

## Storage and Handling of Flux-Coated Preforms in Tape & Reel

Tape & reel preforms are shipped in a sealed moisture barrier bag that is at least 0.004" thick. Included in the bag is a desiccant to prevent moisture build up. Additional oxygen absorbers can be added to the packaging to reduce oxidation.

Once a reel is removed from the bag, it should be used completely. If a reel is not used up and must be stored for later use, place it back in the moisture barrier bag and reseal the bag.

In special cases, we may be able to customize the number of preforms per reel to meet your production requirement. Please contact us for more details.

### Optimal Storage Conditions

- Unopened containers of solder preforms should be stored at or below normal room temperature; there are no requirements for relative humidity.
- Containers should be opened just prior to use. Quickly return unused preforms to their original container. Opened containers of preforms should be stored in an inert gas dry box.
- Open containers can be kept in a production environment for 8-10 hours at room temperature in a humidity-controlled atmosphere.
- Keep reels away from direct sunlight.
- Store in an upright position, not lying on one side.



### Handling

Solders are soft metals. To avoid dimensional damage or scratching, avoid shaking or excessive vibration when handling preform containers. Excessive scratching increases surface area which results in higher oxide level formation. The flux coating (where applicable) can also be reduced by vibration, resulting in variable soldering results. To avoid contamination, damage, or alteration, it is recommended that a vacuum pick-up system be used. If a vacuum pick up system is not available, use lint-free gloves or other instruments to avoid contaminants.

### Personal Hygiene

Normal standards of industrial hygiene should be observed when handling solder preforms and fabrications. Other requirements are noted in the relevant SDS. These may include:

- Avoiding unnecessary skin contact.
- Avoiding process fumes.
- No smoking or eating when handling solder preforms and associated processing chemicals.
- Washing hands after use.

**APPLICATION NOTE**

This application note is provided for general information only. It is not intended, and shall not be construed, to warrant or guarantee the performance of the products described which are sold subject exclusively to written warranties and limitations thereon included in product packaging and invoices. All Indium Corporation's products and solutions are designed to be commercially available unless specifically stated otherwise.

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