# DEBONDABLE ADHESIVES FOR EV BATTERY SYSTEMS

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT BATTERY SOLUTIONS HENKEL ADHESIVE TECHNOLOGIES



## **INCREASING RELEVANCE** OF CIRCULARITY IN EV BATTERIES

### **REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS**





#### **Circular Economy Action Plan (EU)**

- Active promotion of transition to a circular economy, including measures to reduce waste and promote recycling
- Not specific to automotive electronics but can impact recycling and sustainability efforts in the automotive sector

## End-of-Life Vehicles (ELV) Directive (2000/53/EC)

- Reduction of environmental impact of ELVs, by promoting recycling and proper disposal
- Requires member states to establish systems for proper treatment, recycling, and recovery of ELVs
- Producers are also encouraged to design vehicles with recycling in mind

#### Eco-Design Directive (EU)

- Eco-design requirements for various product categories, including energy-related products
- May impact design of automotive electronics to make them more energy-efficient and recyclable



# INCREASING RELEVANCE OF CIRCULARITY IN EV BATTERIES

### **END-CUSTOMER DEMANDS**



## Repairability, Reusability, Repurposing and Recyclability

to extend component lifetime & close material loop for resilient value chains



#### **Right-to-repair**

Initiative originating in electronics to allow **easy dismantling**, might spill over to automotive



#### Capturing the value

of end-of-life materials; maintaining access to scarce raw materials & preserve depletable resources





## INCREASING RELEVANCE OF CIRCULARITY IN EV BATTERIES

#### Battery debonding technology will enable end-ofline repair and disassembly of batteries in the field

Non-destructive dismantling is a key feature of sustainable EV batteries.

#### Advantages for OEMs and battery makers:

- <u>Repair in production</u>: Possibility to rework structural batteries where defects are detected in end-of-line test
- <u>Repair in market</u>: Possibility of exchanging defect modules/ stacks/ cells while the battery is already in the market
- <u>Recycling:</u> Ease of dismantling of the battery pack to allow for separation of cells from the frame which allows for high recovery rates for the recycling process





# **TRIGGERS FOR DEBONDING**

## TRIGGER IN SCOPE OF HENKEL AUTOMOTIVE





ELECTRICAL DELAMINATION (EDL) Obtaining a weak boundary layer that leads to accumulation of the adhesives at interfaces, triggered by electrical current

### IMPORTANCE OF WORKING ON DIFFERENT TRIGGERS

Depending on the design, debonding solution needs to be adapted based on customer requirements:



Thermal system

- Central cooling plate
- Modular cooling plates
- Cooling ribbons





Pouch



- Repair
  - Repurpose (e.g., 2<sup>nd</sup> life)
- Recycling





## DEBONDING THERMAL TRIGGER SYSTEM LAYOUT

#### SIMPLE APPLICATION PROCESS OF THE PRODUCTS

#### Substrate 1

(e.g., battery cell)

#### **Henkel Adhesive**

- Application of the adhesive with standard equipment
- No process change in the production line necessary

#### **Henkel Debonding Layer**

 Automated spray application of the debonding dispersion

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 Application and drying of the Henkel debonding layer before the assembly process

Substrate 2 (e.g., cooling plate)



## **DEBONDING THERMAL TRIGGER** FUNCTIONALITY

## **PRINCIPLE:** HENKEL DEBONDING LAYER FOAMS WHEN EXPOSED TO TEMPERATURE AND IS THUS STRUCTURALLY WEAKENED

The temperature of the battery cell remains below 60°C during debonding

- Henkel debonding layer also acts as thermal insulation for the battery cell during expansion
- Irreversible mechanism: cell stack can be removed either directly after heat input or after the substrates cooled down







#### **Temperature curve Debonding**



#### **Cross section thermal debonding system**





## DEBONDING TRIGGER

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# ELECTRICAL DELAMINATION (EDL)

## **ELECTRICAL DELAMINATION** FUNCTIONALITY



**PRINCIPLE:** FORMATION OF A WEAK BOUNDARY LAYER WITHIN THE HENKEL DEBONDING LAYER BY ION DIFFUSION TO ELECTRODES WHEN VOLTAGE IS APPLIED

- High automation capability and process reliability by applying an electrical voltage to designated points on the battery pack (electrically conductive substrates)
- Debonding is carried out at room temperature
- Debonding progress easily readable by current intensity (amperage converges towards 0 A)
  - ightarrow Creation of clean surfaces for rebonding

#### Dispensing of **electrically debondable adhesive**



#### Diffusion of ions in electrical field



#### Adhesive failure by creation of weak boundary layer





# EVALUATION OF DEBONDING CONCEPT HIGHLIGHTS

## **Thermal Trigger**



 Expansion of the debonding system is irreversible, allowing disassembly at room temperature



 Application process of the debonding system can be automated using spray technology
→ Process is scalable



Surface can be cleaned and thus allows possibility for rebonding

## **Electrical Delamination (EDL)**



High process and application safety as the temperature in the system remains at room temperature during debonding



Suitable for variable geometries and designs



 Cleaning of surfaces very well possible due to adhesive fracture pattern on any side which allows rebonding



# THANK You



