

International Material Data System

Materials Data Declaration for Sub-Assemblies – Cooperation between ZVEI (German Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers Association) and the Automotive Industry concerning the materials declaration of electronic components and Sub-Assemblies.

The Electronic Components Division within ZVEI and Association of Printed Circuit Board Manufacturers (VdL) have jointly developed an efficient concept for the materials declaration of electronic components and printed circuit boards (PCB).

This concept is based on comprehensive product families with typical values for the materials data.

These data sheets, so-called Umbrella Specifications, lead to a drastic reduction of the amount of data, without appreciable loss of information in terms of accuracy.

Relevant Car Manufacturers accept the Umbrella Specification as reasonable approach

In order to apply the Umbrella Specification together with the IMDS-System an intensive dialog between representatives of the car industry and the ZVEI/VdL has been conducted.

As first result of this dialog the IMDS Steering Committee has released recommendation 019 "Printed Circuit Boards (PCB)". This recommendation describes the method for the input of materials content of populated PCBs (sub-assemblies), which has been, among others, developed together with representatives of ZVEI.

The foreword of this recommendation points out that the materials content of different populated PCBs (sub-assemblies) is similar, which is proven by independent studies.

Therefore, the materials declaration of populated PCBs can be harmonized for specific types.

For that purpose IMDS materials have been defined and given a Identity number (ID). Those materials can be identify by the prefix "PCB". Two specific types of PCBs have until now been defined:

„PCB-high end printed circuit board“ (IMDS-ID 9042814) and „PCB-low end printed circuit board“ (IMDS-ID 9043161).

Both PCBs are within the IMDS System as standard basic material and include the materials information for the PCB, incl. the assembly. More types will be elaborated and published in IMDS if required.

The input of materials data of sub-assemblies in that way is preferred by the IMDS Steering Committee, the input of trade names, specific product names or the providing company is not applicable.

This, therefore, includes the concept of a lower input limit for the materials content (Flat Bill of Materials).

The dialog between representatives of ZVEI/VdL and the automotive industry are considered as very fruitful and will be continued.

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