Preconditioning of Nonhermetic Surface Mount Devices Prior to Reliability Testing

JESD22-A113-B
(Revision of Test Method A113-A)

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TEST METHOD A113-B

PRECONDITIONING OF NONHERMETIC SURFACE MOUNT DEVICES PRIOR TO RELIABILITY TESTING

(From JEDEC Board Ballot JCB-98-101, under the cognizance of the JC-14.1 Committee on Reliability Test Methods for Packaged Devices.)

1 Purpose

This Test Method establishes an industry standard preconditioning flow for nonhermetic solid state SMDs (surface mount devices) that is representative of a typical industry multiple solder reflow operation. These SMDs should be subjected to the appropriate preconditioning sequence of this document by the semiconductor manufacturer prior to being submitted to specific in-house reliability testing (qualification and reliability monitoring) to evaluate long term reliability (which might be impacted by solder reflow).

NOTE — Correlation of moisture-induced stress sensitivity (per J-STD-020 and JESD22-A113) and actual reflow conditions used are dependent upon identical temperature measurement by both the semiconductor manufacturer and the board assembler. Therefore, it is recommended that the top of package temperature on the hottest moisture-sensitive SMD during assembly be monitored to ensure that it does not exceed the temperature at which the components are evaluated.

2 Apparatus

This test method requires as a minimum access to the following equipment.

2.1 Moisture chamber temperature

Moisture chamber(s) capable of operating at 85 °C/85% RH, 85 °C/60% RH, and 30 °C/60% RH. Within the chamber working area, temperature tolerance must be ±2 °C and the RH tolerance must be ±3% RH. A chamber with 60 °C/60% RH capability is optional for accelerated soak conditions (See J-STD-020).
2.2 Solder reflow equipment

(a) (Preferred) – 100% Convection reflow system capable of maintaining the reflow profiles required by this standard.

(b) VPR (Vapor Phase Reflow) chamber capable of operating from 215 °C - 219 °C and/or (235 ±5) °C with appropriate fluids. The chamber must be capable of heating the packages without collapsing the vapor blanket and recondensing the vapor to minimize loss of the vapor phase soldering liquid. The vapor phase soldering fluid must vaporize at the appropriate temperature specified above.

(c) Infrared (IR)/Convection solder reflow equipment capable of maintaining the reflow profiles required by this standard. It is recommended that this equipment use the IR to heat the air and not directly impinge upon the components under test.

NOTE — The moisture sensitivity classification test results are dependent upon the package body temperature, rather than board or lead temperature. Convection and VPR are known to be more controllable and repeatable than IR. When there are correlation problems between VPR, IR/Convection, and Convection, the Convection results shall be considered as the standard.

2.3 Optical Microscope

Optical Microscope (40x for external visual exam)

2.4 Electrical test equipment

Electrical test equipment capable of performing room temperature dc and functional tests.

2.5 Bake oven

Bake oven capable of operating at 125 +5/-0 °C.

2.6 Temperature Cycle Chamber

Temperature Cycle Chamber capable of operating as a minimum over the range of (-40 +0/-10) °C to (60 °C +10/-0) °C per JEDEC Test Method A104. Acceptable alternative test conditions and temperature tolerances are A through H of JEDEC Test Method A104, Temperature Cycling. This equipment is only required if Step 3.1.3 Shippability option is used.
3 Test Procedure

3.1 Steps

It is recommended that a prior evaluation be run according to J-STD-020, using similar devices, to determine which preconditioning sequence is appropriate, i.e. likely to pass. Other relevant moisture evaluation data may be consulted, or an arbitrary selection may be made. However, the soak sequence in step 3.1.5 must be consistent with the floor life information in Table 3.

3.1.1 Initial electrical test

Perform electrical dc and functional test to verify that the devices meet the room temperature data sheet specification. Replace any devices that fail to meet this requirement.

3.1.2 Visual Inspection

Perform an external visual examination under 40X optical magnification to ensure that no devices with external cracks or other damage are used in this test method. If mechanical rejects are found, corrective action must be implemented in the manufacturing process and a new sample must be drawn from product that has been processed with the corrective action.

3.1.3 Temperature cycling

Perform five (5) cycles of temperature cycle from -40 °C (or lower) to 60 °C (or higher) to simulate shipping conditions. This step is optional.

3.1.4 Bake out

Bake the devices for 24 hours minimum at 125 +5/-0 °C. This step is intended to remove all moisture from the package so that it will be "dry".

NOTES

1 This time may be modified if desorption data on the particular device being preconditioned shows that more or less time is required to obtain a "dry" package. Refer to J-STD-020 for procedures on running absorption and desorption curves.

2 If the preconditioning sequence is being performed by the semiconductor manufacturer, steps 3.1.1, 3.1.2, and 3.1.4 are optional since they are the supplier's risks. If the preconditioning sequence is being performed by the user, steps 3.1.7 through 3.1.9 are optional.
3.1 Steps (cont’d)

3.1.5 Soak conditions

The following soak conditions shall apply to the eight (8) levels shown in Table 3. Soak should be initiated within 2 hours of bake.

(a) Subject Level 1 devices to 168 hours of 85 °C/85% RH.

(b) Subject Level 2 devices to 168 hours of 85 °C/60% RH.

(c) Subject Levels 2a through 6 to “Z” hours of 30 °C/60% RH. For use of accelerated testing at 60 °C/60% refer to J-STD-020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>X (Floor Life)</th>
<th>Y (Total Soak)</th>
<th>Z (Total Soak)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2a</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>672</td>
<td>696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5a</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES

1 X is manufacturer’s exposure time (MET) and is the sum of the time between bake and dry pack plus the maximum time allowed out of the bag at the distributors.

2 Y is floor life of package after removal from dry pack bag.

3 Z is total required soak time in hours.

(d) The X values shown above are default values. If the semiconductor manufacturer’s actual time between bake and bag plus the allowed time out of the bag at the distributor is greater than the default value, the actual time must be used. If the actual X value is less than 24 hours, the actual time may be used.

3.1.6 Reflow

Not sooner than fifteen (15) minutes and not longer than four (4) hours after removal from the temperature/humidity chamber, submit the devices to three cycles of the appropriate reflow conditions shown below. All temperatures refer to top surface of the package.
3.1 Steps (cont’d)

3.1.6 Reflow (cont’d)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 2 — Reflow Profiles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Convection or IR/Convection</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average ramp-up rate (183 °C to Peak)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preheat temperature 125(±25) °C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperature maintained above 183 °C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time within 5 °C of actual peak temperature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peak temperature range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramp-down rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time 25 °C to peak temperature</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE — See J-STD-020 for appropriate peak temperature range.

The devices shall be allowed to cool at room ambient conditions for five (5) minutes minimum between VPR or IR cycles.

3.1.7 Flux application

After the reflow solder cycles are completed, allow the devices to cool at room ambient for 15 minutes minimum. Apply an activated water soluble flux to the device leads by bulk immersion of the entire parts in flux at room ambient for 10 seconds minimum.

3.1.8 Cleaning

Clean devices externally using multiple agitated deionized water rinses. No waiting time is required between flux application and cleaning.

3.1.9 Drying

Devices should be dried at room ambient prior to submission to reliability testing.

3.1.10 Final electrical test

Submit the devices to electrical dc and functional testing per the room temperature data sheet specification. (For the semiconductor manufacturer, this step is optional and may be omitted since it is a supplier's risk.) Any valid failures found at this point due to the preconditioning sequence indicate that the device may have been classified in the wrong level. Failure analysis should be conducted, and if appropriate, this device type should be reevaluated to determine the correct moisture sensitivity level. This would require resubmitting a sample to the correct level preconditioning sequence prior to reliability testing per 4.
4 Applicable Reliability Tests

SMDs should be subjected to the appropriate preconditioning sequence of this document prior to being submitted to reliability tests per JESD47 or the semiconductor manufacturers in-house reliability procedures.

5 Summary

The following details shall be specified in the applicable procurement document.

(a) Number of reflow cycles if other than three.

(b) Type flux if other than Step 3.1.7.

(c) Reliability tests if other than 4.

(d) Test conditions and duration of reliability tests in 4.

(e) Electrical test description, including test temperature(s).
## 5 Summary (cont’d)

### Table 3 — Preconditioning Sequence Flow

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Moisture Sensitivity Level</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>2a, 4, 5, &amp; 5a</th>
<th>6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dry Pack Requirements</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor Life Maximum Conditions &amp; Time</td>
<td>30 °C/85% RH unlimited</td>
<td>30 °C/60% RH 1 year</td>
<td>30 °C/60% RH “Y” hours</td>
<td>30 °C/60% RH 6 hours after bake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preconditioning Sequence (Step 3.1.1) dc electrical/functional 25 °C</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Step 3.1.2) 40x Visual Exam.</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Step 3.1.3) Shippability Temp Cycle 5 cy -40 °C to 60 °C</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Step 3.1.4) Bake 125 °C for 24 Hours</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Step 3.1.5) Moisture Soak 168 hours 85 °C/85% RH</td>
<td>R</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>168 hours 85 °C/60% RH</td>
<td>R</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“z” hours 30 °C/60% RH</td>
<td>R</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 hours 30 °C/60% RH</td>
<td>R</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Step 3.1.6) Reflow Solder 220 °C or 235 °C, 3 cy</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Step 3.1.7) Flux immersion for 10 seconds minimum</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Step 3.1.8) Rinse in deionized water</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Step 3.1.9) Dry room ambient</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Step 3.1.10) dc electrical/functional 25 °C</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Reliability tests</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) dc electrical/function 25 °C end points</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES**

R = required unless text indicates optional step

O = optional

For possible 60 °C/60% RH accelerated soak conditions, see J-STD-020