

Improving Adhesive Bonding of Composites Through Surface Characterization



The Joint Advanced Materials and Structures Center of Excellence



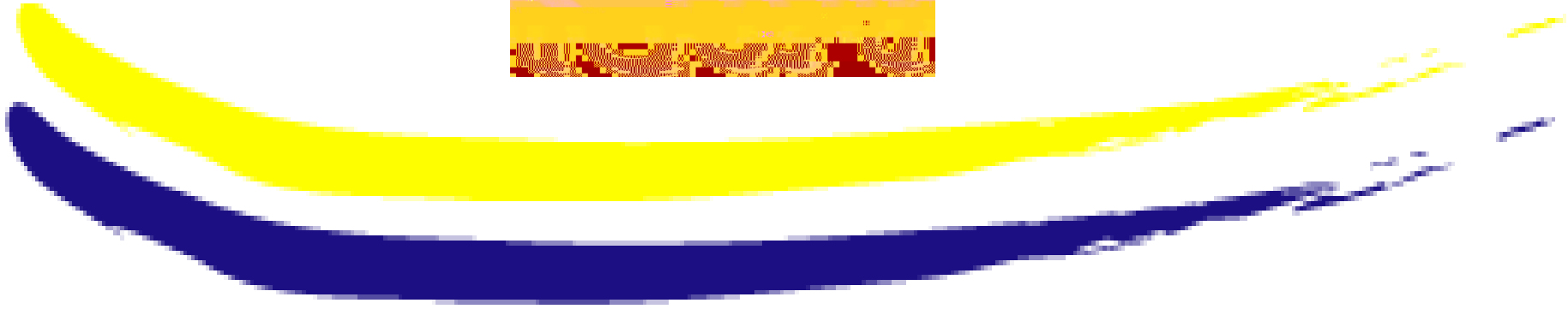
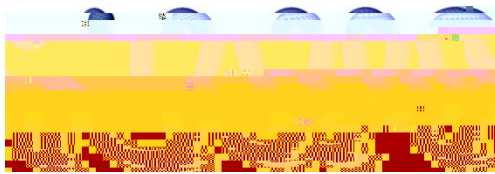
Improving Adhesive Bonding of Composites



Motivation and Key Issues

University of Washington

The Joint Advanced Materials and Structures Center of Excellence



Effect of Surface Preparation Technique on Bond Quality of AGATE Composite Laminates

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Materials Science and Engineering



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Effect of Surface Preparation Technique on





FAA Sponsored Project Information



Principal Investigators / Researchers

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Industry Participation

Toray Composites

Henkel International

Precision Formics

Richard Aerospace

Airtech International

The Boeing Company



Outline



Background

AGATE materials

Bonding, Surface Preparation

Processing and Test Procedures

Surface Characterization

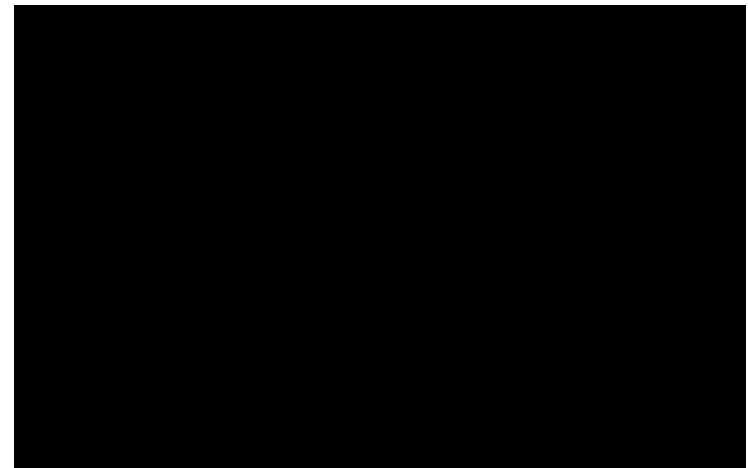
Contact Angle Results

Surface Energy

SEM

Bond Quality Tests

Summary





AGATE Materials



Three prepreg materials tested

Toray AGATE materials Toray resin

Carbon T-pe

Carbon Fibric

Fiberglass Fibric



Surface Preparation



Crucial for proper adhesion in composites

Several methods

Peel ply is tooled.

Abrasion Sanding or grit blasting.

Surface preparation influences surface energy and the wettability of surface. Also prevents re-oves



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Procedures



Surface Preparation

Peel ply Precision Films Group „I nylon or „I polyester

Sanded Hand sanded with „I grit Al₂O₃

Contact angle measure taken with standard fluids

Surface energy determined using Owens Wendt two parameter model

Bonding procedure

fil adhesive Henkel EA „I v cuu g cure C „E

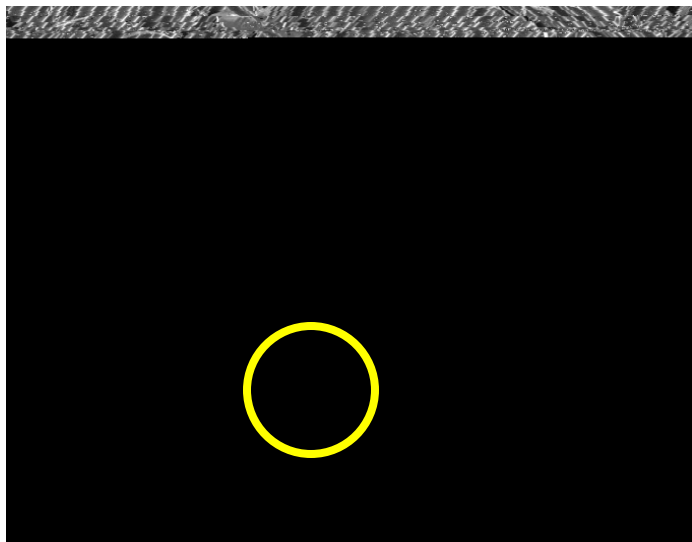
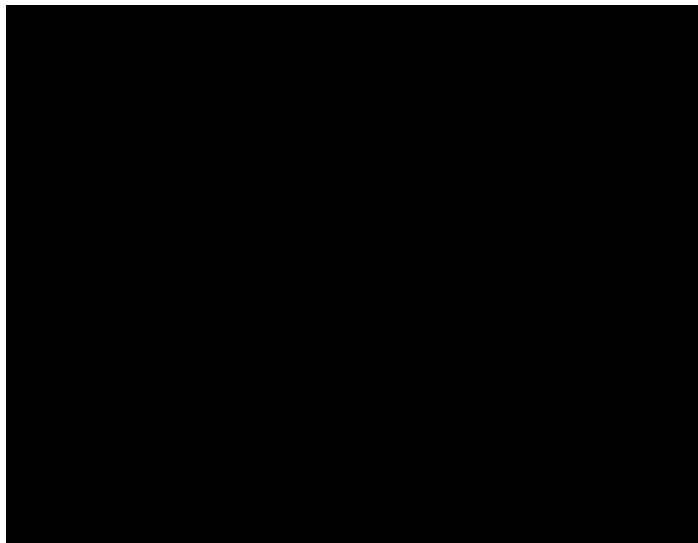
Rapid Adhesion Tests RAT

for bond quality assessment Mode I peel test

SEM images of the substrate and the RAT bond fracture surfaces



Structures after Surface Preparation



Fiber reinforcement did not have significant effect on surface characteristics

Representative carbon fiber surfaces shown

Sanding removed any peel ply imprint
Remnants of polyester peel ply visible



Surface Energy



- The polar component and total surface energy were found to increase after sintering
- Sintering decreased dispersive component of polyester surface



Performance Envelopes Comparison Framework

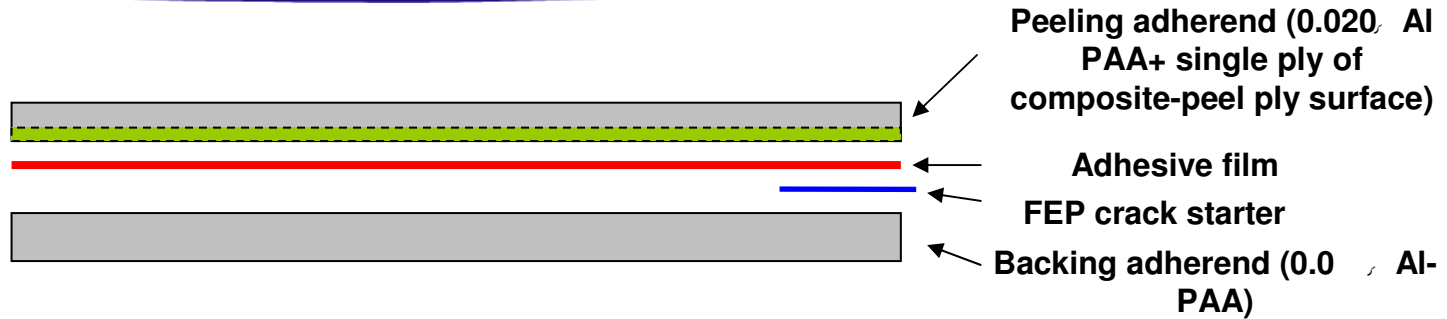


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Rapid Adhesion Test, RAT



The RAT sample is simple and accurate and test used to determine mode of failure. By examining the surface and determining the mode of failure the quality of the bond can be assessed.





Types of Bond Failures



Failure of Adhesion **B**d

Cohesive epoxy or adhesive **Good**



Rapid Adhesion Test Samples



Surface Preparation



- ▶
- ▶
- ▶
- ▶
- ▶
- ▶
- ▶



ork In Progress





Conclusions

Fiber type had little effect on surface chemistry
surface preparation and bond quality

Good bonds were produced with the Toray AGATE
fibers and the Henkel EA 9300 adhesive with the
proper surface preparation

Efficiency envelopes illustrated the different surface
characteristics produced by the surface preparations

Efficiency envelopes play a key role in assessing
surface preparation



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