VHFSouth
VHF/UHF in the 5th Call District

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Motorola 900MHz PAs...

"300W" "150W"

300W Motorola 900MHz PA

This PA uses two MRF899 power transistors, driven by two MRF897s. The specifications show the MRF899 rated for 28VDC max, and the MRF897 for 26VDC max (2V less "nominal"). See specifications, below. The PA is very easy to convert to amateur use, requiring addition of only two RF connectors, 20+A 24VDC connectors, and a PTT port. With only 4.5W drive available, and a 26V @ 20A power supply, 230W continuous output was reported. This PA is self-limited to about 250W maximum output by the internal control board. Adventuresome folks who have removed the control board and are powering the PA boards directly have tested this unit with 27 and 28VDC power supplies, but only for short periods; it is not known how long the transistors would last if supplied directly with more than 26V DC. Leaving the control board in place assures voltage regulated to 24VDC will be applied to the PA boards, alleviating any concerns regarding overvoltage!!

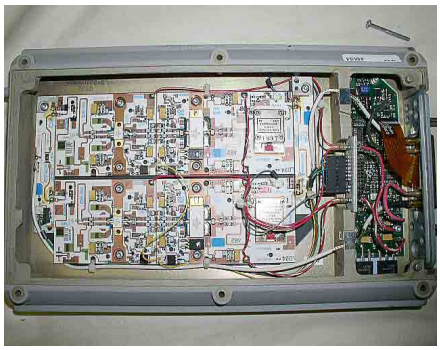
MRF899: NPN Silicon RF Power Transistor Specs:
Designed for 26 Volt UHF large signal, common emitter, Class AB linear amplifier applications in industrial and commercial FM/AM equipment operating in the range 800--960 MHz.
Specified 26 Volt, 900 MHz Characteristics Output Power = 150 Watts (PEP) Minimum Gain = 8.0 dB @ 900 MHz, Class AB Minimum Efficiency = 35% @ 900 MHz, 150 Watts (PEP) Maximum Intermodulation Distortion 28 dBc @ 150 Watts (PEP)

Max permissible voltage 28VDC

MRF897: NPN Silicon RF Power Transistor Specs:
Designed for 24 Volt UHF large signal, common emitter, classAB linear amplifier applications in industrial and commercial FM/AM equipment operating in the range 800-970 MHz.
Specified 24 Volt, 900 MHz Characteristics Output Power = 30 Watts Minimum Gain = 10 dB @ 900 MHz, class AB Minimum Efficiency = 30% @ 900 MHz, 30 Watts (PEP) Maximum Intermodulation Distortion 30 dBc @ 30 Watts (PEP)
Max permissible voltage 26VDC

Click on pictures for zoom

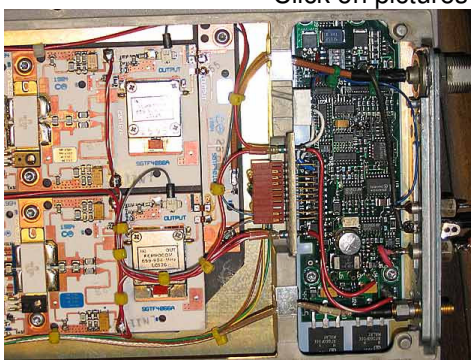

Connector end, unmodified PA

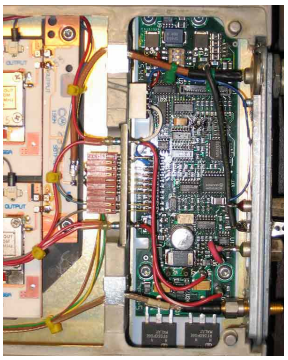

Inside unmodified PA

KD5FZX conversion

1. Replace the in and output connectors with connectors of your choice. Picture
2. Break the bias power and connect it through a relay contact. Picture
3. If you need more than 250W output, then bridge the 0.02ohm surface mount resistor next to J5 on the control board.

Click on pictures for zoom


Control board end of mod'd PA


Closeup, PA control

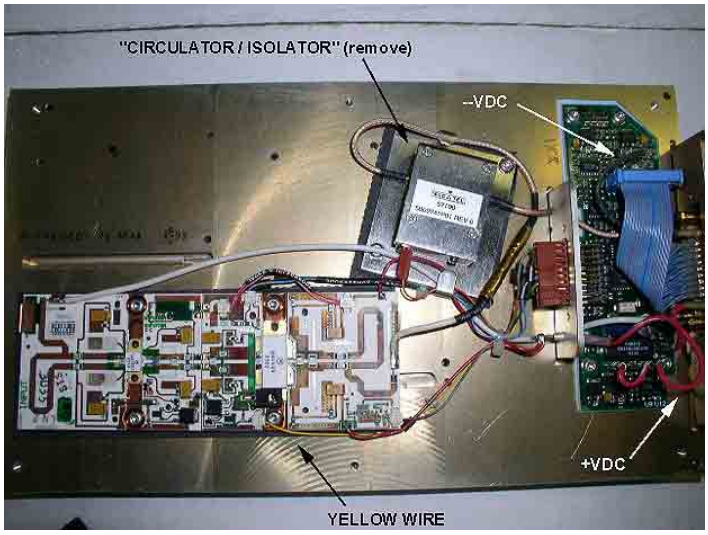
board

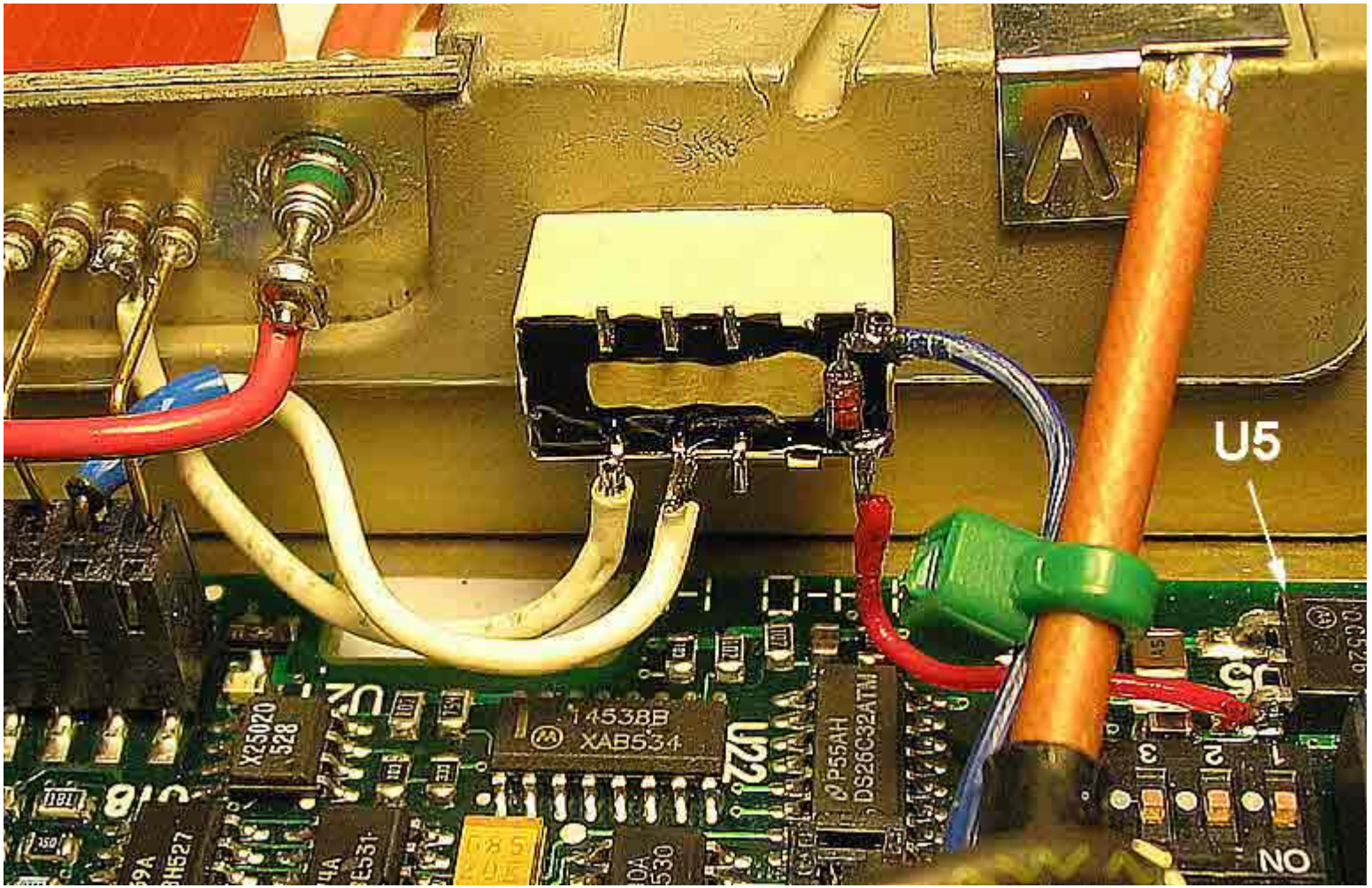
I used a small relay with 5V coil connected to the 5V regulator U5 (Picture). Ground the other side of the coil to enable bias. The 0.02ohm resistor is used to measure the total collector current, and will limit the output to 250W. Bridge this resistor to disable this limitation. I decided to stay at 250W (HP measurement) and keep the limit in place to protect the transistors. If you keep this safety in place and overdrive the amp, then you will notice severe distortion from this circuit switching the bias on and off at the current limit.

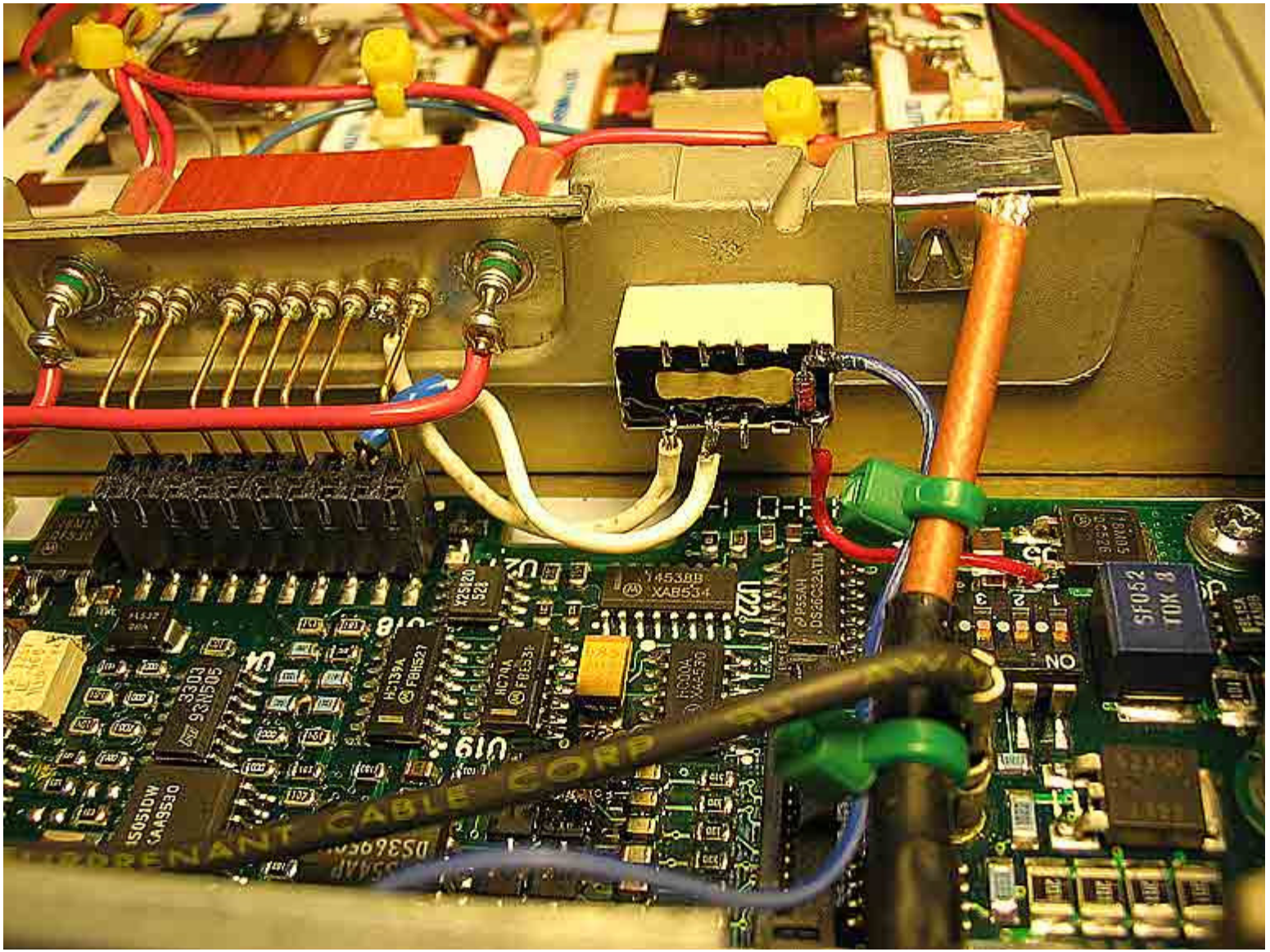
150W Motorola 900MHz PA

There are also "150W" version of this PA in existence. They look almost identical from the outside (seepictures below - click for zoom), but are different on the inside.

The power wires are pretty easy to pick out, but note that the "enable" line is the yellow wire. It calls for +15 volts, but we are told that +13.6V will do the job. Additionally, there is a little silver box on the ouput - we have been told that this circulator/isolator will not pass 902-3MHz, and it should be removed. AA9IL, howevr, has left it in his and is getting full output with the isolator still installed. We have no test data to determine if some are slightly different from some others. This page will be updated when such data becomes available. See picture below (click for zoom):




U5
14538B
XAB534
U2
X25020
528
P55AH
DS26C32ATM
NO


7453BB
XAB534
SF052
TOK 8
NO
U19
U21
CABLE CORP

The RF Line

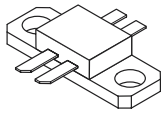
NPN Silicon RF Power Transistor

MRF897

30 W, 900 MHz
RF POWER
TRANSISTOR
NPN SILICON

Designed for 24 Volt UHF large–signal, common emitter, class–AB linear amplifier applications in industrial and commercial FM/AM equipment operating in the range 800–970 MHz.

- Specified 24 Volt, 900 MHz Characteristics
  - Output Power = 30 Watts
  - Minimum Gain = 10 dB @ 900 MHz, class–AB
  - Minimum Efficiency = 30% @ 900 MHz, 30 Watts (PEP)
  - Maximum Intermodulation Distortion –30 dBc @ 30 Watts (PEP)
- Characterized with Series Equivalent Large–Signal Parameters from 800 to 960 MHz
- Silicon Nitride Passivated
- 100% Tested for Load Mismatch Stress at all Phase Angles with 5:1 VSWR @ 26 Vdc, and Rated Output Power
- Gold Metalized, Emitter Ballasted for Long Life and Resistance to Metal–Migration
- Circuit board photomaster available upon request by contacting RF Tactical Marketing in Phoenix, AZ.



CASE 395B–01, STYLE 1

ARCHIVE INFORMATION

MAXIMUM RATINGS

Rating	Symbol	Value	Unit
Collector–Emitter Voltage	V_{CEO}	30	Vdc
Collector–Emitter Voltage	V_{CES}	60	Vdc
Emitter–Base Voltage	V_{EBO}	4.0	Vdc
Collector–Current — Continuous	I_C	4.0	Adc
Total Device Dissipation @ T_C = 25°C Derate above 25°C	P_D	105 0.60	Watts W/°C
Storage Temperature Range	T_{stg}	–65 to +150	°C

THERMAL CHARACTERISTICS

Characteristic	Symbol	Max	Unit
Thermal Resistance, Junction to Case	$R_{\theta JC}$	1.67	°C/W

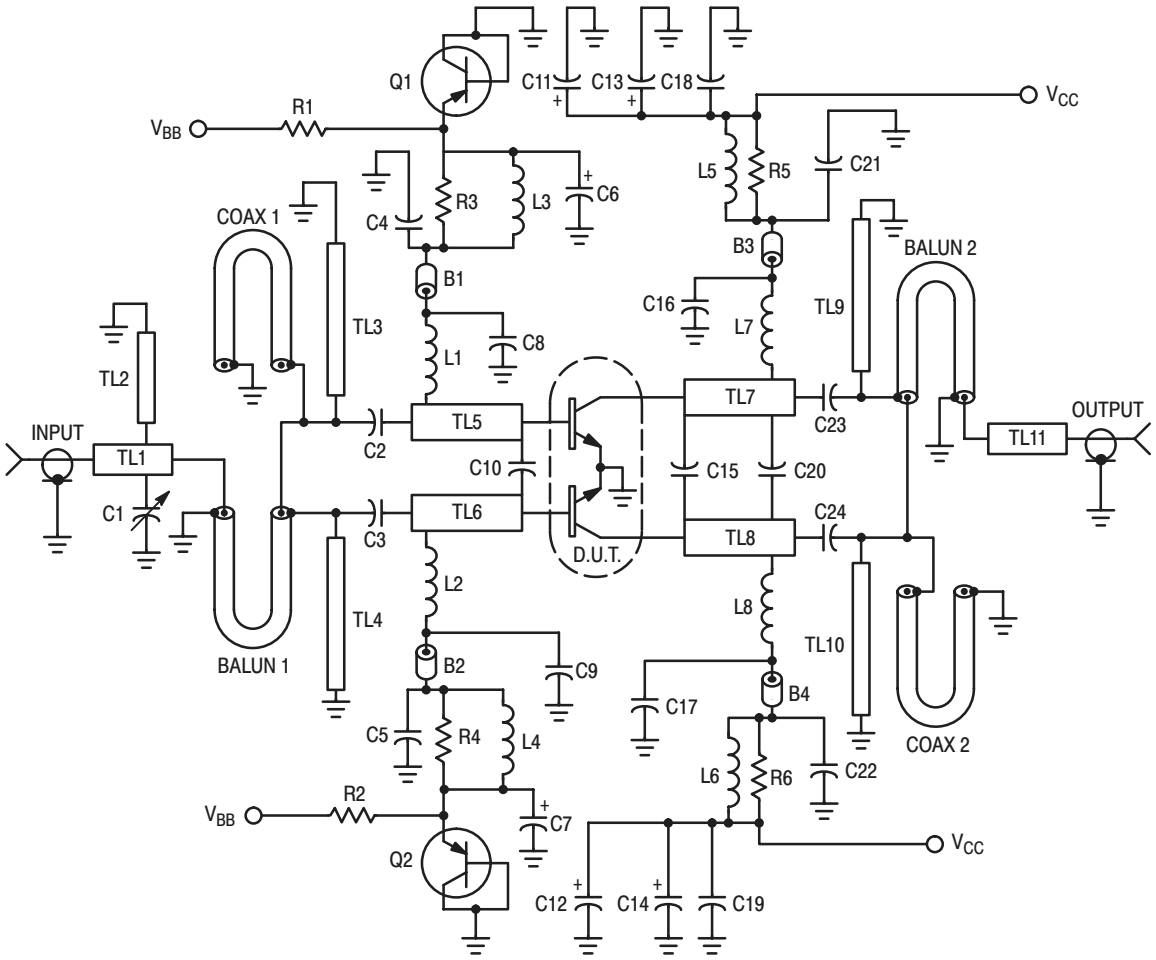
ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (T_C = 25°C unless otherwise noted.)

Characteristic	Symbol	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
OFF CHARACTERISTICS					
Collector–Emitter Breakdown Voltage (I_C = 50 mAdc, I_B = 0)	$V_{(BR)CEO}$	30	33	—	Vdc
Collector–Emitter Breakdown Voltage (I_C = 50 mAdc, V_{BE} = 0)	$V_{(BR)CES}$	60	80	—	Vdc
Emitter–Base Breakdown Voltage (I_E = 5 mAdc, I_C = 0)	$V_{(BR)EBO}$	4.0	4.7	—	Vdc
Collector Cutoff Current (V_{CE} = 30 Vdc, V_{BE} = 0)	I_{CES}	—	—	10.0	mAdc
ON CHARACTERISTICS					
DC Current Gain (I_{CE} = 1.0 Adc, V_{CE} = 5 Vdc)	h_{FE}	30	80	120	—
DYNAMIC CHARACTERISTICS					
Output Capacitance (V_{CB} = 24 Vdc, I_E = 0, f = 1.0 MHz)	C_{ob}	14	21	28	pF

(continued)

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS — continued (T_C = 25°C unless otherwise noted.)

Characteristic	Symbol	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
FUNCTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS					
Common–Emitter Amplifier Power Gain (V_{CC} = 24 Vdc, P_{out} = 30 Watts (PEP), I_{cq} = 125 mA, f_1 = 900 MHz, f_2 = 900.1 MHz)	G_{pe}	10.0	12.0	—	dB
Collector Efficiency (V_{CC} = 24 Vdc, P_{out} = 30 Watts (PEP), I_{cq} = 125 mA, f_1 = 900 MHz, f_2 = 900.1 MHz)	η	35	38	—	%
Intermodulation Distortion (V_{CC} = 24 Vdc, P_{out} = 30 Watts (PEP), I_{cq} = 125 mA, f_1 = 900 MHz, f_2 = 900.1 MHz)	IMD	—	–37	–30	dBc
Output Mismatch Stress (V_{CC} = 26 Vdc, P_{out} = 30 Watts (PEP), I_{cq} = 125 mA, f_1 = 900 MHz, f_2 = 900.1 MHz, Load VSWR = 5:1 (all phase angles))	ψ	No Degradation in Output Power Before and After Test			



B1, B2, B3, B4 — Ferrite Bead, Fair Rite #2743019447
C1 — 0.8–8.0 pF Trimmer Capacitor, Johanson
C2, C3, C23, C24 — 43 pF, 100 mil, ATC Chip Capacitor
C4, C5, C18, C19, C21, C22 — 820 pF, 100 mil, Chip Capacitor, Kemet
C6, C7, C11, C12 — 10 μF, Lytic Capacitor, Panasonic
C8, C9, C16, C17 — 100 pF, 100 mil, Chip Capacitor, Murata Erie
C10 — 13 pF, 50 mil, ATC Chip Capacitor
C13, C14 — 250 μF Lytic Capacitor, Mallory
C15 — 1.1 pF, 50 mil, ATC Chip Capacitor
C20 — 6.8 pF, 100 mil, ATC Chip Capacitor
L1, L2, L3, L4, L5, L6 — 5 Turns 20 AWG, IDIA 0.126″ choke
N1, N2 — Type N Flange Mount, Omni Spectra 3052–1648–10
Q1 — Bias Transistor BD136 PNP
R1, R12 — 39 Ohm, 2.0 W
R3, R4, R5, R6 — 4.0 x 39 Ohm, 1/8 W, Chips in Parallel, Rohm 390–J
TL1–TL11 — See Photomaster
Balun1, Balun2, Coax 1, Coax 2 — 2.20″ 50 Ohm, 0.088″ o.d. semi–rigid coax, Micro Coax UT–85–M17
Board — 1/32″ Glass Teflon, Arlon GX–0300–55–22, ε_r = 2.55

Figure 1. MRF897 Broadband Test Circuit

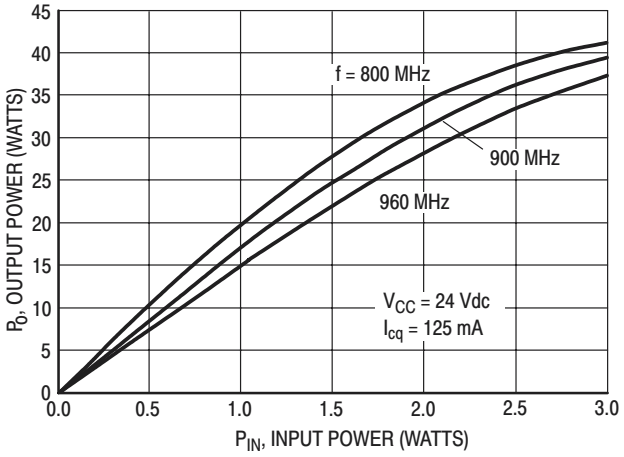


Figure 2. Output Power versus Input Power

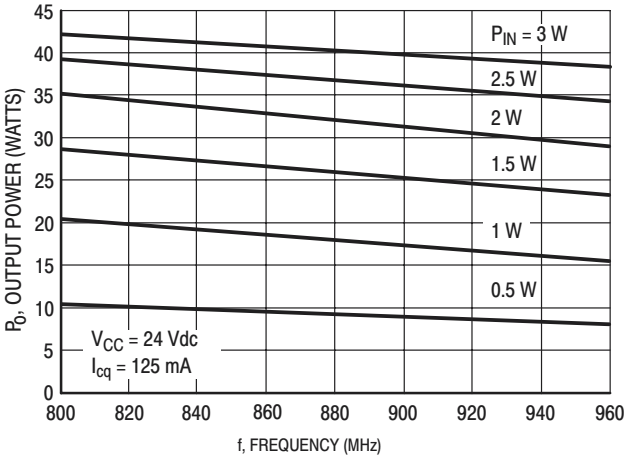


Figure 3. Output Power versus Frequency

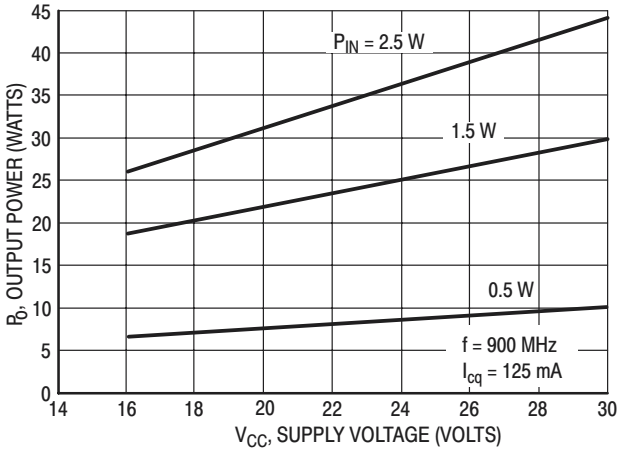


Figure 4. Output Power versus Supply Voltage

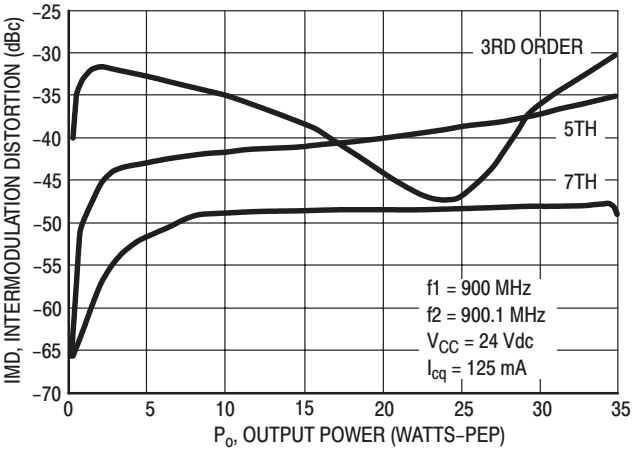


Figure 5. Intermodulation versus Output Power

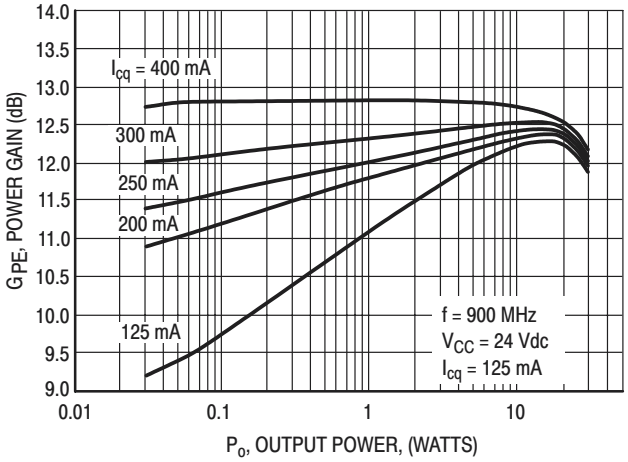


Figure 6. Power Gain versus Output Power

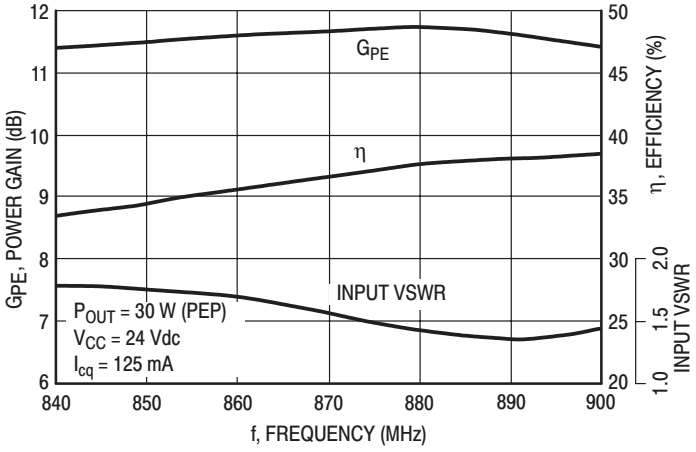
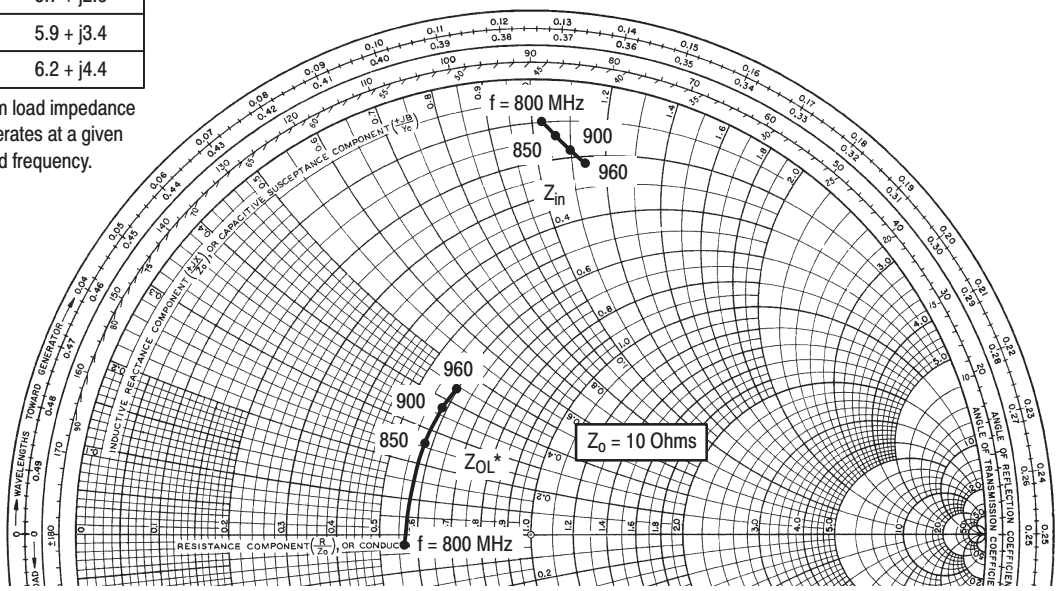


Figure 7. Broadband Test Fixture Performance

ARCHIVE INFORMATION

f MHz	Z_{in} Ohms	Z_{OL}* Ohms
800	1.0 + j10.3	5.9 – j0.4
850	1.5 + j10.5	5.7 + j2.6
900	1.8 + j11.0	5.9 + j3.4
960	2.2 + j11.4	6.2 + j4.4

Z_{OL}* = Conjugate of the optimum load impedance into which the device operates at a given output power, voltage and frequency.

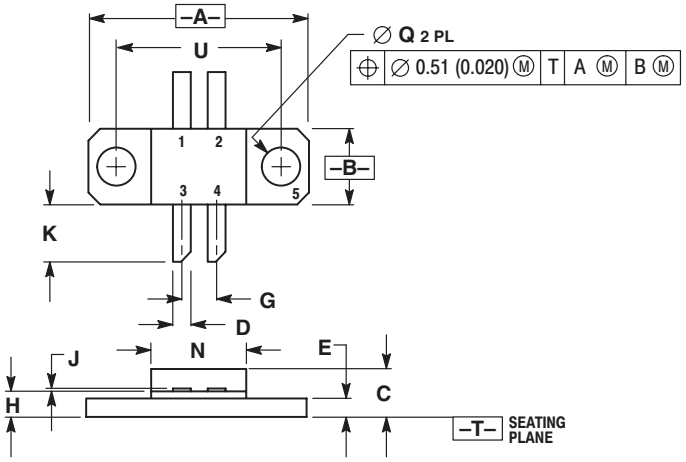


NOTE: Z_{in} & Z_{OL}* are given from base–to–base and collector–to–collector respectively.

P_o = 300 W (PEP), V_{CC} = 24 V

Figure 8. Series Equivalent Input/Output Impedances

PACKAGE DIMENSIONS



STYLE 1:
PIN 1. BASE
2. BASE
3. COLLECTOR
4. COLLECTOR
5. EMITTER

NOTES:
1. DIMENSIONING AND TOLERANCING PER ANSI Y14.5M, 1982.
2. CONTROLLING DIMENSION: INCH.

	INCHES		MILLIMETERS	
DIM	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX
A	0.739	0.750	18.77	19.05
B	0.240	0.260	6.10	6.60
C	0.165	0.198	4.19	5.03
D	0.055	0.065	1.40	1.65
E	0.055	0.070	1.40	1.78
G	0.110	0.130	2.79	3.30
H	0.079	0.091	2.01	2.31
J	0.003	0.005	0.08	0.13
K	0.180	0.220	4.57	5.59
N	0.315	0.330	8.00	8.38
Q	0.125	0.135	3.18	3.42
U	0.560 BSC		14.22 BSC	

CASE 395B–01
ISSUE A

Literature Distribution Centers:
USA: Motorola Literature Distribution; P.O. Box 20912; Phoenix, Arizona 85036.
EUROPE: Motorola Ltd.; European Literature Centre; 88 Tanners Drive, Blakelands, Milton Keynes, MK14 5BP, England.
JAPAN: Nippon Motorola Ltd.; 4-32-1, Nishi-Gotanda, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 141, Japan.
ASIA PACIFIC: Motorola Semiconductors H.K. Ltd.; Silicon Harbour Center, No. 2 Dai King Street, Tai Po Industrial Estate, Tai Po, N.T., Hong Kong.

The RF Line

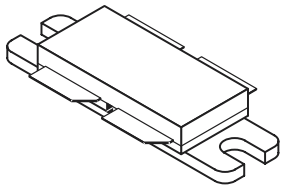
NPN Silicon RF Power Transistor

Designed for 26 Volt UHF large–signal, common emitter, Class AB linear amplifier applications in industrial and commercial FM/AM equipment operating in the range 800–960 MHz.

- Specified 26 Volt, 900 MHz Characteristics
  Output Power = 150 Watts (PEP)
  Minimum Gain = 8.0 dB @ 900 MHz, Class AB
  Minimum Efficiency = 35% @ 900 MHz, 150 Watts (PEP)
  Maximum Intermodulation Distortion –28 dBc @ 150 Watts (PEP)
- Characterized with Series Equivalent Large–Signal Parameters from 800 to 960 MHz
- Silicon Nitride Passivated
- 100% Tested for Load Mismatch Stress at all Phase Angles with 5:1 VSWR @ 26 Vdc, and Rated Output Power
- Gold Metallized, Emitter Ballasted for Long Life and Resistance to Metal Migration
- Circuit board photomaster available upon request by contacting RF Tactical Marketing in Phoenix, AZ.

MRF899

150 W, 900 MHz
RF POWER
TRANSISTOR
NPN SILICON



CASE 375A–01, STYLE 1

ARCHIVE INFORMATION

MAXIMUM RATINGS

Rating	Symbol	Value	Unit
Collector–Emitter Voltage	V_{CEO}	28	Vdc
Collector–Emitter Voltage	V_{CES}	60	Vdc
Emitter–Base Voltage	V_{EBO}	4.0	Vdc
Collector–Current — Continuous	I_C	25	Adc
Total Device Dissipation @ T_C = 25°C Derate above 25°C	P_D	230 1.33	Watts W/°C
Storage Temperature Range	T_{stg}	–65 to +150	°C

THERMAL CHARACTERISTICS

Characteristic	Symbol	Max	Unit
Thermal Resistance, Junction to Case	$R_{\theta JC}$	0.75	°C/W

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (T_C = 25°C unless otherwise noted.)

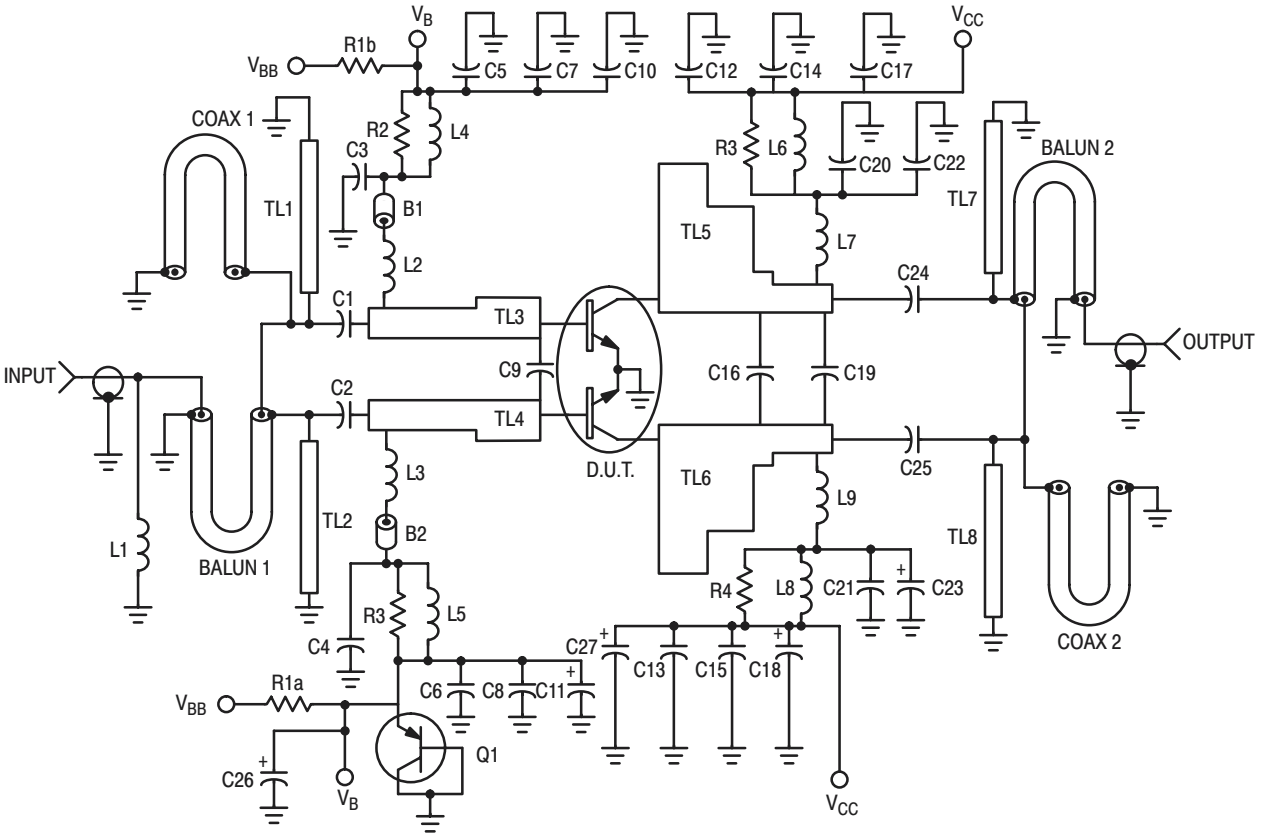
Characteristic	Symbol	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
OFF CHARACTERISTICS					
Collector–Emitter Breakdown Voltage (I_C = 100 mAdc, I_B = 0)	$V_{(BR)CEO}$	28	37	—	Vdc
Collector–Emitter Breakdown Voltage (I_C = 50 mAdc, V_{BE} = 0)	$V_{(BR)CES}$	60	85	—	Vdc
Emitter–Base Breakdown Voltage (I_E = 10 mAdc, I_C = 0)	$V_{(BR)EBO}$	4.0	4.9	—	Vdc
Collector Cutoff Current (V_{CE} = 30 Vdc, V_{BE} = 0)	I_{CES}	—	—	10	mAdc
ON CHARACTERISTICS					
DC Current Gain (I_{CE} = 1.0 Adc, V_{CE} = 5.0 Vdc)	h_{FE}	30	75	120	—
DYNAMIC CHARACTERISTICS					
Output Capacitance (V_{CB} = 26 Vdc, I_E = 0, f = 1.0 MHz) (1)	C_{ob}	—	75	—	pF

(1) For information only. This part is collector matched.

(continued)

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS — continued (T_C = 25°C unless otherwise noted.)

Characteristic	Symbol	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
FUNCTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS					
Common–Emitter Amplifier Power Gain V_{CC} = 26 Vdc, P_{out} = 150 Watts (PEP), I_{cq} = 300 mA, f_1 = 900 MHz, f_2 = 900.1 MHz	G_{pe}	8.0	9.0	—	dB
Collector Efficiency V_{CC} = 26 Vdc, P_{out} = 150 Watts (PEP), I_{cq} = 300 mA, f_1 = 900 MHz, f_2 = 900.1 MHz	η	30	40	—	%
3rd Order Intermodulation Distortion V_{CC} = 26 Vdc, P_{out} = 150 Watts (PEP), I_{cq} = 300 mA, f_1 = 900 MHz, f_2 = 900.1 MHz	IMD	—	–32	–28	dBc
Output Mismatch Stress V_{CC} = 26 Vdc, P_{out} = 150 Watts (PEP), I_{cq} = 300 mA, f_1 = 900 MHz, f_2 = 900.1 MHz, VSWR = 5:1 (all phase angles)	ψ	No Degradation in Output Power Before and After Test			



B1, B2 — Ferrite Bead, Ferroxcube #56–590–65–3B
C1, C2, C24, C25 — 43 pF, B Case, ATC Chip Capacitor
C3, C4, C20, C21 — 100 pF, B Case, ATC Chip Capacitor
C5, C6, C12, C13 — 1000 pF, B Case, ATC Chip Capacitor
C7, C8, C14, C15 — 1800 pF, AVX Chip Capacitor
C9 — 9.1 pF, A Case, ATC Chip Capacitor
C10, C11, C17, C18, C22, C23 — 10 μF, Electrolytic Capacitor

Panasonic
C16 — 3.9 pF, B Case, ATC Chip Capacitor
C19 — 0.8 pF, B Case, ATC Chip Capacitor
C26 — 200 μF, Electrolytic Capacitor Mallory Sprague
C27 — 500 μF Electrolytic Capacitor

L1 — 5 Turns 24 AWG IDIA 0.059″ Choke, 19.8 nH
L2, L3, L7, L9 — 4 Turns 20 AWG IDIA 0.163″ Choke
L4, L5, L6, L8 — 12 Turns 22 AWG IDIA 0.140″ Choke
N1, N2 — Type N Flange Mount, Omni Spectra
Q1 — Bias Transistor BD136 PNP
R2, R3, R4, R5 — 4.0 x 39 Ohm 1/8 W Chips in Parallel
R1a, R1b — 56 Ohm 1.0 W
TL1–TL8 — See Photomaster
Balun1, Balun2, Coax 1, Coax 2 — 2.20″ 50 Ohm 0.088″ o.d. Semi–rigid Coax, Micro Coax
Board — 1/32″ Glass Teflon, ε_r = 2.55″ Arlon (GX–0300–55–22)

Figure 1. 900 MHz Power Gain Test Circuit

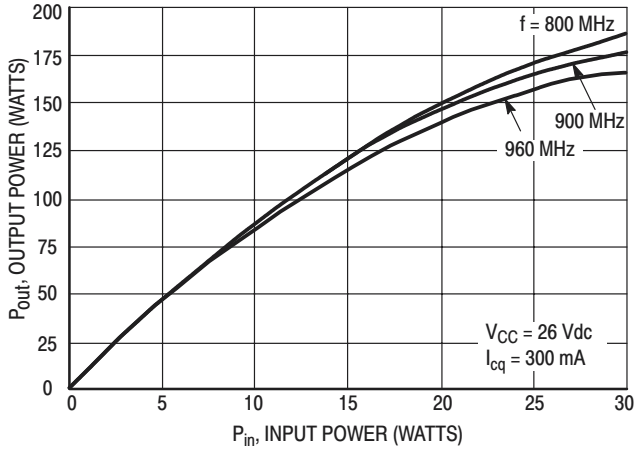


Figure 2. Output Power versus Input Power

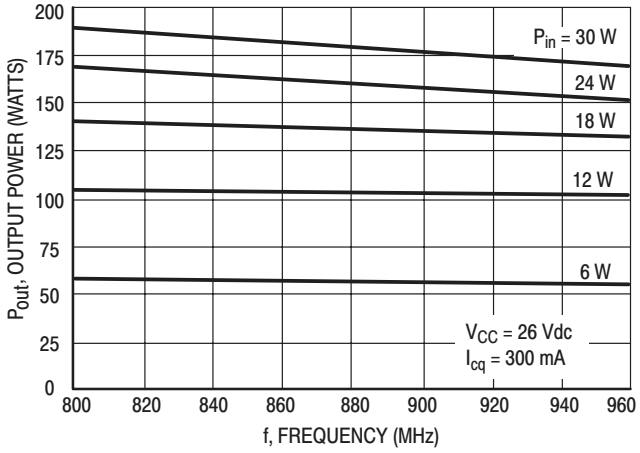


Figure 3. Output Power versus Frequency

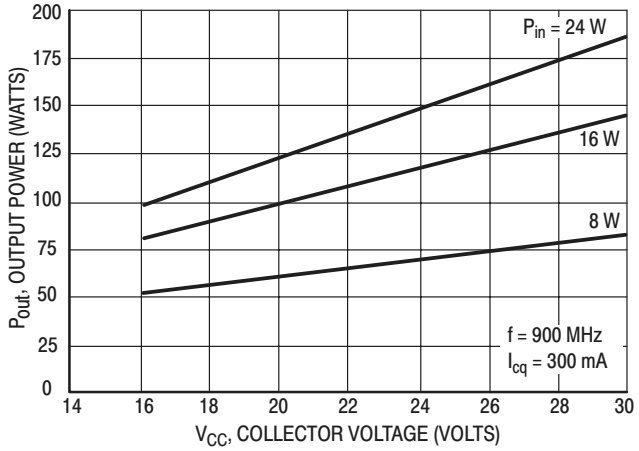


Figure 4. Output Power versus Supply Voltage

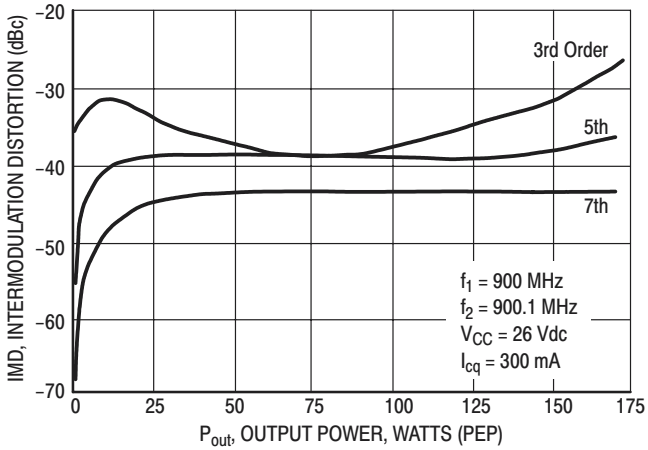


Figure 5. Intermodulation versus Output Power

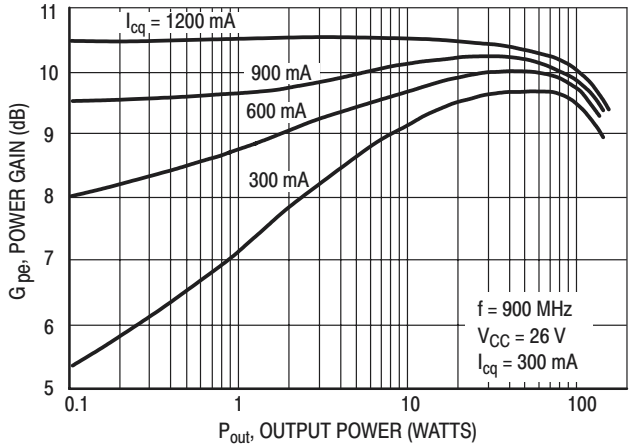


Figure 6. Power Gain versus Output Power

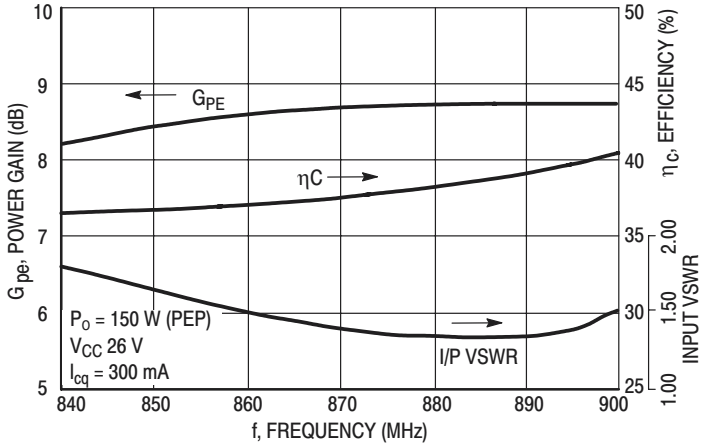
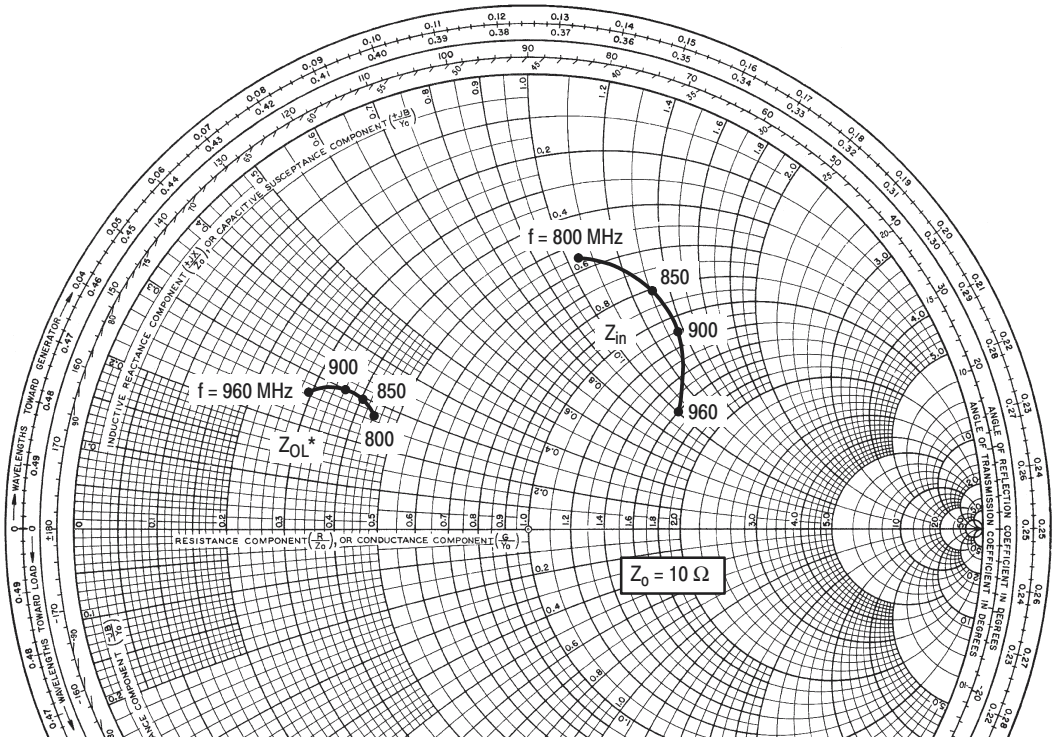


Figure 7. Broadband Test Fixture Performance



f MHz	Z_{in} Ohms	Z_{OL}* Ohms
800	5.51 + j10.6	4.52 + j2.64
850	8.17 + j13.2	4.21 + j2.98
900	11.2 + j13.8	3.68 + j2.97
960	16.8 + j10.1	2.98 + j2.71

Z_{OL}* = Conjugate of optimum load impedance into which the device operates at a given output power, voltage and frequency.

NOTE: Z_{in} & Z_{OL}* are given from base–to–base and collector–to–collector respectively

Figure 8. Input and Output Impedances with Circuit Tuned for Maximum Gain @ P_o = 150 W (PEP), V_{CC} = 26 V

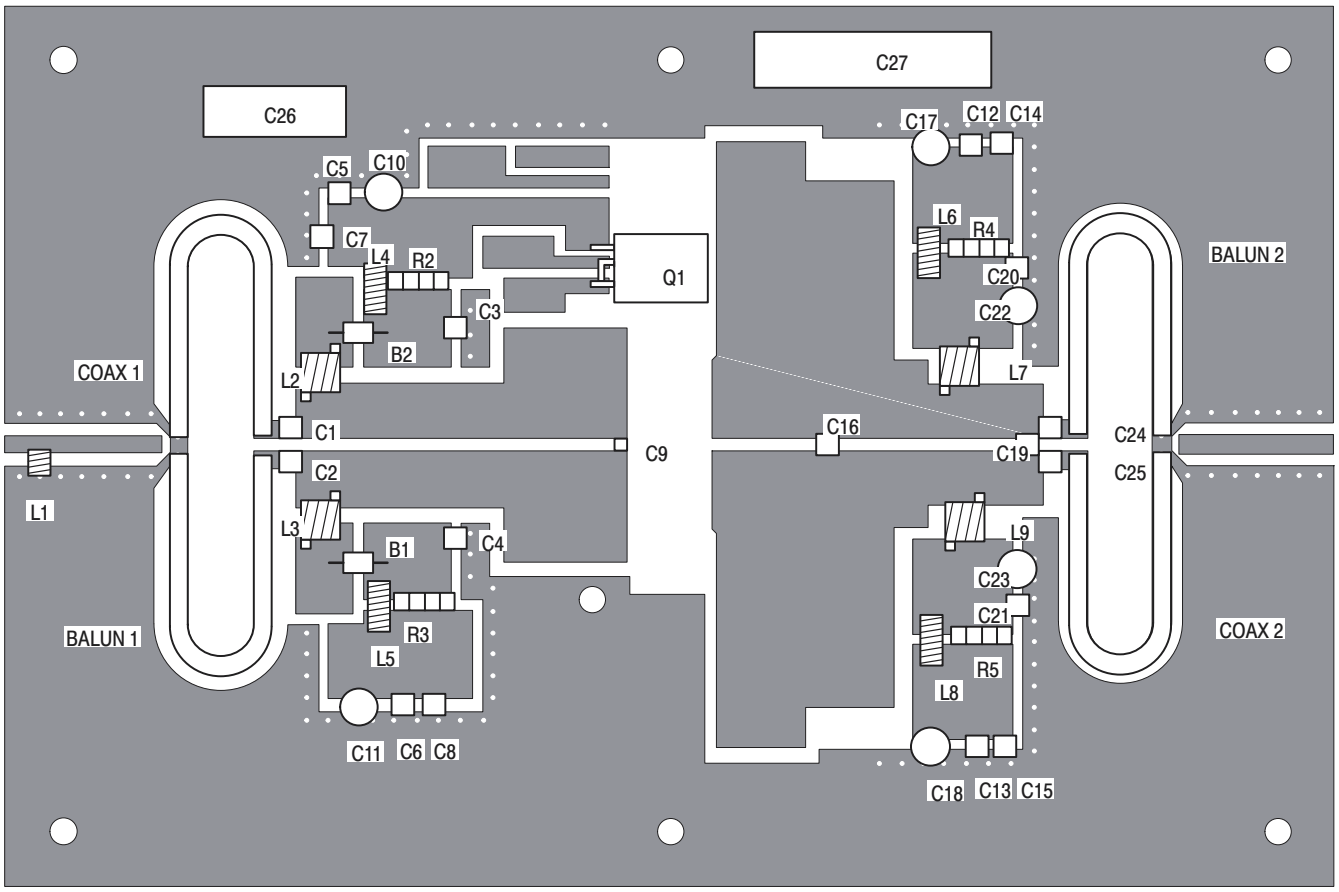
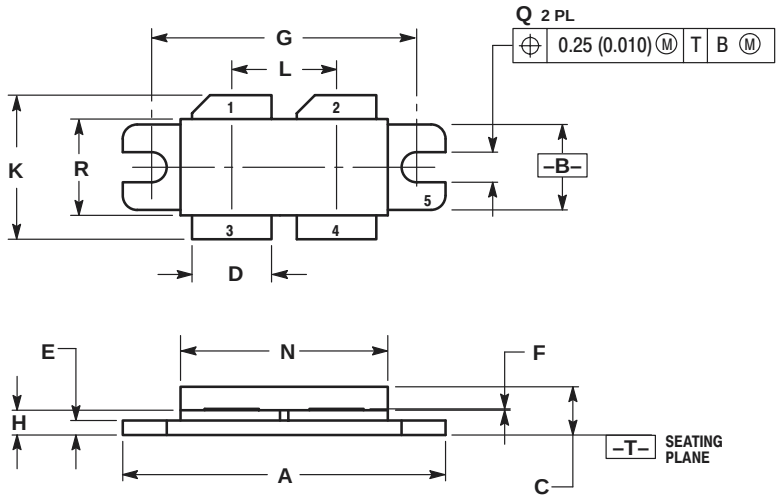


Figure 9. MRF899 Test Fixture Component Layout

PACKAGE DIMENSIONS



NOTES:
1. DIMENSIONING AND TOLERANCING PER ANSI Y14.5M, 1982.
2. CONTROLLING DIMENSION: INCH.

	INCHES		MILLIMETERS	
DIM	MIN	MAX	MIN	MAX
A	1.330	1.350	33.79	34.29
B	0.375	0.395	9.52	10.03
C	0.180	0.205	4.57	5.21
D	0.320	0.340	8.13	8.64
E	0.060	0.070	1.52	1.77
F	0.004	0.006	0.11	0.15
G	1.100 BSC		27.94 BSC	
H	0.082	0.097	2.08	2.46
K	0.580	0.620	14.73	15.75
L	0.435 BSC		11.05 BSC	
N	0.845	0.875	21.46	22.23
Q	0.118	0.130	3.00	3.30
R	0.390	0.410	9.91	10.41

STYLE 1:
PIN 1. COLLECTOR
2. COLLECTOR
3. BASE
4. BASE
5. EMITTER

CASE 375A–01
ISSUE O

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