



**SIMPLIFICATION**  
*is our* INNOVATION

# Coaxial Attenuators and Loads

*New Design and new qualification*

*SPCD 2018*

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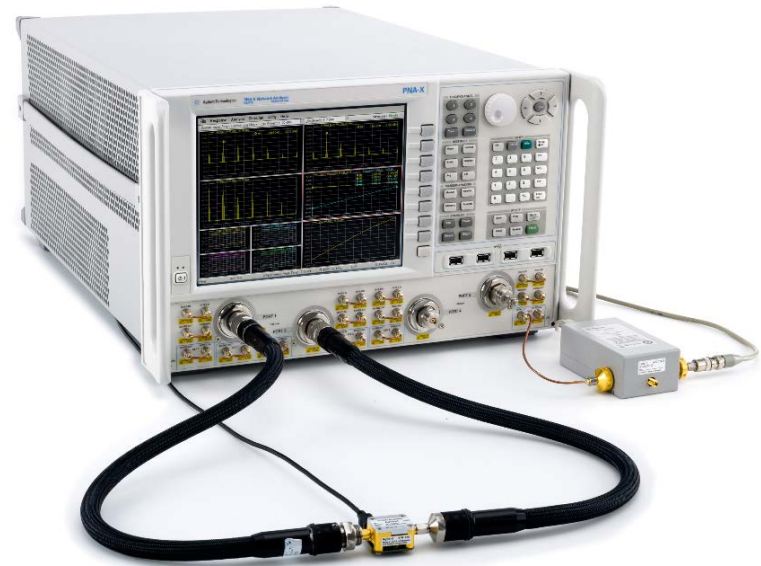
# WHY ? TO BE MORE ROBUST

- The previous design of attenuators was qualified according to ESCC spec with a lower vibration level. The increased robustness of the new design allows for Radiall to guarantee a more reliable product for more severe environmental conditions.
- Objective: to cover higher vibration and mechanical shock levels, and avoid any failure during integration.



# WHY ? TO IMPROVE RF PERFORMANCE

- The RF characteristics from ESCC specifications no longer meet many of our current customer's expectations. Thus, VSWR improvement was the main driver
- For SMA2.9 <1.25 in high Ka band: 30 GHz
- For SMA <1.2 up to 22 GHz
- Flatness of attenuation over frequency



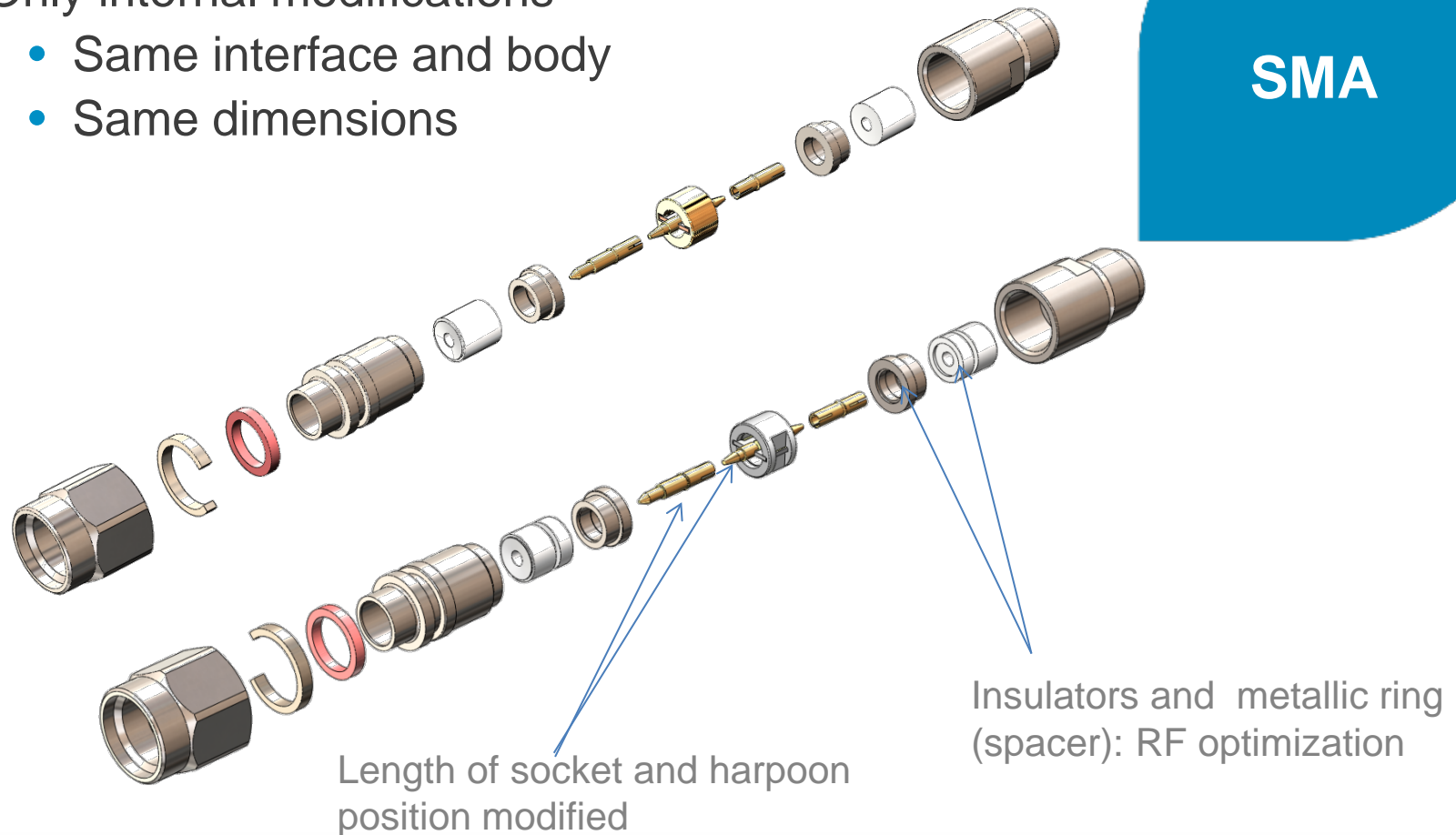
# WHY ? TO GUARANTEE GLITCH FREE PRODUCT

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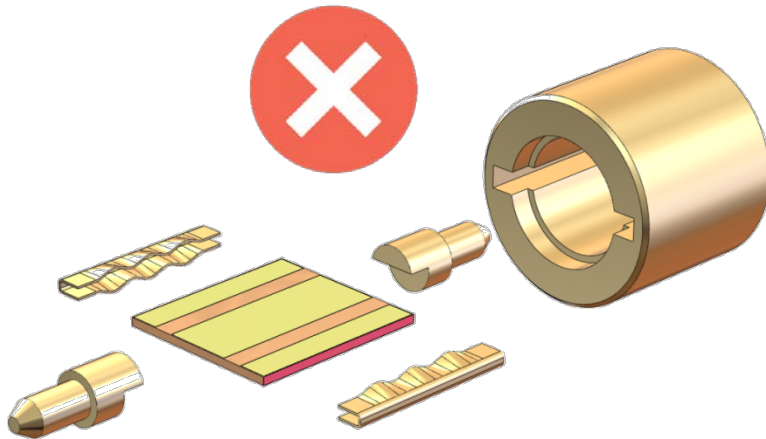
- Glitch: what does it mean ?
  - Non linear insertion loss variation over temperature. It could be observed by continuous monitoring of the attenuation during thermal cycling. It could be spikes or unexpected loss variations.
- Background
  - Glitch was not specified and therefore not tested.
  - At 30 GHz, old design of strip / contact / cartridge sub-assembly didn't allow to guarantee attenuators glitch free.
  - Potential risk confirmed by testing.

# NEW DESIGN COMPARED TO PREVIOUS DESIGN

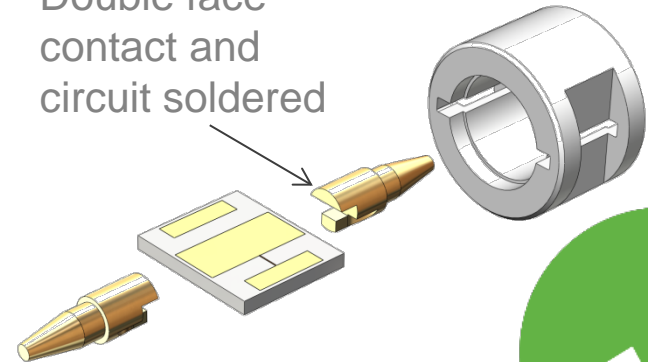
- Only internal modifications
  - Same interface and body
  - Same dimensions



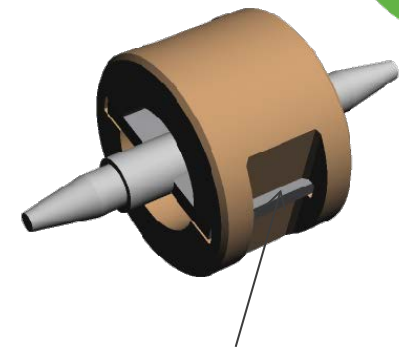
# NEW DESIGN COMPARED TO PREVIOUS DESIGN



Double face  
contact and  
circuit soldered



- A double-faced ceramic circuit and solder contact to increase the robustness of the soldered joint
- An improvement of the ground contact link within the soldered cartridge
- An improvement of the resistance to thermal stresses through the cartridge, now made of Kovar (instead of brass) and with soldered contact/cartridge



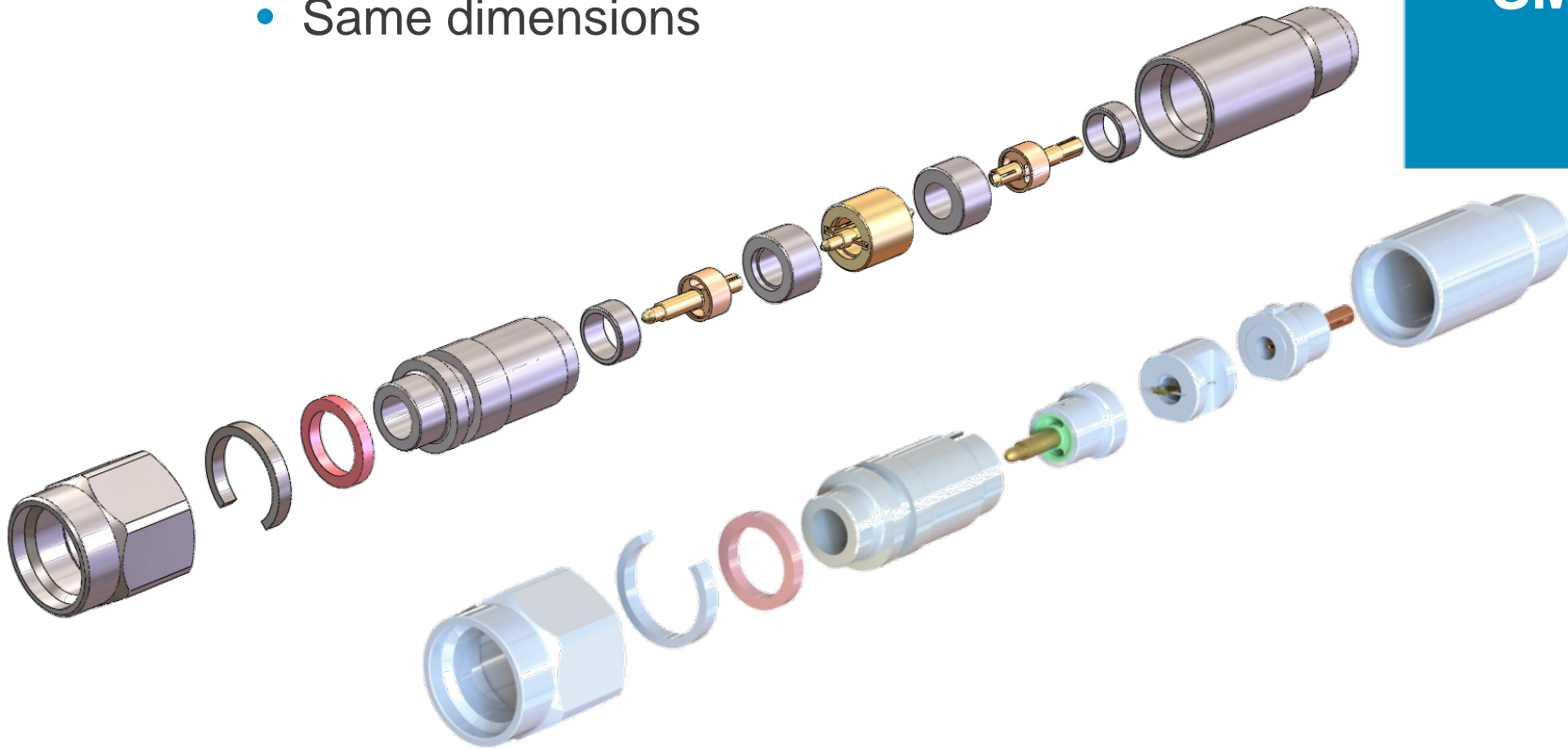
Soldering + RF shielding



# NEW DESIGN COMPARED TO PREVIOUS DESIGN

- Only internal modifications
  - Same interface and body
  - Same dimensions

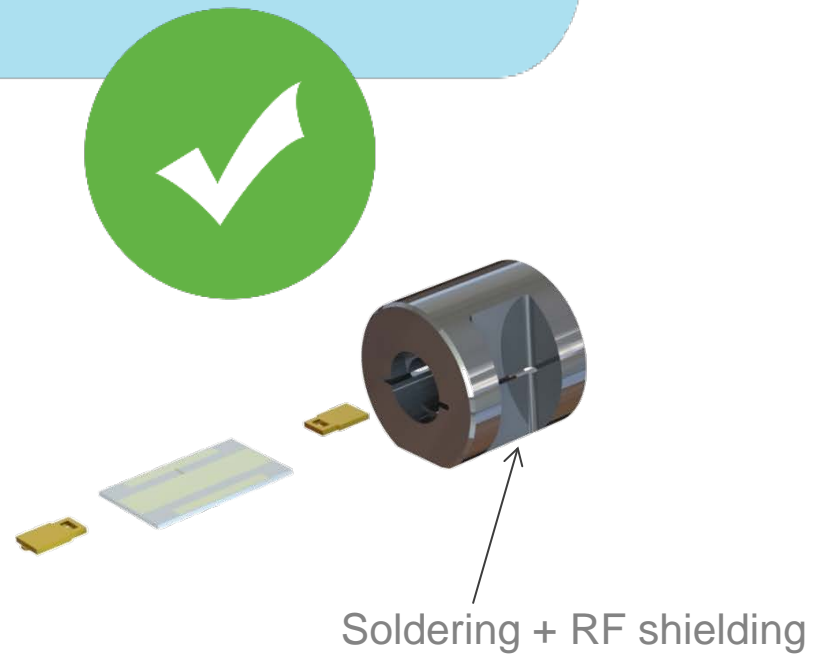
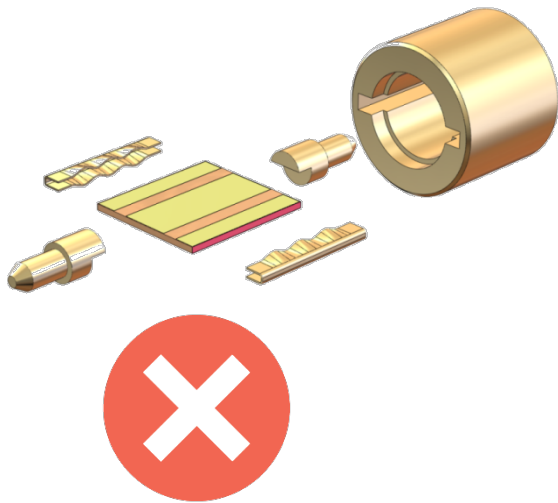
SMA 2.9





# NEW DESIGN COMPARED TO PREVIOUS DESIGN

- Strip / contact: Flat contact for better RF performances
- Captivation of sockets and contacts to avoid rotation for robustness
- Soldered Cartridge made of KOVAR instead of brass for robustness and avoid glitch



# A MORE ROBUST DESIGN: SHOCK, VIBRATION, THERMAL CYCLING

**SMA**  
**SMA2.9**

- A new shock and vibration level

| All axis                            |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Frequency                           | Shock Response spectrum (g) / Q=10 |
| 100 Hz                              | 70 g                               |
| 3 000 Hz                            | 2 000 g                            |
| 10 000 Hz                           | 2 000 g                            |
| Number of events: 3 shocks per axis |                                    |
| Range (Hz)                          | Level                              |
| 20 – 100                            | +6dB / oct                         |
| 100 – 1000                          | 1.54g <sup>2</sup> /Hz             |
| 1000 - 2000                         | -3dB / oct                         |
| Global: 50grms                      |                                    |
| Duration: 180s per axis             |                                    |

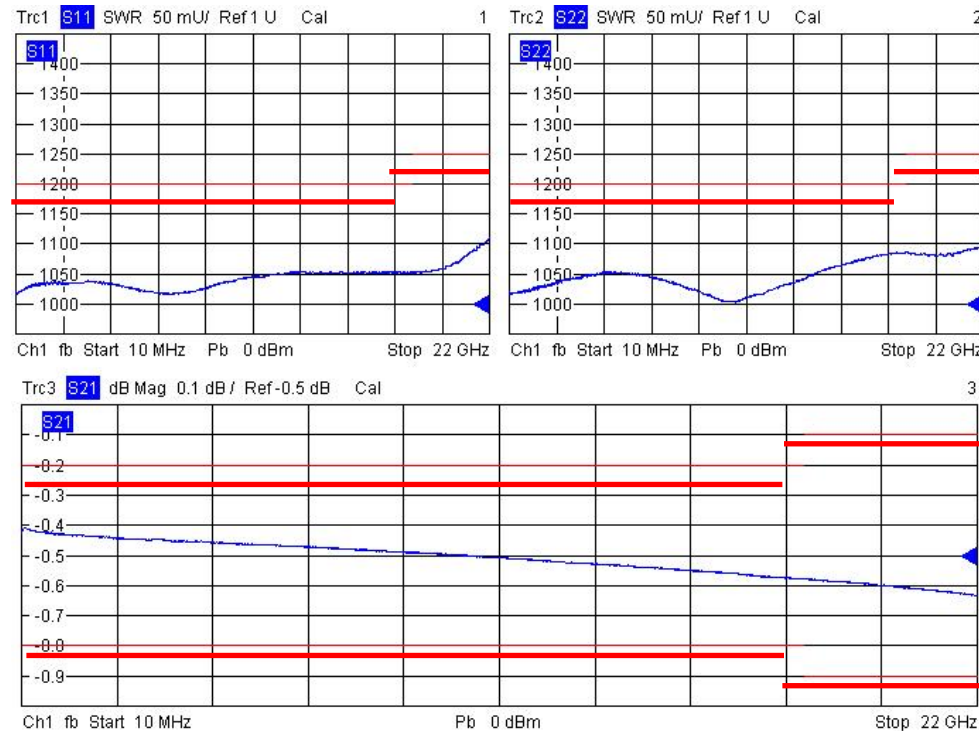
- Thermal cycling: -55°C / +125°C  
(Qualification: 100 cycles)

# SPECIFICATIONS : RF PERFORMANCES

- VSWR <1.2 up to 18.4 GHz (instead of 1.35)  
VSWR <1.25 up to 22 GHz (instead of 1.5)

SMA

0.5dB

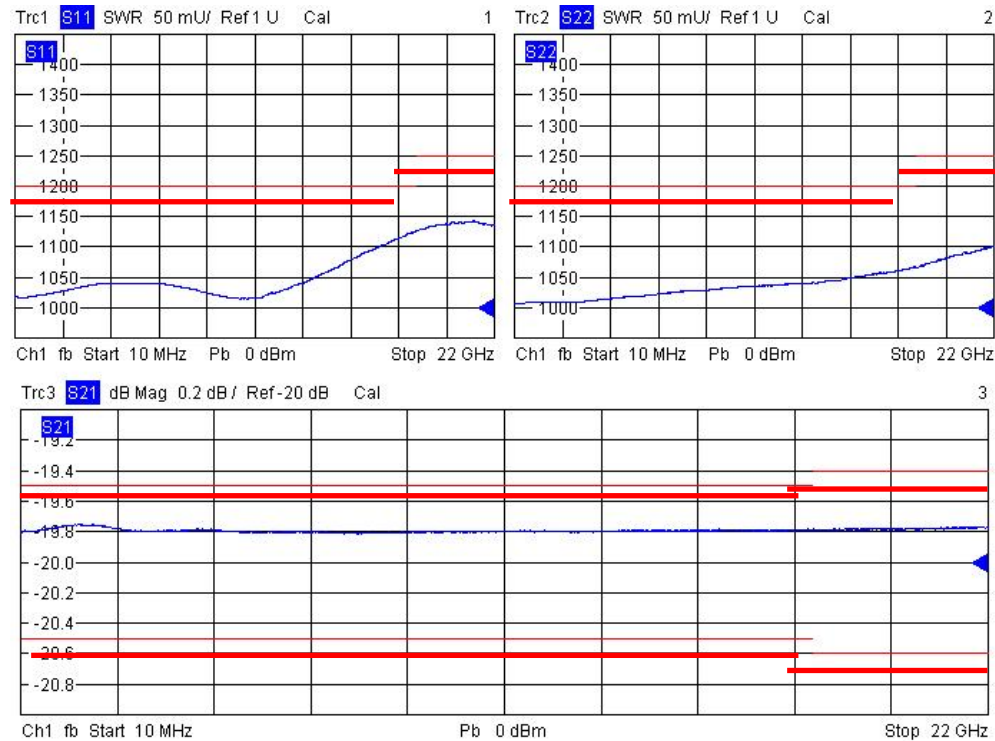


# SPECIFICATIONS : RF PERFORMANCES

- VSWR <1.2 up to 18.4 GHz  
VSWR <1.25 up to 22 GHz

SMA

20dB



# SPECIFICATIONS : RF PERFORMANCES

- Power dissipation is 2 W!

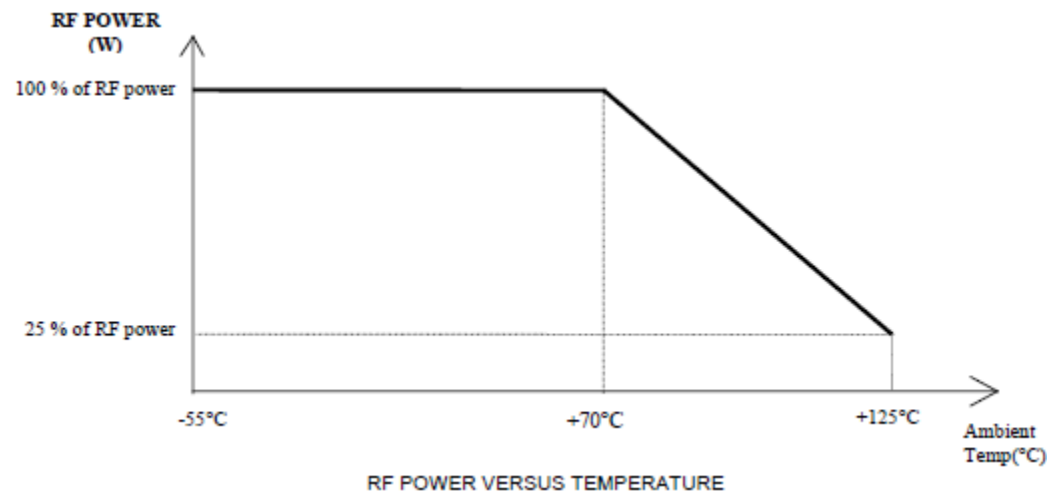
SMA

| Variant Number | Nominal Attenuation (dB) | Attenuation Tolerance (dB) |             |             | Attenuation Flatness                                         | VSWR                      | Weight Max (g) |
|----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
|                |                          | DC                         | DC to 18GHz | 18 to 22GHz |                                                              |                           |                |
| 33<br>(Note 1) | 0 DC Shunt               | 0.2                        | 0.3         | 0.4         | f ≤ 13GHz:<br>±0.05dB/1GHz<br><br>f > 13GHz:<br>±0.07dB/1GHz | DC < f ≤ 18GHz:<br>< 1.2  | 5              |
| 34             | 0.5                      | 0.2                        | 0.3         | 0.4         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 35             | 1                        | 0.2                        | 0.3         | 0.4         |                                                              | 18 < f ≤ 22GHz:<br>< 1.25 | 5              |
| 36             | 1.5                      | 0.2                        | 0.3         | 0.4         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 37             | 2                        | 0.2                        | 0.3         | 0.4         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 38             | 2.5                      | 0.2                        | 0.3         | 0.4         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 39             | 3                        | 0.2                        | 0.3         | 0.4         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 40             | 3.5                      | 0.2                        | 0.3         | 0.4         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 41             | 4                        | 0.2                        | 0.3         | 0.4         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 42             | 4.5                      | 0.2                        | 0.3         | 0.4         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 43             | 5                        | 0.2                        | 0.3         | 0.4         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 44             | 5.5                      | 0.2                        | 0.3         | 0.4         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 45             | 6                        | 0.2                        | 0.3         | 0.4         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 46             | 6.5                      | 0.2                        | 0.3         | 0.4         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 47             | 7                        | 0.3                        | 0.4         | 0.5         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 48             | 7.5                      | 0.3                        | 0.4         | 0.5         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 49             | 8                        | 0.3                        | 0.4         | 0.5         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 50             | 8.5                      | 0.3                        | 0.4         | 0.5         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 51             | 9                        | 0.3                        | 0.4         | 0.5         |                                                              |                           | 5              |
| 52             | 9.5                      | 0.3                        | 0.4         | 0.5         | f ≤ 13GHz:<br>±0.07dB/1GHz<br><br>f > 13GHz:<br>±0.1dB/1GHz  | 5                         |                |
| 53             | 10                       | 0.3                        | 0.4         | 0.5         |                                                              | 5                         |                |
| 54             | 11                       | 0.3                        | 0.5         | 0.6         |                                                              | 5                         |                |
| 55             | 12                       | 0.3                        | 0.5         | 0.6         |                                                              | 5                         |                |

# CW POWER HANDLING IMPROVEMENT

- Power handling derating starting at +70°C

SMA



# NEW SPECIFICATIONS SUMMARY

SMA

## New attenuators

| Attenuation        | Dissipated Power | Attenuation tolerance vs frequency |                 | VSWR             |                   | Power handling derating | Tests  |                   |                 |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------|-----------------|
| dB                 | W                | 0 < F ≤ 18 GHz                     | 18 < F ≤ 22 GHz | 0 < F ≤ 18.4 GHz | 18.4 < F ≤ 22 GHz |                         | Shocks | Random vibrations | Thermal cycling |
|                    |                  | dB (±)                             | dB (±)          | dB (±)           | dB (±)            |                         | g      | grms              |                 |
| 0 (DC shunt) - 6.5 | 2                | 0.3                                | 0.4             | <1.20            | <1.25             | From +70°C              | 4200   | 50                | -55°C to +125°C |
| 7 - 10             |                  | 0.4                                | 0.5             |                  |                   |                         |        |                   |                 |
| 11 - 20            |                  | 0.4                                | 0.6             |                  |                   |                         |        |                   |                 |

## Old attenuators

| Attenuation | Dissipated Power | Attenuation tolerance vs frequency |                 | VSWR           |                 | Power handling derating | Tests  |            |                 |
|-------------|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------|------------|-----------------|
| dB          | W                | 0 < F ≤ 18 GHz                     | 18 < F ≤ 22 GHz | 0 < F ≤ 18 GHz | 18 < F ≤ 22 GHz |                         | Shocks | Vibrations | Thermal cycling |
|             |                  | dB (±)                             | dB (±)          | dB (±)         | dB (±)          |                         | g      | grms       |                 |
| 0 - 6.5     | 2                | 0.3                                | 0.4             | <1.35          | <1.50           | From +25°C              | 100    | 20         | -30°C to +100°C |
| 7 - 10      |                  | 0.4                                | 0.5             |                |                 |                         |        |            |                 |
| 11 - 20     | 1                | 0.4                                | 0.6             |                |                 |                         |        |            |                 |

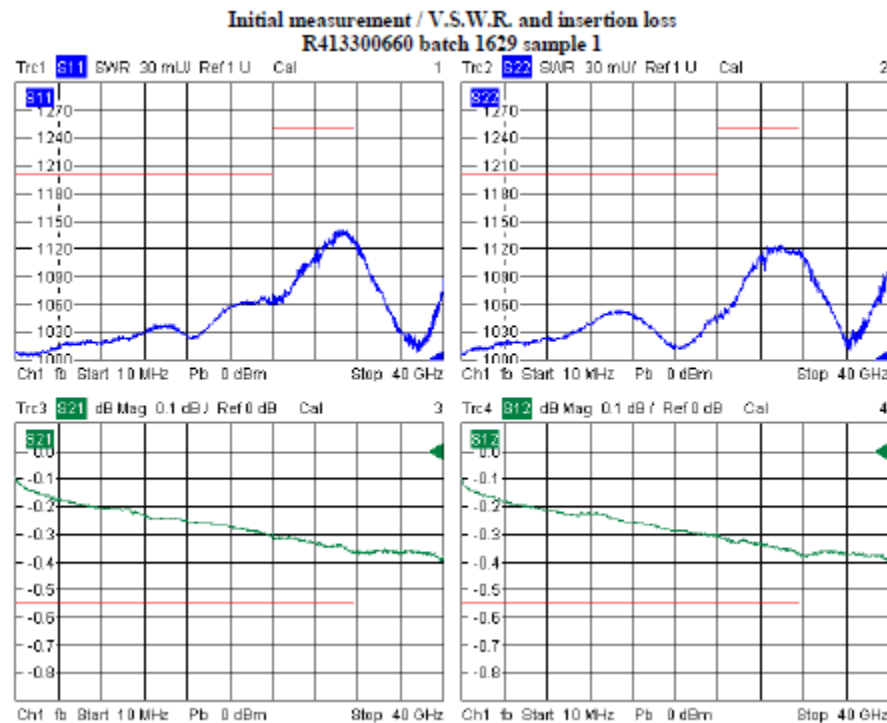


# SPECIFICATIONS : RF PERFORMANCES

SMA 2.9

- VSWR <1.2 up to 24 GHz (instead of 1.5)  
VSWR <1.25 up to 31.5 GHz (instead of 1.5)

- 0dB

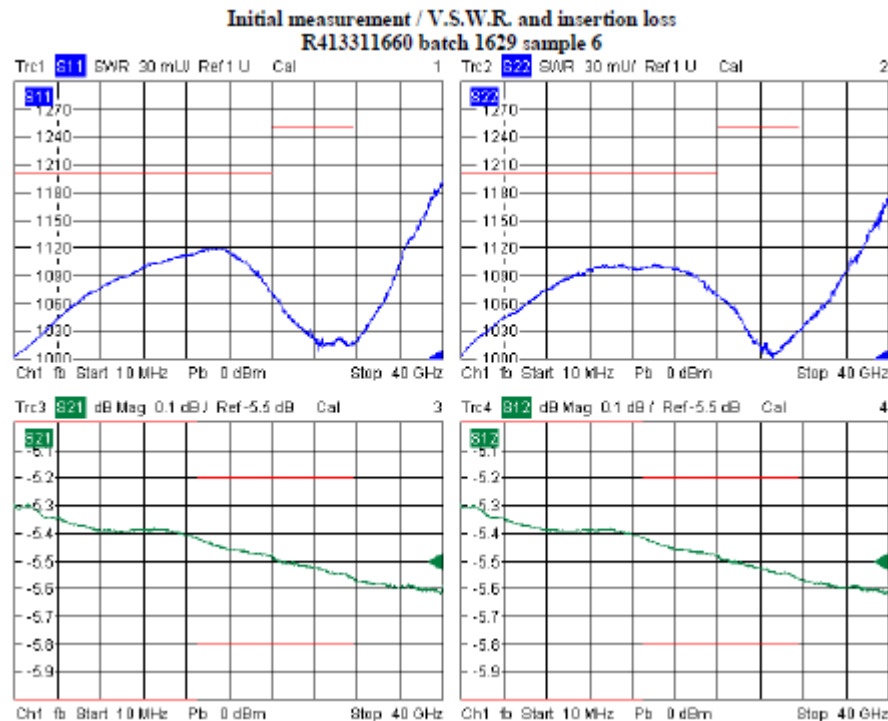


# SPECIFICATIONS : RF PERFORMANCES

SMA 2.9

- VSWR <1.2 up to 24 GHz (instead of 1.5)  
VSWR <1.25 up to 31.5 GHz (instead of 1.5)

- 5.5dB

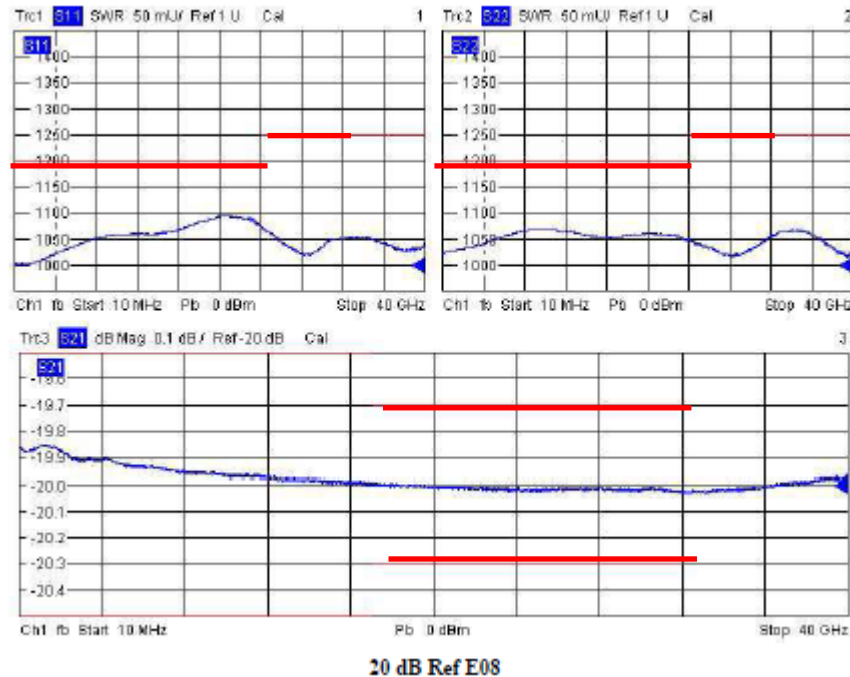


# SPECIFICATIONS : RF PERFORMANCES

SMA 2.9

- VSWR <1.2 up to 24 GHz (instead of 1.5)  
VSWR <1.25 up to 22 GHz (instead of 1.5)

- 20dB



# SPECIFICATIONS: GLITCH FREE

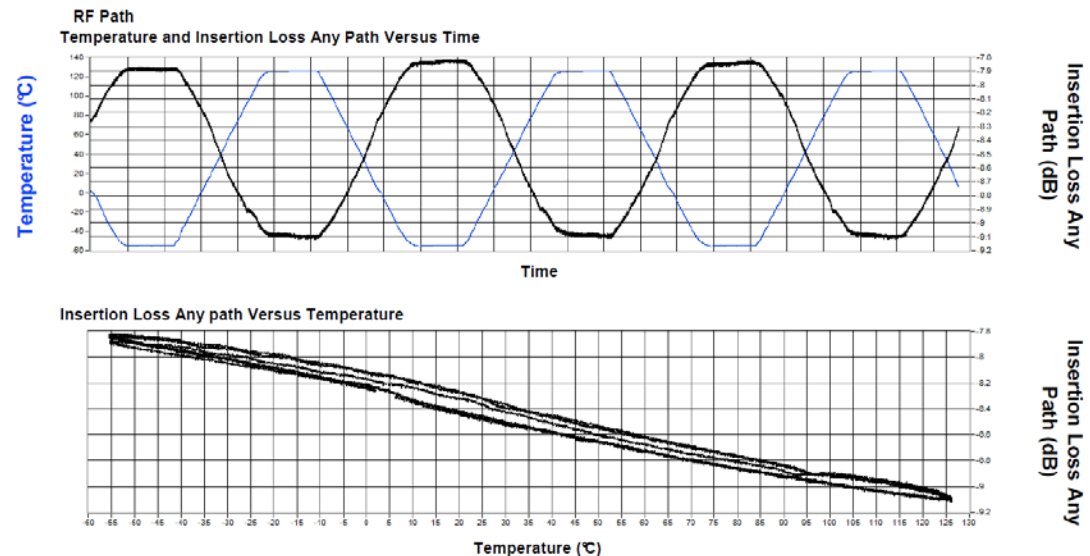
- Test results : linear variation of attenuation over temperature range  
=> glitch free

SMA 2.9



## INSERTION LOSS MONITORING

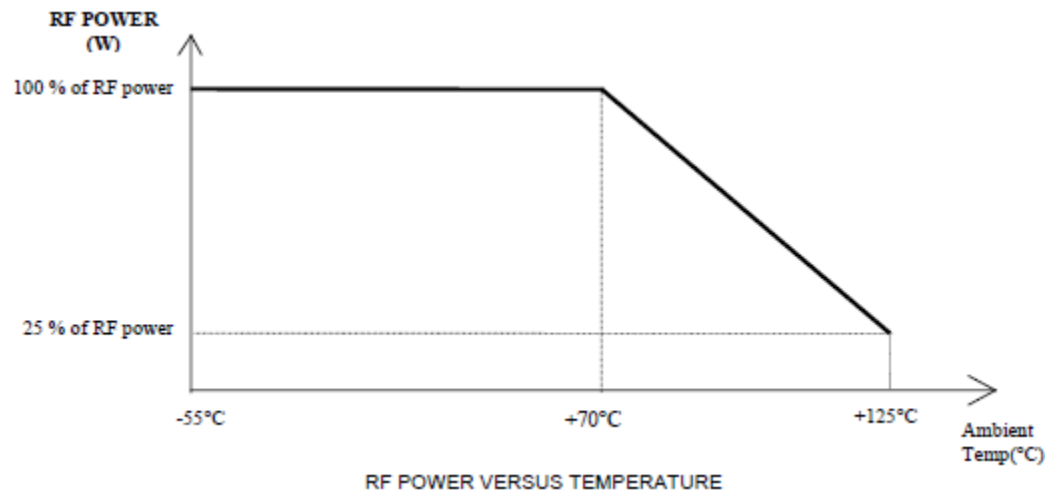
|                      |                            |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Reference R413311660 | Date Code                  | Tested on 06/12/2016 |
| Serial Number 4      | Frequency Test @ 31500 MHz |                      |



# CW POWER HANDLING IMPROVEMENT

- Power dissipation is 1 W
- Derating starting at +70°C

SMA 2.9

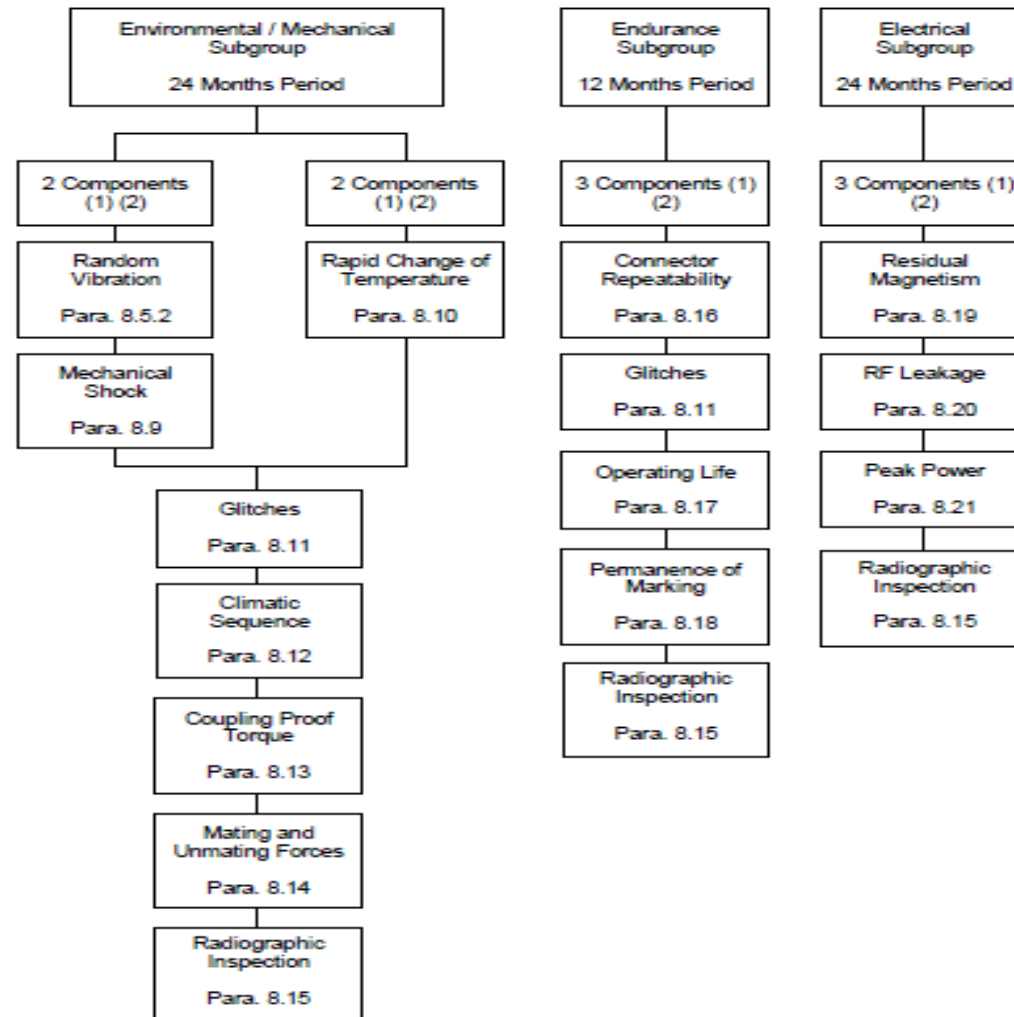


# NEW SPECIFICATIONS SUMMARY

SMA 2.9

|               | Attenuation        | Dissipated Power | Attenuation tolerance vs frequency |                             | VSWR                     |                             | Tests       |                           |                 |
|---------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
|               | dB                 | W                | 0 < F ≤ 17 GHz<br>dB (±)           | 17 < F ≤ 31.5 GHz<br>dB (±) | 0 < F ≤ 24 GHz<br>dB (±) | 24 < F ≤ 31,5 GHz<br>dB (±) | Shocks<br>g | Random vibrations<br>grms | Thermal cycling |
| <b>NEW</b>    | 0 (DC shunt) to 20 | 1 up to 70°C     | 0.5                                | 0.3                         | <1.20                    | <1.25                       | 2000        | 50                        | -55°C to +125°C |
| <b>BEFORE</b> | 0 to 20            | 0,5 Up to 25°C   | 0.8                                | 0.5                         | <1.5                     | <1.50                       | 100         | 20                        | -30°C to +100°C |

# QUALIFICATION TEST PLAN





# SUMMARY

- New Attenuators:
  - Glitch free
  - Better VSWR with better RF power handling capability
  - More robust
  - Evaluation and qualifications test are completed
  - Flight heritage
- New terminations/loads with similar improvements:
  - SMA 2.9 => 1 W up to 70 °C
  - SMA => 2 W up to 70°C
  - SMA “small” model => 1 W



HIGHLY RELIABLE



HIGHLY RELIABLE



# SUMMARY

- New release :
  - Generic: 3403
  - Details: 3403/004, 3403/005, 3403/006, 3403/008, 3403/009



European space agency  
agence spatiale européenne

## Certificate of Qualification No. 178K

This is to certify that RADIAL, Saint-Quentin-Fallavier, France has been qualified by ESA for the supply of R.F. Attenuators, Fixed, Coaxial, Based on Type R413 for use in ESA space programmes, according to ESCC Generic Specification 3403 and associated Detail Specifications 3403/005 and 3403/008 as recommended by the Space Components Steering Board.

This certificate is valid until March 2020.

Head of the Product Assurance  
and Safety Department

Date  
24 July 2018



European space agency  
agence spatiale européenne

## Certificate of Qualification No. 185J

This is to certify that RADIAL, Saint-Quentin-Fallavier, France has been qualified by ESA for the supply of Passive Devices, R.F. Coaxial Loads, Based on Type R404 for use in ESA space programmes, according to ESCC Generic Specification 3403 and associated Detail Specifications 3403/004, 3403/006 and 3403/009 as recommended by the Space Components Steering Board.

This certificate is valid until March 2020.

Head of the Product Assurance  
and Safety Department

Date  
24 July 2018



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**Thanks for your attention**  
**Visit our stand !**