

GT – Silver Button Technology Socket for Semiconductor Test



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Application Need



Prototype Test Applications demand high bandwidth followed by high compliance, low resistance and high temperature.

- Elastomers have high bandwidth
- Elastomers have low resistance
- Elastomers have low compliance
 - Due to small thickness and mechanical coupling
- Elastomers have limited temperature range
 - *Due to the inherent process of silicone rubber*

Solution - GT Contact



GT is a new elastomer technology that has silver particles held in a conductive column like buttons which are embedded in a nonconductive polymer substrate on a proper pitch that provides high compliance and extreme temperature ranges. GT is available for BGA, LGA, QFN, PoP and other packages from 0.3mm to 1.27mm pitch.





GT Contact - Typical Characteristics

- Contact resistance <30 mOhms
- Bandwidth >94GHz @-1dB
- Current 5.4A @ 20C rise
- Force 20-70grams per contact
- Operating temperature -55 to +160° C
- Insertion/Extraction cycles >1000*
- Contact length (compressed): 0.08mm
- Compliance: 0.15mm

*Cycle life shown at room temperature. Reduced cycle life is expected when used at extreme temperatures, thermal cycling, improper force, cleaning and handling.

GT Contact



Bandwidth Data – 0.8mm Pitch



GT Contact



Bandwidth Data – 0.5mm Pitch

	Corner	Edge	Field	
Delay	2.4	2.4	2.4	ps
Risetime open	27	27	28.5	ps
Risetime short	28.5	28.5	28.5	ps
Risetime thru, 50_{Ω}	30	30	30	ps
Insertion loss (1dB)	>40	>40	>40	GHz
Insertion loss (3dB)	>40	>40	>40	GHz
VSWR (2:1)	>40	>40	>40	GHz

GT Contact 1mm Pitch - Current Capability





²⁰C rise at 5.4A





-55C Temperature Data

Cres(mohm/contact) Vs Time(hrs) 22.000 20.000 18.000 16.000 Cres (mOhms/contact) 14.000 12.000 10.000 8.000 6.000 4.000 2.000 0.000 0:10:00 AN:30:00 0:00:00 21:25:00 27:00:00 N.15500 No.2500 No.2500 21.2500 43:30:10 45:30:10 41:30:10 49:45:10

Time (hrs)





+160C Temperature Data



GT Contact



Thermal Cycling Data



GT Contact - Endurance Data



BGA100 (0.8mm Pitch)



BGA289 (1mm Pitch)



GT Contact – FDR (BGA100, 0.8mm Pitch)







BGA100 0.8mm pitch 10x10 array

GT Value Proposition



- Low cost elastomer solution for 0.3mm to 1.27mm pitch devices
- Extreme temperature solutions (-55 to +160C)
- High speed digital and RF applications (excellent bandwidth >75GHz)
- Reliable testing due to stable contact resistance throughout life cycle
- Accommodates large packages with warpages
- Mixed pitch and non-conventional array solutions for densely populated devices at low cost
- GT contact provides superior solution in all lab and evaluation applications due to individual button technology at affordable cost
- GT sockets with wide temperature range are available in same footprint as other Ironwood sockets
- Custom test socket can be produced using GT contact in less than 3 weeks when standard socket is not available
- GT sockets are robust and can be used in demonstration products for multiple handling process without contact degradation