# **SMP-LOCK®** THE ULTIMATE SECURE CONNECTION







# Introduction How does it work ? Features & benefits Qualifications New developments



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# Introduction

Customers' feedback



- SMA is too big, too heavy and its integration is too complicated
- Satisfied by the SMP RF performance and the SMP size
- Express concern about SMP mechanical retention under shock and vibration
- For the space industry, SMP is more commonly utilized for internal board-to-board applications with more traditional external connections
- The use of cable assemblies with such snap-on interface can introduce risks, for example, inopportune disconnection caused by the environment (often during tests or equipment handling)
- With snap-on interface, there can be uncertainty after the integration to know if the connectors have been well mated or not

# Introduction

- Therefore, Radiall expands SMP series with SMP-LOCK® connectors
  - In 2010, design effort to add a user-friendly locking mechanism to SMP interface
  - Without compromise on electrical performance
  - With limited impact on the overall size of the connector for the objective to increase the density compared with SMA/SMA 2.9



# Introduction

• How has it been introduced in the Space industry ?

- TENDER FROM IRIDIUM CONSTELLATION: Looking for a quick connection
- Radiall philosophy is to always offer multi-market industrial solutions

=> It allows Radiall to share R&D resources, to benefit from first heritage in order to begin with self-confidence

- Limited risk:
  - Robustness of the locking design could be evaluated while maintaining the SMP line
  - it also allowed Radiall to work from a basis of well known and mastered components



SMP-LOCK®, the ultimate secure connection

# HOW DOES IT WORK ? Features & benefits



# How does it work ? Mating sequences

groove on male side

- Locking sleeve on plug side (Ni plated)

Connect : insert plug to connect the SMP interface

Lock : push the locking sleeve to secure the connection

Large gold plated area visible when locked



click

#### Easy to use

- Audible click when locking
- A visible to the naked eye locking witness
- No need for torque wrench anymore
- Various tools with customization available





click

# Features & benefits => retention

# SMP



Full detent Plug retention >22N



Limited detent Plug retention >9N



Limited detent Plug unlocked >9N Plug locked >450N



Smooth bore Plug retention >2N

Only 1 part number to specify!

**SMP-LOCK**®



3 part numbers to manage



- Minor change on male receptable : groove added, open design
- Standard SMP plugs and adapters can be mated with all SMP-LOCK® receptacles (and vice versa)



- SMP interface has been qualified according to Mil, up to 40 GHz in 2001, significant heritage on the space industry, ESCC – EPPL part 2 since 2006
- Smaller and lighter than SMA/ SMA 2.9 => it enables increased density
- SMP tolerates misalignment when connecting without the risk to damage sockets





- Significant reduction of risk to damage equipment and other surrounding connectors/cable assemblies during integration
- There is no need to respect a cable mating sequence
- Easy disconnection without disconnecting supplementary harness to access it



- Eliminate all the damaging risks during integration
- Quick connection : only a few seconds compared to few minutes
- Secure connection: Reliable and easy-to-use positive-locking system
- Significant Global cost reduction



#### SMP-LOCK®, the ultimate secure connection

# QUALIFICATION



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# **Qualification test plan-Mil**

 SMP-LOCK® qualification focused on the locking system



# **Other tests**

- Retention force
  - Tested until the cable broke (450 N)
  - Retention of locking mechanism > 800 N





# **Qualification : Space environment**

- Main test summary (25 samples)
  - Frequency 2 GHz, compliance up to 40 GHz certificated
  - 500 cycles -50°C / +150°C
  - Random vibration > 30 grms
  - Shock 800 g
  - Power handling : 4 W at 1,6 GHz
  - Multipactor : 15 W peak at 1,1 Ghz
  - Integration tests (by TAS)



# **Developed products**

 Various connectors for equipments, adapters, straight and right angle connectors for SHF2.4MS cable and one termination







#### SMP-LOCK®, the ultimate secure connection

# **NEW DEVELOPMENTS**



- THD SAT programme: CNES founded in collaboration with TAS
- Objective:
  - => to have a complete range of space qualified products available up to 22 GHz
  - Availability beginning in 2017



- Attenuators
- Termination

- Adapters and connectors for equipments
- SHF3MS cable assemblies
- Switch





Radial





- To define a reliable measurement method
  - Required because VSWR expected is less than 1.2 up to 22 GHz (RL min 21 dB)
  - A real challenge because :
    - SMP interface is not a precision interface
    - SMP calibration kit is not used a lot
    - Analyzing need, benckmarking, sharing and exchanging with experts (customers, competitors)



- Qualification according to ESCC 3402 3403 TAS/CNES spec
- Qualification Test Plan summary: CA according to ESCC 3408 draft specification



Qualification : Key parameters

- Frequency band : DC 22 GHz (32 GHz when feasible)
- Random vibration :
- Sine vibration :

- Envelope: Grms = 38.5

   20 to 60 Hz
   +6dB/Octave

   60 to 400 Hz
   2g²/Hz

   400 to 800 Hz
   -6dB/Octave

   800 to 1000 Hz
   0.5g²/Hz

   1000 to 2000 Hz
   -6dB/Octave
- Vibration Amplitude:
   5Hz to 26Hz: 11mm (peak)
- 26Hz to 100Hz: 30g
- Thermal cycling: 200 cycles 60°C + 150°C (for CA)
- Radiation test for CA : 120 MRAD minimum



- Conclusion : SMP-LOCK is really the best quick-lock and secure connection !
- Thanks to CNES/TAS
- Questions ?
- Visit our booth
- "Our most important connection is with you"





