STANNOL

MINIMUM SHELF LIFE OF OUR PRODUCT GROUPS

All products from STANNOL are subject to strict examination, and we feel obliged to supply these in perfect quality. As we are certified to ISO TS 16949, this high quality standard is always in the foreground and a guarantee for your satisfaction. Not all products are subject to a minimum shelf life, the quality does not deteriorate necessarily when a product is stored for a longer time. Due to various customer requests, we have developed these guidelines about the shelf life of our products.

METALS (INGOTS, RODS, SOLDER THREADS, SOLID SOLDER WIRES)

A loss of quality is not expected, provided a dry and proper storage. There is no shelf life for our massive products. Tarnishing or oxidizing of the surface after long storage is by nature, but has no effect on the quality and processability.

FLUX

Because of chemical and biological processes fluxes only have a limited shelf life. Alcohol based fluxes have a shelf life of 2 years, water-based products 1 year, provided the flux is kept in the originally sealed container and stored properly. For water based fluxes it must be ensured that it will be stored above 10°C. The best-before date can be found on each container label.

CORED WIRES

This group of products is no shelf life item, provided appropriate storage under normal conditions (40 - 85% relative humidity, 0 - 40°C). Tests in our own laboratory have shown that even decades old solder wire can still be processed. A report of this test can be sent to you on request. If in practice a cored solder does not provide optimum soldering results after several years of storage, it can be helpful to dispose of several meters. The remaining wire can be used normally; the results should again correspond to the usual performance.

SOLDER PASTES

Many factors have an influence on the processing stability of solder paste. With increasing age and depending on the ambient temperature, the viscosity and thus the processability can change. Minimal air inclusions can cause a permanent formation of oxides on the powder surface, which finally limits the duration of the process-reliable characteristics. To maintain optimal use and soldering free from defects, all solder pastes are subject to a minimum shelf life. Depending on the specific article, it is min. 6 months under controlled and refrigerated storage conditions in originally closed containers.

For solder pastes in cartridges and syringes up to 30cm³ the shelf life is 3 months. Semco cartridges with 500g and more have a shelf life of 6 months, similar to solder paste jars. Please refer to the data sheet of the specific product.

FLUX GELS

The shelf life is 6 months under controlled and refrigerated storage conditions in originally closed containers. For more information, please refer to the respective product label and technical data sheet.

SOLDER GREASE

The shelf life is 2 years from delivery under proper storage in closed containers.

SOLDER MASK

Under proper storage conditions (10 - 35°C) in originally sealed containers our solder mask has a shelf life of 1 year. For more information, please refer to the container label.

DESOLDERING WICKS

When stored as recommended in unopened containers, the shelf life is 2 years from delivery.

PRODUKT GROUP	NO SHELF LIFE ITEM	6 (3*) MONTH	1 YEAR	2 YEARS
Solid Solder Wire, Bars, Ingots	●			
Cored Solder Wires	●			
Alcohol based Fluxes				●
Water besed Fluxes			●	
Solder Mask			●	
Desoldering Wick				●
Solder Paste		●*		
Flux Gel		●		
Solder Grease				●

PLEASE NOTE

For further information please refer to the technical data sheets. In case of any queries we would be happy to assist you personally.

Please keep in mind that this compilation just shows the „best before" dates. It does not mean that these products can no longer be processed when the expiration date is passed. If the products still show good results after this best before date, they still can be used. This helps to save resources and also protects the environment.