



Ceramic transient voltage suppressors

SMD multilayer transient voltage suppressors, radio frequency series

Series/Type:

Date: August 2008

Multilayer varistors (MLVs)

Radio frequency series

SMD

EPCOS type designation system for radio frequency series

CT	0402	V	150	RF	G
Construction: CT \triangleq Single chip with nickel barrier termination (AgNiSn)					
Case sizes: 0402 0603					
Tolerance for the varistor voltage: V \triangleq Typical varistor voltage					
Typical varistor voltage (V_v): 90 \triangleq 90 V 150 \triangleq 150 V 275 \triangleq 275 V					
Radio frequency series					
Taping mode: G \triangleq 180-mm reel G2 \triangleq 330-mm reel					

Multilayer varistors (MLVs)

Radio frequency series

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Features

- Ultra-low capacitance ratings down to 0.6 pF
- Ultra-low DC leakage current
- Low insertion loss
- No signal attenuation
- ESD protection acc. to IEC-61000-4-2 level 4
- Extremely fast response
- RoHS-compatible
- Suitable for lead-free soldering

Applications

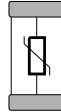
- ESD protection in mobile phones, handheld devices and wireless LAN/notebook and peripherals:
 - RF antennas
 - RF modules
 - High-speed data lines
 - USB 2.0 and IEEE 1394 interfaces

Design

- Multilayer technology
- Lack of plastic or epoxy encapsulation for flammability rating better than UL 94 V-0
- Termination (see "Soldering directions"):
 - CT types with nickel barrier terminations (AgNiSn), recommended for lead-free soldering, and compatible with tin/lead solder.

Single chip

Internal circuit



MLV0006-H

Available case sizes:

EIA	Metric
0402	1005
0603	1608

General technical data

Maximum RMS operating voltage		$V_{RMS,max}$	4 ... 14	V
Maximum DC operating voltage		$V_{DC,max}$	5.5 ... 16	V
Contact discharge ESD capability	to IEC 61000-4-2	$V_{ESD,contact}$	8	kV
Air discharge ESD capability	to IEC 61000-4-2	$V_{ESD,air}$	15	kV
Maximum capacitance	(1 MHz, 1 V)	C_{max}	1 ... 5	pF
Operating temperature	for case size 0402	T_{op}	-40/+85	°C
Operating temperature	for case size 0603	T_{op}	-40/+125	°C
Storage temperature	for case size 0402	T_{stg}	-40/+125	°C
Storage temperature	for case size 0603	T_{stg}	-40/+150	°C

Multilayer varistors (MLVs)

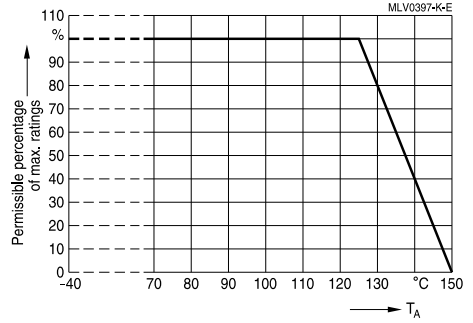
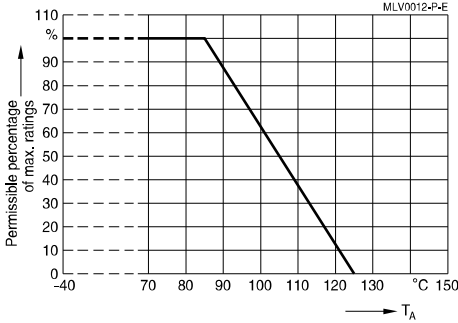
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Temperature derating

Climatic category: $-40/+85\text{ °C}$ for 0402

Climatic category: $-40/+125\text{ °C}$ for 0603



Electrical specifications and ordering codes

Maximum ratings ($T_{op,max}$)

Type	Ordering code	$V_{RMS,max}$ V	$V_{DC,max}$ V	$T_{op,max}$ °C
CT0402S5ARFG	B72590T7050S160	4	5.5	+85
CT0603S5ARFG	B72500T7050S160	4	5.5	+125
CT0402V150RFG	B72590T7151V060	14	16	+85
CT0402V275RFG	B72590T7271V060	14	16	+85
CT0402V90RFG	B72590T7900V060	14	16	+85
CT0603V150RFG	B72500T7151V060	14	16	+125

Characteristics ($T_A = 25\text{ °C}$)

Type	$V_{V,min}$ (1 mA) V	$V_{V,max}$ (1 mA) V	$I_{leak,typ}$ ($V_{op} = 3.5\text{ V}$) μA	C_{typ} (1 MHz, 1 V) pF	C_{max} (1 MHz, 1 V) pF
CT0402S5ARFG	220	290	0.001 ¹⁾	0.6	1
CT0603S5ARFG	220	290	0.001 ¹⁾	0.6	1
CT0402V150RFG	150	200	0.001	2	3
CT0402V275RFG	275	350	0.001	1.5	2
CT0402V90RFG	90	120	0.001	2.2	3
CT0603V150RFG	150	200	0.001	3	5

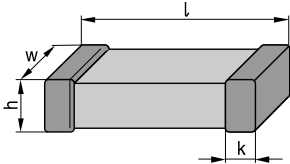
1) Measured @ $V_{DC,max}$

Multilayer varistors (MLVs)

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Dimensional drawing

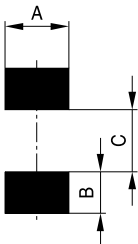


MLV0031-M

Dimensions in mm

Case size EIA / mm	l	w	h	k
0402 / 1005	1.0 ±0.15	0.50 ±0.10	0.6 max.	0.10 ... 0.30
0603 / 1608	1.6 ±0.15	0.80 ±0.10	0.9 max.	0.10 ... 0.40

Recommended solder pad layout



MLV0034-P

Dimensions in mm

Case size EIA / mm	A	B	C
0402 / 1005	0.60	0.60	0.50
0603 / 1608	1.00	1.00	1.00

Delivery mode

EIA case size	Taping	Reel size mm	Packing unit pcs.	Type	Ordering code
0402	Cardboard	180	10000	CT0402S5ARFG	B72590T7050S160
0402	Cardboard	180	10000	CT0402V150RFG	B72590T7151V060
0402	Cardboard	180	10000	CT0402V275RFG	B72590T7271V060
0402	Cardboard	180	10000	CT0402V90RFG	B72590T7900V060
0603	Cardboard	180	4000	CT0603S5ARFG	B72500T7050S160
0603	Cardboard	180	4000	CT0603V150RFG	B72500T7151V060

Multilayer varistors (MLVs)

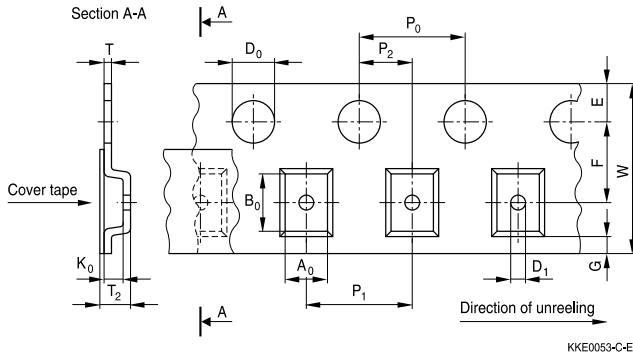
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Taping and packing

1 Taping and packing for SMD components

1.1 Blister tape (the taping to IEC 60286-3)



Dimensions in mm

	8-mm tape					12-mm tape		16-mm tape		Tolerance
	Case size (inch/mm)					Case size (inch/mm)		Case size (inch/mm)		
		0508/ 1220	0612/ 1632	1012/ 2532						
	0603/ 1608	0506/ 1216	0805/ 2012	1206/ 3216	1210/ 3225	1812/ 4532	2220/ 5750	3225	4032	
A ₀	0.9 ±0.10	1.50	1.60	1.90	2.80	3.50	5.10	7.00	8.60	±0.20
B ₀	1.75 ±0.10	1.80	2.40	3.50	3.50	4.80	6.00	8.70	10.60	±0.20
K ₀	1.0	0.80	1.80			2.60		5.00		max.
T	0.30					0.30		0.30		max.
T ₂	1.3	1.20	2.50			3.50		5.50		max.
D ₀	1.50					1.50		1.50		+0.10/-0
D ₁	1.00					1.50		1.50		min.
P ₀	4.00					4.00		4.00		±0.10 ¹⁾
P ₂	2.00					2.00		2.00		±0.05
P ₁	4.00					8.00		12.00		±0.10
W	8.00					12.00		16.00		±0.30
E	1.75					1.75		1.75		±0.10
F	3.50					5.50		7.50		±0.05
G	0.75					0.75		0.75		min.

1) ≤±0.2 mm over 10 sprocket holes.

Multilayer varistors (MLVs)

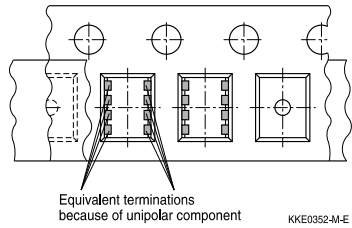
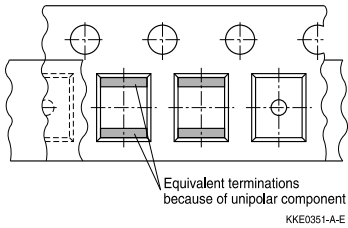
Radio frequency series

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Part orientation in tape pocket for blister tape

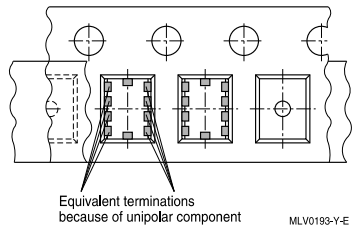
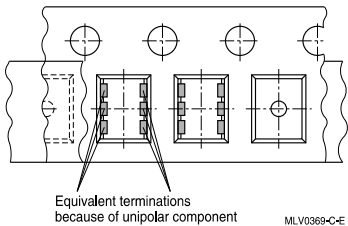
For discrete chip, case sizes 0603, 0805, 1206, 1210, 1812 and 2220

For array, case sizes 0612



For arrays 0506 and 1012

For filter array, case size 0508



Additional taping information

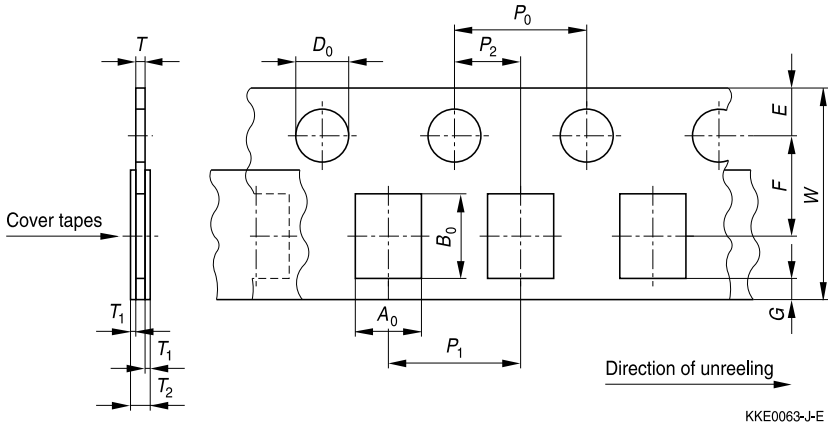
Reel material	Polystyrol (PS)
Tape material	Polystyrol (PS) or Polycarbonat (PC) or PVC
Tape break force	min. 10 N
Top cover tape strength	min. 10 N
Top cover tape peel force	0.2 to 0.6 N for 8-mm tape and 0.2 to 0.8 N for 12-mm tape at a peel speed of 300 mm/min
Tape peel angle	Angle between top cover tape and the direction of feed during peel off: 165° to 180°
Cavity play	Each part rests in the cavity so that the angle between the part and cavity center line is no more than 20°

Multilayer varistors (MLVs)

Radio frequency series

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1.2 Cardboard tape (taping to IEC 60286-3)



Dimensions in mm

	8-mm tape						Tolerance
	Case size (inch/mm)					Case size (inch/mm)	
	0201/0603	0402/1005	0405/1012	0603/1608	1003/2508	0508/1220	
A ₀	0.38 ±0.05	0.60	1.05	0.95	1.00	1.60	±0.20
B ₀	0.68 ±0.05	1.15	1.60	1.80	2.85	2.40	±0.20
T	0.35 ±0.02	0.60	0.75	0.95	1.00	0.95	max.
T ₂	0.4 min.	0.70	0.90	1.10	1.10	1.12	max.
D ₀	1.50 ±0.1	1.50				1.50	+0.10/-0
P ₀	4.00						±0.10 ²⁾
P ₂	2.00						±0.05
P ₁	2.00 ±0.05	2.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	±0.10
W	8.00						±0.30
E	1.75						±0.10
F	3.50						±0.05
G	1.35	0.75					min.

2) ≤0.2 mm over 10 sprocket holes.

Multilayer varistors (MLVs)

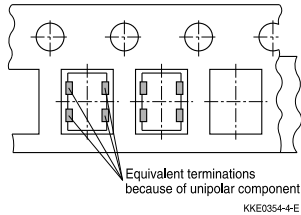
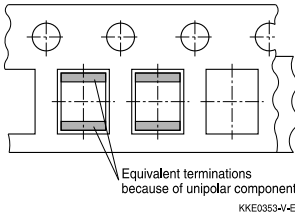
Radio frequency series

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Part orientation in tape pocket for cardboard tape

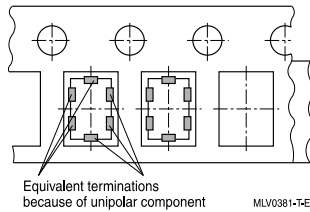
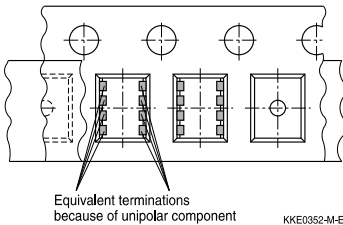
For discrete chip case sizes 0201, 0402, 0603 and 1003

For array case size 0405



For array case size 0508

For filter array, case size 0405

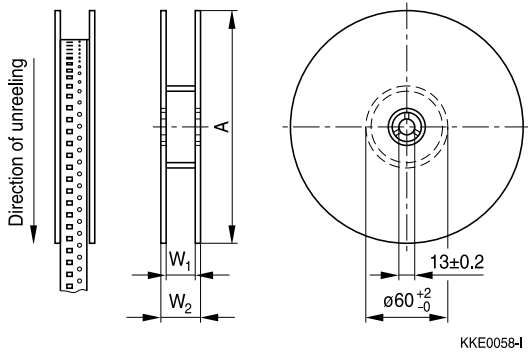


Additional taping information

Reel material	Polystyrol (PS)
Tape material	Cardboard
Tape break force	min. 10 N
Top cover tape strength	min. 10 N
Top cover tape peel force	0.1 to 0.65 N at a peel speed of 300 mm/min
Tape peel angle	Angle between top cover tape and the direction of feed during peel off: 165° to 180°
Cavity play	Each part rests in the cavity so that the angle between the part and cavity center line is no more than 20°

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1.3 Reel packing

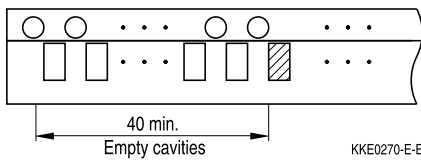


Dimensions in mm

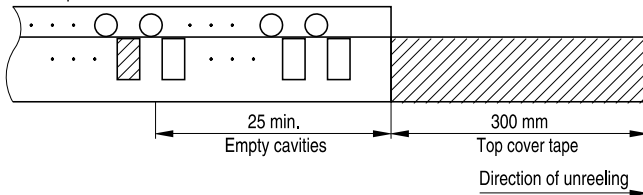
	8-mm tape		12-mm tape		16-mm tape
	180-mm reel	330-mm reel	180-mm reel	330-mm reel	330-mm reel
A	180 -3/+0	330 -2.0	180 -3/+0	330 -2.0	330 -2.0
W_1	8.4 +1.5/-0	8.4 +1.5/-0	12.4 +1.5/-0	12.4 +1.5/-0	16.4 +1.5/-0
W_2	14.4 max.	14.4 max.	18.4 max.	18.4 max.	22.4 max.

Leader, trailer

Tape end (Trailer)



Leader part



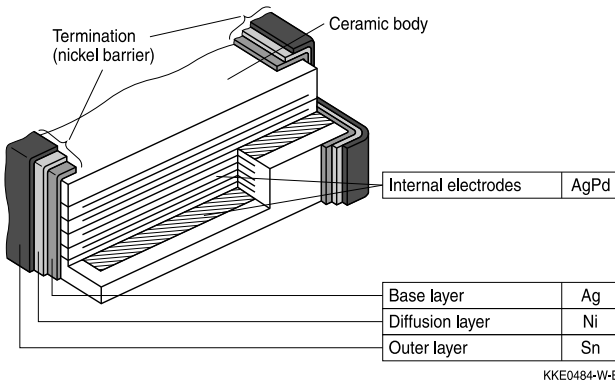
KKE0289-Q-E

Soldering directions

1 Terminations

1.1 Nickel barrier termination

The nickel barrier layer of the silver/nickel/tin termination prevents leaching of the silver base metallization layer. This allows great flexibility in the selection of soldering parameters. The tin prevents the nickel layer from oxidizing and thus ensures better wetting by the solder. The nickel barrier termination is suitable for all commonly-used soldering methods.

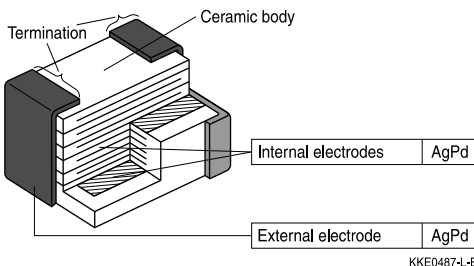


Multilayer CTVS: Structure of nickel barrier termination

1.2 Silver-palladium termination

Silver-palladium terminations are used for the large case sizes 1812 and 2220 and for chips intended for conductive adhesion. This metallization improves the resistance of large chips to thermal shock.

In case of conductive adhesion, the silver-palladium metallization reduces susceptibility to corrosion. Silver-palladium termination can be used for smaller case sizes (only chip) for hybrid applications as well. The silver-palladium termination is not approved for lead-free soldering.

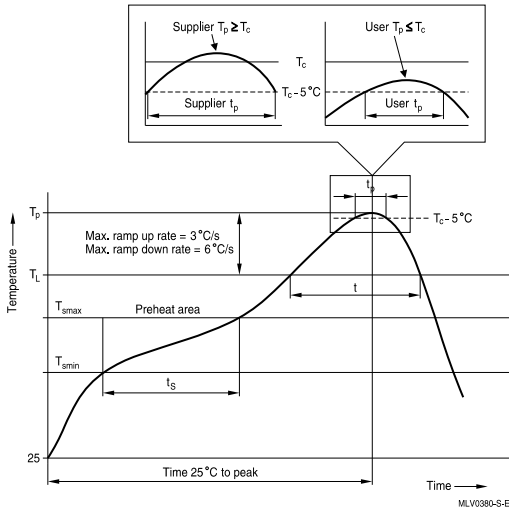


Multilayer varistor: Structure of silver-palladium termination

2 Recommended soldering temperature profiles

2.1 Reflow soldering temperature profile

Recommended temperature characteristic for reflow soldering following JEDEC J-STD-020D



Profile feature		Sn-Pb eutectic assembly	Pb-free assembly
Preheat and soak			
- Temperature min	T_{smin}	100 °C	150 °C
- Temperature max	T_{smax}	150 °C	200 °C
- Time	t_{smin} to t_{smax}	60 ... 120 s	60 ... 180 s
Average ramp-up rate	T_{smax} to T_p	3 °C/ s max.	3 °C/ s max.
Liquidous temperature	T_L	183 °C	217 °C
Time at liquidous	t_L	60 ... 150 s	60 ... 150 s
Peak package body temperature	T_p ¹⁾	220 °C ... 235 °C ²⁾	245 °C ... 260 °C ²⁾
Time (t_p) ³⁾ within 5 °C of specified classification temperature (T_c)		20 s ³⁾	30 s ³⁾
Average ramp-down rate	T_p to T_{smax}	6 °C/ s max.	6 °C/ s max.
Time 25 °C to peak temperature		maximum 6 min	maximum 8 min

1) Tolerance for peak profile temperature (T_p) is defined as a supplier minimum and a user maximum.

2) Depending on package thickness. For details please refer to JEDEC J-STD-020D.

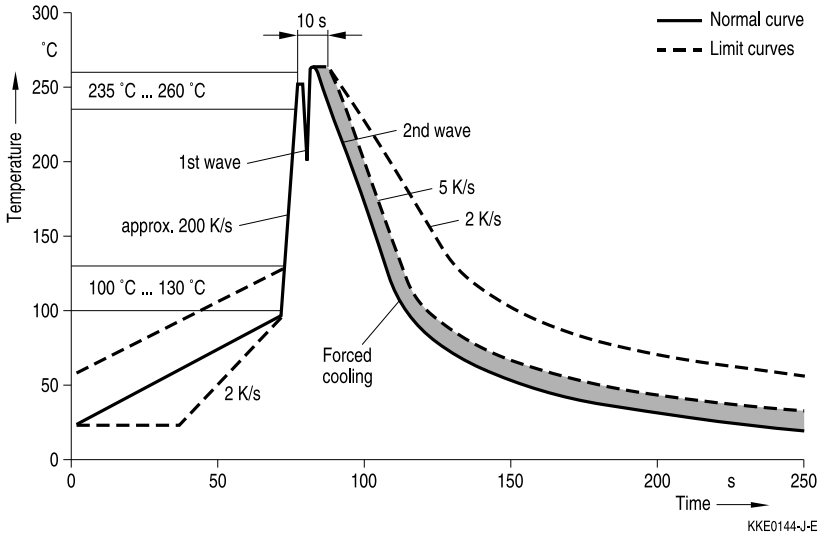
3) Tolerance for time at peak profile temperature (t_p) is defined as a supplier minimum and a user maximum.

Note: All temperatures refer to topside of the package, measured on the package body surface.
Number of reflow cycles: 3

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2.2 Wave soldering temperature profile

Temperature characteristics at component terminal with dual-wave soldering



2.3 Lead-free soldering processes

EPCOS multilayer CTVS with AgNiSn termination are designed for the requirements of lead-free soldering processes only.

Soldering temperature profiles to JEDEC J-STD-020D, IEC 60068-2-58 and ZVEI recommendations.

Multilayer varistors (MLVs)
Radio frequency series
SMD
3 Recommended soldering methods - type-specific releases by EPCOS
3.1 Overview

Type	Case size	Reflow soldering		Wave soldering	
		SnPb	Lead-free	SnPb	Lead-free
CT... / CD...	0201/ 0402	Approved	Approved	No	No
CT... / CD...	0603 ... 2220	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved
CN...	0603 ... 2220	Approved	No	Approved	No
Arrays	0405 ... 1012	Approved	Approved	No	No
ESD/EMI filters	0405, 0508	Approved	Approved	No	No
CU	3225, 4032	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved
SHCV	-	No	No	Approved	Approved

3.2 Nickel barrier terminated multilayer CTVS

All EPCOS MLVs with nickel barrier termination are suitable and fully qualified for lead-free soldering. The nickel barrier layer is 100% matte tin-plated.

3.3 Silver-palladium terminated MLVs

AgPd-terminated MLVs are mainly designed for conductive adhesion technology on hybrid material. Additionally MLVs with AgPd termination are suitable for reflow and wave soldering with SnPb solder.

Note:

Lead-free soldering is not approved for MLVs with AgPd termination.

3.4 Tinned copper alloy

All EPCOS CU types with tinned termination are approved for lead-free and SnPb soldering.

3.5 Tinned iron wire

All EPCOS SHCV types with tinned termination are approved for lead-free and SnPb soldering.

4 Solder joint profiles / solder quantity
4.1 Nickel barrier termination

If the meniscus height is too low, that means the solder quantity is too low, the solder joint may break, i.e. the component becomes detached from the joint. This problem is sometimes interpreted as leaching of the external terminations.

Multilayer varistors (MLVs)

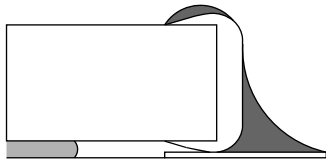
Radio frequency series

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If the solder meniscus is too high, i.e. the solder quantity is too large, the vise effect may occur. As the solder cools down, the solder contracts in the direction of the component. If there is too much solder on the component, it has no leeway to evade the stress and may break, as in a vise.

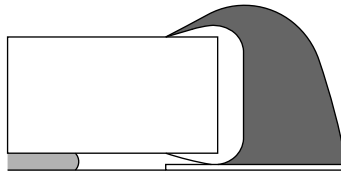
The figures below show good and poor solder joints for dual-wave and infrared soldering.

4.1.1 Solder joint profiles for nickel barrier termination - dual-wave soldering



Good solder joint

KKE0287-9-E

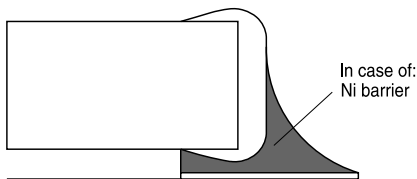


Too much solder
Pad geometry too large,
not soldered in preferred direction

KKE0288-H-E

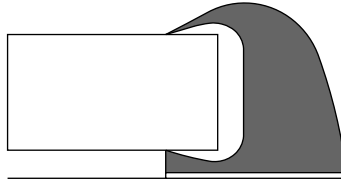
Good and poor solder joints caused by amount of solder in dual-wave soldering.

4.1.2 Solder joint profiles for nickel barrier termination / silver-palladium termination - reflow soldering



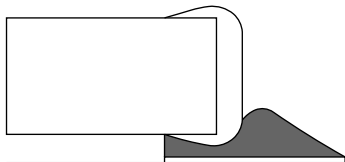
Good solder joint

MLV0196-B-E



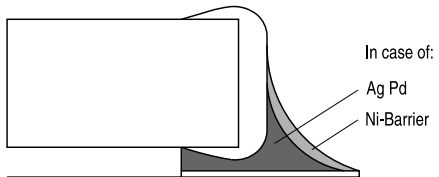
Too much solder
Pad geometry too large

KKE0071-A-E



Poor wetting

KKE0072-H-E



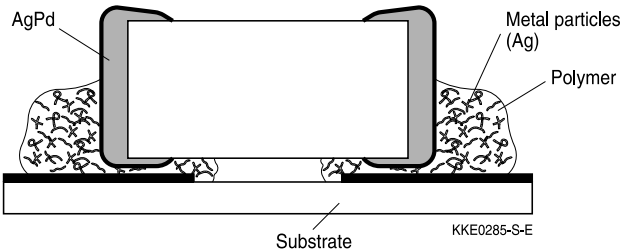
Good solder joint

KKE0070-2-E

Good and poor solder joints caused by amount of solder in reflow soldering.

SMD

5 Conductive adhesion



Attaching surface-mounted devices (SMDs) with electrically conductive adhesives is a commercially attractive method of component connection to supplement or even replace conventional soldering methods.

Electrically conductive adhesives consist of a non-conductive plastic (epoxy resin, polyimide or silicon) in which electrically conductive metal particles (gold, silver, palladium, nickel, etc) are embedded. Electrical conduction is effected by contact between the metal particles.

Adhesion is particularly suitable for meeting the demands of hybrid technology. The adhesives can be deposited ready for production requirements by screen printing, stamping or by dispensers. As shown in the following table, conductive adhesion involves two work operations fewer than soldering.

Reflow soldering	Wave soldering	Conductive adhesion
Screen-print solder paste	Apply glue dot	Screen-print conductive adhesive
Mount SMD	Mount SMD	Mount SMD
Predry solder paste	Cure glue	Cure adhesive
Reflow soldering	Wave soldering	Inspect
Wash	Wash	
Inspect	Inspect	

A further advantage of adhesion is that the components are subjected to virtually no temperature shock at all. The curing temperatures of the adhesives are between 120 °C and 180 °C, typical curing times are between 30 minutes and one hour.

The bending strength of glued chips is, in comparison with that of soldered chips, higher by a factor of at least 2, as is to be expected due to the elasticity of the glued joints.

The lower conductivity of conductive adhesive may lead to higher contact resistance and thus result in electrical data different to those of soldered components. Users must pay special attention to this in RF applications.

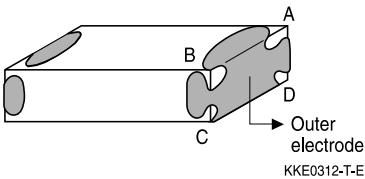
Multilayer varistors (MLVs)
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6 Solderability tests

Test	Standard	Test conditions Sn-Pb soldering	Test conditions Pb-free soldering	Criteria/ test results
Wettability	IEC 60068-2-58	Immersion in 60/40 SnPb solder using non-activated flux at 215 ± 3 °C for 3 ± 0.3 s	Immersion in Sn96.5Ag3.0Cu0.5 solder using non- or low activated flux at 245 ± 5 °C for 3 ± 0.3 s	Covering of 95% of end termination, checked by visual inspection
Leaching resistance	IEC 60068-2-58	Immersion in 60/40 SnPb solder using mildly activated flux without preheating at 260 ± 5 °C for 10 ± 1 s	Immersion in Sn96.5Ag3.0Cu0.5 solder using non- or low activated flux without preheating at 255 ± 5 °C for 10 ± 1 s	No leaching of contacts
Thermal shock (solder shock)		Dip soldering at 300 °C/5 s	Dip soldering at 300 °C/5 s	No deterioration of electrical parameters. Capacitance change: $\leq \pm 15\%$
Tests of resistance to soldering heat for SMDs	IEC 60068-2-58	Immersion in 60/40 SnPb for 10 s at 260 °C	Immersion in Sn96.5Ag3.0Cu0.5 for 10 s at 260 °C	Change of varistor voltage: $\leq \pm 5\%$
Tests of resistance to soldering heat for radial leaded components (SHCV)	IEC 60068-2-20	Immersion of leads in 60/40 SnPb for 10 s at 260 °C	Immersion of leads in Sn96.5Ag3.0Cu0.5 for 10 s at 260 °C	Change of varistor voltage: $\leq \pm 5\%$ Change of capacitance X7R: $\leq -5/+10\%$

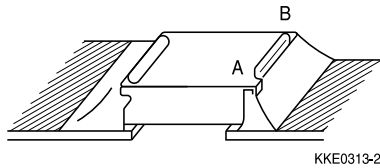
Note:

Leaching of the termination

Effective area at the termination might be lost if the soldering temperature and/or immersion time are not kept within the recommended conditions. Leaching of the outer electrode should not exceed 25% of the chip end area (full length of the edge A-B-C-D) and 25% of the length A-B, shown below as mounted on substrate.



As a single chip



As mounted on substrate

7 Notes for proper soldering

7.1 Preheating and cooling

- According to JEDEC J-STD-020D. Please refer to chapter 2.

7.2 Repair / rework

Manual soldering with a soldering iron must be avoided, hot-air methods are recommended for rework purposes.

7.3 Cleaning

All environmentally compatible agents are suitable for cleaning. Select the appropriate cleaning solution according to the type of flux used. The temperature difference between the components and cleaning liquid must not be greater than 100 °C. Ultrasonic cleaning should be carried out with the utmost caution. Too high ultrasonic power can impair the adhesive strength of the metalized surfaces.

7.4 Solder paste printing (reflow soldering)

An excessive application of solder paste results in too high a solder fillet, thus making the chip more susceptible to mechanical and thermal stress. Too little solder paste reduces the adhesive strength on the outer electrodes and thus weakens the bonding to the PCB. The solder should be applied smoothly to the end surface.

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7.5 Adhesive application

Thin or insufficient adhesive causes chips to loosen or become disconnected during curing. Low viscosity of the adhesive causes chips to slip after mounting. It is advised to consult the manufacturer of the adhesive on proper usage and amounts of adhesive to use.

7.6 Selection of flux

Used flux should have less than or equal to 0.1 wt % of halogenated content, since flux residue after soldering could lead to corrosion of the termination and/or increased leakage current on the surface of the component. Strong acidic flux must not be used. The amount of flux applied should be carefully controlled, since an excess may generate flux gas, which in turn is detrimental to solderability.

7.7 Storage of CTVs

Solderability is guaranteed for one year from date of delivery for multilayer varistors, CeraDiodes and ESD/EMI filters (half a year for chips with AgPd terminations) and two years for SHCV and CU components, provided that components are stored in their original packages.

Storage temperature: $-25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $+45\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

Relative humidity: $\leq 75\%$ annual average, $\leq 95\%$ on 30 days a year

The solderability of the external electrodes may deteriorate if SMDs and leaded components are stored where they are exposed to high humidity, dust or harmful gas (hydrogen chloride, sulfuric acid gas or hydrogen sulfide).

Do not store SMDs and leaded components where they are exposed to heat or direct sunlight. Otherwise the packing material may be deformed or SMDs/ leaded components may stick together, causing problems during mounting.

After opening the factory seals, such as polyvinyl-sealed packages, it is recommended to use the SMDs or leaded components as soon as possible.

7.8 Placement of components on circuit board

Especially in the case of dual-wave soldering, it is of advantage to place the components on the board before soldering in that way that their two terminals do not enter the solder bath at different times.

Ideally, both terminals should be wetted simultaneously.

7.9 Soldering cautions

- An excessively long soldering time or high soldering temperature results in leaching of the outer electrodes, causing poor adhesion and a change of electrical properties of the varistor due to the loss of contact between electrodes and termination.
- Wave soldering must not be applied for MLVs designated for reflow soldering only.
- Keep the recommended down-cooling rate.

7.10 Standards

CECC 00802

IEC 60068-2-58

IEC 60068-2-20

JEDEC J-STD-020D

Multilayer varistors (MLVs)
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Symbols and terms

Symbol	Term
$C_{line,typ}$	Typical capacitance per line
C_{max}	Maximum capacitance
C_{min}	Minimum capacitance
C_{nom}	Nominal capacitance
ΔC_{nom}	Tolerance of nominal capacitance
C_{typ}	Typical capacitance
$f_{cut-off,min}$	Minimum cut-off frequency
I	Current
I_{clamp}	Clamping current
I_{leak}	Leakage current
$I_{leak,typ}$	Typical leakage current
I_{PP}	Peak pulse current
$I_{surge,max}$	Maximum surge current (also termed peak current)
LCT	Lower category temperature
L_{typ}	Typical inductance
$P_{diss,max}$	Maximum power dissipation
P_{PP}	Peak pulse power
R_{ins}	Insulation resistance
R_{min}	Minimum resistance
R_S	Resistance per line
T_A	Ambient temperature
T_{op}	Operating temperature
T_{stg}	Storage temperature
t_r	Duration of equivalent rectangular wave
t_{resp}	Response time
UCT	Upper category temperature
V	Voltage
$V_{BR,min}$	Minimum breakdown voltage
$V_{clamp,max}$	Maximum clamping voltage
$V_{DC,max}$	Maximum DC operating voltage (also termed working voltage)
$V_{ESD,air}$	Air discharge ESD capability
$V_{ESD,contact}$	Contact discharge ESD capability
V_{jump}	Maximum jump start voltage

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$V_{\text{RMS,max}}$	Maximum AC operating voltage, root-mean-square value
V_V	Varistor voltage (also termed breakdown voltage)
$V_{V,\text{min}}$	Minimum varistor voltage
$V_{V,\text{max}}$	Maximum varistor voltage
ΔV_V	Tolerance of varistor voltage
W_{LD}	Maximum load dump
W_{max}	Maximum energy absorption (also termed transient energy)
α_{typ}	Typical insertion loss
e	Lead spacing
$\ll * \gg$	Maximum possible application conditions

All dimensions are given in mm.

The commas used in numerical values denote decimal points.

Cautions and warnings

General

Some parts of this publication contain statements about the suitability of our ceramic transient voltage suppressor (CTVS) components (multilayer varistors (MLVs), CeraDiodes, ESD/EMI filters, SMD disk varistors (CU types), leaded transient voltage/ RFI suppressors (SHCV types)) for certain areas of application, including recommendations about incorporation/design-in of these products into customer applications. The statements are based on our knowledge of typical requirements often made of our CTVS devices in the particular areas. We nevertheless expressly point out that such statements cannot be regarded as binding statements about the suitability of our CTVS components for a particular customer application. As a rule, EPCOS is either unfamiliar with individual customer applications or less familiar with them than the customers themselves. For these reasons, it is always incumbent on the customer to check and decide whether the CTVS devices with the properties described in the product specification are suitable for use in a particular customer application.

- Do not use EPCOS CTVS components for purposes not identified in our specifications, application notes and data books.
- Ensure the suitability of a CTVS in particular by testing it for reliability during design-in. Always evaluate a CTVS component under worst-case conditions.
- Pay special attention to the reliability of CTVS devices intended for use in safety-critical applications (e.g. medical equipment, automotive, spacecraft, nuclear power plant).

Design notes

- Always connect a CTVS in parallel with the electronic circuit to be protected.
- Consider maximum rated power dissipation if a CTVS has insufficient time to cool down between a number of pulses occurring within a specified isolated time period. Ensure that electrical characteristics do not degrade.
- Consider derating at higher operating temperatures. Choose the highest voltage class compatible with derating at higher temperatures.
- Surge currents beyond specified values will puncture a CTVS. In extreme cases a CTVS will burst.
- If steep surge current edges are to be expected, make sure your design is as low-inductance as possible.
- In some cases the malfunctioning of passive electronic components or failure before the end of their service life cannot be completely ruled out in the current state of the art, even if they are operated as specified. In applications requiring a very high level of operational safety and especially when the malfunction or failure of a passive electronic component could endanger human life or health (e.g. in accident prevention, life-saving systems, or automotive battery line applications such as clamp 30), ensure by suitable design of the application or other measures (e.g. installation of protective circuitry or redundancy) that no injury or damage is sustained by third parties in the event of such a malfunction or failure. Only use CTVS components from the automotive series in safety-relevant applications.
- Specified values only apply to CTVS components that have not been subject to prior electrical, mechanical or thermal damage. The use of CTVS devices in line-to-ground applications is

Multilayer varistors (MLVs)

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therefore not advisable, and it is only allowed together with safety countermeasures like thermal fuses.

Storage

- Only store CTVS in their original packaging. Do not open the package before storage.
- Storage conditions in original packaging: temperature -25 to $+45^{\circ}\text{C}$, relative humidity $\leq 75\%$ annual average, maximum 95%, dew precipitation is inadmissible.
- Do not store CTVS devices where they are exposed to heat or direct sunlight. Otherwise the packaging material may be deformed or CTVS may stick together, causing problems during mounting.
- Avoid contamination of the CTVS surface during storage, handling and processing.
- Avoid storing CTVS devices in harmful environments where they are exposed to corrosive gases for example (SO_x , Cl).
- Use CTVS as soon as possible after opening factory seals such as polyvinyl-sealed packages.
- Solder CTVS components after shipment from EPCOS within the time specified:
 - CTVS with Ni barrier termination, 12 months
 - CTVS with AgPd termination, 6 months
 - SHCV and CU series, 24 months

Handling

- Do not drop CTVS components and allow them to be chipped.
- Do not touch CTVS with your bare hands - gloves are recommended.
- Avoid contamination of the CTVS surface during handling.

Mounting

- When CTVS devices are encapsulated with sealing material or overmolded with plastic material, electrical characteristics might be degraded and the life time reduced.
- Make sure an electrode is not scratched before, during or after the mounting process.
- Make sure contacts and housings used for assembly with CTVS components are clean before mounting.
- The surface temperature of an operating CTVS can be higher. Ensure that adjacent components are placed at a sufficient distance from a CTVS to allow proper cooling.
- Avoid contamination of the CTVS surface during processing.
- Multilayer varistors (MLVs) with AgPd termination are not approved for lead-free soldering.

Soldering

- Complete removal of flux is recommended to avoid surface contamination that can result in an instable and/or high leakage current.
- Use resin-type or non-activated flux.
- Bear in mind that insufficient preheating may cause ceramic cracks.
- Rapid cooling by dipping in solvent is not recommended, otherwise a component may crack.

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Conductive adhesive gluing

- Only multilayer varistors (MLVs) with an AgPd termination are approved for conductive adhesive gluing.

Operation

- Use CTVS only within the specified operating temperature range.
- Use CTVS only within specified voltage and current ranges.
- Environmental conditions must not harm a CTVS. Only use them in normal atmospheric conditions. Reducing the atmosphere (e.g. hydrogen or nitrogen atmosphere) is prohibited.
- Prevent a CTVS from contacting liquids and solvents. Make sure that no water enters a CTVS (e.g. through plug terminals).
- Avoid dewing and condensation.
- EPCOS CTVS components are mainly designed for encased applications. Under all circumstances avoid exposure to:
 - direct sunlight
 - rain or condensation
 - steam, saline spray
 - corrosive gases
 - atmosphere with reduced oxygen content
- EPCOS CTVS devices are not suitable for switching applications or voltage stabilization where static power dissipation is required.
- Multilayer varistors (MLVs) are designed for ESD protection and transient suppression. CeraDiodes are designed for ESD protection only, ESD/EMI filters are designed for ESD and EMI protection only.

This listing does not claim to be complete, but merely reflects the experience of EPCOS AG.

Important notes

The following applies to all products named in this publication:

1. Some parts of this publication contain **statements about the suitability of our products for certain areas of application**. These statements are based on our knowledge of typical requirements that are often placed on our products in the areas of application concerned. We nevertheless expressly point out **that such statements cannot be regarded as binding statements about the suitability of our products for a particular customer application**. As a rule, EPCOS is either unfamiliar with individual customer applications or less familiar with them than the customers themselves. For these reasons, it is always ultimately incumbent on the customer to check and decide whether an EPCOS product with the properties described in the product specification is suitable for use in a particular customer application.
2. We also point out that **in individual cases, a malfunction of electronic components or failure before the end of their usual service life cannot be completely ruled out in the current state of the art, even if they are operated as specified**. In customer applications requiring a very high level of operational safety and especially in customer applications in which the malfunction or failure of an electronic component could endanger human life or health (e.g. in accident prevention or lifesaving systems), it must therefore be ensured by means of suitable design of the customer application or other action taken by the customer (e.g. installation of protective circuitry or redundancy) that no injury or damage is sustained by third parties in the event of malfunction or failure of an electronic component.
3. **The warnings, cautions and product-specific notes must be observed.**
4. In order to satisfy certain technical requirements, **some of the products described in this publication may contain substances subject to restrictions in certain jurisdictions (e.g. because they are classed as hazardous)**. Useful information on this will be found in our Material Data Sheets on the Internet (www.epcos.com/material). Should you have any more detailed questions, please contact our sales offices.
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