

# SWISSCOAT ™: Gold cost-killer in Electrical Contact Production

Find out now how to reduce gold cost on screw-machined pin & socket contacts and inner bodies, without compromising high quality and performance!



## Context

Raw material costs have increased from the second half of 2020 and prices are predicted to significantly follow the same trend during 2021 and 2022. This pattern is reflected in all raw materials, (steel, thermoplastics, copper, amongst others) including gold. Consequently, prices within the Connector industry have increased.

Although the YOY increase for gold is small, this noble metal is still very expensive. Nevertheless, gold is still used extensively within the Connectors market due to many reasons.

The economic downturn in 2020/2021, because of the COVID pandemic is one of those reasons and it has tremendously contributed to the increase of gold price. The trend remains upward as markets are still recovering from the pandemic. Therefore, the price for screw-cutting contacts has raised and players have started to search for alternatives to gold, although gold still offers the best performance.

At Lemco Précision, based on our long-lasting expertise in high precision screw-machined parts, we have created an economical, efficient and exclusive alternative solution to regular gold-plating: SWISSCOAT<sup>TM</sup>! This innovative gold-plating is conceived by using less gold without compromising contact performance.



## **Solutions**

SWISSCOAT™ as the successful, exclusive and performant alternative to regular gold, reducing electrical contacts total costs production.

**SWISSCOAT™ plating solution** results directly from the need of clients to reduce their costs without compromising high quality and high performance.

SWISSCOAT<sup>™</sup> has specifically been optimised for the Connectors industry requirements. One of the key benefits of this innovative contact plating is that, compared to regular gold-plating, a 20% reduction on total contacts price could be achieved.

### **Definition**

# How is the electrical contact plating defined?

SWISSCOAT<sup>™</sup> is a galvanic multilayer with gold finish, offering similar properties to regular gold-plating, conforming to MIL-C-45204 TYPE II Grade C Class 1.

# SWISSCOAT<sup>TM</sup> Gold Cost Killer





INNOVATIVE COATING SYSTEM

- Thin gold layer
- 3 types of SWISSCOAT 1,2 & 3
- Wear rate in sliding behaviour 10-15 m2/ N
- Coefficient of friction < 0.2
- Corrosion resistance > 96 hours salt spray mist to DIN 50021
- Electrical contact resistance < <10mΩ with 1N load</li>

#### **ALL NEW SWISSCOAT™ clients**

100%

CUSTOMERS SATASFACTION who tested it, are still using the solution to produce electrical contacts

# ADAPTABLE TO ALL INDUSTRIES APPLICATIONS







INDUSTRIAL



FIBER OPTICS



TRANSPORTATION



TELECOMS



TESTS & MEASUREMENT

Non-Exhaustive list

f in lemco-precision.com

## **Benefits**

**SWISSCOAT™** represents massive gold cost savings, with equivalent performance to regular gold.

**SWISSCOAT™** guarantees different elements:

- Long life cycle and provides a lubrifi**cation effect** of hard-soft type in the interface
- Good thermal resistance and high protection against corrosion
- Great capacity of production as the gold-plating is conducted in a bulk manner, unlike in selective gold.

It is adapted to most cables crimping sizes under certain configurations and enables the increase of mating cycles. In comparison with other platings, it also provides wear resistance enhancement to electrical parts.

Besides, the thin gold layer guarantees small and consistent electrical contact resistance.

The solution is **suitable** to all pin & socket and plug-in contacts along with inner mattable with conventional gold-plated parts from other sources.

# bodies. SWISSCOATTM contacts are inter **ASSEMBLY CAPABILITY** Easy to assemble on your Different Types of Connectors RF connectors (Coax, Twinax, Triax, Quadrax and Octoax) Fiber Optics Circular, rectangular & triangular connectors **Robust & Resistant to Costs optimization with In-house Surface Treatment Harsh Environment** Heat treatment Vibrations • Thermal shocks Galvanoplasty Shocks Corrosion Heat Salt spray, etc. Partial zone annealing

# Some tests to evaluate the feasibility of your project

# SWISSCOAT TM

The exclusive RELIABLE & ECO-NOMICAL GOLD COST-SAVINGS SOLUTION

# **DURABILITY TEST**



Based on MIL-C39029D (3.5.9 & 4.7.10) contacts shall be subjected to 500 cycles of mating and un-mating at 300 cycles by hour maximum. After this test, contacts shall show no evidence of defects detrimental to the mechanical of electrical performance.

### **SALT SPRAY WITH VOLTAGE**



Applied 500 hours (connectors only), to determine device capacity to be exposed to a salt laden atmosphere without physical degradation.

#### **SOLDER TEST**



To verify that the solderability of component leads and terminations, meets the requirements established in the standard J-STD-002B. It also checks that subsequent storage has had no adverse effect on the ability to solder components to and interconnecting substrate.

# **Company presentation**

### A few words about our company

Lemco Précision SA is the specialist in **screw-machined inner body, standard** and **custom-made contacts**, with vertical production in our Swiss plants. For over 50 years, we have been producing electrical parts of connectors that are used in many industries. Our expertise lies in co-design, manufacturing of **long & thin contacts with small diameter**, along with **bent parts, complex forms and miniature contacts** (from size #23 to #30).



Get in touch with us