



ULTRAMIC®

Advanced Ceramic Heaters

Confidential

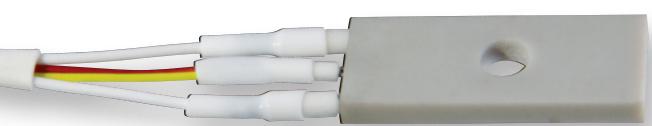


The Revolutionary ULTRAMIC®

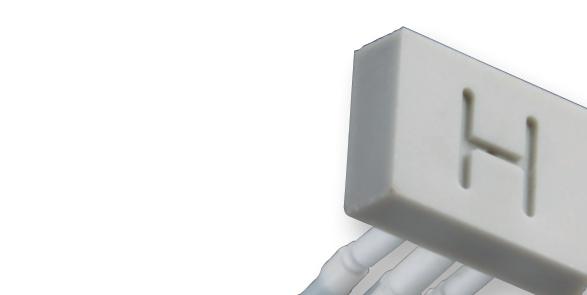
- Ultra fast ramp rates
- Excellent reliability
- Low leakage current



Watlow® ULTRAMIC® heaters are designed for thermal applications where the high performance of an advanced ceramic heater is required to ensure optimal effectiveness of the equipment or process.



ULTRAMIC heaters are constructed of aluminum nitride (AIN) and incorporate a thermally matched, proprietary heating element that provides maximum performance in challenging applications. AIN is especially suited for applications requiring a clean, noncontaminating heat source. Additionally, the excellent geometric stability ensures consistent part-to-part thermal contact during heating cycles.



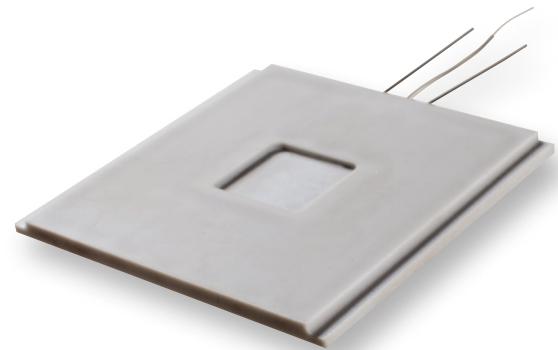
Watlow ULTRAMIC heaters can operate up to 600°C (1112°F) with an ultra-fast ramp rate of up to 150°C (270°F) per second depending on the application, heater design and process parameters. In addition to delivering excellent thermal characteristics, this heater has high electrical isolation and typically provides superior chemical resistance as compared to traditional metal heaters.

Advanced Ceramic Heater Construction

Constructing a Ceramic Heater

ULTRAMIC ceramic heaters are manufactured using a proprietary, sintering process. During sintering, ceramic powders are heated at a high temperature in a controlled environment, which facilitates densification and grain growth. A uniform grain size is created with no open porosity to ensure high mechanical strength and optimal thermal conductivity.

The green AlN matrix is constructed of two parts. The heating element is deposited on one of the AlN parts. Then, the parts are sintered together, making them one homogeneous assembly. The high thermal conductivity of AlN and an optimized circuit layout combine to produce superb temperature uniformity across the heater surface.



Benefits of Aluminum Nitride (AlN)

Advanced ceramics are synthetic, inorganic compounds of exceptional purity. Ceramic compounds include alumina (Al_2O_3), silicon nitride (Si_3N_4) and AlN.

AlN is an excellent choice for a ceramic heater platform as it allows for a homogeneous assembly for atmospheric or vacuum applications. The material also provides the durable heater construction and thermal transfer necessary for high temperature, fast cycling and long heater life. Additional features and benefits received by using AlN construction include:

The following tables illustrate AlN's unmatched capability due to its high thermal conductivity and low thermal expansion coefficient.

Material Properties at 25°C (77°F)				
Material	Thermal conductivity (W/K·m)	Thermal expansion coefficient ($\times 10^{-6}/^\circ\text{C}$)	Heat capacity (J/g·K)	Density (g/cm ³)
AlN	180	4.5	0.78	3.26
Al_2O_3	30	7.2	0.88	3.96
Si_3N_4	40	3.2	0.71	3.25
Al	180	23.6	0.90	2.70
304 SS	16	17.2	0.50	8.00

ULTRAMIC Thermal and Physical Properties			
Thermal Properties		Physical Properties	
Temperature Coefficient of Resistance (TCR)	$1.5 \times 10^{-3}/^\circ\text{C}$	Hardness	1050 Hv@500g
Surface Temperature	600°C (1112°F)	Flexural Strength	>250 MPa
Terminal Temperature	400°C (752°F)*		

* 600°C (1112°F) extended capability offering available.

> **High thermal conductivity:** Exhibiting thermal conductivity similar to aluminum provides rapid heat dissipation, enables the heater to be constructed with a high watt density and gives it the ability to thermally ramp at a rate of 150°C (270°F) per second.

> **Clean, non-contaminating material:** Using a carefully controlled microstructure, high temperature sintering produces a heater that is very hard (1100 Kg/mm²) and dense (> 99% theoretical density) with virtually no porosity. AlN is an ideal choice for applications requiring a "clean" heater.

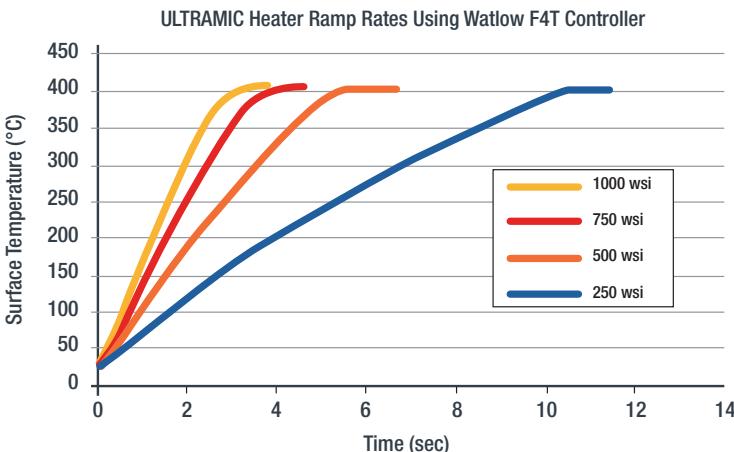
> **Moisture resistance:** AlN is impervious to moisture unlike many hygroscopic dielectric materials used in conventional heater construction.

> **High dielectric strength and high insulation resistance:** AlN is an electrical insulator that features very low leakage current (< 10µA@ 500VAC), a highly preferred characteristic for many applications.



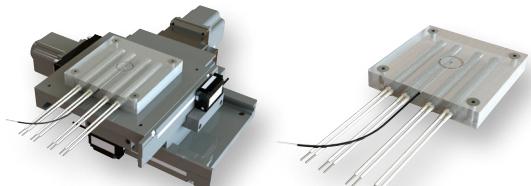
Ultra-Fast Ramp Rates

With the ongoing push for equipment productivity, improving heat/cool cycle times is one way to optimize system performance. The high thermal conductivity of AlN allows the ULTRAMIC heater to heat and cool quickly, and to be constructed with extremely high watt densities of up to 1000 W/in². These high watt densities enable ramp rates as high as 150°C (270°F) per second, resulting in higher productivity in applications such as semiconductor chip testing and eutectic die bonding.

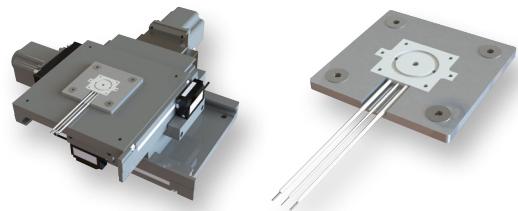


ULTRAMIC temperature ramp rate as a function of watt density.
Test completed using Watlow's F4T temperature controller.

Traditional Heater Solution



ULTRAMIC Advanced Ceramic Heater Solution



These models depict how an ULTRAMIC heater could replace traditional heaters, resulting in a smaller, higher performance, and more easily integrated system solution.

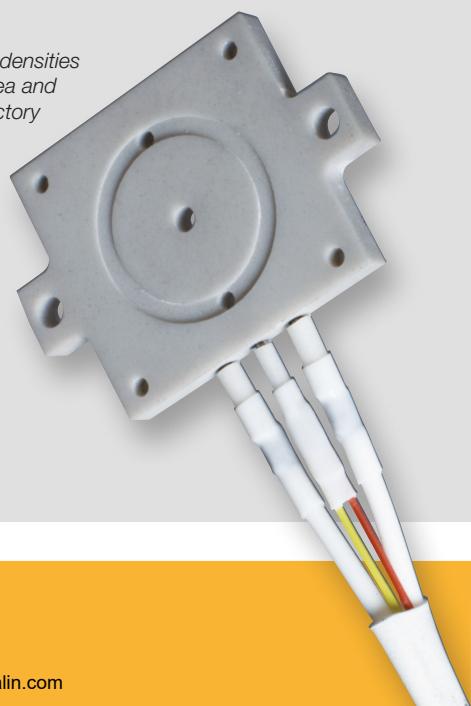
Semiconductor Equipment Application

Eutectic die bonding equipment is used in the attachment of lead wires to the die before packaging of the integrated circuit (IC). Optimal bonding is achieved by ramping the solder and lead temperature through the eutectic state. Watlow's ULTRAMIC heater is ideal for this application because a temperature ramp of up to 150°C (270°F) per second can be achieved while also achieving a fast cool down in preparation for processing the next device.

Benefits of ULTRAMIC heaters in semiconductor applications:

- Vacuum holes and grooves
- Surface flatness of 0.05 mm (0.002 in.)
- Surface finish <1.5 µm (64 µ-in.)

Maximum and minimum power densities can vary with voltage, surface area and application parameters. Contact factory to determine optimum voltage and power for your application.



Low Leakage Current

For many applications, such as medical devices, extremely low leakage current is critical for patient safety or system performance. To meet agency regulations, many device manufacturers resort to using step down isolation transformers and low voltage power supplies to enable the use of traditional heating technologies. These transformers add size, weight and cost to the system. In many cases, an ULTRAMIC heater can eliminate the need for these transformers by providing the required electrical performance, even at standard line voltages, in a small, clean package.

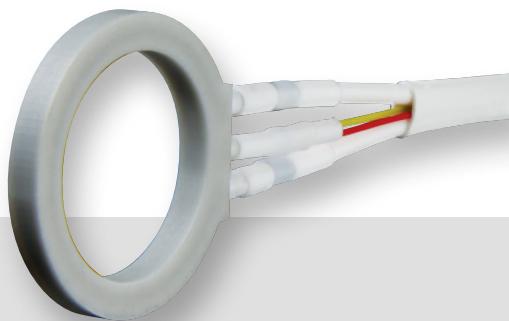
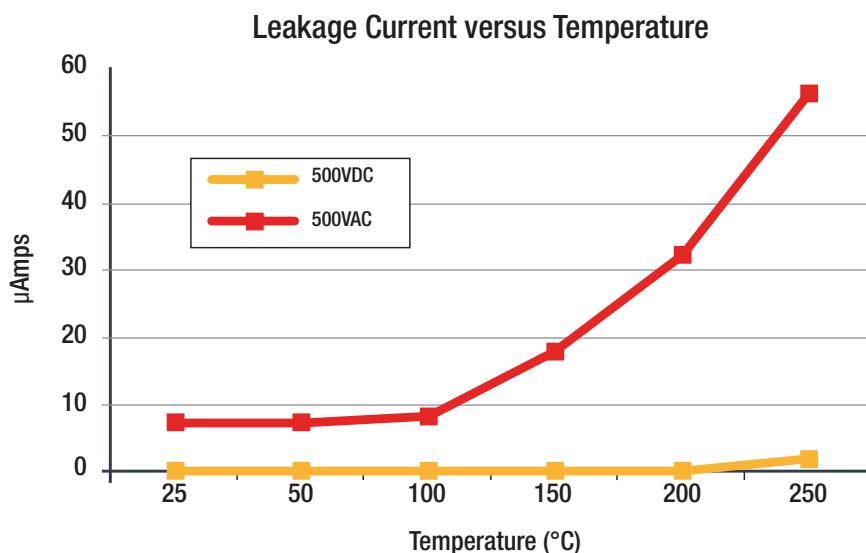


Superior Electrical Performance

- Low leakage current; $<10 \mu\text{A}$ at 100°C

UL® and CE Agency Compliance

- Designed to meet global safety standards
- RoHS compliant



Medical Application

High flow respiratory therapy equipment adds warmth and moisture to breathing gases through the nasal cannula of patients. This equipment must provide the perfect mix of temperature, humidity and oxygen without discomfort to the patient. The ULTRAMIC heater is able to deliver the heat needed to generate proper humidity and temperature to maximize patient comfort. Because the equipment needs to be portable, the small size and light weight ULTRAMIC heater is a great fit. The extremely low leakage current and integrated thermocouple of the heater ensures safety for the patient and operator.

Benefits of ULTRAMIC heaters in medical applications:

- Low leakage current of $<1 \mu\text{A}$ at 120V
- Integrated thermocouple
- Small size and light weight



Product Design Capability

Application Miniaturization

Miniaturization, or reducing the size of products and components, is an ongoing effort in virtually all industries. Parallel with reducing size is the need for increased precision and reduced system cost. With sizes as small as 8 mm (0.31 in.) and green state CNC machining capability, ULTRAMIC heaters help meet these needs and can often replace multiple components in a system.

Integrated Temperature Sensor

Watlow's ULTRAMIC heater with integrated Type K thermocouple or 100 Ohm RTD, provides a convenient way of controlling temperature with a high watt density heater without going through the trouble of installing a separate temperature sensor. The benefits of using an integrated sensor include:

- Ensures reliability of heater/sensor interface with the bonded assembly process
- Improves accuracy with optimized temperature sensing
- Provides high response rate in ramping applications

In addition to, or in place of the standard bonded sensor, a drilled hole or slot can be provided for installing an externally mounted sensor.

Lead Wire and Terminations

Various lead wire and termination options are available to meet specific application needs. Some of these options include:

- Power terminals exit locations — extended from the side or from the face of the heater
- PTFE® insulated silver-plated copper lead extension wires
- Lead extension length — standard length 305 mm (12 in.)
- Ceramic breads

Mounting Guidelines

This product can be mounted within a system in numerous ways. The mounting guidelines depend on the temperature and the application. Below are general rules for mounting and a detailed mounting guide can be found at www.watlow.com/ultramic:

- Temperature <200°C (392°F): bond with high-temperature epoxy adhesive
- Temperature <200°C (392°F): screw hole can be provided (recommend insulation buffer such as mica spacer)
- Clamp using single or multiple-point fasteners

Analytical Instrumentation Application

Mass spectrometers are used to determine the presence of trace chemicals in industrial, environmental and clinical applications. With detection capabilities into the part-per-trillion levels, cleanliness is of paramount concern. For use with ion sources, the chemical compatibility, low porosity and fine surface finish make the ULTRAMIC heater an excellent choice where contamination of the sample is of concern.

Benefits of ULTRAMIC heaters in analytical instrumentation applications:

- Process temperatures up to 600°C (1112°F)
- Chemical compatibility
- High dielectric strength
- Easy system integration
- Agency Approvals



Watlow's Service and Support

Delivery

A development engineer can quickly and easily acquire a standard heater to determine its suitability in an application. These standard heaters are available for shipment in five days or less. Custom configurations are routinely manufactured to meet specific application requirements. Delivery of these orders is dependent on the complexity of the design.



Rapid Prototyping

If our standard units do not meet your application needs, Watlow can rapidly accommodate more complex designs that have specific shapes and features such as holes and vacuum grooves.



Configurations and Dimensions

	Length	Width	Thickness	Aspect Ratio		
Flat Square	Min: 10 mm (0.393 in.) Max: 100 mm (3.94 in.)		Min: 2.5 mm (0.098 in.) Max: 5 mm (0.196 in.)	1		
Rectangular	Max: 100 mm (3.94 in.)	Min: 8 mm (0.315 in.)	Min: 2.5 mm (0.098 in.) Max: 5 mm (0.196 in.)	<10		
	Inside Diameter I.D.		Thickness	Ring Wall Thickness		
Ring	Min: 0	Max: O.D. 100 mm (3.94 in.)	Min: 2.5 mm (0.098 in.) Max: 5 mm (0.196 in.)	Min wall thickness: 3 mm (0.118 in.)		
Machined Features						
Straight Groove Custom Feature			Hole Size Round Diameter			
Depth: 0.5 mm min. (0.019 in.) Width: 1 to 2 mm (0.039 to 0.078 in.)			Min: 1 mm (0.039 in.)			
Electrical Properties						
Voltage						
12 to 480V						



Find out more about Watlow and how we can provide thermal solutions for your company:

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