



Ceramic transient voltage suppressors, CTVS

Soldering directions

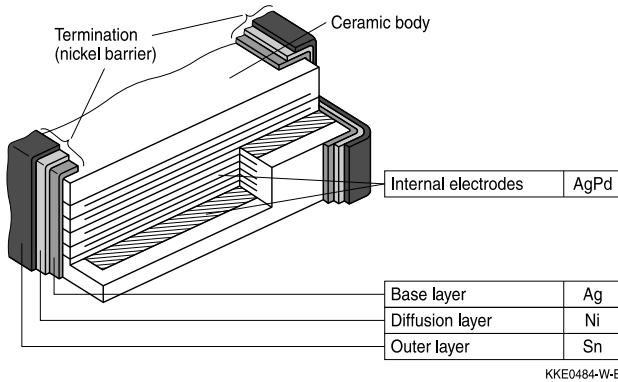
Date: July 2014

Soldering directions

1 Terminations

1.1 Nickel barrier termination

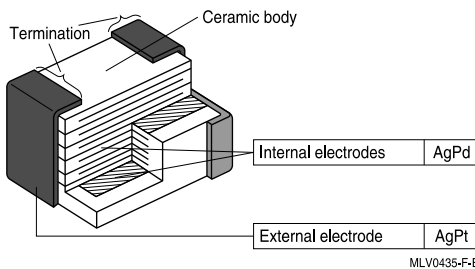
The nickel barrier layer of the silver/nickel/tin termination prevents leaching of the silver base metallization layer. This allows great flexibility in the selection of soldering parameters. The tin prevents the nickel layer from oxidizing and thus ensures better wetting by the solder. The nickel barrier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



Multilayer CTVS: Structure of nickel barrier termination

1.2 Silver-platinum termination

Silver-platinum terminations are mainly used for the large EIA case sizes 1812 and 2220. The silver-platinum termination is approved for reflow soldering, SnPb soldering and lead-free soldering with a silver containing solder paste. In case of SnPb soldering, a solder paste Sn62Pb36Ag2 is recommended. For lead-free reflow soldering, a solder paste SAC, e.g. Sn95.5Ag3.8Cu0.7, is recommended.



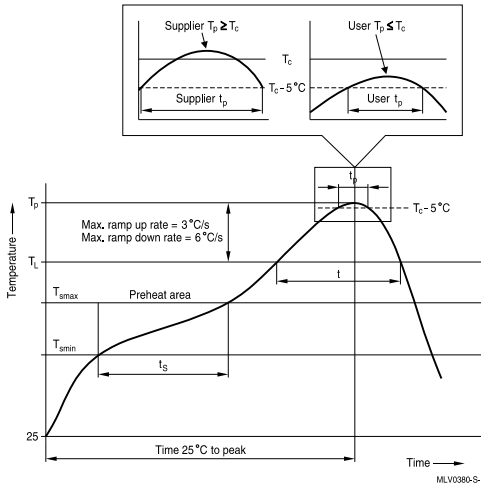
Multilayer varistor: Structure of silver-platinum termination

Soldering directions

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.

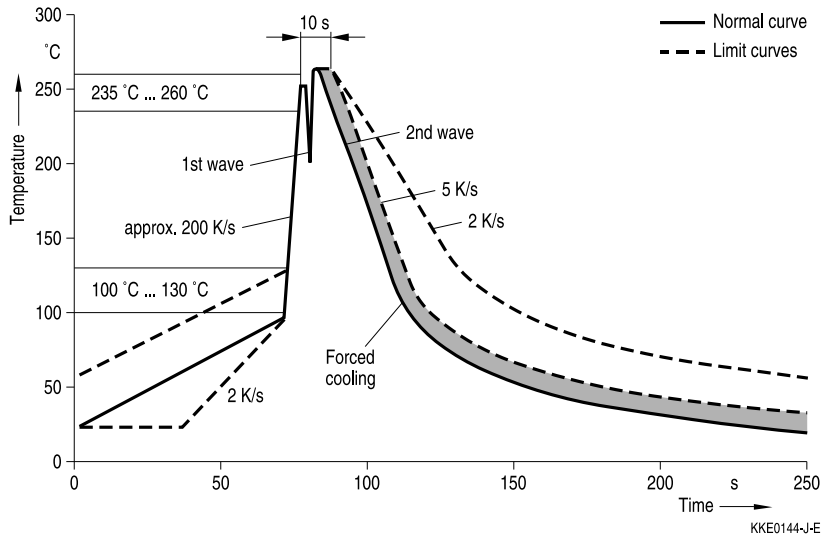
3) Tolerance for time at peak profile temperature (t_p) is defined as a supplier minimum and a user maximum.

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

Soldering directions

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.

3 Recommended soldering methods - type-specific releases by EPCOS

3.1 Overview

| Type | EIA 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...K2 | 1812, 2220 | Approved | Approved | No | No |
| Arrays | 0405 ... 1012 | Approved | Approved | No | No |
| ESD/EMI filters | 0405, 0508 | Approved | Approved | No | No |
| SHCV | - | No | No | Approved | Approved |

Soldering directions

3.2 Nickel barrier and AgPt terminated multilayer MLVs

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

3.3 Silver-platinum terminated MLVs

The silver-platinum termination is approved for reflow soldering, SnPb soldering and lead-free with a silver containing solder paste. In case of SnPb soldering, a solder paste Sn62Pb36Ag2 is recommended. For lead-free reflow soldering, a solder paste SAC, e.g. Sn95.5Ag3.8Cu0.7, is recommended.

3.4 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

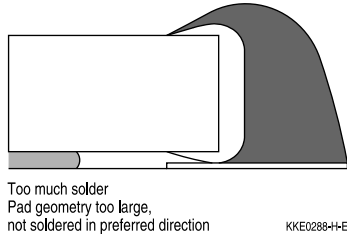
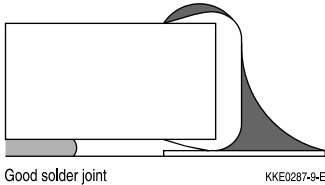
If the meniscus height is too low, that means the solder quantity is too low, the solder joint may break, i.e. the component becomes detached from the joint. This problem is sometimes interpreted as leaching of the external terminations.

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.

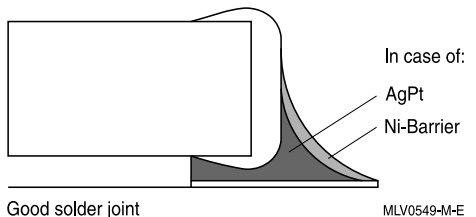
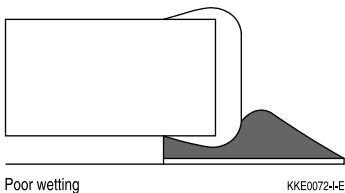
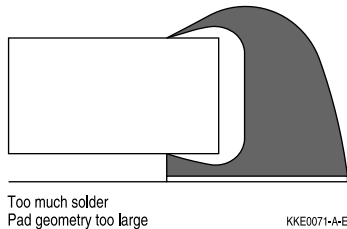
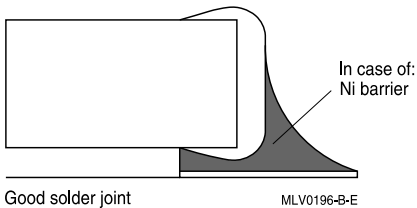
Soldering directions

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



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-platinum termination - reflow soldering



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

Soldering directions

5 Solderability tests

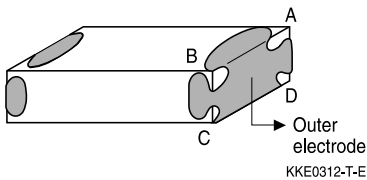
| Test | Standard | Test conditions Sn-Pb soldering | Test conditions Pb-free soldering | Criteria/ test results |
|---|-------------------|--|---|---|
| Wettability | IEC 60068-2-58 | Immersion in 60/40 SnPb solder using non-activated flux at 215 ± 3 °C for 3 ± 0.3 s | Immersion in Sn96.5Ag3.0Cu0.5 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: $ \Delta C/C_0 \leq 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: $ \Delta V/V (1 \text{ mA}) \leq 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: $ \Delta V/V (1 \text{ mA}) \leq 5\%$ Change of capacitance X7R: $\leq -5/+10\%$ |

Soldering directions

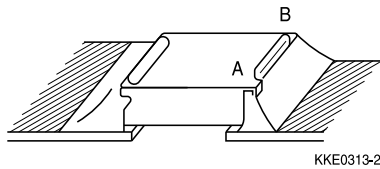
Note:

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

6 Notes for proper soldering

6.1 Preheating and cooling

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

6.2 Repair/ rework

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

6.3 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.

6.4 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.

Soldering directions

6.5 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.

6.6 Storage of CTVSs

Solderability is guaranteed for one year from date of delivery for multilayer varistors, CeraDiodes and ESD/EMI filters (half a year for chips with AgPt terminations) and two years for SHCV 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.

Solder CTVS components after shipment from EPCOS within the time specified:

CTVS with Ni barrier termination: 12 months

CTVS with AgPt termination: 6 months

SHCV (leaded components): 24 months

6.7 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.

Soldering directions

6.8 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 (see table "Overview", section 3.1).
- Keep the recommended down-cooling rate.

6.9 Standards

CECC 00802

IEC 60068-2-58

IEC 60068-2-20

JEDEC J-STD-020D