

# Pb-Free Solder Technology in Aerospace and Defense:

*Surface Finishes –  
Somewhere Over the Rainbow ...*

P. Vianco

Sandia National Laboratories  
Albuquerque, NM 87185  
Contact: [ptvianc@sandia.gov](mailto:ptvianc@sandia.gov)



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# So Many Choices !

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◆ When making technical decisions, having more choices is a far better than having few-or-none !!!!

- Hot-air solder leveled (HASL) ... SnPb or Pb-free
- Organic solderability preservatives (OSPs)
- Tin (Sn) ... immersion or electroplated.
- Immersion Ag ... on Cu
- Electroless nickel, immersion gold (ENIG)
- Electroless nickel, immersion silver (ENiS) ... new
- Electroless nickel, electroless palladium, immersion gold (ENEPIG)
- Electroplated Sn-Bi

*“Old standby’s:”*

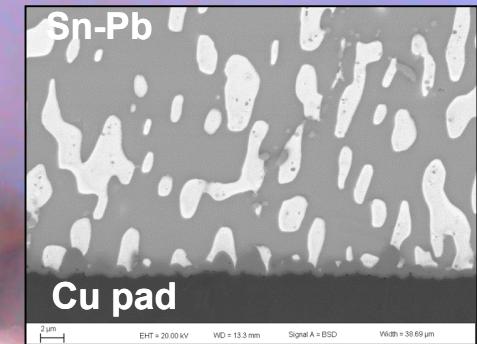
- Electroless nickel, electroless gold
- Electroplated nickel, electroplated gold

# Gaps to Fill

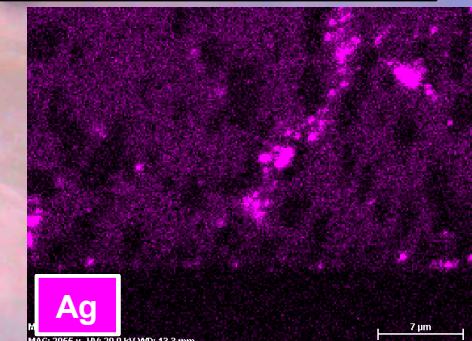
- ◆ The requirements that apply to selecting a surface finish differ between commercial and A&D industries.
- ◆ There remain gaps for the A&D industry:  
*... some gaps are technical in nature ..., and some originate from the supply chain.*

## ◆ Examples:

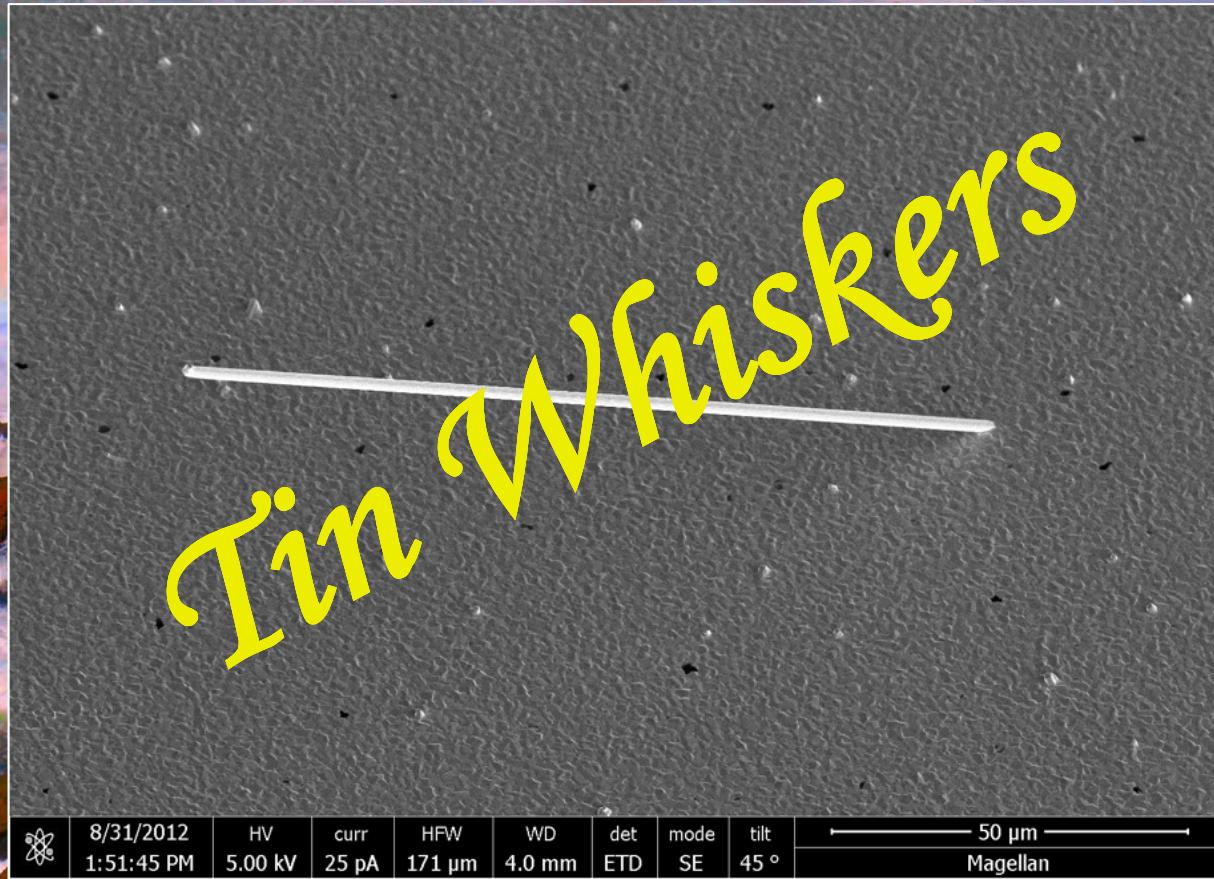
**Technical:** What is the impact of new surface finishes on the long-term reliability of solder interconnections?



**Supply chain:** How does the “slow-paced” A&D industry adapt to the rapid pace of the supply chain ... and adopt new technologies into legacy, current, and future products?



# “Numero Uno” for the A&D Industry



The present approach is to understand the fundamental mechanism so as to develop a *first-principles mitigation*.

# The Out-Years

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- ◆ The A&D industry must exercise **flexibility**:

Follow the  
Commercial  
Industry

Explore  
New Coating  
Materials

Develop  
Alternative  
Paradigms

Weigh the technical attributes and drawbacks  
against programmatic cost and schedule.

# The Pot of Gold ...

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