

Aluminum Electrolytic Capacitors

Cautions and warnings

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Cautions and warnings

Personal safety

The electrolytes used by EPCOS have been optimized both with a view to the intended application and with regard to health and environmental compatibility. They do not contain any solvents that are detrimental to health, e.g. dimethyl formamide (DMF) or dimethyl acetamide (DMAC).

Furthermore, some of the high-voltage electrolytes used by EPCOS are self-extinguishing.

As far as possible, EPCOS does 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 EPCOS aluminum electrolytic capacitors are continuously adapted in compliance with the EPCOS 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 the EPCOS website for all types listed in the data book. MDS for customer specific capacitors are available upon request.

MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheets) are available for all of our electrolytes upon request.

Nevertheless, the following rules should be observed when handling aluminum electrolytic 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.

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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 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"
Mounting position of screw-terminal capacitors	Screw terminal capacitors must not be mounted with terminals facing down unless otherwise specified.	11.1. "Mounting positions of capacitors with screw terminals"
Robustness of terminals	The following maximum tightening torques must not be exceeded when connecting screw terminals: M5: 2.5 Nm M6: 4.0 Nm	11.3 "Mounting torques"
Mounting of single-ended capacitors	The internal structure of single-ended capacitors might be damaged if excessive force is applied to the lead wires. 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.	11.4 "Mounting considerations for single-ended capacitors"
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.	11.6 "Cleaning agents"
Upper category temperature	Do not exceed the upper category temperature.	7.2 "Maximum permissible operating temperature"
Passive flammability	Avoid external energy, e.g. fire.	8.1 "Passive flammability"

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Topic	Safety information	Reference chapter "General technical information"
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"
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"
		Reference chapter "Capacitors with screw terminals"
Breakdown strength of insulating sleeves	Do not damage the insulating sleeve, especially when ring clips are used for mounting.	"Screw terminals – accessories"

Display of ordering codes for EPCOS products

The ordering code for one and the same product can be represented differently in data sheets, data books, other publications and the website of EPCOS, 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.epcos.com/orderingcodes.