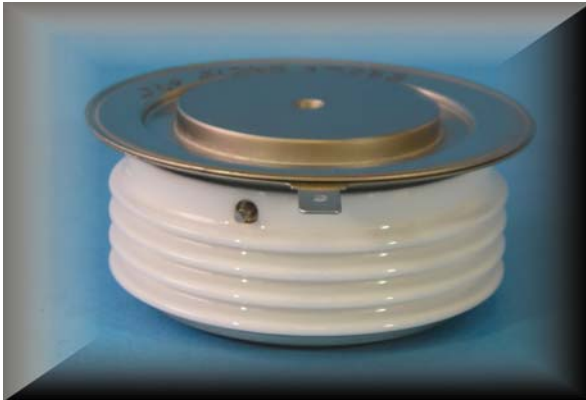


PRESS RELEASE

Date: 14th July 2008

New 5.2kV Medium Voltage Thyristor for better energy efficiency.



Westcode Semiconductors Limited (An IXYS company) announces further additions to its range of Medium Voltage thyristors. The new 5.2kV device has a nominal RMS current rating of 1100A and is encapsulated in 34mm (1.39") pole face hermetic pressure contact package. These devices are manufactured using advanced alloy-free processing techniques to give device characteristics ideal for medium voltage applications.

The new devices incorporate the Westcode proven advanced processing technology of its Medium Voltage thyristor family, such as distributed gate architecture for improved turn-on characteristics and enhanced di/dt capability, improved dynamic characteristics with reduced tq and recovery time. These unique properties make these devices ideally suited for medium voltage applications, in particular where series operation of the devices is required. Typical applications include: DC drives, Soft-starts, Utility applications such as HVDC, static VAR compensators, excitation and transfer switches.

In the high power semiconductor area, when our customers switch and control Mega-watts of power, each percentage improvement in efficiency equate to 10KW of power saved. Thus we are continually looking at ways to address the very varied demands of our customers and, in this case, the introduction of the new voltage class allows for better optimisation of the number of devices required to operate in series, where 4.2kV & 6.5kV products do not meet ideal unit voltage. Thyristors are the preferred devices when it comes to best performance over cost in these high power ranges. By optimising the voltage and current rating of the device against system needs, reduced system losses are achieved and, as a result, operational costs are saved, maximising overall system efficiency.

The devices are available in three voltage classes and two package options; K0566LC450, K0566LC480 & K0566LC520, which are rated at 4.5kV, 4.8kV & 5.2kV respectively and housed in a 26mm (1") thick package; K0566LG450, K0566LG480 & K0566LG520, which are rated at 4.5kV, 4.8kV & 5.2kV respectively and housed in a 35mm (1.38") thick package.

For data sheets please go to the Westcode website at www.westcode.com or please contact us at (email: WSL.sales@westcode.com) or telephone: +44 (0)1249 444524 for quotation.

Author: F J Wakeman – Marketing & Technical support Manager
Company: Westcode Semiconductors Ltd, Langley Park Way, Langley Park, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 1GE
England UK
Contact Details: Tel: +44 (0)1249 455535
Fax: +44 (0)1249 659448
Email: frank.wakeman@westcode.com