Gas Discharge Tubes

TE Circuit Protection's GDTs (Gas Discharge Tubes) are placed in front of, and in parallel with, sensitive telecom equipment such as power lines, communication lines, signal lines and data transmission lines to help protect them from damage caused by transient surge voltages that may result from lightning strikes and equipment switching operations. These devices do not influence the signal in normal operation. However, in the event of an overvoltage surge, such as a lightning strike, the GDT switches to a low impedance state and diverts the energy away from the sensitive equipment.

Our GDTs offer a high level of surge protection, a broad voltage range, low capacitance, and many form factors including new surface mount devices, which makes them suitable for applications such as MDF (Main Distribution Frame) modules, high data-rate telecom applications (e.g. ADSL, VDSL), and surge protection on power lines. Their low capacitance also results in less signal distortion. When used in a coordinated circuit protection solution with PolySwitch devices, they can help equipment manufacturers meet stringent safety regulatory standards.

Benefits

- Helps provide overvoltage fault protection against damage caused by high energy surges
- Suitable for use in sensitive equipment due to impulse sparkover response
- Suitable for high-frequency applications
- Highly reliable performance
- New surface-mount devices for automated manufacturing

Features

- RoHS compliant
- Halogen free
  (refers to: Br≤900ppm, Cl≤900ppm, Br+Cl≤1500ppm)
- Wide range of voltages (75V-4000V)
- Wide range of form factors
  (3mm, 5mm, 6mm, 7mm, 8mm diameter devices)
- Low capacitance and insertion loss
- Crowbar device with low arc voltage
- High accuracy spark-over voltages for high precision designs
- Devices tested per ITU K.12 recommendations
- Various lead configurations and surface-mount options
- Optional fail-short mechanism
- Non radioactive materials
- Devices certified to UL497B and UL1449

Applications

- Telecommunications
  - MDF modules, xDSL equipment, RF systems, antenna, base stations
- Industrial and Consumer Electronics
  - Power supplies, surge protectors, alarm systems, irrigation systems

OBSOLETE
NOT the LATEST
REVISION

Figure G1-G2 Typical Circuits for Gas Discharge Tubes

Figure G1

Two Electrode Devices for Ungrounded Circuits

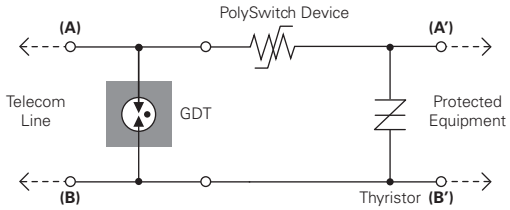


Figure G2

Three Electrode Devices for Grounded Circuits

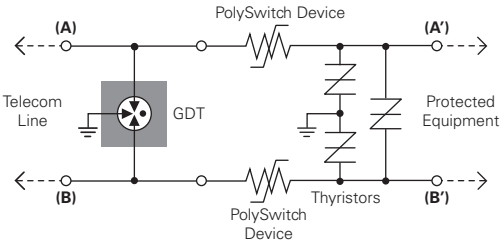


Table G1 Device Voltage Ratings, Surge Rating, Capacitance, Insulation Resistance, and Agency Approval for Two Electrode Gas Discharge Tubes

Part Number	DC Sparkover Voltage @ 100V/s ± 20% Tolerance	Impulse Sparkover Voltage @ 1kV/µs	Impulse Discharge Current 8x20µs 10 hits (5 hits each polarity)	Impulse Discharge Current 8x20µs 300 hits (150 hits each polarity)	Impulse Withstanding Voltage 10/700µs 10 hits (5 times each polarity)	Capacitance @1MHz	Insulation Resistance @100V_{DC}†	UL Rating UL497B #E179610
GTCS23-XXXM-R01-2	75*	600	1kA	100A	4kV	<0.5pF	1,000 (MΩ)	All Devices
	90	600						
	140	600						
	150	600						
	200	700						
GTCC23-XXXM-R01-2	230	700	1kA	100A	6kV‡	<0.5pF	1,000 (MΩ)	All Devices
	300	900						
	350	1000						
	400	1000						

* DCSO 60~105
† Devices <=150V measured @ 50V_{DC}
‡ Effective output impedance: 40ohms

Part Number	DC Sparkover Voltage @ 100V/s ± 20% Tolerance	Impulse Sparkover Voltage @ 100V/µs	Impulse Sparkover Voltage @ 1kV/µs	DC Holdover Voltage Per ITU K.12	On-State Voltage Nominal (@1A) (V)	Impulse Discharge Current 8x20µs 10 hits	Impulse Life 10x1000µs 300 hits	AC Discharge Current (1sec duration; 10 hits) @ 50 Hz	Capacitance @ 1MHz	Insulation Resistance @ 100V_{DC}	UL Rating UL497B #E179610
GTCX25-XXXM-R02	75	450	550	<52	20	2.5kA	100A	2.5Arms	<1pF	10,000 (MΩ)	All Devices
	90	450	550	<52	20						
	140	500	600	<80	20						
GTCX26-XXXM-R05	150	500	600	<80	20	5kA	100A	5Arms	<1pF	10,000 (MΩ)	All Devices
	200	600	700	<135	20						
	230	600	700	<135	20						
GTCX28-XXXM-R05	250	600	700	<135	20	5kA	100A	5Arms	<1pF	10,000 (MΩ)	All Devices
	260	700	800	<135	20						
	300	800	900	<150	20						
	350	900	1000	<150	20						
GTCX28-XXXM-R10	400	900	1000	<150	20	10kA	100A	10Arms	<1pF††	10,000 (MΩ)	All Devices
	420	900	1000	<150	20						
	470	1050	1150	<150	20						
GTCX28-XXXM-R20**	500	1100	1200	<150	20	20kA	100A	20Arms	<1.5pF	10,000 (MΩ)	All Devices
	550	1300	1400	<150	20						
	600	1300	1400	<150	20						

** GTCX28-XXXM-R20 parts only up to 350V
†† <1.2pF for 75V and 90V devices.

RoHS Compliant, ELV Compliant HF Halogen Free

Table G2 Device Voltage Ratings, Surge Rating, Capacitance, Insulation Resistance, and Agency Approval for Two Electrode High Voltage Gas Discharge Tubes

Part Number	DC Sparkover Voltage @100V/s ± 20% Tolerance	Impulse Sparkover Voltage @ 100 V/µs	Impulse Life 10/1000µs 100A	AC Discharge Current, 50 Hz: Multiple hits (1s duration: 10 hits)	AC Discharge Current, 50 Hz: Single hit, 9 cycles	Impulse Discharge Current 8/20µs: 10 hits (5 hits each polarity)	Impulse Discharge Current 8/20µs: 1 hit	Capacitance @ 1MHz	UL Rating UL1449 #E332226
GTCA28-801M-R05	800	1400	300 times	5A	N/A	5kA	N/A	<1pF	✓
GTCA28-102M-R03	1000	1700	N/A	1A	5A	3kA	10kA	<1pF	✓
GTCA28-122M-R03	1200	1900	N/A	1A	5A	3kA	10kA	<1pF	✓
GTCA28-152L-R03	1500 (± 15%)	2200	N/A	1A	5A	3kA	10kA	<1pF	✓
GTCA28-212M-R03	2100	2700	N/A	1A	5A	3kA	10kA	<1pF	✓
GTCA28-242M-R03	2400	3300	N/A	1A	5A	3kA	10kA	<1pF	✓
GTCA28-252M-R03	2500	3500	N/A	1A	5A	3kA	10kA	<1pF	✓
GTCA28-272L-R03	2700 (± 15%)*	3700	300 times†	N/A	N/A	3kA	10kA	<1pF	✓
GTCA28-302M-R03	3000	4000	N/A	1A	5A	3kA	10kA	<1pF	✓
GTCA28-312L-R03	3100 (± 15%)*	3700‡	300 times†	N/A	N/A	3kA	10kA	<1pF	✓
GTCA28-362M-R03	3600	4600	N/A	1A	5A	3kA	10kA	<1pF	✓
GTCA28-402M-R03	4000	5000	N/A	1A	5A	3kA	10kA	<1pF	✓

Note: Insulation resistance: ≥10,000MΩ (all parts measured @ 1000V_{DC}, except 800V/1000V/1200V @250V_{DC}; 1500V/2100V @ 500V_{DC})

* DC Sparkover Voltage measured at 5kV/s
† Measured with 8/20µs,100A impulse
‡ Measured at 1000V/us

Table G3 Device Voltage Ratings, Surge Rating, Capacitance, Insulation Resistance, and Agency Approval for Three Electrode Gas Discharge Tubes

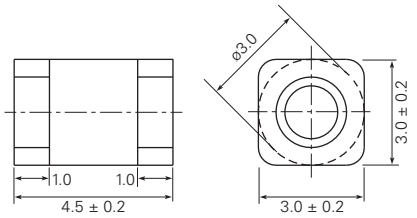
Part Number	DC Sparkover Voltage (A-E) (B-E) @ 100V/s ± 20% Tolerance	Impulse Sparkover Voltage (A-E) (B-E) @ 100V/µs	Impulse Sparkover Voltage (A-E) (B-E) @ 1kV/µs	DC Holdover Voltage Per ITU K.12	On-State Voltage Nominal (@1A) (V)	Impulse Discharge Current (A+B-E) 8x20µs 10 hits	Impulse Life (A+B-E) 10x1000µs 300 hits	AC Discharge Current (1sec duration; 10 hits) (A+B-E) @ 50 Hz	Capacitance @ 1MHz	Insulation Resistance @ 100V_{DC}*	UL Rating UL497B #E179610
GTCX35-XXXM-R05	75	450	550	<52	20	5kA	100A	5Arms	<1pF	10,000 (MΩ)	All Devices
	90	450	550	<52	20						
	140	500	600	<80	20						
GTCX36-XXXM-R05	150	500	600	<80	20	5kA	200A	5Arms	<1pF	10,000 (MΩ)	All Devices
	200	600	700	<135	20						
	230	600	700	<135	20						
GTCX36-XXXM-R10	250	600	700	<135	20	10kA	200A	10Arms	<1pF	10,000 (MΩ)	All Devices
	260	700	800	<135	20						
	300	800	900	<150	20						
	350	900	1000	<150	20						
GTCX37-XXXM-R10	400	900	1000	<150	20	10kA	200A	10Arms	<1pF	10,000 (MΩ)	All Devices
	420	900	1000	<150	20						
	470	1050	1150	<150	20						
GTCX38-XXXM-R10	500	1100	1200	<150	20	10kA	200A	10Arms	<1pF	10,000 (MΩ)	All Devices
	550	1300	1400	<150	20						
	600	1300	1400	<150	20						

* Insulation resistance measured at 50V for devices less than 150V.
Insulation resistance measured at 250V for devices more than 500V.

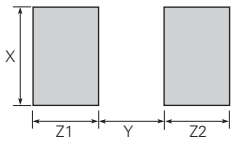
Figure G3-G11 Dimensions for Gas Discharge Tubes

Figure G3 Two Electrode 3mm Product Dimensions

Surface-mount (GTCS23-XXXM-R01)



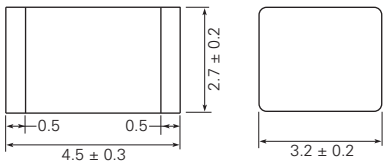
Pad Layout - Surface-mount Devices (GTCS23-XXXM-R01)



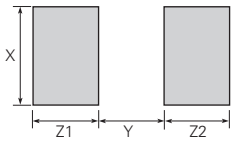
	X Nom.	Y Nom.	Z1 Nom.	Z2 Nom.
mm	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
in*	(0.118)	(0.079)	(0.079)	(0.079)

* The dimensions in inches are rounded approximations.

Chip GDT (GTCC23-XXXM-R01)



Pad Layout - Chip GDT Devices (GTCC23-XXXM-R01)

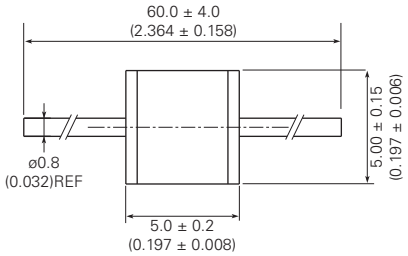


	X Nom.	Y Nom.	Z1 Nom.	Z2 Nom.
mm	3.5	2.7	2.0	2.0
in*	(0.138)	(0.106)	(0.079)	(0.079)

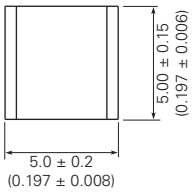
* The dimensions in inches are rounded approximations.

Figure G4 Two Electrode 5mm Product Dimensions

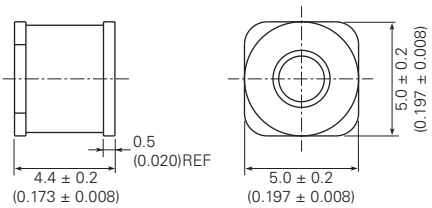
Axial Leads (GTCA25-XXXM-R02)



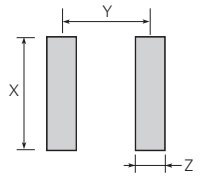
No Leads (GTCN25-XXXM-R02)†



Surface-mount (GTCS25-XXXM-R02)



Pad Layout - Surface-mount Devices (GTCS25-XXXM-R02)



	X Nom.	Y Nom.	Z Nom.
mm	6.0	3.9	1.3
in*	(0.197)	(0.154)	(0.051)

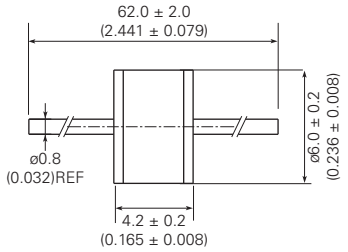
* The dimensions in inches are rounded approximations.
† Parts with no leads are not solderable and are meant for insertion into magazine clips.

RoHS Compliant, ELV Compliant HF Halogen Free

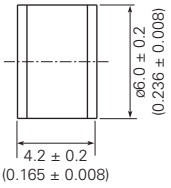
Figure G3-G11 Dimensions for Gas Discharge Tubes Cont'd

Figure G5 Two Electrode 6mm Product Dimensions

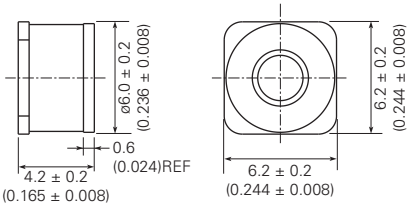
Axial Leads (GTCA26-XXXM-R05)



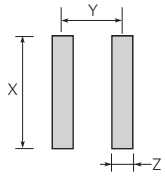
No Leads (GTCN26-XXXM-R05)†



Surface-mount (GTCS26-XXXM-R05)



Pad Layout - Surface-mount Devices (GTCS26-XXXM-R05)

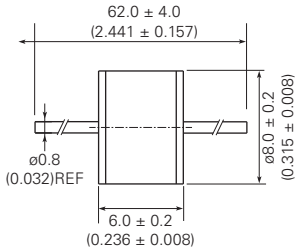


	X Nom.	Y Nom.	Z Nom.
mm	7.0	3.7	1.3
in*	(0.276)	(0.146)	(0.051)

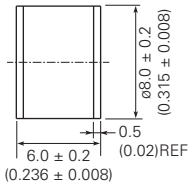
* The dimensions in inches are rounded approximations.
† Parts with no leads are not solderable and are meant for insertion into magazine clips.

Figure G6 Two Electrode 8mm Product Dimensions

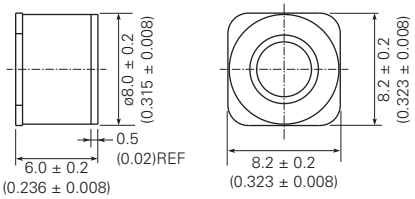
Axial Leads (GTCA28-XXXM-R05, R10 & R20)



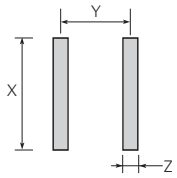
No Leads (GTCN28-XXXM-R05, R10 & R20)†



Surface-mount (GTCS28-XXXM-R05, R10 & R20)



Pad Layout - Surface-mount Devices (GTCS28-XXXM-R05, R10 & R20)



	X Nom.	Y Nom.	Z Nom.
mm	9.0	5.6	1.2
in*	(0.354)	(0.22)	(0.047)

* The dimensions in inches are rounded approximations.
† Parts with no leads are not solderable and are meant for insertion into magazine clips.

Figure G7 Two Electrode 8mm High Voltage Product Dimensions

Axial Leads (GTCA28-XXXM-R0X)

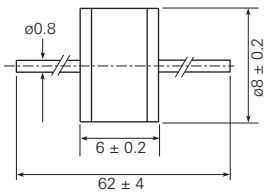
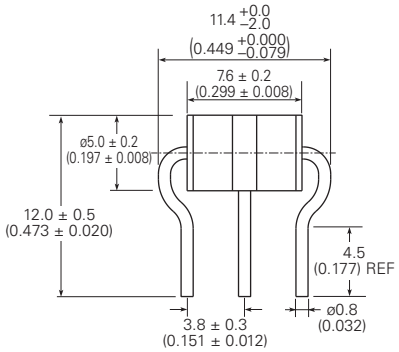
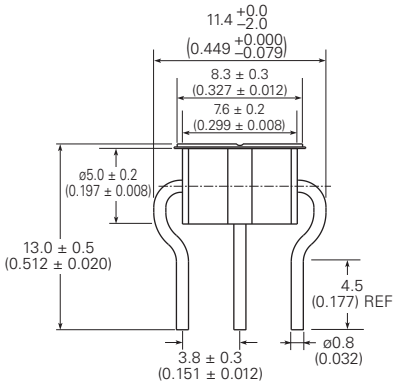


Figure G8 | Three Electrode 5mm Product Dimensions

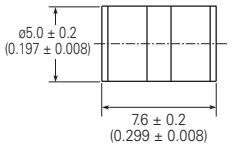
Axial Leaded
(GTCA35-XXXM-R05)



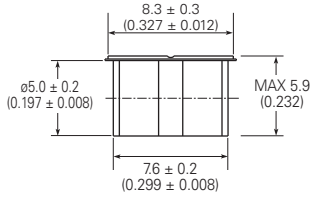
Axial Leaded with-FT
(GTCA35-XXXM-R05-FT)



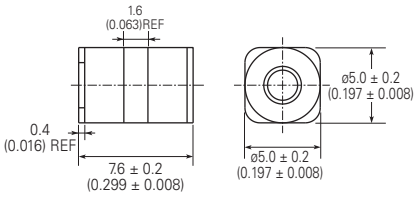
No Leads
(GTCN35-XXXM-R05)†



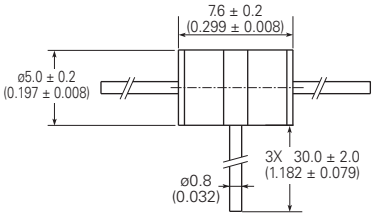
No Leads with-FT
(GTCN35-XXXM-R05-FT)†



Surface-mount
(GTCS35-XXXM-R05)



T Leaded
(GTCT35-XXXM-R05)



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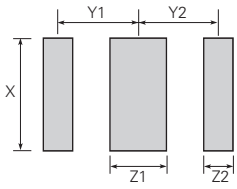
Pad Layout - Surface-mount Devices
(GTCS35-XXXM-R05)



	X	Y1	Y2	Z1	Z2
	Nom.	Nom.	Nom.	Nom.	Nom.
mm	6.0	3.6	3.6	2.5	1.3
in*	(0.236)	(0.142)	(0.142)	(0.098)	(0.051)

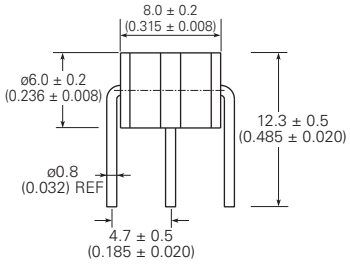
* The dimensions in inches are rounded approximations.
† Parts with no leads are not solderable and are meant for insertion into magazine clips.

RoHS Compliant, ELV Compliant HF Halogen Free

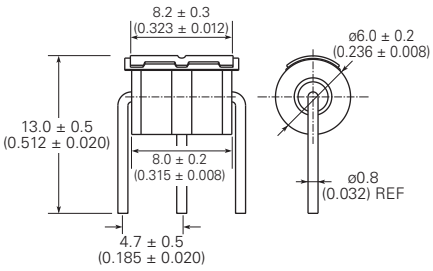
Figure G3-G11 Dimensions for Gas Discharge Tubes Cont'd

Figure G9 Three Electrode 6mm Product Dimensions

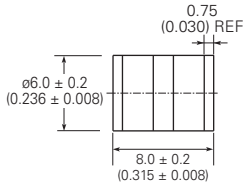
Axial Leaded (GTCA36-XXXM-R05 & R10)



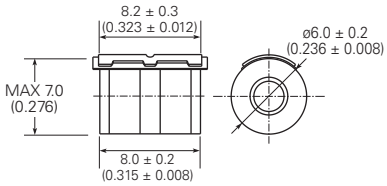
Axial Leaded with-FT (GTCA36-XXXM-R05 & R10-FT)



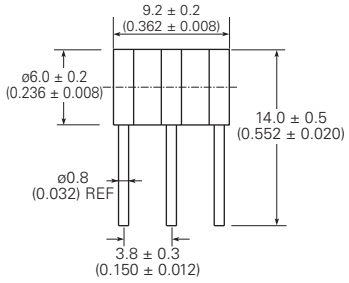
No Leads (GTCN36-XXXM-R05 & R10)†



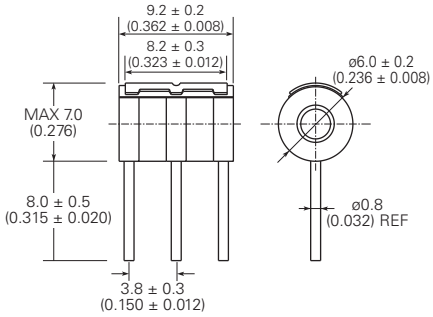
No Leads with-FT (GTCN36-XXXM-R05 & R10-FT)†



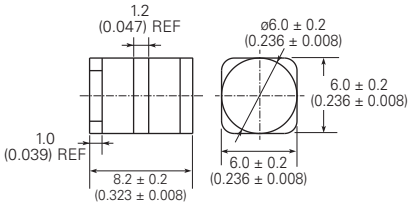
Radial Leaded (GTCR36-XXXM-R05 & R10)



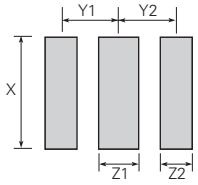
Radial Leaded with-FT (GTCR36-XXXM-R05 & R10-FT)



Surface-mount (GTCS36-XXXM-R05 & R10)



Pad Layout - Surface-mount Devices (GTCS36-XXXM-R05 & R10)

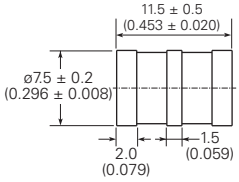


	X	Y1	Y2	Z1	Z2
	Nom.	Nom.	Nom.	Nom.	Nom.
mm	7.0	3.6	3.6	2.5	2.0
in*	(0.276)	(0.142)	(0.142)	(0.098)	(0.079)

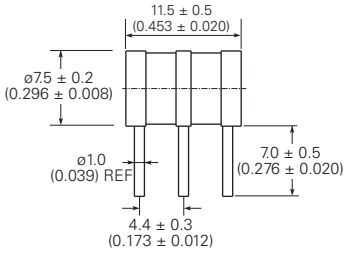
* The dimensions in inches are rounded approximations.
† Parts with no leads are not solderable and are meant for insertion into magazine clips.

Figure G10 Three Electrode 7mm Product Dimensions

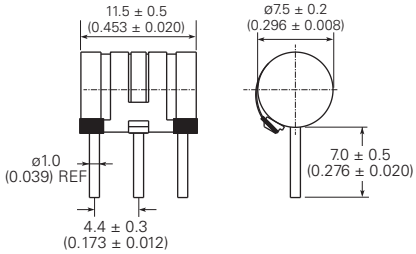
No Leads (GTCN37-XXXM-R10)†



Radial Leaded (GTCR37-XXXM-R10)



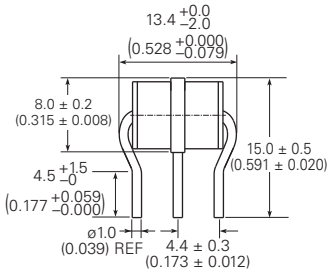
Radial Leaded with-FS (GTCR37-XXXM-R10-FS2)



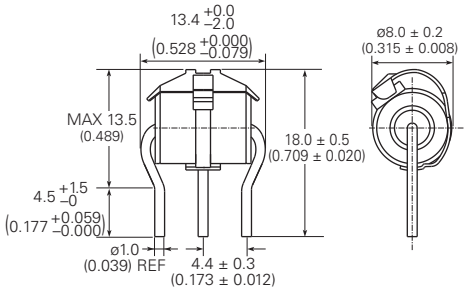
† Parts with no leads are not solderable and are meant for insertion into magazine clips.

Figure G11 Three Electrode 8mm Product Dimensions

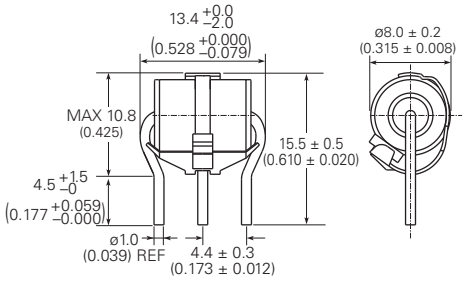
Axial Leaded (GTCA38-XXXM-R10)



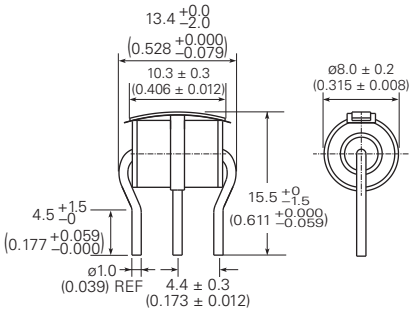
Axial Leaded with-FS (GTCA38-XXXM-R10-FS)



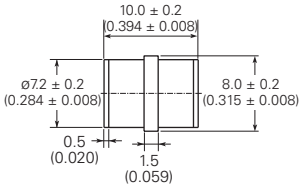
Axial Leaded with-FS (GTCA38-XXXM-R10-FS2)



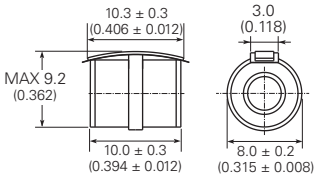
Axial Leaded with-FT (GTCA38-XXXM-R10-FT)



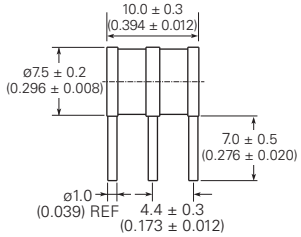
No Leads (GTCN38-XXXM-R10)†



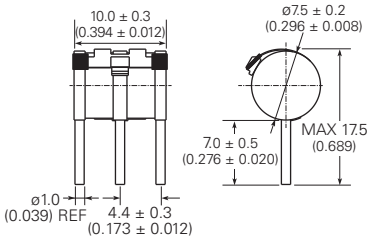
No Leads with-FT (GTCN38-XXXM-R10-FT)†



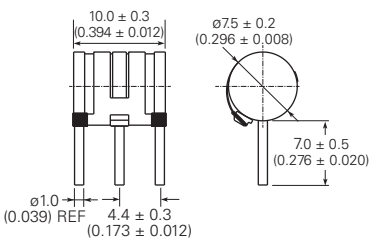
Radial Leaded (GTCR38-XXXM-R10)



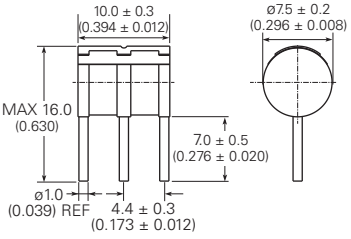
Radial Leaded with-FS (GTCR38-XXXM-R10-FS)



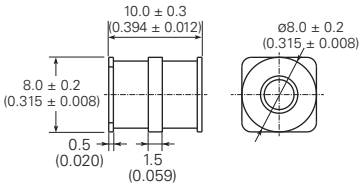
Radial Leaded with-FS (GTCR38-XXXM-R10-FS2)



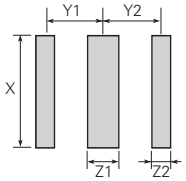
Radial Leaded with-FT (GTCR38-XXXM-R10-FT)



Surface-mount (GTCS38-XXXM-R10)



Pad Layout - Surface-mount Devices (GTCS38-XXXM-R10)



	X	Y1	Y2	Z1	Z2
	Nom.	Nom.	Nom.	Nom.	Nom.
mm	9.0	4.65	4.65	2.5	1.5
in*	(0.354)	(0.183)	(0.183)	(0.098)	(0.059)

* The dimensions in inches are rounded approximations.
† Parts with no leads are not solderable and are meant for insertion into magazine clips.

RoHS Compliant, ELV Compliant HF Halogen Free

Fail-Short Mechanism for Gas Discharge Tubes

Fail-Short Mechanism (FS)

The FS fail-short mechanism is a short circuit spring mounted onto a solder pellet located at the center electrode of the gas tube. Under normal operating conditions, the pellet is positioned to make the spring float above the outer electrodes, as shown in Figure G11.

When a prolonged discharge event causes the gas tube temperature to reach the melting point of the solder, the pellet softens allowing the short circuit spring to contact with both outer electrodes. This process results in a permanent short-circuit between all three electrodes creating a low resistance path that conducts the fault current to ground without generating a significant amount of heat.

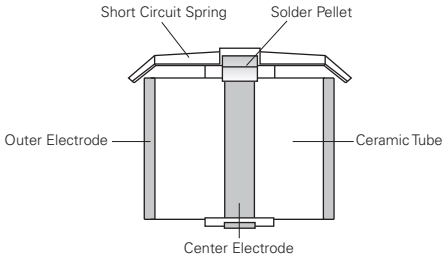


Figure G11

Fail-Short Mechanism (FT)

The FT fail-short mechanism is a short circuit spring with a piece of plastic foil spot welded onto the center electrode. Under normal operating conditions, the plastic foil makes the spring insulated from the two outer electrodes.

When a prolonged discharge event causes the gas tube temperature to reach the melting point of the plastic foil, the plastic foil melts allowing the short circuit spring to contact both outer electrodes. This process results in a permanent short-circuit between all three electrodes creating a low resistance path that conducts the fault current to ground without generating a significant amount of heat.

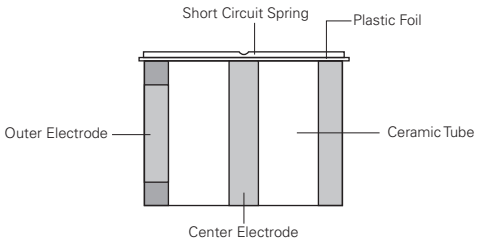


Figure G12

Operation and Storage Temperatures for Gas Discharge Tubes

Operation Temperature Range

Models without Fail-Short Mechanism : -40°C/+90°C
Models with Fail-Short Mechanism : -20°C/+65°C

Storage Temperature Range

Models without Fail-Short Mechanism : -40°C/+90°C
Models with Fail-Short Mechanism : -20°C/+65°C

Packaging Information for Gas Discharge Tubes

	Parts in Bulk		Parts in Tape and Reel	
Part Description	**Min Order Quantity**	**Box Quantity**	**Tape & Reel Min Order Quantity**	**Box Quantity**
3mm 2Pole Surface-mount	-	-	2000	16000
5mm 2Pole No leads	5000	20000	-	-
5mm 2Pole, Leads	1000	5000	-	-
5mm 2Pole Surface-mount	5000	20000	1500	12000
6mm 2Pole No leads	2000	10000	-	-
6mm 2Pole, Leads	1000	5000	-	-
6mm 2Pole Surface-mount	2000	10000	750	6000
8mm 2pole No leads	2000	10000	-	-
8mm 2Pole, Leads	1000	5000	-	-
8mm 2Pole Surface-mount	2000	10000	500	4000
5mm 3Pole No leads	2500	10000	-	-
5mm 3Pole, Leads	1000	5000	-	-
5mm 3Pole Surface-mount	2500	10000	1000	8000
6mm 3Pole No leads	2500	10000	-	-
6mm 3Pole, Leads	1000	5000	-	-
6mm 3Pole Surface-mount	2500	10000	750	4500
7mm 3Pole, Leads	1000	5000	-	-
8mm 3Pole No leads	1000	5000	-	-
8mm 3Pole, Leads	1000	5000	-	-
8mm 3Pole Surface-mount	1000	5000	500	2500

Installation for Gas Discharge Tubes

Care should be taken when installing Gas Discharge Tubes equipped with Fail-Short Mechanisms into arrester magazines, printed circuit boards, etc. Too much downward pressure may force the short circuit spring through the thin insulation tube creating a shorted condition.

Solder Reflow Recommendations for Surface-mount GDT Devices

Surface-mount GDTs can be soldered using standard Pb-free reflow profile.

Part Numbering System for Gas Discharge Tubes

Example Part Number for Gas Discharge Tubes

GT C S 2 3 - 231 M - R 01 - FS - 2

Packaging
2 = Tape & reel
Nothing = Tray packaging

FS = solder pellet fail short mechanism on top
FS2 = solder pellet fail short mechanism on bottom
FT = plastic fail short mechanism on top

Surge Rating
01 = 8x20µs 1kA, 10 hits
02 = 8x20µs 2.5kA, 10 hits
05 = 8x20µs 5kA, 10 hits
10 = 8x20µs 10kA, 10 hits
20 = 8x20µs 20kA, 10 hits

Product Family Designator
R = R series

Tolerance of 20% on DC Switch Voltage

DC Switch Voltage of 230V
23 x 10***1**===230V, **23** x 10***2** ==2300V

Diameter
3 = 3mm
5 = 5mm
6 = 6mm
8 = 8mm

Number of Electrodes (2, 3)

Lead Configuration
A = Axial Leads
C = Chip Type
N = No leads
S = Surface-mount
T = T-shape Leads

Ceramic

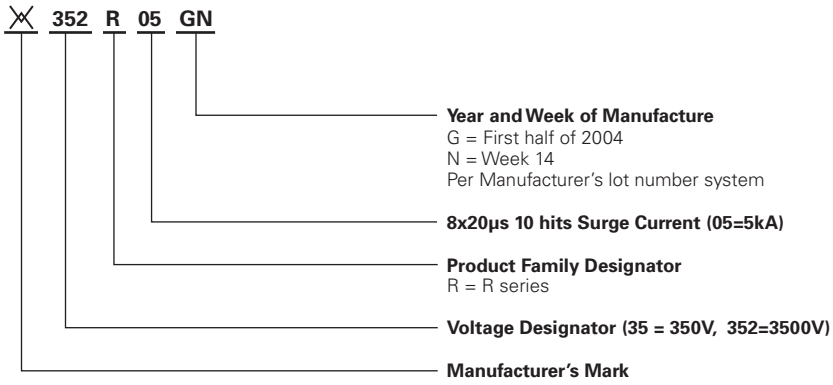
Gas Tube

NOTE: GTCS23-XXXM-R01 and GTCC23-XXXM-R01 parts available only in surface-mount and tape and reel packaging

RoHS Compliant, ELV Compliant HF Halogen Free

Part Numbering System for Gas Discharge Tubes Cont'd

Marking Reference Guide - Example



NOTES: GTCS23-XXXM-R01 and GTCC23-XXXM-R01 parts will have no marking.
Devices with no leads (GTCNxx-xxxx-xx) are not able to be soldered as their electrodes are Nickel plated.
They should be installed by insertion into a magazine clip.

⚠ Warning :

- Users should independently evaluate the suitability of and test each product selected for their own application.
- Operation beyond the maximum ratings or improper use may result in device damage and possible electrical arcing and flame.
- The devices are intended for protection against damage caused by occasional overvoltage fault conditions and should not be used when repeated fault conditions or prolonged trip events are anticipated.
- Device performance can be impacted negatively if devices are handled in a manner inconsistent with recommended electronic, thermal, and mechanical procedures for electronic components.