Plastic Scintillating and Wavelength-Shifting Fibers

It's what's nside that Counts®



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Luxium Solutions manufactures a variety of plastic scintillating, wavelength-shifting and light-transmitting fibers used for research and industry.

Starting in 2023, Luxium Solutions introduced the BCF-XL series of scintillating and wavelength shifting fibers with improved, market-leading attenuation length for optimal, reliable performance for a variety of different applications.

Specific Properties of BCF-XL Series Formulations							
Fiber	Emission Color	Emission Peak, nm	Decay Time, ns	# of Photons per MeV*	Attenuation Length (m)**	Characteristics / Applications	
BCF-10XL	blue	432	2.7	~8000	>4	General purpose; optimized for diameters >250μm	
BCF-12XL	blue	435	3.2	~8000	>4	Improved transmission for use in long lengths	
BCF-20XL	green	492	2.7	~8000	>4	Fast green scintillator	
BCF-60XL	green	530	7	~7100	>4	3HF formulation for increased hardness	
BCF-91AXL	green	494	12	n/a	>4	Shifts blue to green	
BCF-92XL	green	492	2.7	n/a	>4	Fast blue to green shifter	
BCF-9929AXL	green	492	2.7	n/a	>4	Blue to green shifter. Pairs well when exciting wavelengths are >425nm (e.g. injection- molded and extruded scintillators)	
BCF-9995XL	blue	450	2.7	n/a	>4	UV to blue shifter	
BCF-98XL	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Not available	Clear Waveguide	

*For Minimum Ionizing Particle (MIP), corrected for PMT sensitivity

** For 1mm diameter fiber, measured using silicon photodiode

Our fibers are available in bulk quantities wound on spools (we do not recommend spooling fiber diameters >2mm as they tend to exhibit "strain hysteresis") and as canes (pre-cut straight lengths). They can be assembled into stacked arrays, bundles, ribbons and complete detectors. Current sizes range from 0.5 mm to 3 mm in round cross-sections. Custom sizes and designs available upon request.

Fiber Ribbon Design Parameters

For Scintillating, wavelength-shifting, and light-transmitting single fiber ribbons:

- Minimum fiber diameter: 0.5mm
- Standard Ribbon Length: 2" (50mm) minimum / 130" (3300mm) maximum
- Contact us for requests outside our standard length dimensions.
- Width: 20" (508mm) maximum
- Ribbon end finish options:
 - Rough-Cut Finish: +/- 12.7mm (+/- 0.5")
 - Diamond-Mill Finish
 - <2m length: +/- 0.25mm (+/- 0.010")
 - >2m length: +/- 1mm (+/- 0.0394")



Luxium Solutions manufactures a variety of plastic scintillating, wavelength-shifting and light-transmitting fibers used for research and industry. The flexibility of fibers allows them to conform to surface shapes, yielding geometries superior to those of other types of detectors.

These fibers are well-suited for such applications as:

- Neutron imaging
- Particle discrimination
- Calorimeters
- Cosmic ray telescopes
- Real-time imaging systems
- Flow cells
- Tracking detectors
- Nuclear gauging
- Pipe/Barrel monitoring

Single-Clad Fibers

Our standard fibers consist of a polystyrene-based core and a PMMA cladding. The scintillating core contains a combination of fluorescent dopants selected to produce the desired scintillation, optical and radiation-resistance characteristics. Often, one property is enhanced while another is mildly compromised. In small fibers (< 0.5mm), the fluor concentration may be increased on request, usually at the expense of light attenuation length. These fibers yield about 8,000 photons per MeV deposited.

Optical Cladding

PMMA (polymethylmethacrylate, $C_5H_8O_2$) is the standard cladding material for Luxium Solutions' fibers. It has a density of 1.2 g/cc and a refractive index of 1.49. The refractive indices of the core and cladding and the cross sectional shape of the fiber determine the trapping efficiency. In round fibers, the trapping efficiency also depends on the distance between the fiber axis and the scintillation event. The trapping efficiency of Luxium Solutions' round fibers ranges from 3.4% for events occurring at the fiber axis to approximately 7% for events near the core-cladding interface.

Common properties of Single-Clad Fibers

Core material	Polystyrene
Core refractive index	1.60
Density	1.05
Cladding material	Acrylic
Cladding refractive index	1.49
Cladding thickness, round fibers	3% of fiber diameter
Diameter Tolerance	<2% for fiber length up to 2 meters
Numerical aperture	0.58
Trapping efficiency, round fibers	3.44% minimum
No. of H atoms per cc (core)	4.82 x 1022
No. of C atoms per cc (core)	4.85 x 1022
No. of electrons per cc (core)	3.4 x 1023
Radiation length	42 cm
Operating temperature	-20°C to +50°C
Vacuum compatible	Yes

A Typical Round Scintillating Fiber



Types of Fiber Assemblies Available -

- Single ribbons as wide as 508mm and as long as 5500mm
- Multi-layered ribbons up to 4 layers thick
- Coherent imagers of round fiber
- Ribbons with precision alignment to MA-PMTs [What are MA-PMTs?]
- Crossed fiber arrays
- Flow cells
- Detectors with long, flexible sheathed bundles





Optical Spectra -











For additional product literature or information, call customer service at any of our locations or access our website document library – <u>www.luxiumsolutions.com</u>.

Other radiation detection products available from Luxium Solutions include:

- Plastic scintillators available as rods, blocks, ingots, thick and thin sheets, tubing and spheres.
- Scintillating optical fibers which can be assembled into ribbons, arrays or complete detectors.
- Liquid scintillators as detectors or as bulk material.



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www.luxiumsolutions.com

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