

Re: Electroscope Materials

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- *From:* Jeff Liebermann <jeffl@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 21 Jun 2008 17:49:24 -0700
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On Sat, 21 Jun 2008 20:49:59 +0100, "christofire"
<christofire@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

"Jeff Liebermann" <jeffl@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:6ptn54156eh5n6g67kt4aqim2d84hblqhs@xxxxxxxxxxx

On Fri, 20 Jun 2008 12:36:29 -0500, "amdx" <amdx@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:
Aluminum is MUCH
easier to handle than gold, but because it weighs more, is less sensitive.

Huh? Aluminium weighs more than gold? Am I in the wrong universe?

I said weight, not specific gravity or density. Hammered gold leaf is about 0.1 micro meters thick. Aluminum foil that thin would just crumble or shred itself. I think the best I can find for aluminum foil is rolled (not hammered) at about 1,000 micro meters thick. That's about 10,000 times as thick as gold.

The electrostatic forces on each leaf are repelling each other, but are also fighting gravity. The flexibility and weight of the material is a key part of how much they move and thus their sensitivity.

<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electrometer>>

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