

# TestConX 2025

## ADVANCED CO<sub>2</sub> SPRAY TECHNOLOGIES AND THEIR EFFECTIVENESS FOR IC SOCKET CLEANING APPLICATIONS

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## Introduction

### Background

- CO<sub>2</sub> spray is utilized for a variety of cleaning challenges in many industries.
- Key spray characteristics:
  - Particle size distribution
  - Particle momentum
  - Spray temperature
  - Spray chemistry modification
- Nozzle configurations can be used to achieve the spray characteristics.

### Presentation Outline

- CO<sub>2</sub> spray technology
  - CO<sub>2</sub> spray physics
  - How does CO<sub>2</sub> spray clean?
- CO<sub>2</sub> spray nozzles
- CO<sub>2</sub> spray cleaning applications
  - Electronic circuit cards
  - Optical sensor cleaning
  - Integrated circuit (IC) socket cleaning
- Operating cost estimate
- Summary

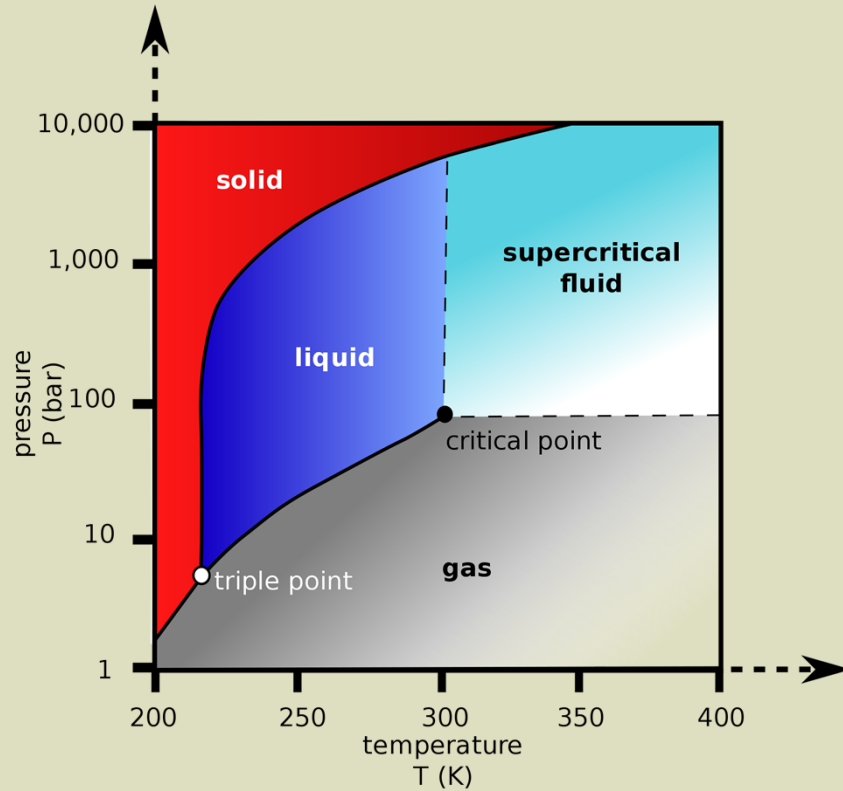


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2

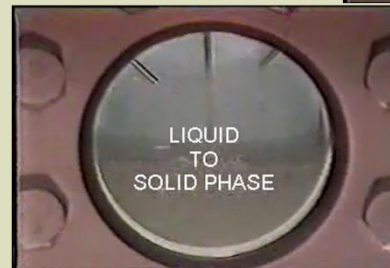
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## Different CO<sub>2</sub> Phases



Decreasing Pressure / Temperature

Increasing Pressure / Temperature



By Ben FinneyMark Jacobs - Commons, Image:Carbon dioxide pressure-temperature phase diagram.jpg, CO<sub>2</sub>.  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/index.php?title=Image:Carbon\\_dioxide\\_pressure-temperature\\_phase\\_diagram.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/index.php?title=Image:Carbon_dioxide_pressure-temperature_phase_diagram.jpg)



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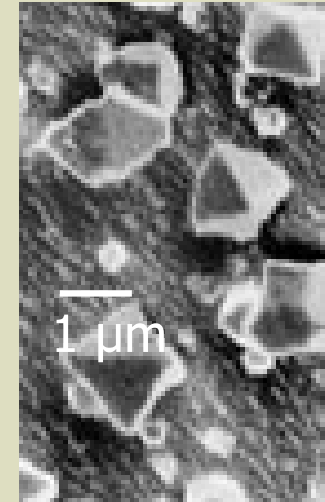
3

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## Solid CO<sub>2</sub> Particle Characteristics

- Impact Phenomenon
  - Ablation and phase change (solid→gas, solid→liquid→gas)
- Co-Solvency
  - Modified with liquids, solids, vapor-phase additives
- Density
  - 1.6 g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- Hardness
  - <2 Hm (ex: 1 – talc, 2.5 - fingernail, 3 – calcite, 5.5 – glass, 7 – quartz, 9 – aluminum oxide).
- Particle Size
  - < 0.5 microns to > 500 microns, range adjustable (coarse/fine)
- Impact Stress
  - up to 130 Mpa (18,850 psi), pressure/particle size/distance dependent



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4

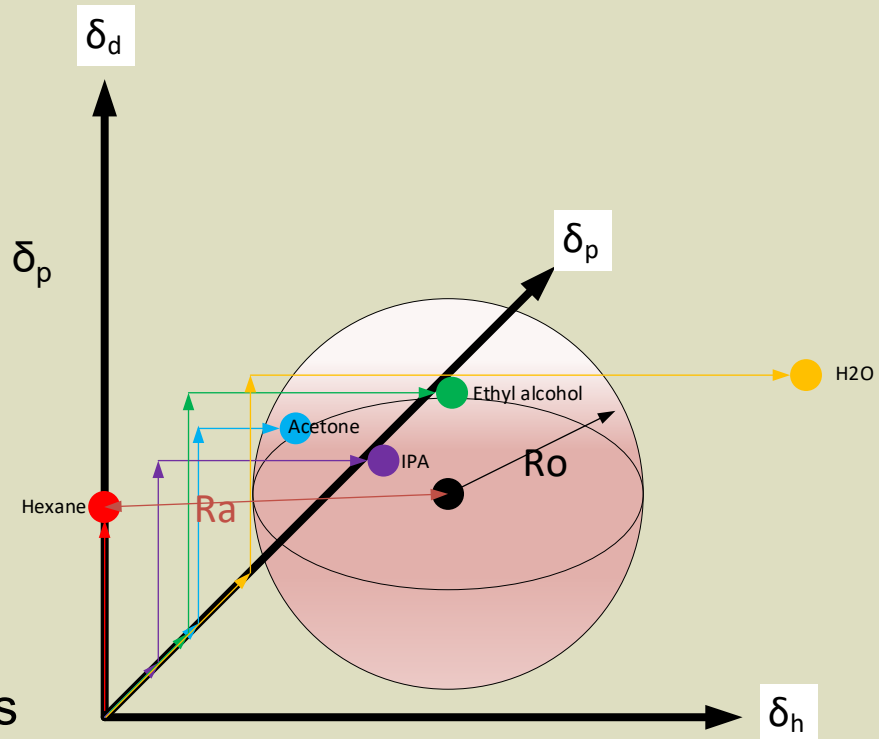
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## Solubility Characteristics of Liquid CO<sub>2</sub> (LCO<sub>2</sub>)

### Hansen's Solubility Parameter (HSP)

- Combines three forces important to solubility evaluation:
  - Dispersive/non-polar energy -  $\delta_d$
  - Polar (dipole-dipole/dipole-induced dipole) energy -  $\delta_p$
  - Hydrogen Bonding energy –  $\delta_h$
  - Total HSP
- Solvent / Solute solubility evaluated by comparing relative HSPs
  - 'Like / Similar' HSPs → soluble
  - 'Un-Like / Dis-Similar' HSPs → insoluble
- Similar HSP values to many standard solvents

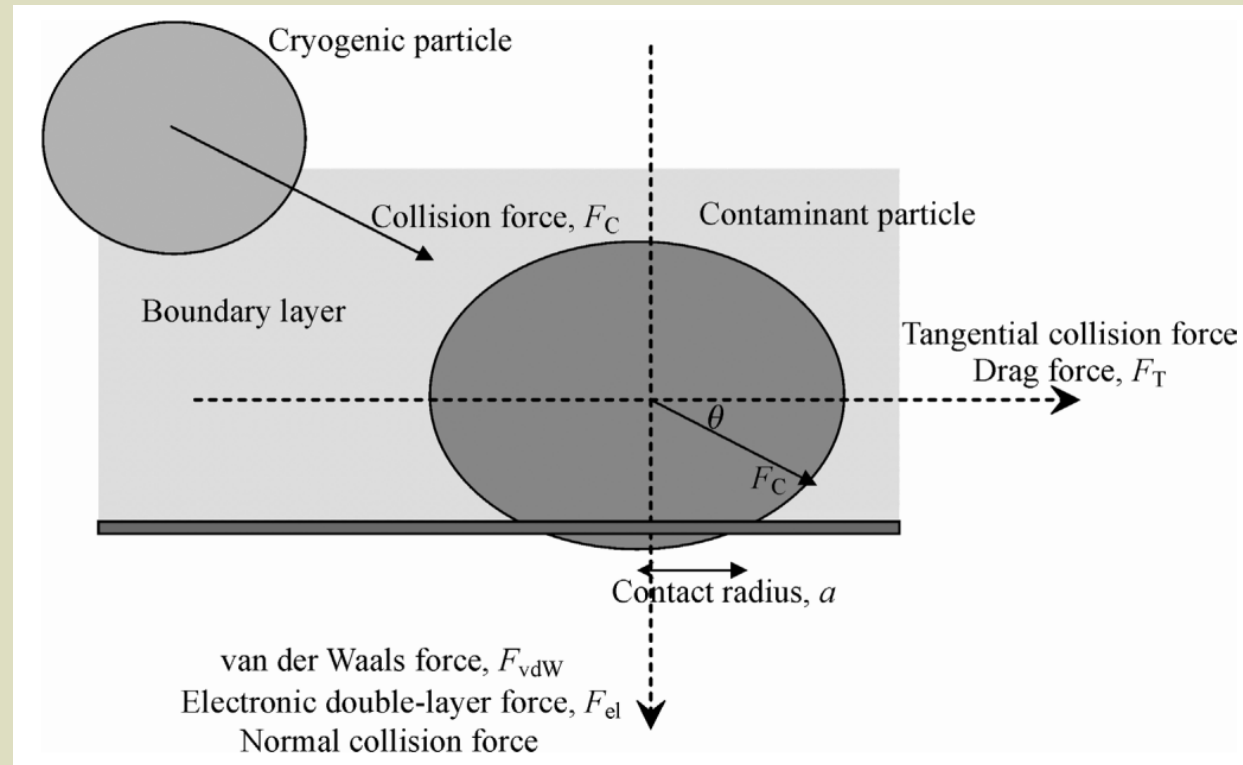


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## How Does CO<sub>2</sub> Spray Remove Particles?

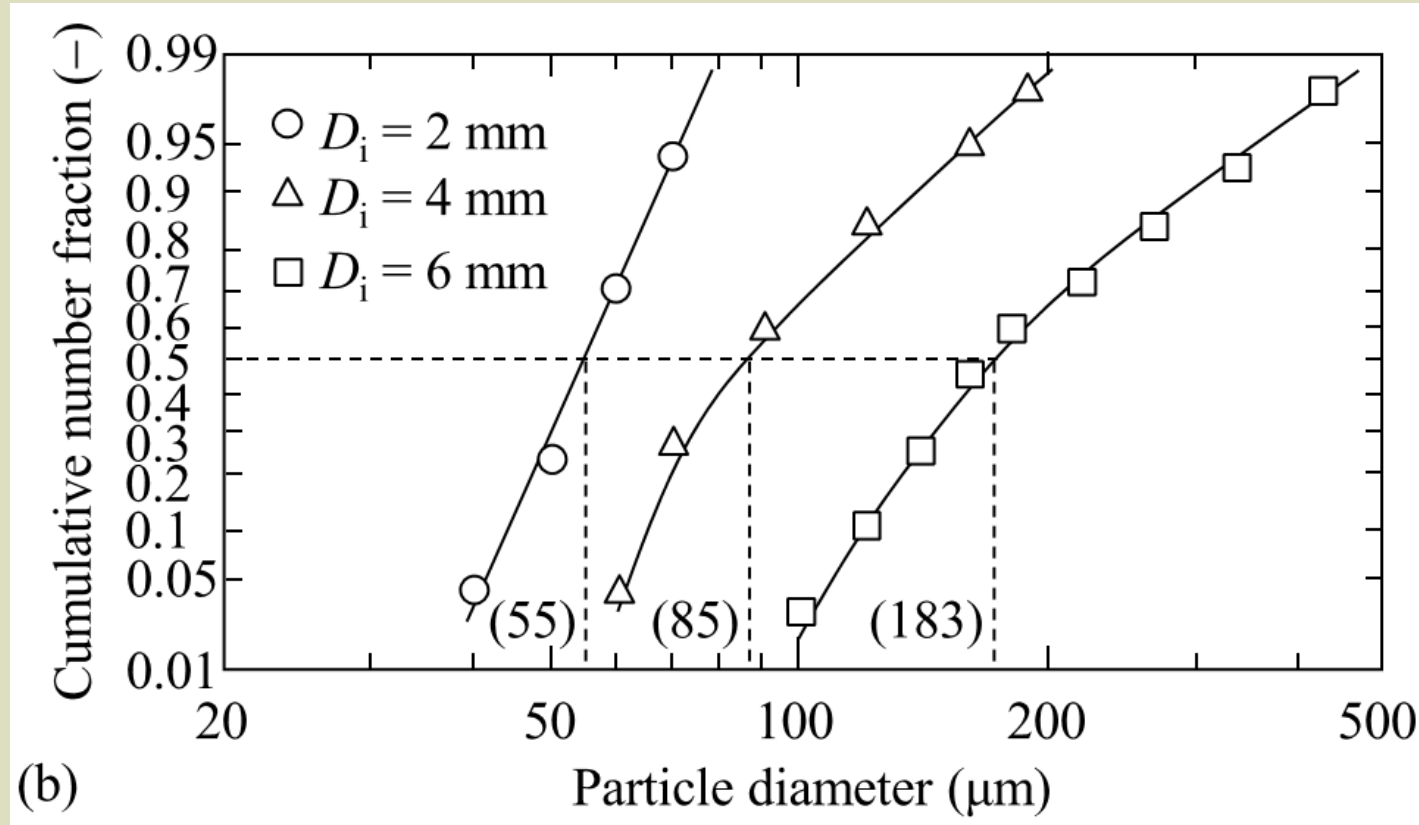
- Particles removed by momentum exchange:
- Particles removed when:

$$F_{\text{cleaning}} > F_{\text{adhesion}}$$



Ref: Souvik Banerjee & Andrea Campbell (2005) Principles and mechanisms of sub-micrometer particle removal by CO<sub>2</sub> cryogenic technique, Journal of Adhesion Science and Technology, 19:9, 739-751.

## Size of CO<sub>2</sub> Particles Leaving Nozzle



Ref: Liu, Yi-Hung ...[et al]. Agglomeration process of dry ice particles produced by expanding liquid carbon dioxide. Advanced Powder Technology 2010, 21(6): 652-657



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7

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## Adhesive Removal - Video

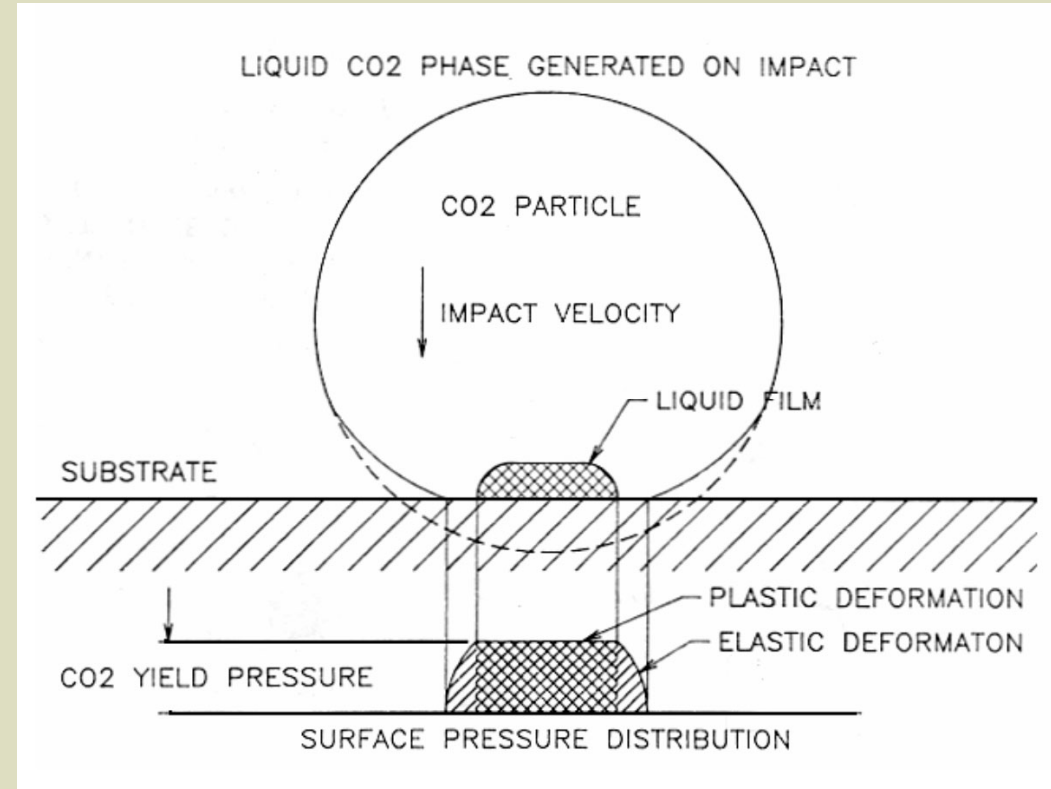




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## Removing Non-Particulate Organic Residues

- Non-Particulate Organic Residues:
  - Oils
  - Thin films
  - Fingerprints
- Residues solubilized by chemistry:
  - CO<sub>2</sub> particles change upon impact
  - Solid -> Liquid -> Gas
  - Liquid CO<sub>2</sub>
    - “Hexane-Like” chemistry:
    - HSP: 9 – 18 MPa<sup>0.5</sup>



Ref: King, JW et al.; Ablation and Sorptive Removal of Films and Particles from Surfaces Using Carbon Dioxide



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9

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## Fingerprint Removal from Optical Surface - Video



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10

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## Solvent – Solute Solubility

- Occurs when solvent – solute are similar
  - ‘Like dissolves like’
- Strategy for ‘chemical’ cleaning
  - Match solubilities of solvent to contaminant.
- Need the chemistry of the contaminant

LCO2 generated from impact from CO2 particles

CO2 (T,P)	$\delta_d$ Dispersion	$\delta_p$ Polar	$\delta_h$ Hydrogen bonding	$\delta_T$ Total
CO2 - TP @ 0.41 Mpa, -56C	16.6	5.4	6.7	18.7
CO2 - Sat @ 1.1 Mpa, -40C	15.6	5.2	6.3	17.6
CO2 - Sat @ 2 Mpa, -20C	14.1	5.0	5.9	16.1
CO2 - Sat @ 3.5 Mpa, 0C	12.3	4.7	5.5	14.3
CO2 - C.L. @ 5 Mpa, 0C	12.6	4.8	5.5	14.5
CO2 - Sat @ 4 Mpa, 6C	11.7	4.6	5.3	13.6
CO2 - Sat @ 4.5 Mpa, 11C	11.1	4.5	5.2	13.1
CO2 - Sat @ 5 Mpa, 14C	10.6	4.5	5.0	12.6
CO2 - Sat @ 5.5 Mpa, 18C	10.0	4.4	4.9	12.0
CO2 - Sat @ 6 Mpa, 22C	9.4	4.2	4.8	11.4
CO2 - C.L. @ 6.5 MPA, 0C	12.8	4.8	5.5	14.7
CO2 - S.C. @ 20.6 Mpa, 60C	9.1	4.2	4.5	11.0
CO2 - S.C. @ 20.9 Mpa, 50C	10.1	4.4	4.7	12.0

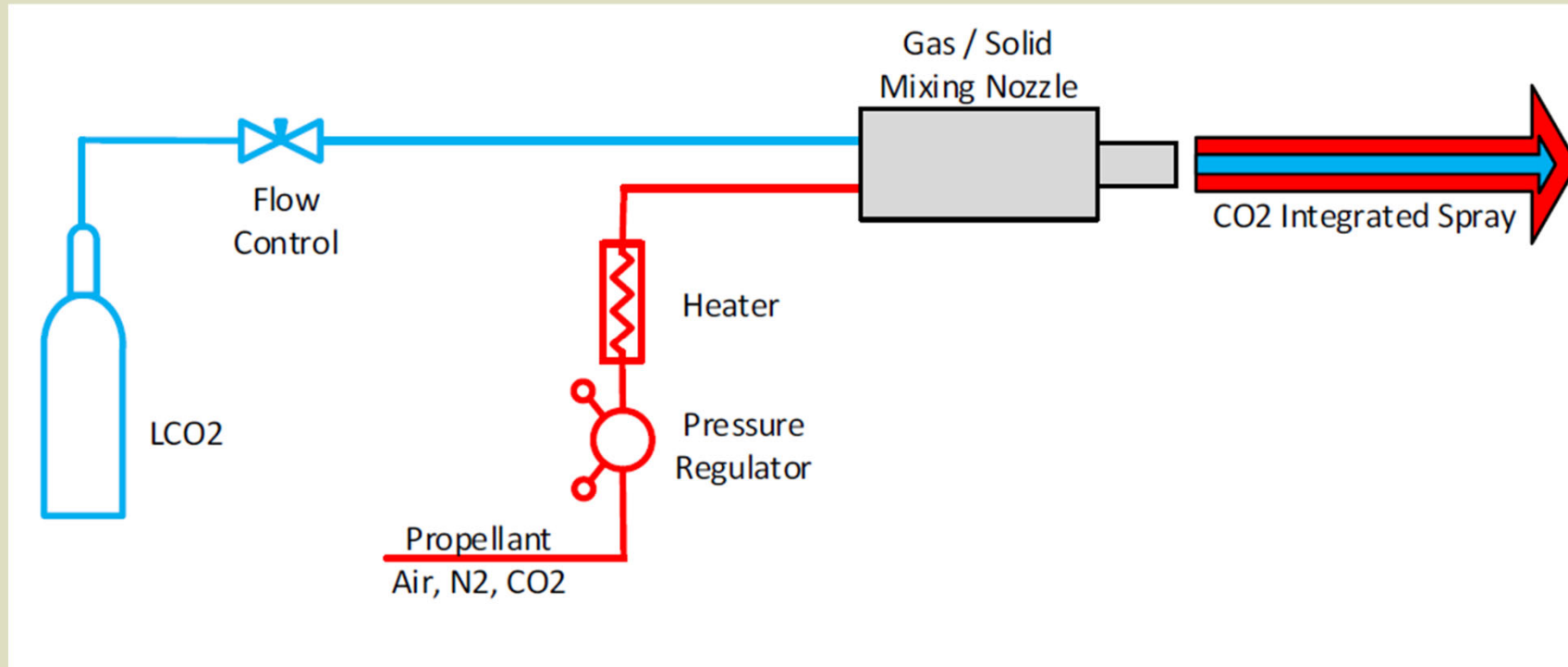
Saturated fatty acids					Unsaturated fatty acids				
Carbon number	$\delta_d$	$\delta_p$	$\delta_h$	$\delta_t$	Carbon number	$\delta_d$	$\delta_p$	$\delta_h$	$\delta_t$
4:0	16.0	6.5	12.9	21.6	16:1	16.5	3.4	6.4	18.0
5:0	16.0	6.0	11.9	20.8	16:3	17.1	3.2	7.2	18.8
6:0	16.1	5.5	11.1	20.3	18:1	16.5	3.1	5.7	17.7
7:0	16.1	5.2	10.3	19.8	18:2	16.8	3.1	6.2	18.2
8:0	16.1	5.1	9.5	19.4	18:3	17.0	3.2	6.5	18.5
9:0	16.2	4.4	8.7	18.9	18:4	17.3	2.9	6.8	18.8
10:0	16.2	4.2	8.3	18.7	20:1	16.6	2.6	5.3	17.6
11:0	16.2	4.1	7.9	18.5	20:2	16.8	2.6	5.7	17.9
12:0	16.2	4.1	7.4	18.3	20:3	17.0	3.2	6.5	18.5
13:0	16.3	3.6	6.8	18.0	20:4	17.2	2.8	6.5	18.6
14:0	16.3	3.4	6.6	17.9	20:5	17.4	2.9	6.7	18.9
15:0	16.3	3.3	6.3	17.8	21:5	17.4	2.6	6.3	18.7
16:0	16.3	3.4	6.0	17.7	22:1	16.5	2.7	4.8	17.4
17:0	16.3	3.0	5.6	17.5	22:4	17.2	2.4	6.0	18.4
18:0	16.3	3.3	5.5	17.5	22:5	17.4	2.5	6.2	18.6
19:0	16.3	2.8	5.2	17.3	22:6	17.6	2.5	6.6	19.0
20:0	16.3	2.9	5.0	17.3	24:1	16.5	2.3	4.5	17.3
21:0	16.3	2.6	4.7	17.2	24:4	17.1	2.4	5.5	18.1
22:0	16.3	2.5	4.6	17.1	24:6	17.5	2.3	6.0	18.6
23:0	16.3	2.5	4.5	17.1	Hydroxy fatty acids				
24:0	16.2	2.6	4.3	17.0	18:0 12OH	16.4	4.5	8.6	19.1
25:0	16.3	2.3	4.0	16.9					

Ref: Anaid De La Peña-Gil & Jorge F. Toro-Vazquez & Michael A. Rogers (2016); Simplifying Hansen Solubility Parameters for Complex Edible Fats and Oils; Food Biophysics DOI 10.1007/s11483-016-9440-9



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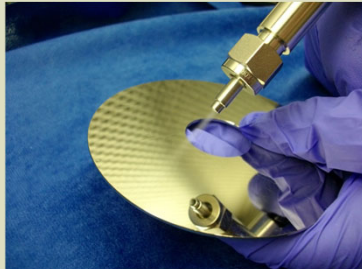
## Basic CO<sub>2</sub> Spray Cleaning System Setup



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## CO<sub>2</sub> Spray Nozzle Offerings

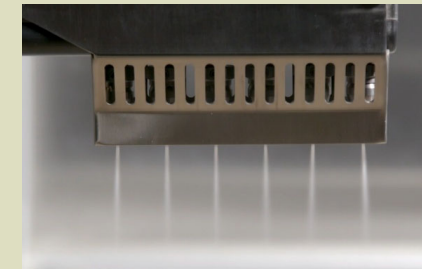
Coaxial – Short-range



High Energy



Coanda – Long-range



- 'Standard' Spray Configuration
- 'Soft' to 'Moderate' Impact
- Working distance 10 – 25 mm

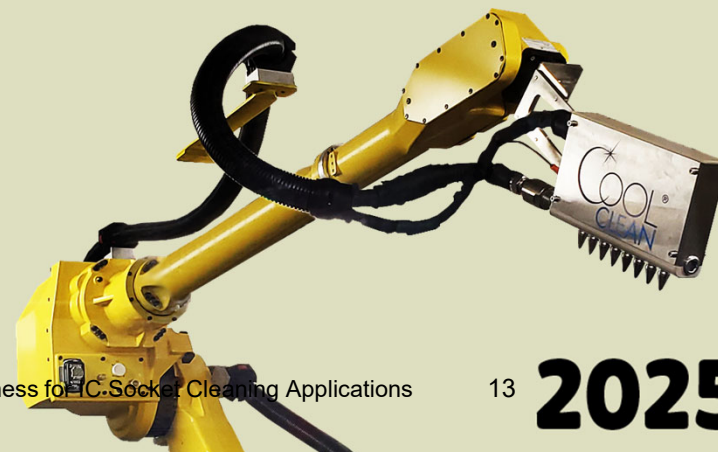
- High Energy Nozzle (HEN)
- Very high momentum particles
- Working Distance: 25 – 250 mm

- Large high momentum particles
- Induces ambience into cleaning jet
- Working Distance: 50 – 300 mm



Wide Angle

- Fine particle spray width – 50 mm
- Very fine spray
- Working Distance: 25 - 50 mm



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13

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## Identify CO<sub>2</sub> Spray Pattern / Impact Energy

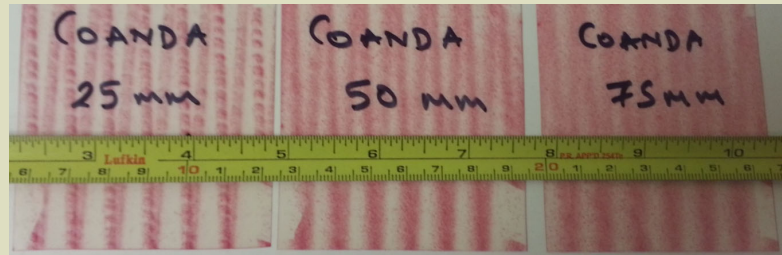
- Two methods used to assess effectiveness of spray for a given application.
  - Aluminum Foil Test
    - Pebbling method used a lot in ultrasonic cleaning →
  - Fuji-Film Pressure Paper
- Both methods are effective to determine:
  - Size of the spray pattern
  - Energy available for cleaning



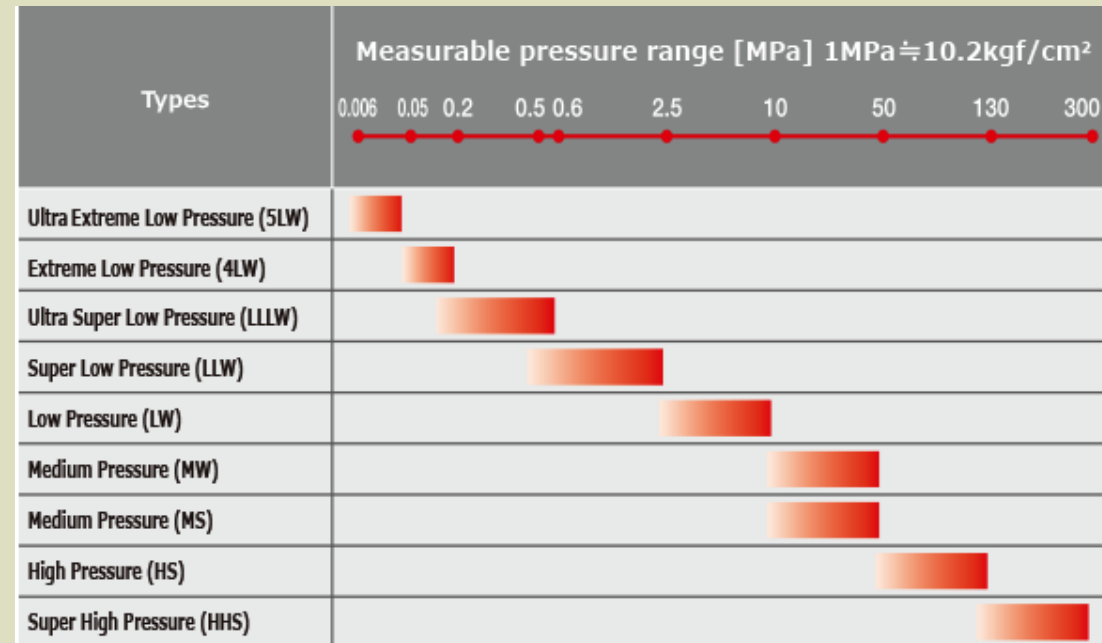
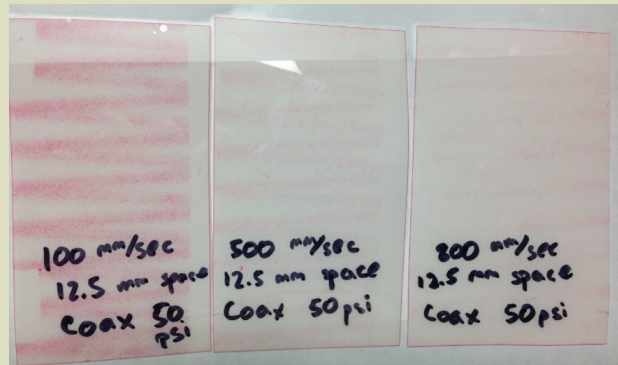
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## Pressure Paper Spray Nozzle Impact

Coanda



Coaxial



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15

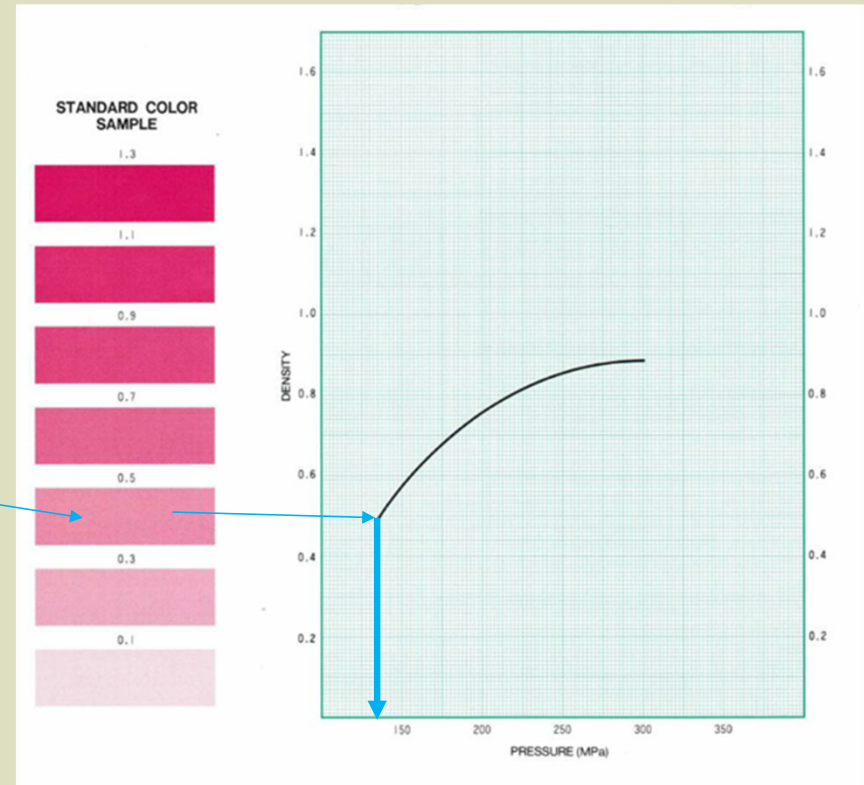
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## Spray Nozzle Impact Characteristics: HEN



Spray width  
(5.6 mm)

Spray impact stress  
(130 Mpa)

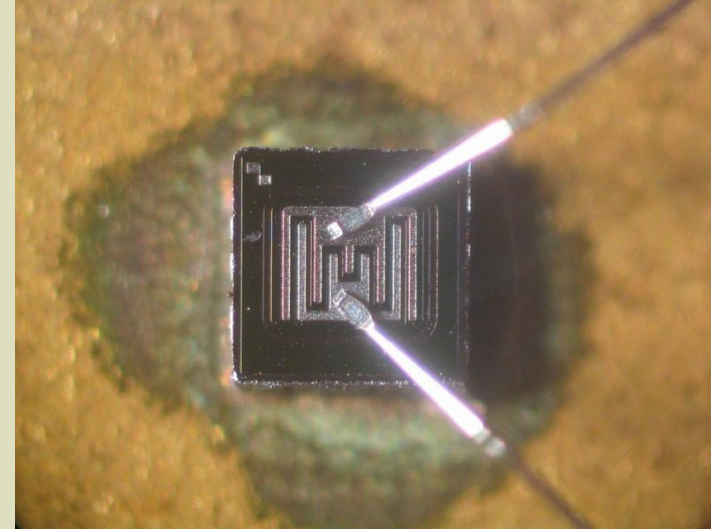




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## Automated In-Line Circuit Card Cleaning System

- Requirement:
  - Achieve equivalent or better cleaning method electronic circuit card pockets
  - No damage to fine wires
  - Cleaning system must accept customer specified feed trays
- Previous cleaning methods: IPA/Q-tip, tape cleaning



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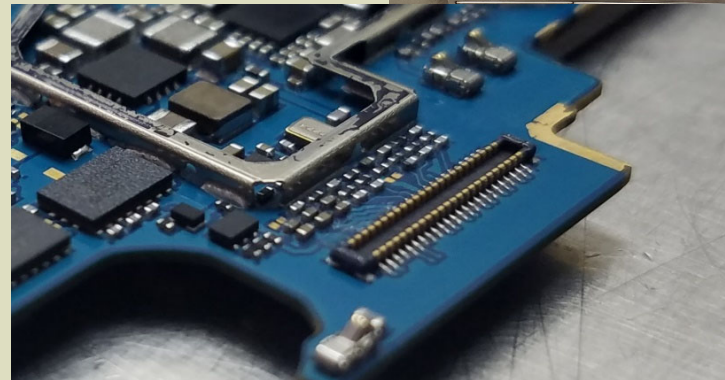
17

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## Cell Phone Board Cleaning System

- Cleaning Challenge:
  - Remove contamination from cell phone circuit board:
    - Water Residue, Salts, Debris
- Solution:
  - Automated CO<sub>2</sub> Spray Cleaning system
  - Auto Feed System
  - Four (4) HEN Nozzles
  - 1000 boards cleaned per week



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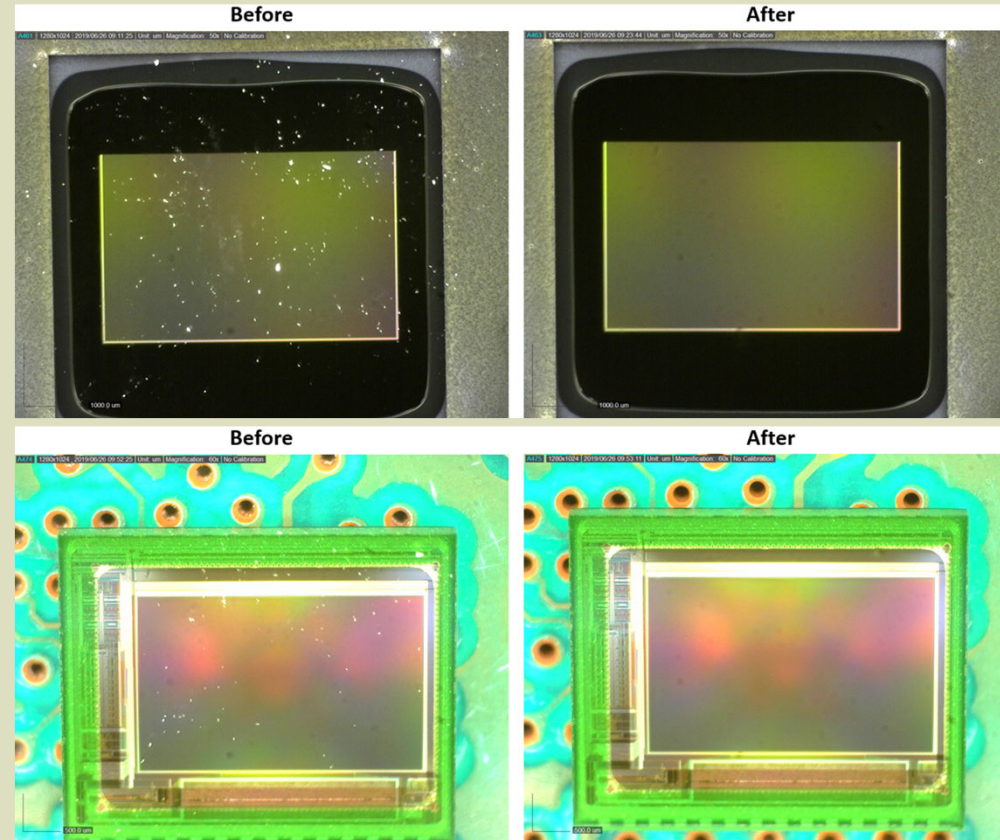
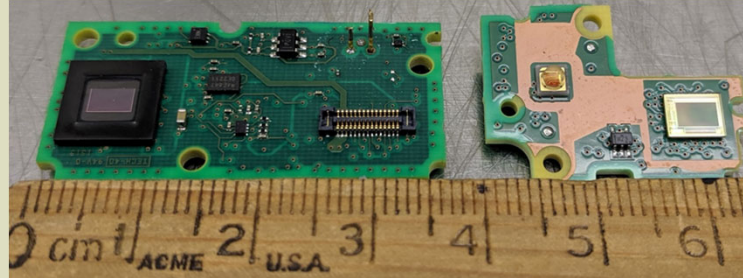
18

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## Cleaning Printed Circuit Board (PCB) with Optical Sensor

- Objective: remove dust and finger oil
- Solution: HEN CO<sub>2</sub> spray
- Cleaning time: 10 seconds
- Photo Magnification: 60x



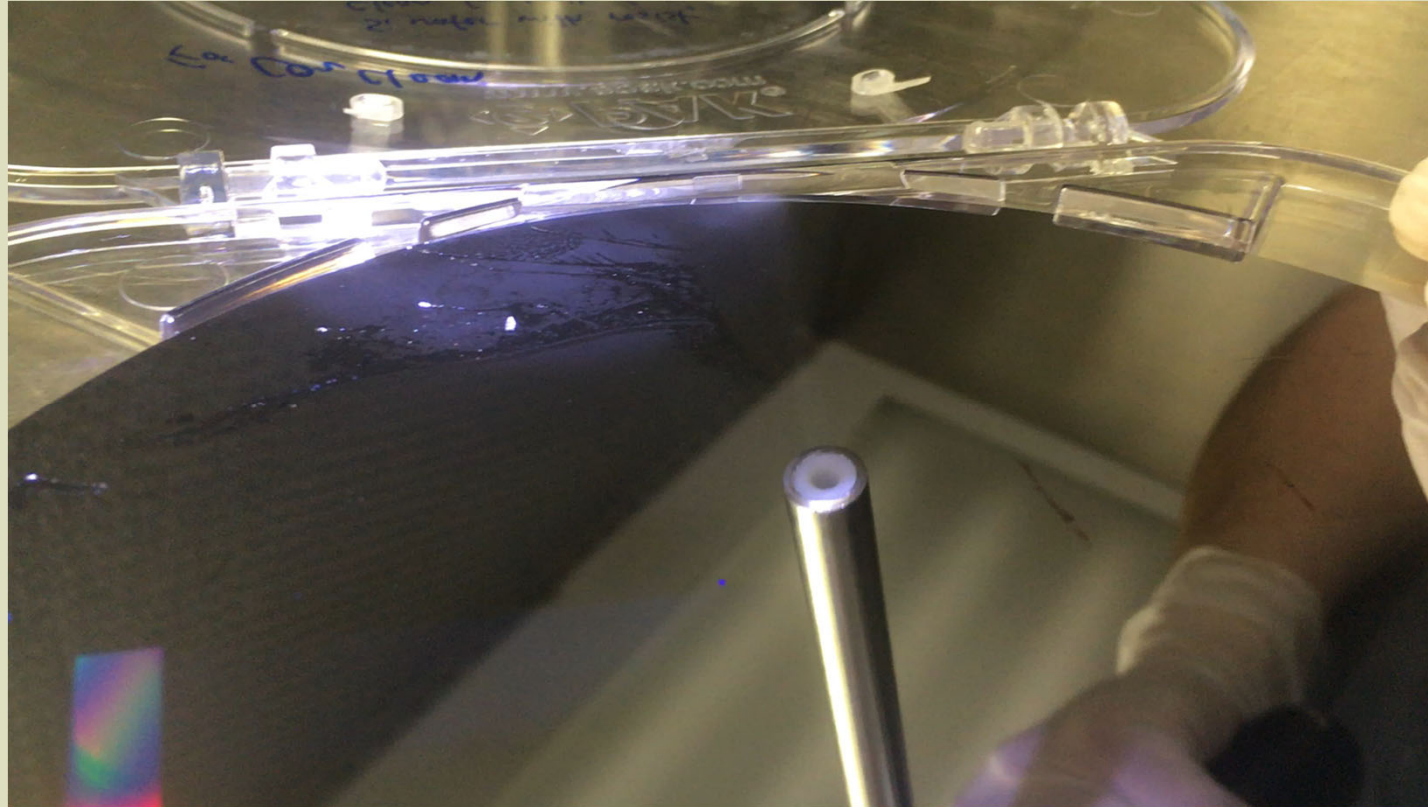
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19

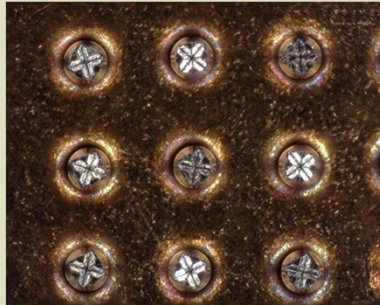
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## Removal of Hardened Photoresist - Video

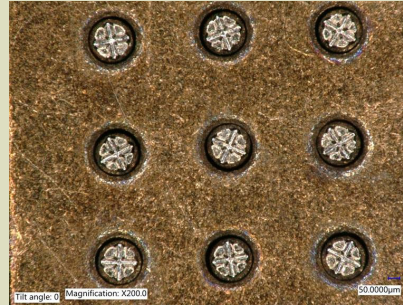


## CO<sub>2</sub> Spray Cleaning of IC Test Sockets

Before

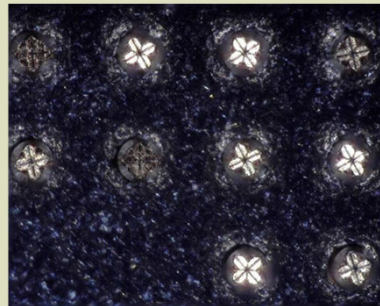


After

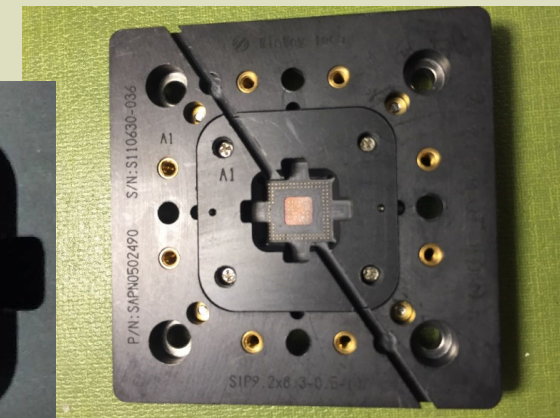
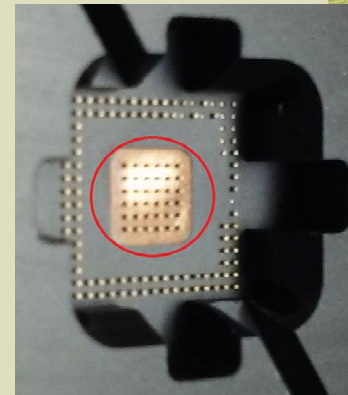


- Pins: SS coated with Ni in plastic backing
- Diameter: 0.5 -1 mm / Spacing 1 - 2 mm
- Nozzle: HEN
- Optics: Keyence Digital Microscope  
– VHX-5000 @ 200x

Before



After



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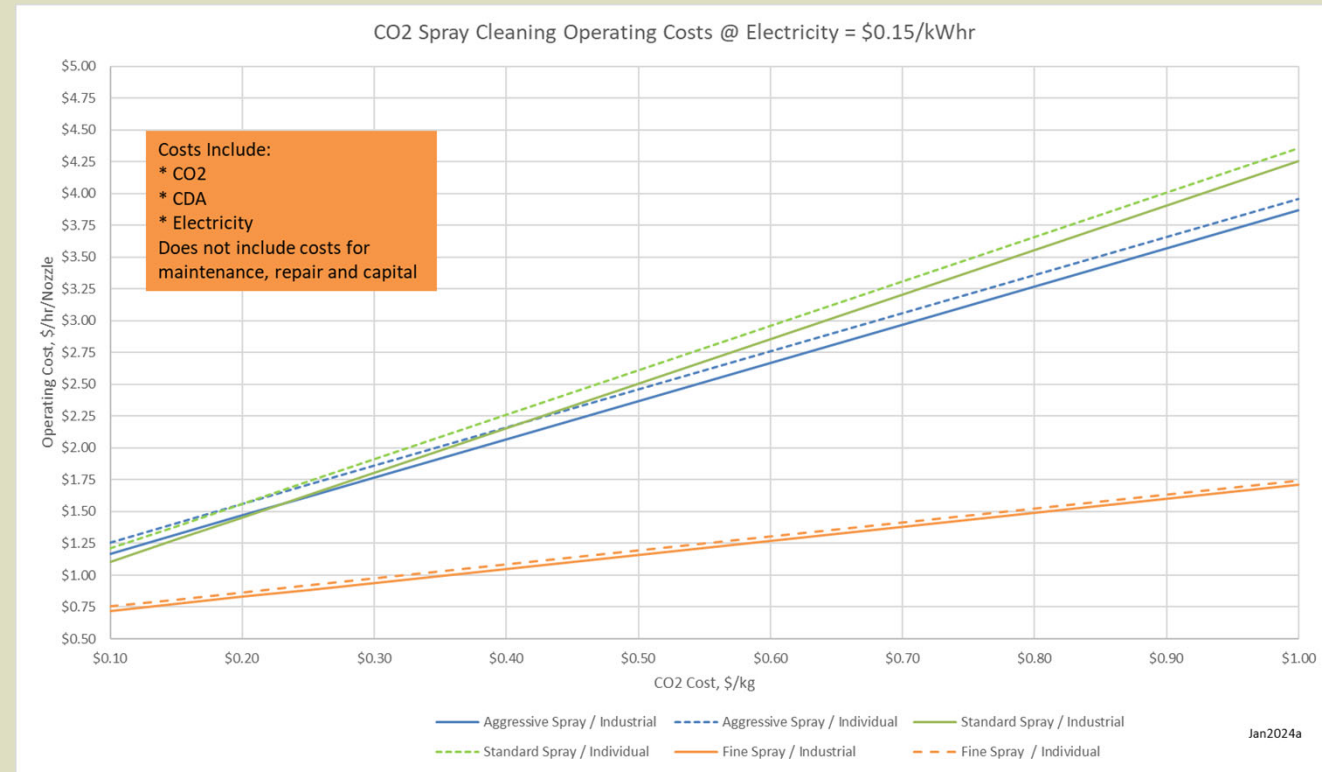
21

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## CO<sub>2</sub> Spray Technology Cost of Operation

### Typical Costs:

- HEN Applications
  - \$2-\$2.50/hr./nozzle
- Coaxial/Coanda Applications
  - \$1-\$1.25/hr./nozzle



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22

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