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DC/DC modules meet new higher current demands of distributed architectures

Designed to respond to the new high-current demand in distributed power architectures, Ericsson Power Modules has announced the PKM-4000C family of DC/DC modules. The first of these, the PKM4118GC PINB utilizes a new, enhanced footprint called 'Double-P' to improve thermal behavior. The module offers higher current from a single, smaller, higher reliability package at a very competitive price.

At an efficiency of 88% at full load, the PKM4118GC PINB provides an output of 1.8V at 71A from a wide input voltage range of 36-75V. Simplifying design, the module complies with the de-facto, quarter brick standard. Environmentally friendly, the module is a 'no lead', DfE design.

The module is aimed at system designers and power buyers looking for higher current capacity in a quarter brick package and also low cost; predominantly for use in telecom and datacom distributed architecture equipment, as well as routers, optical transceivers, and multiprocessors. Factors driving the demand for this product are the high current density requirements and the reduction from halfbrick to quarter brick designs for new processors and emerging telecom applications.

With its 71A current capability, the PKM4118GC PINB offers application board space savings. Where previously a half brick package would have been the normal choice, now a quarter brick package does the job and provides twice the power. The device's MTBF figure of >3.0Mhrs minimizes the total cost of ownership by effectively eliminating module life as a system failure and the cost of bulkier supplies. An optional baseplate for greater efficiency and optimization of thermal conditions allows operation in enclosed environments at raised thermal conditions.

Ericsson Power Modules' PKM-C Double-P footprint design offers a number of benefits. The two extra power pins offer better distribution of current from the DC/DC module to the end-user board. Weak solder joints are less likely due to the aforementioned complexity of the process when assembling heavy copper multilayer boards and high current DC/DC modules. The design improves the thermal coupling between DC/DC converter and motherboard and overall efficiency is improved due to lower parasitic resistance due to interconnections. Overall, the design contributes to long-term reliability due to better cooling and lower operating temperatures.

Ericsson Power Modules' PKM4118GC PINB is now available for order and is priced at $65/piece for 1,000+ quantities.

Ericsson is shaping the future of Mobile and Broadband Internet communications through its continuous technology leadership. Providing innovative solutions in more than 140 countries, Ericsson is helping to create the most powerful communication companies in the world.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
Patrick Le Fèvre, Marketing Director
Ericsson Power Modules AB
Phone: +46-8-568 695 07
Fax: +46-8-568 695 99

Reader Inquiry reference:
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If printing an Internet address please use Power Modules homepage and/or phone number to our International sales office:
URL: www.ericsson.com/powermodules
Europe: +46-8-568 696 20
U.S.A.: +1-972-583 6910/5254
China: + 86-21-5990 3258

About Ericsson Power Modules

Ericsson Power Modules is a supplier of world-class DC/DC power modules for distributed power architectures. With its global design, development, manufacturing and sales network Ericsson Power Modules is a leading supplier of power solutions to meet the customer demand for high performance.