Cleaning Procedure for Vishay Film Capacitors

By Geert Stevens

Soldered capacitors may be cleaned using appropriate cleansing agents. While high temperatures and cleaning agent vapours accelerate the purifying process, they also contribute to the destruction of capacitor construction materials.

CLEANING PROCEDURE GUIDELINES

Organic non-polar solvents like hexane, pentane, and cyclohexane can be safely used as cleaning solvents. Polar solvents like isopropyl alcohol, methanol, and ethanol are safe to use if their contact time with capacitors is less than one minute and the temperature is lower than 40 °C. Any longer time durations or higher temperatures must be evaluated for suitability in the actual cleaning process.

Aqueous cleaning mediums should have a neutral pH around 7 and must be free from aggressive constituents, such as acids, alkalis, amines, and halides. If used, aggressive aqueous cleaning mediums should have contact with capacitors for less than one minute at a temperature lower than 40 °C. Any longer time durations or higher temperatures must be evaluated for suitability in the actual cleaning process.

After cleaning, it is always recommended to dry the components carefully so that no aggressive chemical residue remains present on the components.

WARNING AND PRECAUTIONS

For the protection of the environment, chlorinated and fluorinated hydrocarbons - as well as related mixtures - are not to be used in the cleaning process. Such mixtures have a detrimental effect on capacitors.

NOTE FOR AXIAL TYPES

The capacitor families mentioned below are not covered by these guidelines. They require more precautions during cleaning. Consult Vishay for specific precautions.

MKT1813
F1773
MKP1839 / MKP1839 HQ
MKP1845

DISCLAIMER

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