

Shelf life of connectors and contacts

Connectors and contacts have to be stored under controlled conditions in order to avoid additional testing's or special treatments before using. If the admissible shelf life is exceeded or if the storage conditions couldn't be kept, long term reliability or processibility of the components can be influenced.

Storage conditions:

- The stock room has to be maintained at a temperature of +5° C to +40° C
- STOCKO recommends to maintain relative humidity of 30-70%, non-condensing, in the stock room.
- STOCKO strictly recommends to store the components in original packaging.
- Packaging needs to be intact, no rips or punctures
- All items must be protected from direct sunlight or UV light at all times.
- Connectors and contacts shall be stored separate from any chemical storage.
- The stock room shall be located away from any source that could induce shock or vibration (e.g. stamping presses or high traffic aisles).
- Soiling by dust or other atmospheric precipitation has to be avoided.

Components should be stored under controlled conditions as mentioned above, in order to avoid packaging damage by humidity, mildew or other atmospheric precipitations. Under these conditions connectors and contacts can be used as follows.

Connector components without solder legs, chain terminals and other solderless terminals

- The admissible shelf life of connectors, chain terminals and other solderless terminals is 1 year from delivery of STOCKO.
- If the admissible shelf life is exceeded, parts have to be checked by the quality department. Probably the components will be usable furthermore. If no oxidation, corrosion or other damages can be detected, components can be used for one additional year based on these tests.

Additional requirements on connector components and contacts with solder legs

- The admissible shelf life of connector components and contacts with solder legs is 0,5 years from delivery of STOCKO.
- If the admissible shelf life of 0,5 years is exceeded, the solder ability of the components have to be checked and verified. After a positive result of the solder ability test components can be used for further 6 months usually. But another inspections of solder ability can and should be accomplished at the discretion of the responsible of components.



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