



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GE Introduces Lower Softening Point Glass to Advance Auto and Display Lamp Manufacturing

New glass product provides greater manufacturing flexibility and helps to improve the quality of finished halogen and high intensity discharge lamps

STRONGSVILLE, OH — August 29, 2006 — GE Advanced Materials, Quartz today announced the introduction of GE's lower softening point glass, a new material that enables halogen and high intensity discharge (HID) lamp manufacturers to achieve better yields and higher-quality finished products.

With this product introduction, GE has minimized variation and increased consistency in key glass properties, such as hydroxyl (Si-OH) level, viscosity, and transmission. Consistent raw material properties will benefit lamp manufacturers by reducing their need to frequently adjust settings on high-speed lamp-making equipment. This helps manufacturers increase productivity, reduce costs, and improve their final product.

Target customers for GE's new lower softening point glass include halogen and HID lamp manufacturers for display, photo, and automotive industries, as well as the water purification lamp industry. Specific applications include the following:

- Halogen lamps: body tubes for H1, H7, and H4 automotive headlight lamps
- HID lamps: outer jackets for D2 type lamps
- Display lamps: body and exhaust tubes for precise MR16 lamps
- Photo: body and exhaust tubes for ENX, DDL, ELC, FXL lamps

"Lamp manufacturers in the automotive and display industries are under tremendous pressure to reduce their costs, while maintaining or improving their product quality," said Konstantin Zuyev, process development engineer, GE Advanced Materials, Quartz. "Our new lower softening point glass can support these strategic objectives by helping manufacturers take unnecessary costs out of the production process and by positioning them to produce higher yields of better quality products."

The lower softening point glass is available in three grades: GE207 for UV-transmitting applications, GE247 for UV-blocking applications, and GE277 for blue-light UV-blocking applications. GE207 and GE247 are commercially available now, while GE277 will be available early in 2007. All three grades have excellent visual, thermal, and mechanical properties, with consistent hydroxyl content and good dimensional characteristics.

GE's new glass has a softening point of 1530 degrees Celsius and has a consistent OH level of less than 50 PPM (parts per million) on average, with less than 5 PPM standard deviation in a given batch. This low and consistent OH level positions GE's glass ahead of many incumbent products, which offer



average OH levels of 70-300 PPM, with 10-50 PPM standard deviation. The new glass products, such as tubes and rods, also offer tight dimensional control for outer diameter, wall thickness, ovality, and siding.

About GE - Advanced Materials

The Advanced Materials business of General Electric Company is part of the Industrial business group and is headquartered in Wilton, Conn. Comprised of Silicones and Quartz, GE - Advanced Materials is a global leader in providing a range of high-technology materials solutions. The GE - Advanced Materials, Silicones' portfolio includes silicone-based products and technology platforms, silanes, sealants and adhesives. The Quartz portfolio includes high-purity fused quartz and ceramics materials. These materials solutions are used as springboards for innovation in hundreds of consumer and industrial applications ranging from car engines and integrated circuits to biomedical devices and cosmetics. Industries served include aerospace, agriculture, appliances, automotive, construction, electronics, furniture and furnishings, healthcare, home care, industrial, lighting, packaging, personal care, plastics, semiconductor, telecommunications, tire, transportation, and water purification. As a Worldwide Partner of the Olympic Games, GE is the exclusive provider of a wide range of innovative products and services that are integral to a successful Games. Experience more at www.ge.com/advancedmaterials.

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Lower softening point glass tubing

Grade GE247, shown on the left, is designed for UV-blocking applications.

Grade GE207, shown on the right, is designed for UV-transmitting applications.

Both grades are currently commercially available.



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