +/- 5%
3. The storage atmosphere must not contain:
 - a) Sulfur vapors or sulfur containing vapor compounds
 - b) Oxidizers such as chlorine vapors
 - c) Acid vapors
 - d) Corrosives vapors
 - e) Any atmosphere that will produce a film on the solderable surface such as oil vapors
4. Maximum storage shelf life of one (1) year from the date of shipment unless stored under an inert atmosphere such as dry nitrogen

This criterion is for all of the following surface finishes:

60Sn 40Pb
90Sn 10Pb
96Sn 4Ag 0.35Cu
80Au 20Sn
SN96
SN63
SN62
Ag/Pt
Ag/Pd
Ag/Pt/Pd
Au/Pt
Au
Ag
Electroplated Au

Product warranty may be jeopardized if components have been placed or maintained in storage using methods outside these guidelines.

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Components which contain or use pure silver Au metal finishes are shipped with corrosion inhibitor paper to prevent oxidation and tarnishing of components that could result in poor solderability. In the case of components that show signs of tarnishing on Silver (Au), it is recommended that burnishing will in most cases remove this darkened layer, returning the devices to excellent solderability. When storing these devices, the proper sealed packaging should be maintained, and the corrosive inhibiting paper should not be removed. Removing corrosion inhibiting paper from the proper packaging could result in the warranty being voided. This includes bulk packaging, waffle packaging, and tape and reel packaging.

This application note does not pertain to custom finish components controlled by customer specific drawings where a metal finish is specified and is not included with this application note. It is the goal to always properly package electronic components, but where a custom specification provided by a representative of the end user requires a metal finish not included in this application note or requires a storage, shipment, or packaging method not covered by the application note or standard good practices may result in a void of warranty on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the factory in regard to proper storage if there is ever any doubt as to the recommended storage method of electronic components.