

OUT GASSING CHARACTERISTICS OF 73X INSPECTION STAMP INK

The 73X Ink was tested in accordance with the procedure described. The test specimen was prepared by applying a thin film of the ink to a piece of aluminum foil, previously conditioned at $200 \pm 5^\circ\text{F}$ at a pressure of 2×10^{-7} mm Hg to constant weight. The ink was allowed to air dry three hours before commencement of the test.

The attached figure presents the results of this test. The curve obtained when plotting the rate of weight loss as a function of time in the test environment compare favorably with curves of numerous materials presently used in the OCO spacecraft.

The total weight loss (~8.5%) of the 73X Ink appears high. However, close inspection of the test data reveals that less than one percent loss occurred after the first hour of test; the remainder having been lost during the first hour. From this and considering the short dry time prior to the test it appears likely that the great majority of the loss resulted from the solvents used in the ink formulation that had not evaporated prior to test. It is reasonable to assume that lower total loss can be expected in actual use since considerably longer dry times would be encountered.

Based on this out-gassing test, 73X Ink is suitable for use as an inspection stamp ink in reduced out-gassing applications.

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