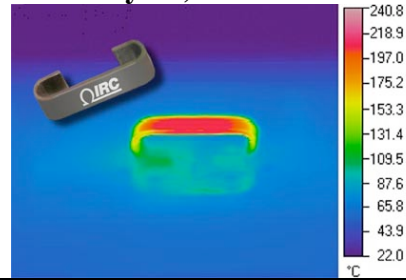


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Flameproof alloy, open-air design enables metal element resistors to prevent thermal damage...

IRC'S SMT CURRENT SENSE RESISTORS DELIVER SUPERIOR THERMAL PERFORMANCE

BOONE, NC (February 22, 2010) — For power electronics design engineers looking for high current devices capable of providing current-sense and surge protection functions in high temperature environments, TT electronics IRC offers a series of open-air current sense resistors. The OARS-3 Series surface mount metal alloy strip resistors feature a flameproof open-air design that elevates the device's "hot spot" above the PC board, where heat can be dissipated to ambient air instead of to adjacent thermally-sensitive components. The unique design also gives the resistors superior thermal temperature cycling performance.

"The OARS-3 Series resistors feature a heavy-gauge alloy resistive element with welded copper terminations," explained IRC Application Engineer Bryan Yarborough. "Combined with its unique curved shape, these features give the resistor flexibility to virtually eliminate the shearing force to the solder joint caused by the differences in thermal expansion between the PC board and the device. Unlike flat chips, these open-air resistors minimize the stress on their solder connections to the PC board, resulting in significantly better long-term solder joint reliability. The OARS-3 Series devices will provide a 3-watt rating in the same industry-standard 2512 footprint as a 1-watt flat chip resistor."

IRC'S OPEN-AIR RESISTORS DELIVER SUPERIOR THERMAL PERFORMANCE, PG. 2

The resistors' ability to operate reliably under elevated temperature conditions makes them ideal for computer power supplies, high-reliability server equipment, and automotive underhood applications.

The OARS-3 Series resistor performs at 3 watts; however, testing conducted by IRC engineers demonstrate that the resistor is capable of handling higher power levels without forced air depending on system thermal design. Testing at 4 watts reveals that, although the "hot spot" temperature can reach in excess of 230°C when the resistor is running at full power, the solder joint remains at 110°C or below.

The OARS-3 Series resistors are nominally rated for 3W @70°C, with a resistance range from 2mΩ to 15mΩ and tolerances to ±1%. Inductance values are less than 10 nanohenries, with operating temperature ranging from -40°C to +125°C. RoHS-compliant and zero ohm jumper versions are also available. IRC will also produce devices outside these specifications to meet customer requirements.

Typical pricing for the OARS-3 Series resistors is approximately \$0.86 each in minimum order quantities of 1900 pieces. Lead time is from stock to 14 weeks.

For more information on IRC's OARS-3 resistors, please access the Web site at <http://www.irctt.com/products.aspx?frmCategory=22>. For additional information, please contact TT electronics' North American sales office at 4222 S. Staples St., Corpus Christi, TX 78411; call 361-985-3166; or email sales@ttelectronics-na.com.

- more -

IRC'S OPEN-AIR RESISTORS DELIVER SUPERIOR THERMAL PERFORMANCE, PG. 3

IRC Inc. is a leading international manufacturer of advanced film, metal glaze and wirewound resistive products with facilities in Corpus Christi, Texas, Boone, N.C., Smithfield, N.C., and Barbados. IRC is part of TT electronics plc, a global electronics company manufacturing a broad range of advanced electronic components, assemblies and sensor modules for the automotive, telecommunications, computer and aerospace markets. TT electronics' Web site can be found at: www.ttelectronics.com.

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To request the electronic image, call 919-872-8172, or e-mail: beth.gaddy@btbmarketing.com

Keywords: TT electronics, IRC, OARS-3 Series, resistor, open air, current-sense, power rating, thermal expansion, thermal isolation

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