Hermetic Packages

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Hermetic Packages

National Semiconductor offers a wide variety of ceramic and metal can packages for through-hole and surface mount applications. These ceramic and metal can packages are offered as solutions for high reliability and often high performance applications, and are extensively used in military/aerospace and commercial applications. By design, a hermetic seal prevents gases and liquids from entering the package cavity where the die is mounted. Because of the package materials, hermetic packages are able to withstand higher temperatures than the equivalent plastic packages.

The construction of hermetic packages can be divided into three main categories: multilayer ceramic packages, pressed ceramic packages, and metal can packages.

Multilayer Ceramic Packages

For multilayer packages, ceramic tape layers are metallized, laminated and then fired to create the package body. Leads are then brazed to the package body. The metallized areas of the package are then electroplated (usually nickel followed by gold). After assembly, the hermetic seal is achieved by soldering a metal lid onto the metallized and plated seal ring. These packages therefore are often referred to as solder seal packages.

The multilayer construction allows the package designer to incorporate electrical enhancements within the package body. For example, power and ground planes to reduce inductance, shield planes to reduce cross talk, and controlled characteristic impedance of signal lines have been incorporated into multilayer ceramic packages.

Pressed Ceramic Packages

Pressed ceramic packages are usually a three part construction: base, lid and leadframe. The base and lid are manufactured in the same manner by pressing ceramic powder into the desired shape and then firing. Glass is then screened onto the fired base and lid. The glass paste is then fired. During package assembly, a separate leadframe is embedded into the base glass. The hermetic seal is then formed by melting the lid glass over the base and leadframe combination. This seal method is referred to as a frit seal, and therefore this package is often called a glass frit seal package.

The pressed ceramic packages are typically lower in cost than the multilayer packages. However, the simple construction does not allow for many electrical enhancements.

Metal Can Packages

Metal can packages consist of a metal base with leads exiting through a glass seal. This glass seal can be a compression seal or a matched seal. After device assembly in the package, a metal lid (or can) is resistance welded to the metal base forming the hermetic seal. The metal can packages are usually low leadcount, less than 24 leads, and low in cost. Certain outlines, such as the TO-3, have very low thermal resistance. These packages are used in many linear and hybrid applications.

Hermetic Package Configuration

National offers DIP configurations in the pressed ceramic (Cerdip) package style as well as the multilayer ceramic sidebrazed (SB) package. Other through hole package styles are the metal can packages (TO) and the ceramic pin grid array (CPGA) packages.

Many ceramic surface mount packages are offered by National. Dual in line packages such as the pressed ceramic Cerpack, and the multilayer ceramic flatpack are available in the lower leadcounts. These packages typically have a lead pitch of 50 mils. Applications requiring higher lead density use quad packages such as the multilayer ceramic quad flatpack (CQFP) and the pressed ceramic Cerquad. Lead pitch of 25 or 20 mils (or the metric equivalent 0.65 mm and 0.50 mm) are most common for the quad packages.

The following table provides configuration and characteristic data regarding each of the ceramic and metal can packages offered by National.
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<th>Package Configuration</th>
<th>Package Characteristics</th>
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| Ceramic Sidebrazed Dual-In-line Package (SB) | • Through Hole Package  
• Brazed Straight Leads to Pads on Package Side  
• Gold Plate or Solder Dip Lead Finish  
• Multilayer Ceramic Package  
• Solder Seal  
• Footprint Compatible with Cerdip and MDIP |
| Ceramic Leadless Chip Carrier (LCC) | • Surface/Socket Mount Package  
• Terminal Pads Instead of Leads  
• Gold Plate or Solder Dip Lead Finish  
• Multilayer Ceramic Package  
• Solder Seal  
• Footprint Compatible with CQJB and PLCC |
| Ceramic Quad J-Bend (CQJB) | • Surface Mount Package  
• J-Bend Lead Configuration  
• Gold Plate Lead Finish  
• Multilayer Ceramic Package  
• Solder Seal  
• Footprint Compatible with LCC and PLCC |
| Ceramic Quad Flatpack (CQFP) | • Surface Mount Package  
• Straight Lead Configuration  
• Gold Plate Lead Finish  
• Multilayer Ceramic Package  
• Solder Seal |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Package Configuration</th>
<th>Package Characteristics</th>
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</table>
| Ceramic Flatpack      | • Surface Mount or Through Hole Package  
                        • Straight Lead Configuration  
                        • Gold Plate Lead Finish  
                        • Multilayer Ceramic Package  
                        • Solder Seal  
                        • Footprint Compatible with Cerpack |
| Ceramic Dual-In-Line Package (Cerdip) | • Through Hole Package  
                        • Straight Lead Configuration  
                        • Solder Dip Lead Finish  
                        • Pressed Ceramic Package  
                        • Glass Seal  
                        • Footprint Compatible with SB and MDIP |
| Ceramic Small Outline Package | • Surface Mount Package  
                        • Gull Wing Lead Configuration  
                        • Gold Plate Lead Finish  
                        • Multilayer Ceramic Package  
                        • Solder Seal  
                        • Footprint Compatible with Wide Body Plastic SOP |
| Ceramic Pin Grid Array (CPGA) | • Through Hole Package  
                        • Straight Lead Configuration  
                        • Gold Plate Lead Finish  
                        • Multilayer Ceramic Package  
                        • Solder Seal  
                        • Footprint Compatible with PPGA |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Package Configuration</th>
<th>Package Characteristics</th>
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</table>
| Cerpack               | • Surface Mount or Through Hole Package  
                        • Straight Lead Configuration  
                        • Solder Dip Lead Finish  
                        • Pressed Ceramic Package  
                        • Glass Seal  
                        • Footprint Compatible with Flatpak |
| Cerquad               | • Surface Mount Package  
                        • Straight Lead Configuration  
                        • Solder DIP or Tin Plate Lead Finish  
                        • Pressed Ceramic Package  
                        • Glass Seal  
                        • Footprint Compatible with PQFP  
                        • Can be Electrically and/or Thermally Enhanced |
| Cerquad — EIAJ        | • Surface Mount Package  
                        • Gull Wing Lead Configuration  
                        • Solder DIP or Tin Plate Lead Finish  
                        • Pressed Ceramic Package  
                        • Glass Seal  
                        • Footprint Compatible with PQFP  
                        • Can be Electrically and/or Thermally Enhanced |
| TO-3 Metal Can        | • Through Hole Package  
                        • Solder Dip Lead Finish  
                        • Steel or Aluminum Base  
                        • Compression Glass Seal |
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<th>Package Configuration</th>
<th>Package Characteristics</th>
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<td>TO-5 and TO-39</td>
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<td>Metal Can</td>
<td>- Solder Dip or Gold Plate Lead Finish TO-5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Kovar Base</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Matched Glass Seal TO-39</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Kovar or Steel Base</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Matched or Compression Glass Seal</td>
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<tr>
<td>TO-18</td>
<td>- Through Hole Package</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metal Can</td>
<td>- Solder DIP or Gold Plate Lead Finish</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Kovar Base</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Matched Glass Seal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TO-46, TO-52 and TO-72</td>
<td>- Through Hole Package</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metal Can</td>
<td>- Solder Dip or Gold Plate Lead Finish</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Kovar or Steel Base</td>
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<td>- Matched or Compression Glass Seal</td>
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