# SOLIMIDE<sup>®</sup> Polyimide Foam







#### Lightweight, Flexible, Thermal and Acoustic Insulating Materials

#### for Use Where Fire Resistance, Extreme Temperatures or

#### Weight Savings Are Critical Considerations





...such as Aircraft!

# Background



- SOLIMIDE Foam is supplied by Evonik Foams, Formerly Imi-Tech / Inspec Foams, subsidiary of Evonik Industries
- Developed in conjunction with US NASA following APOLLO fire that resulted in three astronaut deaths
- Possesses unrivalled advantages over traditional insulating materials
- The thermal/acoustic insulation product of choice for solving tough problems aboard marine vessels, aircraft, aerospace and in industry worldwide



# **Basic Information**



### Chemistry

- Polymer with predominantly imide linkages formed during polymerization
- High glass transition temperature [235°C]
- Good solvent/chemistry stability

### **Key Characteristics**

- Open cell foam, low weight [5 to 9 kg/m<sup>3</sup>]
- Temperature stability [cryogenic to 300°C]
- Low off-gassing
- Flexible, semi-rigid, compression recovery
- Heat/Pressure formable to some degree



# **Marine Market**



- Thermal / Acoustic Hull Insulation
- Thermal / Acoustic Bulkhead Insulation
- Ceiling Panels
- Hangar Deck Insulation
- Beam Wrap
- Duct Wrap





## **Rail Market**





### Heating, ventilation & air conditioning systems

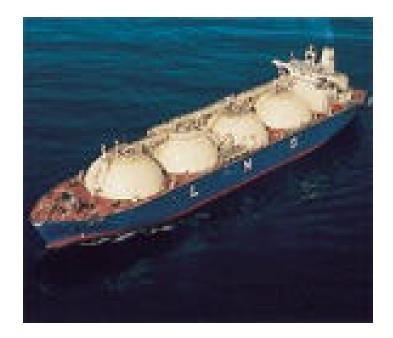
- Engine compartments
- General noise and thermal control



## **Cryogenic Market**



- Expansion joints for tanks / pipes
- Pipe supports
- Containers / tanks

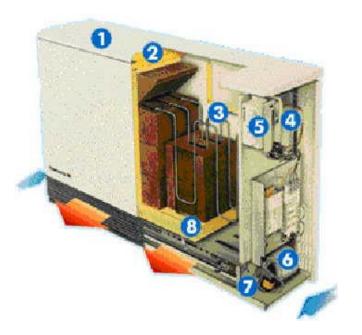




# **Appliance, Electronics, Instrumentation Markets**



- Industrial high temperature applications up to 300°C
- Ovens
- Gaskets
- Space-constrained areas
- Sensitive optics / electronics





# **Aircraft / Aerospace Market**

- Duct insulation
- Fuselage blankets
- Bleed air ducts
- Cryogenic fuel tanks
- General noise, vibration and thermal control





- Boeing SeaLaunch
- Ariane 5
- Atlas Centaur
- Atlas V
- NASA Space Shuttle
- International Space Station





# **Aircraft Benefits**

- •Low weight with good thermal and acoustic insulating properties
- Excellent fire resistance passes FAR 25.856 (a)
- •Virtually no smoke or toxic gas emission
- •Formaldehyde and fiber free
- Rigid, self-supporting foam; fewer fasteners for lower weight, faster installation and inspection
- •Proven long term performance (retains properties, shape)









 Weight Savings -- Densities from 5 to 32 Kg/m<sup>3</sup>

 Additional Weight Savings with Installation – fewer fasteners required







#### **Open Cell Structure Provides Excellent Sound Absorption Performance at Frequencies From 500 to 2000 Cycles Per Second.**

- Excellent Acoustic and Non-burning Combination
- Good Acoustic Absorption to Weight Ratio
- No Fibers to Release

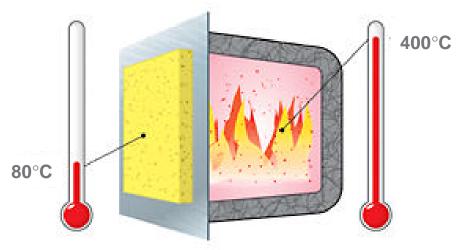






#### **Effective Thermal Insulation on a Per Unit-weight Basis**

- Continuous use to 300°C
- Retains thickness and thermal resistance even in hot and humid environments
- No phenol-formaldehyde binder to break down



Over 300°C Temperature Reduction With 25 mm Thick SOLIMIDE Foam Insulation



SOLIMIDE<sup>®</sup> foams

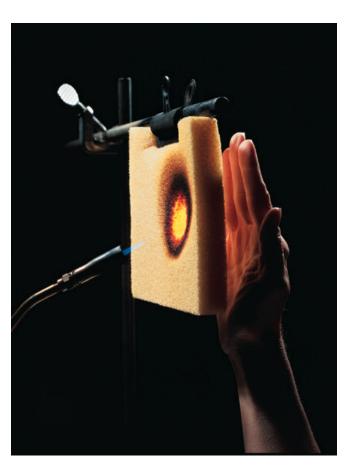
### Advantage: Fire Resistance, Smoke

#### Inherently Fire Resistant – Will Not Support Combustion in Air

- Nearly Zero Flame Propagation FAR25.856a
- Typically Exceeds Fire Regulations
- Numerous Test Results Available
  - NBS Smoke Chamber
  - OSU Heat Release
  - Boeing and Airbus Smoke/Toxicity tests

Emits Virtually No Smoke or Incapacitating Gases

When Exposed to Open Flame





## Advantage: Formaldehyde and Fiber-Free



# Negligible Outgassing at Room Temperature / Minimal Outgassing at Elevated Temperatures

- Minimal Volatile Compounds Released
- No Odors for Consumer Products
- No "Burn In" Requirement or binder to burn out
- No respirable fibers
- No loss of thickness or sagging in hot, humid environments
- No breakdown or disintegration







## Self-supporting, but flexible -



easy to handle and install

- Faster installation with fewer installers
- Fewer Fasteners reduced weight
- Wrap Around Structures



## **Case Study – Qantas Experience**



In the early 1990's, Qantas replaced fiber glass in the bilge areas of their 747 fleet.

Benefits reported:

- 300 lb. weight reduction (batting only)
- 60% reduction in blanket manufacturing time
- 80% reduction in blanket installation time (1600 fasteners eliminated from FG design)
- 95% reduction in inspection time
- Moisture mitigation -- elimination of cover film penetrations
- Retention of blanket integrity







### SOLIMIDE Foam maintains integrity and thickness in hot, humid environments



- In 2007, Qantas sent a 10-year old insulation blanket to Boeing for evaluation – it was in great shape!
- Fiber glass blankets disintegrate with moisture – more replacements required during inspection
- Fewer fasteners to begin with means fewer fasteners during inspections





In the 1990's:

Alaska Airlines In-Service Study:

- A sandwich configuration FG/Foam/FG was installed and flown for a year
- PI Foam retained 90% of thickness, FG only 50%
- PI Foam maintained coverage area, FG sagged

System Design, 737 Factory Installation:

- Blankets fabricated for factory installation trial two frame bays, all fuselage above floor
- Blankets installed quickly with minimal fasteners installers impressed with simplicity and speed





AC-530	<ul> <li>Medium density (5.7 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)</li> <li>Maximum continuous use temperature is 200°C</li> </ul>
AC-550	<ul> <li>Medium density (7.1 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)</li> <li>Maximum continuous use temperature is 200°C</li> </ul>
HT-340	<ul> <li>"Orange" color, medium density (6.4 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)</li> <li>Maximum continuous use temperature is 300°C</li> </ul>

All SOLIMIDE polyimide foams are open-celled, flexible, low off-gassing, fire-resistant, thermal/acoustic insulation materials.



# AC-530



### Properties:

- Low density (5.7 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)
- Good acoustical qualities
- Excellent hydrolytic stability

### General Applications:

- Aircraft fuselage insulation
- Aircraft equipment insulation
- Aircraft duct insulation

### Specifications:

AIMS 04-14-004, BMS 8-300, MMS 04-001





# AC-550



#### Properties:

- Best thermal conductivity
- Highest density (~7.1 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)
- Highest mechanical values
- Excellent hydrolytic stability
- General Applications:
  - Aircraft fuselage insulation
  - Aircraft air-conditioning duct insulation
  - Launch vehicle insulation

### Specifications:

 AIMS 04-14-004, BMS 8-300, DMS 2330, Lockheed, General Dynamics, Northrup-Grumman, others





## HT-340



## **Specific Market:**

High temperature thermal insulation

## **Properties:**

- Operational temperature to 300°C
- Chemical stability/resistance
- Excellent hydrolytic stability
- Low weight

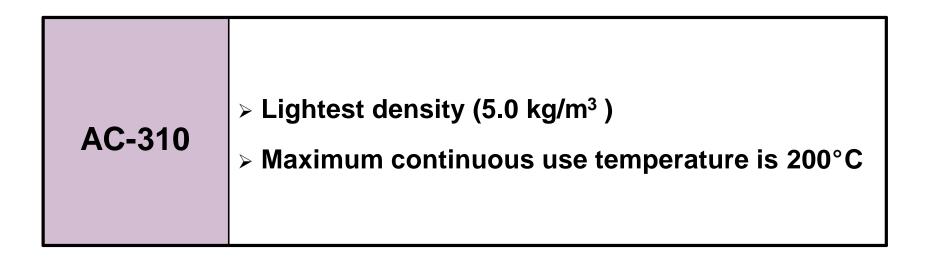
## **Specification:**

**BMS 8-300** 









Currently under development for use in multiple Boeing aircraft, including the Boeing 787 fuselage.





## **Production Site**

### Manufactured in Magnolia, Arkansas USA ... ...and Shipped Around the World



#### **Central Location in North America**



#### Buns Are Converted Into Foam Parts by Authorized Fabricators With Facilities Around the World:

Australia	Canada	France
Germany	Italy	Japan
South Korea	Switzerland	United States

Authorized Fabricators, Our Primary Customers, Sell Fabricated Foam Parts/Systems to End Users.





**Fabricators Convert Large Foam Blocks Into:** 

- Sheets or Panels
- Sheets or Panels of Densified (Felted) Foam
- Profile Cut Shapes, Such As Pipe Insulation
- Die Cut Parts
- Systems, Laminated With Facings And/or Coated

Materials Such As Films, Adhesive, Release Liners, Etc. Can Be Added.



### **Sheet Parts**





Thickness from 5mm, Sizes to 1.2m x 2.4m



## **Facings/Coatings**





#### **Solimide Foams Readily Accept Protective Surface Treatments**



### **Profile/Pipe Cut**





**Inner Diameter Cuts From 6 mm Diameter** 



## **Questions**?







