

# Tech Tip # 5: Using an EPO-TEK Product after the Shelf Life has expired

**Note:** EPO-TEK does not guarantee the performance of EPO-TEK materials after the shelf life has expired. This document is to show that material can still serve a useful purpose without having to be scraped as a loss.

Most EPO-TEK products have a shelf life at room temperature of 1 year. Single component systems and some UV systems have shorter shelf lives. Please refer to the shelf life of the product on the Datasheet for the material's specific shelf life.

Commonly, all of the material is not used before the shelf life expires. Here are some clarifications on how to proceed with this material:

- EPO-TEK does not guarantee materials after the shelf life has expired. EPO-TEK will not recertify materials, and will not express in writing the viability of using expired materials.
- If the material is to be used, there are a few tests that can be run to see if the material is good.
  - For unfilled epoxies, mix part A & B separately in their containers before weighing and mixing together. Cure some of the product on glass slides and test to see if the product cures properly and the adhesion is good.
  - For filled epoxies, stir part A & B separately very well before mixing together. If electrically conductive, set up a conductance test on a glass slide. If thermally conductive, test like an unfilled product.
- If the material appears to be working properly, it can be used for a variety of purposes besides end line manufacturing. Try using it for R & D or various reliability tests, samples, or rapid prototyping. If the material is good, it is best to use it somewhere instead of turning it into dead stock.
- Universities and non-profit institutes have reported back to EPO-TEK that their use of expired products have gone up to five years from date of purchase successfully.

Still have questions?

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