

NON-ISOLATED DC-DC Converter

6.0-14Vin, 0.75- 5.0Vout, 10A

INSTALLATION / APPLICATION NOTE

PL10S-W12C PL10SMS-W12C

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1. Introduction

This application note describes the features and functions of Lambda's PL10S-W12C and PL10SMS-W12C series of Non Isolated DC-DC Converters. These "Point of Load" modules serve the needs specifically of the fixed and mobile telecommunications and computing markets. Capable of operating over a wide input voltage range of 6.0 – 14VDC, this series provides a precise regulated output voltage within the range of 0.7525 to 5.0 Vdc. The operating ambient temperature range is – 40°C to +85°C. Ultra-high efficiency operation is achieved through the use of synchronous rectification. The modules are protected against short circuit and over-temperature conditions.

2. Converter Features

- High efficiency, typically 95% at 5.0Vdc
- Industry standard footprint
- Wide ambient temperature range, -40°C to +85°C
- Cost efficient open frame design
- Programmable output voltage via external resistor from 0.7525 to 5.0Vdc
- No minimum load requirement (stable at all loads)
- Remote ON/OFF
- Remote sense compensation
- Fixed switching frequency
- Continuous short-circuit protection and over current protection
- Over-temperature protection (OTP)
- Monotonic Startup with pre-bias at the output.
- UL/IEC/EN60950 Certified.
- Output Voltage Sequencing (Tracking)
- Power Good Signal (Optional)

3. General Description

3.1 Electrical Description

A block diagram of the converter is shown in Figure 1. The topology is based on a non-isolated synchronous buck converter. The control loop is optimized for stability, fast transient response, and very tight line and load regulation. In a typical pre-bias application the converters do not draw any reverse current at start-up. The output voltage can be adjusted from 0.7525 to 5.0 Vdc using the TRIM pin with an external resistor. The converter can be shut down via a remote ON/OFF input that is referenced to ground. This input is compatible with readily available logic devices. A 'positive'logic input is supplied as standard. Positive logic implies that the converter is enabled if the remote ON/OFF input is high (or floating), and disabled if it is low.

The converter is protected against over-temperature conditions. If the converter is overloaded or the temperature of the converter exceeds its specified operating range, the converter will shut down and re-start once the fault condition is removed.

Figure 1. Electrical Block Diagram

3.2 Thermal Packaging and Physical Design

The converter uses a multi-layer FR4 PCB construction. All surface mount power components are placed on one side of the PCB, and all low-power control components are placed on the opposite side; thus, the heat dissipation of the power components is optimized, ensuring that control components are not thermally stressed. The converter is an open-frame product and has no case or case pin. The open-frame design has several advantages over encapsulated closed devices; among these advantages are:

- **Efficient Thermal Management:** The heat is removed from the heat generating components without affecting sensitive small signal control components.
- **Environmental:** Lead free open-frame converters are more easily re-cycled.
- **Cost Efficient:** No encapsulation**.** Cost efficient open-frame construction.
- **Reliable:** Efficient cooling provided by open frame construction, offers high reliability.

4. Technical Specifications

(All specifications are typical at nominal input, full load at 25°C unless otherwise noted.)

5. Main Features and Functions

5.1 Operating Temperature Range

The converters operate over a wide ambient temperature environment (- 40°C to 85°C). Due consideration must be given to the de-rating curves when determining the maximum power that can be drawn from the converter. The maximum power drawn is influenced by a number of factors, such as:

- Input voltage range
- Output load current
- Air velocity (forced or natural convection)
- Mounting orientation of converter PCB with respect to the Airflow
- Motherboard PCB design, especially ground and power planes; these can be effective heat sinks for the converter.

5.2 Over-Temperature Protection (OTP)

The converters are equipped with non-latching over-temperature protection. A temperature sensor is located at the hottest point within the converter; typically, the on top of the switching device. If the temperature exceeds a threshold of 130°C (typical) the converter will shut down, disabling the output. When the temperature has decreased to a safe operating range, the converter will automatically start.

The over-temperature condition can be induced by a variety of reasons such as external overload condition or a system fan failure.

5.3 Output Voltage Adjustment

Section 7.8 describes in detail how to trim the output voltage with respect to its set point. The output voltage on all models is adjustable over the range of 0.7525 – 5.0Vdc.

5.4 Safe Operating Area (SOA)

Figure 2 provides a graphical representation of the Safe Operating Area (SOA) of the converter. This representation assumes ambient operating conditions such as airflow are met as per thermal guidelines provided in Sections 7.2 and 7.3.

Figure 2. Maximum Output Current Safe Operating Area

5.5 Over Current Protection

All models have short-circuit and over current protection. The converter will automatically recover once either condition is removed. It will also supply up to 150% of it rated output current. In the event of an overcurrent condition the converter will go into a hiccup mode.

5.6 Remote ON/OFF

Positive Logic- The remote ON/OFF input feature of the converter allows external circuitry to turn the converter ON or OFF. Active-high remote ON/OFF is available as standard. The converters are turned '**on'** if the remote ON/OFF pin is high (=Vin), or left open. Setting the pin low (<0.4Vdc) will turn the converter '**off**''. The signal level of the remote on/off input is defined with respect to ground. If remote on/off is not needed, leave the remote on/off pin disconnected and the module will be on.

Negative Logic- Designated with a suffix "N" is the Negative remote ON/OFF version. The unit is **'off'** if this voltage level is above 2.8Vdc. The converter is **'on'** if the on/off pin input is low (<0.4Vdc) or left open. The recommended remote on/off drive circuits are shown in figures 3 and 4.

Figure 3. Positive Remote ON/OFF Input Drive Circuit

Figure 4. Negative Remote ON/OFF Input Drive Circuit

5.7 UVLO (Under-Voltage Lockout)

When the input Vcc rises above 5.0V, the converter initiates a soft start. The UVLO function in the converter has a hysteresis of approximately 1volt to provide noise immunity at start-up.

5.8 Output Voltage Tracking (Sequencing)

The converters have a tracking feature that is available via the pin labeled 'SEQ'. When this feature is not used, this pin should be tied to +Vin. When this feature is used, the on/off pin should be left disconnected so that the converter is on by default.

The tracking feature (sequencing) is used with two or more converters in applications where one output voltage is required to be in regulation before another. When the output voltage from the 'master' is applied to the SEQ pin of the 'slave', the output voltage of the 'slave' tracks the output voltage of the 'master' until the slave reaches its output voltage set point. The 'master' output voltage must be higher than the 'slave'. A valid input voltage must be maintained until the tracking and output voltages reach ground potential to ensure a controlled shutdown of the modules, when using the remote on/off on the 'master'.

A typical circuit example with one converter being used as a 'master' and a second converter being used as a 'slave' is shown below:

Figure 5. Sequencing Test Circuit

Power start up with SEQ signal Input Voltage=12Vdc Master DC/DC output voltage (CH1) = 5Vdc Slave DC/DC output voltage (CH2)=3.3Vdc Sequencing voltage= 0.6V/msec

Power turn off with SEQ signal voltage Input Voltage=12Vdc (CH1) Master DC/DC output voltage $(CH2) = 5$ Vdc Slave DC/DC output voltage (CH3)=3.3Vdc

Figure 7. Sequencing Test Circuit

6. Safety

6.1 Input Fusing and Safety

These products are approved to UL 60950-1:2003, CAN/CSA C22.2 NO.60950-1:2003 and IEC/EN60950-1:2001.

These products are designed to be PCB mounted and for use within other equipment or enclosures. For safe installation and operation, carefully follow the instructions below:

Do not install, test, or operate the products near water or spill liquid on them.

Do not operate these products unless they are securely fastened. These products must be installed in a restricted access location

accessible to authorized personnel only.

These products must be professionally installed in accordance with the prevailing electrical wiring regulations and safety standards.

The output power taken from the unit must not exceed the ratings stated in the catalog datasheet.

Ensure adequate ventilation is provided to allow air to circulate. This product has functional insulation between input and output and therefore the DC source to this product must be reinforced or double insulated to the AC input in accordance with IEC/EN 60950-1 to achieve SELV output.

Fusing – External ceramic sand-filled fuse, 250V, F20A, HBC.

7. Applications

7.1 Layout Design

In optimizing thermal design the PCB is utilized as a heat sink. Some heat is transferred from the module to the main board through connecting pins. The system designer or the end user must ensure that other components and metal in the vicinity of the converter meet the spacing requirements to which the system is approved.

Low resistance and low inductance PCB layout traces are the norm and should be used where possible. Consideration must also be given to proper low impedance traces between the power module and input / output grounds. The recommended footprints are shown in figures 8 and 9.

Figure 8. Recommended PL10S Footprint

R ec om m ended Pad Layout

Figure 9. Recommended PL10SMS Footprint

7.2 Convection Cooling

To predict the approximate cooling needed for the module, refer to the Power De-rating curves in Figures 13 and 14. These de-rating curves are approximations of the ambient temperatures and airflows required to keep the power module temperature below its maximum rating. Once the module is assembled in the actual system, the module's temperature should be checked as shown in Figure 10 to ensure it does not exceed 115°C.

Proper cooling can be verified by measuring the power module's temperature at " Tref " as shown in Figures 11 and 12.

Note: Dimensions are in millimeters and (inches)

Figure 11. Temperature Measurement Location for PL10S

Figure 12. Temperature Measurement Location for PL10SMS

7.3 Thermal Considerations

The power module operates in a variety of thermal environments; however, sufficient cooling should be provided to help ensure reliable operation of the unit. Heat is removed by conduction, convection, and radiation to the surrounding environment. The thermal data presented is based on measurements taken in a set-up as shown in Figure 10. Figures 13 and 14 represent the test data. Note that the airflow is parallel to the long axis of the module as shown in Figure 7 for the converters. The temperature at "Tref" location should not exceed 115 °C. The output power of the module should not exceed the rated power for the module (VO, set x IO, max). The thermal data presented is based on measurements taken in a wind tunnel.

7.4 Power De-Rating Curves

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Figure14c.Typical Power De-rating for 12V IN 2.5Vout Figure 14d.Typical Power De-rating for 12V IN 2.0Vout

Figure13g.Typical Power De-rating for 12V IN 1.2Vout Figure 13h.Typical Power De-rating for 12V IN 0.75Vout

Figure14a.Typical Power De-rating for 12V IN 5.0Vout Figure 14b.Typical Power De-rating for 12V IN 3.3Vout

Figure14g.Typical Power De-rating for 12V IN 1.2Vout Figure 14h.Typical Power De-rating for 12V IN 0.75Vout

7.5 Efficiency vs Load Curves

7.6 Input Capacitance

The converters must be connected to a low source impedance to avoid problems with loop stability. The input capacitors should be placed close to the converter's input pins to reduce distribution inductance. Input capacitors should have a high capacitance and a low ESR (typically <100m ohms) for suitable ripple handling capability. Electrolytic capacitors should be avoided. The circuit as shown in Figure 15 represents typical measurement methods for ripple current. Input reflected-ripple current is measured with a simulated source inductance of 1uH. Current is measured at the input of the module.

Figure 15. Input Reflected-Ripple Test Setup

7.7 Test Set-Up

The basic test set-up to measure parameters such as efficiency and load regulation is shown in Figure 16. Please note that this converter is non-isolated, as such the input and output share a common ground. These grounds should be connected together via a low impedance ground plane in the application. When bench testing a converter, ensure that -Vin and -Vo are connected together via a low impedance short to ensure proper efficiency and load regulation measurements. When testing the converters under any transient conditions, ensure that the transient response of the source is sufficient to power the equipment under test. We can calculate the

- **Efficiency**
- Load regulation and line regulation.

The value of efficiency is defined as:

$$
\eta = \frac{Vo \times Io}{Vin \times lin} \times 100\%
$$

Where: Vo is output voltage. Io is output current, Vin is input voltage, Iin is input current. The value of load regulation is defined as:

$$
Load.reg = \frac{V_{FL} - V_{NL}}{V_{NL}} \times 100\%
$$

Where: V_{FL} is the output voltage at full load V_{NL} is the output voltage at no load

The value of line regulation is defined as:

$$
Line. reg = \frac{V_{HL} - V_{LL}}{V_{LL}} \times 100\%
$$

Where: V_{HI} is the output voltage of maximum input voltage at full load. V_{LL} is the output voltage of minimum input voltage at full load.

7.8 Remote Sense Compensation

The use of Remote Sense helps maintain the proper output voltage at the load. It minimizes the effects of distribution losses such as drops across the connectors and PCB traces (see Figure 17). The maximum drop from the output pin to the load should not exceed 500mV for remote sense compensation to work.

The amount of power delivered by the module is defined as the output voltage multiplied by the output current (Vo x Io).

When using TRIM UP, the output voltage of the module will increase. If the same output current is maintained, the output power of the module will increase. Make sure that the maximum output power of the module remains at or below the maximum rated power.

Distribution

When the Remote Sense feature is not being used, the remote sense pin should be disconnected.

Figure 17. Circuit Configuration for Remote Sense Operation

7.9 Output Voltage Adjustment

The output Voltage of the converters can be adjusted over the range of 0.7525 to 5.0V by adding an external resistor (shown as Rtrim) in Figure 18. When the Trim resistor is not connected the output voltage defaults to 0.7525V

Figure 18. Trim-up Voltage Setup The value of Rtrim-up defined as:

$$
Rtrim = \left(\frac{10500}{Vo - 0.7525} - 1000\right)
$$

Where:

Rtrim-up is the external resistor in ohms,

Vo is the desired output voltage

To give an example of the above calculation, to set a voltage of 3.3Vdc, Rtrim is given by:

$$
Rtrim - up = (\frac{10500}{3.3 - 0.7525} - 1000)
$$

Rtrim-up = 3.122K ohms

For various output voltages, the resistance values are provided in Table 3.

Table 3 – Trim Resistor Values

7.10 Output Ripple and Noise Measurement

The test set-up for noise and ripple measurements is shown in Figure 19. A coaxial cable with a 50 ohm termination was used to prevent impedance mismatches. The Output Ripple & Noise is measured with 1uf ceramic and 10uf tantalum. The location for measurement is 50mm to 75mm (2" to 3") from the module.

Figure 19. Output Voltage Ripple and Noise Measurement Set-Up

7.11 Output Capacitance

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Lambda's converters provide a stable output with or without external capacitors. For good transient response, low ESR output capacitors should be located close to the load.

The converters are designed to work with a load capacitance of up to 8,000uF. It is recommended that any additional capacitance be typically 1,000uF and have an ESR of <20mohm. This capacitor should be connected close to the load.

7.12 PL10SMS Reflow Profile

An example of the SMS reflow profile is given in Figure 20. **Equipment used:** SMD HOT AIR REFLOW HD-350SAR **Alloy**: AMQ-M293TA or NC-SMQ92 IND-82088 SN63

Figure 20 SMS Reflow Profile

8. Mechanical

8.1 Outline Diagrams

Dimensions are in millimeters and inches

Tolerance: x.xx ±0.02 in. (0.5mm) , x.xxx ±0.010 in. (0.25 mm) unless otherwise noted

Figure 21 PL10S-W12C Mechanical Outline Diagram

BOTTOM VIEW OF BOARD

Figure 22 PL10SMS-W12C Mechanical Outline Diagram

8.2 SMS Tape and Reel Dimensions

The Tape Reel dimensions for the SMS module are shown in Figure 23.

Figure 23 – SMS Tape and Reel Dimensions

 2.00 016 0.40

P2 t