SOLIMIDE® FOAMS
DIVISION OF BOYD CORPORATION

High Performance Acoustic and Thermal Insulation

One Company, Many Solutions

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SOLIMIDE® Polyimide Foams

History and Development of SOLIMIDE® Polyimide Foam

The first polyimide foam was created in the early 1970’s. NASA sponsored additional development of the technology to decrease the flammability, smoke and toxicity of materials used in space environments. The space agency’s search for non-burning, lightweight foam systems led directly to the development of SOLIMIDE® polyimide foam, which was initially used as thermal insulation and cushioning for the space shuttle program.

Today, the primary insulation systems used aboard all U.S. Navy warships and submarines are based on SOLIMIDE® Foams. International navies and operators of weight sensitive commercial vessels also take advantage of SOLIMIDE® Foams’ lightweight and fire resistant properties to improve overall ship performance and life cycle costs.

As an outgrowth of the work with NASA, SOLIMIDE® Foams are being produced in an extremely lightweight form to meet the requirements of aerospace, aircraft and airframe manufacturers. These lighter foams give manufacturers major weight savings, while retaining excellent thermal and acoustic insulation properties.

Partnering to deliver engineered systems

From cryogenic tanks and pipelines, to sensitive analytical and medical instruments, ovens and high temperature industrial applications, SOLIMIDE® Foams offer unique properties for your insulation needs. Whether your application requires an off-the-shelf or custom solution, SOLIMIDE® Foams and its worldwide distributor network are ready to assist you to solve tough design problems.

SOLIMIDE® Foams aviation, marine and industrial products offer major benefits in design, outfitting and retrofit applications worldwide.

Properties include

- Lightweight
- Superior fire resistance
- Virtually no smoke or toxic gas production
- Outstanding thermal and acoustic insulation
- Environmentally friendly
- Proven durability
- Easy installation
- Wide operating temperature range
- Dimensional stability across full temperature range

Achieve the total performance required in demanding environments by specifying SOLIMIDE® Foams. They are the right solution for your tough design problems.
We Have the Right Products for Your Insulation Needs

**Marine**

SOLIMIDE® Foams are used as thermal and acoustic insulation onboard military naval and commercial vessels around the world. Literally tons of topside weight is saved when lightweight SOLIMIDE® Foams replace heavier fibrous glass insulation in bulkhead, overhead, duct and piping applications. End users also choose SOLIMIDE® Foam for its excellent fire, smoke and toxicity performance in a fire scenario. SOLIMIDE® HT-340 foam is certified as a Fire-Restricting Material in accordance with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) High Speed Craft code. Over 15 navies and many commercial operators worldwide have chosen SOLIMIDE® Foams as the marine insulation solution for their vessels.

**Aircraft and Aerospace**

SOLIMIDE® aircraft foam products are the ideal insulation to meet the stringent requirements of the aircraft and aerospace industries. They provide excellent acoustic and thermal insulation at extremely low weight and maintain dimensional stability and flexibility over a wide temperature range. Their superior fire resistance meets FAR 25.856(a) Radiant Panel Flame Propagation Rule; toxic gas, smoke generation and offgassing are virtually non-existent. With a proven in-service durability record in hot, humid environments, they outperform traditional fibreglass insulation by retaining insulating properties far longer. SOLIMIDE® Foams are self-supporting and non-fibrous - making them easy to handle, quick to install and requiring fewer fasteners. They can be found in Airbus, Boeing, Canadair, Embraer, business jets, military aircraft and helicopters, as well as in demanding aerospace applications, including the International Space Station, Mars Rover, solar shields and cryogenic fuel tanks.

**Rail**

SOLIMIDE® Foams offer a lightweight, non-fibrous solution for thermal and acoustic insulation in the rail industry. It is especially useful in areas that see humid conditions, high temperatures, or where loose fibers are a concern. SOLIMIDE® Foams meet the U.S. FRA and FTA (Docket 90-A) Recommendations for Flammability and Smoke Emission Characteristics. Typical applications include sidwall and roof insulation, HVAC systems and packing or seals around doors and windows.

**Cryogenic**

SOLIMIDE® Foams’ ability to maintain its flexibility at liquid nitrogen gas (LNG) temperatures makes it a superior choice for cryogenic expansion joints, designed to absorb expansion and contraction stresses caused by thermal cycling of rigid insulation materials. The foam is used as joints and pipe shoes for pipelines at olefin production and petrochemical facilities. Other cryogenic applications using SOLIMIDE® Foams include medical storage and transport units, cryogenic fuel tanks and wind tunnels.

**Industrial**

SOLIMIDE® Foams’ unique combination of properties makes it an ideal choice for many industrial applications. Because of its +300°C continuous use temperatures and inherent fire resistance, SOLIMIDE® Foams are used in environments as diverse as ovens to nuclear power plants. Its very low offgassing makes it a superior choice for sensitive electronic, medical and analytical instruments. SOLIMIDE® Foams are lightweight, durable, and exhibit excellent acoustic, thermal and chemical resistance properties. In addition, it can be fabricated into a variety of shapes and sizes, making it easy to install in any industrial application.
SOLIMIDE Polyimide Foam Characteristics

**Flame Resistant**
Inherently non-flammable, SOLIMIDE® Foams emit virtually no smoke or incapacitating toxic byproducts when exposed to open flame.

**Lightweight**
SOLIMIDE® Foams are extremely lightweight - translating into fuel savings and extra payload capacity.

**Wide Temperature Operating Range**
SOLIMIDE® Foams remain functional when exposed to extremes of cold and heat that would degrade competitive polymer foams. The foam maintains flexibility even at cryogenic temperatures.

**Acoustic and Thermal Performance**
SOLIMIDE® Foams offer excellent acoustic absorption and good thermal insulation properties.

**Environmentally Friendly**
This non-fibrous insulation requires no special handling. No halogens, heavy metals, formaldehyde or ozone-depleting chemical are used in the manufacture of SOLIMIDE® Foams.

**Productivity**
SOLIMIDE® Foams products are more cost effective to handle and install than fibrous insulation. They are light, easy to cut and fit, and readily adapt to fabrication with other materials.

**Durable**
SOLIMIDE® Foams show significantly greater resistance to damage than traditional insulation products. They maintain integrity after long term usage in a vibrating environment and when exposed to extremes of cold and heat that would degrade other products. Polyimide foams also have a high degree of chemical stability and are resistant to hydrocarbons, alcohols and non-concentrated acids.
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