

AO-Resistant Material Boosts VLEO Satellite Longevity

Sunshade® Tape for Thermal Control

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Deposition Sciences, Inc. (DSI), a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin, specializes in advanced materials and optical coatings. For over 20 years, they've been producing their [Sunshade®](#) thermal control material, which is designed to provide reliable performance in extreme space environments.

[DSI's Sunshade®](#) offered in both free film and tape versions. Both versions can withstand an atomic oxygen (AO) fluence greater than 1×10^{22} (AO/cm²). AO testing was performed concurrent with UV exposure to simulate survivability in 8 years of LEO. AO exposure testing showed negligible effect on Beginning of Life (BOL) and End of Life (EOL) performance.

<i>Property (Tape Form)</i>	BOL	EOL	Change
<i>Solar Absorptance</i>	0.12	0.13 to 0.14	+0.01 to +0.02
<i>IR Emittance</i>	0.81	0.81	0.00