

CHIP TRIMMER POTENTIOMETER

APPLICATION MANUAL



Innovator in Electronics

Murata Manufacturing Co., Ltd.

Contents -

1 Features and Specifications	2
1. Features of Murata Chip Trimmer Potentiometers	_
2. Specifications	
2 Storage	5
1.Precautions in Storage	5
3 Design of Printed Circuit Boards————	6
1. Considerations in Design	6
2. Standard Land Patterns	
4 Typical Chip Mounting Processes	9
1. One Side Chip Mounting	9
2. Both Side Chip Mounting	
3. Mixed Mounting of Chip Components	U
and Leaded Components	9
5 Chip Mounting Process	10
1. Solder Paste Stenciling	
2. Mounting the Product	
3. Compatibility with Chip Placers	
4. Sensor Level Adjustment	
5. Reflow Soldering	
6. Adhesive Application and Curing ·····	
 Types and Characteristics of Adhesive 	
7.Flux Coating	14
 Types and Characteristics of Flux— 	
8. Wave Soldering ·····	15
9. Soldering and Resoldering with a Soldering Iron	15
10. Cleaning ·····	16
6 Adjustments and Lock Painting	17
1. Adjustments	17
2. Automatic Adjustments	
3. Lock Painting	
7 Examples of Improper Application and	
	20
Ex.1. Poor Contact Caused by Flux Adhesion	20
Ex.2. Cracking of the Substrate	
Ex.3. Poor Contact Caused by a Deformed Driver Plate	

1 Features and Specifications

1. Features of Murata Chip Trimmer Potentiometers

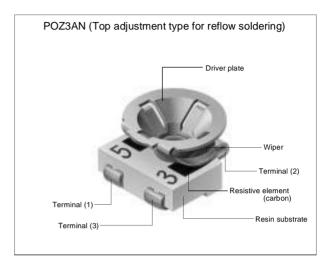
Murata supplies various types of chip trimmer potentiometers which are designed for various purposes.

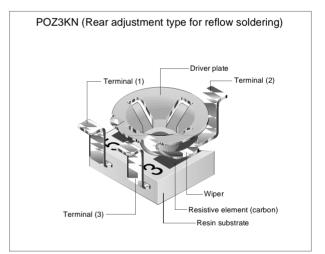
POZ3 Series

This series is designed for automatic resistance adjustments. Manual adjustments are also possible and its handling is easy.

Since metal plate terminals are employed, the possibility of solder leaching is eliminated and virtually no peelingoff of electrodes occurs even if the PCB warps. Its gold plating ensures high solderability.

The POZ3KN series has a flat surface to facilitate pick-up by a chip placer.





RVG3S08 (for reflow soldering)

RVG3 Series

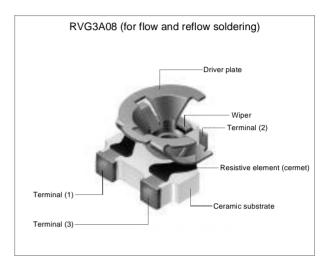
This series is designed for automatic resistance adjustments. Manual adjustments are also possible and its handling is easy.

The plated electrodes prevent solder leaching.

The RVG3S08 series is provided with a stopper to prevent the driver plate from turning beyond the

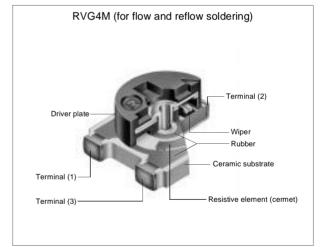
electrically effective range (or to prevent the wiper from becoming electrically open).

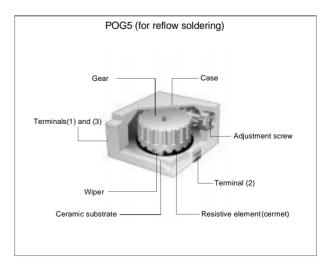
Features and Specifications 1



RVG4M Series

The electrodes are plated to minimize solder leaching. Since the structure is hermetically sealed, flux cleaning (removal) after soldering is not necessary. Resin coating after adjustment is possible.





POG5 Series

Since metal plate terminals are employed, the possibility of solder leaching is eliminated and virtually no peelingoff of electrodes occurs even if the PCB warps. Since the structure is hermetically sealed, flux cleaning (removal) after soldering is not necessary. Resin coating after adjustment is possible. It features compactness and provides high resolution with 11 turns. It is easy to make fine adjustments.

1 Features and Specifications

2. Specifications

		/	POZ3	Series	RVG	3 Series	/ RVG4	M Series	s / POG	5 Series
	Series	²⁴ M	iter a	<u>8</u> .	\$08	408	M08	M58	5AN	NHS
ltem		W ^{520d}	PO2346.	RVc.	RVG2	RVe	RVC.	POC	CG5AN	MHSOD
Resistive element material	Cermet		_	•	•	•	•	•	•	-
	Carbon	•	•							-
Terminal layout		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	-
No. of terminals	3 (divider type)*1	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	-
Adjustment method	Automatic	•	•	•	•	_	-		-	-
	Manual	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		-
Soldering	Reflow soldering	•	•	•				•		-
	Flow soldering		-		•	•				-
Electrode surface	Gold plating(nickel undercoating)	•	•	• • • •		•	• ***			-
treatment	Solder plating (nickel undercoating)			• *3	● *3	● *3	•*3			-
	Solder plating (copper undercoating)		-		_			•	•	-
Cine	3 mm square	•	•	•	•	•				-
Size	4 mm square		-			•	•			-
	5 mm square	•	•	•				•	•	-
	1.50mm			•						-
	1.85mm	•			•	•				-
Product thickness	2.00mm		-			•	•			-
	2.10mm		•							-
	3.70mm								•	-
	5.00mm		-		-			•		-
	0.040g(40mg)	•	•	•	•					-
Product weight	0.080g(80mg)					•			-	-
	0.180g(180mg)							•	•	-
Cleaning	Necessary *2	•	•	•	•					-
	Not necessary					•	•	•	•	-
Lock painting	Possible					•	•	•	•	-
	Not possible	•	•	•	•					-
	250 pcs./reel							•		-
Taping packaging	500 pcs./reel					•	•		•	_
(reel with a diameter	1500 pcs./reel		•							
of 180 mm)	2000 pcs./reel	•			•					
	2500 pcs./reel			•						

(2)

*1 (1)------(3) They can be used as the rheostat type by connecting lands (2) and (3). (2 terminals (rheostat type) (1)-----(2))
*2 Cleaning is needed only when there is an adhesion of foreign matter such as flux on the resistive element.
*3 Only terminal (2) is gold-plated with a nickel undercoat.

2 Storage

1. Precautions in Storage

To ensure the solderability of the terminals, Murata chip trimmer potentiometers are plated as shown in the table on the right. However, if they should be stored in a hot, humid atmosphere or in an atmosphere which is contaminated with sulfur or chlorine gas, the external surfaces of the terminals might be oxidized or sulfated, causing a deterioration in solderability.

To prevent this, the following storage conditions should be met.

Storage Environment

Make sure that the ambient temperature is below 40° C and the relative humidity is below 70%RH. The atmosphere should not contain sulfur and chlorine gases.

Storage Method

Don't open the minimum package until just before use. After the package is opened, it should be sealed again by heating or stored in a desiccator. (When resealing the package, never use a rubber band.)

Storage Period

Stored products should be used within six months. If you are going to use a product which has been stored for more than six months, check its solderability beforehand.

Electrode Surface Treatment

Series	Electrode surface treatment
POZ3	Gold plating (nickel undercoating)
RVG3 RVG4M	Terminals (1) & (3): Solder plating (nickel undercoating) Terminal (2) : Gold plating (nickel undercoating)
POG5	Solder plating (copper undercoating)

3 Design of Printed Circuit Boards

1. Considerations in Design

To mount chip trimmer potentiometers on a PCB, it is necessary to design land patterns. In designing land patterns, take the following points into consideration.

Land Pattern Area

If the land pattern area is too large, a positional error can easily occur due to the solder's surface tension. If the area is too small, the required solder adhesive strength will not be obtained. To prevent this type of trouble, please use our standard land patterns.

Both Side Chip Mounting

If the mounting process includes reflow soldering for the upper side of the PCB and flow soldering for its lower side and a product is mounted on the upper side by reflow soldering without cleaning, take the following cautions in order to prevent the flux from flowing onto the wiper sliding surface:

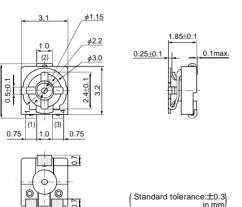
- ① Don't place the product within 10 mm from the outer edge of the PCB.
- ② Don't provide a through hole near the product.
 (A distance of 10 mm or more between the product and a through hole is necessary.)

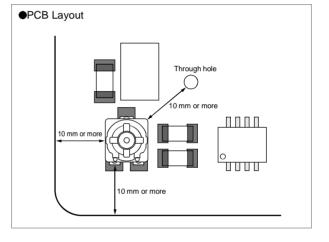
Other Considerations

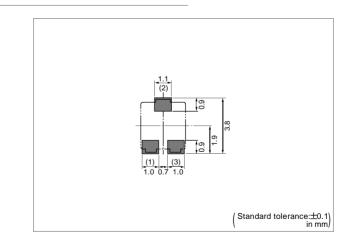
- ① Self-alignment
- (2) Solder adhesive strength

2. Standard Land Patterns

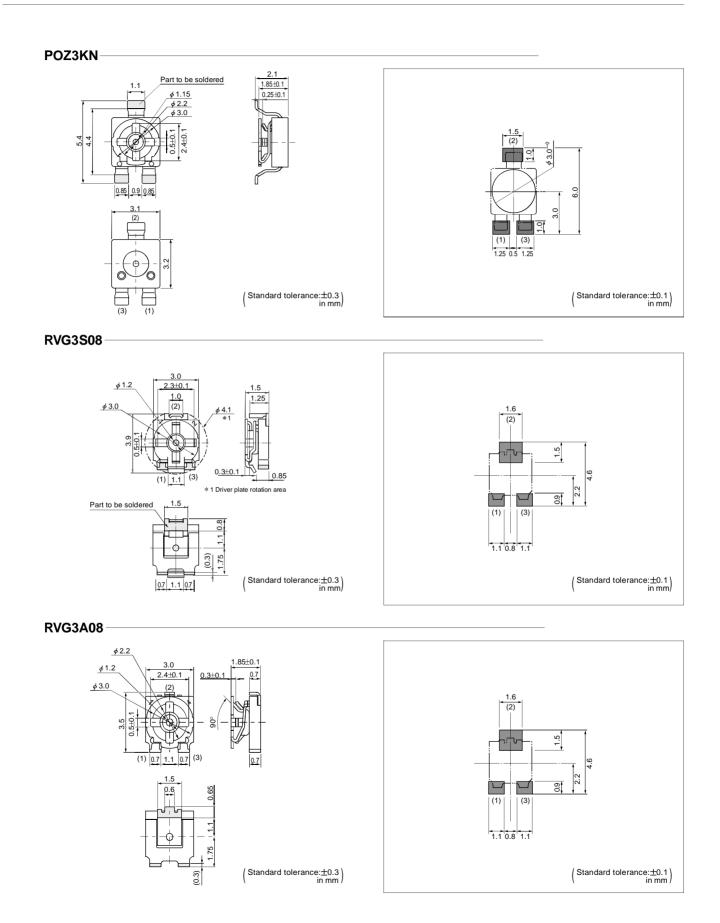
POZ3AN





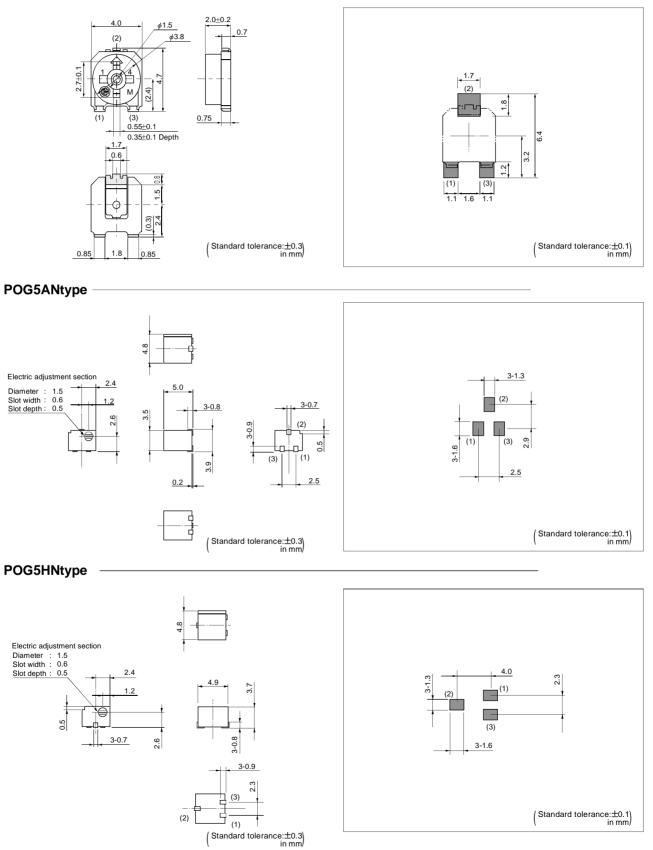


Design of Printed Circuit Boards 3



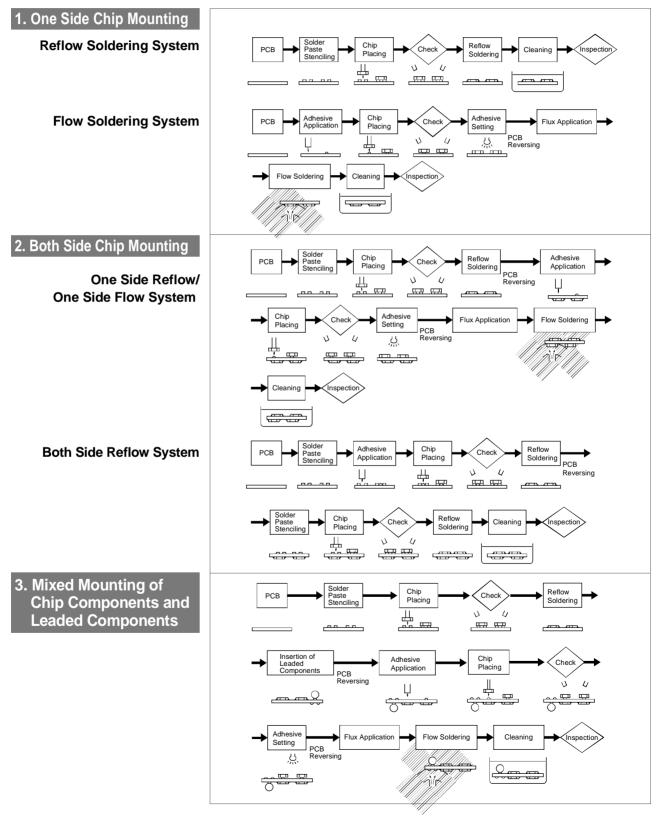
3 Design of Printed Circuit Boards





4 Typical Chip Mounting Processes

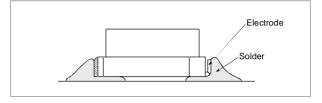
Typical chip mounting processes as listed below are available. It should be noted that the mounting procedures, soldering method and standard land pattern vary depending on the process employed.



1. Solder Paste Stenciling

The Amount of Solder Paste

According to the figure on the right, apply the appropriate amount of solder paste with a stencil so that the solder covers the side face of the electrode. If the amount of solder paste applied to the land is insufficient, the required adhesive strength cannot be obtained. If an excessive amount of solder paste is applied, solder bridging or flux overflow to the resistive element surface can occur. Standard thicknesses of solder coating are listed in the table on the right.



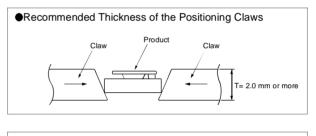
Series	Standard applying thickness
POZ3AN, RVG3A, RVG4M, POG5	150—200 μ m
POZ3KN	100—150 μ m

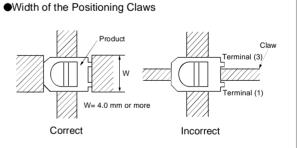
2. Mounting the Product

When mounting the product, pay attention to the following points.

Dimensions of the Positioning Claws

In chip placers which mechanically determine the pickup position, check the dimensions of the positioning claws, referring to the figure on the right. The width of each claw should be such that it cannot be inside the space between terminals (1) and (3). If it is inside the space between them, the product may get out of place or air leakage may occur.





Recommended for the POZ3 and RVG3 Series $\frac{25-2.8mm}{\frac{2}{2}.0mm}$ Recommended for the RVG4M and POG5 Series $\frac{\frac{44.0mm}{\frac{2}{2}.0mm}}{\frac{42.0mm}{\frac{2}{2}.0mm}}$ A nozzle whose suction surface is flat and free of notches or V grooves is recommended.

Dimensions of the Pick-up Nozzle

The size of the pick-up nozzle should fit the suction surface of each product. There are two nozzle types as shown on the right in the figure. Use the suitable type for each series as indicated here.

The pressure from the pick-up nozzle should be 100 gf to

Pressure

300 gf of static load.

Adjustment of the Pick-up Nozzle Bottom Dead Point

If the bottom dead point of the pick-up nozzle is too low, an excessive force would be applied to the product, causing a decrease in torque, deformation of the driver plate or a crack in the PCB. Also, if dust is collected in the gap between the pick-up nozzle and cylinder inner wall, the nozzle would fail to move smoothly and thus cause an excessive force to be applied to the product, resulting in a similar type of trouble.

Precautions in Mounting the Product

In the POZ3, RVG3 and RVG4M series, some air leak will inevitably occur during pick-up. Therefore, if the chip placer is equipped with a vacuum sensor system, the acceptance level for air leaks as judgment criteria must be adjusted beforehand. Unless this adjustment is made properly, the chip placer might fail to function. (For the adjusting procedure, see "4. Sensor Level Adjustment".)

For the POZ3KN series, use a chip placer which incorporates an image processing system to prevent deformation of terminals. (See the next paragraph, "Compatibility with Chip Placers".)

3. Compatibility with Chip Placers

When Using Commercial Chip Placers

The table on the right shows detection methods for pickup nozzle positioning which are employed by typical commercial chip placers.

When a chip placer of Group A or B as listed in the table is used to mount the product, sensor level (judgment criteria) adjustment is necessary.

For the Pulsar 100 series of Group A, removal of the nozzle clogging detection circuit is needed. For further information, please consult the manufacturer of the chip placer.

For chip placers of Group C or D, sensor level adjustment is unnecessary. If you are going to use a chip placer of Group D for the POZ3 and RVG3A08 series, please consult us.

For the sensor level adjusting procedure, see the next paragraph, "4. Sensor Level Adjustment".

Position Detection Methods Employed by Various Commercial Chip Placers

D	etection method	Typical model	Manufacturer
		Pulsar 100 series 120C, 140C, 135C	CKD
		Panasert MIC, MID, MA, MF	PANASONIC
A	Vacuum sensor system	ECM series	MAMIYA ELECTRONICS
		OCM-8000 series	OKANO ELECTRIC
		AM100 series	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC WORKS
в	Vacuum sensor + photocell system	CM-60F, -62F, -60P, -62P, -92P	KYUSHU MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC
		TCM-40, -41, -60	SANYO
С	Photocell (line sensor) system	Panasert MK I , MK I , MKH, MQ, MQ1, MQ2	PANASONIC
	,	Bulser 200 series	CKD
	Image	Panasert MSH, MSH- II , MV II , MV II -F, MPA-V	PANASONIC
D	processing (CCD camera)	TCM-1000, -1200, -3000	SANYO
	system	CP-6, CP I V-3	FUJI MACHINERY
		CM86C, 85C, 82C	KYUSHU MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC

Tape width Series Pitch RVG4M 8mm 12mm POZ3AN, RVG3 8mm 4mm POZ3KN 12mm 4mm POG5AN 16mm 12mm POG5HN 12mm 8mm

Taping Versions

Taping versions of products are available as listed in the table on the right.

4. Sensor Level Adjustment

Adjusting Procedure

A sensor level adjustment should be made as follows:

- ① Check to see if the detection circuit has one sensor line or more. (See the figure on the right.)
- ② According to the figure on the right, attach a vacuum gauge (for example, Bourdon tube) in a specified manner which depends on the circuit layout.
- ③ Read the vacuum pressure (P1) while nothing is being picked up (the nozzle is open). Example: P1=-30 mmHg

(4) Have the product picked up and read the vacuum pressure (P2) at this moment.
 Example: P2=-90 mmHg
 If the chip placer is provided with positioning claws,

the claws should be held in their closed positions during pick-up. If the vacuum pressure varies depending on whether the claws are open or closed, the timing of their closing may be incorrect. Please recheck it.

(5) Using a control (variable resistor), adjust the vacuum pressure (Px) at which the vacuum sensor pilot lamp switches on or off, so that the condition of P2<Px<P1 is met.

Example: Px=-70 mmHg

Now the whole sensor level adjustment procedure is completed.

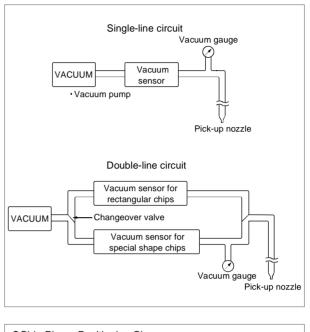
When the detection circuit has a single sensor line, note that standing-up of the chip cannot be detected in case of small components (2.0 (L) \times 1.25 (W) mm, 3.2 (L) \times 1.6 (W) mm).

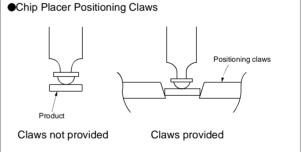
5. Reflow Soldering

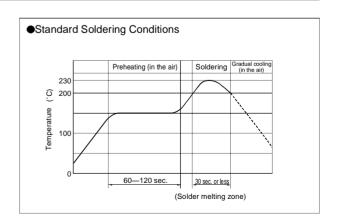
Soldering Conditions

If the soldering temperature is too high or the soldering time is too long, leaching of terminations, a drop in torque or a rise in contact resistance might occur. To prevent this, set the optimum soldering conditions, referring to the graph on the right.

If the soldering temperature is too low or the soldering time is too short, the solder would not melt thoroughly and its adhesive strength would be weak.







6. Adhesive Application and Curing

The Amount of Adhesive to Be Applied

Application of an excessive amount of adhesive might unfavorably affect the solderability.

On the other hand, if the amount of adhesive applied is insufficient, the product might come off during soldering.

Viscosity of Adhesive

If the viscosity of adhesive is too low, a slip in the product placed on the PCB would easily occur. Use adhesive whose viscosity is 500 ps or more at 25° C.

Points of Application

Adhesive should be applied to two points more than 0.3mm away from the land as shown on the right in the figure, in a manner that it can not protrude through the center hole of the product and stick to the wiper.

Control of Adhesive Curing

If the adhesive applied does not cure well, the adhesive strength would be weak, which might cause peeling-off of the product during soldering. To prevent this, the curing temperature and time should be controlled properly depending on the type of adhesive.

- Types and Characteristics of Adhesive

(1) Types of Adhesive

Commercial adhesives for mounting chips temporarily are broadly divided into three types.

- (1) Acrylic ultraviolet ray curing type
- 2 Polyester ultraviolet ray curing type
- ③ Epoxy thermosetting type

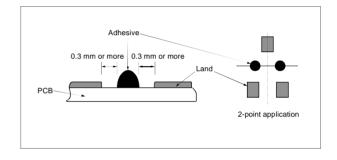
Commonly used commercial adhesives are listed on the next page in the table.

(2) Required Characteristics of Adhesive

- (1) When a dispenser is used, a stable discharge of adhesive should be ensured free from trails of thready adhesive.
- (2) The adhesive should not loosen easily after it is applied to the PCB.
- ③ The adhesive should be viscous enough to prevent the product from getting out of place due to vibration or movement of the PCB caused by the chip placer.

Standard Amounts of Adhesive Applied

Typical adhesives	Standard amounts of application	
MR-8153RA	0.6-0.9mg	
NF-3000	0.8-1.1mg	



- ④ High heat resistance and high adhesive strength at high temperatures.
- (5) High insulation resistance and excellent moisture resistance.

(3)Adhesive Application Methods

The following three adhesive application methods are available. Select the most suitable method, taking the product mounting method, mounting speed, production volume and other related factors into consideration.

Application method	Features
Dispenser	A sequential application method which allows control of the amount of adhesive according to the type and shape of components.
Screen Printing	A system in which adhesive is applied at a stroke through a screen. This method can save time required for application, though it requires set-up change when PCBs are changed. In this method, no coating is allowed after components are mounted.
Transfer Pin	The application of adhesive is completed at once with transfer pins. The amount of adhesive cannot be controlled in this method.

Commercial Chip	Mounting Adhesives
-----------------	--------------------

Name	Ingredients	Viscosity	Curring town, and time	Curing temp. and time Pot life		
Name	ingredients	viscosity	Curing temp. and time	Foline	Dispenser	Screen printing
MR-8153RA	Acrylic resin*	5500ps	UV10" 150°C10"min.	2 mos.(30°C)	٠	
NF-1000-6R		1800ps	UV10-15" 140-150°C10"min.		•	
NF-3000	Polyester resin*	2200ps(H) 1800ps(M) 1300ps(L)	UV10–15" 140–150°C30"min.	3 mos.(20°C)		
JU-8V	Epoxy acrylate	400ps	UV10"min.	1 mos.(20°C)		•
JU-8VD	resin*	400p3	140°C10"min.	1 1103.(20 C)	٠	
JT-5S	Epoxy resin*	200ps	140°C2.5'min.	3 mos.(20°C)	٠	•
ULTRADYNE #5111	Epoxy resin*	500ps	130°C15'	1.5 mos.(20°C)	•	•
ULTRADYNE #5111-W5	_p, ioomi	1300ps			•	
* Single liquid type						

7. Flux Coating

Flux may be coated only on the RVG3A08 and RVG4M series, for which flow soldering is used.

Coating Thickness

If the coating of flux is too thick, a lot of gas would be generated from the flux, which might unfavorably affect the solderability. Make sure that a uniform, thin coating of flux is formed. Foam type flux coating is commonly used for flow soldering.

Ingredients

If the flux contains a high percentage of chlorine (and cleaning has not been done sufficiently), the functionality of the product could be unfavorably affected. It is advisable to use a rosin-based flux which does not contain more than 0.2wt% of chlorine.

Types and Characteristics of Flux

(1) Functions of Flux

Flux is used to increase solderability. Its functions are as follows:

- 1 Removing oxides in the base metal
- 2 Preventing oxidization during heating
- ③ Decreasing the surface tension of solder

(2) Types of Flux

There are two types of flux: ① Rosin flux

② Mildly activated flux

(3) Cautions in Use

① Rosin flux may be used usually without cleaning.

(2) In case of mildly activated flux, if the chlorine content is too high, corrosion in external terminations or electrodes might occur due to the chlorine. For this reason, flux with a chlorine content of less than 0.2wt% should be used.

(4) Typical Commercial Flux

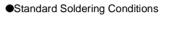
Flux name	Chlorine content
CF-210V	0.08wt%
CF-220V	0.09wt%
GX-15T	0.09wt%
AGF-150X	0.10wt%
Gammalux D-350	0.08wt%

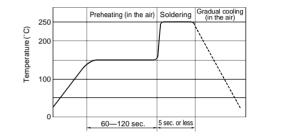
8. Flow Soldering

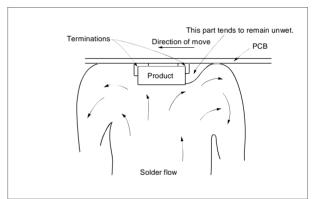
Flow soldering can be used only for the RVG3A08 and RVG4M series, but not for the POZ3, RVG3S08 and POG5 series.

Soldering Conditions

If the soldering time is too long or the soldering temperature is too high, consistent product properties could not be maintained. Standard soldering conditions should be observed.







Cautions in Soldering

Attention should be paid to the soldering conditions to ensure that the terminations of the product are soldered properly.

For the RVG3A08 series, the flux left on the surface of the resistive element or the wiper should be removed completely after flow soldering.

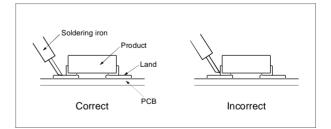
9. Soldering and Resoldering with a Soldering Iron

When carrying out hand soldering with a soldering iron, be careful that the tip of the iron is not excessively hot. If the temperature of the tip is too high, the properties of the product might deteriorate. For the POZ3 and POG5 series, which use a resin substrate or case, special attention should be paid to the temperature of the soldering iron tip.

Care should be taken not to touch any part other than terminals with the soldering iron.

Soldering Conditions

When newly soldering or resoldering the product,
observe the following conditions :Soldering iron tip temperature : 260°C or less
Soldering iron tip diameter :2 mm or less
(1 mm for the tip end)Soldering iron wattage :30 W or less
Soldering time :3 sec. or less



10. Cleaning

Use ethyl alcohol or isopropyl alcohol as a cleaning solvent. For the use of other types of cleaning solvents, consult us beforehand.

Cautions in Cleaning

The cautions to be taken in cleaning somewhat depends on the series.

For the RVG4M and POG5 series, which have a hermetically sealed structure, special considerations as described below are needed.

POG5 Series

Observe the following cleaning conditions:

- ① Dipping, steam or ultrasonic cleaning time should not be more than 3 min.
- ② For ultrasonic cleaning, observe the following conditions:

Output: 600W (67 liters) or less

Frequency: 28 kHz

Temperature: room temperature (5—30°C)

RVG4M Series

To maintain the hermetically sealed structure, observe the recommended cleaning time for each method as shown in the table on the right.

Recommended Cleaning Time Range for the RVG4M Series

	Room temperature dipping	Hot dipping	Ultrasonic (below 20W/ℓ)	Steam cleaning	
Conditions		·····	1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111		
Method 1	5 min. or less				
Method 2		2 min. or less			
Method 3			1 min. or less		
Method 4		1 min. or less	1 min. or less (30 sec. or less recommended)		
Method 5		1 min. or less	30 sec. or less	30 sec. or less	

POZ3 and RVG3 Series

In these series, the wiper and resistive element are exposed so flux residue should be removed completely. Any flux residue might damage the functionality of the product. For flow soldering of the RVG3A08 series, cleaning for flux residue removal is indispensable. The cleaning conditions vary depending on the type and volume of flux applied. Determine the optimum cleaning conditions for each application, referring to the above table for the RVG4M series. The prescribed conditions for ultrasonic cleaning (output 20W/ ℓ or less, cleaning time 1 min. or less) should be strictly observed to avoid a breakdown of the product due to metal fatigue.

6 Adjustments and Lock Painting

1. Adjustments

The following points should be taken into account when the resistance is adjusted with an adjuster inserted into the product.

Adjuster and Load

If an excessive load is applied to the resistance adjuster, the driver plate or wiper might deform or the PCB might crack. Therefore, the load applied should not be more than 4.9 N (500 gf), preferably below 100 gf.

Inspection of the Adjuster

If the adjuster does not fit the adjuster slot in the product or if its tip is worn, adjustments will not be easy. An adjuster with a worn tip would not engage in the slot properly. Check the tip periodically.

Range of Rotation of the Adjuster

The POZ3, RVG3A08 and RVG4M series have no stopper mechanism to prevent an excessive driver plate rotation. If the driver plate is turned beyond the electrically effective range, the circuit between terminals (1) and (2) and that between terminals (2) and (3) will open. The whole circuitry should be carefully designed so that it can not be irrevocably damaged even if this occurs. Please note that the product's functionality may be damaged if the plate is turned beyond the electrically effective range repeatedly.

Types of Adjuster

For automatic adjustments of the POZ3, RVG3S08 and RVG3A08 series, we recommend a bit for adjusters. (See the next paragraph, "2. Automatic Adjustments".)

Recommended Adjusters for Manual Adjustments

Series	Recommended adjusters					
Series	Manufacturer	Trade name	MURATA's trade name	Head shape		
	VESSEL MFG.	NO.9000+1.7×30	KMPOT12V	Cross		
POZ3	TORAY INDUSTRIES, INC.	TORAY TORAYCERAM ADJUSTER SA-2225	KMPOT13T	Flat blade (semicircular end)		
	VESSEL MFG.	NO.9000+1.7×30	KMPOT12V	Cross		
RVG3S08/3A08	TORAY INDUSTRIES, INC.	TORAY TORAYCERAM ADJUSTER SA-2225	KMPOT13T	Flat blade (semicircular end)		
RVG4M	VESSEL MFG.	NO.9000-2.6×30	KMPOT15V	Flat blade		
POG5	VESSEL MFG.	NO.9000—1.3×30	KMPOT16V	Flat blade		
FUG5	FUTABA TOOL MFG.	DA54		Flat blade		

6 Adjustments and Lock Painting

2. Automatic Adjustments

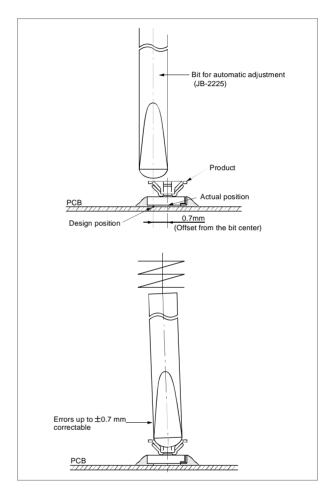
In the POZ3, RVG3S08 and RVG3A08 series, an adjusting bit can be used for easy automatic adjustments.

Guiding Mechanism for Position Error Correction

After being soldered, the product may be slightly out of place because of land pattern errors or slippage during soldering. Such positional errors can be corrected by installing an image sensor, but this method involves problems about the installation cost and correction speed.

As an alternative solution, provision of a "guiding mechanism" on the product or adjusting bit is recommended. This ensures low installation cost and quick correction.

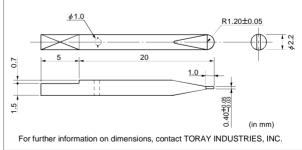
Å guiding mechanism for automatic positional error correction is formed by an adjusting bit combined with the POZ3, RVG3S08 or RVG3A08 series. As shown in the figure on the right, the product position can be corrected by up to ± 0.7 mm in both the X and Y directions.



Recommended Bit for Automatic Adjustments

We recommend TORAY TORAYCERAM ADJUSTER JB-2225 (our trade name:KMPOT31T) as a bit for the above-mentioned adjustment purpose. Made of zirconia ceramics, it is highly resistant to abrasion. Also, since it is electromagnetically non-inductive and electrically non-conductive, it can be used in the high frequency range.

●TORAY TORAYCERAM ADJUSTER JB-2225 Dimensions



Recommended Adjuster Bit for Automatic Adjustment

Series	Recommended adjuster bit			
	Manufacturer	Trade name	MURATA's trade name	Head shape
POZ3 RVG3S08 RVG3A08	TORAY	TORAY TORAYCERAM ADJUSTER JB-2225	KMPOT31T	Flat blade (semicircular end)

Adjustments and Lock Painting 6

3. Lock Painting

Lock paint can be coated on the RVG4M and POG5 series (sealed type).

If a product of a series other than the RVG4M and POG5 series needs to be painted, be sure to consult us beforehand.

Paint Ingredients

Lock paint should not contain ingredients which harm the material of the product such as chlorine and sulfur. Before application of lock paint, consult us.

7 Examples of Improper Application and Prevention of the Troubles

Chip trimmer potentiometers are relatively complicated structural parts with contacts. After being soldered to the PCB, they need adjustments. Therefore, improper handling of the product can cause it to malfunction. Various types of trouble caused by improper handling as well as means to prevent such trouble are explained next.

Ex.1. Poor Contact Caused by Flux Adhesion

Phenomenon

The contact between the resistive element and wiper is unstable due to adhesion of flux. As a result, adjustment of resistance is not easy.

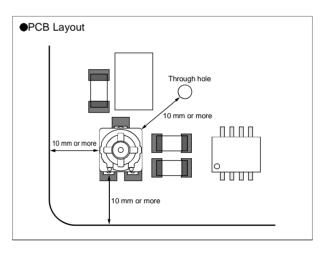
(This type of trouble will not occur in the RVG4M and POG5 series since they are of the sealed type.)

Prevention

Take the measures described below to prevent flux from adhering to the resistive element or wiper:

- When the product is to be mounted on the front side of the PCB by reflow soldering while flow soldering is to be used on the back side, the arrangement of components and through holes should be carefully determined or the dimensions of land patterns should be decreased in the PCB design process. (See "3.Design of Printed Circuit Boards".)
- (2) Decrease the thickness of solder paste coating and reduce the flux content.
- ③ When a soldering iron is used, use thread solder which has a V slot or a perforation to prevent splashing of flux. The amount of solder applied should be minimized.

If splashing of flux cannot be prevented, cleaning or switching to the sealed type should be considered.



Examples of Improper Application and Prevention of the Troubles **7**

Ex.2. Cracking of the Substrate

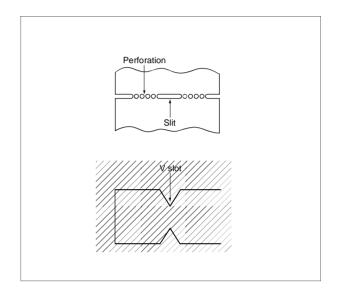
Phenomenon

There is a crack in the substrate of the product, its resistance cannot be adjusted and the circuit becomes open.

Prevention

To prevent an excessive load to the substrate in the process of cutting units off the PCB stock or during resistance adjustment, take the cautions described below. When each unit is to be taken from PCB stock, measures ① and ② as described below are effective in eliminating or reducing warping of the PCB.

- ① To facilitate the cutting process to reduce warping, an adequate perforation or sufficiently large slits or V slots should be provided.
- ② It is advisable to use the cutting method instead of the bending method to break the PCB stock into units.
- (3) To avoid the application of an excessive load with an adjuster, the specified adjustment procedure should be observed. (See "6.1 Adjustments".)



Ex.3. Poor Contact Caused by a Deformed Driver Plate

Phenomenon

The driver plate is deformed, so adjustment is not easy. The wiper is also deformed so the contact between the wiper and resistive element is defective.

Prevention

To prevent an excessive load to the driver plate during transportation of the product or resistance adjustment, take the cautions described below.

- ① Make sure that there is no possibility of a load being directly applied to the product during the PCB transportation. For example, transportation methods which may give a strong impact or stress to the driver plate such as stacking of PCBs or the use of a chute should be avoided.
- ② To avoid the application of an excessive load with an adjuster, the specified adjustment procedure should be observed. (See "6.1 Adjustments".)



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 - 2 Aerospace equipment
 - ③ Undersea equipment
 - (4) Medical equipment
 - 5 Transportation equipment (automobiles, trains, ships,etc.)
 - (6) Traffic signal equipment
 - Disaster prevention / crime prevention equipment
 - Data-processing equipment
- 9 Applications of similar complexity or with reliability requirements comparable to the applications listed in the above
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muRata Murata Manufacturing Co., Ltd.

http://www.murata.co.jp/

Head office

2-26-10, Tenjin Nagaokakyo-shi, Kyoto 617-8555, Japan Phone:81-75-951-9111

Marketing Group 1874 Sumiyoshi-cho Kizuki, Nakahara-ku Kawasaki, 211-0021, Japan Phone:81-44-422-5153 Fax:81-44-433-0798