



# OPTICAL SILICONES IN TRANSPORTATION

INTELLIGENT AUTOMOTIVE  
LIGHTING 2019

MAINZ, FEBRUARY 20-22, 2019

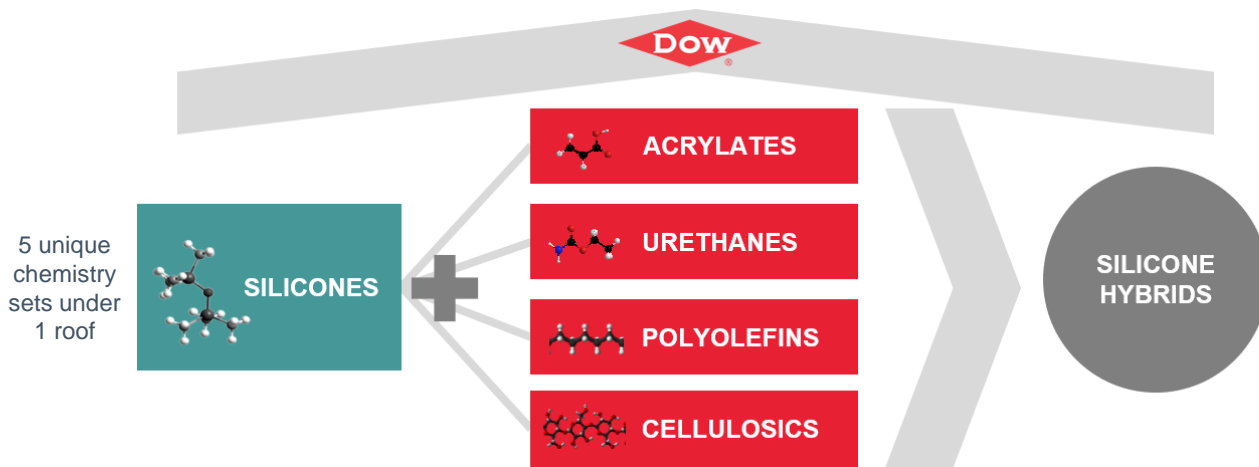
*Dr. François de Buyl - Principal TS&D Scientist*  
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# DOW INNOVATION ENGINE

Combining 75 years of silicones expertise with exceptional innovation to deliver new offerings to the market



Silicone hybrids provide improved material properties such as enhanced thermal stability, adhesion, sealing, and durability that reduce processing time and increase speed to finished product



# DOW CONSUMER SOLUTIONS: AT A GLANCE

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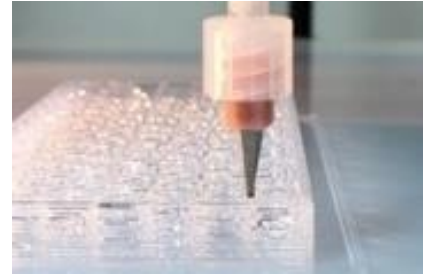
High Performance Building



Transportation



Si Elastomers



Pressure Sensitive



Personal Care



Home Care



# TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS

**Adhesives and sealants**

**Conformal coatings**

**Encapsulants**

**Dielectric gels**

**Thermally conductive**

**Electrically conductive**

**Optical moldable  
silicones**



**Bonding**

**Sealing**

**Protection**

**Stress relief**

**Heat dissipation**

**Processing**

**Lighting**



# TRANSPORTATION APPLICATIONS

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**Battery pack assembly**

**Under-the-hood gasketing**

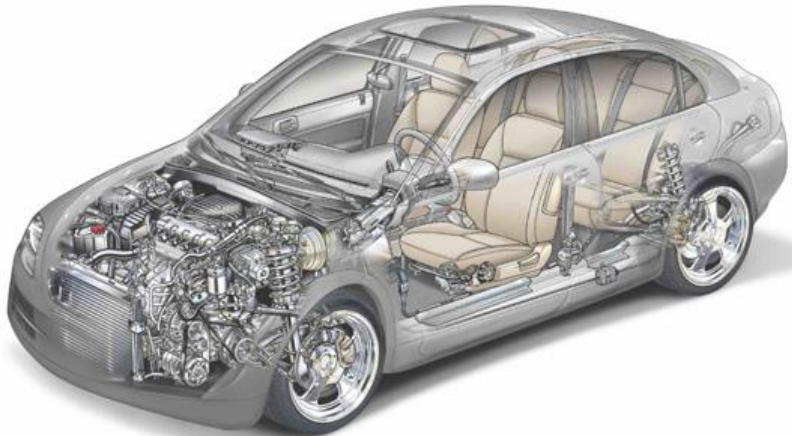
**Boards and assemblies**

**Sensors**

**Displays**

**Housings**

**Head / rear lamps**



# WHY SILICONE FOR OPTICS?

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Flexible and soft material



High precision and heat stability

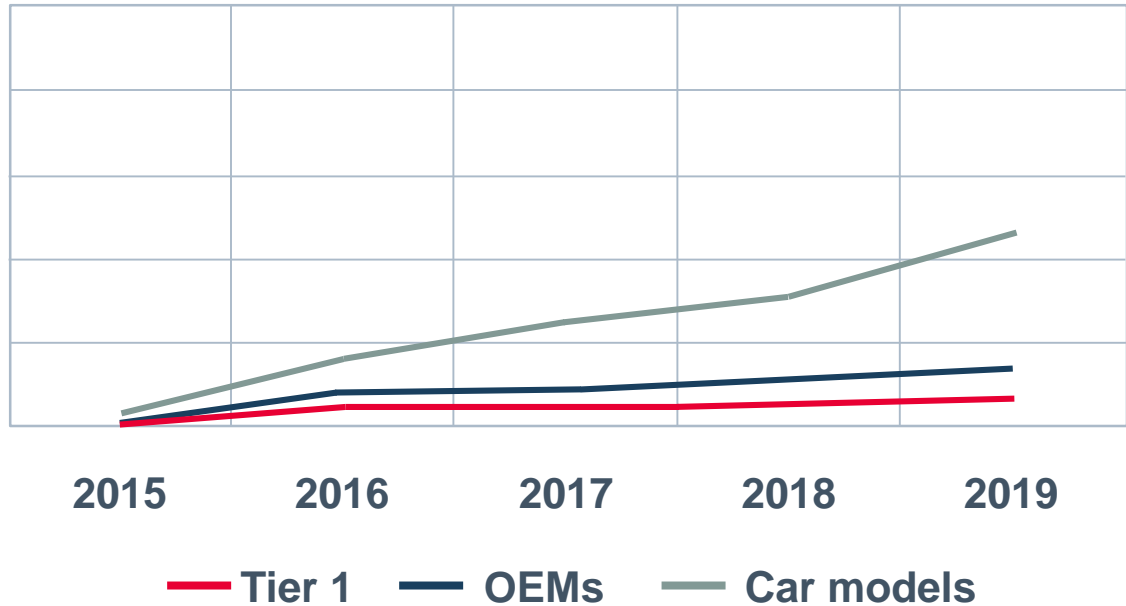


Bendable light guides



# EUROPEAN ADOPTION OF MOLDABLE OPTICAL SILICONES IN AUTOMOTIVE LIGHTING

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# MOLDABLE OPTICAL SILICONES FROM DOW





## Adaptive headlamps

### Consumer Solutions

#### DOWSIL™ Brand Moldable Optical Silicones Help Pave the Way to a Groundbreaking LED Headlamp Design from Hella KGAA Hueck & Co.

Case Study: Hella KGAA Hueck & Co.

##### The Challenge

For years, the conventional approach to automotive LED headlamp design relied on mechanical actuators to position the beams of a single, controllable LED over Hella KGAA Hueck & Co., a leading manufacturer of innovative automotive lighting components, envisioned a more dynamically adaptive solution that wouldn't rely on mechanical components.



The vision became the award-winning MULTIBEAM LED headlamp. Developed in partnership with Daimler AG, the MULTIBEAM module incorporates 84 individually controllable LED pixels arranged in three rows, enabling the headlamp to dynamically distribute light in real time based on changing traffic, weather and road conditions. Hella's groundbreaking headlamp module further ensures that the high beam function can be used more frequently, therefore offering greater safety and comfort.

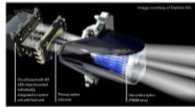
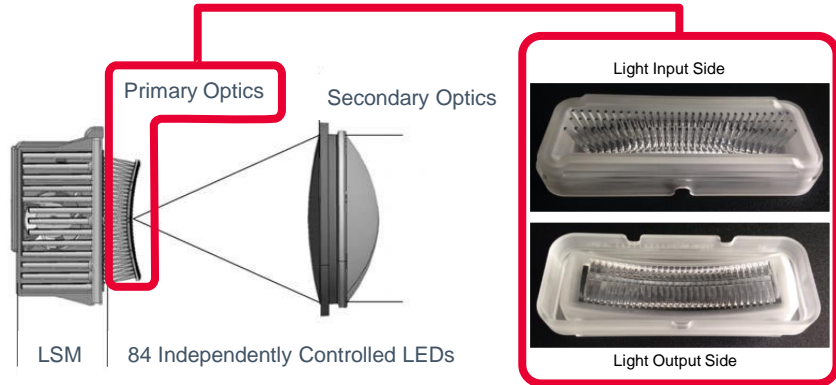


Image courtesy of Hella KGAA Hueck & Co. © 2015 Hella KGAA Hueck & Co. All rights reserved. Hella KGAA Hueck & Co. is a registered trademark of Hella KGAA Hueck & Co.

Such innovation did not come without challenges, however. Distributing light evenly from the MULTIBEAM module's 84 LEDs required design of a complicated primary lens structure that incorporated 84 light guides. Most of these optics needed to be placed at an angle that, in turn, required them to incorporate a strong undercut that would have been impossible to achieve with glass or transparent plastics, as demolding the proposed lens design would require a highly flexible material.

Lastly, in order to optimize optical efficiency, the MULTIBEAM light guides are positioned in close proximity to its high-power LED dies. Consequently, the primary lens material would need to perform reliably despite long exposure to high temperature and photochemistry — organic plastics such as PMMA and PC would darken and turn brown within a relatively short time.



### High complexity headlamp module

- Silicone light guides
- Acrylic lens

### Benefits of SILASTIC™ MS-102 Moldable Optical Silicone

- Highly flexible material allows demolding with undercuts
- Stable mechanical and optical properties against high power LEDs

## Emergency vehicle light

### Consumer Solutions

#### Emergency Vehicle LED Lighting Gets More Visible — and More Rugged — with Co-molded Silicones from Dow



##### Case Study: SoundOff Signal

###### The Challenge

One rainy night, a motorist calls 911 for help after getting into a “rear-end” accident with another vehicle. An unmarked police cruiser is the first to arrive on the scene at the dark intersection of two country roads. Suddenly, the plain-looking police vehicle lights up the night. Its previously “invisible” lights send bright warning lights far down the road to alert other motorists of the hazard ahead. The lighting also helps the officer see the accident scene and helps other motorists see the officer.

SoundOff Signal takes its job of manufacturing emergency vehicle lighting and warning electronics seriously. Already a global leader in this type of lighting, the company wanted to create a new, next-generation design to add to their popular lighting options for law enforcement, emergency and other vehicles.

This employee-owned company in Hudsonville, Michigan, set out to create a new light with a smaller footprint, intense lighting, high quality and long life. The light would need the overall durability to withstand dirt, wet and extreme weather, gravel impacts and other road conditions. In addition to being rugged,



the light’s materials must offer good photochemical stability to avoid yellowing from intense UV exposure.

SoundOff Signal turned to the team of LED lighting silicone experts at Dow for recommendations and support for their new design ideas.

###### The Solution

SoundOff Signal created its first-generation optical design called Clarity™ technology. This technology and moldable silicone materials allow for the optic lens design and the housing to be molded — all in one piece. SoundOff Signal branded this new light as the mPOWER™ Facia light. It is the first extremely compact, stackable line of lighting on the market.

When compared with a traditional polycarbonate lens, the new mPOWER™ Facia light has several advantages:

- A small footprint with maximized candela output
  - Greater resistance to damage, such as gravel pitting, scratching or cracking
  - Improved sealing performance to prevent water from entering the light
  - Higher UV and photochemical stability to prevent lens yellowing over time
- Smaller and lighter weight, the mPOWER™ Facia light can be mounted multiple ways and almost anywhere on a vehicle, including in grills and along light areas on the sides of vehicles. The size, low profile and flat front make it easy to “staple” and be unobtrusive.

The three- and four-inch lights have the ability to provide bright beacons and off-angle coverage with configurations of six to 18 LEDs — and up to three colors of LEDs from the same unit.



Video courtesy of SoundOff Signal

### Benefits of SILASTIC™ MS-1002 Moldable Optical Silicone

- Over-molding SILASTIC™ MS-1002 with SILASTIC™ MS-0002
- Fewer parts for ease of assembly
- Small footprint with maximized candela output
- Improved sealing performance to prevent water ingress
- Greater resistance to gravel pitting, scratching, or cracking
- Higher UV and photo-thermal stability to prevent lens yellowing



# SILASTIC™ MOLDABLE OPTICAL SILICONES PORTFOLIO



## Diverse properties enable unique designs

Property	SILASTIC™ MS-1003 Silicone	SILASTIC™ MS-1002 Silicone	SILASTIC™ MS-4007 Silicone	SILASTIC™ MS-4002 Silicone
Viscosity, Part A (Pa-sec)	52	40	28	47
Viscosity, Part B (Pa-sec)	37.5	18	9.5	20
Viscosity, Mixed (Pa-sec)	42.3	26.3	10.5	25
Specific Gravity	1.05	1.07	1.08	1.08
Durometer (Shore A)	51	72	70	84
Tensile Strength (MPa)	5.5	11.2	11.7	11.7
Elongation at Break (%)	325	80	100	60
Linear CTE (by TMA) (ppm/°C)	325	275	270	250

### Designed for many applications

- Freeform collimators
- Secondary lenses
- Micro-lens arrays
- Light guides

### Expanded material properties

- Hardness
- Viscosity

### Enhanced optical performance

- High light transmittance
- Accurate control of surface light scattering

For complete data sheet, visit [consumer.dow.com](http://consumer.dow.com)



**SILASTIC™ MS-40XX Moldable Optical Silicone Elastomers**  
**SSL Enabling Technologies – Optics**

WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE GALA EVENT  
 MANDALAY BAY | LAS VEGAS, NV | FEBRUARY 28, 2019

<https://sapphireawards.secure-platform.com/a/page/2019finalists>



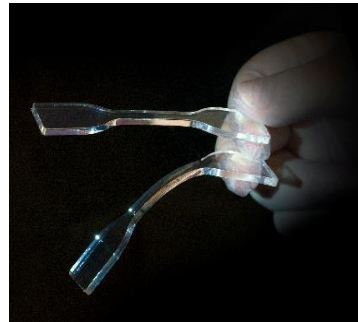
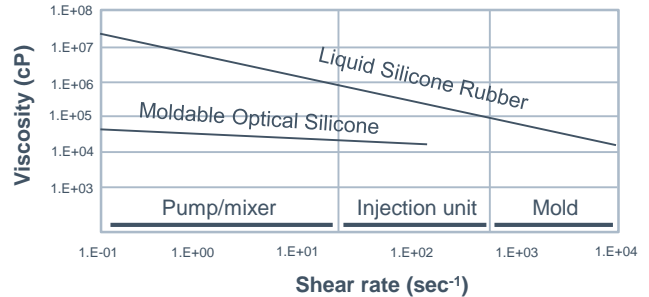
# MOLDABLE AND MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

## Efficient injection molding

- Ease of fabrication by liquid injection molding
- No secondary polishing of molded optics required

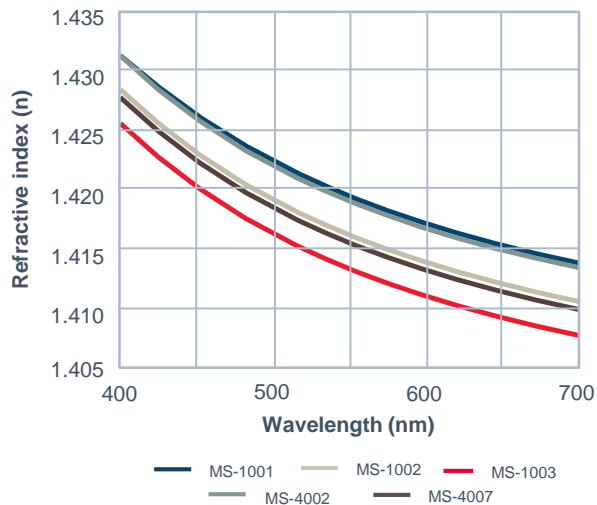
## Soft and pliable, or firm and tough

- Impact and scratch resistant when hit or dropped
- High IP and IK ratings luminaries

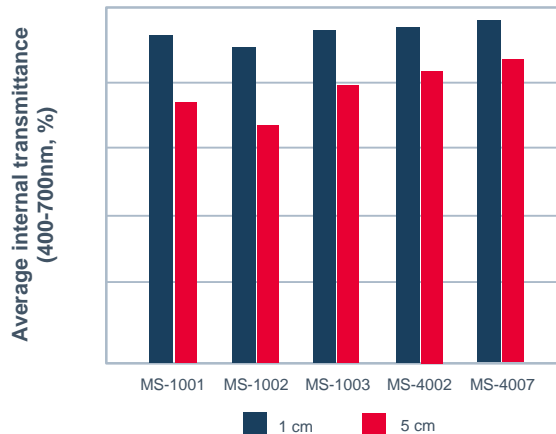


# OPTICAL PROPERTIES

## Refractive index vs. wavelength



## Internal transmittance (Average 400-700nm)



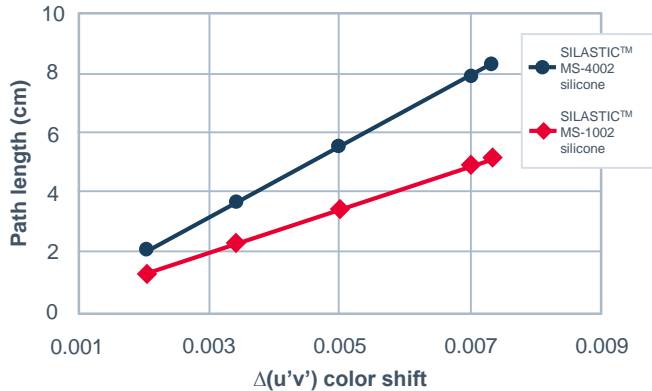
Property	SILASTIC™ MS-1001 Silicone	SILASTIC™ MS-1002 Silicone	SILASTIC™ MS-1003 Silicone	SILASTIC™ MS-4002 Silicone	SILASTIC™ MS-4007 Silicone
Refractive Index (633 nm)	1.42	1.41	1.41	1.42	1.41
Abbe Number	48.7	50.4	50.1	52.0	48.0

Full optical data sets available upon request for simulation



# SILICONE OPTIC: LONG LIGHT PATH

Path length vs  $\Delta(u'v')$  color shift target



## D65 white light source

- Significant color shift  
 $\Delta(u'v') = 0.007$   
(average on 400-800 nm)
- Light loss <5% up to 10 cm path length  
(SILASTIC™ MS-4002 Silicone and  
SILASTIC™ MS-4007 Silicone)

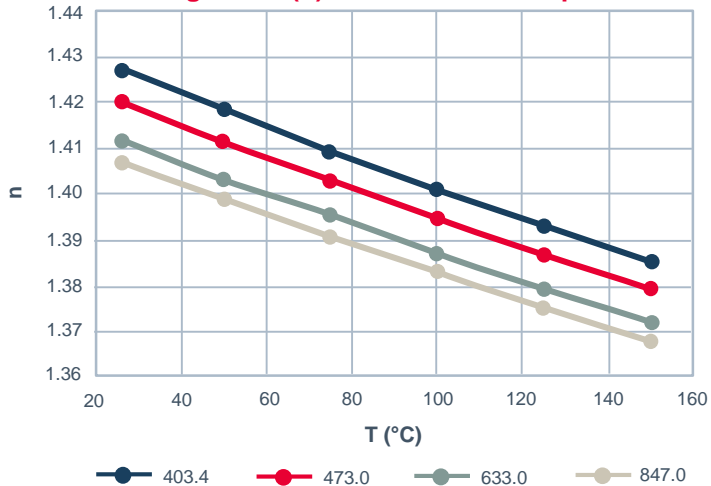
## Monochromatic light source

- No color shift concern
- Light loss dependent on wavelength



# THERMAL EFFECTS IN SILICONE OPTICS

Change of RI (n) as function of temperature



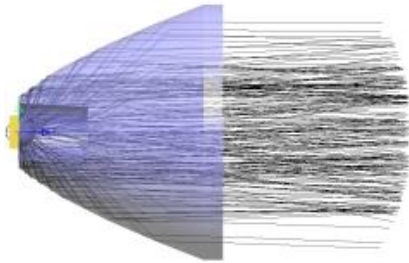
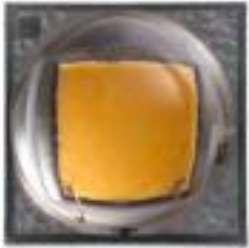
Material	CTE (ppm)	TOC ( $10^{-4}$ ) dn/dT
Silicone	275	-3.2
PMMA	72	-1.1
PC	65	-1.07

CTE = Coefficient of Thermal Expansion  
TOC = Thermo-Optical Coefficient

Refractive index measured with Metricon 2010/M Prism Coupler at four laser wavelengths, from room temperature up to 150°C.



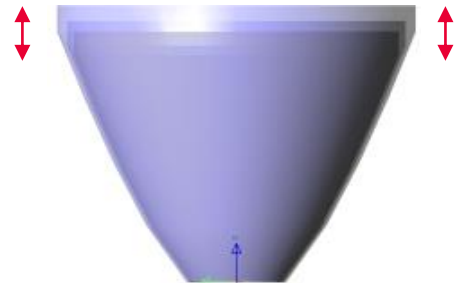
# SILICONE OPTIC: NARROW BEAM ANGLE COLLIMATOR



Temperature	Volume (cm <sup>3</sup> ) Narrow collimator
25°C	5.58
75°C	5.81
150°C	6.18

## Simulation parameters

- Light source: CREE XPG-2 LED
- Narrow beam angle collimator: 9°
- Volume increase due to CTE effect – from 25°C up to 150°C
- Collimator un-constraint



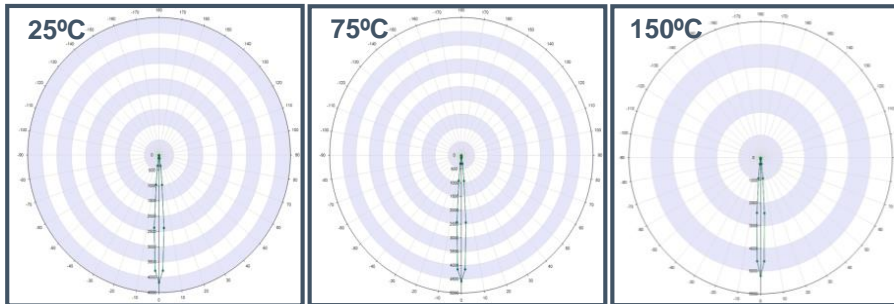


# SILICONE OPTIC: NARROW BEAM ANGLE COLLIMATOR

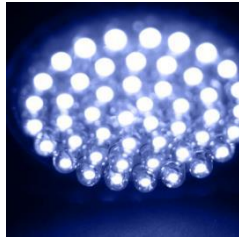
Temperature of Lens	Optical Efficiency	$\Delta$	CBCP (cd)	$\Delta$	Beam Angle / FWHM	$\Delta$
25°C	90.70%	-	4,179	-	8.9°	-
75°C	91.07%	↑0.4%	4,336	↑3.8%	8.6°	↓0.3°
150°C	91.54%	↑0.9%	4,540	↑8.6%	8.3°	↓0.6°

## Simulation results

- Optical efficiency and light intensity at the center of the light beam increasing
- Light distribution slightly more narrow



# PROTECTIVE MATERIALS OVER LEDs AND ASSOCIATED OPTICAL EFFECTS



# PROTECTION OPTIONS

## 4000K Test part, no material (Optical simulation)



### **Conformal coating:** Silicone, acrylic, urethane

- Thin layer provides little impact on light quality

### **Encapsulant:** Silicone, acrylic, urethane

- Impact protection in challenging environments

### **Molded lens:** Silicone, PC, PMMA

- Impact protection with little impact on light quality

## 4000K Test part with **DOWSIL™ 1-2577** Low VOC Conformal Coating



## 4000K Test part with **DOWSIL™ EI-1184** Optical Encapsulant



## 4000K Test part with **SILASTIC™ MS-1002** Moldable Optical Silicone



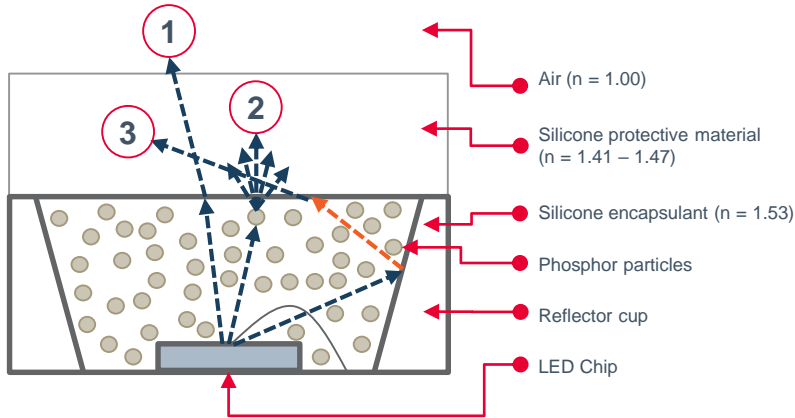
Lens design courtesy of:

**LumenFlow Corp.**  
Photonics Engineering & Manufacturing



# OPTICAL INFLUENCE

## Lumen output? Color temperature?



### Protective material can

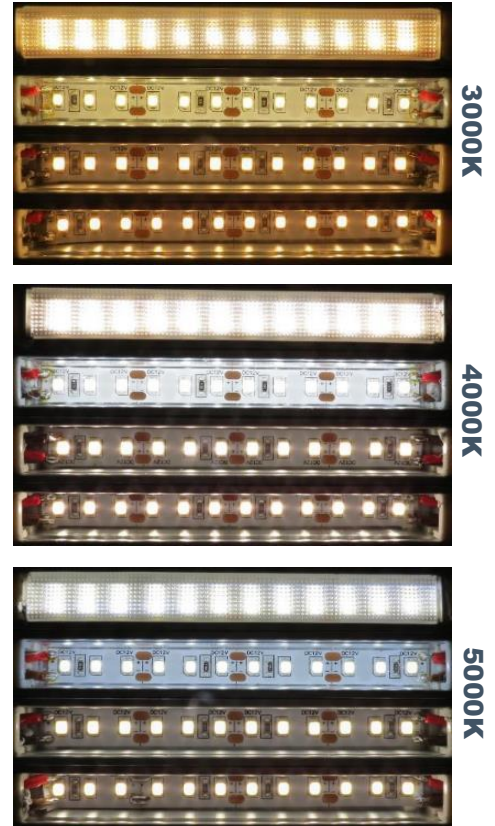
- Change Fresnel reflection
- Change color converted light
- Change total internal reflection

SILASTIC™ MS-1002  
Moldable Silicone

DOWSIL™ EI-1184  
Encapsulant

DOWSIL™ 1-2577  
Low VOC Conformal Coating

No Protection



# INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY FROM DOW

## New DOWSIL™ EI-2888 primerless silicone encapsulant

- Patented technology
- 100% silicone product

### DOWSIL™ EI-2888 Encapsulant

Light transmission

Aging resistance

Low viscosity

Rapid RT cure

Self adhesion

Health concern

Shrinkage/Exotherm

Cure robustness

Cost



# DOWSIL™ EI-2888 ENCAPSULANT: SELF ADHESIVE

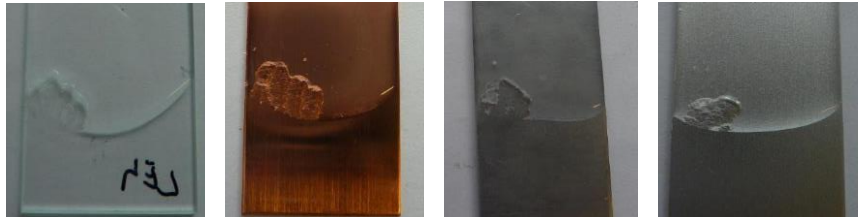
## Cohesive failure on

- Anodized aluminum
- Glass
- FR4
- Stainless steel
- Steel
- Polycarbonate
- PBT
- Copper

## Reliable adhesion after 2000 hours

- 150°C
- 85°C/85% RH
- -40/+150°C thermal shock
- Sunlight UV

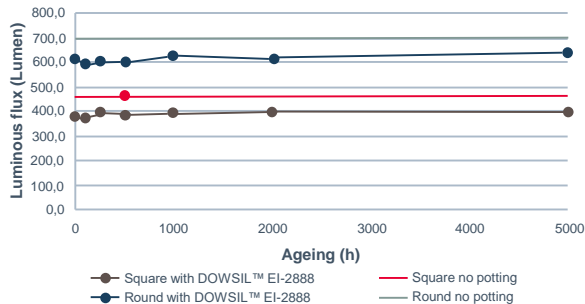
Limitation: PMMA, die-cast aluminum



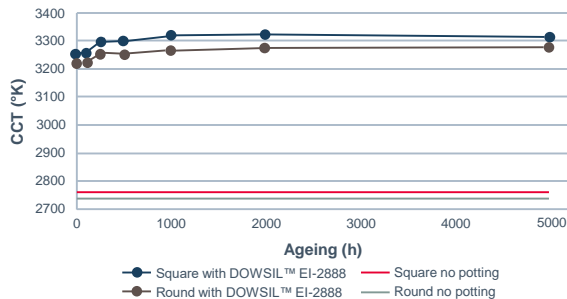
# DOWSIL™ EI-2888 ENCAPSULANT: PROVEN RESULTS

## Two rigid, high-power LED modules using DOWSIL™ EI-2888 encapsulant

### Luminous flux evolution



### Correlated color temperature stability



Round & square cross section design



Driven 12V, 1.42A up to 5000 hrs

All details on the market release and technical performances available from LEDs Magazine webinar of February 21, 2019 on «*Stick to the clear advantage: new patented DOWSIL™ EI-2888 PrimerlessSilicone Encapsulant for LED Lighting*» by Julien Renaud, Thierry Cooremans, Konstantin Sobolev



# REFLECTIVE MATERIALS

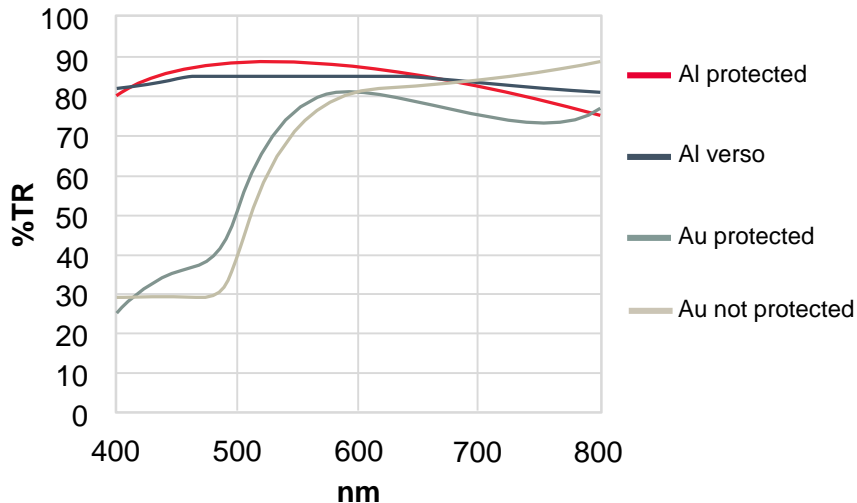
## SPECULAR VS. LAMBERTIAN





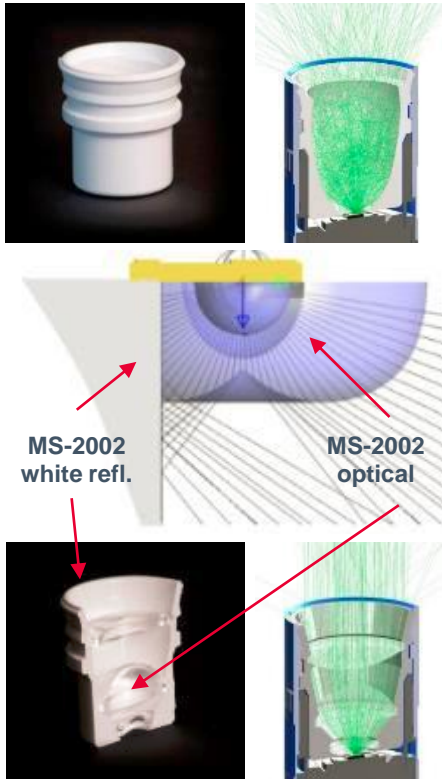
# METAL COATING ON SILASTIC™ MS-1002 MOLDABLE SILICONE

Total reflectance of metal coated MS-1002



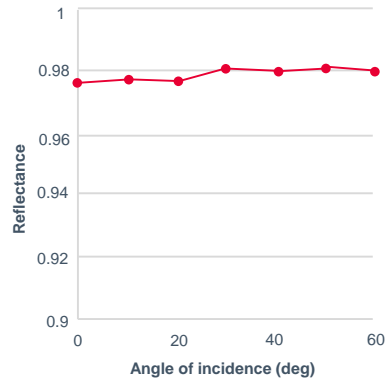
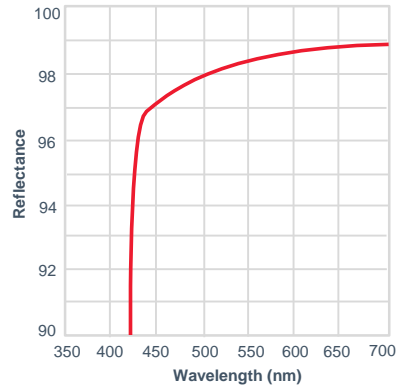
- **PE-CVD deposition of SiO<sub>2</sub> layer + magnetron sputtering of metal layer (Al, Au)** -Surcotec, Geneva, Switzerland
- **Total reflectance** of Al and Au coating on optical moldable silicone are quite closely matching pure metal spectra

# SILASTIC™ MS-2002 WHITE REFLECTING MOLDABLE SILICONE



MS-2002  
white refl.

MS-2002  
optical



## SILASTIC™ MS-2002

Mixing ratio	1:1
Viscosity mix A+B (1 sec <sup>-1</sup> ; 25°C, mPa*s)	650,000
SG (g/ml)	1.44
Refractive index (@633 nm)	NA
Abbe number	NA
Light reflectance (thick.=3mm)	97%R (450 nm) 99%R (630 nm)
<b>Hardness (Shore A)</b>	<b>84</b>
Tensile strength (Mpa)	8.6
Elongation (%)	86
CTE (ppm/°C)	210
Pot life (hrs, 2X viscosity @25°C)	48



# CONCLUSIONS

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- Moldable optical silicones and optical encapsulants from Dow continue to enable innovation in exterior and interior automotive lighting
- A dedicated multi-expertise's technical and commercial team continue to serve customers in the field
- Your new design ideas are continuously welcome to challenge our curiosity and leadership in developing new solutions

**DOWSIL™**

**SiLASTIC™**

silicone elastomers by 





# THANK YOU

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