



AN 346

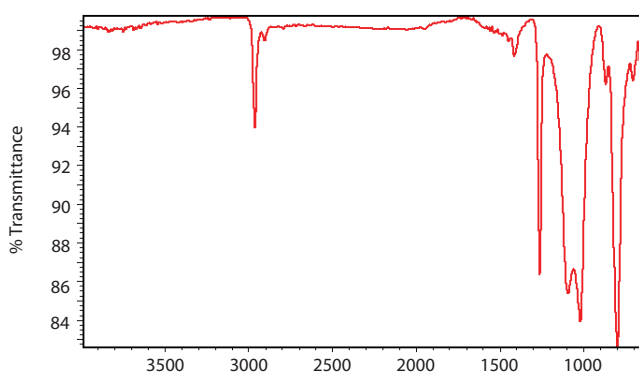
Organic Contamination on Optical Surfaces

May 7, 2007 (Version 3.0)

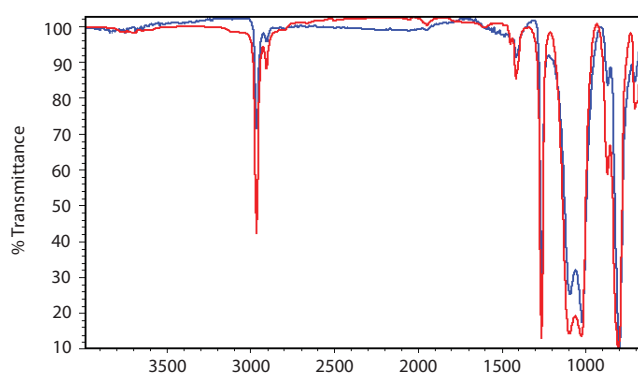
Discussion

Contamination on the surfaces of optical components decreases energy transmission, which can adversely affect component performance. The examples below illustrate just a few of the many low level contaminants that have been identified by Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) Spectroscopy.

A haze on a laser lens was identified as a dimethylsiloxane type silicone oil. The source was low molecular weight components from an RTV rubber.

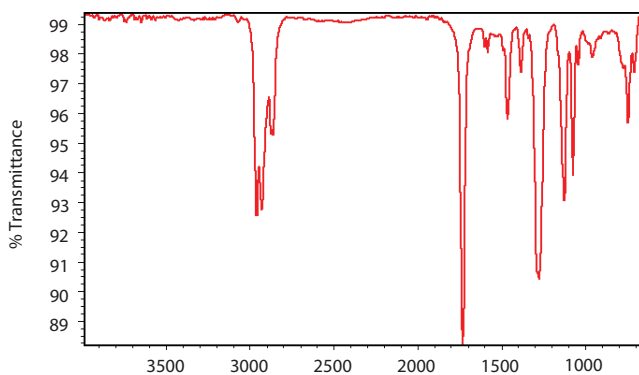
Wavenumbers (cm⁻¹)

Haze

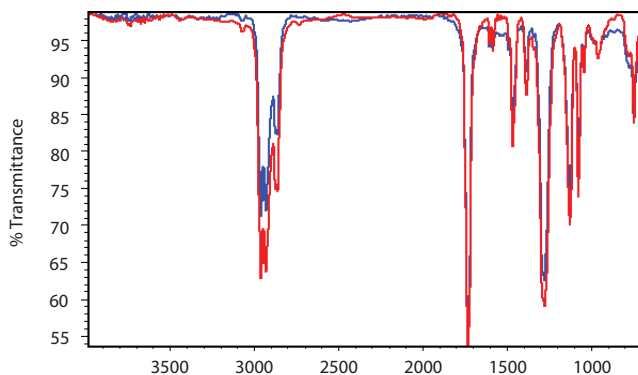
Wavenumbers (cm⁻¹)

Haze Compared with RTV components

A second haze on a lens as identified as a phthalate ester. The source was a plasticizer used in a plastic component.

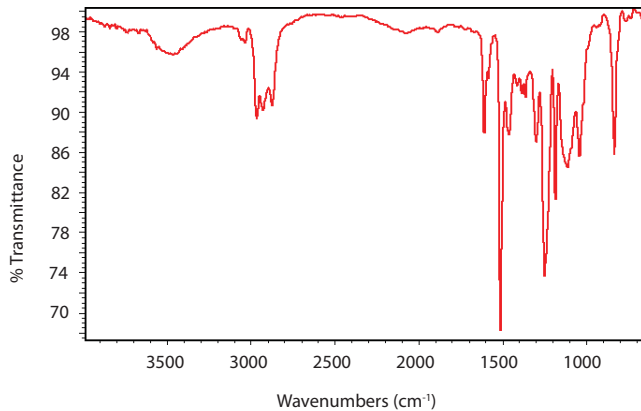
Wavenumbers (cm⁻¹)

Haze

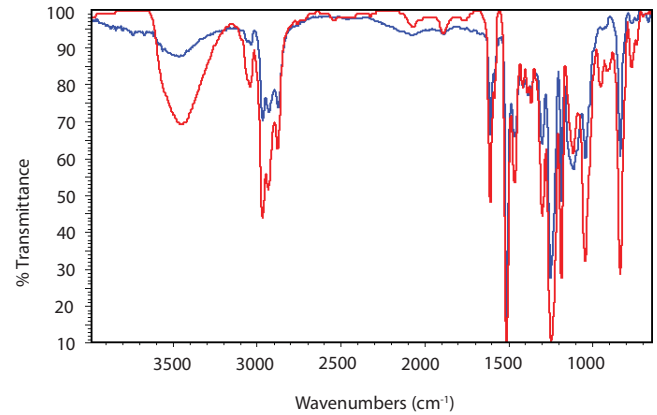
Wavenumbers (cm⁻¹)

Haze Compared with Condensed Volatiles from Plastic

A contaminant on an optical surface in a sealed optical coupler was identified as an epoxy. It matched an epoxy adhesive used in assembly of the component.

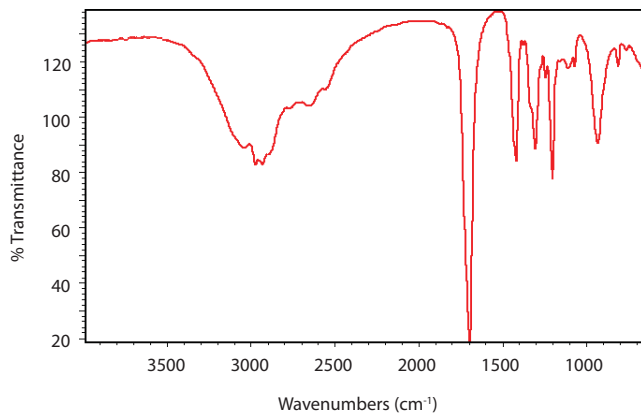


Contaminant

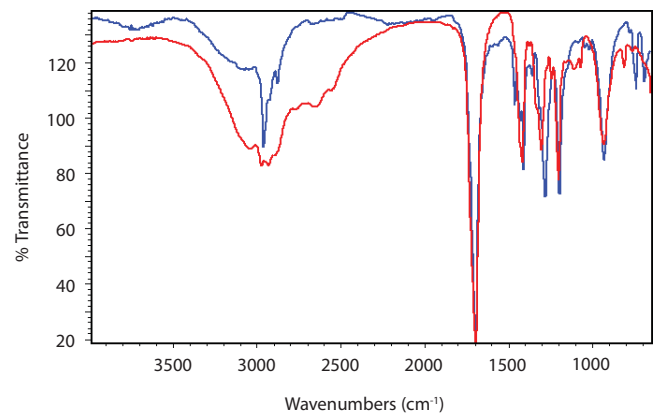


Contaminant Compared with Epoxy

A different contaminant on a similar type of optical coupler surface was identified as an organic acid that came from a solder flux used in the assembly of the component.



Contaminant



Contaminant Compared with Solder Flux

United States Locations

Tempe, Arizona
 +1 480 239 0602 info.az@eaglabs.com
 +1 602 470 2655 fax

Sunnyvale, California
 810 Kifer Road
 +1 408 530 3500 info.ca@eaglabs.com
 +1 408 530 3501 fax

1135 E Arques Avenue
 +1 408 738 3033
 +1 408 738 3035 fax

785 Lucerne Drive
 +1 408 737 3892
 +1 408 737 3916 fax

Peabody, Massachusetts
 +1 978 278 9500 info.ma@eaglabs.com
 +1 978 278 9501 fax

Chanhassen, Minnesota
 +1 952 828 6411 info.mn@eaglabs.com
 +1 952 828 6449 fax

East Windsor, New Jersey
 +1 609 371 4800 info.nj@eaglabs.com
 +1 609 371 5666 fax

Syracuse, New York
 +1 315 431 9900 info.ny@eaglabs.com
 +1 315 431 9800 fax

Raleigh, North Carolina
 +1 919 829 7041 info.nc@eaglabs.com
 +1 919 829 5518 fax

Round Rock, Texas
 +1 512 671 9500 info.tx@eaglabs.com
 +1 512 671 9501 fax

International Locations

Shanghai, China
 + 86 21 6879 6088 info.cn@eaglabs.com
 + 86 21 6879 9086 fax

Tournefeuille, France
 + 33 5 61 73 15 29 info.fr@eaglabs.com
 + 33 5 61 73 15 67 fax

Frankfurt, Germany
 + 49 (0) 693053213 info.de@eaglabs.com
 + 49 (0) 69307941 fax

Tokyo, Japan
 + 81 3 5396 0531 info.jp@eaglabs.com
 + 81 3 5396 1930 fax

HsinChu, Taiwan
 + 886 3 5632303 info.tw@eaglabs.com
 + 886 3 5632306 fax

Uxbridge, United Kingdom
 + 44 (0) 1895 811194 info.uk@eaglabs.com
 + 44 (0) 1895 810350 fax