



Brief to appear in Finishing Forum, e-newsletter

DEEP SPACE BLACK

Great Optically Black Surfaces are the “holy grail” to Optical System Engineers having to deal with their “arch enemy”, that is, stray, unwanted, and uncontrolled light in their designs. The engineer typically has 2 levers to pull in working this problem; build in physical obstructions (baffles) into the design and/or use Low Reflectance/Highly Absorbing surface finishes. Deep Space Black is a great choice in providing the qualities to meet your Optically Black surfacing requirements.

N-Science, in partnership with AST produces the DEEP SPACE BLACK (DSB) family of products. DSB is an excellent performer in providing both high Emissivity and Low Reflectance in a wide variety of applications.

Black Surfaces supporting “high-end” optical systems have been sought for many years. “Aerospace” was the primary driver behind much of the development and evolution of these surfaces going back as far as the early 1960s. One the better-known public programs pushing these developments was the Hubble Space Telescope. Many specialty black surface products were available from the likes of Ball Aerospace, Hughes Aircraft, and Martin Marietta to name but a few. From their efforts came products like, Infra-black, Ball Black, BIR Black, Martin Black, Catalac Black, Ebanol C, GSFC Black paint, and so on. The Majority of these products and processes have been discontinued over time.

N-Sci/AST developed DSB out of our internal need to have a “high-end”, Black Surface Process readily available to us for our Science Instrument customers. In this effort we sought to improve and modernize the product, improve producibility factors, commercialize the process and it’s pricing structure. We sought to deemphasize the “impression” that this process was only available to “Aerospace”. N-Sci/AST has accomplished this in providing a dedicated DSB line within AST’s 30,000sq ft facility, streamlining of processes and procedures with view towards “production” in the commercial sense, and in providing great customer care and guidance up front.

And, YES!, our Aerospace customers are still here!

N-Sci/AST provides DSB in 3 flavors; DSB-VIS, DSB-FSB, DSB-FSE Contact **N-Science 303.718-9502**; **N-Sci/AST office 303-432-8500 fax 303.432.8555**, or www.nscicorp.com for a downloadable version of DSB Product Bulletin.