THERMAL NEUTRON DETECTOR EJ-426

EJ-426 is an efficient detector for thermal neutrons with low sensitivity to gamma radiation. The detector has the form of a flat, white, thin sheet consisting of a homogeneous matrix of fine particles of lithium-6-fluoride (⁶LiF) and zinc sulfide phosphor (ZnS:Ag) compactly dispersed in a colorless binder. The lithium is enriched in ⁶Li to a minimum of 95 atom percent.

The neutron detection process employs the nuclear reaction ^6Li (n, $\alpha)\,^3\text{H}$:

 $^{6}\text{Li} + {}^{1}\text{n} \rightarrow {}^{3}\text{H} + {}^{4}\text{He} + 4.78 \text{ MeV}$

with a cross section of 941 barns for 0.025 eV neutrons. The resulting triton and alpha particle are detected by ZnS:Ag phosphor with the broad blue fluorescent spectrum shown below. The decay time of the prompt scintillation component is 200 ns.

EJ-426 sheets can be manufactured in a large variety of sizes and formulas and are usually supplied with a support backing. Most types are heat formable. The tables below present the product variations currently available.

DETECTION PROPERTIES				
Screen Type		EJ-426-0	EJ-426HD	
⁶ LiF:ZnS Mass Ratio		1:3	1:2	
⁶ Li Density (atoms/cm ³)		8.81 × 10 ²¹	1.07×10^{22}	
Theoretical N [™] Efficiency	0.32 mm thick	0.21	0.25	
	0.50 mm thick	0.31	0.36	

STANDARD PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

When requesting EJ-426, please specify the desired formula, matrix thickness, backing material, and sheet size. Standard options are listed in the table on the left. Custom formulations and variations are also available. The maximum sheet size is 400mm x 500mm.

EXAMPLE

Product Number: EJ-426-0-PE **Description:** Phosphor matrix with 1:3 ⁶LiF to ZnS mass ratio on 0.25 mm thick clear polyester sheet. **Sheet Size:** 0.32 mm thick × 100 mm × 100 mm





FORMULA					
EJ-426-0					
EJ-426HD					
MATRIX THICKNESS					
0.32 mm					
0.50 mm					
BACKING					
MATERIAL TYPE	DESCRIPTION	SUFFIX			
Aluminum Foil	50 μm thick foil	(none)			
	0.25 mm thick sheet	-PE			
Clear Polyester Sheet	Laminated between two 0.25 mm thick sheets	-PE2			
Aluminized Mylar	0.12 mm thick sheet	-AM			
Pure Aluminum	0.5mm thick plate	-PA			
High Reflective Aluminum	0.4mm thick plate	-A			

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