

TPS7A4501SPEVM User's Guide

This user's guide describes the characteristics, operation, and use of the TPS7A4501SP evaluation module (EVM). This user's guide includes setup instructions, a schematic diagram, a bill of materials (BOM), and printed-circuit board (PCB) layout drawings for the EVM.

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Introduction

1 Introduction

This EVM demonstrates the Texas Instruments TPS7A4501SP ultra low-dropout (LDO) regulator. It is rated as an 1.5-A ultra LDO voltage regulator.

1.1 Related Documentation

TPS7A4501SP datasheet (SLVSC31A)

2 Background

The TPS7A4501SPEVM helps designers evaluate the operation and performance of the TPS7A4501SP ultra LDO regulator.

Table 1. Summary of Performance

| Test Conditions | Output Current Range | |
|---|----------------------|--|
| $V_{IN} = 2.3 \text{ V to } 20 \text{ V}$ | Max 1.5 A | |

The evaluation module is designed to provide access to the features of the TPS7A4501. Some modifications can be made to this module to test performance at different input and output voltages, current, and soft-start features. Please contact TI Field Applications Group for advice on these matters.

3 Safety

3.1 Eye Protection

Wear safety glasses while performing any tests on the EVM.

3.2 General Risks

This test must be performed by qualified personnel trained in electronics theory who understand the risks and hazards of the assembly under test.

3.3 Electrostatic Discharge

ESD precautions must be followed while handling electronic assemblies.

3.4 Thermal/Shock Hazards

Precautions should be observed to avoid touching areas of the assembly that may get hot or present a shock hazard during testing.

3.5 Apparel

2

Use the following apparel any time the EVM is used:

- Electrostatic smock
- Electrostatic gloves or finger cots
- Safety glasses
- Ground ESD wrist strap



4 Equipment

4.1 Power Supplies

Power Supply #1 (PS#1): a power supply capable of supplying 7-V at 2-A or higher, as required.

4.2 Load #1

Electronic load, that is, Chroma 63640-80-80 module along with 63600-2 DC electronic load Mainframe or a Decade Resistor Box.

4.3 Meters

Four (4) Fluke 75, (equivalent or better) or two (3) equivalent voltage meters and two (2) equivalent current meters.

The current meters must be able to measure 2-A current. **Note:** A shunt along with DVM can be used to monitor output current.

4.4 Oscilloscope

An Tektronix oscilloscope with both voltage and current probes, that is, DPO 7104C, Tektronix TCP202, or equivalent.



Board Layout

5 Board Layout

Figure 1 through Figure 5 illustrate the PCB layouts.

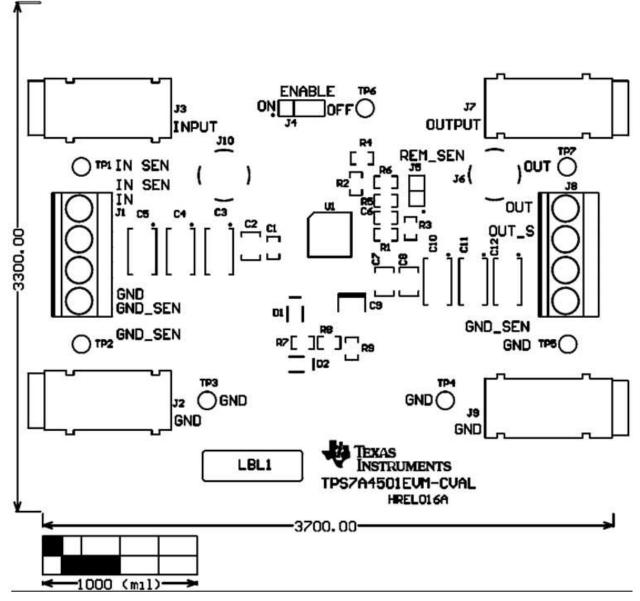


Figure 1. Component Placement (Top Side)



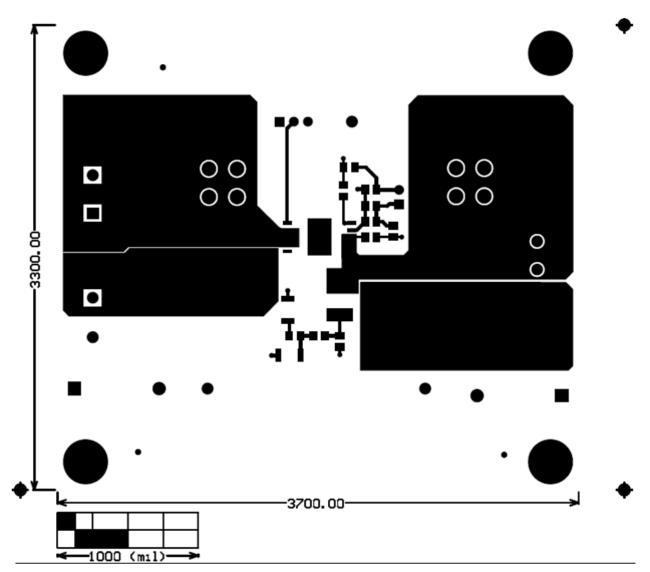


Figure 2. PCB Layout (Top Layer)



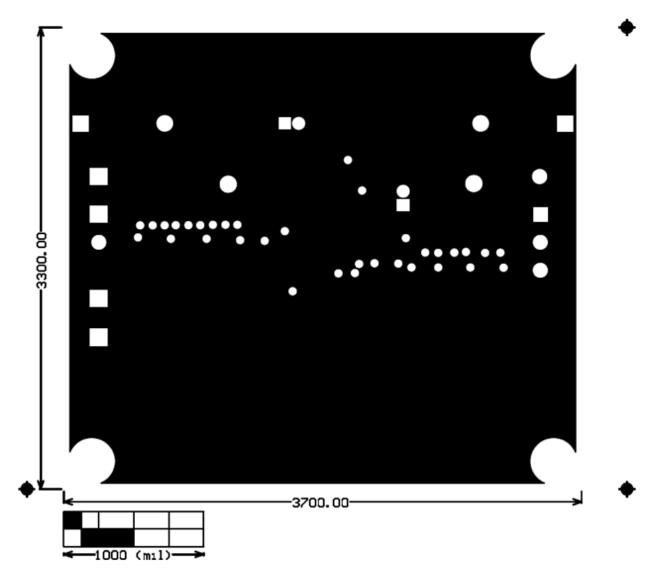


Figure 3. Board Layout - Second Layer (Mid Layer 1) Ground Plane



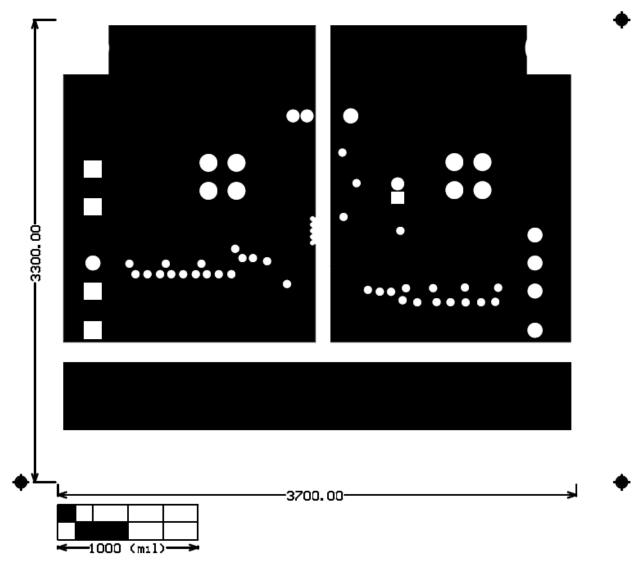


Figure 4. Board Layout - Third Layer (Mid Layer 2) Power Plane



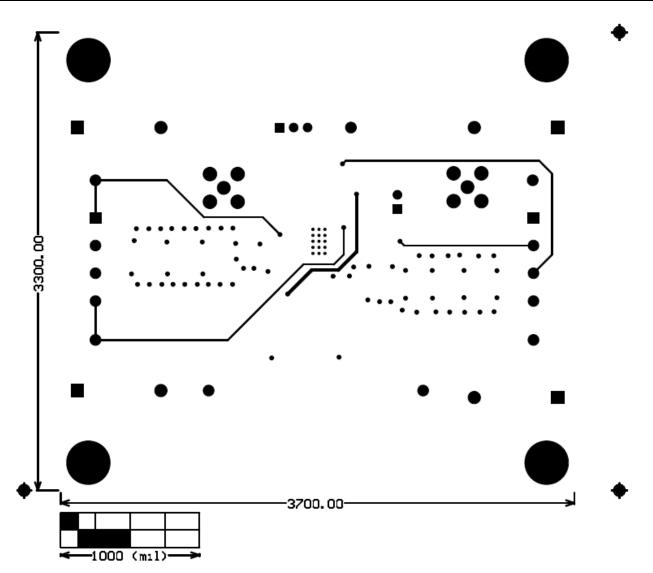


Figure 5. Board Layout - Fourth Layer (Bottom Layer)



6 Bench Test Setup Conditions

6.1 Header Descriptions and Jumper Placement

Figure 6 illustrates the header descriptions and jumper placement.

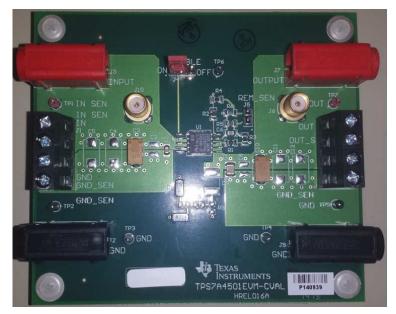


Figure 6. Headers Description and Jumper Placement

6.2 Testing

Table 2 lists the connector and header information.

| Reference Designator | Functions |
|-------------------------|--|
| J1 | Input voltage and ground terminal block. Pins 1 & 4 are for sensing purposes only. |
| J2 | Ground (GND). |
| J3 | Input voltage banana connector. Electrically connected to pins 1 & 2 of J1. |
| J4 | Enable/disable the regulator. |
| J5 | External remote sense |
| J6 | Output voltage SMA connection. Caution: this node is DC-coupled and may damage some equipment if AC- coupling is not provided externally. |
| J7 | Output voltage banana connector. Electrically connected to J6. |
| J8 | Output voltage and ground terminal block. Pins 2 & 3 are for sensing purposes only. |
| J 9 | Ground (GND) |
| J10 | Input voltage SMA connection. Caution: this node is DC-coupled and may damage some equipment if AC- coupling is not provided externally. |
| TP1 | Test point for the input voltage node. Electrically connected to J10, J3, and J1 (pins 1 & 2). |
| TP2 | Ground (GND) |
| TP3 | Ground (GND) |
| TP4 | Ground (GND) |
| TP5 | Ground (GND) |
| TP6 | Ground (GND) |
| TP7 | Test point for the output voltage node. Electrically connected to J10, J7, and J8 (pins 1 & 2). |

7 Power-Up Procedure

Table 3 displays the test results.

Table 3. Test Results

| | V _{OUTMIN} | V _{OUTMAX} | Current Limit |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| $V_{OUT} = 5 V$ | 4.8 V | 5.1 V | 1.5 A < I _{LIMIT} < 2.0 A |

8 I_{out} and V_{out} Measurements

- 1. Make sure all power supplies on the bench are OFF
- 2. Locate header J4. Place a jumper in the "ON" position.
- 3. Locate banana sockets J2 and J3. Plug GND into J2 and VIN from the power supply to J3.
- 4. Alternatively, appropriately-sized wires can be inserted into J1 pins 3 and 2 (respectively).
- 5. Connect the load + to J7 and load to J9. An ammeter may be placed in series as required.
- 6. Set the power supply to 5.5 V.
- 7. The output should measure between 4.8 V to 5.1 V for loads 1.5 A and under with no significant ripple/oscillation.
- 8. The internal current limiter should take effect between 1.5-A to 2-A loads. In this case, the output would be outside of the specified regulation range. Above 2 A, the output should be zero volts.

8.1 Dropout Voltage

Drop out voltage (V_{DO}) is the difference between the input voltage and output voltage needed to maintain regulation. The following VDO test was done with the EVM in default configuration ($V_{OUT} = 5$ V). V_{DO} vs I_{OUT} is highlighted in Figure 7.

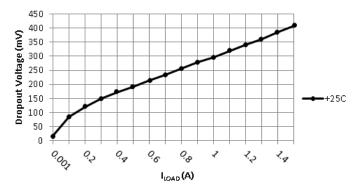


Figure 7. V_{DO} vs I_{OUT}

The dropout voltage is defined as the minimum voltage differential between the input and the output required for the series-pass transistor to be in saturation, and therefore, for the output to be within the line regulation specification. The dropout voltage is the result of the effective on-resistance of the series pass transistor. At room temperature, the on-resistance of the pass transistor is interpreted to be about 0.23 Ω when the input voltage is at the lowest possible to maintain regulation at a specified output voltage. Because the effective on-resistance of the series-pass transistor has a positive temperature coefficient, the effective on-resistance is higher; therefore, the dropout voltage is higher at higher operating temperatures and lower for lower operating temperatures.

8.2 Transient Response

The waveforms in Figure 8 to Figure 10 show the line regulation of the LDO under two scenarios of load changes.

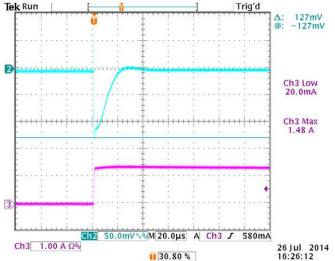
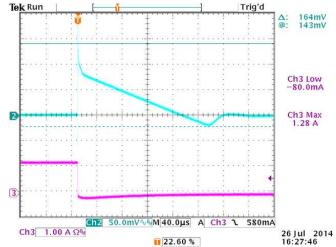


Figure 8. V_{out} Undershoot When the Load is Stepped To and From 10 mA and 1.5 A



Iout and Vout Measurements

Figure 9. V_{out} Overshoot When the Load is Stepped To and From 10 mA and 1.5 A

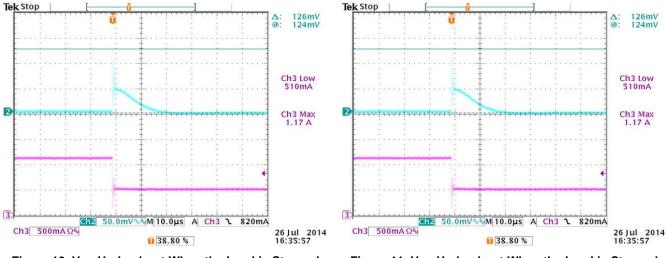


Figure 10. V_{out} Undershoot When the Load is Stepped To and From 500 mA and 1.1 A

Figure 11. V_{out} Undershoot When the Load is Stepped To and From 10 mA and 1.5 A

The cyan oscilloscope trace is VOUT and the pink is the IOUT current using the Tektronix TCP202 current clamp.

The transient test was performed by using two fixed resistors in parallel and a MOSFET to enable/disable one of the two resistors. The text fixture was placed directly at the output screw terminals without using long banana-jack cables to minimize series inductance.

8.3 Soft-Start

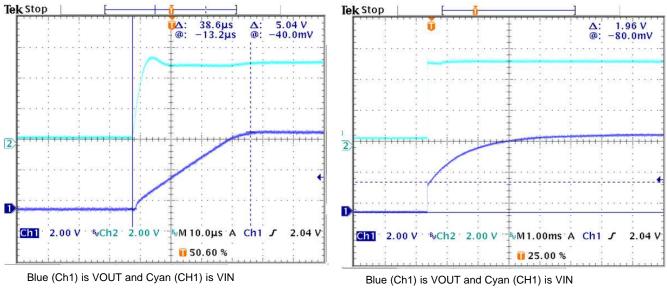
See Section 9.3 to implement the soft-start feature onto the EVM.

VOUT soft-start is achieved by the use of two diodes, two resistors, and a capacitor placed within the feedback loop. The VOUT rise time is independent of input voltage or output load. The rise time is dependent on R8 and C9 in the EVM schematic. Table 4 lists the output voltage rise time for four different RC combinations:

| R8 | C9 | Time to 66% of VOUT (+3.3V) | Time to 100% of VOUT (+5V) |
|------|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 kΩ | 0.1 µF | 0.9 ms | 5.8 ms |
| 2 kΩ | 0.1 μF | 0.9 ms | 6.4 ms |
| 1 kΩ | 10 μF 0.1 μF | 70 ms | 542 ms |
| 2 kΩ | 10 µF 0.1 µF | 82 ms | 594 ms |

Table 4. Soft-Start Circuit Scenarios

The soft-start test was done with a 10-mA resistive load. The resistor was placed directly at the VOUT screw terminals to minimize series inductance. The soft-start event was observed by using an oscilloscope to capture the output rising voltage when the input's + wire is connected to the power supply. A switch is not used due to bouncing. The power supply's internal on/off functionality is also not used to avoid observing the power supply's soft-start (if any). A voltage jump of approximately 2 V is present on VOUT irrespective of the RC network used in the soft-start circuit.



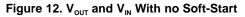


Figure 13. V_{out} and V_{IN} With Soft-Start Circuit

8.4 Enable/Disable

The LDO can be enabled/disabled by placing a jumper on J4 in the respective position. If driven by an external electrical signal, then the SHDN pin of the TPS7A4501 (pin 2 of J4) should be tied to VIN to turn on the device or when the feature is not used. Conversely, pulling the SHDN pin to ground will turn off the device. The device is in shutdown state by default if the SHDN pin is left floating.



8.5 Output Noise

Output noise is measured using HP3495A and Picotest J2180A low-noise amplifier while the EVM was powered by the Agilent E3631A power supply with a Chroma DC load on the EVM output. The HP3495A was configured for 3-Hz IFBW and 50 samples for averaging. For details on the setup, see the *Output Noise Measurement Setup* document. The following plots show noise in μ V/ \sqrt{Hz} vs Frequency without the 20-dB gain of the LNA.

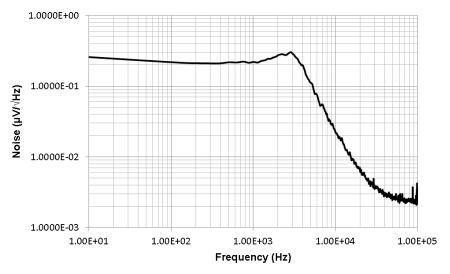


Figure 14. Best-Case RMS Noise (10 Hz - 100 kHz) = 16.86 µVrms, V_{IN} = 5.5 V, V_{OUT} = 5 V at no Load

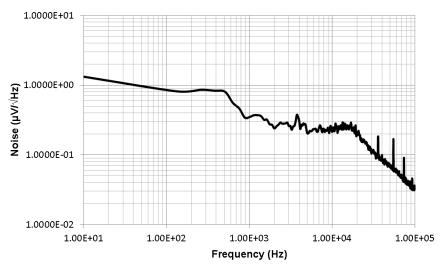


Figure 15. Worst-Case RMS Noise (10 Hz – 100 kHz) = 47.39 μ Vrms, V_{IN} = 5.5 V, V_{OUT} = 5 V at 1.5 A Load



Optional Board Modifications

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9 Optional Board Modifications

Figure 16 is the schematic of the feedback network.

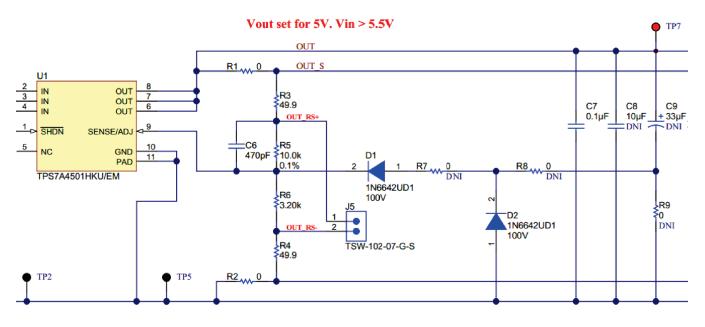


Figure 16. Schematic of the Feedback Network

9.1 Changing the Output Voltage

By default, the EVM is configured for an output voltage of 5 V. This can be changed by swapping out R5 and R6 accordingly. C6 is included for loop stability and to enhance output noise performance.

$$V_{OUT} = 1.21 \left(1 + \frac{R3 + R5}{R6 + R4} \right) + I_{ADJ} (R3 + R5)$$
(1)

9.2 Remote Output Sense

Two options are provided for connecting a remote sense line to alter the point-of-regulation: via J5 or via J8 pins 2 and 3. To utilize J5, remove R4 and R6 and connect J5 pin 1 to + sense and J5 pin 2 to – sense. To utilize J8, remove R1 and R2 and connect J8 pin 2 to + sense and J8 pin 3 to – sense. Note that J8 pins 2 and 3 are strictly only for sensing; these are optimized for high-current loads.

9.3 Soft-Start Capability

Two diodes (D1 and D2) should be present on the EVM. To use the soft-start feature, short R7, solder a 1-M Ω resistor at R9, and solder a resistor and capacitor at R8 and C9 that will determine the VOUT rise time.

9.4 ESR Stability

Note that R9 is in series with C9. This is provided as a way to measure the LDO stability at various capacitor ESR values by the addition of a resistor. If no additional ESR is desired, R9 should be shorted. Note that this feature cannot be used in conjunction with the soft-start circuitry since both require the use of the R9 and C9 placeholders.



Schematic and Bill of Materials

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10 Schematic and Bill of Materials

This section contains the TPS7A4501SPEVM Schematic and bill of materials.

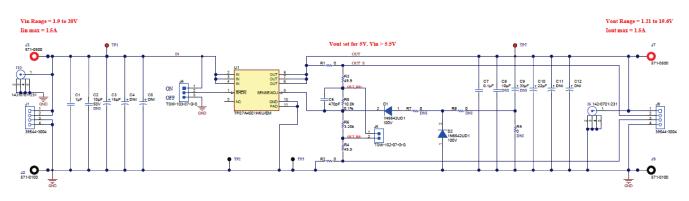


Figure 17. TPS7A4501SPEVM Schematic



Schematic and Bill of Materials

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Table 5. TPS7H1101SPEVM Bill of Materials

| Item No. | Qty | Designator | Manufacturer | Part No. | Description |
|----------|-----|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---|
| 1 | 1 | C1 | AVX | 08055C105KAT2A | CAP, CERM, 1uF, 50V, +/-10%, X7R, 0805 |
| 2 | 1 | C3 | Kemet | T495X156M050ATE300 | CAP, TA, 15uF, 50V, +/-20%, 0.3 ohm, SMD |
| 3 | 1 | C6 | TDK | CGJ4C2C0G1H471J060AA | CAP, CERM, 470pF, 50V, +/-5%, C0G/NP0, 0805 |
| 4 | 1 | C7 | Kemet | C1210C104K5RACTU | CAP, CERM, 0.1uF, 50V, +/-10%, X7R, 1210 |
| 5 | 1 | C10 | Kemet | T495D226K025ATE200 | CAP, TA, 22uF, 25V, +/-20%, 0.2 ohm, SMD |
| 6 | 2 | D1, D2 | ST Microelectronics | 1N6642UD1 | Diode, Switching, 100V, 0.3A, 4.77x2.2x2.1 mm |
| 7 | 3 | FID1, FID2, FID3 | N/A | N/A | Fiducial mark. There is nothing to buy or mount. |
| 8 | 4 | H1, H2, H3, H4 | Keystone | 1902C | Standoff, Hex, 0.5"L #4-40 Nylon |
| 9 | 4 | H5, H6, H7, H8 | B&F Fastener Supply | NY PMS 440 0025 PH | Machine Screw, Round, #4-40 x 1/4, Nylon, Philips panhead |
| 10 | 2 | J1, J8 | Molex | 39544-3004 | Terminal Block, 4x1, 5.08mm, TH |
| 11 | 2 | J2, J9 | DEM Manufacturing | 571-0100 | Standard Banana Jack, insulated, 10A, black |
| 12 | 2 | J3, J7 | DEM Manufacturing | 571-0500 | Standard Banana Jack, insulated, 10A, red |
| 13 | 1 | J4 | Samtec | TSW-103-07-G-S | Header, TH, 100mil, 3x1, Gold plated, 230 mil above insulator |
| 14 | 1 | J5 | Samtec | TSW-102-07-G-S | Header, TH, 100mil, 2x1, Gold plated, 230 mil above insulator |
| 15 | 2 | J6, J10 | Emerson Network Power | 142-0701-231 | Connector, TH, SMA |
| 16 | 1 | LBL1 | Brady | THT-14-423-10 | Thermal Transfer Printable Labels, 0.650" W x 0.200" H 10,000 per roll |
| 17 | 2 | R1,R2 | Yageo America | RC0805JR-070RL | RES, 0 ohm, 5%, 0.125W, 0805 |
| 18 | 2 | R3, R4 | Yageo America | RT0805BRD0749R9L | RES, 49.9 ohm, 0.1%, 0.125W, 0805 |
| 19 | 1 | R5 | Yageo America | RT0805BRD0710KL | RES, 10.0k ohm, 0.1%, 0.125W, 0805 |
| 20 | 1 | R6 | Vishay-Dale | TNPW08053K20BEEN | RES, 3.20k ohm, 0.1%, 0.125W, 0805 |
| 21 | 2 | TP1, TP7 | Keystone | 5000 | Test Point, Miniature, Red, TH |
| 22 | 5 | TP2, TP3, TP4, TP5, TP6 | Keystone | 5001 | Test Point, Miniature, Black, TH |
| 23 | 1 | U1 | Texas Instruments | TPS7A4501HKU/EM | 2.3V to 20V, 1.5-A Low Dropout Voltage Regulator, provided by customer. |
| | | | | | |

STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR EVALUATION MODULES

- 1. Delivery: TI delivers TI evaluation boards, kits, or modules, including any accompanying demonstration software, components, or documentation (collectively, an "EVM" or "EVMs") to the User ("User") in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein. Acceptance of the EVM is expressly subject to the following terms and conditions.
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 - 2.3 If any EVM fails to conform to the warranty set forth above, TI's sole liability shall be at its option to repair or replace such EVM, or credit User's account for such EVM. TI's liability under this warranty shall be limited to EVMs that are returned during the warranty period to the address designated by TI and that are determined by TI not to conform to such warranty. If TI elects to repair or replace such EVM, TI shall have a reasonable time to repair such EVM or provide replacements. Repaired EVMs shall be warranted for the remainder of the original warranty period. Replaced EVMs shall be warranted for a new full ninety (90) day warranty period.
- 3 Regulatory Notices:
 - 3.1 United States
 - 3.1.1 Notice applicable to EVMs not FCC-Approved:

This kit is designed to allow product developers to evaluate electronic components, circuitry, or software associated with the kit to determine whether to incorporate such items in a finished product and software developers to write software applications for use with the end product. This kit is not a finished product and when assembled may not be resold or otherwise marketed unless all required FCC equipment authorizations are first obtained. Operation is subject to the condition that this product not cause harmful interference to licensed radio stations and that this product accept harmful interference. Unless the assembled kit is designed to operate under part 15, part 18 or part 95 of this chapter, the operator of the kit must operate under the authority of an FCC license holder or must secure an experimental authorization under part 5 of this chapter.

3.1.2 For EVMs annotated as FCC – FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Part 15 Compliant:

CAUTION

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

FCC Interference Statement for Class A EVM devices

NOTE: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference when the equipment is operated in a commercial environment. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instruction manual, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. Operation of this equipment in a residential area is likely to cause harmful interference in which case the user will be required to correct the interference at his own expense.

FCC Interference Statement for Class B EVM devices

NOTE: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

3.2 Canada

3.2.1 For EVMs issued with an Industry Canada Certificate of Conformance to RSS-210

Concerning EVMs Including Radio Transmitters:

This device complies with Industry Canada license-exempt RSS standard(s). Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device.

Concernant les EVMs avec appareils radio:

Le présent appareil est conforme aux CNR d'Industrie Canada applicables aux appareils radio exempts de licence. L'exploitation est autorisée aux deux conditions suivantes: (1) l'appareil ne doit pas produire de brouillage, et (2) l'utilisateur de l'appareil doit accepter tout brouillage radioélectrique subi, même si le brouillage est susceptible d'en compromettre le fonctionnement.

Concerning EVMs Including Detachable Antennas:

Under Industry Canada regulations, this radio transmitter may only operate using an antenna of a type and maximum (or lesser) gain approved for the transmitter by Industry Canada. To reduce potential radio interference to other users, the antenna type and its gain should be so chosen that the equivalent isotropically radiated power (e.i.r.p.) is not more than that necessary for successful communication. This radio transmitter has been approved by Industry Canada to operate with the antenna types listed in the user guide with the maximum permissible gain and required antenna impedance for each antenna type indicated. Antenna types not included in this list, having a gain greater than the maximum gain indicated for that type, are strictly prohibited for use with this device.

Concernant les EVMs avec antennes détachables

Conformément à la réglementation d'Industrie Canada, le présent émetteur radio peut fonctionner avec une antenne d'un type et d'un gain maximal (ou inférieur) approuvé pour l'émetteur par Industrie Canada. Dans le but de réduire les risques de brouillage radioélectrique à l'intention des autres utilisateurs, il faut choisir le type d'antenne et son gain de sorte que la puissance isotrope rayonnée équivalente (p.i.r.e.) ne dépasse pas l'intensité nécessaire à l'établissement d'une communication satisfaisante. Le présent émetteur radio a été approuvé par Industrie Canada pour fonctionner avec les types d'antenne énumérés dans le manuel d'usage et ayant un gain admissible maximal et l'impédance requise pour chaque type d'antenne. Les types d'antenne non inclus dans cette liste, ou dont le gain est supérieur au gain maximal indiqué, sont strictement interdits pour l'exploitation de l'émetteur

3.3 Japan

- 3.3.1 Notice for EVMs delivered in Japan: Please see http://www.tij.co.jp/lsds/ti_ja/general/eStore/notice_01.page 日本国内に 輸入される評価用キット、ボードについては、次のところをご覧ください。 http://www.tij.co.jp/lsds/ti_ja/general/eStore/notice_01.page
- 3.3.2 Notice for Users of EVMs Considered "Radio Frequency Products" in Japan: EVMs entering Japan may not be certified by TI as conforming to Technical Regulations of Radio Law of Japan.

If User uses EVMs in Japan, not certified to Technical Regulations of Radio Law of Japan, User is required by Radio Law of Japan to follow the instructions below with respect to EVMs:

- 1. Use EVMs in a shielded room or any other test facility as defined in the notification #173 issued by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications on March 28, 2006, based on Sub-section 1.1 of Article 6 of the Ministry's Rule for Enforcement of Radio Law of Japan,
- 2. Use EVMs only after User obtains the license of Test Radio Station as provided in Radio Law of Japan with respect to EVMs, or
- 3. Use of EVMs only after User obtains the Technical Regulations Conformity Certification as provided in Radio Law of Japan with respect to EVMs. Also, do not transfer EVMs, unless User gives the same notice above to the transferee. Please note that if User does not follow the instructions above, User will be subject to penalties of Radio Law of Japan.

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 - 4.1 EVMS ARE NOT FOR USE IN FUNCTIONAL SAFETY AND/OR SAFETY CRITICAL EVALUATIONS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO EVALUATIONS OF LIFE SUPPORT APPLICATIONS.
 - 4.2 User must read and apply the user guide and other available documentation provided by TI regarding the EVM prior to handling or using the EVM, including without limitation any warning or restriction notices. The notices contain important safety information related to, for example, temperatures and voltages.
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 - 4.3.2 EVMs are intended solely for use by technically qualified, professional electronics experts who are familiar with the dangers and application risks associated with handling electrical mechanical components, systems, and subsystems. User assumes all responsibility and liability for proper and safe handling and use of the EVM by User or its employees, affiliates, contractors or designees. User assumes all responsibility and liability to ensure that any interfaces (electronic and/or mechanical) between the EVM and any human body are designed with suitable isolation and means to safely limit accessible leakage currents to minimize the risk of electrical shock hazard. User assumes all responsibility and liability for any improper or unsafe handling or use of the EVM by User or its employees, affiliates, contractors or designees.
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