HORIBA Explore the future



HORIBA Instruments Incorporated Particle Characterization Jeffrey Bodycomb, Ph.D.

The Ultimate LA-960V2 Virtual Demonstration: Ceramics Powder

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Particle size distribution affects:

- Packing density (wider distribution tends to give a higher density)
- Slurry viscosity
- Die filling/compression (fill speed)
- Green strength
- Extrusion performance (scratch in line from large particles)
- Defects in finished parts



Packing Density





Affects strength and defects of green and finished parts



Die Filling





Fig. 11 Dimensionless mass flowrate for die filling in air and in a vacuum (Guo et al. 2009).



Size range



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Laser diffraction

Investigate a particle with light and determine its size





Measurement Workflow

Prepare the sample Good sampling and dispersion a must! May need to use surfactant or admixture





Measurement Workflow

Prepare the system

- Align laser to maximize signal-to-noise
- Acquire blank/background to reduce noise





Method Workflow

- Determine particle refractive index (RI)
- Choose diluent (water, surfactants, hexane, etc.)
- Sampler selection: sample volume
- Pump & stirrer settings
- Concentration
- Measurement duration
- Does the sample need ultrasound?
 - Document size-time plot
 - Disperse sample, but don't break particles
 - Check for reproducibility



Accessories for wet analysis









Standard circulation



Circulate dense 3 mm particles.

Why? Because we can...





Imaging option





Imaging



Size Range: 9-1000 microns

Pixel Size: 0.73 microns



Dry powder analysis

Powderjet Dry Powder Feeder





Dry powder feeder

- Direct flow of powder straight down
- Adjustable air pressure for dispersion.
- No impact surfaces means good dispersion w/o comminution.
- Feedback control gives great reproducibility.
- As little as 5 mg of sample.





Thank you



