

Description

BACKGROUND OF INVENTION

Low softening point glasses are particularly useful in silver filled (or silver glass) die attach adhesives. Such adhesives, are used to attach semiconductor chips (dies) to substrates and are typically applied by heating the system beyond the softening point of the glass. The bond forms during cooling.

Because many semiconductor devices, such as silicon integrated circuits or gold sputtered devices are temperature sensitive, it is desirable to keep the peak temperature experienced by the system to a minimum. Accordingly, a number of low softening point glasses have been investigated and a series of adhesives based on "lead/borates" ($\text{PbO/B}_2\text{O}_3/\text{SiO}_2$ or $\text{PbO/B}_2\text{O}_3/\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$) have been utilized. These adhesives have softening points in the region of 375°C and glass transition temperatures (T_g) in the region of 325°C , and are ordinarily processed as silver glass die attach adhesives at $425\text{--}450^\circ\text{C}$. (approximately $100\text{--}125^\circ\text{C}$ above the respective glass transition temperatures)

While glass systems with lower softening points are known, most are not useful in die attach adhesives due to low crystallization temperatures and poor moisture resistance; further, these glasses often contain compounds such as alkali metals and fluorides, which can be detrimental to semiconductor devices, thus limiting their utility in electronic applications. For an adhesive to function, the glass must readily reform upon cooling; recrystallization generally weakens the ultimate bond strength. Thus, glasses useful in die attach adhesives must, in addition to having a low softening point, be resistant to recrystallization in the operating temperature range. Since glasses with lower softening points tend to crystallize at lower temperatures, this is a unique combination of properties.

Accordingly, it is an object of this invention to present a series of glasses suitable for use in die attach adhesives which combine the properties of a low softening point with a high resistance to recrystallization, good moisture resistance, and the absence of compounds detrimental to semi-conductor devices.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

The above and related objects are achieved by the four component glass compositions of this invention. These glasses are characterized by low softening points (325°C or less), low glass transition temperatures (less than 260°C), a marked resistance to recrystallization, and good durability in the presence of moisture, even after being ground to a fine powder. They are also free of alkali metals and fluorides which can deleteriously affect the performance of electronic components, permitting their use in electronic applications.

The glasses comprise mixtures of 2 to 40% silver oxide (Ag_2O), 12 to 40% vanadium oxide (V_2O_5), 35 to 75% tellurium oxide (TeO_2), and 2-30% PbO , wherein all percentages are by weight and total 100.

The glasses can also contain minor (up to a total 10% by weight, the precise amount of each compound will, of course, be governed by the desired final properties as well as its solubility in the glass composition) of one or more of the following oxide compounds; phosphorous oxide (P_2O_5), aluminum oxide (Al_2O_3), bismuth oxide (Bi_2O_3), tin oxide (SnO_2), zinc oxide (ZnO), titanium oxide (TiO_2), molybdenum oxide (MoO_3), tungsten oxide (WO_3), silicon oxide (SiO_2), copper oxide (CuO), thallium oxide (Tl_2O), arsenic oxide (As_2O_3), and antimony oxide (Sb_2O_3). Inclusion of these compounds will cause slight variations in the softening and glass transition temperatures of the glasses and, thus, can be used to customize the composition for a particular application while maintaining the desirable properties of the glass.

The above glasses can be utilized as metallic glass die attach adhesives, useful in attaching semiconductor components to substrates. Briefly, powdered, flaked, or mixtures of powdered and/or flaked metallic silver, gold, or platinum (preferably silver) is admixed with the powdered glass in a ratio of 4:1 to 100:1, preferably 5:1 to 25:1. This results in a die attach adhesive which can be fired at a very low temperature (generally 400°C or less) yet result in a strong bond, suitable for use in many applications. Die attach adhesives are described in detail in United States Pat. No. 4,401,767 to Dietz et al., which is incorporated herein by reference.

These glasses can also be used in other applications such as sealing glasses or cermets, which require stable, low softening temperature glasses. The sealing glass application is of particular interest, as the glasses possess thermal expansion coefficients in the same range as glasses ordinarily used in such applications. Thus, these glasses can be used without filler in applications requiring thermal expansion coefficients in the range of 14-20, or, if lower thermal expansion coefficients are desired, these glasses can be combined with expansion-modifying fillers, such as amorphous silica or beta-eucryptite. Such fillers have low thermal expansion coefficients and will result in composites having thermal expansion coefficients lower than the glasses, the coefficient decreasing as the filler content increases (as described in U.S. Pat. No. 3,837,866 to Malmeldier et al. incorporated, herein by reference). Thus, low softening point sealing glasses can be easily obtained.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION

The glasses of this invention comprise four metallic oxides namely Ag_2O , V_2O_5 , TeO_2 , and PbO . These components are present in the compositions as follows:

<u>Compound</u>	<u>Range (wt%)</u>
Ag_2O	2-40
V_2O_5	12-40
TeO_2	35-75
PbO	2-30

wherein all percentages total 100.

Preferably, the $\text{Ag}_2\text{O}/\text{TeO}_2$ ratio (wt/wt) ranges from 0.1/1 to 0.5/1, (but can range as high as 0.8/1 when the $\text{V}_2\text{O}_5/\text{TeO}_2$ ratio is about 0.28/1). Glasses of these compositions are characterized by low T_g 's (below 260°C) and, thus low softening points (325°C or less), since the softening point is generally no more than $50-70^\circ\text{C}$ greater than T_g . They also exhibit marked resistance to recrystallization, even when ground to a fine powder.

It is this resistance to recrystallization and good durability toward moisture that distinguishes the glasses of this invention from heretofore known low softening metal oxide glasses. While not wishing to be bound by theory, it is noted that this resistance to recrystallization and durability toward moisture is closely related to the presence of PbO in the system; substitution of other metallic oxides for PbO does not confer these properties without increasing the T_g . It is believed that the PbO interacts with the other oxides in the system, making the glass form more stable.

These glasses can also contain minor (up to a total of 10%) amounts of one or more other oxide compositions found in commercial glasses. These compositions include P_2O_5 , (preferably 0-6%), SiO_2 , (preferably 0-2%, more preferably 0-1%), CuO (preferably 0-7%, more preferably 0-5%), Al_2O_3 , Bi_2O_3 , SnO_2 , ZnO , TiO_2 (preferably 0-5%, more preferably 0-2%), As_2O_3 , and Sb_2O_3 . The precise amount of each compound in the glass formulation will, of course, depend on its solubility in the glass composition. Such compositions will have only a minor effect on the properties of the glasses, and can be used if the presence of these compositions is desirable.

These glasses can also be used as a component in metallic glass die attach adhesives. Such adhesives are particularly useful in the attachment of semiconductor components to substrates. In ordinary use, the adhesive is placed between semiconductor components and the system is heated (fired) to a temperature above the softening point of the glass; the bond forms as the adhesive cools.

The die attach adhesives of this invention are an admixture of flaked and/or powdered metallic silver, gold, or platinum and the four component ($\text{Ag}_2\text{O}/\text{V}_2\text{O}_5/\text{TeO}_2/\text{PbO}$) glass in a ratio of 4:1 to 100:1, preferably 5:1 to 25:1, along with a high boiling point organic solvent and a polymeric binder; the preferred metal for use is silver. Such adhesives, because of the low softening point of the glasses, require a lower firing temperature to achieve a good bond than conventional die attach adhesives. Generally, the firing temperature is below 400°C , preferably 375°C or lower. Because of this semiconductor components which are sensitive to temperatures in excess of 400°C , can be attached to substrates by these adhesives.

EXAMPLES

The following examples illustrate no. 4,8,9,10,13,17,19 and 20 certain preferred embodiments of this invention but are not intended to be illustrative of all embodiments. All other examples represent comparative examples.

Example 1 Preparation of Glasses

A total of twenty-eight (28) glasses were prepared by blending and heating TeO_2 , V_2O_5 , and Ag_2CO_3 and PbO (as needed) to 650°C , (or greater) then quenched on a metal plate to ambient temperature. In these preparations the Ag_2O was added as Ag_2CO_3 which decomposes to Ag_2O at elevated temperature. It is recognized that other compounds can be utilized to similarly obtain the metal oxides. The compositions (calculated as

weight % of metal oxides) are summarized in Table I.

Table I
Summary of Glass Compositions Prepared
Amount (wt%)

<u>Sample</u>	<u>TeO₂</u>	<u>V₂O₅</u>	<u>Ag₂O</u>	<u>PbO</u>
1	58.4	41.6	0	0
2	54.0	38.5	0	7.5
3	48.2	34.3	17.5	0
4	45.1	32.2	16.4	6.3
5	63.7	36.3	0	0
6	62.0	35.4	0	2.6
7	51.7	29.5	18.8	0
8	50.6	28.9	18.4	2.1
9	48.5	27.5	17.5	6.7
10	38.0	21.6	13.8	26.6
11	47.3	26.9	25.8	0
12	27.1	15.4	19.7	7.9
13	59.9	32.3	5.9	2.0
14	77.8	22.2	0	0
15	70.2	20.0	0	9.8
16	60.7	17.3	22.0	0
17	55.9	15.9	20.3	7.8
18	54.7	15.6	29.8	0
19	50.8	14.5	27.7	7.1
20	46.5	13.2	33.8	6.5
21	45.6	13.0	41.4	0
22	78.0	11.1	0	10.9
23	60.8	8.7	22.1	8.5
24	59.3	8.4	32.3	0
25	54.7	7.8	29.8	7.7

These samples were retained for use in later experiments.

Example 2 Calorimetric Studies

Powdered samples of each of the glasses prepared in Example I were subjected to thermal analysis on a differential scanning calorimeter (DSC) heating at a rate of 10°C/min. to a peak temperature of 450°C. The glass transition temperature (T_g) and crystallization temperature (T_{cryst}), if any, were noted. The results are presented in Table II.

Table II
Summary of DSC Testing

	<u>Sample</u>	<u>T_g (°C)</u>	<u>T_{cryst} (°C)</u>
	1	251	409
	2	258	424
	3	235	347
10	4	236	NC*
	5	261	NC
	6	260	NC
	7	237	NC
	8	236	NC
15	9	236	NC
	10	231	NC
	11	223	329
	12	NO GLASS	
	13	256	NC
20	14	275	436
	15	260	NC
	16	236	383
	17	232	NC
	18	217	352
25	19	212	NC
	20	193	NC
	21	183	327
	22	NO GLASS	
	23	227	353
30	24	209	331
	25	205	310

*NC = no crystallization observed to 450°C

The results reveal that the glass compositions of this invention possess low T_g's and that these compositions (which contain PbO) have lower T_g's and are more resistant to recrystallization than the equivalent compositions without PbO. Further, the only glasses formed without PbO which did not exhibit crystallization in the DSC were observed when the V₂O₅/TeO₂ ratio (wt/wt) was approximately 0.57/1. Thus, the PbO greatly expands the crystallization resistant glass region.

To assess the stabilization effect of oxides other than PbO in the glasses of this invention, a series of compositions based on glass formulation 17 were prepared. The amount of metal oxide added was 0.1 cation per cation of Te⁴⁺, thus the weight of added metal oxide in the glasses varied. The glasses were examined for T_g and T_{cryst} by DSC. The results are presented in Table III.

Table III
Results of Oxide Testing

Ex. No.	Composition (wt%)				T _g (°C)	T _{cryst} (°C)	Remarks
	TeO ₂	V ₂ O ₅	Ag ₂ O	Other Oxide			
1	60.7	17.3	22.0	none	236	383	—
2	55.9	15.9	20.3	7.8 PbO	232	none	—
3	59.5	17.0	21.6	1.9 Al ₂ O ₃	253	none	—
4	55.9	15.9	20.3	7.8 Bi ₂ O ₃	241	none	—
5	58.9	16.8	21.4	2.9 CuO	246	none	—
6	57.4	16.4	20.8	5.4 SnO ₂	235	405	—
7	58.9	16.8	21.3	3.0 ZnO ₂	241	none	—
8	58.9	16.8	21.4	2.9 TiO ₂	240	385	see note 1
9	59.3	16.9	21.5	2.2 SiO ₂	238	396	see note 1
10	57.5	16.4	20.9	5.2 MoO ₃	248	none	—

Notes 1 Added oxide did not completely melt to form glass.

As shown, it can be seen that PbO is the only oxide which melts completely to form a glass while reducing or maintaining the low T_g and reducing the tendency to crystallize (T_{cryst}).

Example 4 Durability of Glasses in Water

To assess the durability of the glasses of this invention in water, several glasses of Example I were formed into 1.5-2mm diameter beads. Weighed glass beads were placed in a sealed container containing 15 ml of deionized water and maintained at 100°C for 1 hour. After removal from the water, the beads were dried, then subsequently reweighed and visually inspected. For comparison, a lead borate glass was also examined. The results are summarized in Table IV.

Table IV
Results of Water Durability Testing

Sample	Weight Change (gm/cm ² surface area)	Appearance
3	+0.003	yellowed
7	-0.004	yellowed
9	no change (<0.001)	no change
16	-0.001	slight haze
17	no change (<0.001)	no change
14	+0.003	whitened
lead borate glass	0.05	white crust on surface

As shown, it can be seen that the samples containing PbO were quite durable, exhibiting no changes (in weight or appearance), while the glasses without PbO exhibited significant weight changes and alterations in appearance. The lead borate glass exhibited weight changes more than 50 times greater than the glasses of this invention (Samples 9 and 17).

Example 5 Use of glasses in Die Attach Adhesives

To assess the utility to the glasses of this invention, a sample of adhesive was made by admixing 1 part

of glass Sample 13 with 7 parts of metallic silver, a high boiling organic solvent, and a polymeric binder. This was then used to attach a 0.4" x 0.4" bare silicon die to a bare 92% alumina substrate by applying the adhesive to the substrate and placing the die on its surface, drying the system at 80°C for 1 hour, heating to peak temperature at a rate of 30°C/min. and maintaining at peak temperature for 10 min., followed by a cooling at 100°C/min. to ambient temperature.

The strength of the bond was then assessed on a Sebastian III tensile test analyzer, and the mode of failure was recorded. This was compared with the performance of JM4720 (a die attach adhesive marketed by Johnson Matthey Inc.) and QMI 2412 (a die attach adhesive marketed by Quantum Materials, Inc.) treated in the same manner. The results are presented in Table V.

Table V
Summary of Adhesive Tests

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Peak Firing Temp. (°C)</u>	<u>Results</u>
Invention	350	44,03Kg(97 lbs)- cohesive failure - die broke
	375	52,52Kg(108 lbs)- cohesive failure die broke
JM 4720	350	0,454Kg(1 lb)- adhesive failure
	375	4,08Kg(9 lbs) - adhesive failure
QMI 2412	350	0,90Kg(2 lbs)- adhesive failure
	375	3,69Kg(8 lbs)- adhesive failure

As shown, it can be seen that only the adhesive of this invention formed a strong bond under these conditions.

Example 6 Thermal Expansion Coefficients of the Glasses

To assess the utility of these glasses in sealing glass applications, thermal expansion coefficients over the 25-150°C range were measured for several representative glasses of this invention on a thermo-mechanical analyzer (TMA). The results are reported as parts per million expansion per °C (ppm/°C) over this temperature range, and are summarized in Table VI.

Table VI
Summary of Thermal Expansion Results

<u>Glass Sample</u>	<u>Thermal Expansion Coefficient (ppm/°C)</u>
9	16.7
10	16.8
16	14.7
17	17.1
20	19.2

The results demonstrate that the glasses have thermal expansion coefficient of approximately 14-20 ppm/°C in the operative temperature range.

To further assess the utility of these glasses as sealing glasses blends of glass 13 with ceramic fillers were examined on the TMA. The results are presented in Table VII.

Table VII
Summary of Thermal Expansion Results with Fillers

<u>Glass Sample</u>	<u>Filler Type</u>	<u>Wt. % Filler</u>	<u>Thermal Expansion Coefficient (ppm/°C)</u>
13	beta-eucryptite	25	7.5
13	beta-eucryptite	33	5.5
13	amorphous silica	33	6.9

These results demonstrate that the thermal expansion coefficient can be greatly reduced by use of a ceramic filler.

It is apparent that many modifications and variations of this invention as hereinabove set forth may be made without departing from the spirit and scope thereof. The specific embodiments are given by way of example only and the invention is limited only by the terms of the appended claims.

Claims

1. A low softening point glass composition comprising 2 to 40% by wt. silver oxide, 12 to 40% by wt. vanadium oxide, and 35 to 75% by wt. tellurium oxide, and 2 to 30% by wt. lead oxide, wherein all percentages total 100.
2. A low softening point glass composition comprising 2 to 40% by wt. silver oxide, 12 to 40% by wt. vanadium oxide, and 35 to 75% tellurium oxide, and 2 to 30% by wt. lead oxide, and up to a total of 10% by wt. of one or more oxide compounds selected from the group consisting of phosphorous oxide, tungsten oxide, silicon oxide, copper oxide, aluminum oxide, bismuth oxide, tin oxide, zinc oxide, thallium oxide, arsenic oxide, molybdenum oxide, titanium oxide, and antimony oxide, wherein all percentages total 100.
3. A die attach adhesive composition comprising an admixture of
 - (a) a metal selected from the group consisting of silver, gold, and platinum, and
 - (b) a powdered, low softening point glass composition comprising 2 to 40% by wt. silver oxide, 12 to 40% by wt. vanadium oxide, 35 to 75% by wt. tellurium oxide, and 2 to 30% by wt. lead oxide, wherein all percentages total 100,
 having a peak firing temperature of 400°C or lower, wherein the ratio of (a)/(b) is 4:1 to 100:1.
4. The die attach adhesive of Claim 3, wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of flaked metal, powdered metal and mixtures of flaked and/or powdered metal.
5. The die attach adhesive of Claim 3 wherein the glass composition further comprises up to a total of 10% (by wt.) of one or more oxide compounds selected from the group consisting of phosphorous pentoxide, tungsten oxide, silicon oxide, copper oxide, aluminum oxide, bismuth oxide, tin oxide, zinc oxide thallium oxide, arsenic oxide, molybdenum oxide, titanium oxide, and antimony oxide.
6. A sealing glass comprising the low softening point composition of Claim 1.
7. The sealing glass of Claim 6 which further comprises an effective amount of an expansion-modifying filler, such that the thermal expansion coefficient of the glass is reduced.

Patentansprüche

1. Glaszusammensetzung mit einem niedrigen Erweichungspunkt, umfassend 2 bis 40 Gew.-% Silberoxid, 12 bis 40 Gew.-% Vanadiumoxid und 35 bis 75 Gew.-% Telluroxid sowie 2 bis 30 Gew.-% Bleioxid, wobei



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Patentansprüche

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alle Prozentsätze insgesamt 100 betragen.

2. Glaszusammensetzung mit niedrigem Erweichungspunkt, umfassend 2 bis 40 Gew.-% Silberoxid, 12 bis 40 Gew.-% Vanadiumoxid und 35 bis 75 Gew.-% Telluroxid und 2 bis 30 Gew.-% Bleioxid sowie bis zu insgesamt 10 Gew.-% einer oder mehrerer Oxidverbindungen, ausgewählt aus der aus Phosphoroxid, Wolframoxid, Siliciumoxid, Kupferoxid, Aluminiumoxid, Wismutoxid, Zinnoxid, Zinkoxid, Thalliumoxid, Arsenoxid, Molybdänoxid, Titanoxid und Antimonoxid bestehenden Gruppe, wobei alle Prozentsätze insgesamt 100 betragen.
3. Chipbefestigungsklebstoffzusammensetzung, umfassend eine Mischung aus
 - (a) einem Metall, ausgewählt aus der aus Silber, Gold und Platin bestehenden Gruppe, und
 - (b) einer pulverigen Glaszusammensetzung mit einem niedrigen Erweichungspunkt, umfassend 2 bis 40 Gew.-% Silberoxid, 12 bis 40 Gew.-% Vanadiumoxid, 35 bis 75 Gew.-% Telluroxid und 2 bis 30 Gew.-% Bleioxid, wobei alle Prozentsätze insgesamt 100 betragen,
 mit einer Spitzenbrenntemperatur von 400°C oder niedriger, in welcher das Verhältnis von (a)/(b) 4:1 bis 100:1 beträgt.
4. Chipbefestigungsklebstoff nach Anspruch 3, worin das Metall aus der aus flockigem Metall, pulverigem Metall und Mischungen von flockigem und/ oder pulverigem Metall bestehenden Gruppe ausgewählt ist.
5. Chipbefestigungsklebstoff nach Anspruch 3, worin die Glaszusammensetzung ferner bis zu insgesamt 10 Gew.-% einer oder mehrerer Oxidverbindungen, ausgewählt aus der aus Phosphoroxid, Wolframoxid, Siliciumoxid, Kupferoxid, Aluminiumoxid, Wismutoxid, Zinnoxid, Zinkoxid, Thalliumoxid, Arsenoxid, Molybdänoxid, Titanoxid und Antimonoxid bestehenden Gruppe, umfaßt.
6. Dichtungsglas, umfassend die Zusammensetzung mit einem niedrigen Erweichungspunkt nach Anspruch 1.
7. Dichtungsglas nach Anspruch 6, das ferner eine wirksame Menge eines expansionsmodifizierenden Füllstoffes umfaßt, so daß der Wärmeexpansionskoeffizient des Glases verringert wird.

Revendications

1. Composition de verre à point de ramollissement bas, comprenant 2 à 40 % en poids d'oxyde d'argent, 12 à 40 % en poids d'oxyde de vanadium et 35 à 75 % en poids d'oxyde de tellure, ainsi que 2 à 30 % en poids d'oxyde de plomb, la somme de tous les pourcentages étant égale à 100.
2. Composition de verre à point de ramollissement bas, comprenant 2 à 40 % en poids d'oxyde d'argent, 12 à 40 % en poids d'oxyde de vanadium et 35 à 75 % en poids d'oxyde de tellure, ainsi que 2 à 30 % en poids d'oxyde de plomb et jusqu'à une quantité totale de 10 % en poids d'un ou plusieurs oxydes choisis dans le groupe consistant en oxyde de phosphore, oxyde de tungstène, oxyde de silicium, oxyde de cuivre, oxyde d'aluminium, oxyde de bismuth, oxyde d'étain, oxyde de zinc, oxyde de thallium, oxyde d'arsenic, oxyde de molybdène, oxyde de titane et oxyde d'antimoine, la somme de tous les pourcentages étant égale à 100.
3. Composition adhésive de fixation de tranches semiconductrices, comprenant un mélange
 - (a) d'un métal choisi dans le groupe consistant en argent, or et platine, et
 - (b) d'une composition de verre à bas point de ramollissement, en poudre, comprenant 2 à 40 % en poids d'oxyde d'argent, 12 à 40 % en poids d'oxyde de vanadium, 35 à 75 % en poids d'oxyde de tellure et 2 à 30 % en poids d'oxyde de plomb, la somme de tous les pourcentages étant égale à 100, ayant une température maximale de cuisson égale ou inférieure à 400°C, dans laquelle le rapport (a)/(b) est compris dans l'intervalle de 4:1 à 100:1.
4. Adhésif de fixation de tranches semiconductrices suivant la revendication 3, dans lequel le métal est choisi dans le groupe consistant en un métal en paillettes, un métal en poudre et des mélanges de métal en paillettes et/ou de métal en poudre.
5. Adhésif de fixation de tranches semiconductrices suivant la revendication 3, dans lequel la composition



de verre comprend en outre jusqu'à une quantité totale de 10 % (en poids) d'un ou plusieurs oxydes choisis dans le groupe consistant en pentoxyde de phosphore, oxyde de tungstène, oxyde de silicium, oxyde de cuivre, oxyde d'aluminium, oxyde de bismuth, oxyde d'étain, oxyde de zinc, oxyde de tellure, oxyde d'arsenic, oxyde de molybdène, oxyde de titane et oxyde d'antimoine.

- 5
6. Verre de scellement comprenant la composition à bas point de ramollissement suivant la revendication 1.
- 10
7. Verre de scellement suivant la revendication 6, qui comprend en outre une quantité efficace d'une charge modificatrice de dilatation, de telle sorte que le coefficient de dilatation thermique du verre soit réduit.
- 15
- 20
- 25
- 30
- 35
- 40
- 45
- 50
- 55