# Electromagnetically Actuated Gas Diverting Valve Using LTCC Tape



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# Low Temperature Co-Fired Ceramics (LTCC)

- What is it?
- ✤ Why LTCC?
  - \* 3-D Structures
  - Compatible w/Thick Film Technology
  - Temp Stability
  - Structurally Sound
  - Self-Packaged
  - Cheap (compared to Si)



# Gas Flow Diverter (Overview)

 What Does it Do?
How Does it Work?
Push/Pull System
Electromagnetic Actuation
Permanent Magnets
Spiral Alternately N/S
Magnetic Force opens/closes pathways
800 micron pathway



# Gas Flow Diverter (Methodology)

- Design
- PhotolithographyDuPont Riston®
- Perm. Magnets
- Some Calcs:
- Resistance:  $108.78\Omega$ For  $10\text{mA} \le I \le 30\text{mA}$  $1.09 \text{ V} \le \text{V} \le 3.26\text{V}$



# DuPont Riston®

## Dry Photoresist

- Laminate onto Semi-Fired tape
  - Facilitates Etching
  - Mechanical Support
- Expose to UV light
- Develop
  - Line size is half of desired
- ✤ Etch with BHF
- Strip (Acetone)
- ✤ Riston® 9015

LTCC Tape:



\* Schematics Courtesy of Patricio Espinoza

# Developing Results

## Perfect Develop for 9015

## \* Varied:

- Exposure Energy
- Hold Time
- Spray Pressure
- Type of Riston





# **Bonding Results**

## Source Bonding Layers Together

Glass







# Etching Failure – Why?

- Not Etched Completely through 125 micron thick tape
  Material Blocking BHF
  - Access to Bottom



# **SEM** Pictures

 Backscattered Electron Imaging – Sensitive to Atomic # =>White in Pictures is Glass. Also faces on dark portions => Crystalline Structure Not Etched







# SEM and EDX Analysis Results

\* Glass still present after etching

- Si completely removed => SiO<sub>2</sub> completely etched by BHF
- \* Other glasses remain (i.e. PbO,  $Al_2O_3$ )
- Need another etchant to remove these glasses

✤ Phosphoric Acid (H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>)

Result: Pure H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> cleaned extra material out, but Riston® did not hold

# What's Next?

 $\bullet$  Combination BHF, H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> ✤ Etch and Clean at same time \* Different Etchant than  $H_3PO_4$ ? (HCl, Nitric) Higher Temp Etch. 90 degrees C? The Very Long Run Manifold for Fluid Injection Analysis Want to make Inexpensive and Portable Water Analysis Device