



## ULN2803A Darlington Transistor Arrays

### 1 Features

- 500-mA-Rated Collector Current (Single Output)
- High-Voltage Outputs: 50 V
- Output Clamp Diodes
- Inputs Compatible With Various Types of Logic
- Relay-Driver Applications
- Compatible with ULN2800A Series

### 2 Applications

- Relay Drivers
- Hammer Drivers
- Lamp Drivers
- Display Drivers (LED and Gas Discharge)
- Line Drivers
- Logic Buffers

### 3 Description

The ULN2803A device is a high-voltage, high-current Darlington transistor array. The device consists of eight NPN Darlington pairs that feature high-voltage outputs with common-cathode clamp diodes for switching inductive loads. The collector-current rating of each Darlington pair is 500 mA. The Darlington pairs may be connected in parallel for higher current capability.

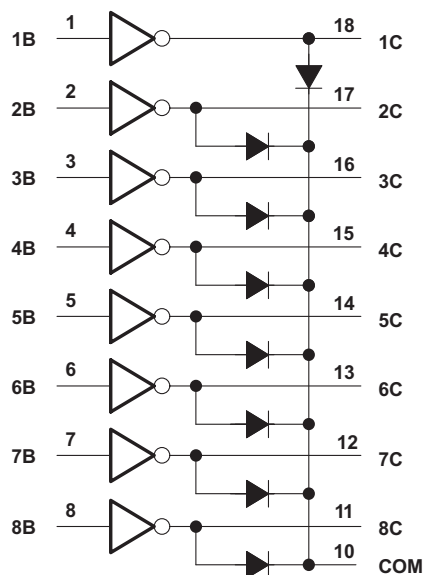
Applications include relay drivers, hammer drivers, lamp drivers, display drivers (LED and gas discharge), line drivers, and logic buffers. The ULN2803A device has a 2.7-k $\Omega$  series base resistor for each Darlington pair for operation directly with TTL or 5-V CMOS devices.

#### Device Information<sup>(1)</sup>

PART NUMBER	PACKAGE (PIN)	BODY SIZE (NOM)
ULN2803	SOIC (18)	11.50 mm × 7.50 mm
	PDIP (18)	22.48 mm × 6.35 mm

(1) For all available packages, see the orderable addendum at the end of the datasheet.

### 4 Simplified Schematics



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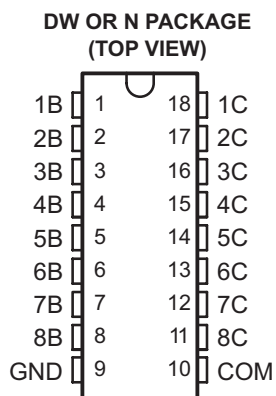
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## 5 Revision History

Changes from Revision F (January 2014) to Revision G	Page
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added <i>Applications</i>, <i>Device Information</i> table, <i>Pin Functions</i> table, <i>ESD Ratings</i> table, <i>Thermal Information</i> table, <i>Typical Characteristics</i>, <i>Feature Description</i> section, <i>Device Functional Modes</i>, <i>Application and Implementation</i> section, <i>Power Supply Recommendations</i> section, <i>Layout</i> section, <i>Device and Documentation Support</i> section, and <i>Mechanical, Packaging, and Orderable Information</i> section. ....</li> </ul>	1

Changes from Revision E (July 2006) to Revision F	Page
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated document to new TI data sheet format - no specification changes. ....</li> <li>Deleted <i>Ordering Information</i> table. ....</li> </ul>	1

## 6 Pin Configuration and Functions



**Pin Functions**

PIN		TYPE	DESCRIPTION
NAME	NO.		
<1:8>B	1 - 8	I	Channel 1 through 7 darlington base input
<1:8>C	18 - 11	O	Channel 1 through 7 darlington collector output
GND	9	—	Common Emmitter shared by all channels (typically tied to ground)
COM	10	I/O	Common cathode node for flyback diodes (required for inductive loads)

## 7 Specifications

### 7.1 Absolute Maximum Ratings

at 25°C free-air temperature (unless otherwise noted)<sup>(1)</sup>

	MIN	MAX	UNIT
Collector-emitter voltage		50	V
Input voltage <sup>(2)</sup>		30	V
Peak collector current		500	mA
Output clamp current		500	mA
Total substrate-terminal current		–2.5	A
T <sub>J</sub> Operating virtual junction temperature	–65	150	°C

- (1) Stresses beyond those listed under *Absolute Maximum Ratings* may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only, and functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions beyond those indicated under *Recommended Operating Conditions* is not implied. Exposure to absolute-maximum-rated conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.
- (2) All voltage values, unless otherwise noted, are with respect to the emitter/substrate terminal GND.

### 7.2 ESD Ratings

			VALUE	UNIT
V <sub>(ESD)</sub>	Electrostatic discharge	Human body model (HBM), per ANSI/ESDA/JEDEC JS-001, all pins <sup>(1)</sup>	±2000	V
		Charged device model (CDM), per JEDEC specification JESD22-C101, all pins <sup>(2)</sup>	±500	

- (1) JEDEC document JEP155 states that 500-V HBM allows safe manufacturing with a standard ESD control process.
- (2) JEDEC document JEP157 states that 250-V CDM allows safe manufacturing with a standard ESD control process.

### 7.3 Recommended Operating Conditions

over operating free-air temperature range (unless otherwise noted)

	MIN	MAX	UNIT
V <sub>I</sub>	0	5	V
V <sub>CC</sub>	0	50	V
T <sub>J</sub> Junction Temperature	–40	125	°C

### 7.4 Thermal Information

THERMAL METRIC <sup>(1)</sup>		ULN2803A		UNIT
		D	DW	
		18 PINS	18 PINS	
R <sub>θJA</sub>	Junction-to-ambient thermal resistance	73	66.4	°C/W
R <sub>θJC(top)</sub>	Junction-to-case (top) thermal resistance	40.3	29.5	
R <sub>θJB</sub>	Junction-to-board thermal resistance	38.9	33.0	
Ψ <sub>JT</sub>	Junction-to-top characterization parameter	10.9	6.0	
Ψ <sub>JB</sub>	Junction-to-board characterization parameter	38.7	32.5	
R <sub>θJC(bot)</sub>	Junction-to-case (bottom) thermal resistance	N/A	N/A	

- (1) For more information about traditional and new thermal metrics, see the *IC Package Thermal Metrics* application report, [SPRA953](#).

## 7.5 Electrical Characteristics

at  $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$  free-air temperature (unless otherwise noted)

PARAMETER	TEST CONDITIONS	ULN2803A			UNIT
		MIN	TYP	MAX	
$I_{CEX}$ Collector cutoff current	$V_{CE} = 50\text{ V}$ , see Figure 4 $I_I = 0$			50	$\mu\text{A}$
$I_{I(off)}$ Off-state input current	$V_{CE} = 50\text{ V}$ , $T_A = 70^\circ\text{C}$ $I_C = 500\text{ }\mu\text{A}$ , see Figure 5	50	65		$\mu\text{A}$
$I_{I(on)}$ Input current	$V_I = 3.85\text{ V}$ , See Figure 6		0.93	1.35	mA
$V_{I(on)}$ On-state input voltage	$V_{CE} = 2\text{ V}$ , see Figure 7 $I_C = 200\text{ mA}$			2.4	V
	$I_C = 250\text{ mA}$			2.7	
	$I_C = 300\text{ mA}$			3	
$V_{CE(sat)}$ Collector-emitter saturation voltage	$I_I = 250\text{ }\mu\text{A}$ , see Figure 8 $I_C = 100\text{ mA}$		0.9	1.1	V
	$I_I = 350\text{ }\mu\text{A}$ , see Figure 8 $I_C = 200\text{ mA}$		1	1.3	
	$I_I = 500\text{ }\mu\text{A}$ , see Figure 8 $I_C = 350\text{ mA}$		1.3	1.6	
$I_R$ Clamp diode reverse current	$V_R = 50\text{ V}$ , see Figure 9			50	$\mu\text{A}$
$V_F$ Clamp diode forward voltage	$I_F = 350\text{ mA}$ see Figure 10		1.7	2	V
$C_i$ Input capacitance	$V_I = 0$ , $f = 1\text{ MHz}$		15	25	pF

## 7.6 Switching Characteristics

$T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$

PARAMETER	TEST CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNIT
$t_{PLH}$ Propagation delay time, low- to high-level output	$V_S = 50\text{ V}$ , $C_L = 15\text{ pF}$ , $R_L = 163\text{ }\Omega$ , See Figure 11		130		ns
$t_{PHL}$ Propagation delay time, high- to low-level output			20		
$V_{OH}$ High-level output voltage after switching	$V_S = 50\text{ V}$ , $I_O = 300\text{ mA}$ , See Figure 12	$V_S - 20$			mV

## 7.7 Typical Characteristics

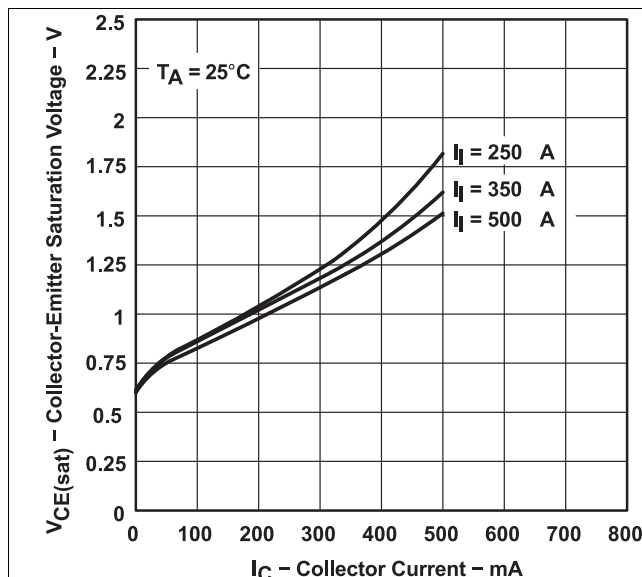


Figure 1. Collector-Emitter Saturation Voltage  
vs  
Collector Current (One Darlington)

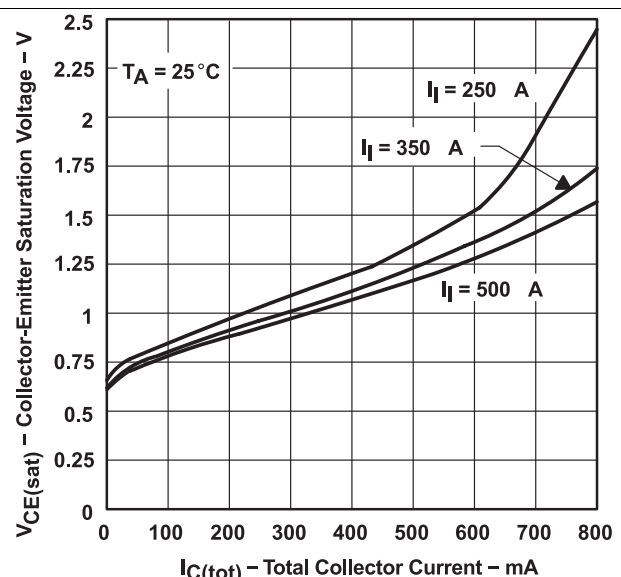


Figure 2. Collector-Emitter Saturation Voltage  
vs  
Total Collector Current (Two Darlington in Parallel)

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## Typical Characteristics (continued)

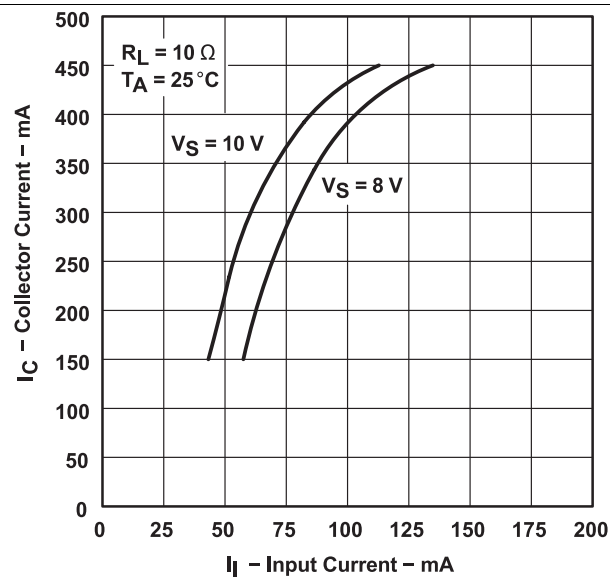
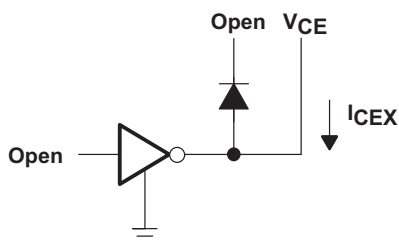
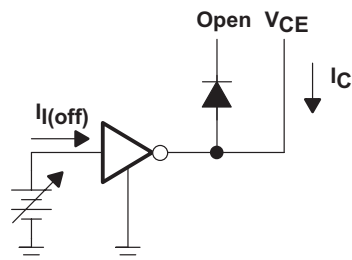


Figure 3. Output Current vs Input Current

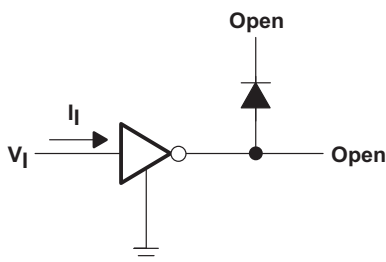
## 8 Parameter Measurement Information



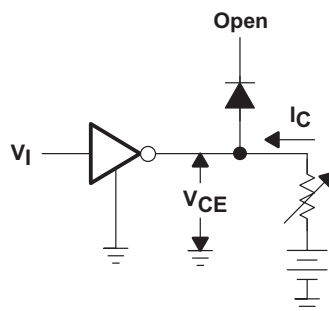
**Figure 4.  $I_{CEX}$  Test Circuit**



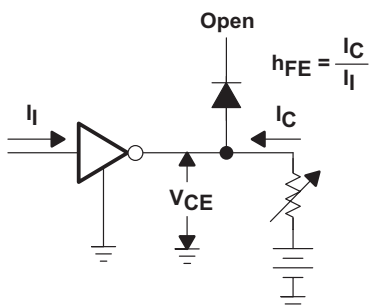
**Figure 5.  $I_{I(off)}$  Test Circuit**



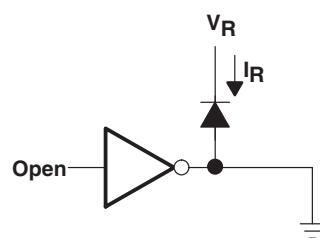
**Figure 6.  $I_{I(on)}$  Test Circuit**



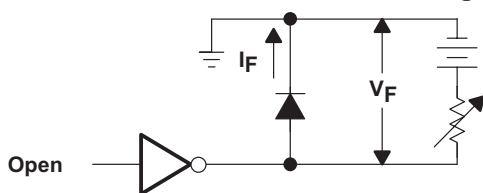
**Figure 7.  $V_{I(on)}$  Test Circuit**



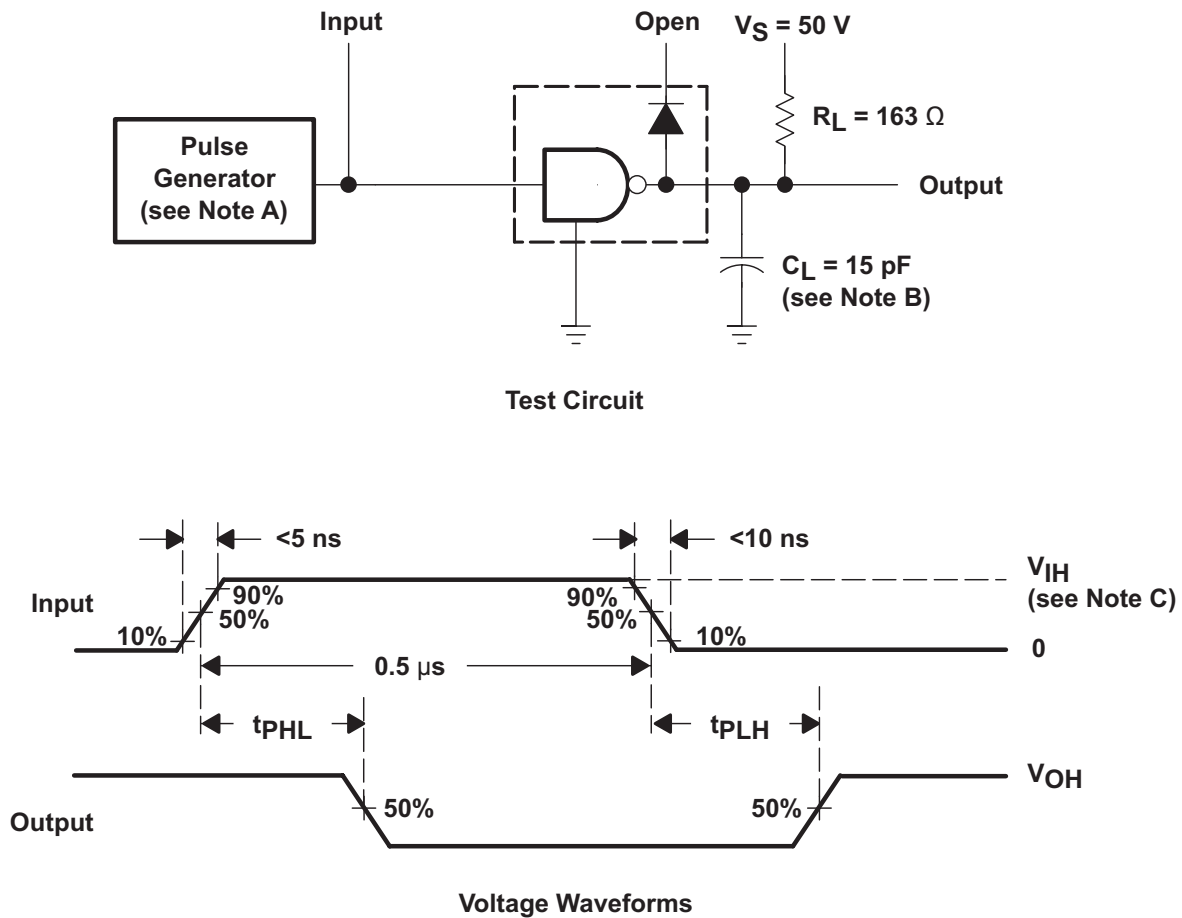
**Figure 8.  $h_{FE}$ ,  $V_{CE(sat)}$  Test Circuit**



**Figure 9.  $I_R$  Test Circuit**



**Figure 10.  $V_F$  Test Circuit**

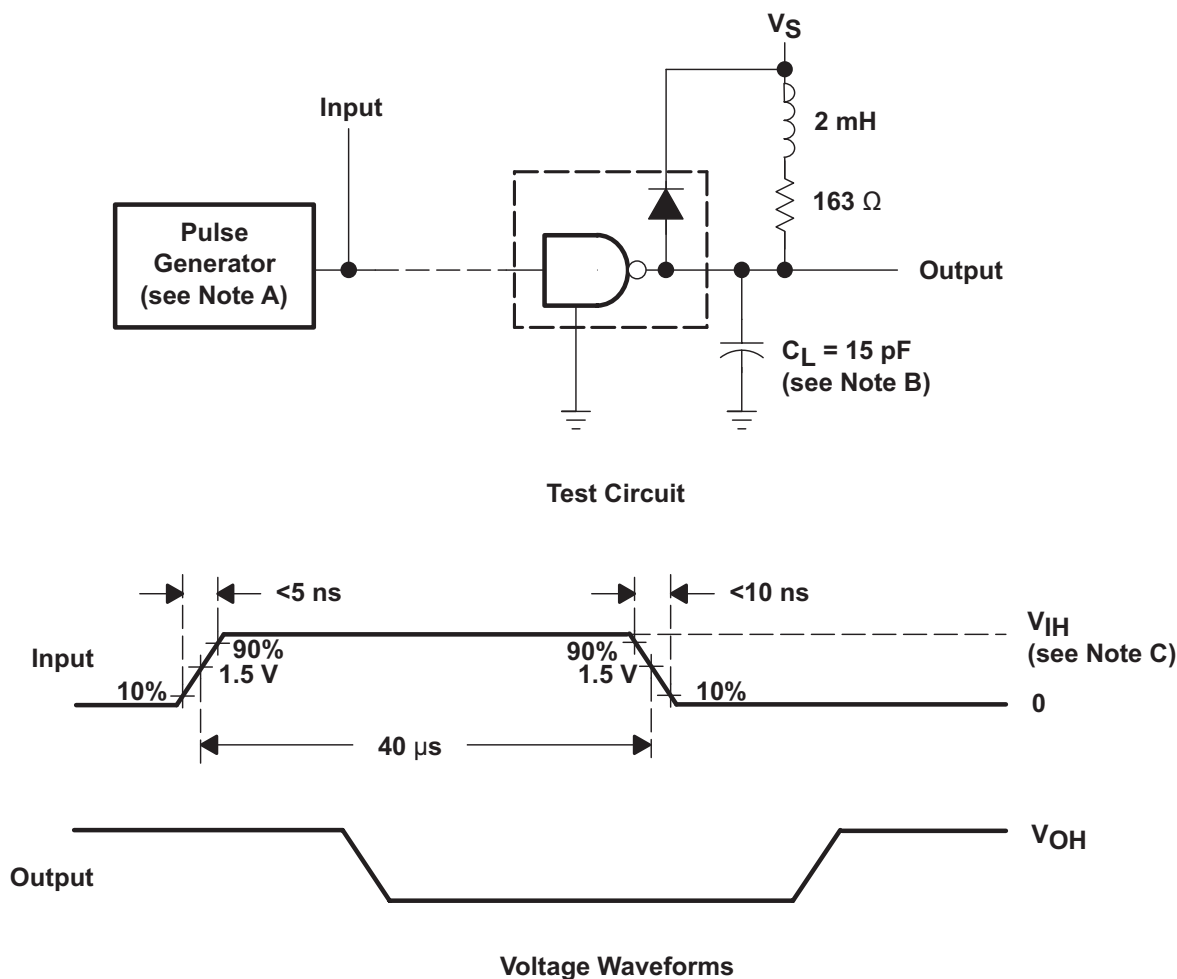
**Parameter Measurement Information (continued)**


- A. The pulse generator has the following characteristics: PRR = 12.5 kHz,  $Z_O = 50\ \Omega$ .
- B.  $C_L$  includes probe and jig capacitance.
- C.  $V_{IH} = 3\text{ V}$

**Figure 11. Propagation Delay-Times**



## Parameter Measurement Information (continued)



- A. The pulse generator has the following characteristics: PRR = 12.5 kHz,  $Z_O = 50\ \Omega$ .
- B.  $C_L$  includes probe and jig capacitance.
- C.  $V_{IH} = 3\text{ V}$

**Figure 12. Latch-Up Test**

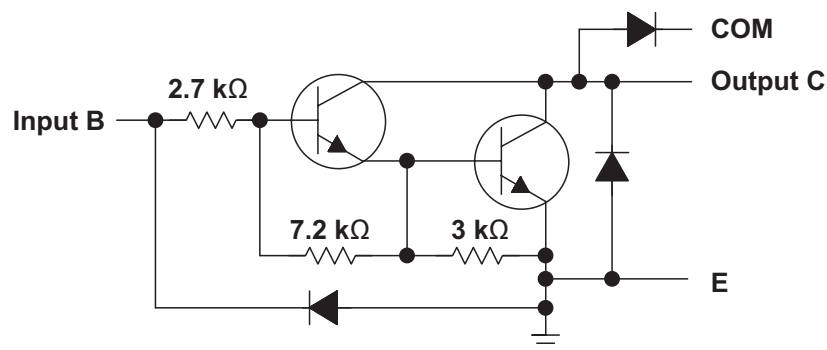
## 9 Detailed Description

### 9.1 Overview

This standard device has proven ubiquity and versatility across a wide range of applications. This is due to its integration of 8 Darlington transistors that are capable of sinking up to 500 mA and wide GPIO range capability.

The ULN2803A comprises seven high voltage, high current NPN Darlington transistor pairs. All units feature a common emitter and open collector outputs. To maximize their effectiveness, these units contain suppression diodes for inductive loads. The ULN2803A has a series base resistor to each Darlington pair, thus allowing operation directly with TTL or CMOS operating at supply voltages of 5.0 V or 3.3 V. The ULN2803A offers solutions to a great many interface needs, including solenoids, relays, lamps, small motors, and LEDs. Applications requiring sink currents beyond the capability of a single output may be accommodated by paralleling the outputs.

### 9.2 Functional Block Diagram



### 9.3 Feature Description

Each channel of ULN2803A consists of Darlington connected NPN transistors. This connection creates the effect of a single transistor with a very high current gain ( $\beta^2$ ). This can be as high as 10,000 A/A at certain currents. The very high  $\beta$  allows for high output current drive with a very low input current, essentially equating to operation with low GPIO voltages.

The GPIO voltage is converted to base current via the 2.7 kΩ resistor connected between the input and base of the pre-driver Darlington NPN. The 7.2 kΩ & 3.0 kΩ resistors connected between the base and emitter of each respective NPN act as pull-downs and suppress the amount of leakage that may occur from the input.

The diodes connected between the output and COM pin is used to suppress the kick-back voltage from an inductive load that is excited when the NPN drivers are turned off (stop sinking) and the stored energy in the coils causes a reverse current to flow into the coil supply via the kick-back diode.

In normal operation the diodes on base and collector pins to emitter will be reversed biased. If these diode are forward biased, internal parasitic NPN transistors will draw (a nearly equal) current from other (nearby) device pins.

### 9.4 Device Functional Modes

#### 9.4.1 Inductive Load Drive

When the COM pin is tied to the coil supply voltage, ULN2803A is able to drive inductive loads and suppress the kick-back voltage via the internal free wheeling diodes.

#### 9.4.2 Resistive Load Drive

When driving a resistive load, a pull-up resistor is needed in order for ULN2803A to sink current and for there to be a logic high level. The COM pin can be left floating for these applications.

## 10 Application and Implementation

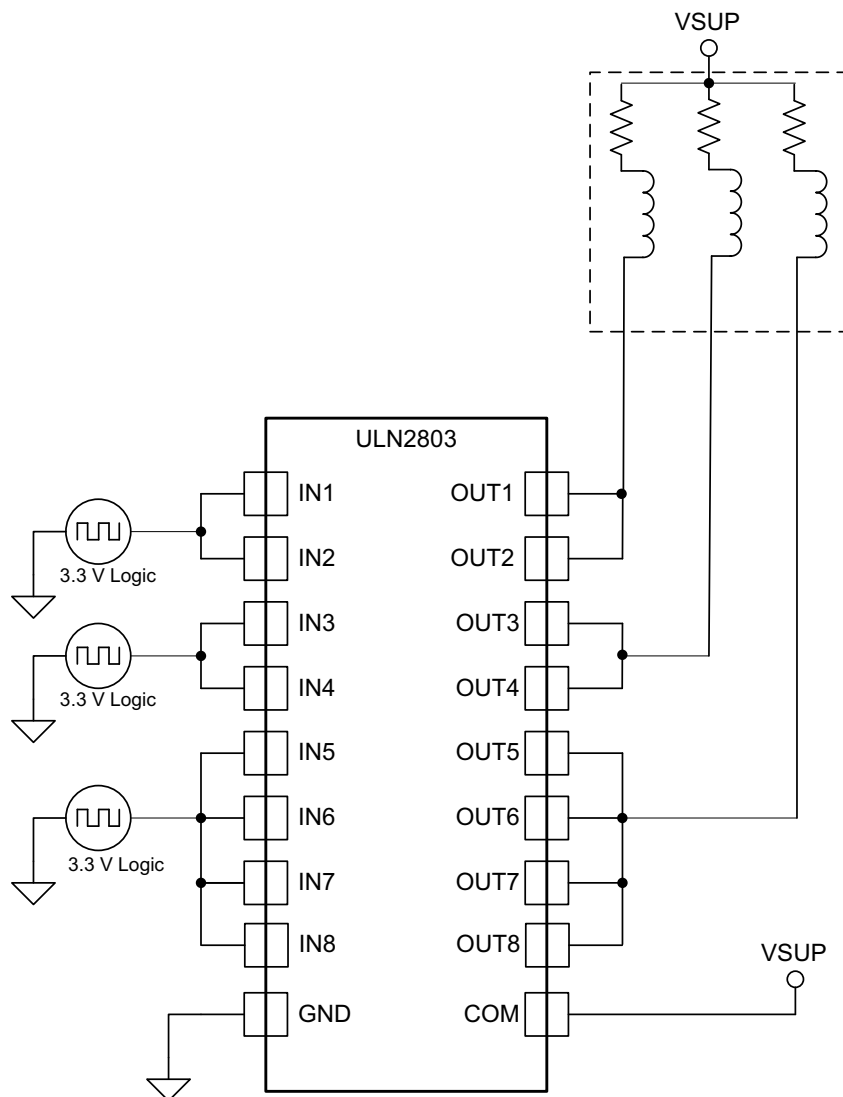
### NOTE

Information in the following applications sections is not part of the TI component specification, and TI does not warrant its accuracy or completeness. TI's customers are responsible for determining suitability of components for their purposes. Customers should validate and test their design implementation to confirm system functionality.

### 10.1 Application Information

ULN2803A will typically be used to drive a high voltage and/or current peripheral from an MCU or logic device that cannot tolerate these conditions. The following design is a common application of ULN2803A, driving inductive loads. This includes motors, solenoids & relays. Each load type can be modeled by what's seen in [Figure 13](#).

### 10.2 Typical Application



**Figure 13. ULN2803A as Inductive Load Driver**

## Typical Application (continued)

### 10.2.1 Design Requirements

For this design example, use the parameters listed in [Table 1](#) as the input parameters.

**Table 1. Design Parameters**

DESIGN PARAMETER	EXAMPLE VALUE
GPIO Voltage	3.3 V or 5.0 V
Coil Supply Voltage	12 V to 100 V
Number of Channels	8
Output Current (R <sub>COIL</sub> )	20 mA to 300 mA per channel
Duty Cycle	100%

### 10.2.2 Detailed Design Procedure

When using ULN2803A in a coil driving application, determine the following:

- Input Voltage Range
- Temperature Range
- Output & Drive Current
- Power Dissipation

#### 10.2.2.1 Drive Current

The coil current is determined by the coil voltage (V<sub>SUP</sub>), coil resistance & output low voltage (V<sub>OL</sub> or V<sub>CE(SAT)</sub>).

$$I_{COIL} = (V_{SUP} - V_{CE(SAT)}) / R_{COIL} \quad (1)$$

#### 10.2.2.2 Output Low Voltage

The output low voltage (V<sub>OL</sub>) is the same thing as V<sub>CE(SAT)</sub> and can be determined by, [Figure 1](#), [Figure 2](#), or [Electrical Characteristics](#).

#### 10.2.2.3 Power Dissipation & Temperature

The number of coils driven is dependent on the coil current and on-chip power dissipation. To determine the number of coils possible, use the below equation to calculate ULN2803A on-chip power dissipation P<sub>D</sub>:

$$P_D = \sum_{i=1}^N V_{OLi} \times I_{Li}$$

Where:

N is the number of channels active together.

V<sub>OLi</sub> is the OUT<sub>i</sub> pin voltage for the load current I<sub>Li</sub>. This is the same as V<sub>CE(SAT)</sub> (2)

In order to guarantee reliability of ULN2803A and the system the on-chip power dissipation must be lower than or equal to the maximum allowable power dissipation (P<sub>D(MAX)</sub>) dictated by below equation [Equation 3](#).

$$P_{D(MAX)} = \frac{(T_{J(MAX)} - T_A)}{\theta_{JA}}$$

Where:

T<sub>J(MAX)</sub> is the target maximum junction temperature.

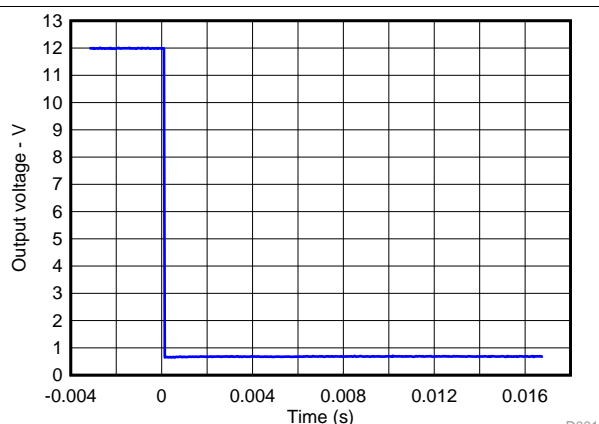
T<sub>A</sub> is the operating ambient temperature.

θ<sub>JA</sub> is the package junction to ambient thermal resistance. (3)

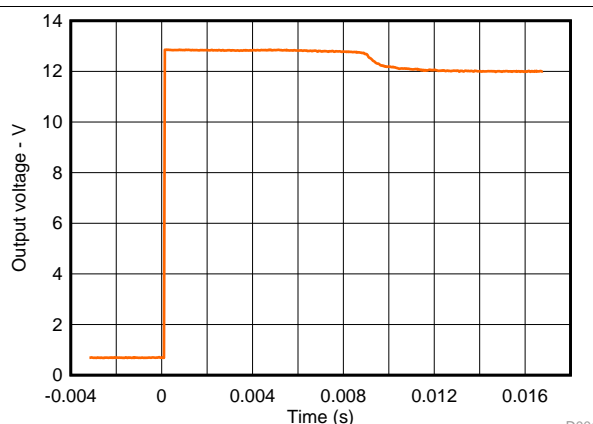
It is recommended to limit ULN2803A IC's die junction temperature to less than 125°C. The IC junction temperature is directly proportional to the on-chip power dissipation.

### 10.2.3 Application Curves

The following curves were generated with ULN2803A driving an OMRON G5NB relay –  $V_{in} = 5.0V$ ;  $V_{sup} = 12 V$  &  $R_{COIL} = 2.8 k\Omega$



**Figure 14. Output Response with Activation of Coil (Turn On)**



**Figure 15. Output Response with De-activation of Coil (Turn Off)**

## 11 Power Supply Recommendations

This part does not need a power supply; however, the COM pin is typically tied to the system power supply. When this is the case, it is very important to make sure that the output voltage does not heavily exceed the COM pin voltage. This will heavily forward bias the fly-back diodes and cause a large current to flow into COM, potentially damaging the on-chip metal or over-heating the part.

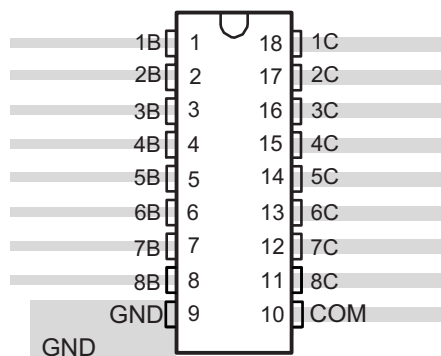
## 12 Layout

### 12.1 Layout Guidelines

Thin traces can be used on the input due to the low current logic that is typically used to drive ULN2803A. Care must be taken to separate the input channels as much as possible, as to eliminate cross-talk. Thick traces are recommended for the output, in order to drive whatever high currents that may be needed. Wire thickness can be determined by the trace material's current density and desired drive current.

Since all of the channels currents return to a common emitter, it is best to size that trace width to be very wide. Some applications require up to 2.5 A.

### 12.2 Layout Example



**Figure 16. Package Layout**

## 13 Device and Documentation Support

### 13.1 Trademarks

All trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

### 13.2 Electrostatic Discharge Caution



These devices have limited built-in ESD protection. The leads should be shorted together or the device placed in conductive foam during storage or handling to prevent electrostatic damage to the MOS gates.

### 13.3 Glossary

[SLYZ022](#) — *TI Glossary*.

This glossary lists and explains terms, acronyms, and definitions.

## 14 Mechanical, Packaging, and Orderable Information

The following pages include mechanical, packaging, and orderable information. This information is the most current data available for the designated devices. This data is subject to change without notice and revision of this document. For browser-based versions of this data sheet, refer to the left-hand navigation.

## PACKAGING INFORMATION

Orderable Device	Status (1)	Package Type	Package Drawing	Pins	Package Qty	Eco Plan (2)	Lead/Ball Finish (6)	MSL Peak Temp (3)	Op Temp (°C)	Device Marking (4/5)	Samples
ULN2803ADW	ACTIVE	SOIC	DW	18	40	Green (RoHS & no Sb/Br)	CU NIPDAU	Level-2-260C-1 YEAR	-40 to 85	ULN2803A	<a href="#">Samples</a>
ULN2803ADWG4	ACTIVE	SOIC	DW	18	40	Green (RoHS & no Sb/Br)	CU NIPDAU	Level-2-260C-1 YEAR	-40 to 85	ULN2803A	<a href="#">Samples</a>
ULN2803ADWR	ACTIVE	SOIC	DW	18	2000	Green (RoHS & no Sb/Br)	CU NIPDAU	Level-2-260C-1 YEAR	-40 to 85	ULN2803A	<a href="#">Samples</a>
ULN2803ADWRG4	ACTIVE	SOIC	DW	18	2000	Green (RoHS & no Sb/Br)	CU NIPDAU	Level-2-260C-1 YEAR	-40 to 85	ULN2803A	<a href="#">Samples</a>

(1) The marketing status values are defined as follows:

**ACTIVE:** Product device recommended for new designs.

**LIFEBUY:** TI has announced that the device will be discontinued, and a lifetime-buy period is in effect.

**NRND:** Not recommended for new designs. Device is in production to support existing customers, but TI does not recommend using this part in a new design.

**PREVIEW:** Device has been announced but is not in production. Samples may or may not be available.

**OBSOLETE:** TI has discontinued the production of the device.

(2) Eco Plan - The planned eco-friendly classification: Pb-Free (RoHS), Pb-Free (RoHS Exempt), or Green (RoHS & no Sb/Br) - please check <http://www.ti.com/productcontent> for the latest availability information and additional product content details.

**TBD:** The Pb-Free/Green conversion plan has not been defined.

**Pb-Free (RoHS):** TI's terms "Lead-Free" or "Pb-Free" mean semiconductor products that are compatible with the current RoHS requirements for all 6 substances, including the requirement that lead not exceed 0.1% by weight in homogeneous materials. Where designed to be soldered at high temperatures, TI Pb-Free products are suitable for use in specified lead-free processes.

**Pb-Free (RoHS Exempt):** This component has a RoHS exemption for either 1) lead-based flip-chip solder bumps used between the die and package, or 2) lead-based die adhesive used between the die and leadframe. The component is otherwise considered Pb-Free (RoHS compatible) as defined above.

**Green (RoHS & no Sb/Br):** TI defines "Green" to mean Pb-Free (RoHS compatible), and free of Bromine (Br) and Antimony (Sb) based flame retardants (Br or Sb do not exceed 0.1% by weight in homogeneous material)

(3) MSL, Peak Temp. - The Moisture Sensitivity Level rating according to the JEDEC industry standard classifications, and peak solder temperature.

(4) There may be additional marking, which relates to the logo, the lot trace code information, or the environmental category on the device.

(5) Multiple Device Markings will be inside parentheses. Only one Device Marking contained in parentheses and separated by a "~" will appear on a device. If a line is indented then it is a continuation of the previous line and the two combined represent the entire Device Marking for that device.

(6) Lead/Ball Finish - Orderable Devices may have multiple material finish options. Finish options are separated by a vertical ruled line. Lead/Ball Finish values may wrap to two lines if the finish value exceeds the maximum column width.

**Important Information and Disclaimer:** The information provided on this page represents TI's knowledge and belief as of the date that it is provided. TI bases its knowledge and belief on information provided by third parties, and makes no representation or warranty as to the accuracy of such information. Efforts are underway to better integrate information from third parties. TI has taken and continues to take reasonable steps to provide representative and accurate information but may not have conducted destructive testing or chemical analysis on incoming materials and chemicals. TI and TI suppliers consider certain information to be proprietary, and thus CAS numbers and other limited information may not be available for release.

In no event shall TI's liability arising out of such information exceed the total purchase price of the TI part(s) at issue in this document sold by TI to Customer on an annual basis.



**TAPE AND REEL INFORMATION**


\*All dimensions are nominal

Device	Package Type	Package Drawing	Pins	SPQ	Reel Diameter (mm)	Reel Width W1 (mm)	A0 (mm)	B0 (mm)	K0 (mm)	P1 (mm)	W (mm)	Pin1 Quadrant
ULN2803ADWR	SOIC	DW	18	2000	330.0	24.4	10.9	12.0	2.7	12.0	24.0	Q1

## TAPE AND REEL BOX DIMENSIONS

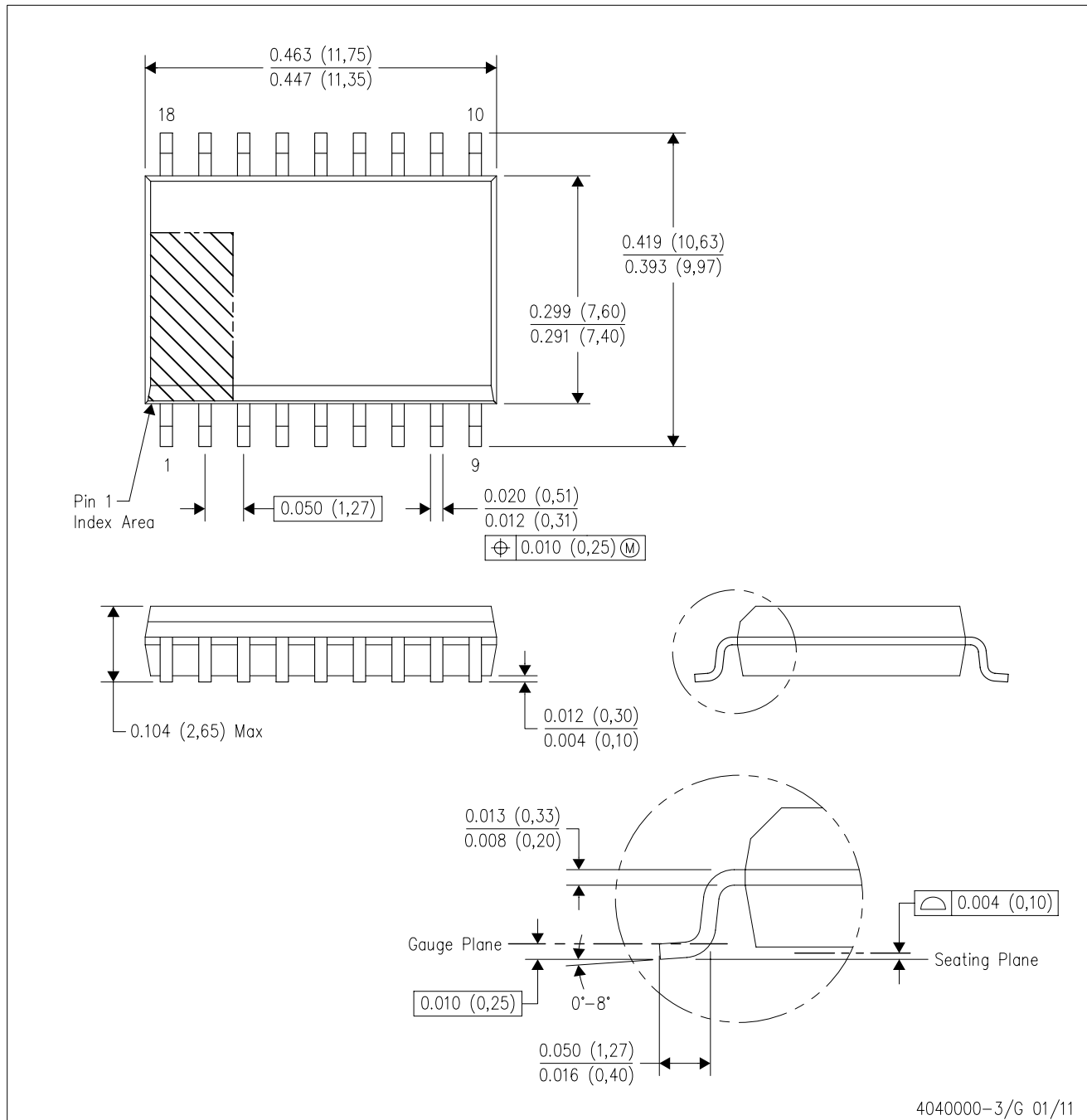


\*All dimensions are nominal

Device	Package Type	Package Drawing	Pins	SPQ	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Height (mm)
ULN2803ADWR	SOIC	DW	18	2000	370.0	355.0	55.0

DW (R-PDSO-G18)

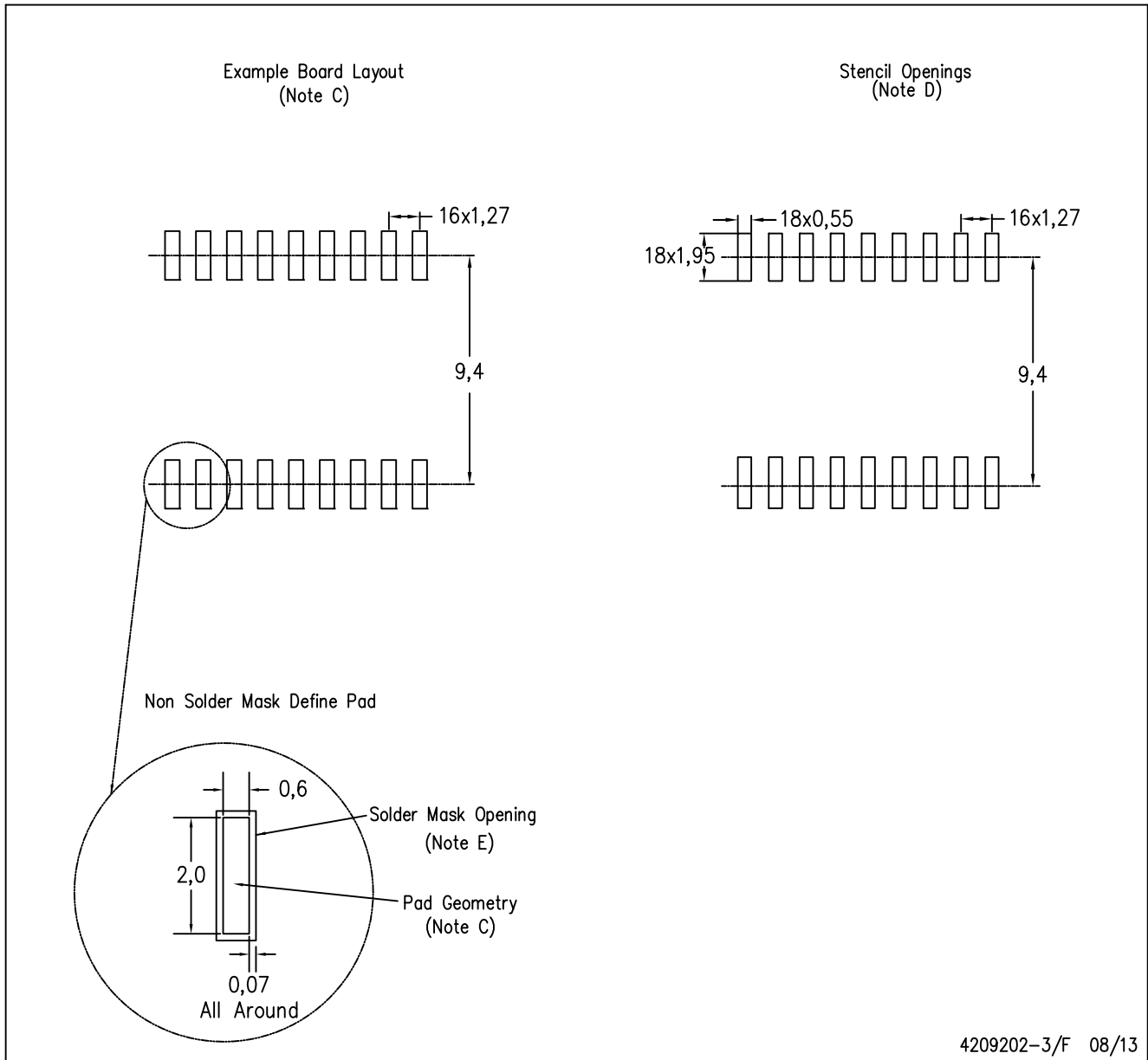
PLASTIC SMALL OUTLINE



- NOTES:
- A. All linear dimensions are in inches (millimeters). Dimensioning and tolerancing per ASME Y14.5M-1994.
  - B. This drawing is subject to change without notice.
  - C. Body dimensions do not include mold flash or protrusion not to exceed 0.006 (0,15).
  - D. Falls within JEDEC MS-013 variation AB.

DW (R-PDSO-G18)

PLASTIC SMALL OUTLINE



- NOTES:
- A. All linear dimensions are in millimeters.
  - B. This drawing is subject to change without notice.
  - C. Refer to IPC7351 for alternate board design.
  - D. Laser cutting apertures with trapezoidal walls and also rounding corners will offer better paste release. Customers should contact their board assembly site for stencil design recommendations. Refer to IPC-7525
  - E. Customers should contact their board fabrication site for solder mask tolerances between and around signal pads.

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