



Mounting Instructions for MTC Modules

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This application note introduces Vishay's MTC modules. It covers their key features and gives instructions for using heatsinks with the modules.

MTC modules are designed to provide reliable performance. A single housing is used to integrate power components, providing higher power density.



Fig. 1 - Example of MTC Module

INTRODUCTION

Vishay's MTC modules are distinguished by these key features:

- Fully isolated from the metal base, allowing common heatsink and compact assemblies to be built
- Wire-bonded internal connections
- Screwable electrical terminals secured against axial pull-out. They are fixed to the module housing via a click-stop feature
- Low junction-to-case thermal resistance

Important factors in the assembly process are:

- Heatsink design
- Power leads size / area
- Distance from adjacent heating parts

Recommendations for each of these items and requirements for mounting MTC modules to the heatsink are discussed in the following sections.

HEATSINK SPECIFICATIONS

The contact surface of the heatsink must be flat, with a recommended tolerance of < 0.03 mm (< 1.18 mils) and a levelling depth (surface roughness) of < 0.02 mm (< 0.79 mils), according to DIN/ISO 1302. In general, a milled or machined surface is satisfactory if prepared with tools in good working condition. The heatsink mounting surface must be clean, with no dirt, corrosion, or surface oxides. It is very important to keep the mounting surface free from particles exceeding 0.05 mm (2 mils) in thickness.

THERMAL COMPOUND

Uniformly coat the heatsink surface and the power module baseplate with a high-quality thermal compound.

Apply uniform pressure on the package to force the compound to spread over the entire contact area. The purpose of thermal grease is to fill gaps at the baseplate-heatsink interface. The use of thermal grease is recommended to ensure low case-to-sink thermal resistance.

The thermal conductivity of the compound should be not less than 0.5 W/mK. The suggested thermal grease is DC340 (Dow Corning), silicone-free HTCP (Electrolube), or an equivalent thermal grease. Screen printing or rubber rolling are the preferred methods to apply the grease. A final grease layer thickness in the range of 80 μ m (3.1 mils) to 100 μ m (3.9 mils) is considered suitable for most applications.



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MOUNTING TO HEATSINK

Confirm that there are not any foreign particles on the surface of the screen tooling and plate. Place a suitable amount of thermal compound on the plate and spread it equally by using a roller or spatula. Thermal grease contact and distribution will be improved during the first hours and after heating up the system for the first time.

Bolt the module to the heatsink using the fixing holes. An even amount of torque should be applied for each individual mounting screw. For proper mounting it is recommended to use M6 screws secured by a lock washer and flat washer. Please refer to each individual datasheet to find the maximum torque that can be applied. A torque wrench that is accurate in the specified range must be used in mounting the module to achieve optimum results.

The minimum suggested thread depth is 10 mm to 11 mm (0.40 in to 0.43 in) in heatsinks. All mounting holes should be free of burrs. The first mounting screw should be tightened to one third of the recommended torque; the second screw should then be tightened to the same torque.

Over-tightening the mounting screw may lead to deformation of the package, which would hence increase the thermal resistance and damage the semiconductors. After a period of three hours, check the torque with a final tightening in the opposite sequence to allow the spread of the compound.

POWER LEADS OR BUS BARS CONNECTION

An even amount of torque should be applied for each individual screw. For proper connection, the use of fit screws is recommended (refer to individual datasheet or outline dimensions), secured by a lock washer and flat washer. The maximum thread depth into the module mounting studs should be 10 mm (0.39 in). Also refer to each individual datasheet to find the maximum torque that can be applied. A torque wrench that is accurate in the specified range must be used in fixing screws of the power leads or bus bars to achieve optimum results.

END OF LIFE MODULE WASTE DISPOSAL RECOMMENDATION

Corporate social responsibility is more and more important for the environmental protection, Vishay is certified to ISO 140001 and Vishay modules are always compliant with the Restriction of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (RoHS) directive.

We recommend that the end of life modules (including components of the modules) be segregated by hazardous substance and collected in a labeled container (refer to CER code # 16.02.16) which should be put in a designated place.