Aluminum Electrolytic Capacitors

Cautions and warnings

Date: April 2026

Cautions and warnings

Personal safety

The electrolytes used have been optimized both with a view to the intended application and with regard to health and environmental compatibility.

As far as possible, we do not use any dangerous chemicals or compounds to produce operating electrolytes, although in exceptional cases, such materials must be used in order to achieve specific physical and electrical properties because no alternative materials are currently known.
We do, however, restrict the amount of dangerous materials used in our products to an absolute minimum.

Materials and chemicals used in our Aluminum Electrolytic Capacitors and Hybrid Polymer Capacitors are continuously adapted in compliance with the TDK Electronics Corporate Environmental Policy and the latest EU regulations and guidelines such as RoHS, REACH/SVHC, GADSL, and ELV.

MDS (Material Data Sheets) are available on our website for types listed on the product information site of TDK.
MDS for customer specific capacitors are available upon request.

Nevertheless, the following rules should be observed when handling Aluminum Electrolytic Capacitors and Hybrid Polymer Capacitors: No electrolyte should come into contact with eyes or skin. If electrolyte does come into contact with the skin, wash the affected areas immediately with running water. If the eyes are affected, rinse them for 10 minutes with plenty of water. If symptoms persist, seek medical treatment. Avoid inhaling electrolyte vapor or mists. Workplaces and other affected areas should be well ventilated. Clothing that has been contaminated by electrolyte must be changed and rinsed in water.

Product safety

The table below summarizes the safety instructions that must be observed without fail. A detailed description can be found in the relevant sections of seperate file chapter “General technical information”.

Topic	Safety information	Reference chapter “General technical information”
Polarity	Make sure that polar capacitors are connected with the right polarity.	1 “Basic construction of aluminum electrolytic capacitors”
Reverse voltage	Voltages of opposite polarity should be prevented by connecting a diode.	3.1.6 “Reverse voltage”
Operating temperature range	Do not exceed the temperature limits specified in the product data sheet. Useful life and reliability depend to a large extent on the capacitor's temperature.	7.1, 7.2 “Minimum and maximum permissible operating temperatures”
Storage	Do not store capacitors at high temperatures or high humidity. Capacitors should be stored at +5 to +35 °C and a relative humidity of ≤ 75%.	7.3 “Shelf life and storage conditions”
Mounting of capacitors	The internal and external structure of capacitors might be damaged if excessive force is applied to their terminals. Avoid any compressive, tensile or flexural stress. Do not move the capacitor after soldering to PC board. Do not pick up the PC board by the soldered capacitor. Do not insert the capacitor on the PC board with a hole space different to the lead space specified.	11 “Mounting”
Mounting position of capacitors	The position of the pressure relief device must be taken into consideration when designing the application layout. As a rule, the function of the pressure relief device must not be impaired or blocked by the mounting. Screw terminal capacitors, with pressure relief device in the cover disk, must not be mounted with terminals facing down unless otherwise specified. Multi-pin capacitors with pressure relief device on the can base must not be mounted with terminals facing up unless otherwise specified.	11.1 “Mounting positions of capacitors”
Robustness of terminals	Unless otherwise specified, the following maximum tightening torques must not be exceeded when connecting screw terminals: M5: 2.5 Nm M6: 4.0 Nm	11.2 “Mounting torques”
Potting and gluing	If applied, potting and gluing materials must not impair the function of the capacitor’s pressure relief device.	11.4 “Potting and gluing”

Topic	Safety information	Reference chapter “General technical information”
Soldering	Do not exceed the specified time or temperature limits during soldering.	11.5 “Soldering”
Soldering, cleaning agents	Do not allow halogenated hydrocarbons to come into contact with Aluminum Electrolytic Capacitors or Hybrid Polymer Capacitors.	11.6 “Cleaning agents”
Passive flammability	Avoid external energy, e.g. fire.	8.1 “Passive flammability”
Active flammability	Avoid overload of the capacitors.	8.2 “Active flammability”
Maintenance	Make periodic inspections of the capacitors. Before the inspection, make sure that the power supply is turned off and carefully discharge the capacitors. Do not apply excessive mechanical stress to the capacitor terminals when mounting.	10 “Maintenance”
		Reference chapter “Capacitors with screw terminals”
Breakdown strength of shrinking sleeve	Do not damage the shrinking sleeve, especially when ring clips are used for mounting.	“Screw terminals – accessories”

Display of ordering codes for TDK Electronics products

The ordering code for one and the same product can be represented differently in data sheets, data books, other publications, on the company website, or in order-related documents such as shipping notes, order confirmations and product labels. The varying representations of the ordering codes are due to different processes employed and do not affect the specifications of the respective products.
Detailed information can be found on the Internet under www.tdk-electronics.tdk.com/orderingcodes.