SEI ELECTRONICS / KEKO VARICON STRATEGIC ALLIANCE

INTRODUCTION

SEI ELECTRONICS and KEKO VARICON have formed a strategic alliance to jointly promote the sale of transient voltage suppression components throughout North America under a program called Varistor Plus.

The Varistor Plus program combines a unique melding of leading-edge technological development, application engineering support and customer service designed to provide our customers with the best and broadest line of products and services in the industry.

The products offered in the Varistor Plus program include both multilayer and single layer varistors, packaged in EIA standard chip sizes and radial leaded configurations, which virtually cover every board level requirement for standard transient voltage protection. In addition, applications in market segments such as “Automotive,” “Telecom Switches (Line Cards),” “Industrial & Motor Controls” and “AC Power Networks” to name a few, are covered by specific product series designed for these unique transient voltage conditions.

MULTILAYER PRODUCTS

Low voltage multilayer varistors span a DC voltage range of 3.0 to 125 V_{DC}, with energy ratings from 0.05 to 37.8 joules. The wide range of EIA chip sizes, 0603 to 3225, accounts for the exceptionally broad product offering (one of the most extensive in the industry), and radial leaded MLVs are a new addition to the family of TVS protection components. The combination of these devices addresses all but the most extremely damaging transients to semiconductors and/or integrated circuits from: (1) ultra-high voltage, low-energy ESD events, (2) ultra-high voltage, high-energy near lightning strikes, (3) relatively low-to-medium voltage, high-energy inductive load disruptions, and all transient environments in between.

SINGLE LAYER PRODUCTS

Low-to-medium voltage single layer (SLV) radial leaded discs, commonly known as MOVs, are designed primarily to operate in AC voltage applications. SEI’s Varistor Plus products are offered in AC voltages from 11 V to 550 V, energy ratings from 0.6 to 815.0 joules and surge capabilities from 100 to 15,000 amps. Most applications are across AC power lines and protect against line surges generated from load switching, lightning and other forms of high-energy transient events. Please refer to the SEI/KEKO VARICON single layer catalog or contact SEI for any information related to SLV products.

SPECIALTY PRODUCTS

The SEI Varistor Plus program embraces many specialty TVS products. Specific to the automotive industry, for example, the multilayer AV products offer exceptional electrical characteristics in much smaller packages and much higher levels of reliability than that achieved by typical automotive disc varistors. The multilayer OV (leaded) “dual function” component combines a low voltage varistor and capacitor into a single package for protection against voltage surges and RFI typically encountered in cars.

KEKO VARICON HISTORY

KEKO VARICON, headquartered in Zuzemberk, Slovenia, has produced over-voltage protection devices for over 10 years. In the late 80s, the company was acquired by Zoran and Angela Zivic from the former ISKRA Group and was named KEKO VARICON (VARI from “VARIstor,” and CON from “CONdensator,” the old term for a capacitor). The ISKRA Group, started in the mid 50s, had previously manufactured both single layer and multilayer ceramic electronic components.

KEKO VARICON’s General Manager, Zoran Zivic, has been actively involved in circuit protection developments in both active and passive components and material systems for more than 20 years. Mr. Zivic has written and published a wide variety of technical papers on electrical and electronic protection subjects and currently holds numerous product and material system patents. Considered one of the leading pioneers in developing surface mount protection devices, Zoran Zivic has earned and maintains the role as a technological leader in this industry.

GENERAL NOTES

SEI’s Varistor Plus / KEKO VARICON products have been tested and approved under the following standards:

UL1414, UL1449, CSA 22.2, IEC 1051.2 and CECC 42000.