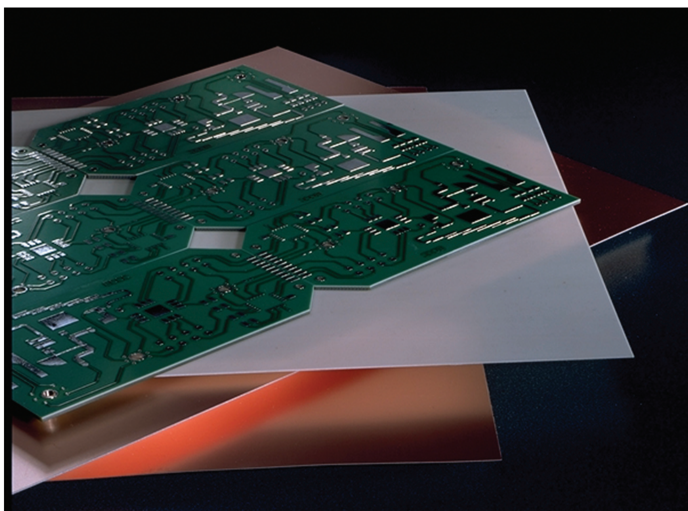
RO4000® Series High Frequency Circuit Materials

Features:

- Not-PTFE
- Excellent high frequency performance due to low dielectric tolerance and loss
- Stable electrical properties versus frequency
- Low thermal coefficient of dielectric constant
- Low Z-Axis expansion
- Low in-plane expansion coefficient
- Excellent dimensional stability
- Volume manufacturing process

Some Typical Applications:

- LNB's for Direct Broadcast Satellites
- Microstrip and Cellular Base Station Antennas and Power Amplifiers
- Spread Spectrum Communications Systems
- RF Identifications Tags



RO4000® Series High Frequency Circuit Materials are glass reinforced hydrocarbon/ceramic laminates (**Not PTFE**) designed for performance sensitive, high volume commercial applications.

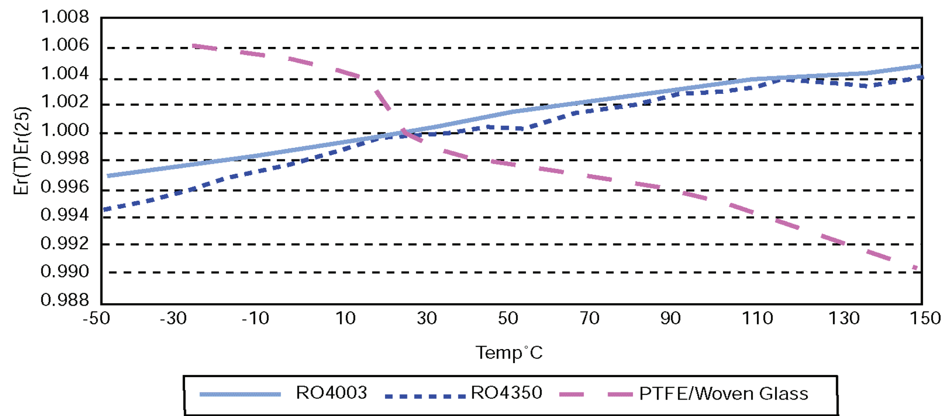
RO4000 laminates are designed to offer superior high frequency performance and low cost circuit fabrication. The result is a low loss material which can be fabricated using standard epoxy/glass (FR4) processes offered at competitive prices.

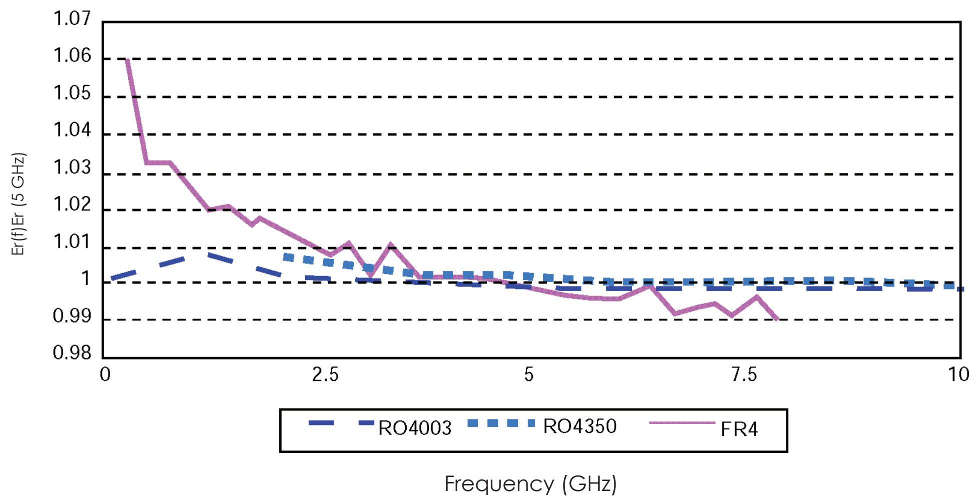
The selection of laminates typically available to designers is significantly reduced once operational frequencies increase to 500 MHz and above. RO4000 material possesses the properties needed by designers of RF microwave circuits and allows for repeatable design of filters, matching networks and controlled impedance transmission lines. Low dielectric loss allows RO4000 series material to be used in many applications where higher operating frequencies limit the use of conventional circuit board laminates. The temperature coefficient of dielectric constant is among the lowest of any circuit board material (Chart 1), and the dielectric constant is stable over a broad frequency range (Chart 2). This makes it an ideal substrate for broadband applications.

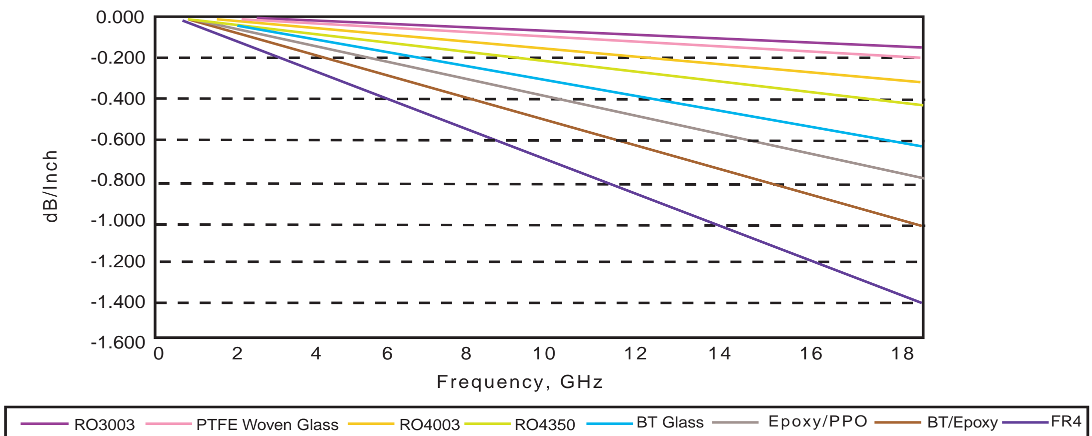
RO4000 material's thermal coefficient of expansion (CTE) provides several key benefits to the circuit designer. The expansion coefficient of RO4000 material is similar to that of copper which allows the material to exhibit excellent dimensional stability, a property needed for mixed dielectric multilayer boards constructions. The low Z-axis CTE of RO4000 laminates provides reliable plated through-hole quality, even in severe thermal shock applications. RO4000 series material has a Tg of >280°C (536°F) so its expansion characteristics remain stable over the entire range of circuit processing temperatures.

RO4000 series laminates can easily be fabricated into printed circuit boards using standard FR4 circuit board processing techniques. Unlike PTFE based high performance materials, RO4000 series laminates do not require specialized via preparation processes such as sodium etch. This material is a rigid, thermoset laminate that is capable of being processed by automated handling systems and scrubbing equipment used for copper surface preparation.

RO4003™ laminates are currently offered in various configurations utilizing both 1080 and 1674 glass fabric styles, with all configurations meeting the same laminate electrical performance specification. Specifically designed as a drop-in replacement for the RO4350 material, RO4350B laminates utilize RoHS compliant flame-retardant technology for applications requiring UL 94V-0 certification. These materials conform to the requirements of IPC-4103, slash sheet /10 for RO4003C and /11 for RO4350B.







The information contained in this fabrication guide is intended to assist you in designing with Rogers’ circuit materials and prepreg. It is not intended to and does not create any warranties, express or implied, including any warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose or that the results shown on this fabrication guide will be achieved by a user for a particular purpose. The user is responsible for determining the suitability of Rogers’ circuit materials and prepreg for each application.

Property	Typical Value		Direction	Units	Condition	Test Method
	RO4003C™	RO4350B™				
Dielectric Constant, ε_r (Process specification)	3.38 ± 0.05	(1) 3.48 ± 0.05	Z	--	10 GHz/23°C	IPC-TM-650 2.5.5.5 (2)Clamped Stripline
(3) Dielectric Constant, ε_r (Recommended for use in circuit design)	3.55	3.66	Z	--	FSR/23°C	IPC-TM-650 2.5.5.6 Full Sheet Resonance
Dissipation Factor tan, δ	0.0027 0.0021	0.0037 0.0031	Z	--	10 GHz/23°C 2.5 GHz/23°C	IPC-TM-650 2.5.5.5
Thermal Coefficient of ε_r	+40	+50	Z	ppm/°C	-100°C to 250°C	IPC-TM-650 2.5.5.5
Volume Resistivity	$1.7 X 10^{10}$	$1.2 X 10^{10}$		MΩ•cm	COND A	IPC-TM-650 2.5.17.1
Surface Resistivity	$4.2 X 10^{9}$	$5.7 X 10^{9}$		MΩ	COND A	IPC-TM-650 2.5.17.1
Electrical Strength	31.2 (780)	31.2 (780)	Z	KV/mm (V/mil)	0.51mm (0.020")	IPC-TM-650 2.5.6.2
Tensile Modulus	26,889 (3900)	11,473 (1664)	Y	MPa (kpsi)	RT	ASTM D638
Tensile Strength	141 (20.4)	175 (25.4)	Y	MPa (kpsi)	RT	ASTM D638
Flexural Strength	276 (40)	255 (37)		MPa (kpsi)		IPC-TM-650 2.4.4
Dimensional Stability	<0.3	<0.5	X,Y	mm/m (mils/inch)	after etch +E2/150°C	IPC-TM-650 2.4.39A
Coefficient of Thermal Expansion	11 14 46	14 16 35	X Y Z	ppm/°C	-55 to 288°C	IPC-TM-650 2.1.41
Tg	>280	>280		°C DSC	A	IPC-TM-650 2.4.24
Td	425	390		°C TGA		ASTM D3850
Thermal Conductivity	0.64	0.62		W/m/°K	100°C	ASTM F433
Moisture Absorption	0.06	0.06		%	48 hrs immersion 0.060" sample Temperature 50°C	ASTM D570
Density	1.79	1.86		gm/cm^3	23°C	ASTM D792
Copper Peel Strength	1.05 (6.0)	0.88 (5.0)		N/mm (pli)	after solder float 1 oz. EDC Foil	IPC-TM-650 2.4.8
Flammability	N/A	94V-0				UL
Lead-Free Process Compatible	Yes	Yes				

(1) Dielectric constant typical value does not apply to 0.004" (0.101mm) laminates. Dielectric constant specification value for 0.004 RO4350B material is 3.36.
(2) Clamped stripline method can potentially lower the actual dielectric constant due to presence of airgap. Dielectric constant in practice may be higher than the values listed.
(3) Typical values are a representation of an average value for the population of the property. For specification values contact Rogers Corporation.

Prolonged exposure in an oxidative environment may cause changes to the dielectric properties of hydrocarbon based materials. The rate of change increases at higher temperatures and is highly dependent on the circuit design. Although Rogers' high frequency materials have been used successfully in innumerable applications and reports of oxidation resulting in performance problems are extremely rare, Rogers recommends that the customer evaluate each material and design combination to determine fitness for use over the entire life of the end product.

Standard Thickness	Standard Panel Size	Standard Copper Cladding
RO4003C: 0.008" (0.203mm), 0.012 (0.305mm), 0.016" (0.406mm), 0.020" (0.508mm) 0.032" (0.813mm), 0.060" (1.524mm) **RO4350B**: *0.004" (0.101mm), 0.0066" (0.168mm) 0.010" (0.254mm), 0.0133 (0.338mm), 0.0166 (0.422mm), 0.020" (0.508mm) 0.030" (0.762mm), 0.060" (1.524mm)	12" X 18" (305 X457 mm) 24" X 18" (610 X 457 mm) 24" X 36" (610 X 915 mm) 48" X 36" (1.224 m X 915 mm) *0. 004" material in not available in panel sizes larger than 24"x18" (610 X 457mm).	½ oz. (17µm), 1 oz. (35µm) and 2 oz. (70µm) electrodeposited copper foil.

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