Material Property Overview

Fluoropolymer
Quick Reference

PTFE (Polytetrafluoroethylene)
Working Temperature: 500°F (260°C)
Color: Opaque to translucent

- Chemically inert
- Lowest coefficient of friction
- Superior dielectric strength
- Exceptional heat resistance
- Self extinguishing
- Non-wetting
- Excellent flexlife
- Laser markable

PFA (Perfluoroalkoxy)
Working Temperature: 500°F (260°C)
Color: Clear with light blue or tint

- High purity resins available
- Low permeation resins available
- Use when you need the temperature range of PTFE and the clarity of FEP
- Exceptional heat resistance
- Self extinguishing
- Non-wetting
- Good flexlife

FEP (Fluorinated Ethylene Propylene)
Working Temperature: 400°F (204°C)
Color: Clear

- Excellent chemical resistance
- Non-wetting
- Weldable
- Tubes can be sealed by melting
- Long continuous lengths
- Low refractive index
- Improved clarity over PFA
- Lower cost alternative to PFA

Fluoropolymer
Chemical Resistance Summary

Within normal use, temperatures, fluoropolymers are attacked by so few chemicals that it is easier to describe the exceptions rather than list the chemicals they are compatible with.

DO NOT USE FLUOROPLASTICS WITH THE FOLLOWING:

- Alkali metals such as elemental sodium, potassium, lithium, etc. The alkali metals remove fluorine from the polymer molecule.
- Extremely potent oxidizers, fluorine (F2) and related compounds (e.g., chlorine trifluoride, ClF3). These can be handled by fluoropolymers, but only with great care, as fluorine is absorbed into the resins, and the mixture becomes sensitive to a source of ignition such as impact.
- 80% NaOH (Sodium Hydroxide) or KOH (Potassium Hydroxide), metal hydrides such as Borances (e.g., B2H6), Aluminum Chloride, Ammonia (NH3), certain Amines (R-NH2) and imines (R=NH) and 70% Nitric Acid at temperatures near the suggested service limit.

WARNING

FAILURE OR IMPROPER SELECTION OR IMPROPER USE OF THE PRODUCTS AND/OR SYSTEMS DESCRIBED HEREIN OR RELATED ITEMS CAN CAUSE DEATH, PERSONAL INJURY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE.

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