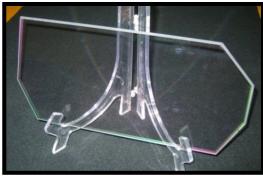
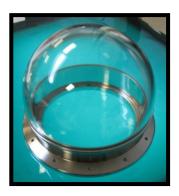


# **ALON®** and Spinel Optical Ceramics













Surmet Corporation
31 B Street, Burlington MA 01803



### **About Us**

Surmet was founded in 1982 on the simple premise that today's materials are not adequate to meet the challenges of tomorrow's machines and systems. With over 30 years of successful operation, Surmet has demonstrated transition of its innovations from laboratory to production floor. Surmet became a leader in developing and manufacturing critical components such as the electrostatic clamp for semiconductor processing equipment. Surmet products have been inserted in IC Fabrication production lines used by all major companies worldwide.

In 2002 Surmet acquired ALON® Technology from Raytheon. Around the same time, Surmet developed its own production process for spinel, for military optics. ALON is harder, stronger, and more producible than spinel. However, spinel transmits further into the MWIR than ALON, making it the material of choice for certain applications. Surmet now offers windows, domes and lenses from both of these optical ceramics.

ALON® Transparent Armor offers state of the art performance against armor piercing threats at less than one-half the weight and thickness of conventional glass laminates. ALON armor solutions have been demonstrated for 30 and 50 Cal AP threats as well as for IEDs. Surmet produces15x27-in ALON windows on a routine basis and is producing 18x35-in windows as well. ALON is already the most cost-effective transparent ceramic for armor applications. Surmet is supplying ALON layer to geometric specifications as well as ALON transparent armor per customers' ballistic and environmental specifications.

For interest in receiving a quote for specific optical ceramic products, please send your inquiry to sales@surmet.com.

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# Characteristics of ALON® Optical Ceramic

#### **Formability**

ALON is unique among extremely durable optical materials. Injection molding, slip casting and extrusion mean cost effective manufacturing



ALON is transparent from the UV to the mid-wave Infrared

#### **Durability**

ALON has a field life many times greater than conventional optical materials, providing significant life cycle cost savings

#### Refractory

ALON has a higher melting temperature than high purity alumina

#### **Chemically Inert**

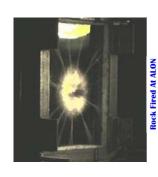
ALON can withstand exposure to extreme environments including acids, bases and plasmas

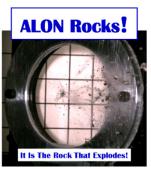












Impact At 175 MPH

ALON's combination of properties and producibility make it ideal for many military and commercial applications.

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For information contact: Kristen Mitchell, Customer Liaison Tel: 781-272-3969



# **ALON® Optical Ceramic**

#### **Technical Data**

ALON® Optical Ceramic is an extremely durable crystalline material with excellent optical transparency in the near ultraviolet, visible and infrared up to approximately 5  $\mu$ m wavelength.

The material combines mechanical and optical properties similar to sapphire with the advantages of an isotropic cubic crystal structure. It has an approximate composition of  $Al_{23}O_{27}N_5$ .

**ALON® Optical Ceramic** can be made to order as windows, domes, plates, rods and tubes in a wide range of sizes and thicknesses by a variety of conventional ceramic forming methods such as injection molding, isostatic pressing and slip casting. **ALON® Optical Ceramic** is fabricated using a proprietary powder processing technique.

Composition	Al <sub>23-1/3X</sub> O <sub>27+X</sub> N <sub>5-X</sub> , (0.429 <x<2)< td=""></x<2)<>
A Ci- Si	200-300 microns
Average Grain Size	200-300 microns
Structure	Cubic, Spinel
Lattice Constant	7.956–7.936 Å
Density	3.69 g/cc
Form	Polycrystalline
Melting Point	2150°C
Young's Modulus	320 GPa
Shear Modulus	135 GPa
Poisson's Ratio	0.24

Hardness 1800±100 kg/mm<sup>2</sup>

(Knoop indentation, 200g load)

Fracture Toughness 2.0MPa-m<sup>1/2</sup>
Flexure Strength 300-700 MPa\*
Specific Heat 0.22 cal/g°C
Thermal Conductivity ~12.6 W/mK (25°C)
Transmission Limits 0.22 to 6 microns

\*varies depending on surface finish

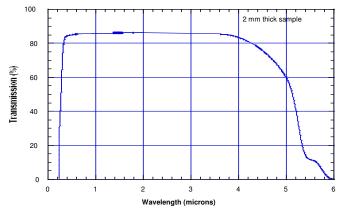
Dielectric Properties		
f (GHz)	k	tan δ (x10 <sup>-5</sup> )
35-45	9.190	31
55-60	9.181	67
90-110	9.175	96

Thermal Expansion Coeff.		
T(°C)	TCE (x10 <sup>-6</sup> )	
30-200	5.65x10 <sup>-6</sup>	
30-400	6.40x10 <sup>-6</sup>	
30-600	6.93x10 <sup>-6</sup>	
30-900	7.50x10 <sup>-6</sup>	

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Index of Refraction		
λ(μm)	n	
0.48	1.803	
0.50	1.801	
0.64	1.790	
0.68	1.788	
0.7	1.787	
1.00	1.779	
2.00	1.761	
3.00	1.737	
4.00	1.702	
5.00	1.653	

IR Absorption Coefficient	
λ(μm)	α (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
3.800	0.080
4.000	0.159
4.230	0.288
4.545	0.598
4.717	0.849
4.902	1.230
5.000	1.598
5.102	2.000
5.319	5.230
5.550	8.060

For information contact: Kristen Mitchell, Customer Liaison

Tel: 781-272-3969



### **Spinel Optical Ceramic**

**Technical Data** 

Composition MgAl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> Polycrystalline Form Lattice Constant 8.082 Å Density\*1 3.58 g/cc Melting Point\*1 2135°C

Grain Size (typical) Bimodal, 25 um average and 150 um average

Crystal Structure Cubic, Spinel Young's Modulus\*1 276 GPa Poisson's Ratio\*1 0.26

6.97 x 10<sup>-6</sup> (30-200 C) Thermal Expansion\*1 Hardness\*1 1650 kg/mm<sup>2</sup>

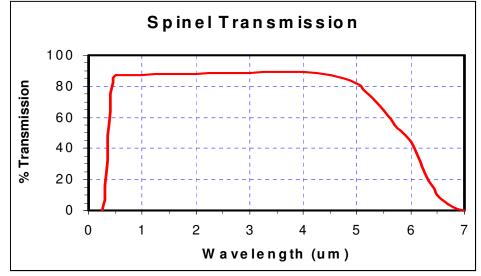
(Knoop Indentation, 200g load)

Fracture Toughness\*1 1.5 MPa-m<sup>1/2</sup> Flexure Strength\*1 170 MPa Specific Heat\*1 0.8191 J/g - °C 25 W/m-C @ 25°C Thermal Conductivity\*1 Transmission Limits\*1 0.25 to 6.5 microns 76% @ 0.65 um Typical Transmission (@ 4 mm thickness) 83% @ 1.064 um

82% @ 4.5 um

Ref. Index Homogeneity <5 x 10<sup>-6</sup> over 3.0" diameter (RMS) <9 x 10<sup>-6</sup> over 4.7" diameter

\*1-Reference 1: Handbook of Optics Volume II, McGraw Hill, Inc. (1995)



Index of Refraction		
λ(μm)	n	
0.404	1.7359	
0.50	1.7230	
0.60	1.7155	
0.70	1.7108	
0.80	1.7075	
1.00	1.703	
2.40	1.6807	
3.00	1.6677	
4.00	1.6386	
5.00	1.598	

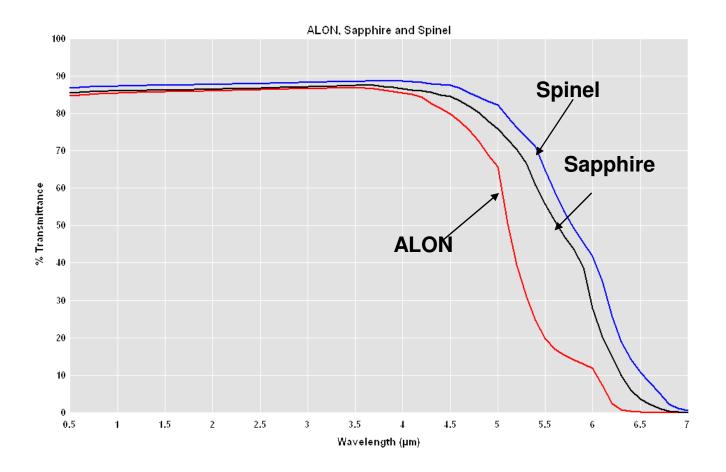
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### **Comparison of Transmission**

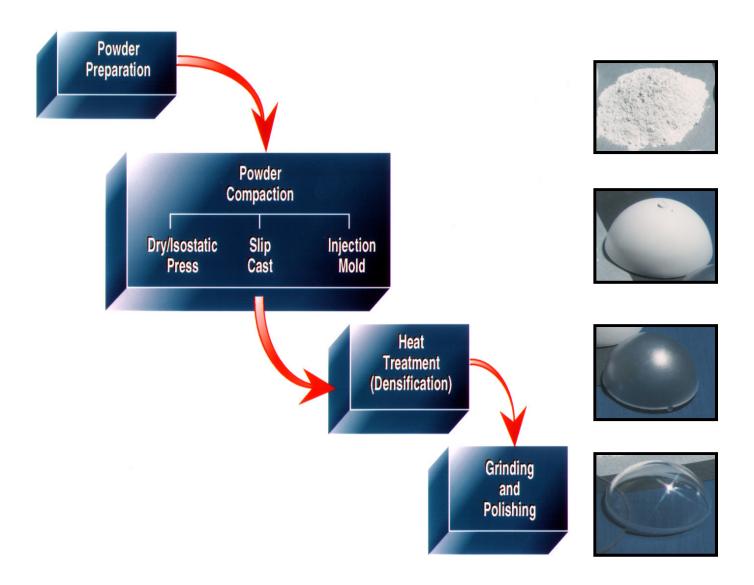
(2 mm thick samples)



Spinel transmits out further than Sapphire, which transmits out further into the MWIR than ALON® Optical Ceramic.



### **Optical Ceramics Processing Steps**



ALON® and Spinel Optical Ceramics are made by conventional ceramic processing techniques.

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# **ALON®** and Spinel Optical Ceramics

#### **IR Windows and Domes**



ALON® Hyper-Hemisphere for Counter-Manpads



Reconnaissance Window



Spinel Lens



Spinel Tri-Mode Seeker Dome

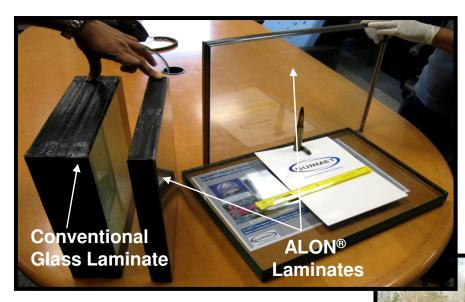
ALON® and Spinel can be made in large sizes and more complicated geometries than Sapphire

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### **ALON® Transparent Armor**

#### **Defeats 50 Cal AP Threats**







50 cal API round penetrates thick glass laminate



50 cal API round stopped by thin ALON® laminate

ALON® armor provides state-of-the-art protection at half the weight and thickness of conventional glass laminates.

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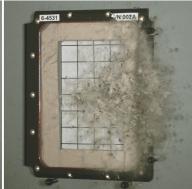
### **ALON® Optical Ceramic**

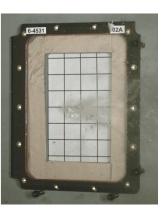
### **Rock Strike Durability 3x of Glass**

#### **ALON®** Window









High speed shot sequence

#### **N-BK7 Glass Window**









ALON® windows provide substantially higher durability in field than current glass windows

Note: Video of this test available upon request

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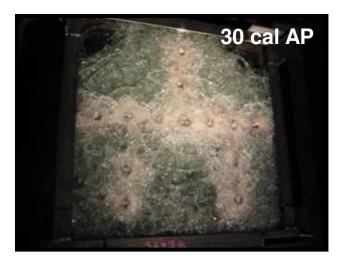


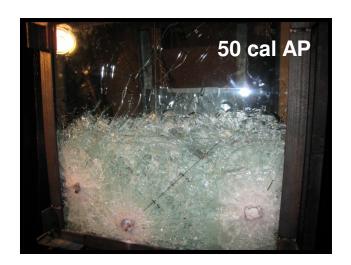
# **Tiled ALON® Armor Windows**





Tiled ALON® windows provide excellent ballistic performance Engineered seams can be employed to minimize obscuration





Excellent multi-hit performance has been demonstrated against 30 cal and 50 cal AP rounds

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