

Enabling Energy
Glass & Coatings
for Solar Power

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High Performance Reflector Panels for Concentrating Solar Power Assemblies

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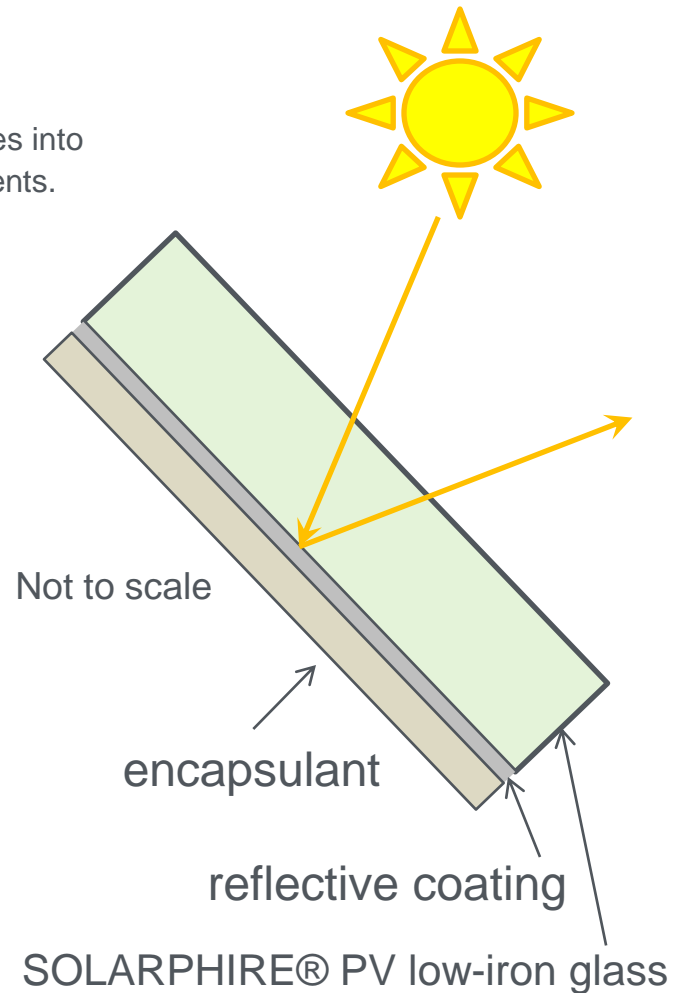
May 18, 2011

- Objective
- Overview
- Technical Approach
- Key Results/Accomplishments
 - Environmental durability test results (Test Matrix 5 and 6)
 - Benchmarking of alternative encapsulants
 - Improvement of PPG encapsulant
 - Novel alternative encapsulation process
 - Reflective coating performance
 - Impact on LCOE
- Key Challenges
- Next Steps
- Summary

Project Objective

Objective: Develop and commercialize large-area second-surface glass-based mirrors having superior value (performance & cost → reduce LCOE)

This objective will be accomplished through research and development activities into alternate materials, structures, and fabrication processes for reflector components.



Timeline

- Preliminary PPG work: 2007 – early 1Q2008
- Phase I: March – September 2008 (complete)
- Phase II: October 2008 – September 2010 (complete)
- Phase III (in-progress): October 2010 – April 2012

Barriers/Challenges*

- Task: Develop Advanced Reflector/Concentrator
- Barriers/challenges addressed
 - Optical performance of reflectors
 - Reliability (durability/product longevity) of reflectors → 20+ years outdoors required
 - Fabrication/manufacturability (e.g. tempering, bending) of reflectors
 - Economics

External Interactions

- NREL
- Encapsulant application
- Bending feasibility
- Corrosion mechanism studies

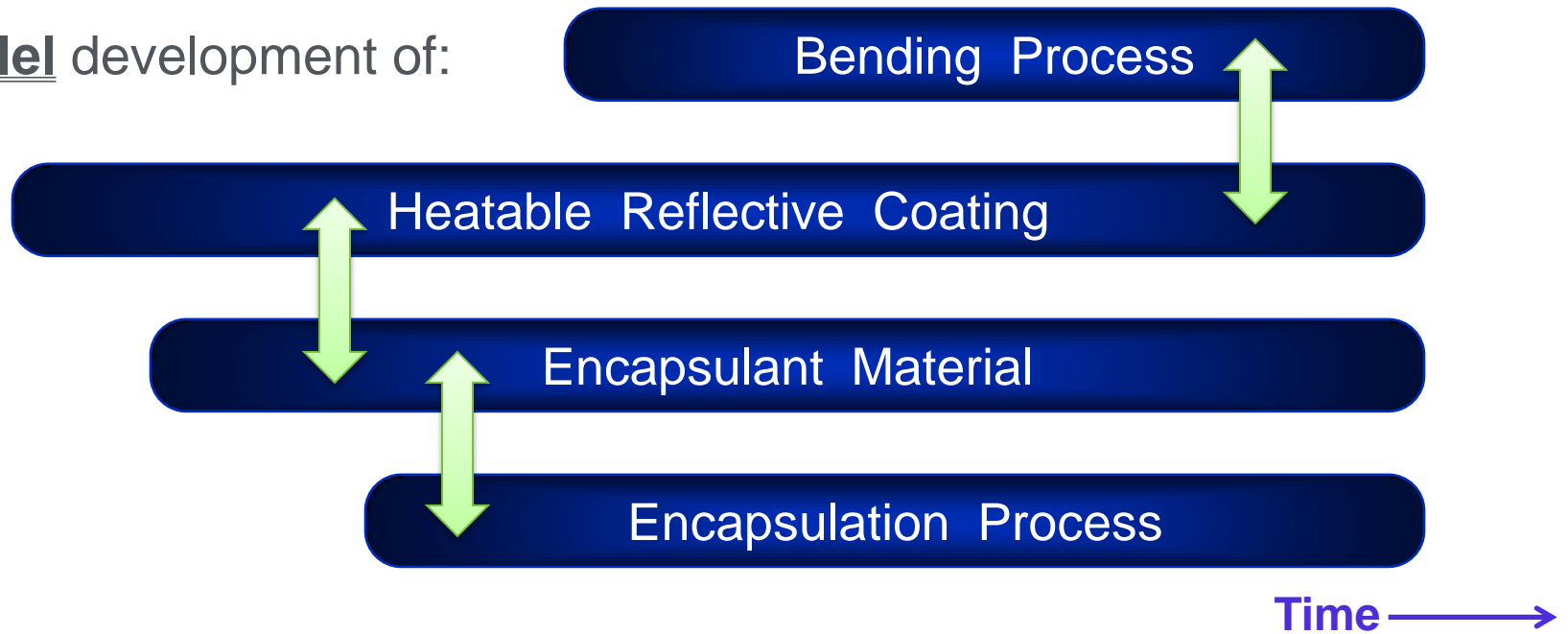
*Reference:

http://www1.eere.energy.gov/solar/pdfs/solar_program_mypp_2008-2012.pdf

Three product types:

1. Flat “annealed” (non-temperable)
2. Flat temperable
3. Bent

Parallel development of:



while assessing and improving durability and checking compatibility with other materials (e.g. adhesives)

- Phase I
 - Identified candidate encapsulant materials/processes
 - Executed initial durability testing
 - Demonstrated lab-scale coat-flat-then-bend feasibility for CSP geometries
 - Verified economics → ~ 5% reduction in levelized cost of electricity (LCOE)
- Phase II
 - Breakthrough encapsulant identified; defined encapsulation process parameters for Phase III scale-up
 - Demonstrated manufacturing-scale bendability; defined bending process parameters for Phase III scale-up
 - Executed validation tests on experimental prototype mirrors (“Test Matrix 5” → complete)
 - Completed Phase II work → DOE approved “Go” to Phase III

- Phase III
 - Objectives
 - **Decision: focus on flat non-tempered and tempered mirrors for DOE portion of project**
 - Scale up
 - Complete final testing
 - Commercialize
 - Accomplishments to-date
 - Completed Test Matrix 5
 - Executed manufacturing-scale encapsulation trial (conventional) to benchmark commercially-available encapsulants vs. PPG (January 31-February 2, 2011)
 - Executing validation tests on experimental prototype mirrors (“Test Matrix 6” in-progress)
 - Improved PPG Pb-free encapsulant formulation
 - Developing alternative novel encapsulation process (in parallel with “conventional” curtain-coating process); built and demonstrated pilot-scale process
 - Demonstrated deposition of reflective coating on large-area glass substrates at targeted production throughputs (May 9-10, 2011)

Milestones & Status

Phase	Milestone	Status
1	Identification of protective coating candidates	Complete
1	Update on progress towards design verification and bending evaluation	Complete
1	Critical: Go / No Go recommendation	Go
2	Identification of process parameters for scaled-up manufacturing process (i.e. encapsulant application)	Complete
2	Identification of process needs for large scale, high-rate mirror fabrication (i.e. bending)	Complete
2	Prototype mirror samples for validation	Complete
2	Critical: Go / No Go recommendation	Go
3	Production mirror samples suitable for validation	In-progress
3	Finalize initial target customers and supply samples from robust manufacturing process	
3	Critical: Technical report and presentation on anticipated impact of this technology	

Accomplishment: Environmental Durability (“Test Matrix 5” Results)



Cheswick (Pittsburgh), PA exposure site



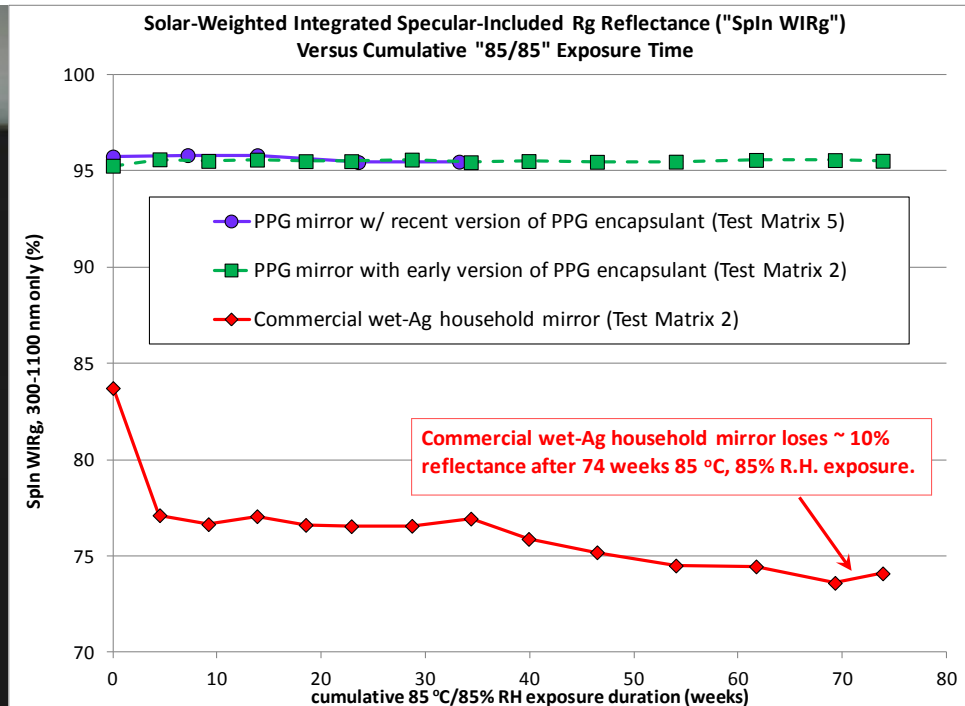
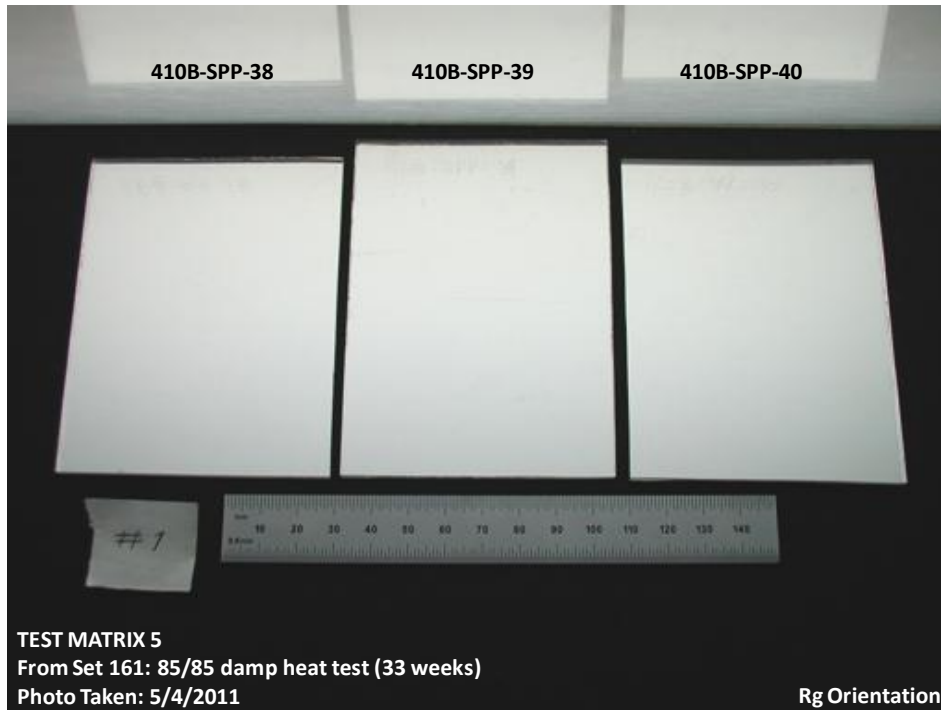
Fresno, CA exposure site

- 15+ exposure protocols, including:
 - CASS* Fog → very corrosive → primary screening test (fast)
 - “85/85”** damp heat → “harshest test for wet-Ag solar mirrors” (NREL input) (but, long feedback loop → weeks/months)
- All Test Matrix 5 exposures completed (except outdoor exposures → ongoing)
- Good performance in most tests
 - Encapsulant adhesion issues in some tests → modified formulation (part of Test Matrix 6, in-progress)

*CASS = Copper-Accelerated Acetic Acid-Salt Spray test (ASTM B368, DIN 50021)

**85 °C/85% R.H.

Accomplishment: Test Matrix 5 Results (85 °C/85% R.H. “Damp Heat” Test)



Samples tested in triplicate → no visible damage after 33 weeks 85 °C, 85% R.H. exposure
(Test Matrix 5 → exposure terminated)

KEY TAKE-AWAY

Encapsulated PPG mirrors sustain high reflectance and fare better than commercial wet-Ag household mirror in 85 °C, 85% R.H. damp heat exposure.

Accomplishment: Test Matrix 5 Results (240 Hour CASS Fog Exposure)



Samples tested in triplicate → no visible damage after 240 hours CASS Fog exposure.

t-Test: Paired Two Sample for Means --> solar-weighted integrated reflectance, 300-1100 nm

	initial/pre-exposure	final/post-exposure
Mean	95.79	95.87
Variance	0.0002	0.0003
Standard Deviation	0.02	0.02
Observations	3	3
Pearson Correlation	0.2260	
Hypothesized Mean Difference	0	
df	2	
t Stat	-7.304	
P(T<=t) one-tail	0.009116	
t Critical one-tail	2.9200	
P(T<=t) two-tail	0.01823	
t Critical two-tail	4.303	

No loss of reflectance after 240 hours CASS Fog exposure

KEY TAKE-AWAY

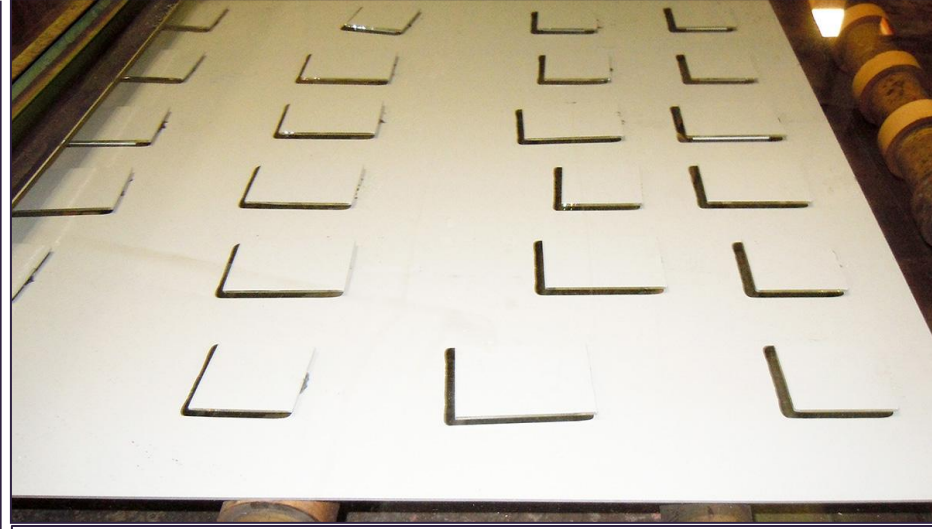
PPG Pb-free encapsulant well protects reflective coating in 240 hour CASS Fog test.

Accomplishment:

Manufacturing-Scale Encapsulation Trial → Benchmark Alternative Encapsulants



17.5 inch x 72 inch full-size mirrors passing through curtain coater

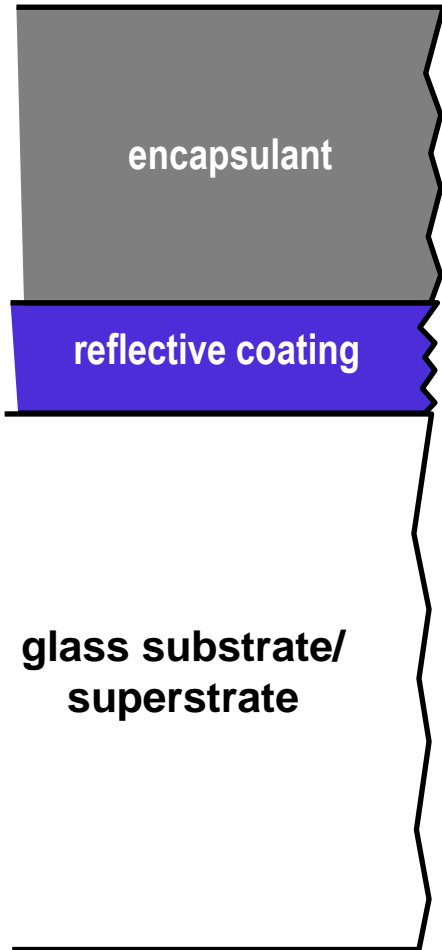


Test coupons (e.g. 3 inch x 4 inch) having different edgework types riding on carrier plate through coating process

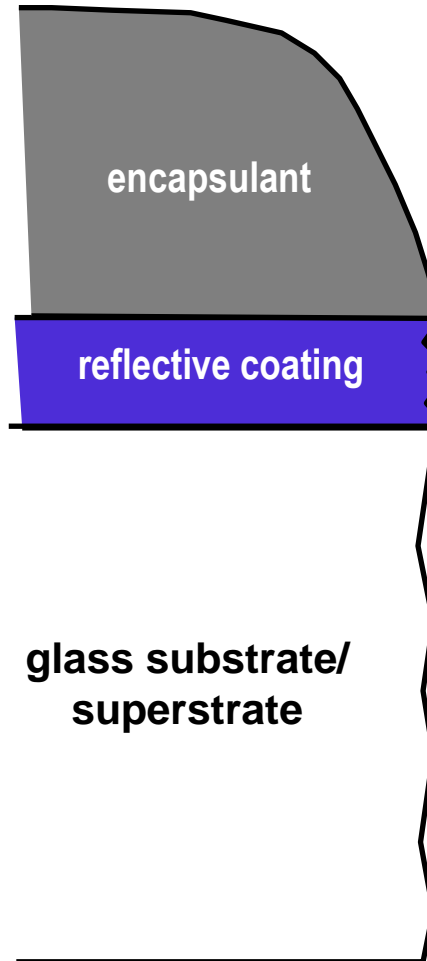
- Manufacturing-scale trial (100 inch wide line, curtain coating process)
January 31-February 2, 2011
- Applied three commercially-available CSP-grade solar mirror encapsulants (up to 72 inch x 84 inch): two Pb-free (“Paint 1”, “Paint 3”), one Pb-containing (“Paint 2”)
- Different “edgework” types
- Specimens included in Test Matrix 6 (in-progress).

Test Matrix 6: Mirror “Edgework Types” (not to scale)

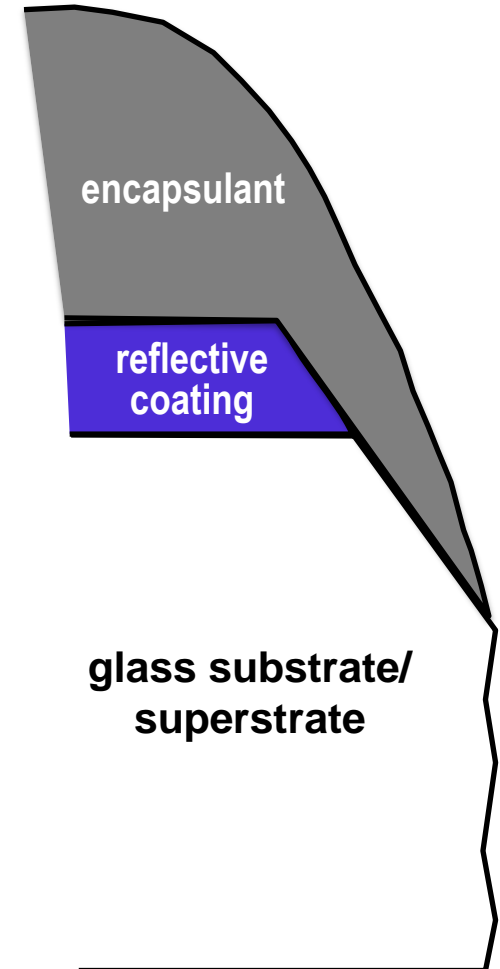
“PC” = “painted-then-cut”



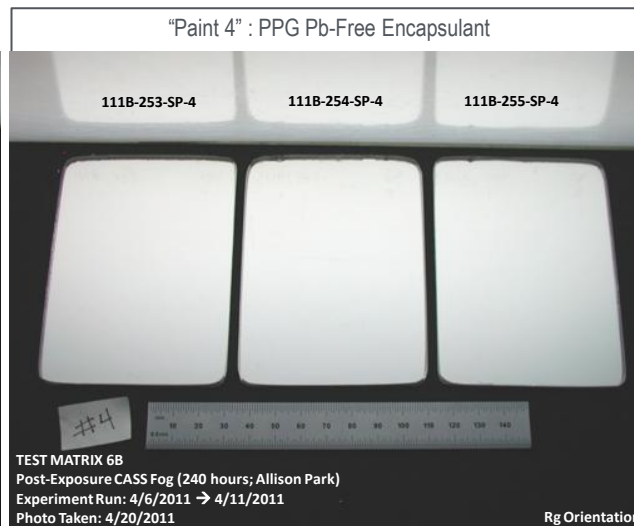
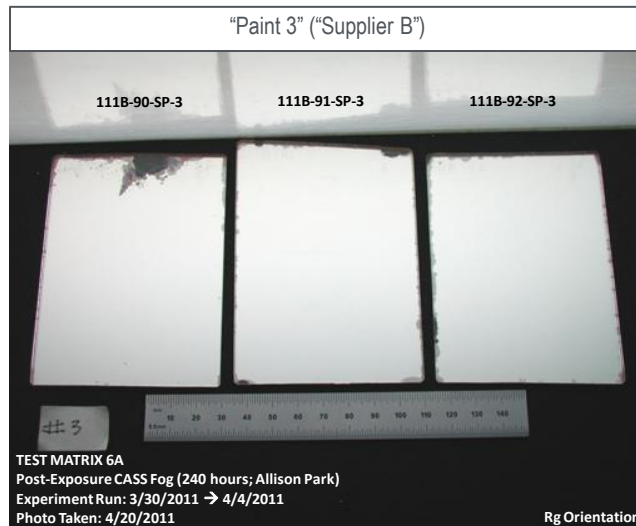
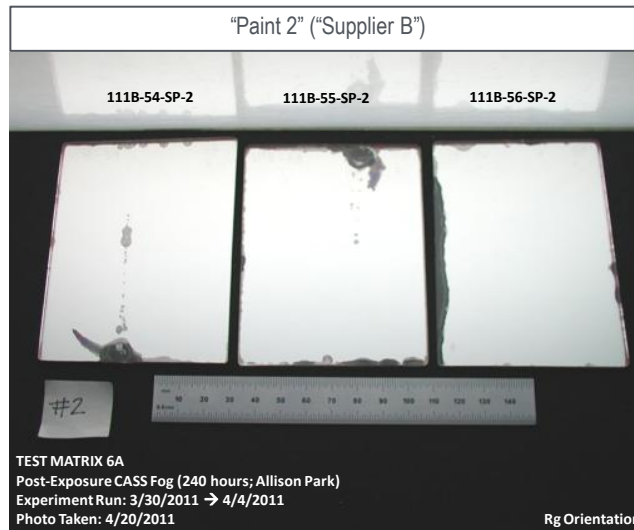
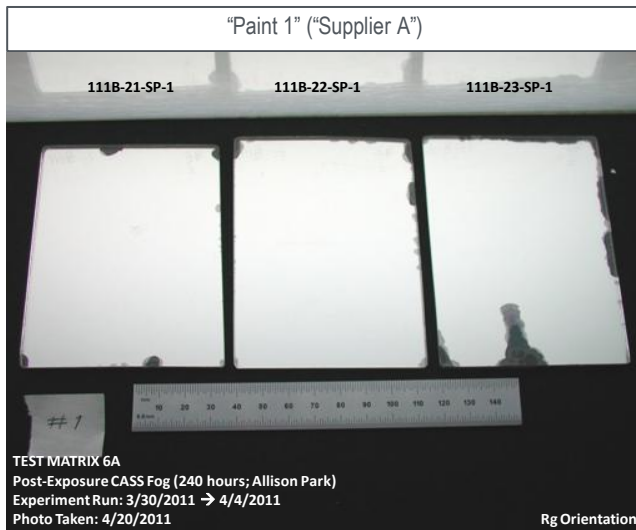
“CP” = “cut-then-painted”



“SP” = “seamed-then-painted”



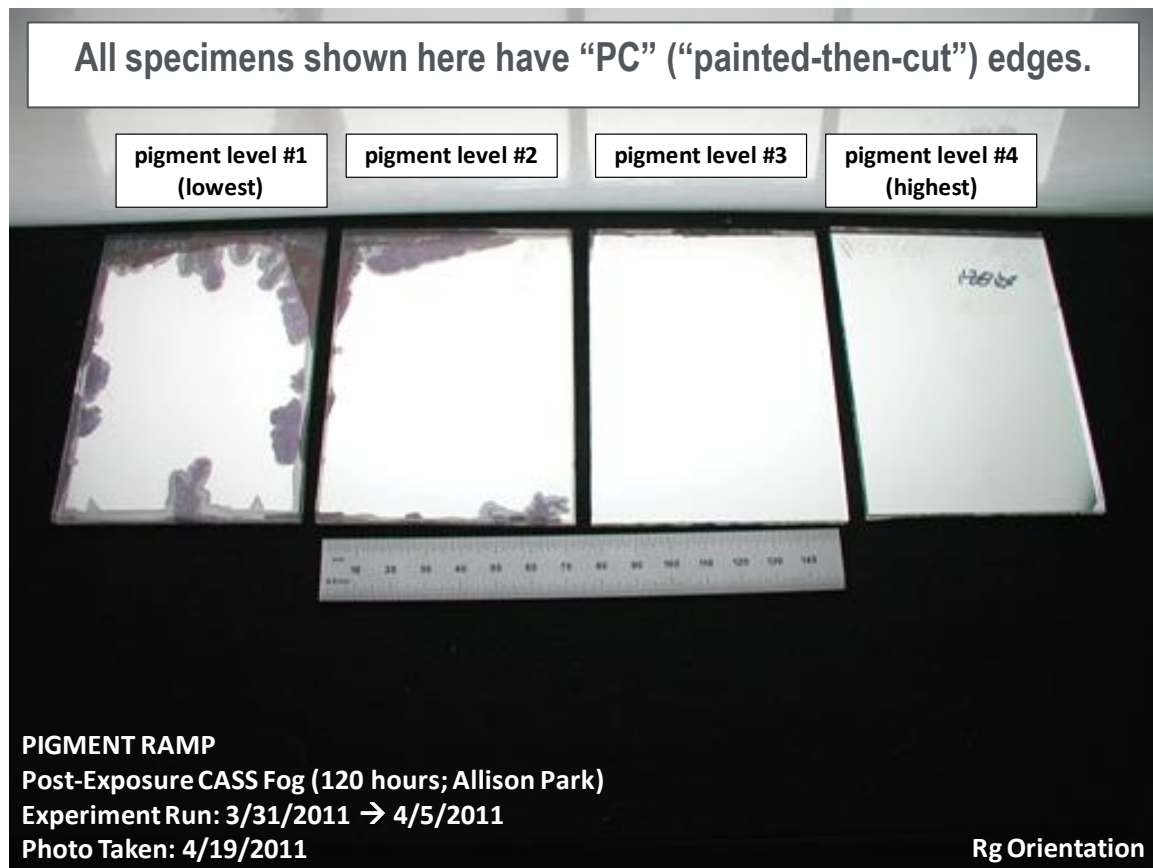
Accomplishment: Benchmark Alternative Encapsulants (Test Matrix 6 → ~1,200 specimens)



- Commercially-available CSP-grade encapsulants are not performing as well as expected in CASS test
- No clear difference between commercially-available Pb-free paints (Paints 1, 3) and Pb-containing paint (Paint 2) in CASS test
- **Best-performer in CASS Fog test is PPG Pb-free encapsulant (Paint 4).**
- Note: (1) Paints 1-3 curtain-coated on manufacturing-scale line → some encapsulant defects on small samples → negative impact on durability?; (2) Paint 4 (PPG) coated using lab-scale curtain coater
- Recent/current work: optimize pigment concentration to further improve protective robustness of PPG encapsulant (see next slide)

*CASS = Copper-Accelerated Acetic Acid-Salt Spray test (ASTM B368, DIN 50021)

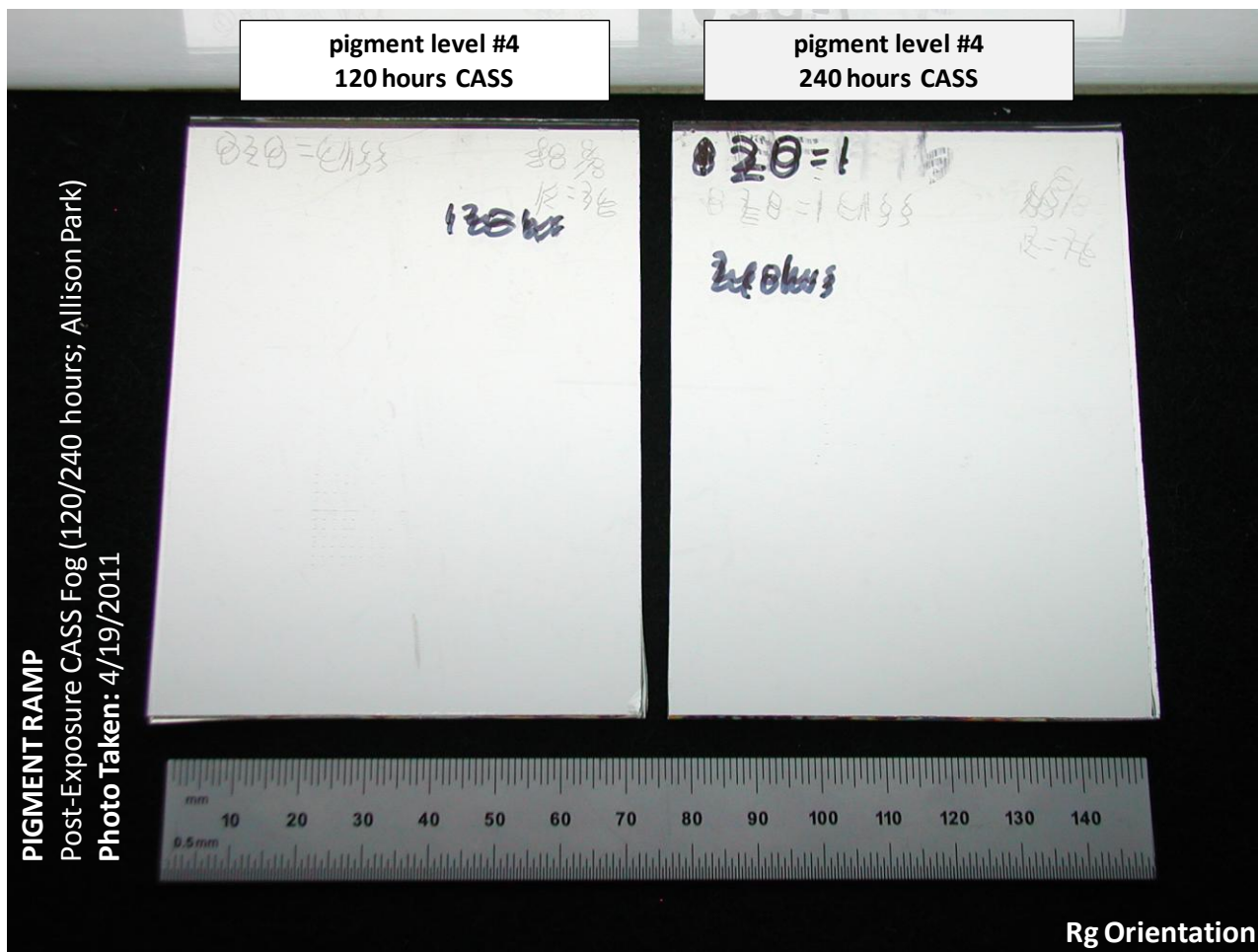
Accomplishment: Improved PPG Encapsulant Formulation



- Optimize corrosion-inhibitive pigment concentration → good CASS durability
- Curtain-coatability of optimized formulation demonstrated → planning for production scale-up
- Manufacturing-scale encapsulation trial: target September 2011.

*CASS = Copper-Accelerated Acetic Acid-Salt Spray test (ASTM B368, DIN 50021)

Accomplishment: Improved PPG Encapsulant Formulation

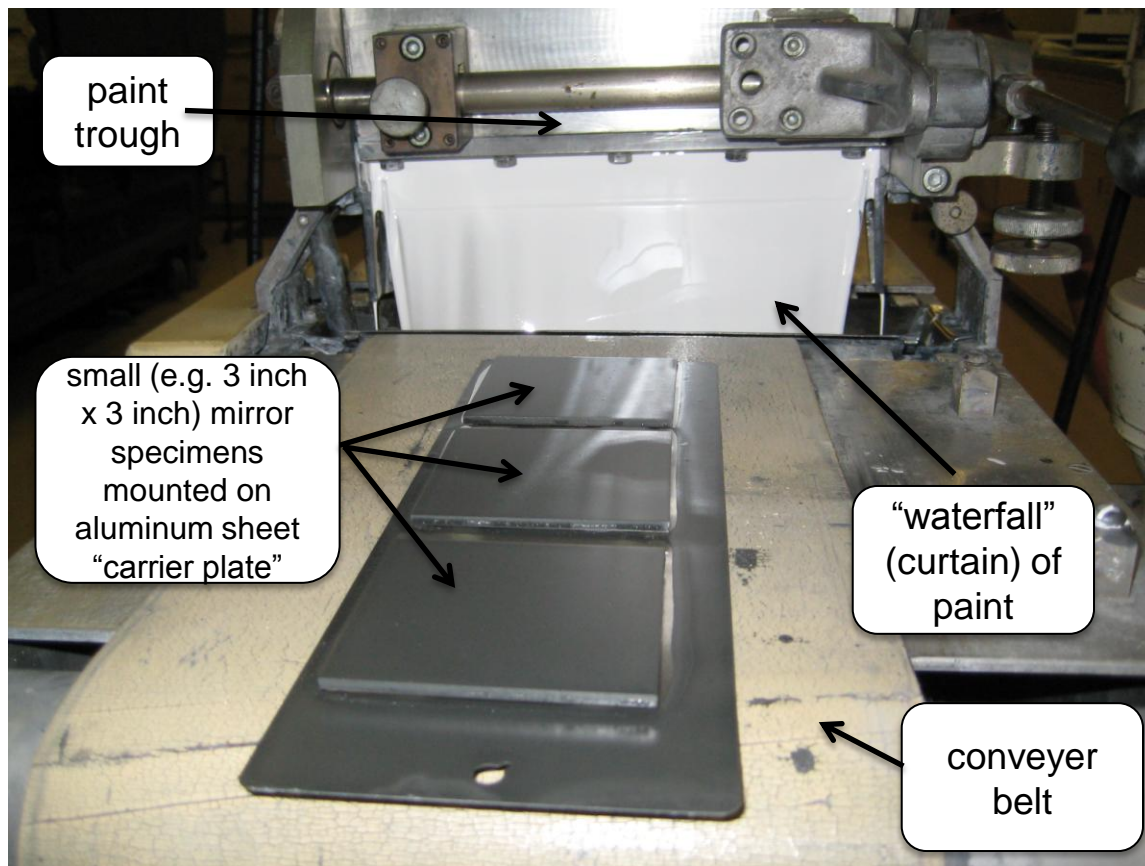


KEY TAKE-AWAY

PPG's improved Pb-free encapsulant, with increased corrosion-inhibitive pigment, well protects reflective coating for at least 240 hours CASS Fog exposure even for specimens with "PC" ("painted-then-cut") edges.

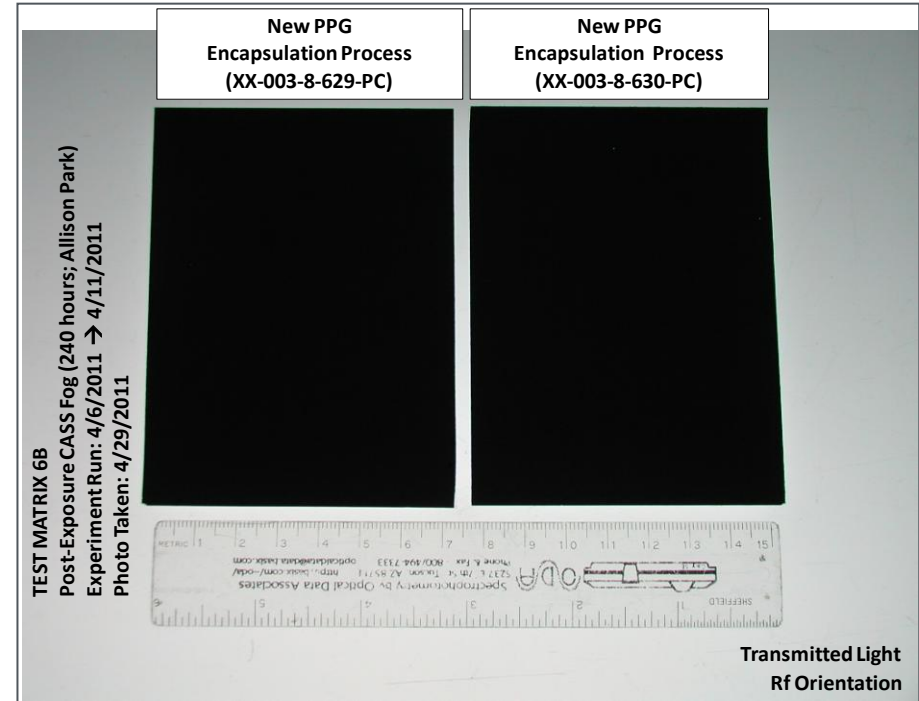
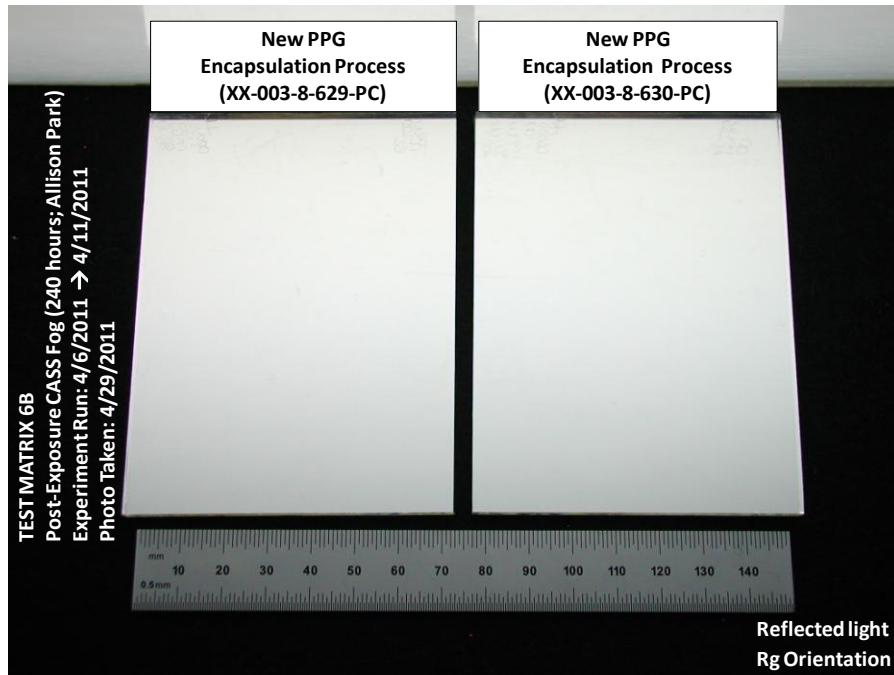
*CASS = Copper-Accelerated Acetic Acid Salt Spray test (ASTM B368, DIN 50021)

Accomplishment: Improved PPG Encapsulant Formulation



- Curtain-coatability of improved PPG encapsulant formulation demonstrated on lab-scale (6 inch wide) coater → currently optimizing formulation for production scale-up
- Manufacturing-scale encapsulation trial: target September 2011.

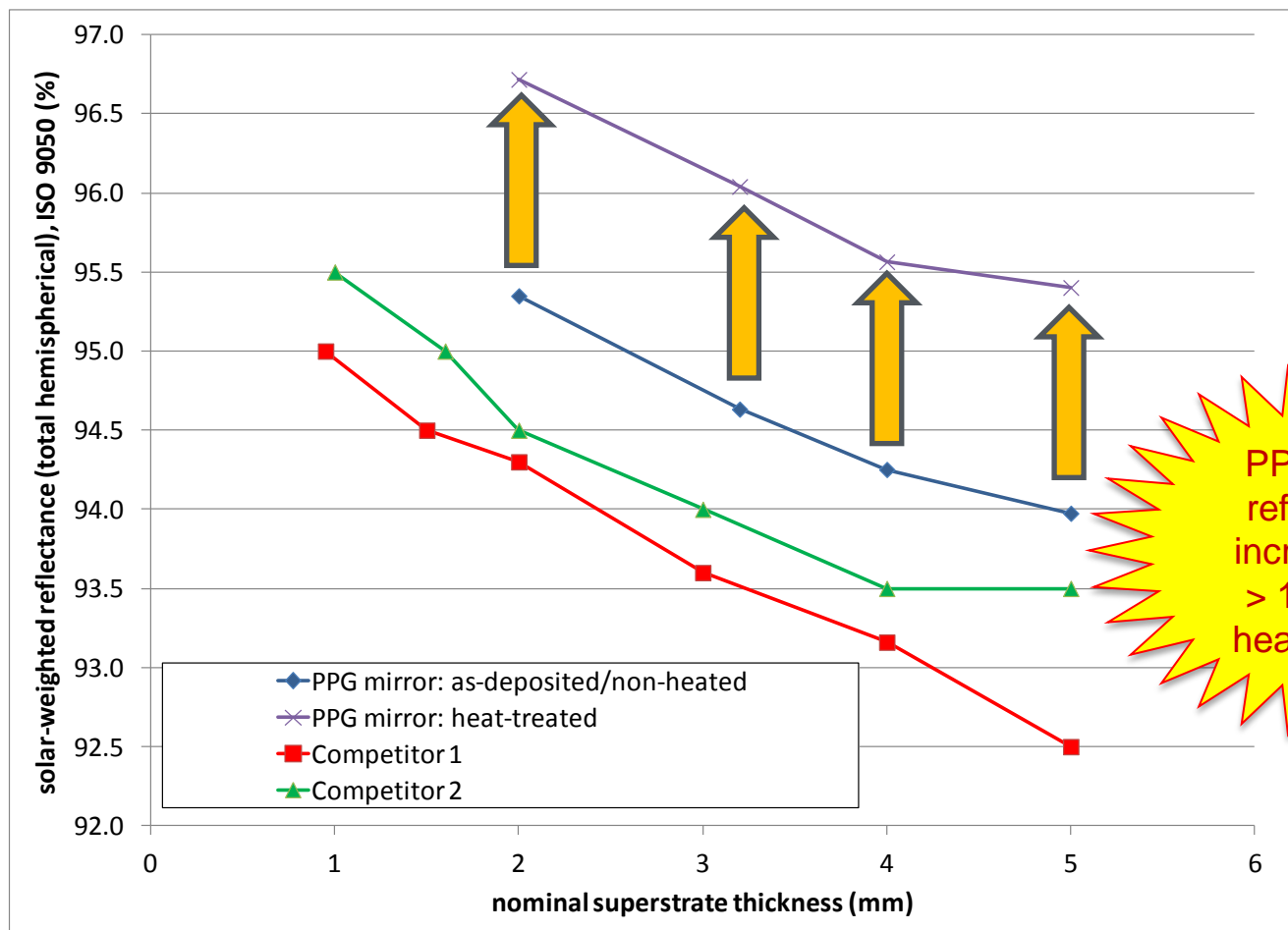
Accomplishment: Alternative Encapsulation Process



- Novel encapsulation process in-development → alternative to conventional application techniques (e.g. curtain coating, roll coating)
- Reduces VOCs vs. conventional solvent-borne process
- High transfer efficiency
- Pilot-scale coater built → coat up to 24 inch x 36 inch panels
- **Good CASS Fog durability at lower pigment levels even for “PC” (“painted-then-cut”) edges**

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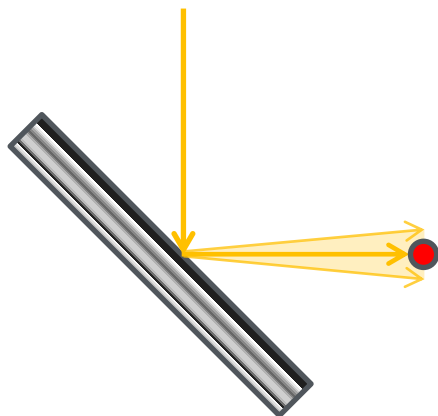
Accomplishment: Reflective Coating Optical Performance



KEY TAKE-AWAYS

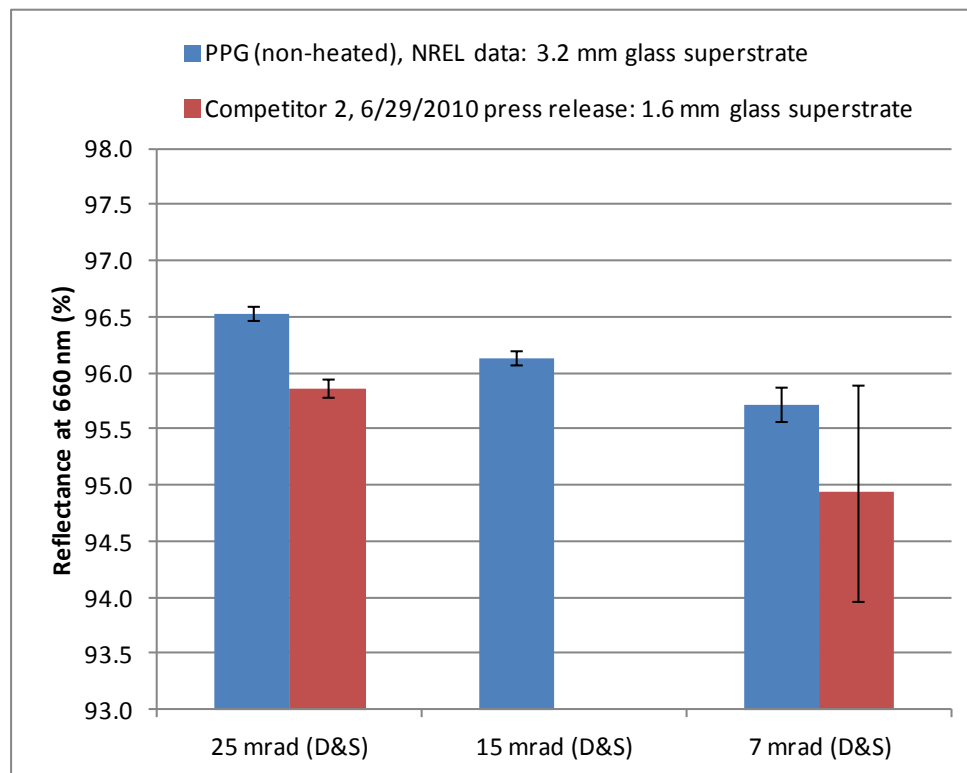
1. Heat-treatment increases PPG mirror's reflectance by more than 1%.
2. PPG mirror has higher reflectance than Competitors 1 & 2 reported values at equivalent superstrate thicknesses.

Accomplishment: Specularity of Reflective Coating



Specularity requirements →
dependent on CSP
technology

Parabolic Trough: 15 mrad
Dish: 2 mrad
Tower: 1-2 mrad
CLFR: 25 mrad



KEY TAKE-AWAY

PPG's 3.2 mm thick mirror's specularity at 660 nm is comparable to, or better than, Competitor 2's 1.6 mm thick mirror.

Accomplishment: Impact on LCOE

mirror type	mirror reflectance, solar-weighted (%)	total direct costs (\$MM)	% change in total direct costs vs. baseline (SEGS VI) case	real LCOE (\$/Mwh)	% change in LCOE vs. baseline (SEGS VI) case
SEGS VI	92.8	569.5	0.0%	86.3	0.0%
S&L 2008	92.8	543.8	-4.5%	82.9	-3.9%
PPG	94.1	532.4	-6.5%	81.2	-5.9%

SAM Version:	2.5.0.2
System:	200MW Baseline 500C w/6hr TES
Climate:	CA Daggett.tm2
Federal ITC Percent:	10
Utility Rates:	SCE
Financials:	Utility - IPP
Solar Multiple:	2
Field Spec:	LS-3 w/modified %R, HiTec 500C, Molten Salt Storage, Schott PTR70
Baseline %R:	Competitor #1: Ag/Cu with low-Pb encapsulant (per C. Kennedy, NREL)

Parabolic trough baseline case assumed for LCOE analyses per SAM version 2.5.0.2

KEY TAKE-AWAYS

1. PPG mirrors reduce total direct costs by ~ 5.5-6.5% vs. baseline case.
2. PPG mirrors reduce LCOE by ~ 5-6% vs. baseline case.

Challenges

(Technical & Non-Technical)

- No CSP industry mirror durability standards
- No access to competitive CSP mirrors (or data) for benchmarking (reflectance and durability)
- Long feedback loops on some durability tests
- PPG encapsulant
 - “In-can” shelf-stability
 - Protective efficacy (use CASS Fog test to screen/optimize)
 - “Drop-in” compatibility with existing manufacturing encapsulant application/curing infrastructure
 - Cost

- Demonstrate deposition of reflective coating at expected commercial line speed on production coater; produce large-area mirrors for manufacturing-scale application trial of PPG encapsulant
 - **Completed May 9-10, 2011**
 - **Demonstrated up to 72 inch x 84 inch**
 - **Expect scalable to larger sizes**
- Complete lab-scale development of PPG encapsulant (2Q2011); optimize/refine/confirm:
 - “In-can” shelf-stability
 - Protective efficacy (use CASS Fog test to screen/optimize)
 - Compatibility with existing encapsulant application/curing process
 - Cost
 - Produce appropriate volume for manufacturing-scale trials
- Execute manufacturing-scale application trial of PPG encapsulant; produce specimens for final round durability tests: Sept. 2011
- Execute final round durability tests (“Test Matrix 7”): 4Q2011-1Q2012
- Write final DOE project report: 2Q2012

Using DOE funding and non-DOE funding, PPG is continuing development of a new second-surface glass mirror for CSP applications:

- High reflectance → advantage: PPG
- Coated glass can be tempered or bent (before encapsulation)
- Bending feasibility demonstrated (but current focus on flat mirrors)
- Reflectance increases after heat-treatment
- PPG Pb-free encapsulant developed and improved → full-scale trial target 3Q2011
- Novel alternative encapsulation process demonstrated at pilot scale (up to 24 inch x 36 inch)
- Promising environmental durability test results (Test Matrix 5); Test Matrix 6 in-progress
- Executed manufacturing-scale encapsulation trial to benchmark alternative commercially-available encapsulants (January 31-February 2, 2011)
- Demonstrated manufacturing-scale reflective coating deposition at full production speeds (May 9-10, 2011)
- Environmental advantages of PPG approach: (1) no wet-Ag process wastes, (2) Pb-free encapsulant