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Tempfix AGG3305

A thermoplastic adhesive for mounting powder specimens and small particles for scanning electron microscopy.

Characteristics

Tempfix is a resin which does not contain any solvents and is stable in high vacuum. It is not sticky at room temperature but becomes adhesive at around 40ºC and melts at 120ºC.

Tempfix is an excellent smooth embedding medium so that even the smallest particles can be imaged successfully in the scanning electron microscope, without interference from the background.

Accessories required for handling Tempfix

(a) Hot plate
(b) Spatula
(c) Aluminium sheet 10x10mm, thickness 0.5 -1.0mm to be used as a specimen mount
(d) Specimen holder with side clamping screw on top

Directions for use

Warm up aluminium sheets on the hot plate to around 120ºC. Apply a small amount of Tempfix and smooth it over the sheet with a spatula. Remove any excess resin. Sheets coated in this way can be stored for future use.

For scanning electron microscopy examination of powder specimens, sprinkle the powder onto one of the coated aluminium sheets. Warm up the coated sheet for a few moments to around 40ºC on the hot plate. Remove the sheet and cool it on a metal block. The thin aluminium sheet cools down rapidly so that even the most delicate specimen will not suffer heat damage.

The specimens prepared in this way can then be coated by sputtering or evaporation.