



# DC Link Capacitor and Wireless Power Transfer A Perfect Couple?!



APEC 2020 in New Orleans  
Capacitor Workshop PSMA



**Frank Puhane**

Leader Technical Engineering  
eiCap / eiRis Capacitors & Resistors Division

# Introduction of the Presenter



## Frank Puhane

Leader Technical Engineering  
eiCap / eiRis – Capacitors & Resistors Division



### Background:

- More than 10 years of work experience in electronics industry
- Background in Electronics, Power Supply Development and formerly worked as Field Application Engineer
- In charge for technical engineering, product services and application support of capacitor division at Würth Elektronik



+49 7942945 4033



frank.puhane@we-  
online.com



www.we-online.com

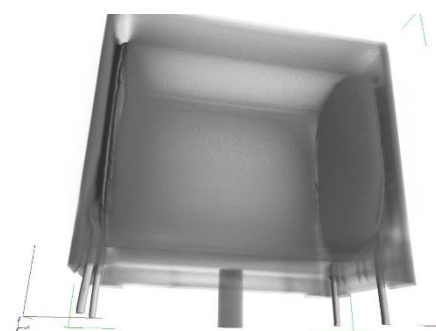
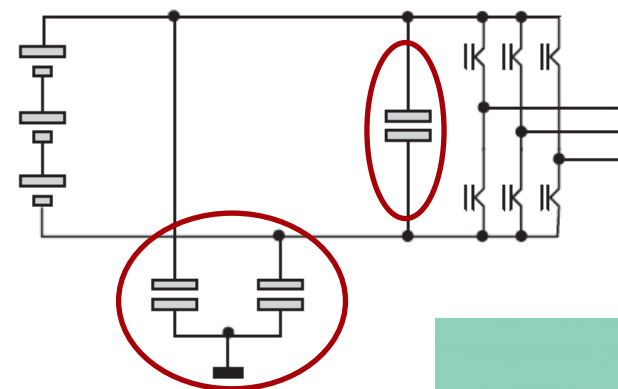
# Agenda

- **Why and What is a DC Link Capacitor?**
- **Differences to other Technologies**
- **Example of Capacitance Calculation**
- **11kW Wireless Power Transfer System**
- **Further Possibilities**



# Why and What is a DC Link Capacitor?

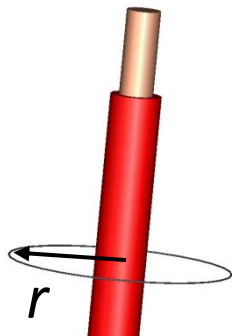
- **Essential stage in power conversion**
- **Applications like:**
  - Three-phase inverters
  - Photovoltaic and wind power inverters
  - Industrial motor drives
  - Automotive onboard chargers and inverters
  - Medical equipment power supplies
- **They stabilize the DC Link voltage**
- **Withstand high RMS currents**
  - Design DC Link capacitor on RMS current value



Picture: Freepik.com

# Why and What is a DC Link Capacitor?

- DC Link capacitors are used to absorb voltage peaks
- These peaks are generated due to the inductance of the input wire



$$H = \frac{I}{2 \cdot \pi \cdot r}$$

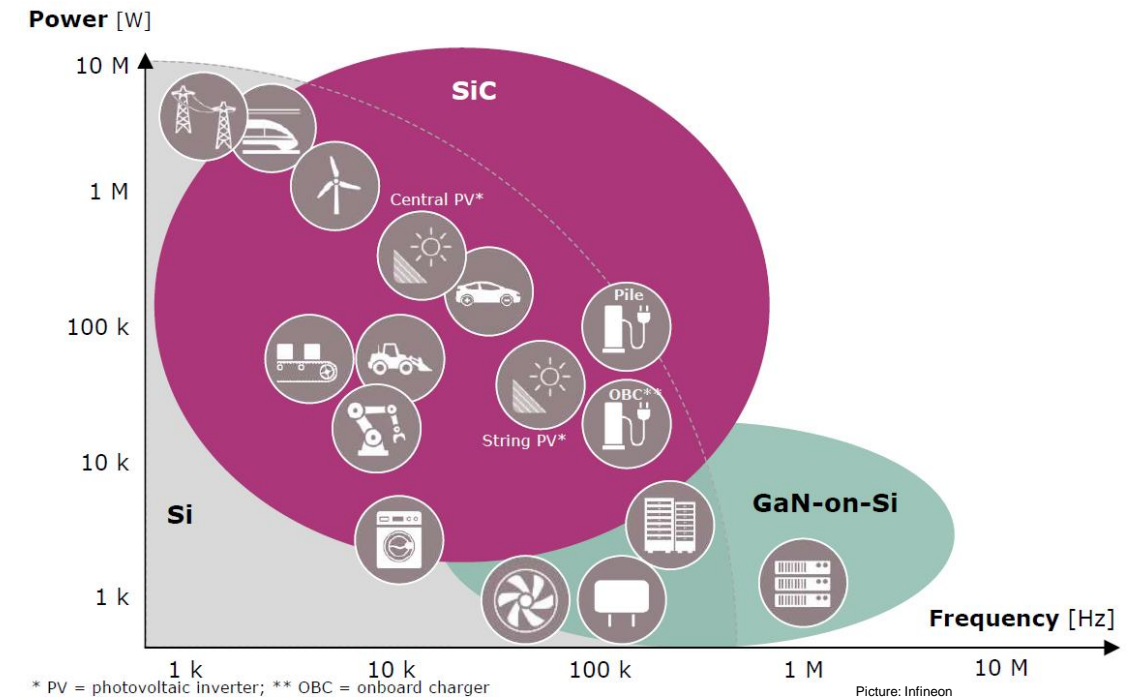
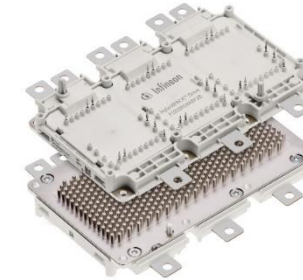
- The inductance of a wire can be calculated with the following formula

$$L = \left[ \frac{\mu_0 * \mu_{Copper}}{8 * \pi} \right] * I$$

- So for a 1m wire the inductance will be 50nH.
- Depending on the calculated inductance of the wire, there will be limitation of the recommended length of the wire in the system
- DC-Link capacitor < 1 nH per mm of lead spacing

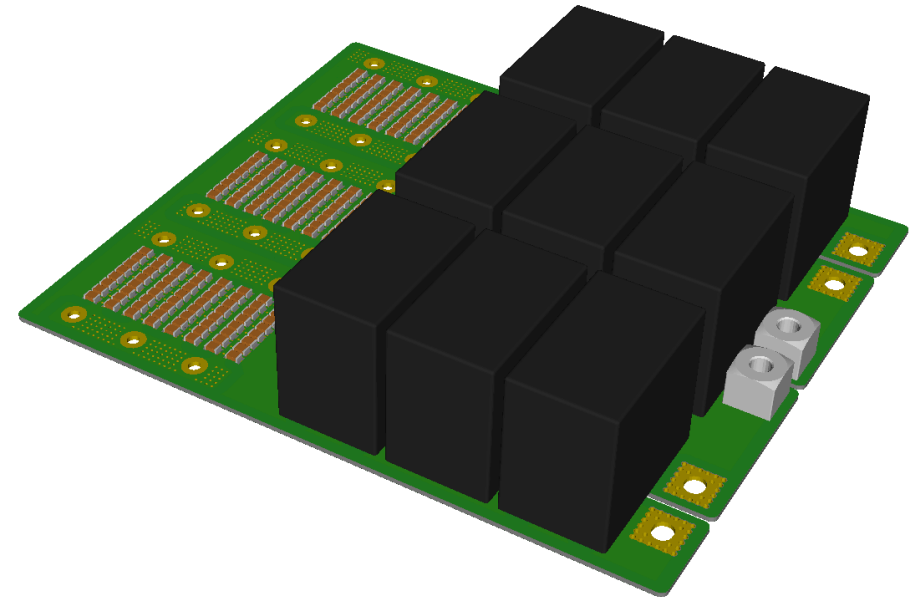
# DC Link Capacitor and SiC Modules

- **SiC technology has some key points:**
  - Very high switching voltages
  - High switching frequency possible
  - Low losses in the semiconductor
  - 15kV/ $\mu$ sec are typical values for silicon carbide
  
- **There are different vendor for silicon carbide**
  - Cree, Infineon, Rohm and so on



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# Film vs. Aluminum DC Link Technology

## Film DC Link Capacitor

- **High RMS current capabilities**
  - Up to 1 A<sub>RMS</sub> per  $\mu\text{F}$
- **Over voltage withstanding**
  - Up to 2 times the rated voltage
- **Handle voltage reversal**
- **No acid inside**
- **Long lifetime / no storage problem**
- **Good temperature cooling system possible**
- **Self-healing properties**

## Aluminum Electrolytic DC Link Capacitor

- **High capacitance values**
  - Going up to 4700  $\mu\text{F}$
- **RMS current capabilities**
  - Depends on the part 1 mA...20 mA or higher
- **Rated voltages up to 650 V**
  - R&D is ongoing
  - Cascade assembly to reach the desired voltage level





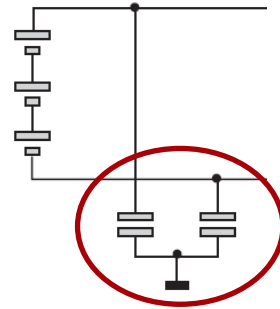
# Film vs. Aluminum DC Link Technology

Property	Film Capacitor	Aluminum Electrolytic Capacitor
Capacitance	low	high
Voltage	up to 1,300 V <sub>DC</sub>	actually 650V <sub>DC</sub>
Lifetime	approx. 100,000 hours	10,000 - 20,000 hours (probably longer with higher C - derating >20%)
ESR	low	high
Ripple Current Capabilities	High	Low (possibly increased with additional cooling)
Energy density	<0.2 J/cm <sup>3</sup>	about 0.82 J/cm <sup>3</sup>

- The replacement microfarad for microfarad will not work
- Replacement won't be possible for each application

# How to Calculate the Capacitance?

## Bypass application



- Film Capacitor
- Working voltage: 240 V<sub>DC</sub>
- Ripple voltage max: 5 V<sub>RMS</sub>
- RMS current: 50 A<sub>RMS</sub> @ 15 kHz
- Needed capacitance value:

$$C = \frac{I_{rms}}{V_{ripple} \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot f} = \frac{50A}{5V \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot 15kHz} = 106\mu F$$



- Aluminum Electrolytic capacitor
- RMS current capability 10 mA per  $\mu F$
- Have to handle the 50 A<sub>rms</sub>
- Needed capacitance value:

$$C = \frac{I_{rms}}{Max I per \mu F} = \frac{50A}{0.01A} * 1\mu F = 5000\mu F$$



# How to Calculate the Capacitance?

## Energy Storage

- Supply frequency is lower than converter frequency

$$C = \frac{P_{load}}{V_{ripple} \cdot \left[ V_{max} - \frac{V_{ripple}}{2} \right] \cdot F_{rectifier}}$$

- $I_{RMS}$  approximation depends on the power of load,  $V_{max}$  and  $V_{ripple}$

$$I_{rms} = \frac{V_{ripple}}{2 \cdot \sqrt{2}} \cdot C \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot F_{rectifier}$$

$$I_{rms} = \frac{P_{load} \cdot \pi}{\left[ V_{max} - \frac{V_{ripple}}{2} \right] \cdot \sqrt{2}}$$

### Example:

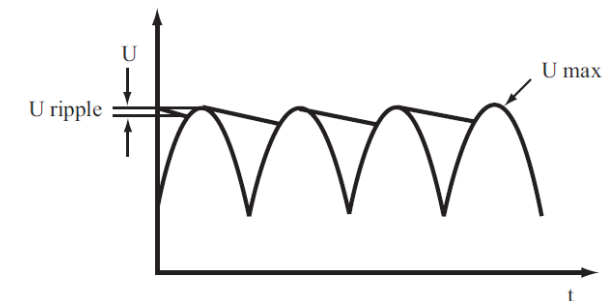
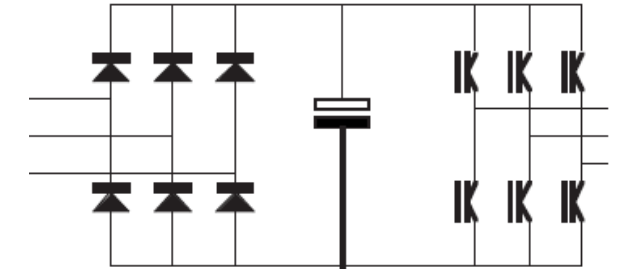
- $P_{load} = 10 \text{ kW}$
- $V_{max} = 800 \text{ V}$
- $V_{ripple} = 100 \text{ V}$

- Film Technology**

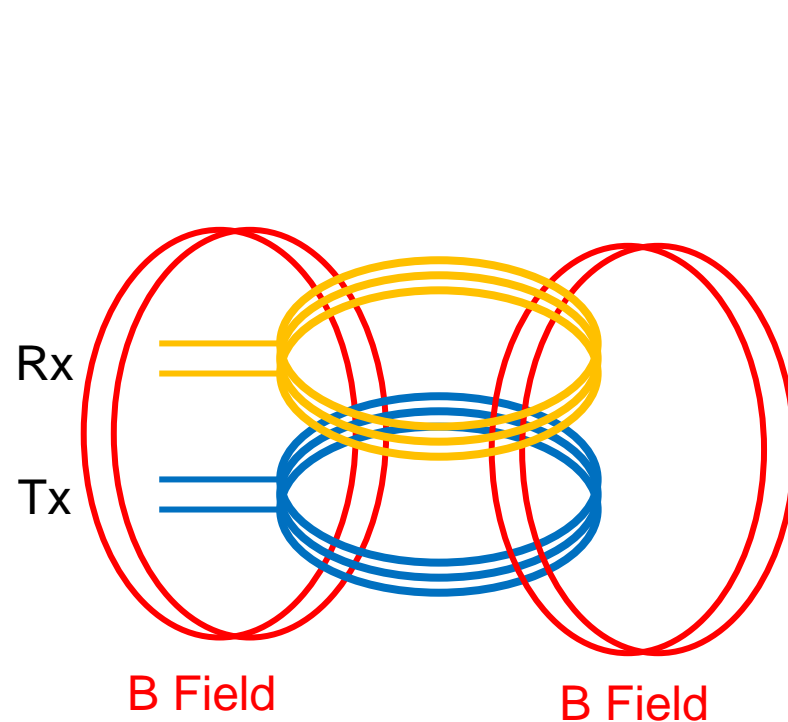
- $C = 444 \text{ } \mu\text{F}$
- $I_{rms} = 29.6 \text{ A}$

- Aluminum Technology**

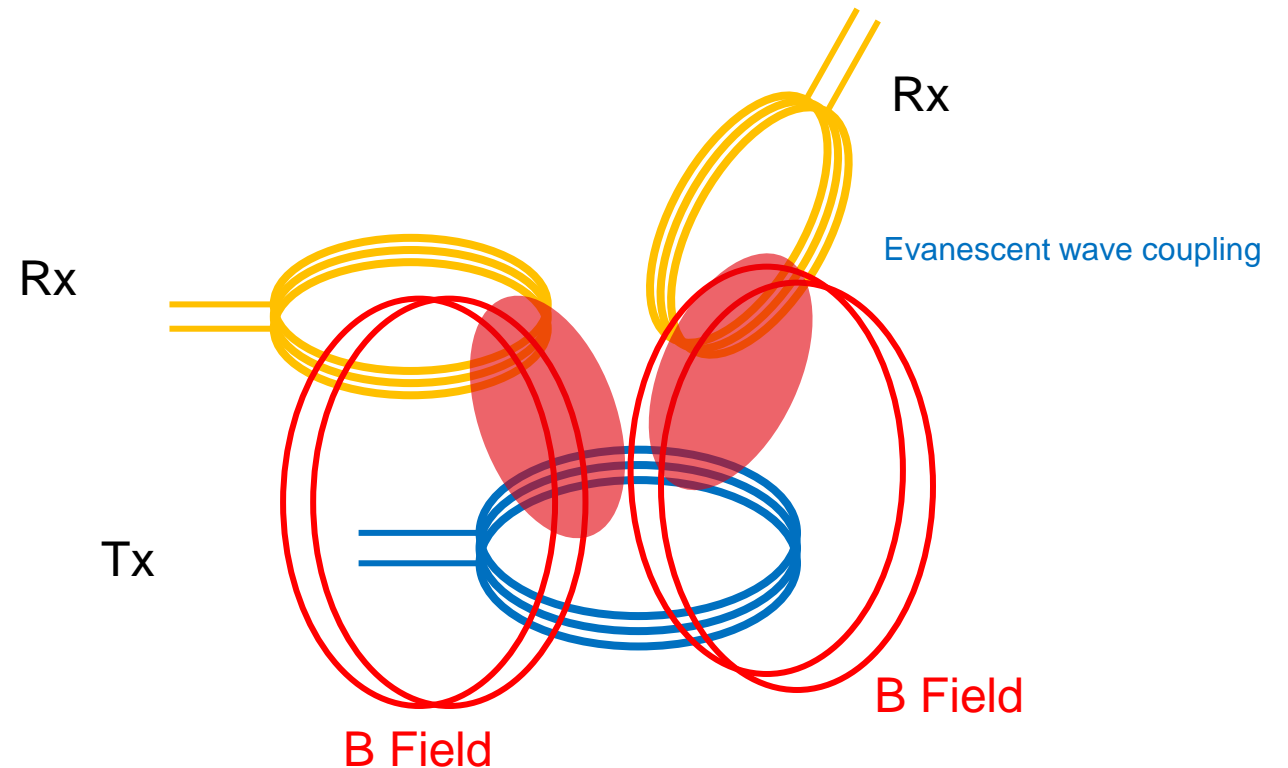
- With  $20 \text{ mA}_{rms}$  per  $\mu\text{F}$
- $C = 1480 \text{ } \mu\text{F}$



# Wireless Power Transfer System

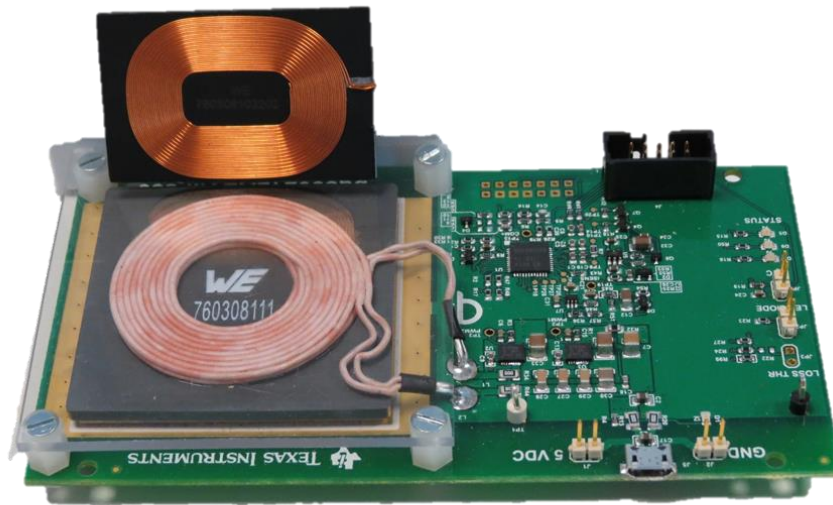


**Inductive Power Transfer**

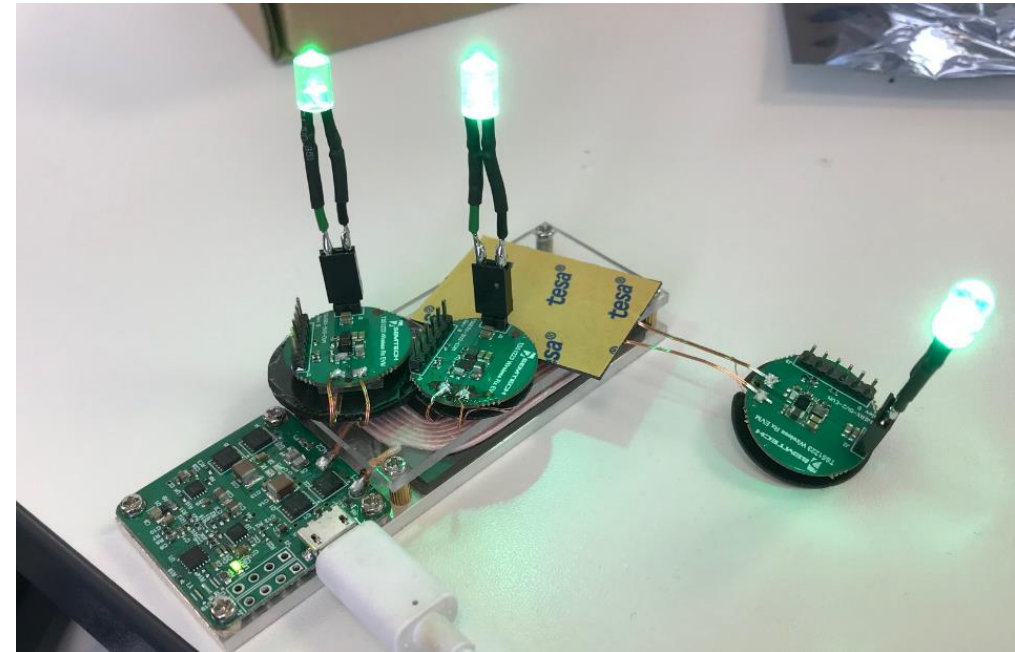


**Resonant Power Transfer**

# Wireless Power Transfer System



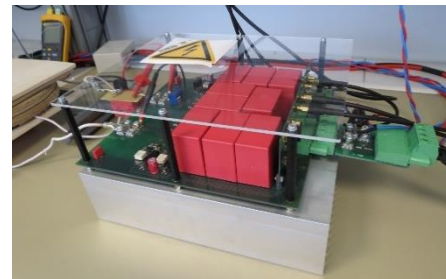
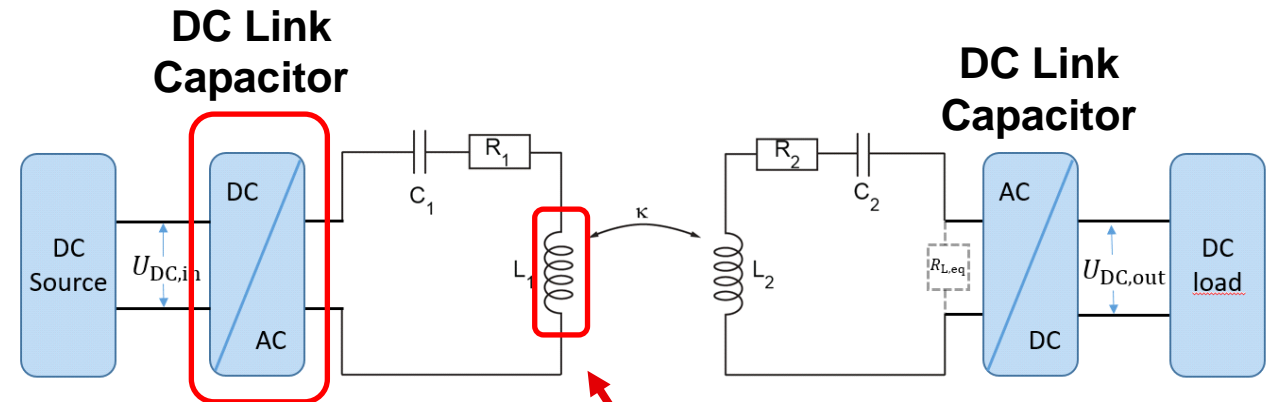
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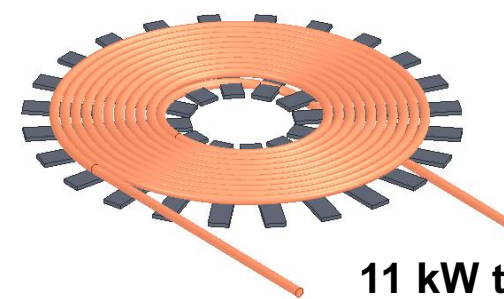
**Resonant Power Transfer**

# 11kW Wireless Power Transfer System

- Specification of the system:
- $P_{\text{out}} = 11 \text{ kW}$
- $V_{\text{DC}} \approx 370 \text{ V}$
- $I_{\text{RMS}} \approx 30 \text{ A}$
- $V_{\text{ripple}} = 0.2 \text{ V}$
- DC to DC efficiency  $\approx 98 \%$



Inverter



11 kW transmitter coil

Source: Würth Elektronik eiSos Wireless Power Transfer Division, Christoph Utschick

# 11kW Wireless Power Transfer System

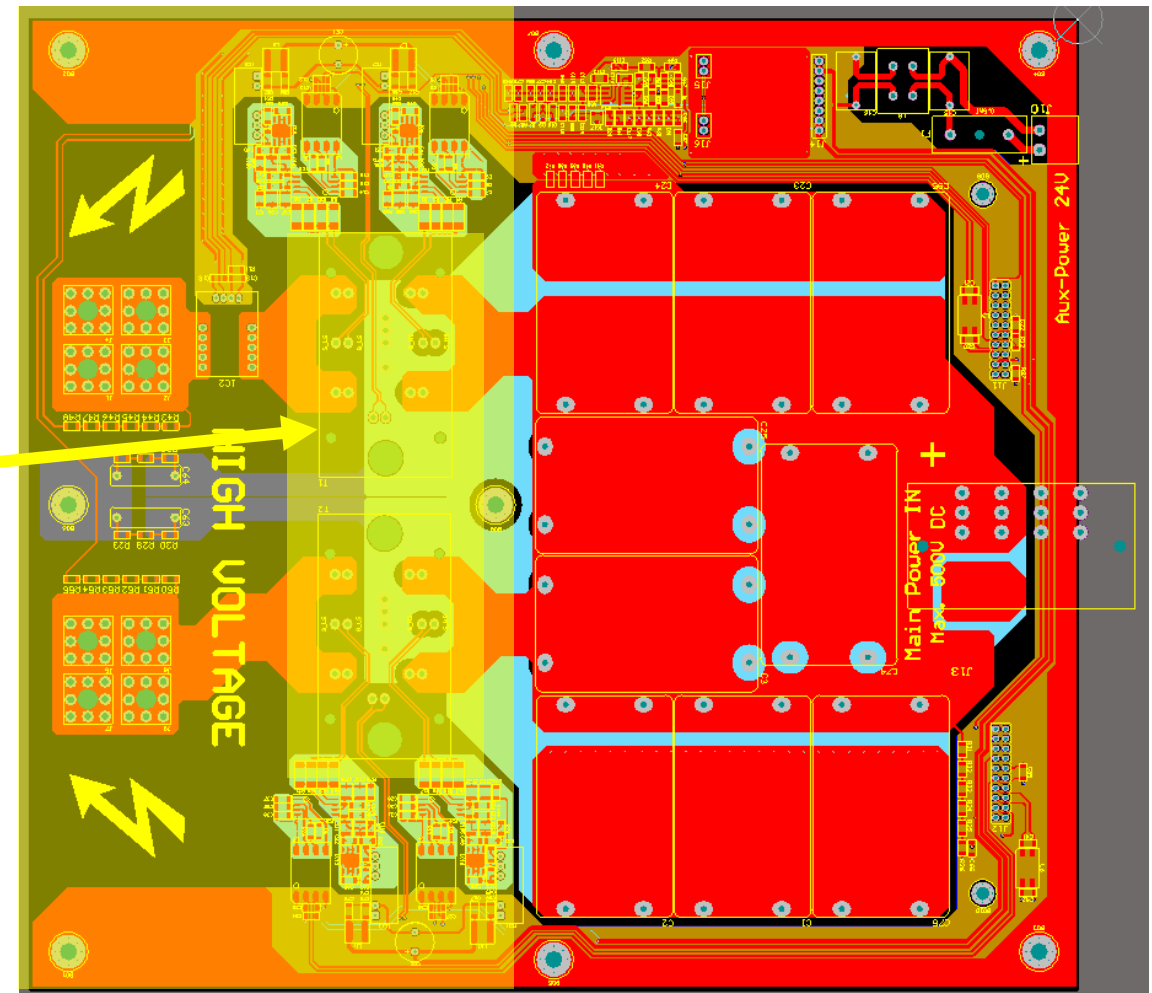
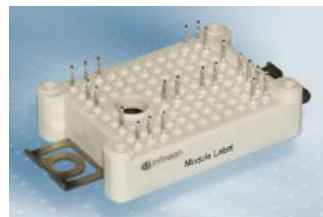
Source: Würth Elektronik eiSos Wireless Power Transfer Division, Cem Som

## Key points of the design:

- Symmetrical construction
- High-Side / Low-Side Gate Control

- Two SiC Modules

- FF23MR12W1M1B11BOMA1
- Dual CoolSiC™ MOSFET
- $V_{DSS} = 1200\text{ V}$
- $I_{D\_nom} = 50\text{ A}$
- $I_{D\_pulse} = 100\text{ A}$
- $f_{switch} = 100\text{ kHz} \dots 200\text{ kHz}$



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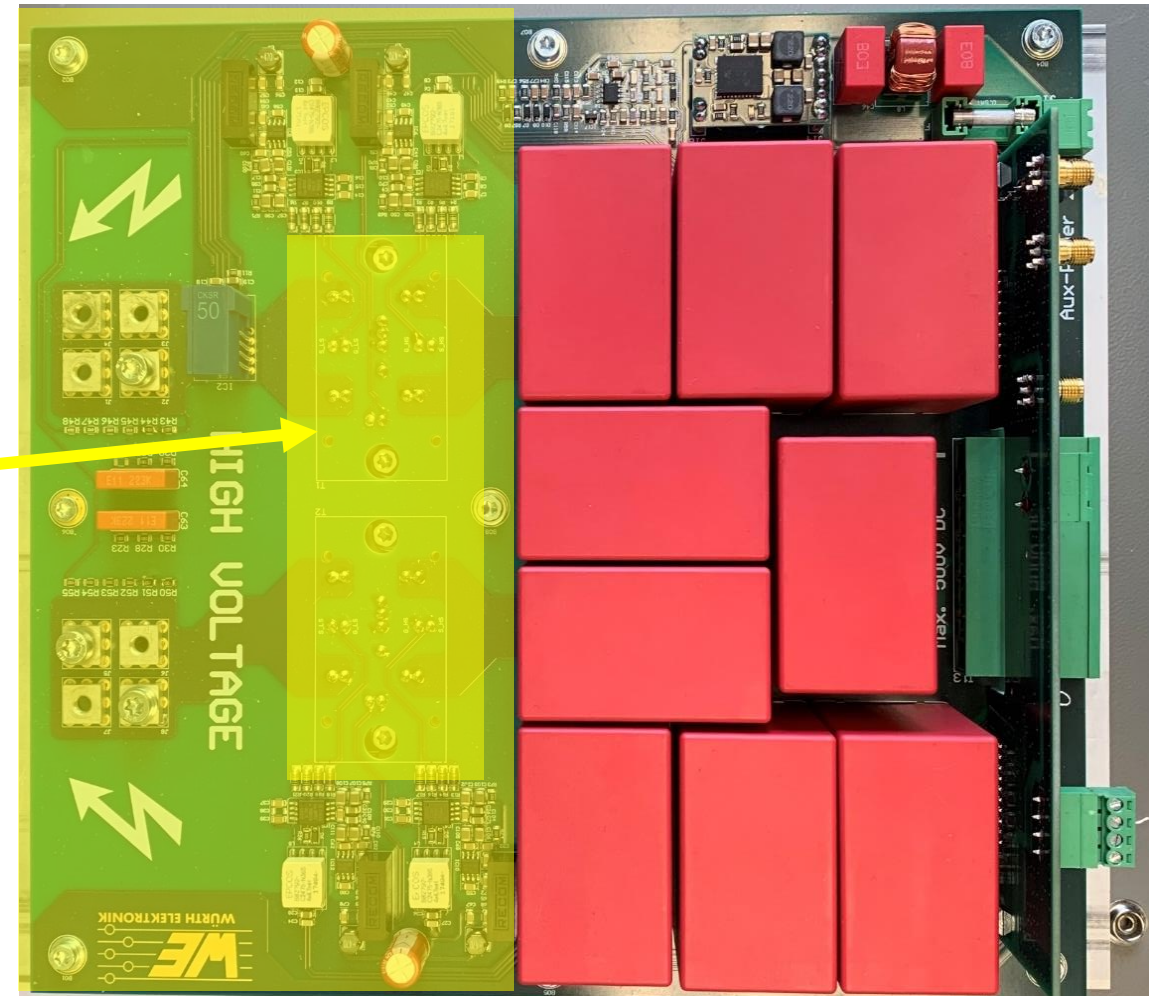
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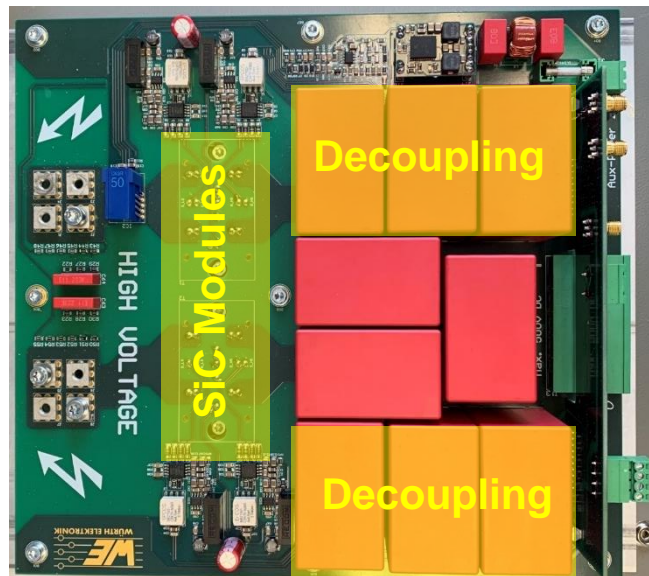


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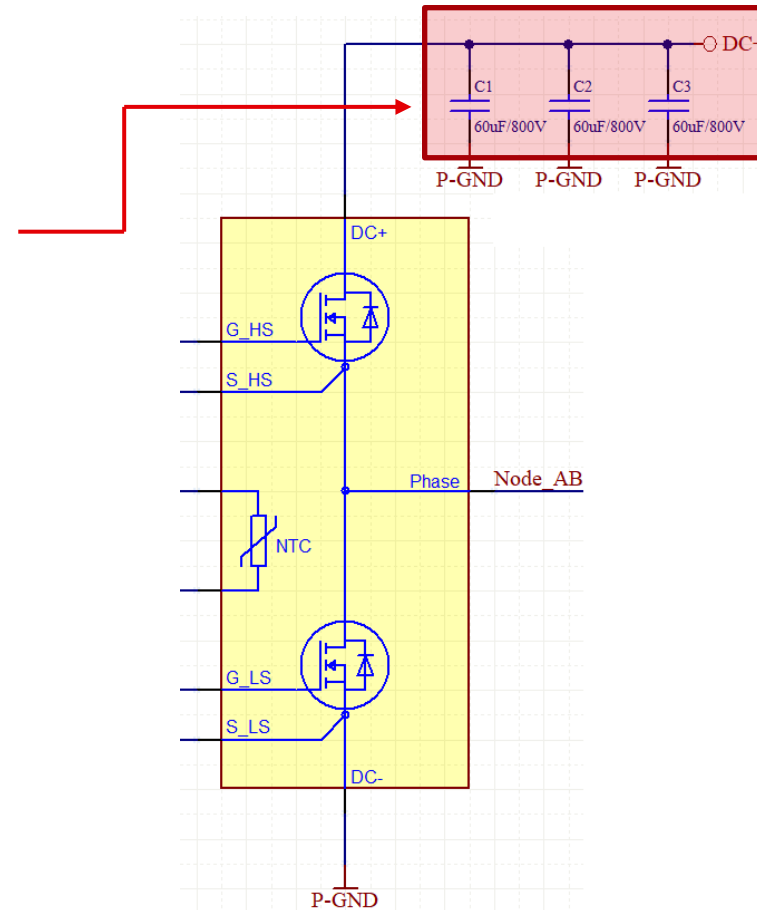
## Calculation of the capacitance values:

- Decoupling for the SiC Modules

$$C = \frac{I_{rms}}{V_{ripple} \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot f} = \frac{30A}{0.2V \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot 150kHz} = 160\mu F$$



Source: Würth Elektronik eiSos Wireless Power Transfer Division, Cem Som



## Specification:

- $P_{out} = 11 \text{ kW}$
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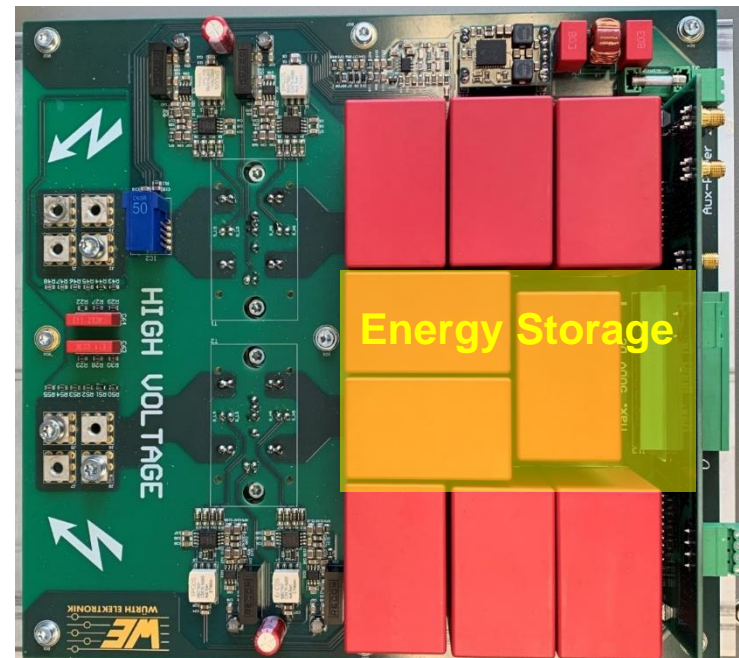
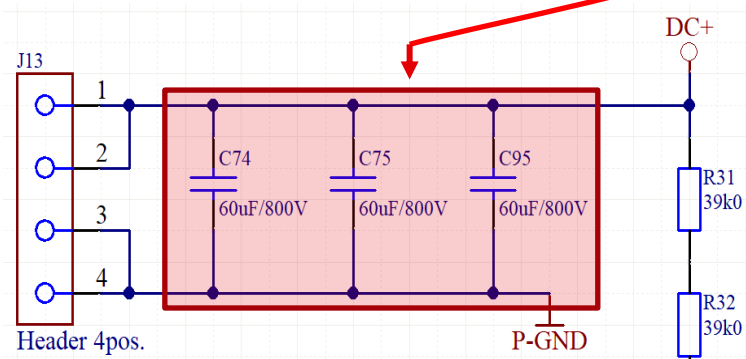
# 11kW Wireless Power Transfer System

## Calculation of the capacitance values:

- Energy Storage for  $V_{DC}$

- $$C = \frac{P_{load}}{V_{ripple} \cdot \left[ V_{max} - \frac{V_{ripple}}{2} \right]} = 150 \mu F$$

- $$I_{rms} = \frac{P_{load} \cdot \pi}{\left[ V_{max} - \frac{V_{ripple}}{2} \right] \cdot \sqrt{2}} = 61 A$$



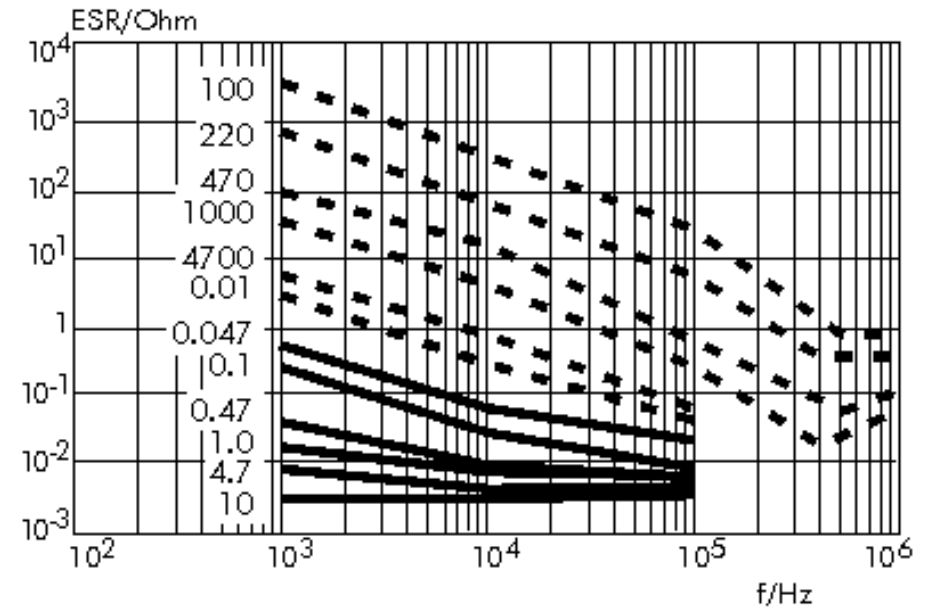
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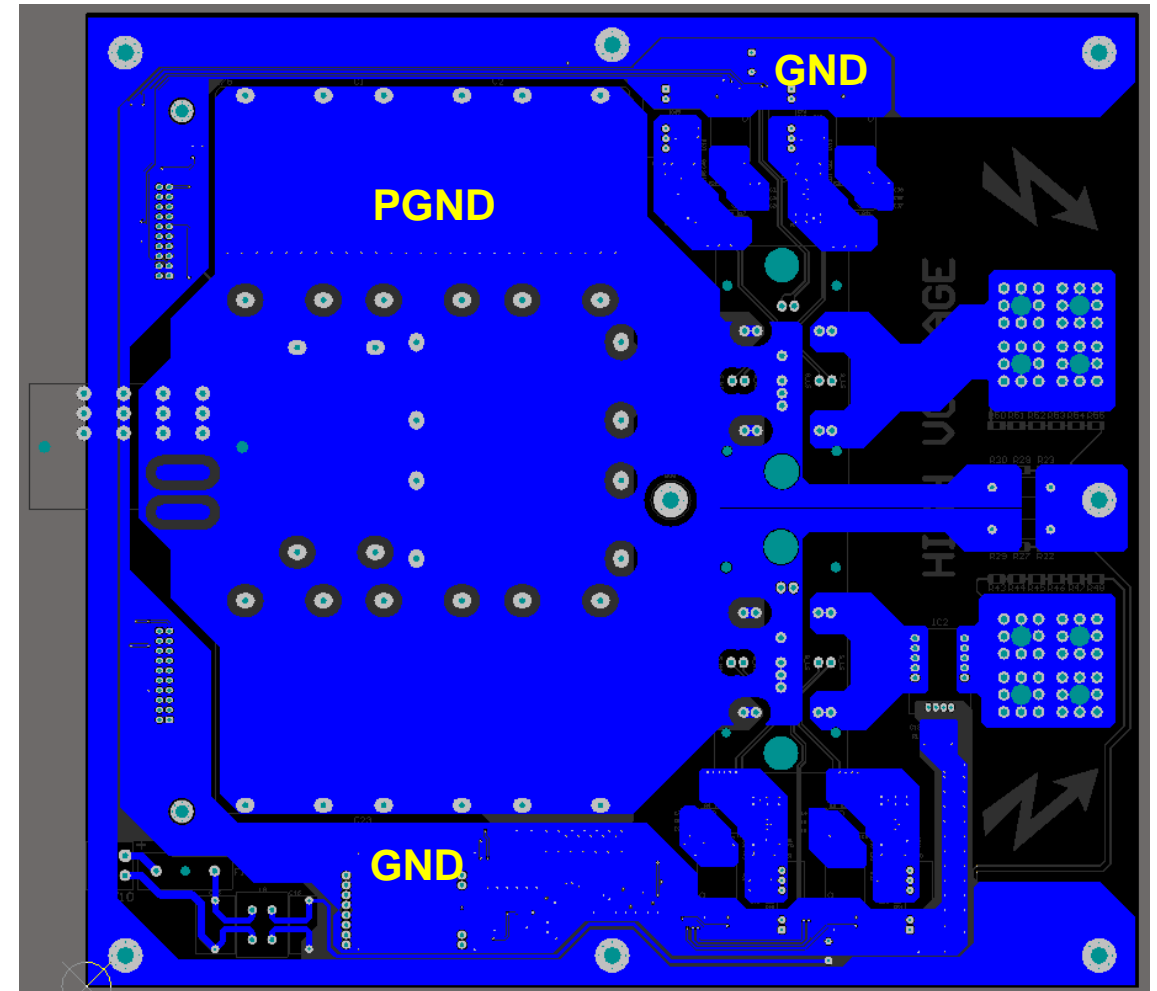
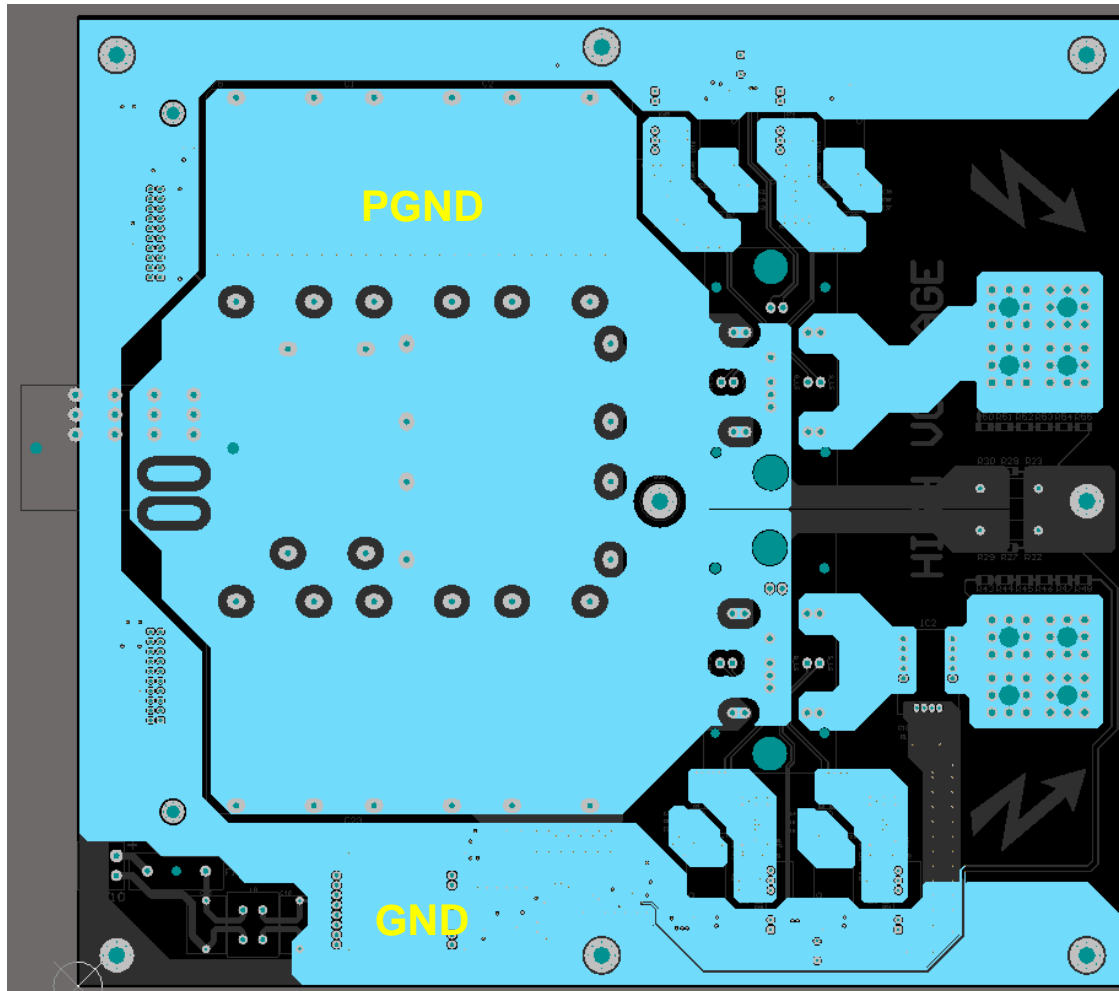
- **DC Link capacitor in film technology**
  - Capacitance = 60  $\mu\text{F}$
  - Rated voltage = 800 V
  - Low ESR = 2.9 mR
  - RMS current = 21.5 A
  - Impulse voltage capability = 15V/ $\mu\text{s}$
  - Easy to achieve in the needed voltage rating > 500 V
- **Decoupling capacitance => 160  $\mu\text{F}$  / 30  $A_{\text{rms}}$** 
  - 3 \* 60  $\mu\text{F}$  = 180  $\mu\text{F}$
  - 3 \* 21.5 A = 64.5 A
- **Energy storage capacitance => 150 $\mu\text{F}$  / 61  $A_{\text{rms}}$** 
  - 3 \* 60  $\mu\text{F}$  = 180  $\mu\text{F}$
  - 3 \* 21.5 A = 64.5 A





# 11kW Wireless Power Transfer System

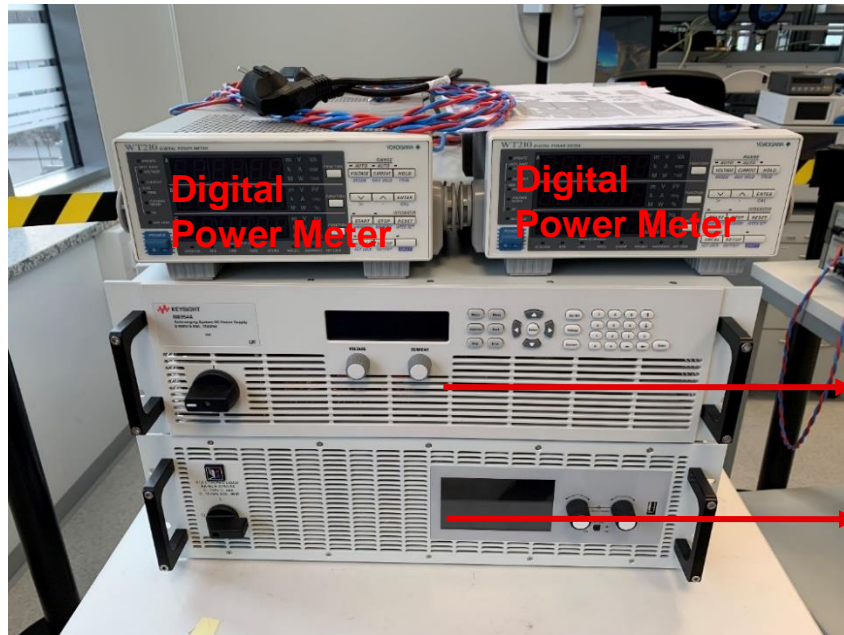
Source: Würth Elektronik eiSos Wireless Power Transfer Division, Cem Som



# Test Setup of the 11kW WPT System

## Specification:

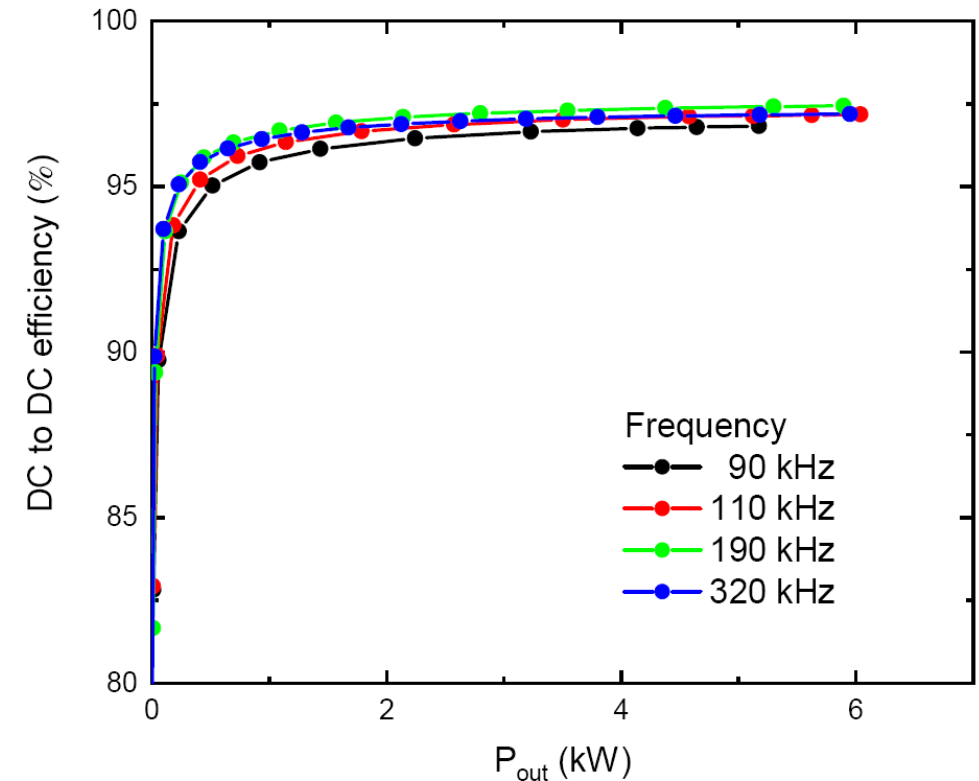
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**DC Power Supply**  
15 kW / 500 V / 90 A

**Electronic Load**  
11 kW / 750 V max.

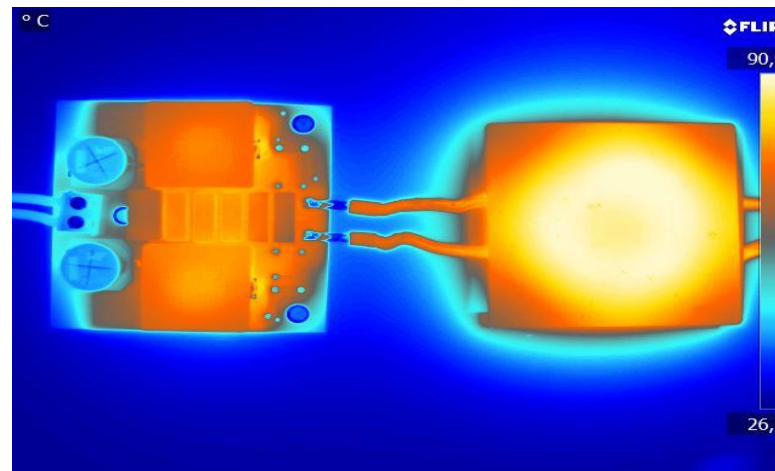
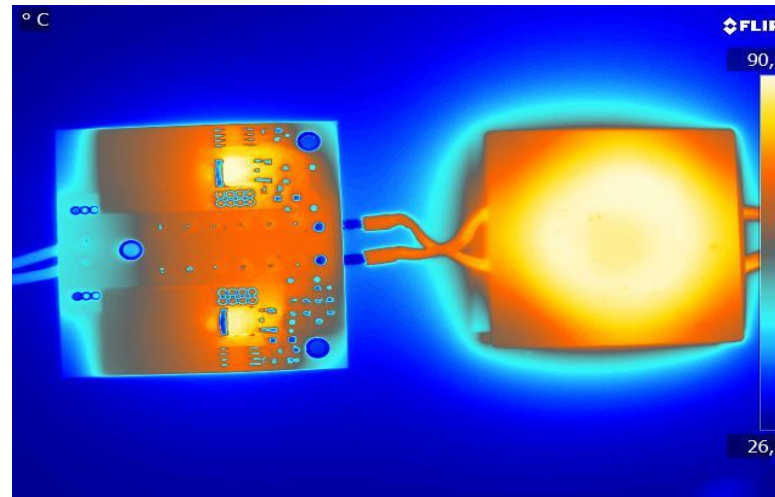
**Characteristic Full System Efficiency Curve**  
DC to DC efficiency  $\approx 98 \%$



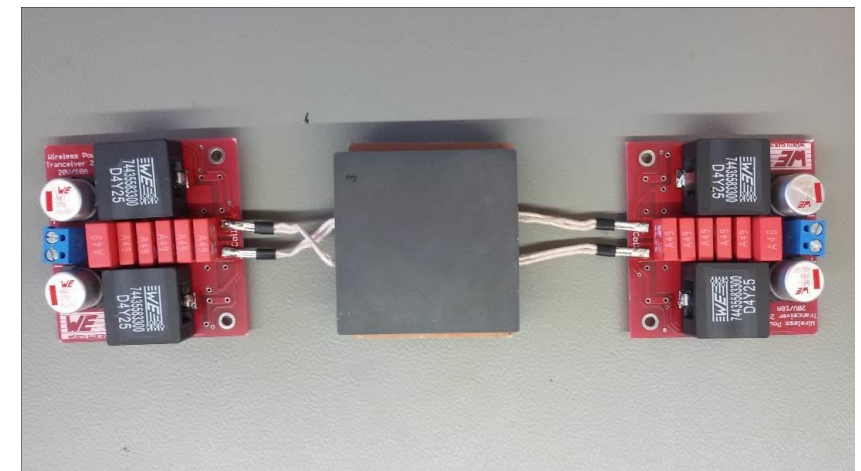
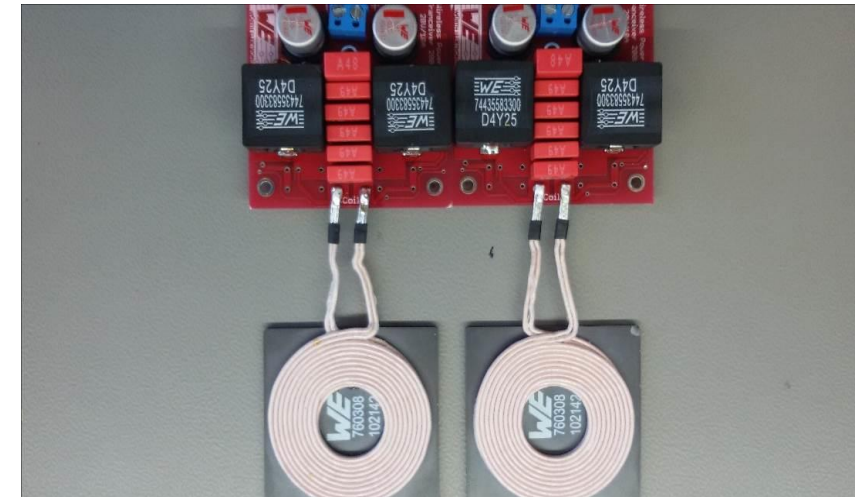
Source: Würth Elektronik eiSos Wireless Power Transfer Division, Christoph Utschick

# Wireless Power Transfer 100W

- Resonant converter
  - Scalable
- Using film X2 capacitor for the resonant circuit
- Using aluminum electrolytic capacitor for buffering
- Simple discrete solution
  - No micro controller
  - No software



Source: Würth Elektronik eiSos Andreas Nadler



# Questions?

# Thanks for your attention!

