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Solderable Layers on Polymers

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Surface treatment is an increasingly important process for new developments in the field of innovative products. Especially polymers have to be equipped with different properties. A new technique was developed by CREAVAC allowing a wider range of application. The article describes a new evaporating system for metallization of polymers with layers over 10 μm . This technique is predestinated for the application of solderable layers. The company CREVAC has developed the technology as well as the tools for coating such layers in an effective way. Furthermore, the coating process is stress-free, due to the ability of using different metals simultaneously or just one by one, which significantly reduces energy requirements, without losing the vacuum. A very interesting application of this technique is the configuration of polymers with metal-like characteristics, primarily for further soldering. The structure and properties of these layers will be described.