March 2000

momentarily exceed the specified maximum operating volt-

age, the regulator will automatically shut down to protect

both the internal circuits and the load. The LM2940/

LM2940C cannot be harmed by temporary mirror-image in-

sertion. Familiar regulator features such as short circuit and

thermal overload protection are also provided.

Dropout voltage typically 0.5V @I_O = 1A

Output voltage trimmed before assembly

Output current in excess of 1A

Internal short circuit current limit

Mirror image insertion protection

P⁺ Product Enhancement tested

Reverse battery protection

Features



LM2940/LM2940C 1A Low Dropout Regulator

General Description

The LM2940/LM2940C positive voltage regulator features the ability to source 1A of output current with a dropout voltage of typically 0.5V and a maximum of 1V over the entire temperature range. Furthermore, a quiescent current reduction circuit has been included which reduces the ground current when the differential between the input voltage and the output voltage exceeds approximately 3V. The quiescent current with 1A of output current and an input-output differential of 5V is therefore only 30 mA. Higher quiescent currents only exist when the regulator is in the dropout mode $(V_{\rm IN} - V_{\rm OUT} \leq 3V)$.

Designed also for vehicular applications, the LM2940/ LM2940C and all regulated circuitry are protected from reverse battery installations or 2-battery jumps. During line transients, such as load dump when the input voltage can

Typical Application



*Required if regulator is located far from power supply filter.

**C_{OUT} must be at least 22 μ F to maintain stability. May be increased without bound to maintain regulation during transients. Locate as close as possible to the regulator. This capacitor must be rated over the same operating temperature range as the regulator and the ESR is critical; see curve.

Ordering Information

Temperature	Output Voltage								
Range	5.0	8.0)	9.0	10	12	15	Package	
$0^{\circ}C \leq T_{J} \leq 125^{\circ}C$	LM2940CT-5.0			LM2940CT-9.0		LM2940CT-12	LM2940CT-15	TO-220	
	LM2940CS-5.0			LM2940CS-9.0		LM2940CS-12	LM2940CS-15	TO-263	
$-40^{\circ}C \le T_J \le 125^{\circ}C$	LM2940T-5.0	LM2940T	-8.0	LM2940T-9.0	LM2940T-10	LM2940T-12		TO-220	
	LM2940S-5.0	LM2940S	8-8.0	LM2940S-9.0	LM2940S-10	LM2940S-12		TO-263	
$-40^\circ C \le T_J \le 85^\circ C$	LM2940IMP-5.0	LM29401	MP-8.0	LM2940IMP-9.0	LM2940IMP-10	LM2940IMP-12	LM2940IMP-15	SOT-223	
	LM2940IMPX-5.0	LM2940II	MPX-8.0	LM2940IMPX-9.0	LM2940IMPX-10	LM2940IMPX-12	2 LM2940IMPX-1	5 SOT-223 in Tape and Reel	
SOT-223 Package Marking	L53B	L54B		LOEB	L55B	L56B	L70B		
The physical size of the S	OT-223 is too small	to contain th	ne full de	vice part number. Th	ne package marking	s indicated are wha	t will appear on the	actual device	
Temperature				Output V	oltage			Package	
Range	5.0			8.0	12		15		
$-55^{\circ}C \leq T_{J} \leq 125^{\circ}C$	LM2940J-5.0 5962-895870			2940J-8.0/883 LM2940J-12/88 2-9088301QEA 5962-9088401QE			0J-15/883 088501QEA	J16A	
	LM2940WG5. 5962-895870							WG16A	

For information on military temperature range products, please go to the Mil/Aero Web Site at http://www.national.com/appinfo/milaero/index.html.

Connection Diagrams



Absolute Maximum Ratings (Note 1)

If Military/Aerospace specified devices are required, please contact the National Semiconductor Sales Office/ Distributors for availability and specifications.

LM2940S, T, MP \leq 100 ms	60V
LM2940CS, T \leq 1 ms	45V
Internal Power Dissipation	
(Note 2)	Internally Limited
Maximum Junction Temperature	150°C
Storage Temperature Range	$-65^{\circ}C \le T_{J} \le +150^{\circ}C$
Lead Temperature, Time for Wave S	oldering
TO-220 (T) Package	260°C, 10s

TO-263 (S) Package SOT-223 (MP) Package ESD Susceptibility (Note 3)

Input Voltage

Temperature Range LM2940T, LM2940S

LM2940IMP

LM2940CT, LM2940CS

LM2940J, LM2940WG

Operating Conditions (Note 1)

26V

LM2940/LM2940C

 $\begin{array}{l} -40^{\circ}C \leq T_{J} \leq 125^{\circ}C \\ 0^{\circ}C \leq T_{J} \leq 125^{\circ}C \\ -40^{\circ}C \leq T_{J} \leq 85^{\circ}C \\ -55^{\circ}C \leq T_{J} \leq 125^{\circ}C \end{array}$

Electrical Characteristics

 $V_{IN} = V_O + 5V$, $I_O = 1A$, $C_O = 22 \ \mu$ F, unless otherwise specified. Boldface limits apply over the entire operating temperature range of the indicated device. All other specifications apply for $T_A = T_J = 25$ °C.

Output Voltage (V _o)			5V					
			LM2940 LM2940/883			LM2940 LM2940/883		
Parameter	Conditions	Тур	Limit	Limit	Тур	Limit	Limit	Units
			(Note 4)	(Note 5)		(Note 4)	(Note 5)	
			$6.25V \leq V_{IN}$	≤ 26V		$9.4V \le V_{IN}$	≤ 26V	
Output Voltage	$5 \text{ mA} \leq I_{O} \leq 1 \text{A}$	5.00	4.85/ 4.75	4.85/ 4.75	8.00	7.76/ 7.60	7.76/ 7.60	V _{MIN}
			5.15/ 5.25	5.15/ 5.25		8.24/ 8.40	8.24/ 8.40	V _{MAX}
Line Regulation	V_{O} + 2V \leq $V_{IN} \leq$ 26V,	20	50	40/ 50	20	80	50/ 80	mV _{MA>}
	I _O = 5 mA							
Load Regulation	$50 \text{ mA} \le I_{O} \le 1\text{A}$							
	LM2940, LM2940/883	35	50/ 80	50/ 100	55	80/ 130	80/ 130	mV _{MA>}
	LM2940C	35	50		55	80		
Output	100 mADC and							
Impedance	20 mArms,	35		1000/ 1000	55		1000/ 1000	mΩ
	f _O = 120 Hz							
Quiescent	V_{O} +2V \leq $V_{IN} \leq$ 26V,							
Current	$I_{O} = 5 \text{ mA}$							
	LM2940, LM2940/883	10	15/ 20	15/ 20	10	15/ 20	15/ 20	mA _{MAX}
	LM2940C	10	15					
	$V_{\rm IN} = V_{\rm O} + 5V,$	30	45/ 60	50/ 60	30	45/ 60	50/ 60	mA _{MA>}
	I _O = 1A							
Output Noise	10 Hz – 100 kHz,	150		700/ 700	240		1000/ 1000	μV _{rms}
Voltage	I _O = 5 mA							
Ripple Rejection	f _O = 120 Hz, 1 V _{rms} ,							
	I _O = 100 mA							
	LM2940	72	60/ 54		66	54/ 48		dB _{MIN}
	LM2940C	72	60		66	54		
	$f_{O} = 1 \text{ kHz}, 1 \text{ V}_{rms},$			60/ 50			54/ 48	dB _{MIN}
	I _O = 5 mA							
Long Term		20			32			mV/
Stability								1000 H
Dropout Voltage	I _O = 1A	0.5	0.8/ 1.0	0.7/ 1.0	0.5	0.8/ 1.0	0.7/1.0	V _{MAX}
	I _O = 100 mA	110	150/ 200	150/ 200	110	150/ 200	150/ 200	mV _{MAX}
Short Circuit Current	(Note 6)	1.9	1.6	1.5/ 1.3	1.9	1.6	1.6/ 1.3	A _{MIN}

Electrical Characteristics (Continued)

V _{IN} = V _O + 5V, I _O = 1A, C _O = 22 µF, unless otherwise specified. Boldface limits apply over the entire operating tempera-	
ture range of the indicated device. All other specifications apply for $T_A = T_J = 25$ °C.	

Output Voltage (V _O)		5V						
Parameter	Conditions	Тур	LM2940 Limit (Note 4)	LM2940/883 Limit (Note 5)	Тур	LM2940 Limit (Note 4)	LM2940/883 Limit (Note 5)	Units
Maximum Line	$R_{O} = 100\Omega$							
Transient	LM2940, T ≤ 100 ms	75	60/ 60		75	60/ 60		V
	LM2940/883, T ≤ 20 ms			40/ 40			40/ 40	V _{MIN}
	LM2940C, T ≤ 1 ms	55	45		55	45		
Reverse Polarity	R _O = 100Ω							
DC Input Voltage	LM2940, LM2940/883	-30	-15/ -15	-15/ -15	-30	–15/ –15	-15/ -15	V _{MIN}
	LM2940C	-30	-15		-30	-15		
Reverse Polarity	$R_{O} = 100\Omega$							
Transient Input	LM2940, T ≤ 100 ms	-75	-50/ -50		-75	-50/ -50		V _{MIN}
Voltage	LM2940/883, T ≤ 20 ms			-45/ -45			-45/ -45	
	LM2940C, T \leq 1 ms	-55	-45/ -45					

Electrical Characteristics

 $V_{IN} = V_O + 5V$, $I_O = 1A$, $C_O = 22 \ \mu$ F, unless otherwise specified. Boldface limits apply over the entire operating temperature range of the indicated device. All other specifications apply for $T_A = T_J = 25$ °C.

Output Voltage (V _o)			9V			
			LM2940		LM2940	Units
Parameter	Conditions	Тур	Limit	Тур	Limit	Units
			(Note 4)		(Note 4)	
		10.5V	≤ V _{IN} ≤ 26V	11.5V	V ≤ V _{IN} ≤ 26V	
Output Voltage	5 mA ≤ I _O ≤1A	9.00	8.73/ 8.55	10.00	9.70/ 9.50	V _{MIN}
			9.27/ 9.45		10.30/ 10.50	V _{MAX}
Line Regulation	$V_{O} + 2V \le V_{IN} \le 26V,$	20	90	20	100	mV _{MAX}
	$I_{O} = 5 \text{ mA}$					
Load Regulation	$50 \text{ mA} \le I_O \le 1\text{A}$					
	LM2940	60	90/ 150	65	100/ 165	mV _{MAX}
	LM2940C	60	90			
Output Impedance	100 mADC and					
	20 mArms,	60		65		mΩ
	f _o = 120 Hz					
Quiescent	$V_{\rm O} + 2V \le V_{\rm IN} < 26V,$					
Current	$I_{O} = 5 \text{ mA}$					
	LM2940	10	15/ 20	10	15/ 20	mA _{MAX}
	LM2940C	10	15			
	$V_{IN} = V_O + 5V, I_O = 1A$	30	45/ 60	30	45/ 60	mA _{MAX}
Output Noise	10 Hz – 100 kHz,	270		300		μV _{rms}
Voltage	$I_{O} = 5 \text{ mA}$					
Ripple Rejection	$f_{O} = 120 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ V}_{\text{rms}},$					
	I _O = 100 mA					
	LM2940	64	52/ 46	63	51/ 45	dB _{MIN}
	LM2940C	64	52			
Long Term		34		36		mV/
Stability						1000 H
Dropout Voltage	I _O = 1A	0.5	0.8/ 1.0	0.5	0.8/ 1.0	V _{MAX}
	$I_{O} = 100 \text{ mA}$	110	150/ 200	110	150/ 200	mV _{MAX}

Electrical Characteristics (Continued)

 $V_{IN} = V_O + 5V$, $I_O = 1A$, $C_O = 22 \ \mu$ F, unless otherwise specified. Boldface limits apply over the entire operating temperature range of the indicated device. All other specifications apply for $T_A = T_J = 25^{\circ}$ C.

Output Voltage (V _o)			9V		1	
Parameter	Conditions	Тур	LM2940 Limit (Note 4)	Тур	LM2940 Limit (Note 4)	Units
Short Circuit	(Note 6)	1.9	1.6	1.9	1.6	A _{MIN}
Current						
Maximum Line	R _O = 100Ω					
Transient	T ≤ 100 ms					
	LM2940	75	60/ 60	75	60/ 60	V _{MIN}
	LM2940C	55	45			
Reverse Polarity	$R_{O} = 100\Omega$					
DC Input Voltage	LM2940	-30	-15/ -15	-30	-15/ -15	V _{MIN}
	LM2940C	-30	-15			
Reverse Polarity	R _O = 100Ω					
Transient Input	T ≤ 100 ms					
Voltage	LM2940	-75	-50/ -50	-75	-50/ -50	V _{MIN}
	LM2940C	-55	-45/ -45			

Electrical Characteristics

 $V_{IN} = V_O + 5V$, $I_O = 1A$, $C_O = 22 \ \mu$ F, unless otherwise specified. Boldface limits apply over the entire operating temperature range of the indicated device. All other specifications apply for $T_A = T_J = 25$ °C.

Output Voltage (V _o)			12V					
			LM2940	LM2940/833		LM2940	LM2940/833	
Parameter	Conditions	Тур	Limit	Limit	Тур	Limit	Limit	Units
			(Note 4)	(Note 5)		(Note 4)	(Note 5)	
			$13.6V \leq V_{IN}$	≤ 26V		$16.75V \leq V_{IN}$	≤ 26V	
Output Voltage	5 mA ≤ I _O ≤1A	12.00	11.64/ 11.40	11.64/ 11.40	15.00	14.55/ 14.25	14.55/ 14.25	V _{MIN}
			12.36/ 12.60	12.36/ 12.60		15.45/ 15.75	15.45/ 15.75	V _{MAX}
Line Regulation	V_{O} + 2V \leq $V_{IN} \leq$ 26V,	20	120	75/ 120	20	150	95/ 150	mV _{MAX}
	I _O = 5 mA							
Load Regulation	$50 \text{ mA} \le I_O \le 1\text{A}$							
	LM2940, LM2940/883	55	120/ 200	120/ 190			150/ 240	mV _{MAX}
	LM2940C	55	120		70	150		
Output	100 mADC and							
Impedance	20 mArms,	80		1000/ 1000	100		1000/ 1000	mΩ
	f _O = 120 Hz							
Quiescent	V_{O} +2V $\leq V_{IN} \leq 26V$,							
Current	I _O = 5 mA							
	LM2940, LM2940/883	10	15/ 20	15/ 20			15/ 20	mA _{MAX}
	LM2940C	10	15		10	15		
	$V_{IN} = V_{O} + 5V, I_{O} = 1A$	30	45/ 60	50/ 60	30	45/ 60	50/ 60	mA _{MAX}
Output Noise	10 Hz – 100 kHz,	360		1000/ 1000	450		1000/ 1000	μV _{rms}
Voltage	I _O = 5 mA							
Ripple Rejection	$f_{O} = 120 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ V}_{\text{rms}},$							
	I _O = 100 mA							
	LM2940	66	54/ 48					dB _{MIN}
	LM2940C	66	54		64	52		
	$f_{O} = 1 \text{ kHz}, 1 \text{ V}_{rms},$			52/ 46			48/ 42	dB _{MIN}
	l _o = 5 mA			52/40			40/ 4 2	

Electrical Characteristics (Continued)

$V_{IN} = V_O + 5V$, $I_O = 1A$, $C_O = 22 \ \mu$ F, unless otherwise specified. Boldface limits apply over the entire operating term	pera-
ture range of the indicated device. All other specifications apply for $T_A = T_J = 25$ °C.	-

Output Voltage (V _o)		12V						
			LM2940	LM2940/833		LM2940	LM2940/833	1
Parameter	Conditions	Тур	Limit	Limit	Тур	Limit	Limit	Units
			(Note 4)	(Note 5)		(Note 4)	(Note 5)	
Long Term		40						mV/
Stability		48			60			1000 Hr
Dropout Voltage	I _O = 1A	0.5	0.8/ 1.0	0.7/1.0	0.5	0.8/ 1.0	0.7/ 1.0	V _{MAX}
	I _O = 100 mA	110	150/ 200	150/ 200	110	150/ 200	150/ 200	mV _{MAX}
Short Circuit	(Note 6)	1.9	1.6	1.6/ 1.3	1.9	1.6	1.6/ 1.3	
Current		1.9	1.0	1.0/1.3	1.9	1.0	1.0/1.3	A _{MIN}
Maximum Line	R _O = 100Ω							
Transient	LM2940, T ≤ 100 ms	75	60/ 60					
	LM2940/883, T ≤ 20 ms			40/ 40			40/ 40	V _{MIN}
	LM2940C, T ≤ 1 ms	55	45		55	45		
Reverse Polarity	R _O = 100Ω							
DC Input	LM2940, LM2940/883	-30	-15/ -15	-15/ -15			-15/ -15	V _{MIN}
Voltage	LM2940C	-30	-15		-30	-15		
Reverse Polarity	R _O = 100Ω							
Transient Input	LM2940, T ≤ 100 ms	-75	-50/ -50					
Voltage	LM2940/883, T ≤ 20 ms			-45/ -45			-45/ -45	V _{MIN}
	LM2940C, T ≤ 1 ms	-55	-45/ -45		-55	-45/ -45		

Note 1: Absolute Maximum Ratings are limits beyond which damage to the device may occur. Operating Conditions are conditions under which the device functions but the specifications might not be guaranteed. For guaranteed specifications and test conditions see the Electrical Characteristics.

Note 2: The maximum allowable power dissipation is a function of the maximum junction temperature, T_J , the junction-to-ambient thermal resistance, θ_{J-A} , and the ambient temperature, T_A. Exceeding the maximum allowable power dissipation will cause excessive die temperature, and the regulator will go into thermal shutdown. The value of θ_{J-A} (for devices in still air with no heatsink) is 60°C/W for the TO-220 package, 80°C/W for the TO-263 package, and 174°C/W for the SOT-223 package. The effective value of θ_{J-A} can be reduced by using a heatsink (see Application Hints for specific information on heatsinking). The values of θ_{J-A} and θ_{J-C} for the K02A package are 39°C/W and 4°C/W respectively.

Note 3: ESD rating is based on the human body model, 100 pF discharged through 1.5 kΩ.

Note 4: All limits are guaranteed at T_A = T_J = 25°C only (standard typeface) or over the entire operating temperature range of the indicated device (boldface type). All limits at T_A = T_J = 25 °C are 100% production tested. All limits at temperature extremes are guaranteed via correlation using standard Statistical Quality Control methods

Note 5: All limits are guaranteed at T_A = T_J = 25°C only (standard typeface) or over the entire operating temperature range of the indicated device (boldface type). All limits are 100% production tested and are used to calculate Outgoing Quality Levels.

Note 6: Output current will decrease with increasing temperature but will not drop below 1A at the maximum specified temperature.

Typical Performance Characteristics

Dropout Voltage



www.national.com

Typical Performance Characteristics (Continued)

Quiescent Current



Quiescent Current



 $V_{IN} = 10V$

 $T_J = 25°C$

 $V_0 = 5V$

10 20 30 40

TIME (μ s)

DS008822-20

 $C_{OUT} = 22 \mu I$

Load Transient Response

0.5 0.4

0.3 0.2 0.1

0

-0.1

-0.2

-0.4

-0.5

1.0

0.5 0

OUTPUT VOLTAGE DEVIATION (V)

LOAD CURRENT (A)



Low Voltage Behavior

-10 0



Low Voltage Behavior

Low Voltage Behavior

 $T_{J} = 25^{\circ}C$

 $\bar{v_0} = 5V$

I₀ = 1A

5.0

4.0

3.0

2.0

1.0

1.0 2.0 3.0 4.0

 \geq

VOLTAGE

OUTPUT



5.0 6.0

INPUT VOLTAGE (V) DS008822-25

Low Voltage Behavior



Quiescent Current



Ripple Rejection



Low Voltage Behavior



Low Voltage Behavior



LM2940/LM2940C



2 0

-2

LM2940/LM2940C

Output at Voltage Extremes 20 100 N = R 16 = 8V ٧₀ OUTPUT VOLTAGE (V) 12 8 4 0 -4 -30 -20 -10 0 10 20 30 40 INPUT VOLTAGE (V) DS008822-32

Output at Voltage Extremes



Output at Voltage Extremes 25

-30 -20 -10 0

10 20 30 40

DS008822-31

INPUT VOLTAGE (V)



Output at **Voltage Extremes**







Output Capacitor ESR







Typical Performance Characteristics (Continued)

Output Impedance



Maximum Power Dissipation (TO-220)





Maximum Power

0

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 AMBIENT TEMPERATURE (°C/W) DS00882-24

Maximum Power Dissipation (TO-263) See (Note 2)





Application Hints

EXTERNAL CAPACITORS

The output capacitor is critical to maintaining regulator stability, and must meet the required conditions for both ESR (Equivalent Series Resistance) and minimum amount of capacitance.

MINIMUM CAPACITANCE:

The minimum output capacitance required to maintain stability is 22 μF (this value may be increased without limit). Larger values of output capacitance will give improved transient response.

ESR LIMITS:

The ESR of the output capacitor will cause loop instability if it is too high or too low. The acceptable range of ESR plotted versus load current is shown in the graph below. *It is essential that the output capacitor meet these requirements, or oscillations can result.*



FIGURE 1. ESR Limits

It is important to note that for most capacitors, ESR is specified only at room temperature. However, the designer must ensure that the ESR will stay inside the limits shown over the entire operating temperature range for the design.

For aluminum electrolytic capacitors, ESR will increase by about 30X as the temperature is reduced from 25° C to -40° C. This type of capacitor is not well-suited for low temperature operation.

Solid tantalum capacitors have a more stable ESR over temperature, but are more expensive than aluminum electrolytics. A cost-effective approach sometimes used is to parallel

Application Hints (Continued)

an aluminum electrolytic with a solid Tantalum, with the total capacitance split about 75/25% with the Aluminum being the larger value.

If two capacitors are paralleled, the effective ESR is the parallel of the two individual values. The "flatter" ESR of the Tantalum will keep the effective ESR from rising as quickly at low temperatures.

HEATSINKING

A heatsink may be required depending on the maximum power dissipation and maximum ambient temperature of the application. Under all possible operating conditions, the junction temperature must be within the range specified under Absolute Maximum Ratings.

To determine if a heatsink is required, the power dissipated by the regulator, $\mathsf{P}_{\mathsf{D}},$ must be calculated.

The figure below shows the voltages and currents which are present in the circuit, as well as the formula for calculating the power dissipated in the regulator:



$$\begin{split} I_{IN} &= I_L \div I_G \\ P_D &= (V_{IN} - V_{OUT}) \ I_L + (V_{IN}) \ I_G \end{split}$$

FIGURE 2. Power Dissipation Diagram

The next parameter which must be calculated is the maximum allowable temperature rise, T_R (max). This is calculated by using the formula:

 $T_R (max) = T_J(max) - T_A (max)$

- where: $T_{\rm J}$ (max) is the maximum allowable junction temperature, which is 125 $^\circ\text{C}$ for commercial grade parts.
 - T_A (max) is the maximum ambient temperature which will be encountered in the application.

Using the calculated values for $T_R(max)$ and P_D , the maximum allowable value for the junction-to-ambient thermal resistance, $\theta_{(J-A)}$, can now be found:

$$\theta_{(J-A)} = T_R (max)/P_D$$

IMPORTANT: If the maximum allowable value for $\theta_{(J-A)}$ is found to be $\geq 53^{\circ}$ C/W for the TO-220 package, $\geq 80^{\circ}$ C/W for the TO-263 package, or $\geq 174^{\circ}$ C/W for the SOT-223 package, no heatsink is needed since the package alone will dissipate enough heat to satisfy these requirements.

If the calculated value for $\theta_{(\mathsf{J}-\mathsf{A})}\text{falls}$ below these limits, a heatsink is required.

HEATSINKING TO-220 PACKAGE PARTS

The TO-220 can be attached to a typical heatsink, or secured to a copper plane on a PC board. If a copper plane is to be used, the values of $\theta_{(J-A)}$ will be the same as shown in the next section for the TO-263.

If a manufactured heatsink is to be selected, the value of heatsink-to-ambient thermal resistance, $\theta_{(H-A)}$, must first be calculated:

$$\theta_{(H-A)} = \theta_{(J-A)} - \theta_{(C-H)} - \theta_{(J-C)}$$

- $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Where: } \theta_{(J-C)} & \mbox{is defined as the thermal resistance from the junction to the surface of the case. A value of 3°C/W can be assumed for <math display="inline">\theta_{(J-C)} & \mbox{for this calculation.} \end{array}$
 - $\begin{aligned} \theta_{(\text{C}-\text{H})} & \text{is defined as the thermal resistance between the case and the surface of the heatsink. The value of <math display="inline">\theta_{(\text{C}-\text{H})}$ will vary from about 1.5°C/W to about 2.5°C/W (depending on method of attachment, insulator, etc.). If the exact value is unknown, 2°C/W should be assumed for $\theta_{(\text{C}-\text{H})}. \end{aligned}$

When a value for $\theta_{(H-A)}$ is found using the equation shown, a heatsink must be selected that has a value that is less than or equal to this number.

 $\theta_{(\text{H}-\text{A})}$ is specified numerically by the heatsink manufacturer in the catalog, or shown in a curve that plots temperature rise vs power dissipation for the heatsink.

HEATSINKING TO-263 AND SOT-223 PACKAGE PARTS

Both the TO-263 ("S") and SOT-223 ("MP") packages use a copper plane on the PCB and the PCB itself as a heatsink. To optimize the heat sinking ability of the plane and PCB, solder the tab of the package to the plane.

Figure 3 shows for the TO-263 the measured values of $\theta_{(J-A)}$ for different copper area sizes using a typical PCB with 1 ounce copper and no solder mask over the copper area used for heatsinking.



FIGURE 3. $\theta_{(J-A)}$ vs Copper (1 ounce) Area for the TO-263 Package

As shown in the figure, increasing the copper area beyond 1 square inch produces very little improvement. It should also be observed that the minimum value of $\theta_{(J-A)}$ for the TO-263 package mounted to a PCB is 32°C/W.

As a design aid, *Figure 4* shows the maximum allowable power dissipation compared to ambient temperature for the TO-263 device (assuming $\theta_{(J-A)}$ is 35°C/W and the maximum junction temperature is 125°C).



FIGURE 4. Maximum Power Dissipation vs $\rm T_{AMB}$ for the TO-263 Package

Figure 5 and *Figure 6* show the information for the SOT-223 package. *Figure 6* assumes a $\theta_{(J-A)}$ of 74°C/W for 1 ounce copper and 51°C/W for 2 ounce copper and a maximum junction temperature of 125°C.



FIGURE 5. $\theta_{(J-A)}$ vs Copper (2 ounce) Area for the SOT-223 Package



FIGURE 6. Maximum Power Dissipation vs T_{AMB} for the SOT-223 Package













LM2940/LM2940C 1A Low Dropout Regulator

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