

Frequently Asked Question

Q: What is pot life and how is it useful for design and validation of Bergquist thermal products?



A: **Pot life** for two-part liquid gap filling designs is generally defined and understood as the amount of time that a catalyzed (1) material remains workable in assembly. Since pot life or working life is loosely defined by industry standards, interpretations and results vary widely.

For general design and validation, Bergquist Thermal Products Division utilizes and recommends a relative pot life metric that is defined as the doubling of initial viscosity (2). This guideline is intended to provide our customers with relative experience and understanding of pot life as measured on any liquid gap filling product (3) available from Bergquist.

Understanding that pot life alone does not fully address suitability for dispensing, Bergquist recommends that our customer's validate their acceptance criteria for production. For additional technical support, please contact Bergquist Product Management.

Notes:

1. Bergquist offers several curing chemistries. For two-part liquid gap filling designs, catalyzation initiates when part A is mixed with part B. For single part designs, catalyzation initiates when the activation energy level (i.e. the minimum thermal threshold) is met and maintained.
2. Per ASTM D2196 utilizing a Brookfield rheometer with defined spindle, spindle speed (rpm), and temperature.
3. Depending upon customer requirements, pot life may be measured by several accepted methods including Brookfield, Parallel Plate, and Capillary rheometers. Please contact product management for training on the capabilities and limitations of each measurement method.



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