



## Marking Notification:

Apex device marking is important as it not only carries the Apex logo it also provides key attributes needed to support full traceability and important information specific to the device.

Purpose of the marking, is the identification of the part by means of showing the:

- Manufacturer
- Part number
- SMD Standard Military Drawing # and Cage Code (as applicable)
- Lot number and date code (provides full traceability back to the manufacturing records)
- Country of origin
- Material Content Symbol (if applicable)
- ESD rating
- Etc.

To maintain compliance with Marking Permanency testing as required by MIL-PRF-38534 (General Specification for Hybrid Product) testing is performed weekly to ensure the marking shall be legible and complete, and that it meets the resistance to solvents requirements of method 2015 of MIL-STD-883 (Test Method Standard for Microcircuits). While having a long history of passing this conformance inspection of Apex marking, Apex's has received customer feedback whereby, lessons learned that the marking is

susceptible to some solvents and that it can have an adverse effect on the marking permanency of Apex devices.

Internal investigation identified that devices exposed to solvents such as Sonvol ENP, Zestron AC207, or other concentrations of Isopropyl alcohol at varying exposure levels and or temperatures may affect marking durability.

Based on these findings, Apex recommends that customers evaluate our product against their established cleaning process before committing production quantities to a cleaning process that could affect marking legibility of Apex products. Alternatively, and if possible, the customer could also use a cleaning process which does not require the entire Apex component to be submerged in cleaning solvent, but only the connection pins.

If you experience issues with marking permanency, we encourage you to submit a Customer Contact Form providing the details of the materials and processes used when device marking was affected. Apex Microtechnology's website [www.apexanalog.com](http://www.apexanalog.com).

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