



# ELECTROMAGNETIC SHIELDING

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FAE & BDM

PUBLIC

**WÜRTH ELEKTRONIK** MORE THAN YOU EXPECT

# AGENDA

- Basics
- Apertures
- Shielding solutions
- Design tips



# BASICS



## BASICS

What does “electromagnetic shielding” mean?

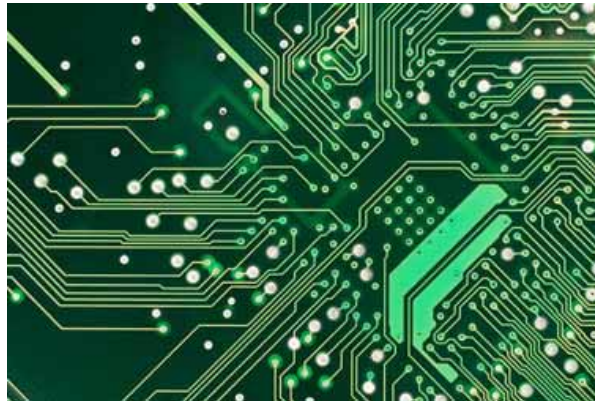


# BASICS

- Electromagnetic fields are emitted or absorbed by electrically conductive structures.
- Antennas can be:



Cables, interfaces, housing openings



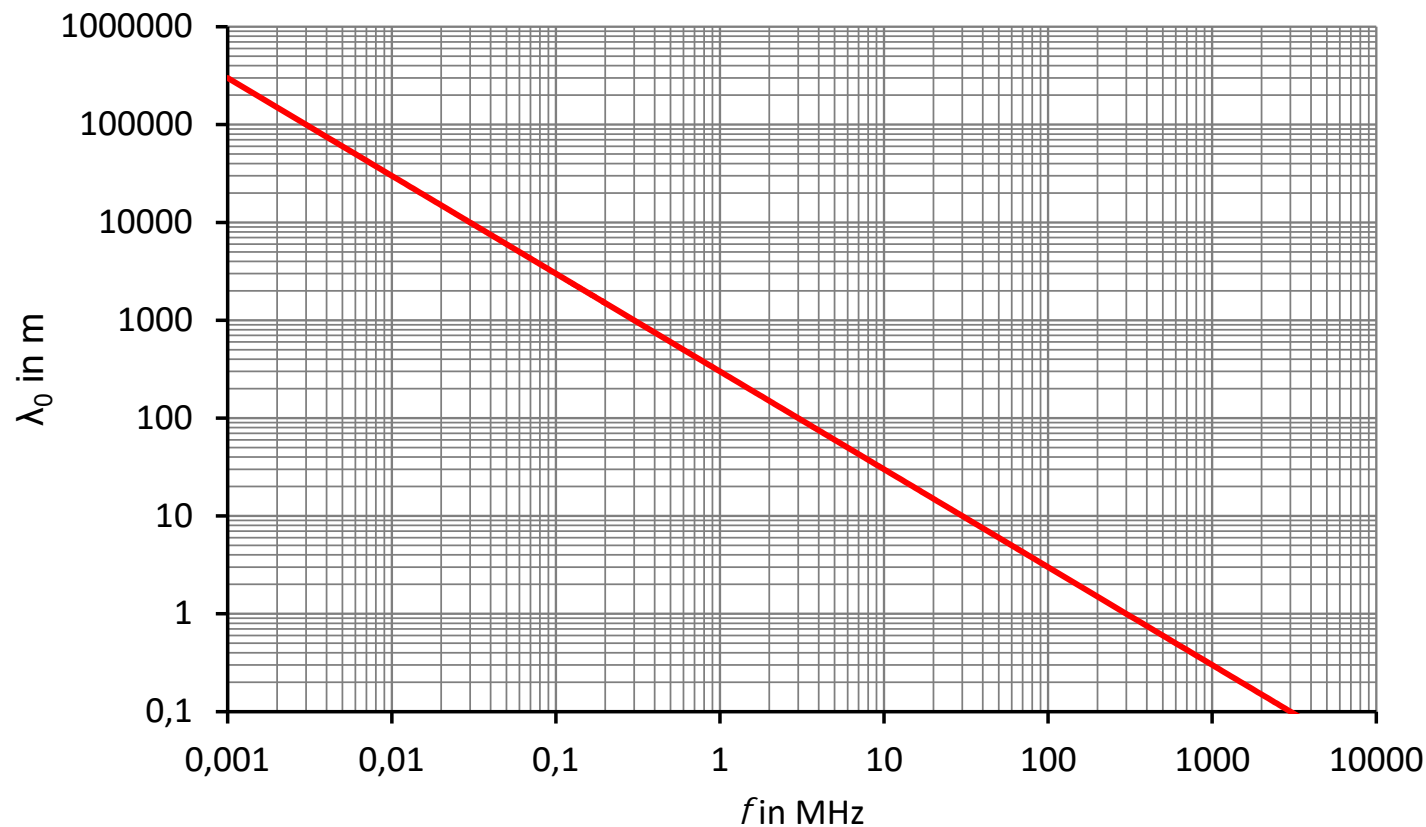
Conductor tracks, ground planes,  
vias, slots



Components, heat sinks,  
integrated circuits

# BASICS

## Wavelength



- Relationship between frequency and wavelength

$$\lambda_0 = \frac{c_0}{f}$$

- Examples:

$$f = 500\text{kHz} \rightarrow \lambda_0 = 600\text{m}$$

$$f = 8\text{MHz} \rightarrow \lambda_0 = 37,5\text{m}$$

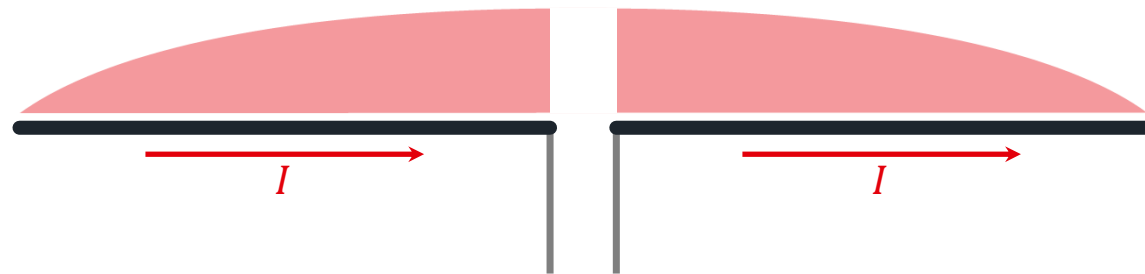
$$f = 100\text{MHz} \rightarrow \lambda_0 = 3\text{m}$$

$$f = 2,45\text{GHz} \rightarrow \lambda_0 = 12,5\text{cm}$$

# BASICS

## Half-wavelength dipole

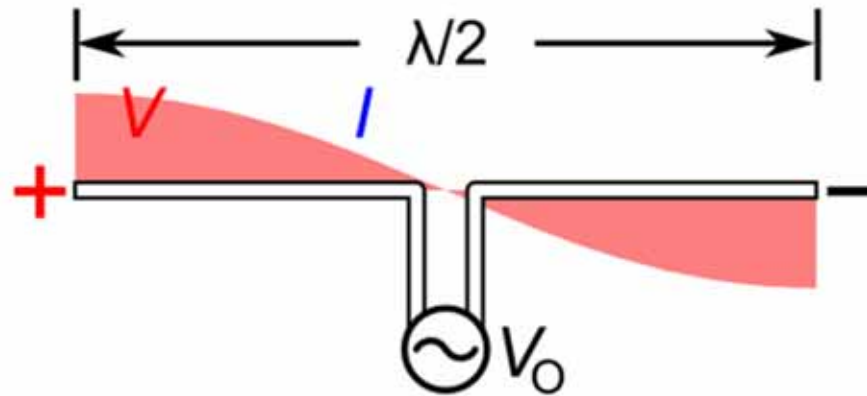
- A conductive structure is not a **proper antenna** for each frequency.
- The **relation** between the structure dimension and the wavelength is crucial.
- The relation is optimal if the structure length is equal to **half of the wavelength** (half-wavelength dipole).
- A significant antenna effect is observable for a length up **one twentieth** of the wavelength.



## BASICS

### Elementary dipole

- The most basic antenna is an **electric** (Hertzian) **dipole**. Its length  $\ell$  is small compared to the **wavelength** considered.
- Along its dimension a locally constant, temporally changing current  $I$  is flowing. Charges are accumulated at the ends.
- The electric dipole generates an **electric field**.

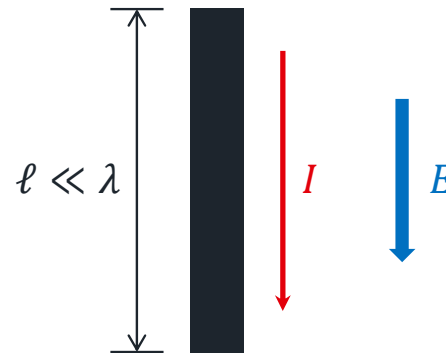




# BASICS

## Elementary dipole

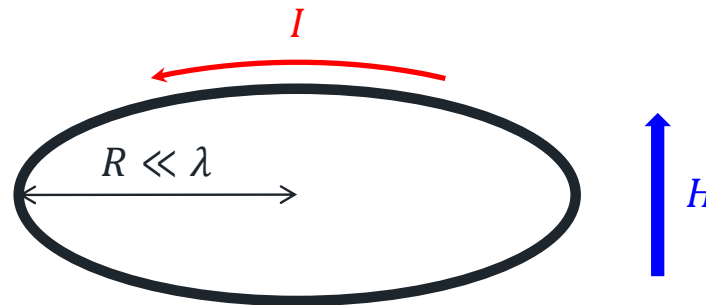
- The simplest antenna is an **electric** (Hertzian) **dipole**. Its length  $\ell$  is small compared to the wavelength under consideration.
- A locally constant, time-varying current  $I$  flows along its length.
- Charges collect at the ends. The electric dipole creates an electric field.



## BASICS

### Elementary dipole

- A second elementary antenna is created by a **current loop** or **magnetic dipole**. Its radius  $R$  is small compared to the **wavelength** considered.
- Along its circumference a locally constant, temporally changing current  $I$  is flowing.
- The magnetic dipole creates a **magnetic field**.



# BASICS

## Characteristic wave impedance

- The **characteristic wave impedance**  $Z_W$  is equal to the relation of the electric field strength to the magnetic field strength at a distance  $r$  from the antenna.

$$Z_W = \frac{E}{H}$$

- Characteristic wave impedance of the electric dipole in the **near field**:

$$|Z_{W,e}| = Z_{W0} \cdot \frac{\lambda}{2\pi r}$$

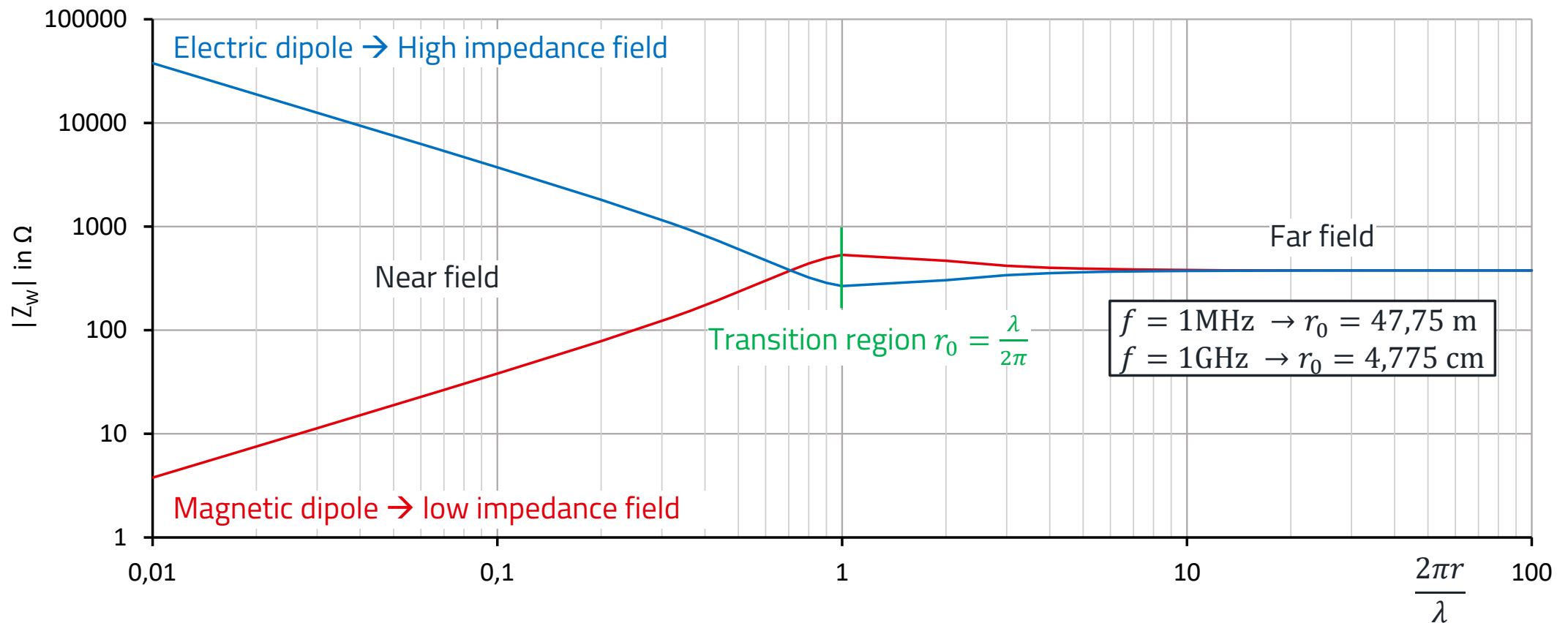
- Characteristic wave impedance of the magnetic dipole in the **near field**:

$$|Z_{W,m}| = Z_{W0} \cdot \frac{2\pi r}{\lambda}$$

- The factor  $Z_{W0} = \sqrt{\mu_0/\epsilon_0} = 377\Omega$  is named the free-space characteristic wave impedance (**far field**).
- From an EMC perspective most of the relevant noise sources can be described by one of the elementary dipoles.

# BASICS

## Characteristic wave impedance



# BASICS

## Shielding of magnetic fields

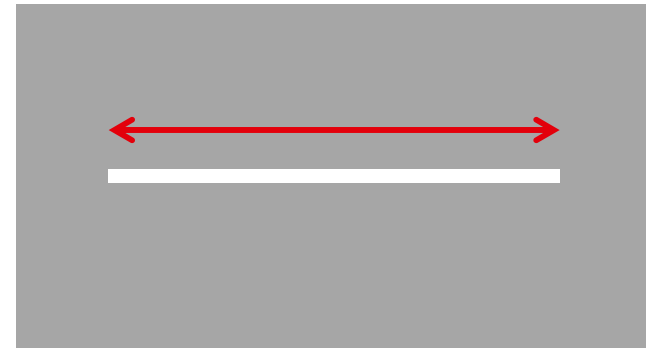
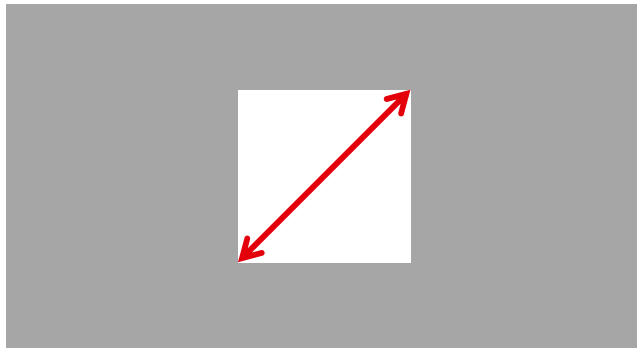
- Shielding of magnetic fields is more difficult, particularly static and low-frequency fields.
- Categorization of shielding solution types:
  - Against static and low-frequency fields → **High-permeable** materials
  - Against medium-frequency fields → Using of **skin effect**
  - Against high-frequency fields → **Reflection** and **absorption**

# APERTURES



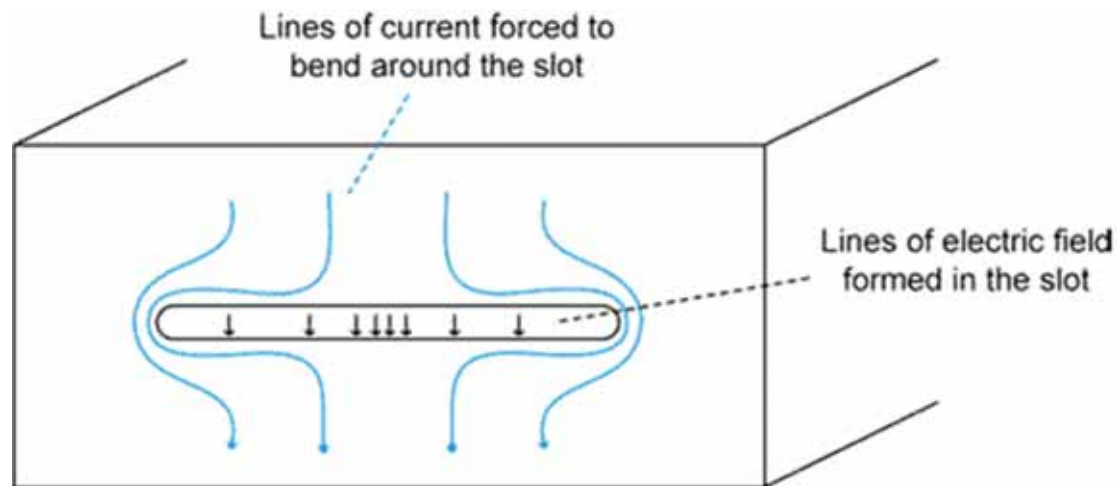
## SHIELDING APERTURES

- The limit for determining the shielding attenuation by **measurement** lies at 120 dB.
- There's no perfect shield, i.e. completely closed.
- There is a greater impact of **apertures** in the shield on the magnetic shielding attenuation than on the electric shielding attenuation.
- For higher frequencies the **decrease** in shielding effectiveness due to leakage is more significant than the **theoretical** shielding attenuation of a material.
- The **maximum linear dimension** of an aperture is crucial, not its area.



## SHIELDING APERTURES

- A term used with enclosures and apertures is "Slot antenna"



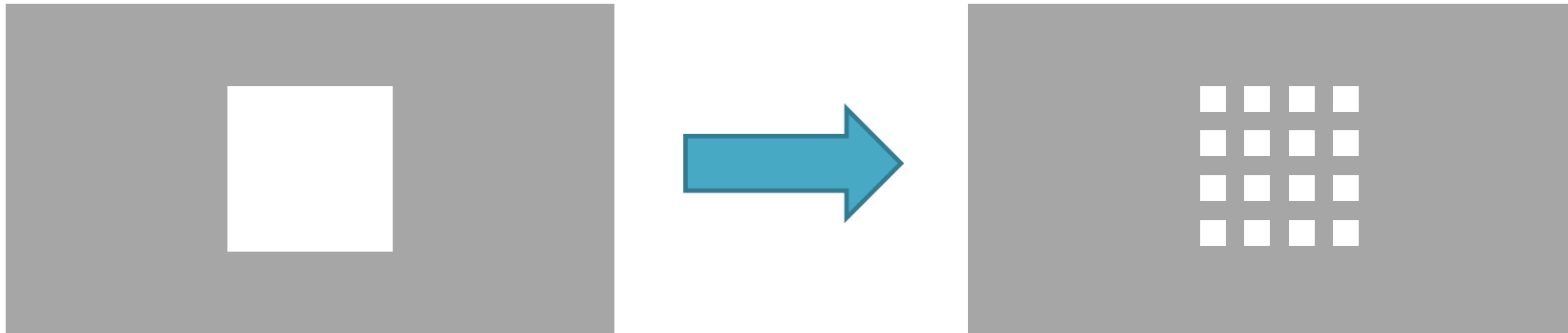
- Horizontal slot = Vertical Electric field
- Vertical slot = Horizontal Electric field





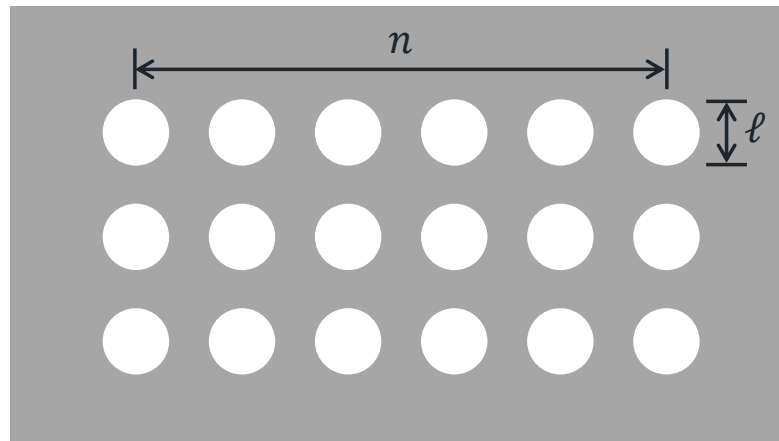
## SHIELDING APERTURES

- An aperture with length  $\ell = \lambda/2$  shows the same behavior as a **half-wavelength dipole**.
- When the **electric field** vector is oriented **perpendicularly** in relation to the slit, the shielding attenuation at the corresponding frequency is 0 dB.
- If a larger aperture is required, e.g. for ventilation of the interior, the area should be divided **into many smaller apertures**.



## SHIELDING APERTURES

- For a two-dimensional **breadboard** the maximum number of holes lying **in a single row** is crucial for the reduction in shielding effectiveness.



- Shielding attenuation with apertures:

$$A_{S,Ap} = 20 \cdot \log \left( \frac{\lambda}{2 \cdot \ell \cdot \sqrt{n}} \right) \text{dB}$$

## SHIELDING APERTURES

- Maximum slit length for 20 dB attenuation:

Frequency in MHz	Length in cm
30	50
50	30
100	15
300	5
500	3
1000	1,5
3000	0,5
5000	0,3

- Decrease in shielding attenuation for  $n > 1$ :

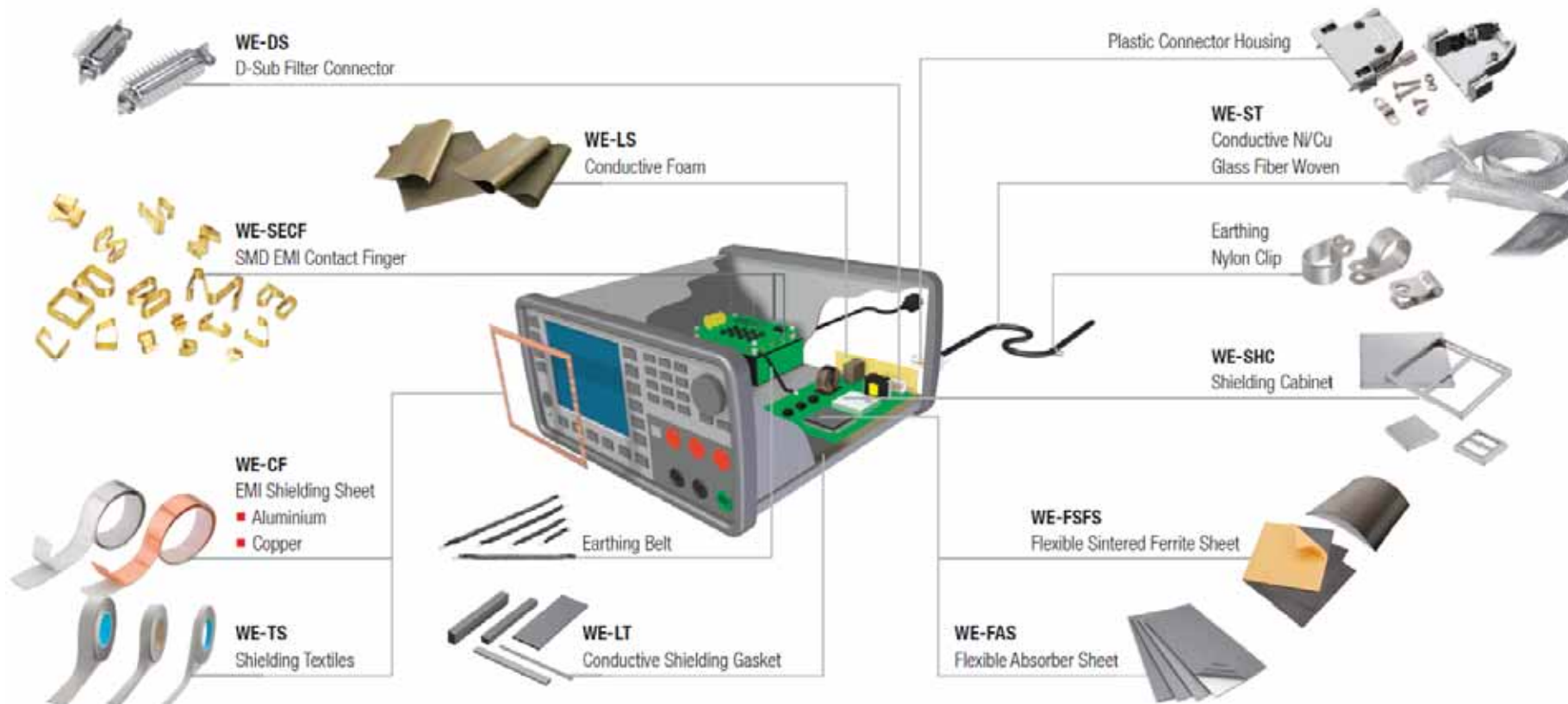
$n$	$\Delta A_S$ in dB
2	-3
4	-6
6	-8
10	-10
20	-13
40	-16
80	-19
100	-20

# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS



# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

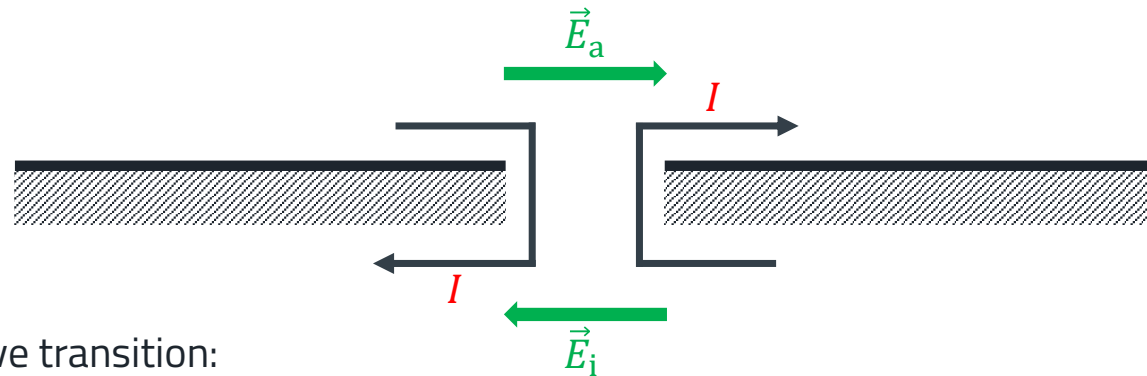
## Overview



# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Casing joints

- It is important to ensure a **large-scale conductive transition** at joints of a casing (edges, covers, doors).
- Joint without a conductive transition:



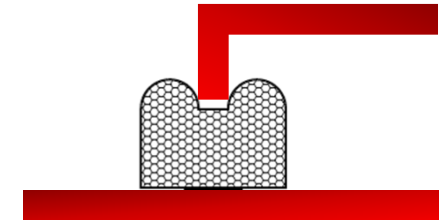
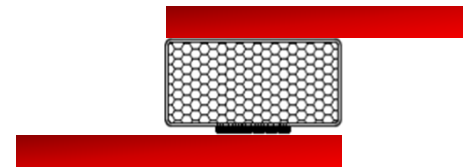
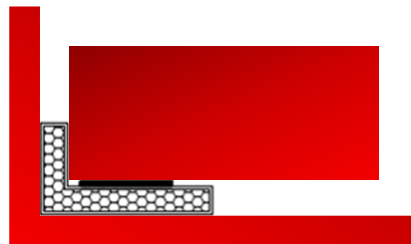
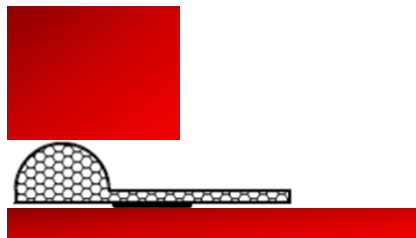
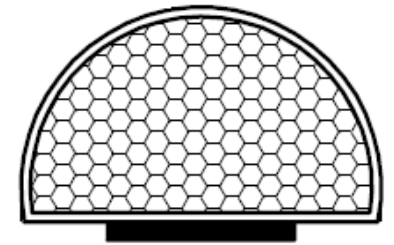
- Establishing a conductive transition:
  - Conductive fabric gasket
  - Spring contact strip



# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Casing joints

- Conductive fabric gasket consists of **foam material**, surrounded by **nickel-copper fabric**. Adhesive tape is attached on one side.
- Maximum degree of protection: IP54
- Fire protection in railway applications → EN 45545-2:2013+A1:2015 → R22/R23
- Application examples:



## SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

Casing joints: Beware of galvanic corrosion!

- Suitability of material pairings:

Base material	Nickel-copper	Aluminum
Zinc	--	++
Aluminum	--	++
Copper	+	-
Tin	+	-
Nickel-silver	+	-
Lead	+	-
Nickel	++	--
Silver	++	--
Nickel-copper	++	--
Gold	++	--





# EMC GASKETS

- How we can choose the proper EMC gasket?

- Types of EMC Gaskets

- Elastomer Gaskets (WE-EGS) → Conductive filler mixed with rubber material



- Conductive Fabric over Foam Gasket (WE-LT) → Conductive textile wrapped over a PU sponge core



- Contact Stripe Gasket (WE-CSGS) → Made of elastic metallic material



- Knitted wire mesh gaskets (WE-GS) → Composed mainly by a metallic wire mesh



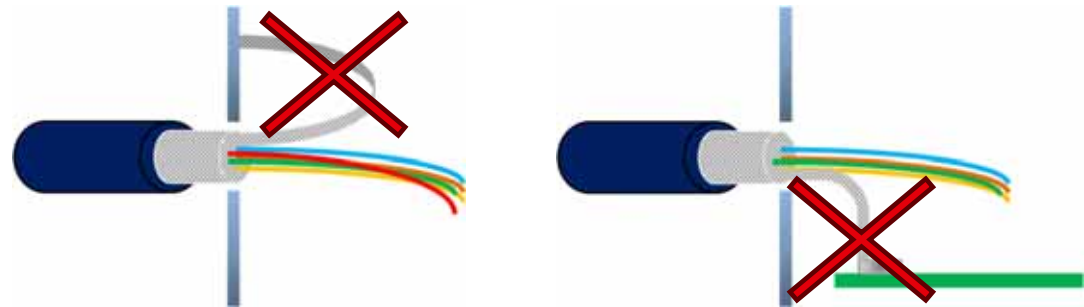
# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Cable

- Shielding of cables and cable bundles:



- Avoiding the following types of connection:



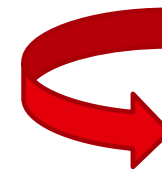
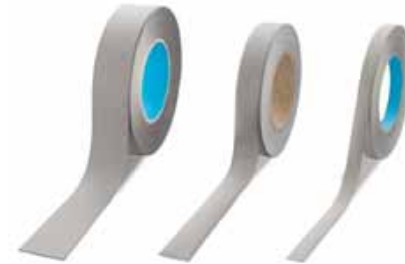
# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Cable

- Shielding of **flat wire cables** with conductive textile or metallic adhesive tape:



- Electric contact at both ends is necessary.

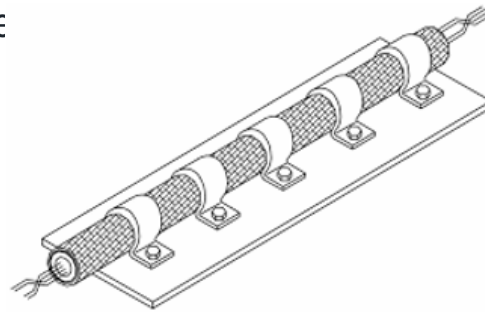


WE-FAS doesn't require grounding. We will see it soon...

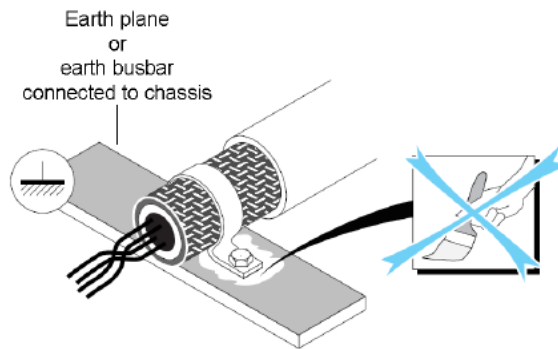


## SHIELDING CABLES TIPS

- Shield connected on 360° to the



- Don't use any type of painting on the connection metal clip- ground plane

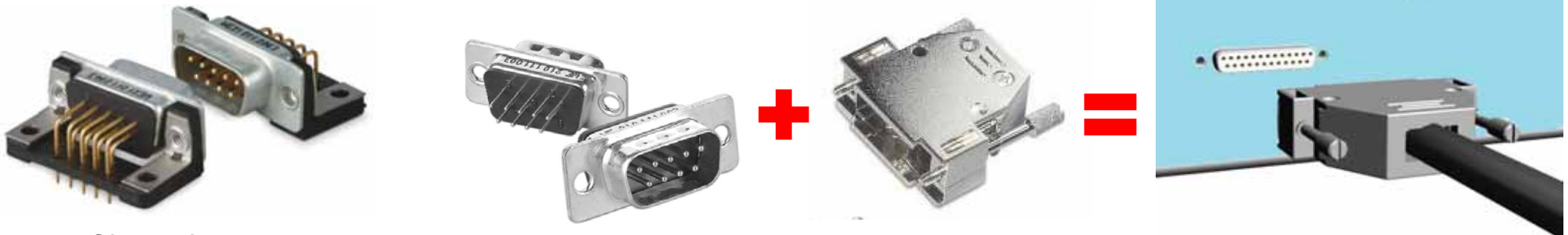


# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

**CUSTOMIZABLE**  
PRODUCT SERIES

## Interface

- Filtered D-SUB interface for RS-232, RS-485 or power supply (max. 5 A @ 100 V<sub>DC</sub>):



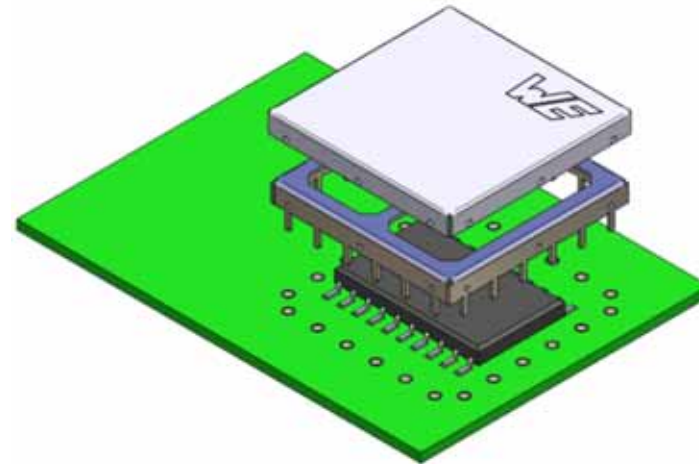
- D-SUB filter adapter:



# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Circuit board

- **Copper ground planes** act as electrical shielding.
- Interfering or sensitive components/circuit parts can be **locally** electrically shielded.

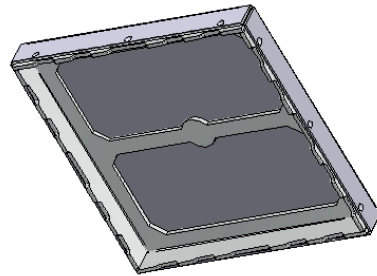
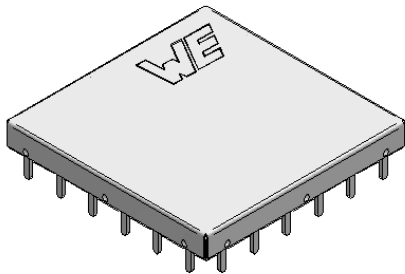


- Important: Low impedance connection to the local circuit ground

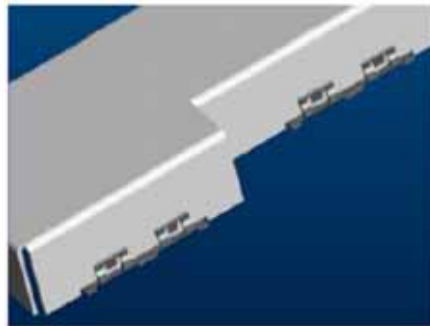
# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Circuit board

- One or two-piece housing:



- SMT brackets:



# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Circuit board

- Do-it-yourself shield housing:
  - Tinned steel plate (0.2mm)
  - Square grid (5mm)





## DESIGN KITS: BOARD LEVEL SHIELDING (CABINETS)



- PCB Grounding Contacts: 367001



- PCB Grounding Contacts: 367001

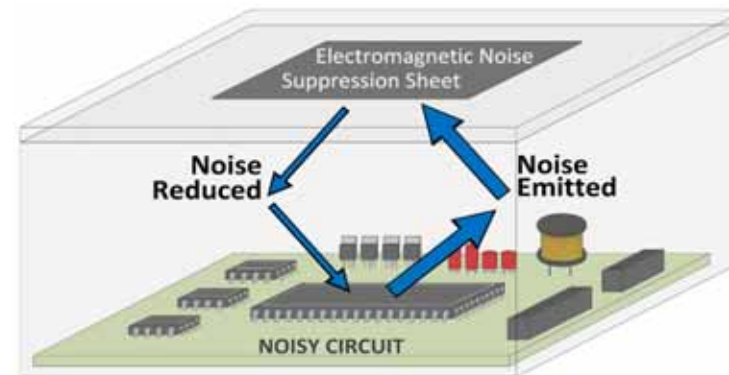
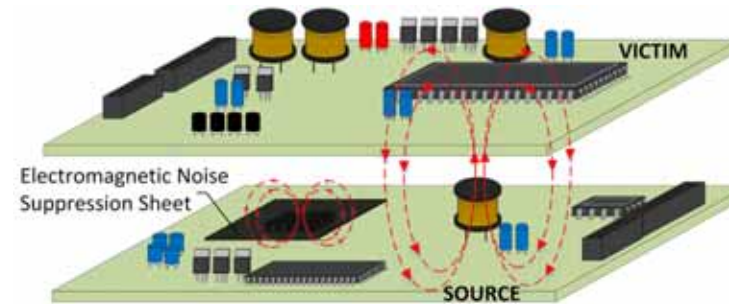
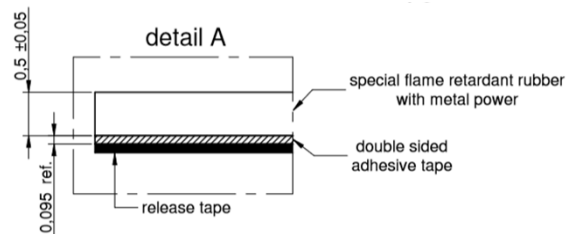


- ShieldDIY Custom Shielding Cabinets: 360002

# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Circuit board/housing

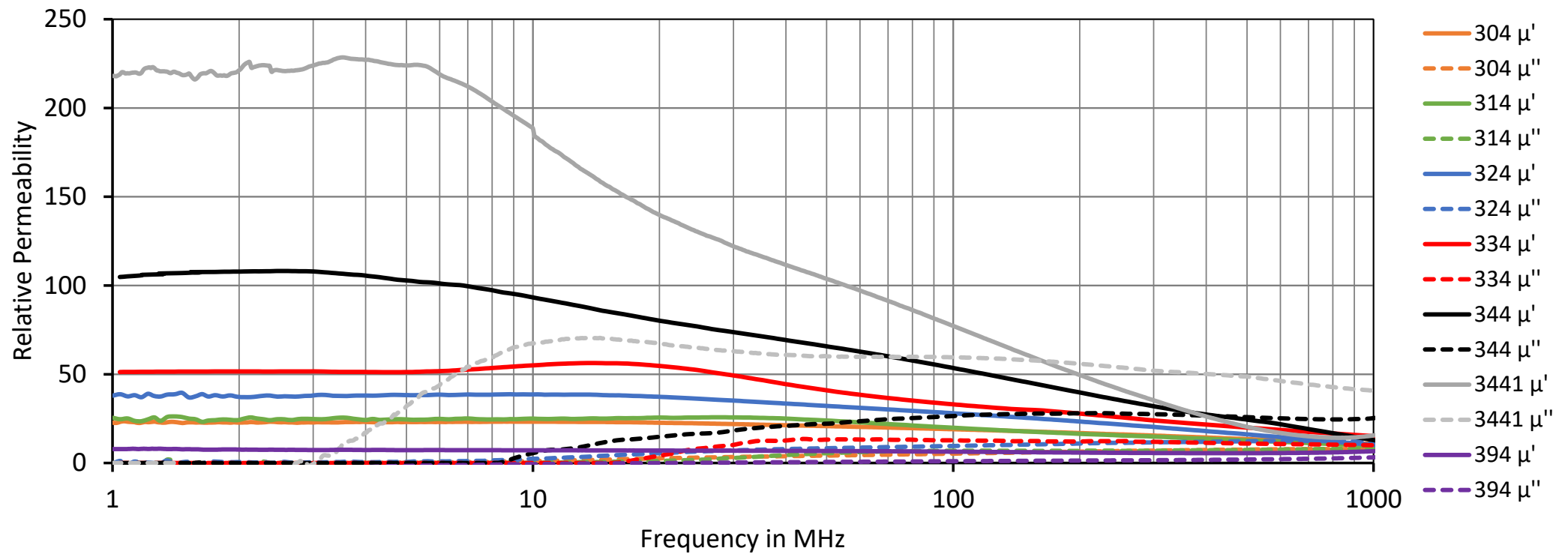
- **Flexible absorber film WE-FAS** with adhesive surface for attachment to the circuit board or housing
- Mode of action → **Reflection** and **absorption** in the near and far field



# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

Circuit board/housing

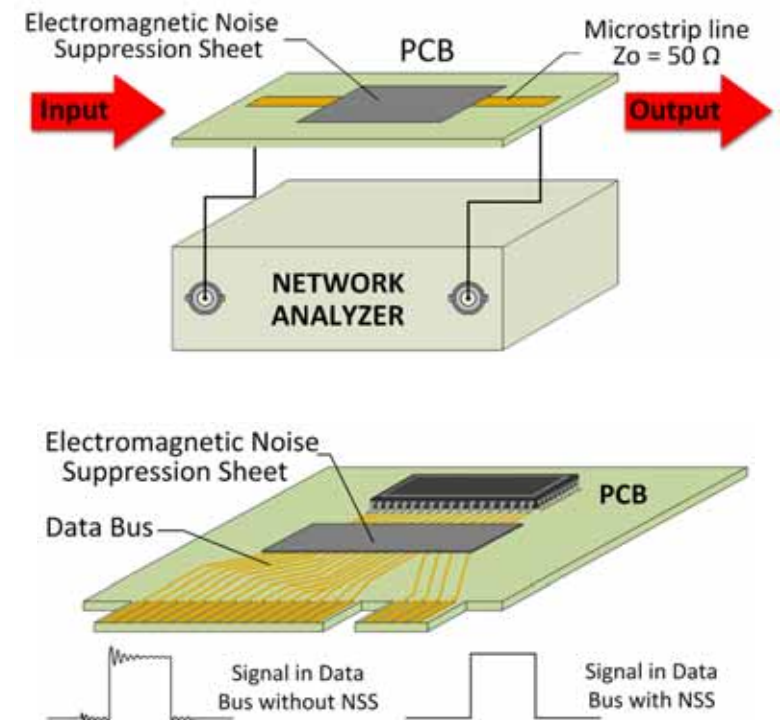
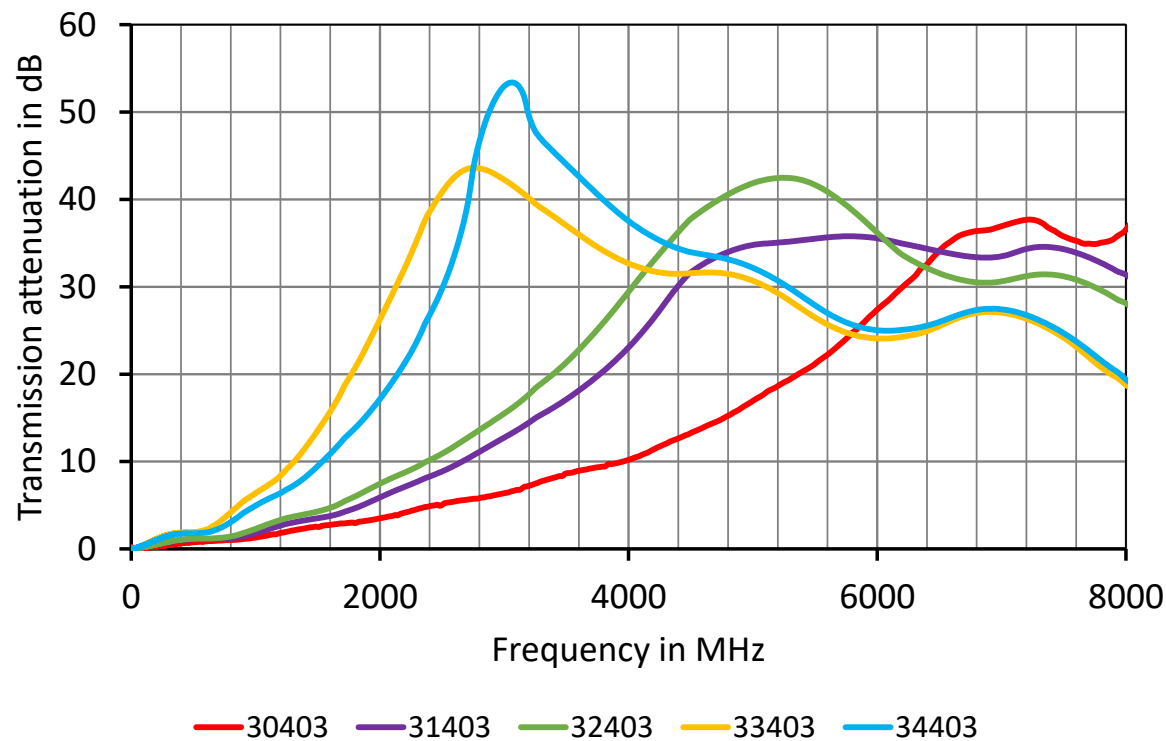
- Complex relative permeability of **WE-FAS** materials:



# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Board Level Shielding/Housing

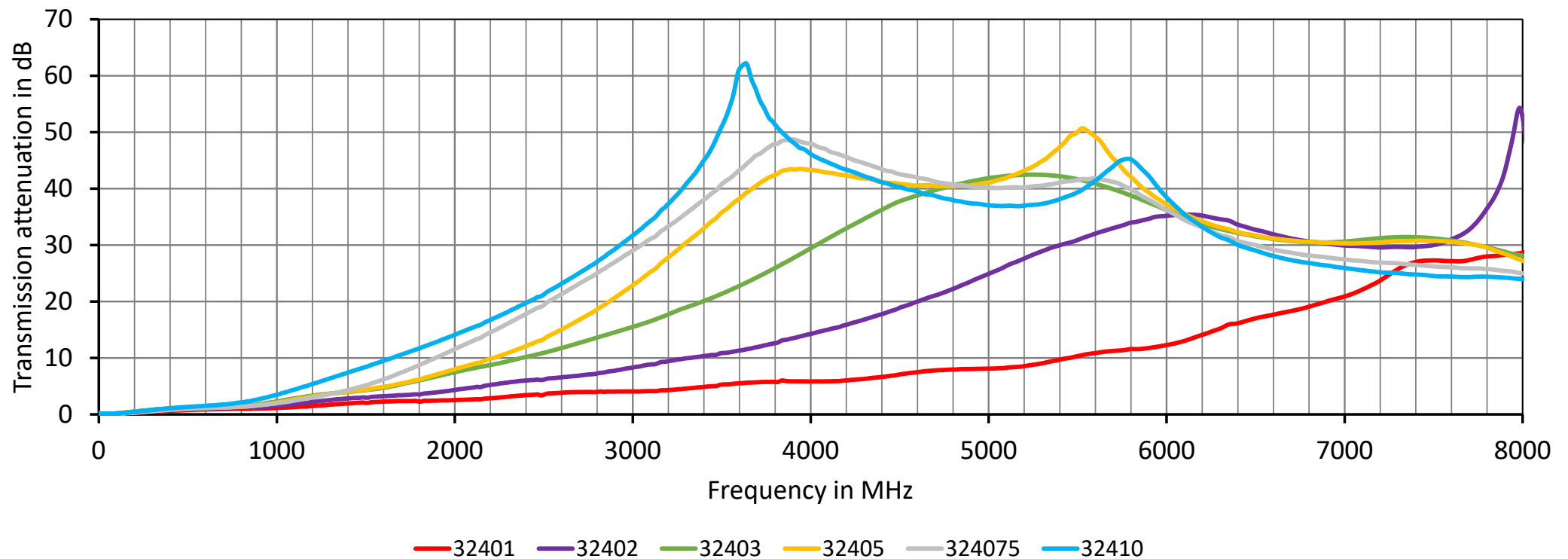
- Transmission attenuation dependent on the material (thickness: 0,3 mm):



# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Board/housing

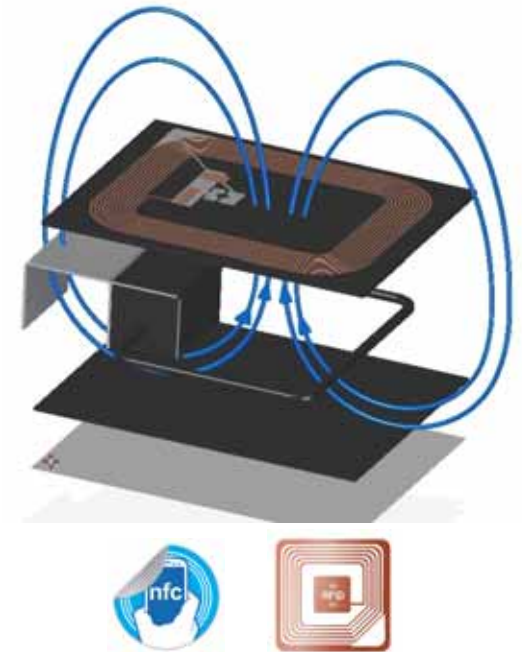
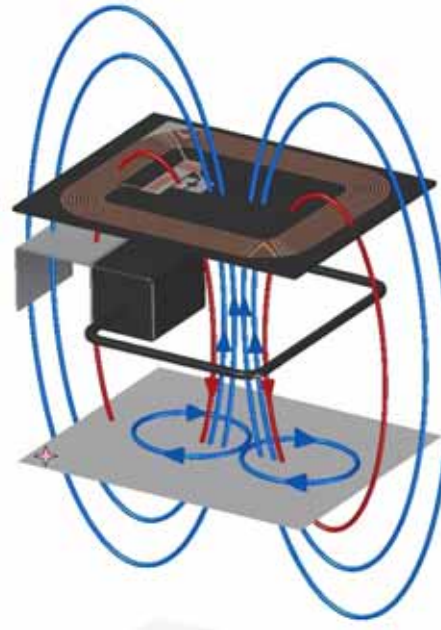
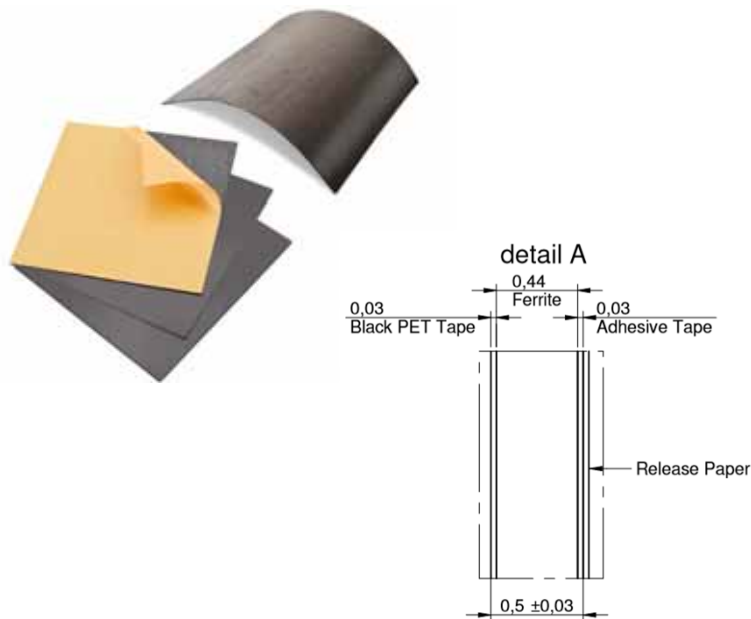
- Transmission attenuation dependent on the material thickness (material 324; 0,1...1 mm):



# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Board/Housing

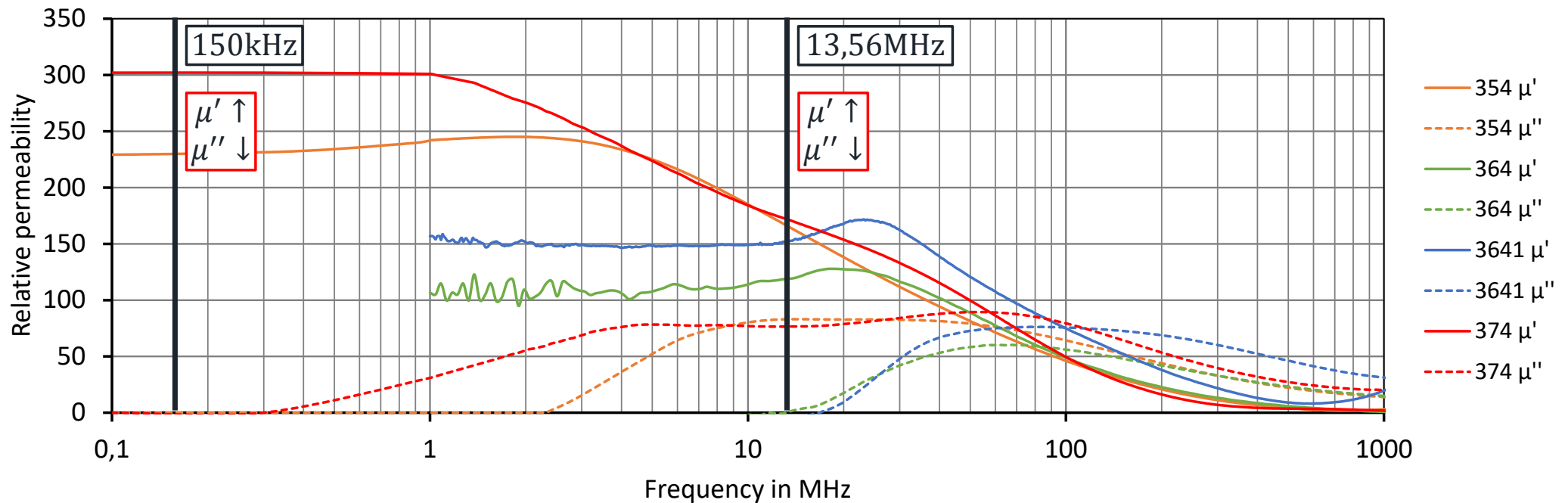
- Flexible ferrite plate WE-FSFS with adhesive surface for attachment to the circuit board or housing
- How it works → **reflection** in the near field, **deflection** of the magnetic field lines
- Application → NFC, RFID, wireless charging technology



# WE-FSFS

Circuit board/housing

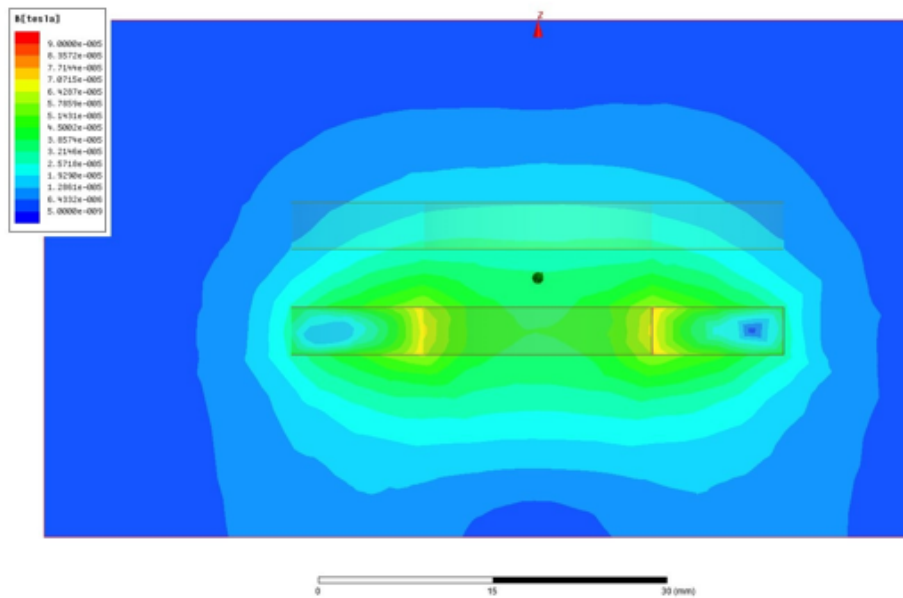
- A shielding effect is caused by reflection ( $\mu'$ ) and absorption ( $\mu''$ ).
- Complex permeability comparison of materials: **WE-FSFS**



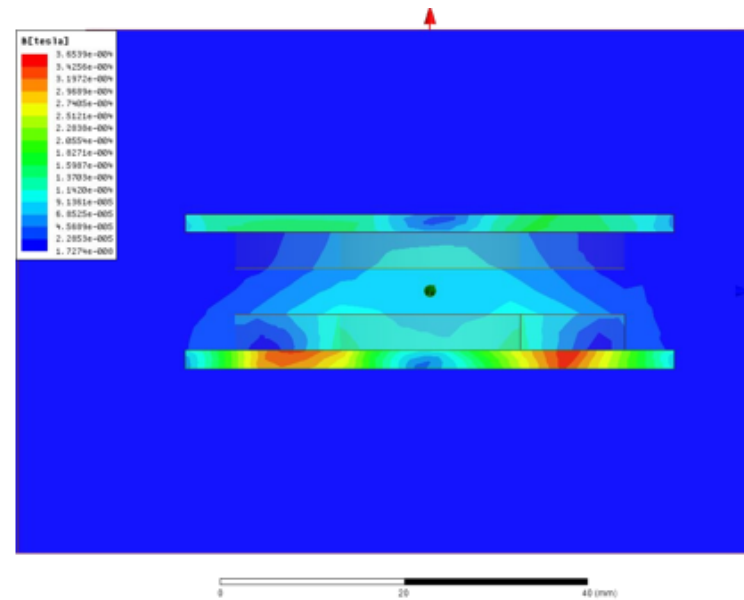
# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Board/Housing

- Increasing the efficiency of wireless charging coils



Without additional ferrite foil



With additional ferrite foil

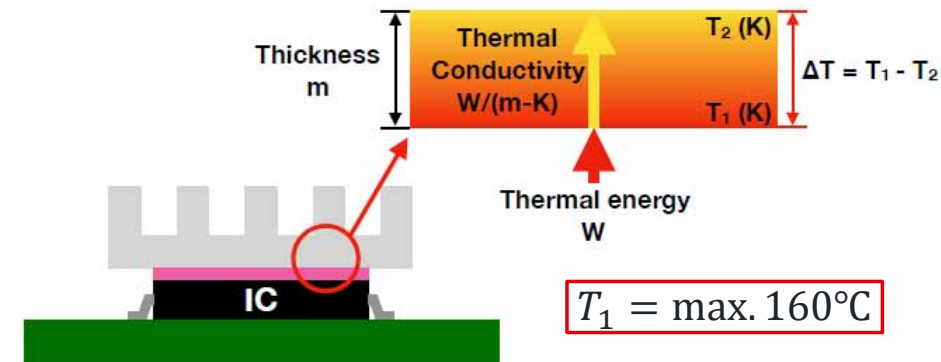
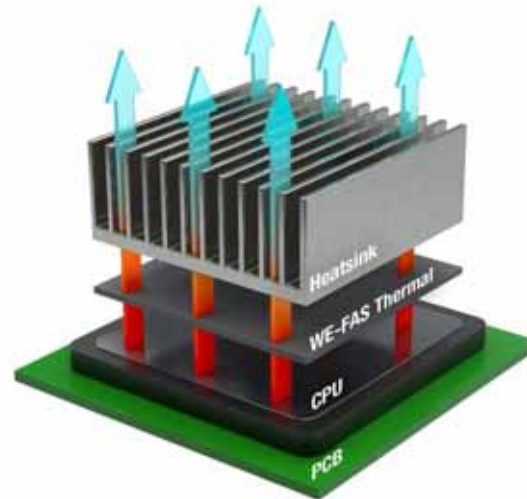
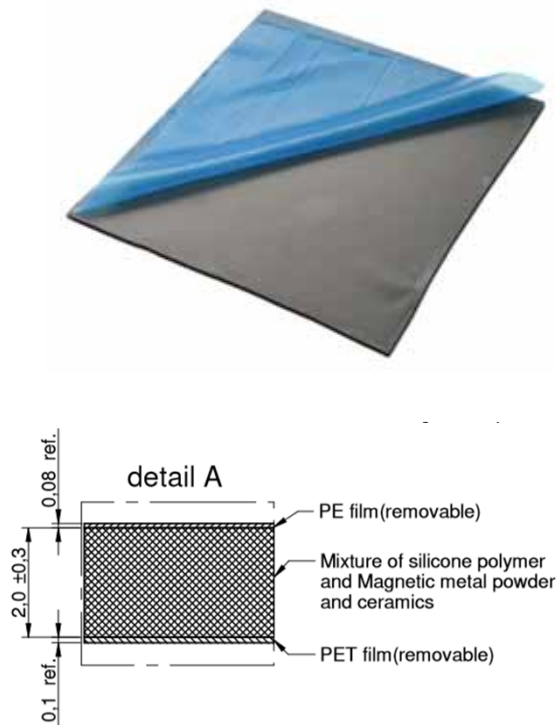




# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Heat sink

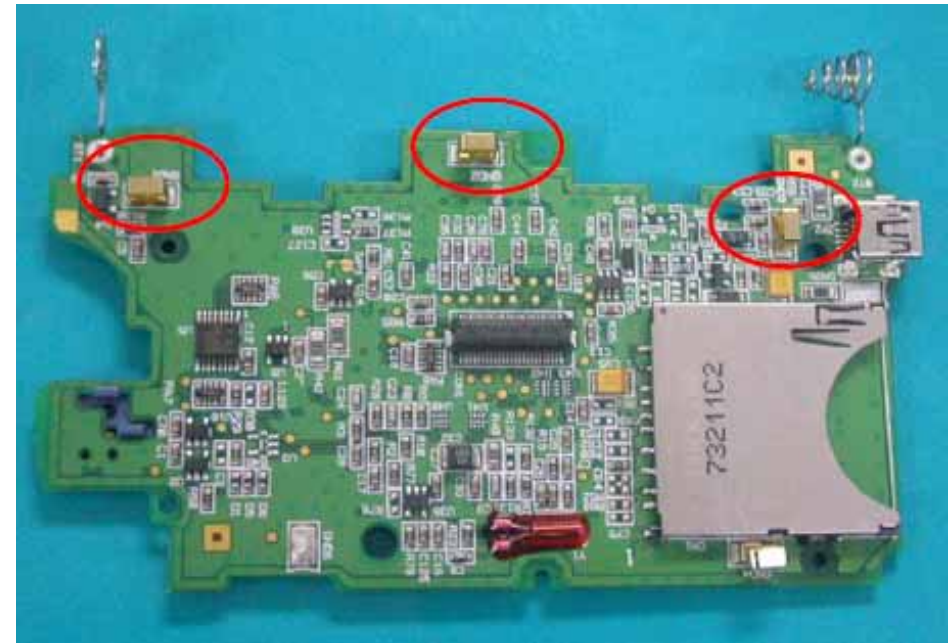
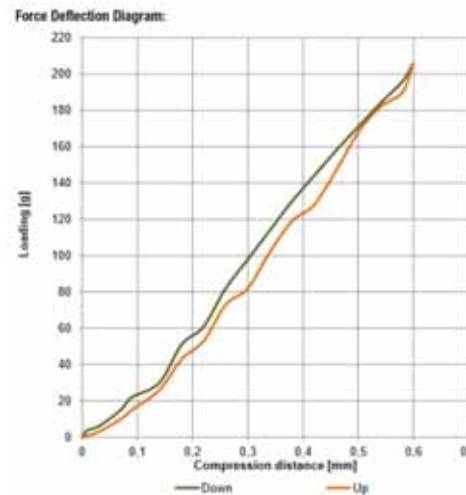
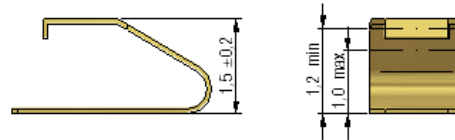
- Flexible ferrite foil with ceramic particles for **heat conduction** ( $\kappa = 1,4 \text{ W} \cdot \text{m}^{-1} \cdot \text{K}^{-1}$ )



# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Ground connection

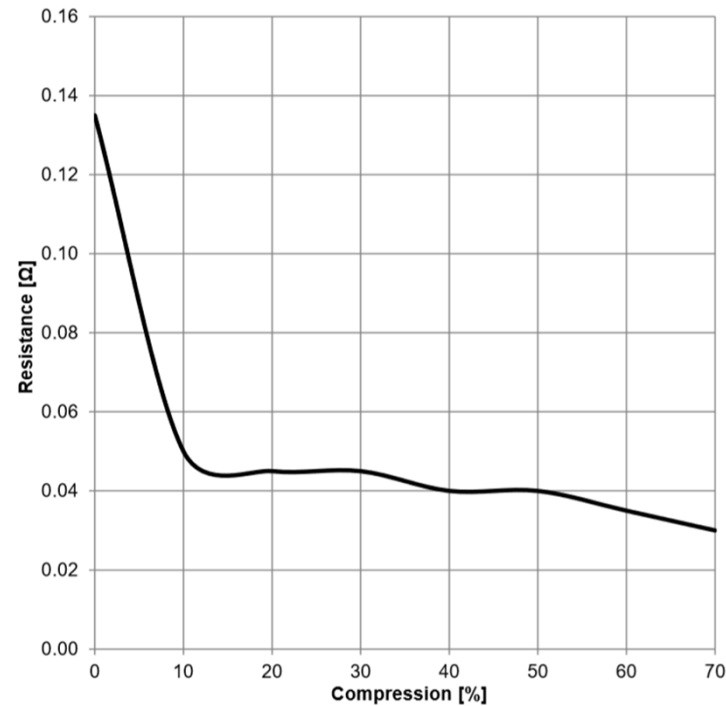
- Surface-solderable **contact springs** made of copper-beryllium or phosphor-bronze
- Coating :
  - Au: 38nm
  - Sn: 1,5 $\mu$ m



# SHIELDING SOLUTIONS

## Ground connection

- Surface solderable **foam block** with tin coating
- Optimale compression: 20...70%



## TECHNICAL SUPPORT NEEDED?

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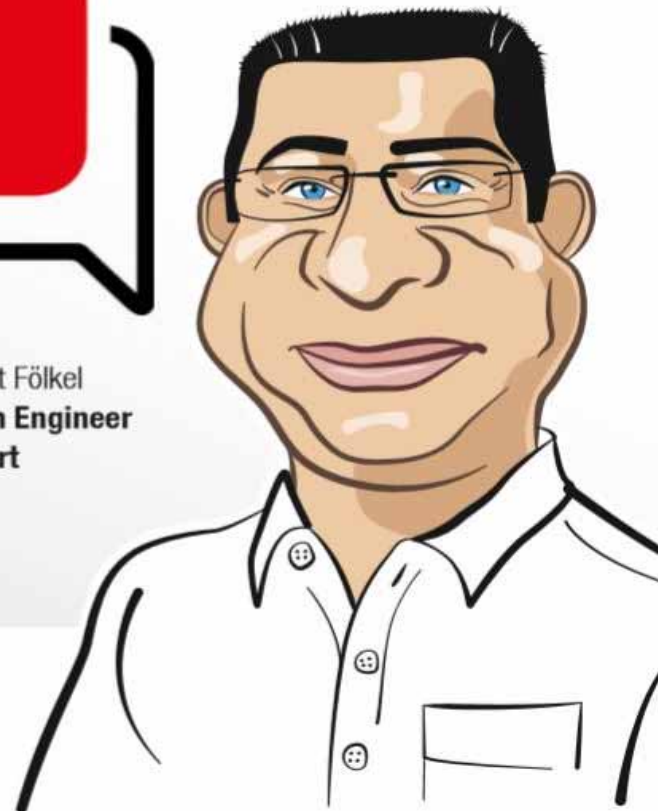
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Lorandt Fölkel  
Design Engineer  
at heart



or contact me directly:  
**askLorandt@we-online.com**

## SHIELDING SOLUTIONS – CASING JOINTS DEMO



<https://youtu.be/8vrrwR4KkOg>

