

An application note for stocking and handling requirements of press pack devices and pressure contacted modules

Stocking and handling requirements

IXYS UK Westcode recommends that devices and assemblies be stocked in their original packaging if possible. The devices and assemblies should be stored within the temperature range specified in the data sheet. Storage in conditions of very high humidity of greater than 95%RH for long periods should be avoided. The primary pack boxes should not be stacked more than five boxes high.

Press pack devices, assemblies and pressure contacted modules can be stored indefinitely as long as the storage conditions are within the limits specified in the datasheet. Pressure contact devices do not deteriorate with time.

Care should be taken in handling the devices and assemblies; in particular damage to the following should be avoided:

- Scratches and dents to the external anode and cathode contact faces of the device may result in reduced thermal and electrical performance.
- Mechanical damage to the device flanges, which may result in loss of hermetic sealing and a possible reduction in the useful life of the device.
- Cracking or chipping of the alumina ceramic which may result in loss of hermetic sealing or a reduction in tracking performance between the anode and cathode.
- Distortion to the end plates, bus bars and coolers of an assembly, which may result in water leaks, poor thermal performance or the inability to mount the stack to the assembly fixtures.
- Scratches or fingerprints on the assembly components that could damage the surface passivation and result and increase in localised oxidation or corrosion.
- Damage to assemblies resulting from multiple stacking.

It is recommended that latex, vinyl or nitrile gloves be worn when handling devices or assemblies.

Assemblies utilising oil filled capacitors should be orientated to prevent oil leaking from the capacitor.

The recommended manual handling procedures should be adopted when handling a number of devices or an assembly to avoid potential personal injuries. For an assembly, a crane or other suitable handling equipment is recommended.

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