3 DCure®

A Multi-Dimensional Measurement System For 3D UV Curing Applications

EFSEN
UV & EB TECHNOLOGY

The use of ultraviolet (UV) curing on dimensional and shaped objects continues to grow. UV cured coatings offer several advantages over solvent and/or water-bone coatings processed thermally or with IR. Line design, source placement and/or orientation, documentation of process limits and monitoring production conditions challange users switching to UV curing technology. The 3DCure from EIT addresses these challenges in a simple, flexible and easy to use measurement system. The UV irradiance (W/cm²) and energy density (J/cm²) arriving at multiple points on the cure surface can be easily and simultaneously measured. The 3DCure Sensors can be easily mounted or attached at any critical point as need, therefore avoiding repeated, time-consuming trials with a single radiometer in a single position. 3DCure saves your company time and money.

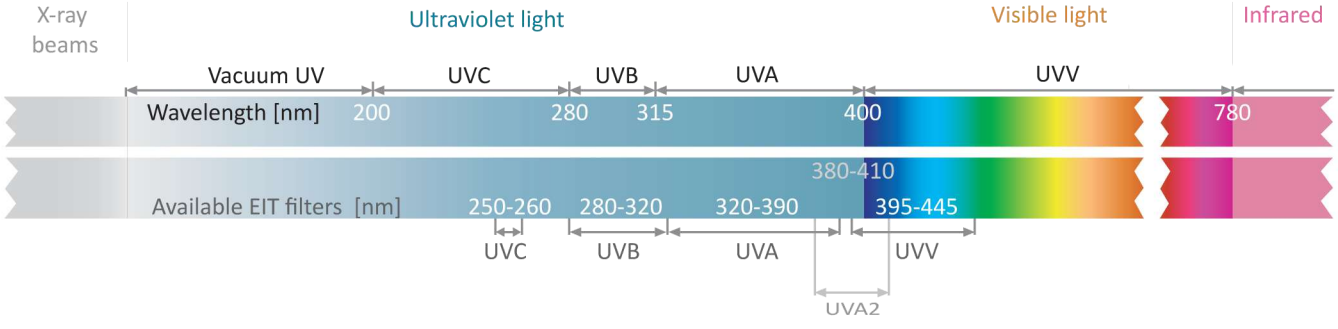
3DCure® System Features

3DCure® Sensors

- Multiple measurement points-up to 32 UV Sensors.
- Small, low profile Sensor with cosine response, each calibrated and serialized.
- Individual Sensors are single band and are available in of EIT's four standard (UVA, UVB, UVC or UVV) bandwidths. The Sensors can be combined in any combination of bandwidths to meet the measurement needs of your UV source(s) and process.
- Sensors are easily attached on either a permanent or a temporary basis
- Flexible daisy-chained quick connector system allows the Sensors to be placed exactly where they are needed without creating an octopus maze of cables.
- An LED on each Sensor can be toggled via software to easily identify its location on the work piece.

Data Collection Module (DCM) / EIT Cure3D™ Software

- The Data Collection Module (DCM) is small (4.5"L x 2.75"W x 0.8"H; 11.43 x 7.0 x 2.03cm), durable, and portable. It attaches to the daisy-chained (multidrop) Sensors and travels through the process. Rechargeable batteries provide power to the Sensors. The DCM stores the collected data from up to 32 sensors and transfers a digital data file to a computer via EIT Cure3D™ software.
- The Cure3D™ software displays the energy density (joules/cm²) and irradiance (watts/cm²) values, plus other pertinent information in table format from each Sensor in the chain.
- The data can be easily exported into a spreadsheet program such as Excel® to allow analysis and sharing of the data. ActiveX® controls are available to allow end users to manipulate and display the data in their particular format.
- The DCM with attached Sensors can also be used in a tethered mode to a computer for instantaneous readings and feedback for immediate adjustment of UV lamps.



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Applications

Matching the number of Sensors to the size of the object allows you to profile objects both large and small. Production lines for dimensional objects vary and can move the object, the UV source or a combination of both. The 3DCure® System provides functionality for measuring any configuration of the UV system. Measurement challenges that will benefit from the 3DCure® System include:

- Automobile applications-parts such as fenders, hoods, entire bodies, refinish and rework in body shops.
- Wood applications-entire cabinets, doors with complex edges, other doors, frames, molding, furniture.
- Large dimensional objects-airplane canopies, composites, coffins, panels, boats, large exposure systems.
- Powder coat applications that are fixed or traveling on hangers.
- Formulation, process design and transition to production. The 3DCure® System can be used on flat conveyor systems during initial formulation tests and pilot line trials. The system can be used to determine the number and placement of UV sources on the production line, and during production for monitoring the UV sources.
- Objects in a static position exposed to a robotic mounted UV source.
- Small dimensional objects cured in UV flood chambers or fixtures, small exposure systems.
- Objects in clean rooms where feedback is needed while the system is in tethered mode.
- Collection, confirmation, and comparison of the lamp output in different spectral bandwidths.

Operation

EIT's philosophy of designing durable, easy to use radiometric products continues with the 3DCure® Multi-Dimensional Measurement System. The Sensors are easy to daisy-chain together. The optic stack is exactly centered under the window so there is no right or wrong way to mount or insert the sensor into the Positioner (see below). When the DCM power is taken out of 'active' collection mode and connected to the serial port of a PC via a 9-pin cable. Sensors can remain mounted on a work piece if desired. The DCM's rechargeable batteries will support measurements up to 60 minutes from a maximum of 32 sensors. Battery condition will be reported when downloading data and the DCM recharges in approximately one hour with the supplied AC charger. For long lasting continuous measurements in tethered mode, the DCM can also operate while connected to the charger.

The 3DCure® Multi-Dimensional Measurement System incorporates up to 32 Sensors, a Data Collection Module (DCM) and EIT Cure3D™ software to collect, transfer and display on a computer the UV that impinges on each serialized sensor. The Cure3D™ software is easy to use and offers two-way communication through the DCM to each Sensor. The digitized data [UV energy density (joules/cm^2) and peak irradiance (watts/cm^2)] is transferred to a computer and displayed in table format. Because of the wide range of possible applications for the 3DCure®, the included software allows the user to import the information into a spreadsheet program. The software support ActiveX® to allow further customization and data filtering by end users in a format of their choice. For example, a simple ActiveX® routine can flag any Sensors reporting data below the set threshold or process window. The user can then ping the Sensor through the DCM to illuminate an LED for easy Sensor identification. Adjustments can then be made to bring the UV back into the desired range needed for the process.