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Former Catalyst Document Number DN2

Electronic versus Mechanical Potentiometers-A Comparison



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APPLICATION NOTE

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	Electronic	Mechanical
Manufacturer:	Catalyst	BC Components
		(Beyschlag Centralab)
Name:	CAT5114	Model ST3, cermet
Rpot:	10 k Ω , single	10 k Ω , single
Rpot Tolerance:	15%	20%
Resolution:	32 taps	single turn, 210 $^{\circ}$
Package:	8L SOIC	3L surface mount
Purchase \$:	\$0.75	\$1.35
(>100 units)		
Assembly \$:	\$0.0408	\$0.0408
(automated)		
Pot Adjustment \$:	<< \$0.01	\$0.12+0.20
(ATE)		
Rotational Life:	infinite	200 Cycles
Reliability:	< 100FITs	??
Field Service \$:	\$	\$\$\$

The assembly and test costs (California) were obtained from a leading contract manufacturer. Costs include overhead. The adjustment costs for mechanical pots have two parts: ATE costs and labor costs. Purchase prices are from known publications (2001). The examples of pots were chosen for similarity in basic performance and in package type.

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