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**Varnost proizvodov v vesoljski tehniki - Lepilno spajanje za vesoljska in nosilna plovila**

Space product assurance - Adhesive bonding for spacecraft and launcher applications

Raumfahrtproduktsicherung - Kleben für Raumfahrzeug- und Trägeranwendungen

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## Space product assurance - Adhesive bonding for spacecraft and launcher applications

Raumfahrtproduktsicherung - Kleben für  
Raumfahrzeug- und Trägeranwendungen

This draft European Standard is submitted to CEN members for enquiry. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/CLC/JTC 5.

If this draft becomes a European Standard, CEN and CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

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## European foreword

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This document (prEN 16602-70-16:2018) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/CLC/JTC 5 “Space”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN (Germany).

This document (prEN 16602-70-16:2018) originates from ECSS-Q-ST-70-16C DIR2.

This document is currently submitted to the CEN ENQUIRY.

This document has been prepared under a standardization request given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association.

This document has been developed to cover specifically space systems and will therefore have precedence over any EN covering the same scope but with a wider do-main of applicability (e.g. : aerospace).

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## Introduction

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Adhesive materials have a wide range of uses within the space domain however they are often qualified as a minor or negligible part of a large subsystem or system. This frequently results in unforeseen effects arising directly from the adhesive selection which impacts either the functionality, integrity or AIT activities. As a consequence whilst the adhesive is often the lowest cost element of the system it frequently has a high cost associated with the necessary recovery and delta qualification activities need to ensure the system level functionality. Both the system level qualification and any recovery actions are further complicated by the intrinsic relationship between the adhesive performance, the substrate and all the processes associated with the manufacture of the adhesive bond.

European space agencies and the space industry at present have a general handbook available for adhesive bonding (ECSS E-HB-32-21) however there is no fixed scheme detailing the minimum requirements for verification of adhesive bonding process nor validation of an adhesive material.

Standardisation of the verification processes for adhesives and adhesive bonding across the European space industry is allowing a harmonised and consistent approach.

The generic approach facilitates the correct selection of data thus allowing streamlining of the industrial development activities and enabling the validation of adhesives and verification of adhesive bonding process at an early stage of a programmes lifetime.

The use of this standard allows a given programme technical focus to be emphasised onto specific functional requirements since generic testing is already defined.

The document is further justified because of the high level of non-conformances (NCR) identified across industry due to limited early programmatic qualification programmes related to adhesive bonding.

# 1 Scope

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The scope of the document addresses the generic verification for all types of adhesive bonding for space applications including evaluation phases. It specifies all aspects of the adhesive bonding lifetime such as assembly, integration and testing, on-ground acceptance testing, storage, transport, pre-launch, launch and in-flight environments.

This standard does not cover requirements for:

- adhesive bonding used in EEE mounting on printed circuit boards (ECSS-Q-ST-70-61)
- adhesive bonding used in hybrid manufacturing (ESCC 2566000)
- adhesive bonding for cover-glass on solar cell assemblies (ECSS-E-ST-20-08)
- design of adhesive joint
- long term storage and long term storage sample testing
- performance of adhesive bond
- functional properties of adhesive joint
- co-curing processes

This standard may be tailored for the specific characteristics and constraints of a space project in conformance with ECSS-S-ST-00.

## Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this ECSS Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revision of any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this ECSS Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the more recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

EN reference	Reference in text	Title
EN 16601-00-01	ECSS-S-ST-00-01	ECSS system - Glossary of terms
EN 16602-10	ECSS-Q-ST-10	Space product assurance -Product assurance management
EN 16602-10-09	ECSS-Q-ST-10-09	Space product assurance -Nonconformance control system
EN 16602-20	ECSS-Q-ST-20	Space product assurance -Quality assurance
EN 16602-40	ECSS-Q-ST-40	Space product assurance - Safety
EN 16602-70	ECSS-Q-ST-70	Space product assurance – Materials, mechanical parts and processes
EN 16602-70-02	ECSS-Q-ST-70-02	Space product assurance - Thermal vacuum outgassing test for the screening of space materials
EN 16602-70-09	ECSS-Q-ST-70-09	Space product assurance - Measurements of thermo-optical properties of thermal control materials
EN 16602-70-15	ECSS-Q-ST-70-15	Space product assurance - Non-destructive inspection
EN 16602-70-22	ECSS-Q-ST-70-22	Space product assurance - Control of limited shelf-life materials
EN 16602-70-71	ECSS-Q-ST-70-71	Space product assurance - Materials, processes and their data selection
	ISO 3696:1987	Water for analytical laboratory use - Specification and test methods

## Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms

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### 3.1 Terms from other standards

- a. For the purpose of this Standard, the terms and definitions from ECSS-S-ST-00-01 apply.
- b. For the purpose of this Standard, the terms and definitions from ECSS-Q-ST-70 apply, in particular for the following terms:
  1. critical process
  2. critical material
  3. special process

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### 3.2 Terms specific to the present standard

**3.2.1 adhesion**  
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state in which two surfaces are held together by interfacial forces which can consist of chemical or mechanical or physical interfacial forces

#### 3.2.2 adhesive bonding process

material joining process where an adhesive material is added in order to maintain chemical, mechanical or physical interfacial forces between bonded parts

NOTE The joining mechanism between adhesive and bonded parts, also called "adherend", is adhesion-based. According to ECSS-Q-ST-70, adhesive bonding belongs to category of "special processes".

#### 3.2.3 adhesive material

substance with the capability of holding two surfaces together by either chemical, physical or mechanical interfacial forces or a combination of them

NOTE The concept of adhesive materials is addressed in ECSS-E-HB-32-21.

### 3.2.4 adhesive bonding procedure

detailed instructions, equipment and tools needed to perform the adhesive bonding

NOTE Refer to Annex A for the detailed content.

### 3.2.5 ambient humidity exposure in controlled environment

item is exposed to ambient air with temperature in the range of  $(22 \pm 3) ^\circ\text{C}$ , and relative humidity  $(55 \pm 10) \%$

NOTE 1 Long term exposure to this conditions can cause degradation of the adhesive joint's performance.

NOTE 2 Contributes to "intrinsic ageing" of the joints.

### 3.2.6 co-curing

earliest stage of manufacturing process, resulting in a fully integrated component

NOTE 1 The joining mechanism is chemical cross-linking. Both adherends are undergoing chemical reaction.

NOTE 2 This standard does not cover requirements for verification of co-curing processes.

### 3.2.7 co-bonding

intermediate stage of manufacturing process when uncured part is joined with one or more cured parts, typically with an additional layer of uncured adhesive

NOTE 1 The joining mechanism between the adhesive and the cured part is adhesion. Between the uncured part and uncured adhesive layer chemical cross-linking is taking place.

NOTE 2 Further text refers only to adhesive bonding or co-bonding (uncured adhesive, cured substrate) or to bonding with pressure sensitive tapes (PSAs).

### 3.2.8 degradation

reduction of property of interest detected between two measurement points over period of time

### 3.2.9 hot-wet exposure

exposure where the test item is subjected to synergistic effect of gaseous water phase and temperature

NOTE 1 Typically the test item is exposed to conditions, where temperature and water vapour pressure are higher than humidity exposure in controlled environment ( $>25 ^\circ\text{C}$  and  $>65 \%$  RH)

NOTE 2 Performed in frame of simulation of on-ground environment within adhesive bonding

verification test sequence or as part of independent hot-wet testing

NOTE 3 Inspection and verification of the test item before and after hot-wet exposure is non-destructive and does not prevent test item to be submitted for further testing in frame of verification test sequence

NOTE 3 Also known as "humidity exposure"

### 3.2.10 hot-wet testing

test where the test item is subjected to hot-wet exposure and the effect of hot-wet exposure is verified after hot-wet exposure is performed

NOTE 1 Hot-wet exposure can be performed in combination with other additional stresses, e.g. mechanical, chemical or electrical

NOTE 2 Functional properties of test item can be verified during hot-wet exposure "in-situ" conditions

NOTE 3 In hot-wet testing of the adhesively bonded joints, hot-wet exposure is typically followed by mechanical test to verify degradation of the joint and reduction factor associated with hot-wet exposure

NOTE 4 Series of test item undergoing hot-wet testing are not following further the verification test sequence

NOTE 5 Also known as "damp-heat" testing or "humidity testing"

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### 3.2.11 knock-down factor (KDF)

overall factor that is applied to the material property to account for variations in material composition, service environment and structural geometry

NOTE It can consist of several reduction factors.

### 3.2.12 reduction factor

ratio between mean value of given material property of reference test item and exposed test item sets

NOTE Can be expressed as fraction or as percentage of initial reference value (remaining percentage of the property of interest).

### 3.2.13 representativeness level of test item

definition of how well or accurately the test item reproduces the similarity to flight model configuration

### 3.2.14 test item

manufactured assembly undergoing verification test sequence