



Ceramic capacitor technology

CeraLink® opens new dimensions in power electronics

TDK Electronics AG

CeraLink in a shot - optimized for conditions under operation in power electronics





Use CeraLink when

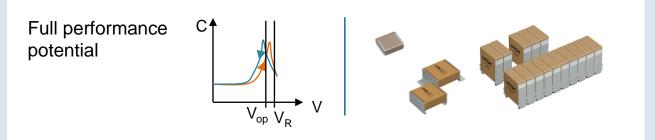
- Space requirement is tight
- Temperature is demanding (+150 °C)
- High current rating is vital
- Requirements for capacitance density are tough
- High switching frequencies are applied (SiC, GaN)

Main function in HV application

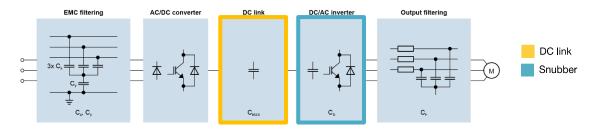
- Snubber capacitor
- Filter capacitor
- Flying capacitor
- DC-Link capacitor

CeraLink technology supports

- Increasing capacitance with DC bias and best in class capacitance density at operating point (V_{op} + T_{op})
- High current capability due to low losses at high frequencies (up to several MHz) and high temperatures (up to +150 °C)
- No limitation of dV/dt
- Good self-regulating properties
- Qualification based on AEC-Q200 rev. D



Principle circuit diagram of function of capacitors in e.g. motor drives



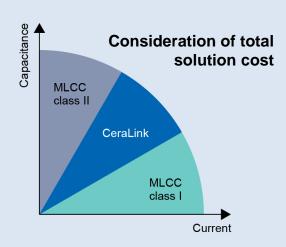
| Measurement condition | Film capacitor | MLCC class II | CeraLink |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Typical capacitance density @ DC link voltage, 20 V _{RMS} , 25 °C | 0.7 μF/cm ³ | 2.5 µF/cm ³ | 4.9 µF/cm³ |
| Typical current rating per capacitance @ 100 kHz, 105 °C | < 1 A/µF | < 4.5 A/μF | 11 A/μF |



CeraLink's special behaviour 1

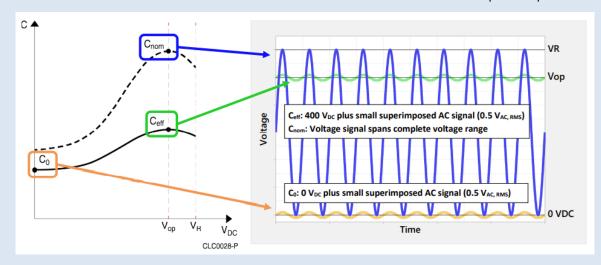
Some differences to MLCC

| Linear | Ferroelectric | Antiferroelectric |
|--------------|---------------|-------------------|
| MLCC class I | MLCC class II | CeraLink |
| μF | μF | μF |
| V | V | V |



Feature: Positive bias behaviour

- Increasing capacitance with DC bias between 0 V and V_{op}
- Best in class capacitance density at operating point (V_{op} & T_{op})



More to this in the CeraLink
Technical Guide





CeraLink's special behaviour 2

At high temperature

- Operating temperature up to +150 °C
- Low losses at high temperature
- Low leakage current
- No thermal runaway
- Generally low self-heating AND self-heating supports
 CeraLink to come to temperature for good performance

At high frequency

- Optimal frequency in the range of 100 kHz to 1 MHz
- Minimal ESR due to low-loss copper electrodes and HF-suited backend
- Typ. ESR @ 25 °C, 1 MHz*: 3 ... 45 mΩ
- Typ. ESL*: 2 ... 4 nH
- No limitation of dV/dt
- Temperature decrease with rising frequency

Due to low losses at high temperature and high frequency, CeraLink can carry more current under these conditions

| Measurement condition | MKP film capacitor | MLCC class II (BTO) | CeraLink |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Typical capacitance density @ DC link voltage, 20 V _{RMS} , 25 °C | 0.7 μF/cm ³ | 2.5 μF/cm ³ | 4.9 μF/cm³ |
| Typical current rating per capacitance @ 100 kHz, 105 °C | < 1 Α/μF | < 4.5 A/µF | 11 Α/μF |

*varies with series and voltage class

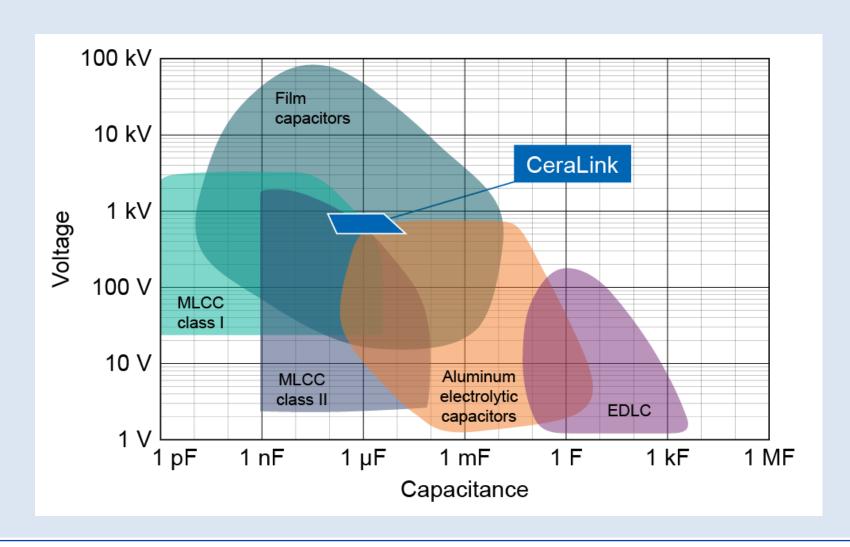
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Technology Insights

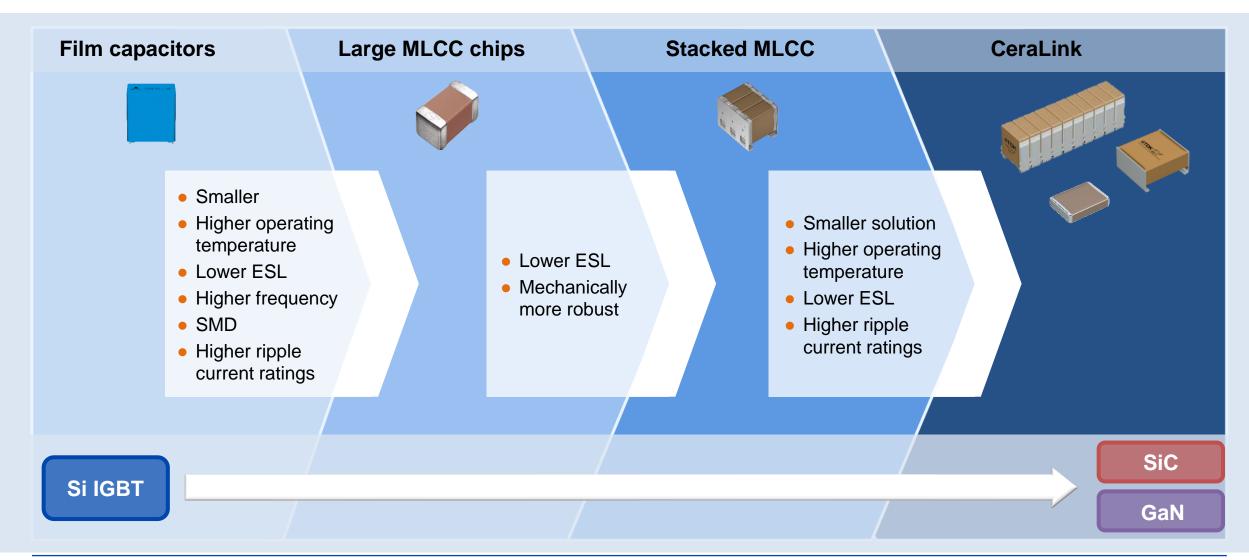


Capacitor technology landscape





Technology guideline





Positioning CeraLink in capacitor landscape



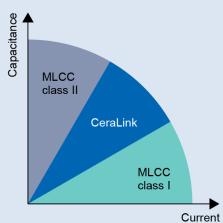
General

| Capacitance at voltage | Film capacitor | MLCC class II | CeraLink |
|--|-------------------|------------------|----------|
| Nom. / rated capacitance | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| No bias voltage 0.5 V _{RMS} | 100% | 100% | 35% |
| DC link voltage 0.5 V _{RMS} | 100% | 35% | 60% |
| DC link voltage 20 V _{RMS} | 100% | 35% | 100% |

Ceramic landscape

| Special requirements | MLCC class I | MLCC class II | CeraLink |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------|
| Resonance, stable C | ✓ | × | × |
| T >125 °C | ✓ | X8R / custom | ✓ |
| V >630 V | ✓ | Limited offer | ✓ |
| AC | ✓ | ✓ | × |
| Current | •••• | ••••• | ••••• |

Consideration of total solution cost



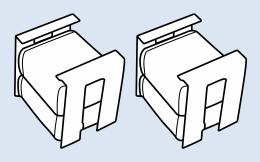


CeraLink LP versus MLCC class II

Capacitance @ 400 V + 20 V ripple



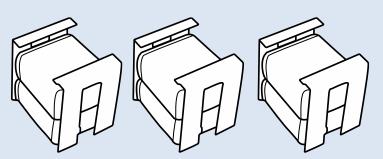
Similar like



Ripple current @ 100 kHz & 85 °C



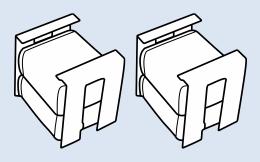
Similar like



Added value of CeraLink LP series



- Less PCB space
- Higher temperature
- Low ESL



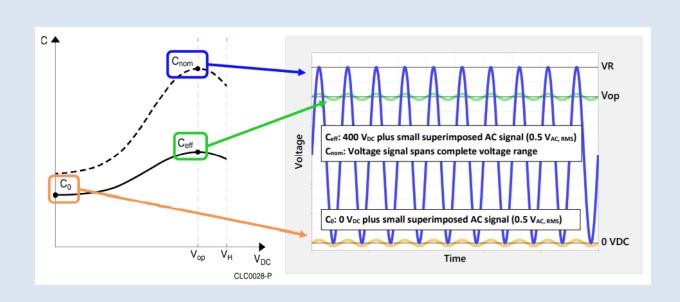
Stacked MLCC based on case size 2220

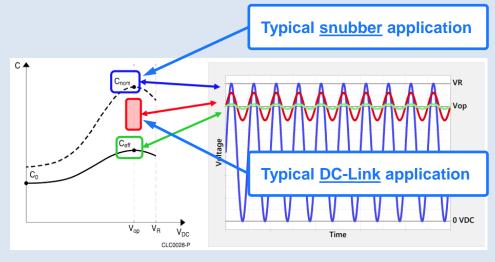


CeraLink's special behaviour... (1)

... positive bias behaviour

CeraLink features a non-linear capacitance behavior, i.e. the capacitance strongly depends on external parameters such as the applied DC bias voltage or the temperature. It is important to note that CeraLink is designed to have its capacitance maximum under operating conditions, i.e. under a DC bias (constant operating voltage) and with a superimposed ripple amplitude.





More to this in the CeraLink Technical Guide





CeraLink's special behaviour... (2)

... at high temperatures

- Operating temperature up to +150 °C
- Low ESR
- Low leakage current
- No thermal runaway
- Superb heat transport capabilities to PCB due to copper-invar-copper (CIC) lead frames*
- High ripple currents of up to 11 A/μF
- Generally low self-heating AND self-heating supports CeraLink to come to temperature for good performance

Temperature sensor Chip Lead frame

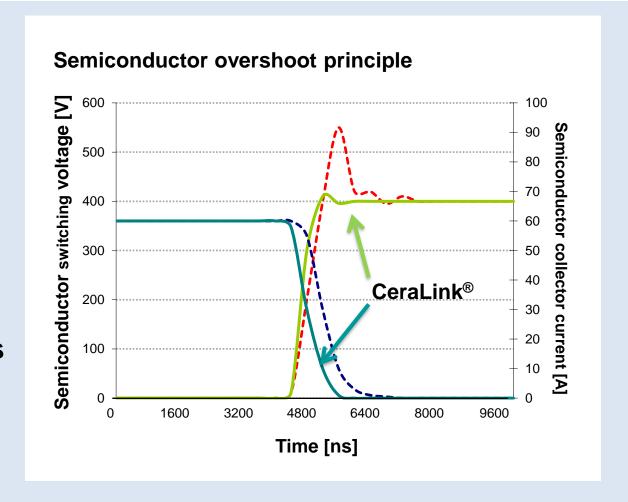
^{*}used for CeraLink® LP, FA and SP series



CeraLink's special behaviour... (3)

... at high frequencies

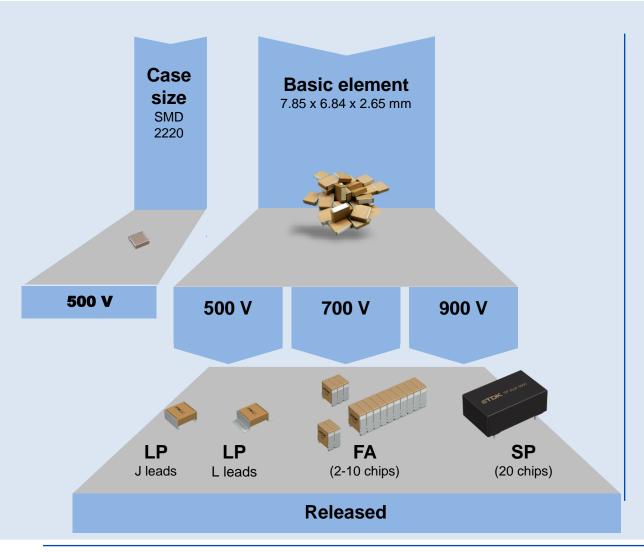
- Perfect for frequencies up to 1 MHz
- No limitation of dV/dt
- Minimal ESR at high temperatures due to low-loss copper electrodes and HF suited backend
- Typ. ESL* 2 to 4 nH
- → Perfect as snubber or in filter applications



*varies with series and voltage class



CeraLink product portfolio



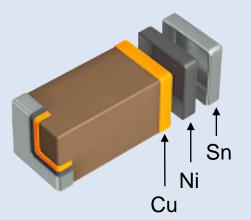
| Series | Rated voltage | | | | |
|--|------------------------|------------|------------------|--|--|
| Series | 500 V | 700 V | 900 V | | |
| Low profile LP (L /J leads) | 1 μF | 0.5 μF | 0.25 μF | | |
| Flex assembly FA2 / FA3 | 2/3 μF | 1 / 1.5 μF | 0.5 / 0.75 μF | | |
| Flex assembly FA10 | 10 μF | 5 μF | 2.5 μF | | |
| Solder pin SP | 20 μF | 10 μF | 5 μF | | |
| 2220 series SMD 2220 Standard + Soft Termination | 0.25 μF @ h: 1.4 mm | | Coming soon | | |



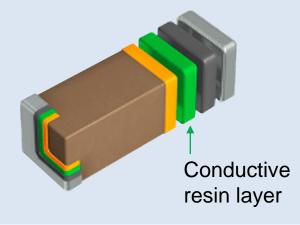
CeraLink SMD 2220 series

- Optimized for capacitance density (MLCC design)
- Termination
 - ¬ Standard: Cu cap with Ni/Sn galvanics
 - Soft electrode: additional conductive resin layer absorbing mechanical stress

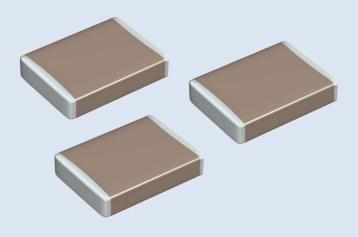
Regular terminal product



Soft termination



- 500 V component with 1.4 mm height
 - \neg C_{nom, typ}: 250 nF
 - \neg I_{RMS} @100 kHz and 85 °C: 5 A





CeraLink product outlook

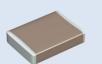
The chip size components

CeraLink SMD 2220 500 V

h: 1.4 mm

C_{nom, typ}: 250 nF

Released



CeraLink SMD 2220

with maximum capacitance due to higher height

500 V component

900 V component



CeraLink SMD 1210 500 V

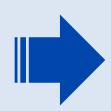
with maximum capacitance due to higher height

500 V component

900 V component



All case sizes in both termination available: Cu cap with Ni/Sn galvanics, soft electrode with additional conductive resin



... other voltage classes

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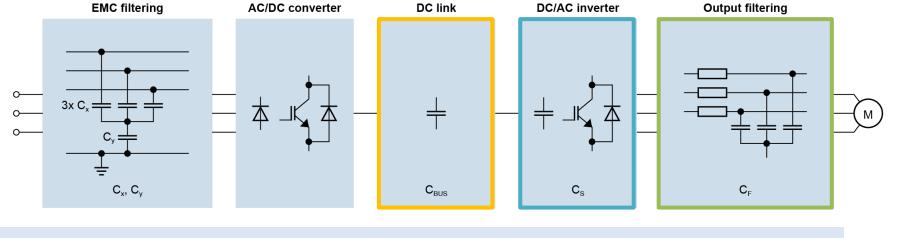


Application Insights



CeraLink target applications

Principle circuit diagram of function of capacitors in e.g. motor drives

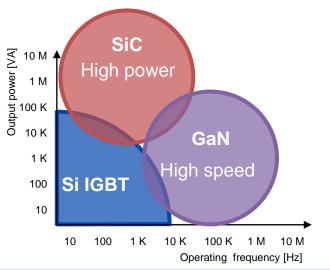


Main function

- Snubber capacitor
- Filter capacitor
- Flying capacitor
- DC-link capacitor

Scope

- High power density
- High efficiency
- High temperature



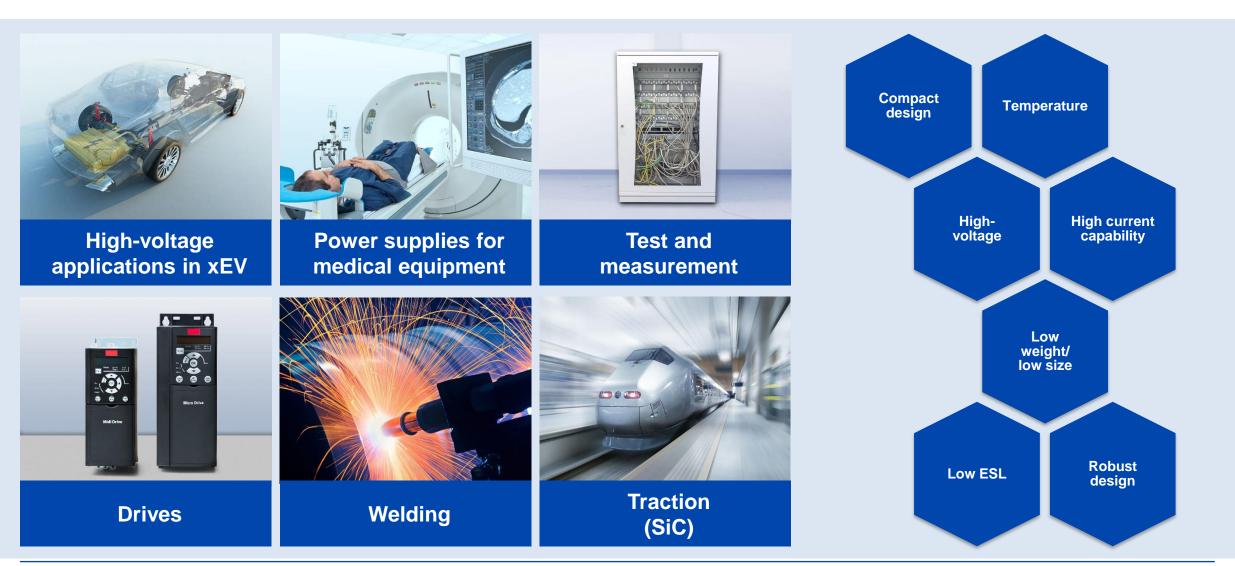
DC link

Snubber

Output filter



CeraLink®: Ideal for demanding applications (examples)



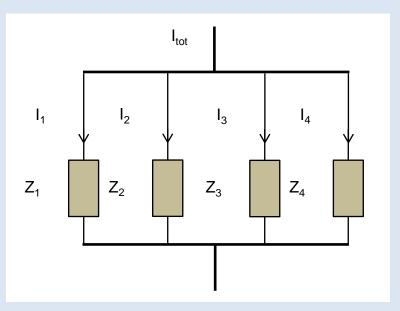


CeraLink as DC link

| Series | Maximum voltage ratings | | Footures | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|---|--|
| Series | 650 V | 1000 V | 1300 V | Features | |
| Flex Assembly FA10 | 10 μF / 500 V | 5 μF / 700 V | 2.5 μF / 900 V | The capacitance characteristic and low | |
| Solder Pin SP | 20 μF / 500 V | 10 μF / 700 V | 5 μF / 900 V | ESR of CeraLink avoid a thermal runaway | |

In parallel connection, higher temperature leads to:

- Lower capacitance
- Higher impedance
- Lowest current through the <u>hottest</u> capacitor → self-regulating properties







1 per half bridge - mounted close to the semiconductor

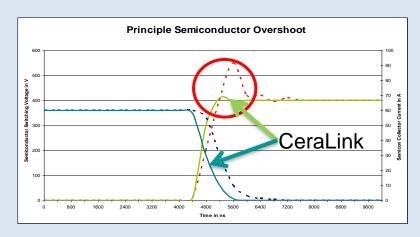
| Series | Maximum voltage ratings | | Features | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Series | 650 V | 1000 V | 1300 V | realures |
| Low Profile LP (L /J leads) | 1 μF / 500 V | 0.5 μF / 700 V | 0.25 μF / 900 V | Low ESL (typ. 3 nH) |
| Flex Assembly FA2 / FA3 | 2/3 μF / 500 V | 1/1.5 μF / 700 V | 0.5/0.75 μF / 900 V | Low losses at high frequencies and high temperatures (up to +150 °C) |
| SMD 2220 - New | 0.25 μF / 500 V @ h: 1.4 mm | Coming soon in new h: 1.9 mm | | No limitation of dV/dt |

Over-voltages or over-shoots occur when switching off a Semiconductor.

This will cause an overvoltage according the formula (see left)

The low inductance of the CeraLink enables a faster switching of the semiconductor resulting in lower switching losses, enabling a reduction of switching losses of up to 40%!

$$V = -L \cdot \frac{di}{dt}$$



CeraLink: Ideal for demanding applications Key facts





Target applications

Automotive

- OBC
- DC/DC
- Auxiliary inverters for xEV (HV compressor, HV pump, HV heater)

Industry

- Drives
- Energy storage systems
- Power converter
- Solar inverters
- Power supplies like UPS, isolated power supply
- SiC Power Modules



- Suitable for HV designs like 400 V/800 V
- Increasing capacitance with DC bias and best in class capacitance density at operating point (V_{op} + T_{op})
- Supports miniaturization with low inductive design

Basic facts

Qualification based on AECQ-200

Manufacturing site in EU (Deutschlandsberg, AT)

Quality management system according to IATF 16949:2016

Soldering Method: Reflow

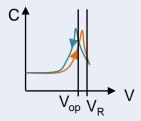


Unique features

Innovative anti-ferroelectric ceramic material (positive bias behaviour)

High cooling efficiency due to high thermal conductivity

Good self-regulating properties



Resulting advantages

High capacitance density

High current capability

Low ESL (typ. 3 nH)

Low losses at high frequencies and high temperatures (up to +150 °C)

No limitation in dV/dt

→ Ideal as snubber, filter cap and flying capacitor for SiC and GaN applications



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