

# Polyphosphonate Flame Retardants in Aviation Applications

October 24-27, 2016



FRX Polymers®, Inc

### **Table of Contents**

- Polyphosphonates Overview
- Applications
  - Thermoplastics
  - Thermosets
- Production



# **NOFIA Polyphosphonates, A Unique FR Solution**



Small molecules can end up in environment

- Polymer:
  - Permanent and will not migrate out
  - Minimal impact on host plastic properties
  - Possible to use plastic processing methods
- Non-halogen flame retardant
- Extreme FR properties
- High melt flow
- Transparent
- Range of toughness





FRX Polymers<sup>®</sup> Inc., Page 3



Large molecules trapped in plastic



# **FRX POLYMERS' Products - Characteristics**

#### Nofia HM1100





- Polyphosphonate (P ~ 11wt%)
- High molecular weight (40-100,000 g/mole, PS)
- Tg ~ 100-105°C
- Plastic pellets

polymers ®

 Typically used as blend component in plastics



Nofia COPOs

- Polyphosphonate-cocarbonate (P ~ 3-7 wt%)
- High molecular weight (40-100,000 g/mole, PS)
- Tg ~ 120-135°C
- Plastic pellets
- Used as stand alone polymer or blend component in plastics

#### **Nofia Oligomers**

-X = different functionalities



- Phosphonate or phosphonate-co-carbonate
- Low molecular weight (1,000 – 6,000 g/mole)
- 5 90 mg KOH/g
- Solid white material
- Used as additive or as reactive ingredient in thermoset plastics



# **Current Markets/Polymer systems**

#### Nofia HM1100

#### **Polymer System**

- Polyesters (PET, PBT, PTT)
- TPUs

#### Markets

- Electrical Equipment
- Consumer Electronics
- Fibers
- Building and Construction

#### Applications

- Connectors
- Commercial carpet
- Specialty textiles
- TPU films, sheet





polymers <sup>®</sup>





#### Nofia COPOs

#### **Polymer System**

- PC, Polyesters
- PC blends (PC/ABS)

#### Markets

- Consumer Electronics
- Lighting
- Building and Construction
- Transportation (aviation) **Applications**
- Housings for electronic equipment
- Light diffusers
- Transparent sheets







### **Polymer System**

**Nofia Oligomers** 

- Epoxy resins
- Unsaturated polyesters

#### Markets

- Electronics
- Building and Construction
- Transportation (aviation)

#### **Applications**

- Printed Circuit boards
- Composites
- Decorative laminates and panels









FRX Polymers<sup>®</sup> Inc., Page 5







# **Mechanism of Phosphorus Flame Retardants**

- Phosphorus is an element that reduces flammability of certain polymers.
  - Phosphorus can act in the gas phase as a flame inhibitor.
  - Phosphorus can act in the condensed phase as a char promoter.



Richard Lyon, Federal Aviation Administration, 25<sup>th</sup> Annual BCC Conference on Recent Advances in Flame Retardancy of Polymeric Materials, Stamford, CT, May 19-21, 2014



Aviation Applications Thermplastics

# **Polyphosphonates in Thermoplastic Applications**

#### **Aircraft Interior Parts**



#### **Benefits**

- Low heat release
- Low smoke density
- Reduced flame spread
- Good impact resistance
- Transparent
- Processable Film, Sheet

#### **Opaque / Transparent Sheets: Extruded**



#### FRX polymers ®

#### **Thermoformed Products**



### nofia®

# **Evaluation of FR Properties**

- Heat Release Properties
- Vertical Burn
- Flame Spread
- Smoke density
- Smoke toxicity



### **Testing Heat Release Properties**

#### **Small Scale**

- Pyrolysis Combustion Flow Calorimeter (PCFC), also known as Micro Combustion Calorimetry (MCC)
- ASTM D7309
- Material Needed: Few mg
- Output:
  - Heat of Combustion or Fire Load
  - Ignition Temperature
  - Heat Release Rate
  - Heat Release Capacity: Fundamental Material Property



#### Lab Scale Up

- Cone Calorimeter
- ISO 5660 / ASTM E1354
- Material Needed: 100x100mm plaque
- Output:
  - Rate of heat release
  - Time to ignition
  - Critical ignition flux
  - Mass loss rate
  - Smoke release rate
  - Effective heat of combustion
  - CO2, CO release



#### **Pilot Plant**

- OSU and Smoke Density
- FAR 25.853 / ASTM E906 and ASTM E662
- Material Needed: 150x150mm plaque
- Output:
  - Heat Release (2 min total)
- Heat Release Rate (peak)
- Heat Flux Density
- Smoke Density



nofia



### **Effect of P-Content on Heat Release Properties**



FRX Polymers® Inc., Page 11



nofia

### OSU and Smoke Data for 3.5wt% P



- Polyphosphonate-co-carbonate has good total heat release and smoke properties that are within spec for OSU (FAR 25.853)
- About ~50% lower Peak Heat Release Rate (PHRR) than PC (150-200 kW/m<sup>2</sup>) but not good enough to pass the PHRR specification of 65 kW/m<sup>2</sup>
- Future goal: Obtain additional improvement (~>12.5 25%) in PHRR



### **Product Optimization**



#### PCFC, Peak HRR [W/g]





### Vertical Burn Test: FAR 25.853 A/B: Nofia Grades

- Test Facility: TTF Aerospace LLC (FAA approved Test Lab), Auburn, WA
- Average of 3 plaques of 3" X 12" (7.5x30cm) at 30 mil (0.76mm)

		A: 60Sec-Vert				B: 12 Sec-Vert			
Nofia Grade	P [wt%]	Burn length [inch]	Exting t [s]	Drip ext t [s]	Smoke	Burn length [inch]	Exting t [s]	Drip ext t [s]	Smoke
EX2111	2.0	5.1±0.3	0.3±0.6	6±1**	Moderate	2.5±0.3	11±3	0.7±0.6**	Moderate
CO3000	4.0	6.5±0.5	0	1±2**	Moderate	2.1±0.3	0.3±0.6	0*	Slight
CO4000	5.0	5.0±0.3	0	0**	Moderate	-	-	-	-

\* = Single drip

\*\* = Multiple drips with extinguishing time

- Class A when tested according FAR 25.853 when P ~> 4.5 wt%
- At 2-3.5wt% of P, PC blends / copolyphosphonates (EX2111) obtain class B in the FAR 25.853



# Flame Spread: ASTM E 84-15 (Steiner Tunnel Test)







ASTM E84 equivalent to - NFPA 225 - UL 723

nofia



### Flame Spread: ASTM E 84 -15 Data\*

- Samples: 0.8mm and 1.6mm sheets
- Sheets are supported with ¼" diameter steel rods spaced 24 inches on center and 2" hexagonal wire mesh

SAMPLE	%P	Thickness [mm]	Flame Spread Index	Smoke Developed Index	Melting / Dripping	Melting Distance	CLASS
Nofia CO3000	4.0	0.8	5	170	Yes	24'	А
Nofia CO4000	5.0	0.8	5	185	Yes	22'	A
Nofia CO4000	5.0	1.6	5	300	Yes	24'	А

\* Artificial support due to melting/dripping of thermoplastic may interfere with test, additional testing to validate FSI results may be required



nofia

# **Thermoplastic Polyurethane (TPU) Applications**

### **Aircraft Interior Parts**

### **Benefits**

- Low heat release
- Reduced flame spread
- Low smoke
- Melt processable
- Halogen free alternative to existing materials

#### **Non-textile Floor Coverings**





Aircraft Seats





# **Polyphosphonates in TPU Applications**

Eleme S	bread Test	Test Specimen					
	84 - 10b	Fiber-Reinforced Cement Board, Grade II	Red Oak Flooring	TPU w/ HM1100 (0.7mm)			
ASTM E84	Classification						
	A: 0-25			$\bigcirc$			
Flame spread Index (Is)	B: 26-75	0	100	24			
	C: 76-200						
	A: 0-450						
Smoke Developed Index	B: 0-450	0	100	189			
	C: 0-450			Class A			



# Aviation Applications Thermosets

# **Polyphosphonates in Thermoset Applications**

### Composites

Thermoset Prepregs

Ероху

Phenolic

Cyanate-Ester

Benzoxazines

#### **Benefits**

- Excellent flame retardancy
- High heat resistance
- Improved mechanical strength
- Improved adhesion to glass fiber
- Low dielectric properties (Dk/Df)

#### Reinforcements Carbon, Aramid and Glass fiber

Wall and ceiling panels, cabin dividers, galleys







FRX Polymers<sup>®</sup> Inc., Page 20

# **Benefits of Polyphosphonates in:**

#### **Epoxy-based systems**

- Highly soluble in epoxy resins
- Dual purpose as flame retardant and hardener for epoxy resins
- Multi-functional reactivity with epoxy resulting in high crosslink density
- Strengthens adhesion to glass fabric used in composites
- Maintains Transparency

### Phenolic prepregs

- Good compatibility with phenolic resins
- Reduces smoke



### **Phosphonates Oligomers: Hardener for Epoxy**

#### **Monitor Curing Reaction with FTIR**





### Monitoring the Curing Reaction using FTIR



### **Curing Reactions**





1:1 equiv weight [OL3001]:[E828], 0.2wt% 2E4MI catalyst, 165°C



### Summary of Phosphonate Oligomer-Epoxy Curing Reaction

- FTIR provides evidence of the curing reaction: formation of the P-O-C (aliphatic) group generated by the reaction of the alkoxide group (<sup>-</sup>OR) of epoxy at P-O-Ar site of oligomer
- Curing reaction is temperature dependent, minimum temp ~160°C
- Imidazoles are effective catalysts for the phosphonate curing reaction
- Reactive equivalent of phosphonate oligomer is calculated based on both phenolic-OH and P-O-Ar reaction sites but P-O-Ar sites dominate



Product	OH Equiv weight (g/eq)	Total Reactive Equiv weight (g/eq)		
Phosphonate oligomer (OL3001)	1240	141		



# **Comparative Example in Epoxy based Electronic Laminate Applications**

Benefits of Phosphonate Oligomer vs current Halogen-Free (Phosphorus) FRs used in CCL

- Excellent thermal stability Td (5%) >400°C
- Increased peel strength very good adhesion to glass fabric
- Improved dielectric properties (low Dk <3.9/Df <0.009 @ 10GHz)
- Increased toughness 45% increase storage modulus (50-150°C)
- Improved moisture and heat resistance (passes 3 hr pressure cooker test/288°C solder dip





### **FRX Polymers' Plant in Antwerp**



FRX Polymers<sup>®</sup> Inc., Page 27

polymers<sup>®</sup>

### Acknowledgements: R&D Team, Chelmsford, MA

FRX POLYMERS 200 Turnpike Road Chelmsford, MA 01824, USA Tel: +1 (978) 856-4145 Fax: +1 (978) 250-4533 www.frxpolymers.com