ISL6420B Evaluation Board User Guide

Hardware Description

The ISL6420B evaluation boards illustrates the operation of the IC.

The ISL6420B simplifies the implementation of a complete control and protection scheme for a high performance DC/DC buck converter. The IC can be operated with an input voltage range from 4.5V to 5.5V or 5.5V to 28V. It is designed to drive N-channel MOSFETs in a synchronous rectified buck topology. The control, output adjustment, monitoring and protection functions are all located in a single package.

ISL6420B Reference Design

Two versions of the evaluation board, based on the package type, are listed in Table 1. Both are configured for an output voltage of 3.3V and 10A maximum load.

TABLE 1.

BOARD NAME	IC	PACKAGE
ISL6420BEVAL1Z	ISL6420BIRZ	20 Ld QFN
ISL6420BEVAL2Z	ISL6420BIAZ	20 Ld QSSOP

The design criteria is listed in Table 2.

TABLE 2.

PAREMETERS	VALUES
Output voltage (V_{OUT})	3.3V
Output current (I_{OUT})	10A
Switching Frequency	300kHz

Power and Load Connections

If using an input supply ranging from 5.5V to 28V, connect the supply to VIN (P1) and GND (P2) posts as shown in Figure 1. ISL6420B has an internal +5V linear regulator, which can be used to bias the IC.

When using a 5V ±10% input supply, connect the negative polarity to GND (P2) post and connect the positive polarity of the power supply to both VIN (P1) post and the VCC5 (TP7) post. This will bypass the internal LDO and the chip will be powered by the input power supply.

CAUTION: Ensure that the voltage at VCC5 terminal does not exceed >6V. This can damage the IC.

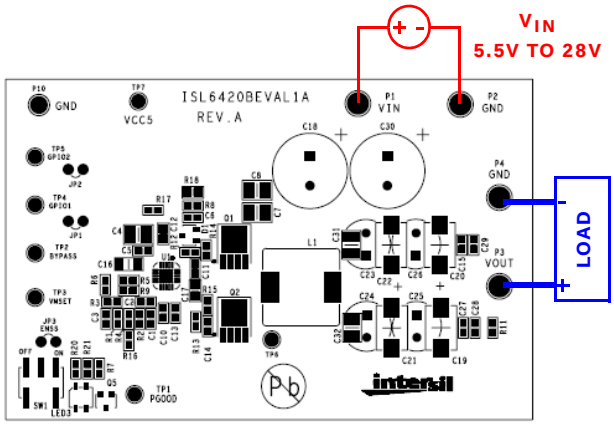


FIGURE 1. POWER AND LOAD CONNECTIONS FOR 5.5V TO 28V INPUT VOLTAGE

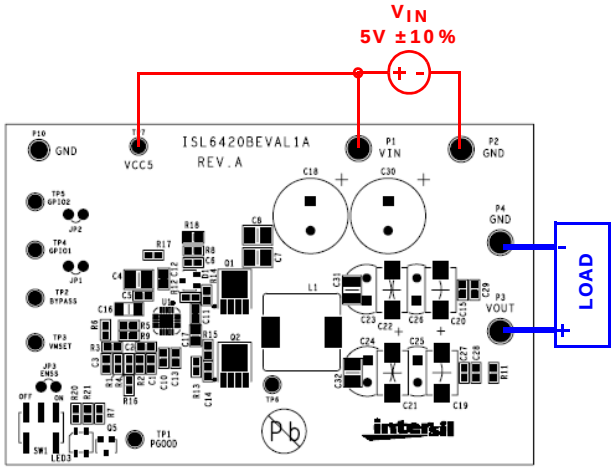


FIGURE 2. POWER AND LOAD CONNECTIONS FOR 5V±10% INPUT VOLTAGE

Start-up

The Power On Reset (POR) function initiates the soft-start sequence. An internal 10µA current source charges an external capacitor connected to the ENSS pin from 0V to 3.3V. When the ENSS pin reaches 1V, the IC is enabled; the error amplifier reference voltage ramps from 0V to 0.6V following the slope of the ENSS pin voltage.

There are two distinct start-up methods for the ISL6420B. The first method is invoked through the application of power to the IC. The soft-start feature allows for a controlled turn-on of the output once the POR threshold of the input voltage has been reached.

Figure 3 shows the start-up profile of the regulator in relation to the start-up of the input supply.

V_{IN} = 18V, V_{OUT} = 3.3V, I_{OUT} = 10A

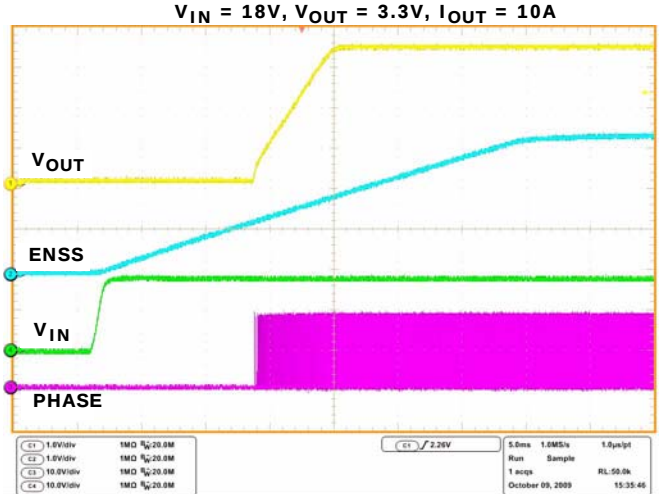


FIGURE 3. POWER-UP OF V_{IN}

The second method of start-up is through the use of the enable feature. Holding the ENSS pin on the ISL6420B below 1V will disable the regulator by forcing both the upper and lower MOSFETs off. Releasing the pin allows the regulator to start-up.

V_{IN} = 18V, V_{OUT} = 3.3V, I_{OUT} = 10A

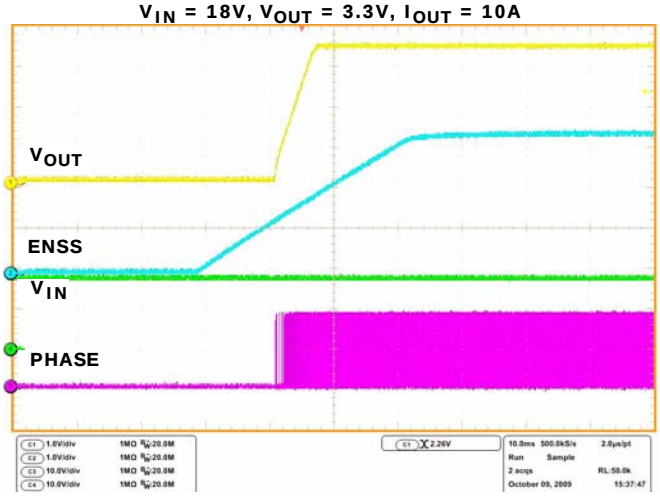


FIGURE 4. ENABLE USING ENSS

Shutdown

If the ENSS pin is pulled down and held below 1V, the regulator will be turned off. Figure 5 shows the shutdown profile of the regulator with the ENSS pin pulled low. Figure 6 shows the shutdown of the regulator when powering down the input supply

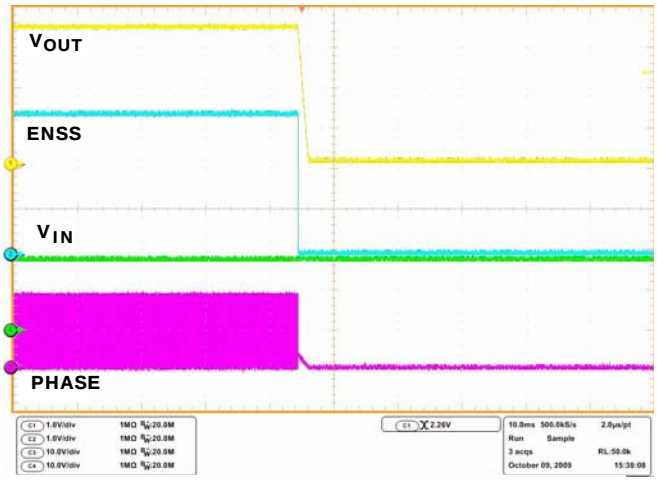


FIGURE 5. SHUTDOWN USING ENSS

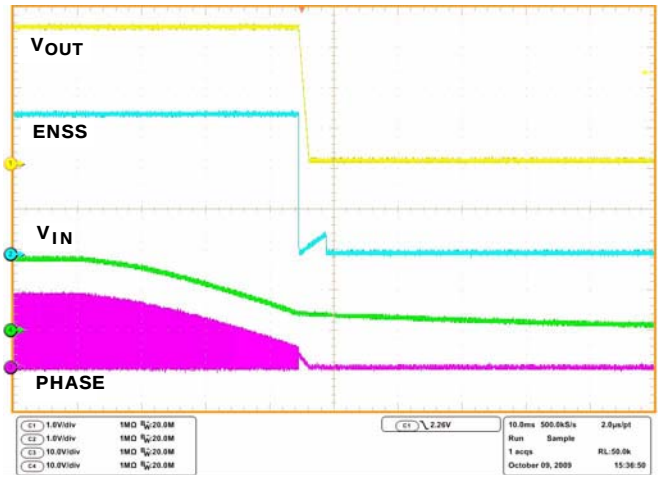


FIGURE 6. POWER-DOWN OF V_{IN}

Output Performance

Switching Frequency

The evaluation board has a 0Ω resistor R9 connecting RT to VCC5 setting the free-running switching frequency to 300kHz. The frequency can be programmed to a different value by removing R9 and populating the R5 location with a resistor value based on the desired frequency.

Output Ripple

Figure 7 shows the ripple voltage on the output of the regulator at the free running 300kHz frequency.

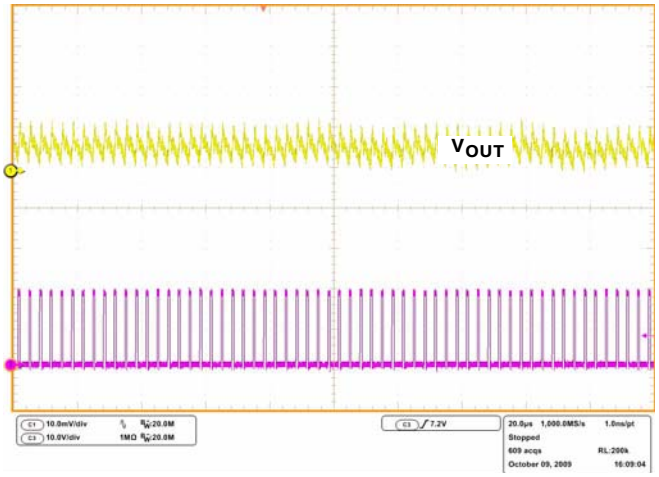


FIGURE 7. OUTPUT RIPPLE

Efficiency

ISL6420B-based regulators enable the design of highly efficient systems. The efficiency of the evaluation board using a 12V, 18V and 24V input supply, as shown in Figure 8.

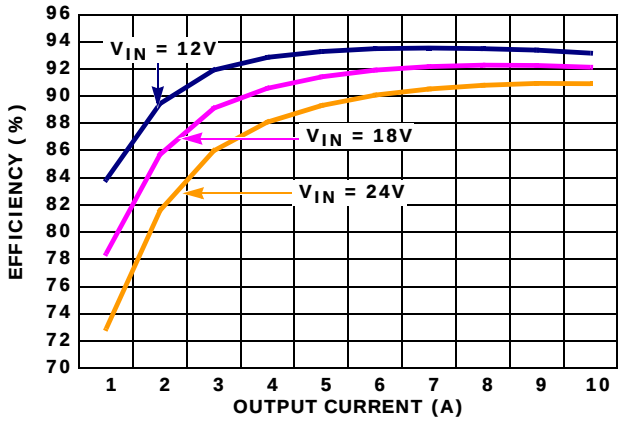


FIGURE 8. EVALUATION BOARD EFFICIENCY (V_{OUT} = 3.3V)

The load regulation of the evaluation board using a 12V, 18V and 24V input supply is shown in Figure 9.

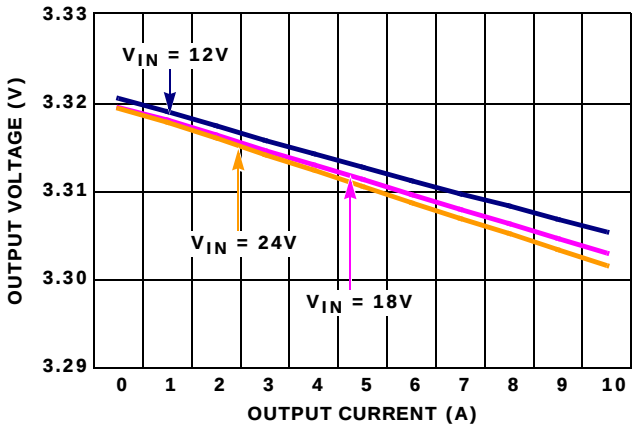


FIGURE 9. EVALUATION BOARD LOAD REGULATION (V_{OUT} = 3.3V)

Power Good

PGOOD will be true (open drain) when the FB pin voltage is within ±10% of the reference voltage and the soft-start sequence is complete, i.e., once the soft-start capacitor is finished charging. The assertion of PGOOD signal can be delayed by a time proportional to a CDEL current of 2µA and the value of the capacitor connected between this pin and ground.The status of PGOOD can be monitored at the PGOOD test point (TP1).

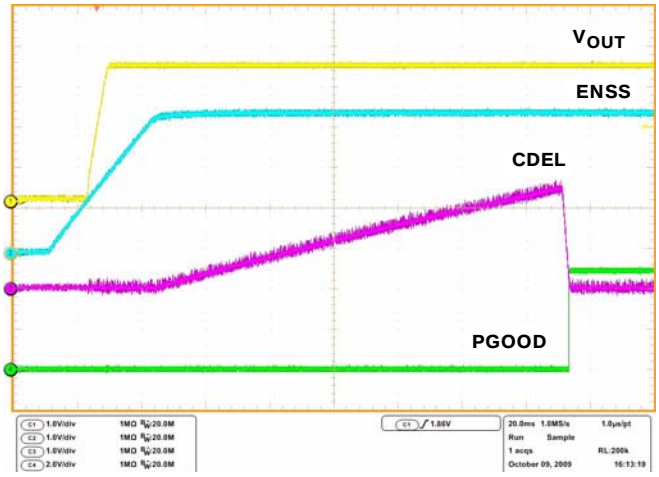


FIGURE 10. PGOOD

Overcurrent Protection

The overcurrent function cycles the soft-start function in a hiccup mode to provide fault protection. Figure 11 shows the overcurrent hiccup mode.

The overcurrent function protects the converter from a shorted output by using the upper MOSFET's $r_{DS(ON)}$ to monitor the current. This method enhances the converter's efficiency and reduces cost by eliminating a current sensing resistor.

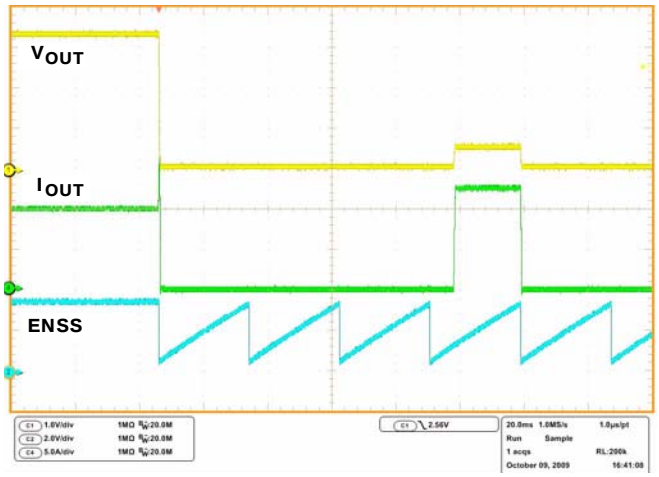


FIGURE 11. OVERCURRENT HICCUP MODE

A resistor, R_{OCSET} (R8), programs the overcurrent trip level. The PHASE node voltage is compared to the voltage on the OCSET pin while the upper FET is on. A current (100µA typically) is pulled from the OCSET pin to establish this voltage across an external resistor. If PHASE is lower than OCSET, while the upper FET is on, then an overcurrent condition is detected for that clock cycle. The pulse is immediately terminated, and a counter is incremented. If an overcurrent condition is detected for 8 consecutive clock cycles, and the circuit is not in soft-start, the ISL6420B enters into hiccup mode. During hiccup, the external capacitor on the ENSS pin is discharged and soft-start is initiated. During soft-start, pulse termination limiting is enabled, but the 8-cycle hiccup counter is held in reset until soft-start is completed.

The overcurrent function will trip at a peak inductor current (I_{PEAK}) determined by Equation 1:

$$I_{PEAK} = \frac{I_{OCSET} \bullet R_{OCSET}}{R_{DS(ON)}} \quad \text{(EQ. 1)}$$

where I_{OCSET} is the internal OCSET current source.

The OC trip point varies mainly due to the MOSFET's $r_{DS(ON)}$ variations. To avoid overcurrent tripping in the normal operating load range, calculate the R_{OCSET} resistor from Equation 1 using:

1. The maximum $r_{DS(ON)}$ at the highest junction temperature
2. The minimum I_{OCSET} from the data sheet specification table

Determine ,

$$I_{PEAK} \text{ for } I_{PEAK} > I_{OUT(MAX)} + (\Delta I)/2 \quad \text{(EQ. 2)}$$

where ΔI is the output inductor ripple current. A small ceramic capacitor should be placed in parallel with R_{OCSET} to smooth the voltage across R_{OCSET} in the presence of switching noise on the input voltage.

The overcurrent trip point on the evaluation board has been set to 16A.

Transient Performance

Figure 12, 13, and 14 show the response of the output when subjected to transient loading from 0A to 10A at 1A/µs slew rate.

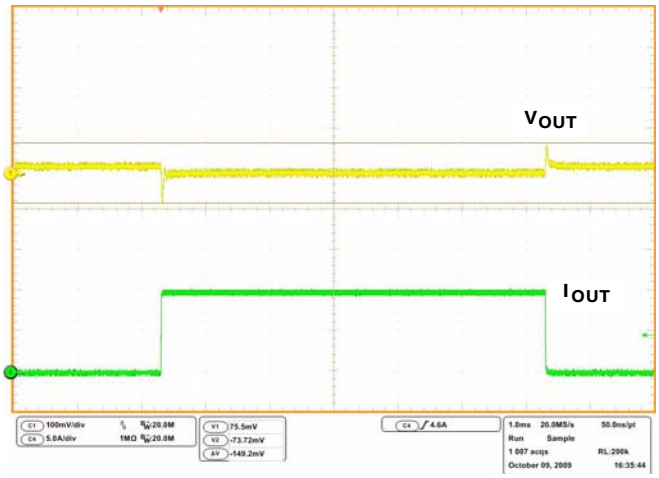


FIGURE 12. TRANSIENT RESPONSE

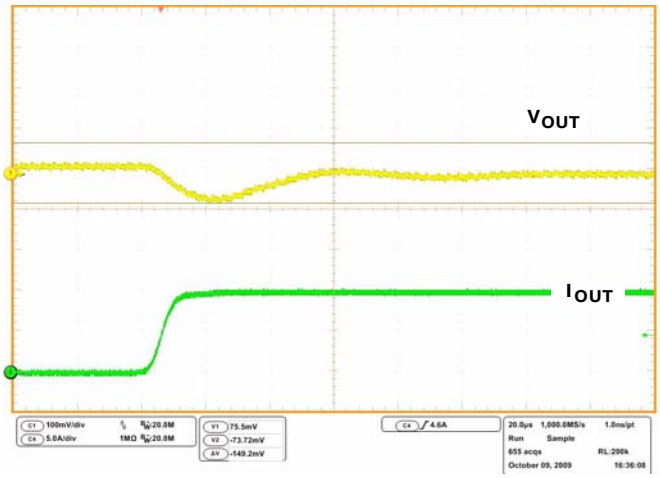


FIGURE 13. TRANSIENT RESPONSE

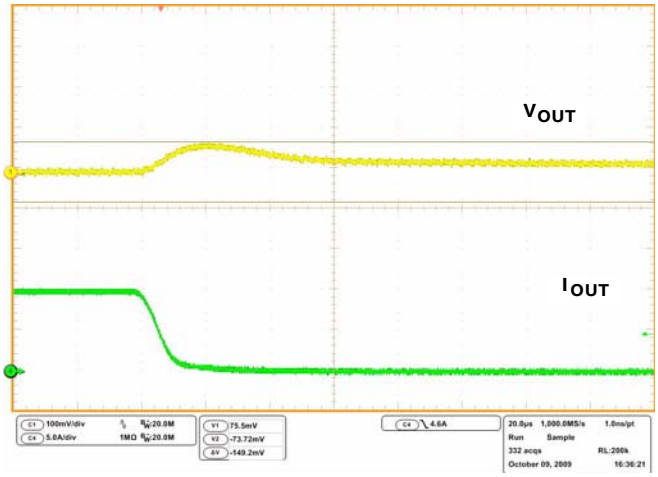


FIGURE 14. TRANSIENT RESPONSE

Voltage Margining

Voltage margining mode is enabled by connecting a margining set resistor (R6) from the VMSET pin to ground. This resistor to ground will set a current, which is switched to the FB pin. The current will be equal to 2.468V divided by the value of the external resistor tied to the VMSET pin. The range of the VMSET resistor is 150kΩ to 400kΩ.

The GPIO1 (TP4) and GPIO2 (TP5) pins control the current switching as per Table 3. The power supply output increases when GPIO2 is HIGH and decreases when GPIO1 is HIGH. Using a jumper to short the pins of JP1 and JP2 will pull GPIO1 and GPIO2 LOW, respectively. Remove one of the jumpers to pull GPIO1 or GPIO2 HIGH for voltage margining. The amount that the output voltage of the power supply changes with voltage margining will be equal to 2.468V times the ratio of the external feedback resistor (R1) and the external resistor tied to VMSET (R6).

TABLE 3.

GPIO1	GPIO2	V_{OUT}
L	L	No Change
L	H	$+\Delta V_{OUT}$
H	L	$-\Delta V_{OUT}$
H	H	Ignored

The evaluation board has a 330kΩ VMSET resistor (R6) setting a current:

$$I_{VM} = 2.468V / 330k\Omega = 7.48\mu A \quad \text{(EQ. 3)}$$

and:

$$V(\Delta) = 7.48\mu A \bullet 11.5k\Omega = 0.086V \quad \text{(EQ. 4)}$$

The slew time of the current is set by an external capacitor (C13) on the CDEL pin, which is charged and discharged with a 100µA current source. The change in voltage on the capacitor is 2.5V. This same capacitor is also used to set the PGOOD rise delay. When PGOOD is low, the internal PGOOD circuitry uses the capacitor and when PGOOD is high the voltage margining circuit uses the capacitor. The slew time for voltage margining can be in the range of 300µs to 2.5ms. The CDEL capacitor on the evaluation board is 0.1µF leading to a voltage margining slew rate of 2.5ms. Figures 15 and 16 show negative and positive voltage margining with a CDEL capacitor of 0.1µF.

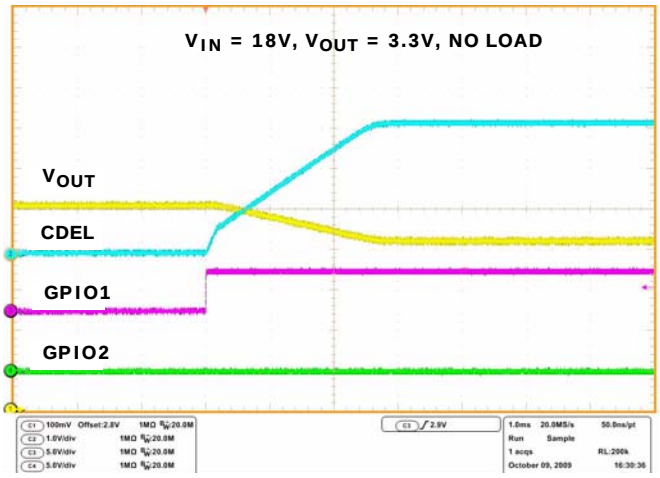


FIGURE 15. NEGATIVE VOLTAGE MARGINING SLEW TIME

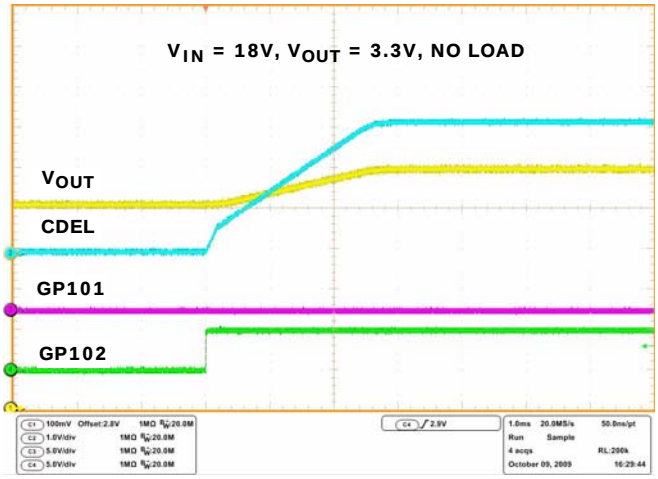


FIGURE 16. POSITIVE VOLTAGE MARGINING SLEW TIME

Layout Guidelines

DC to DC converter layout is extremely important to obtain the desired attenuation to the EMI frequencies. Poor layout practice can cause conducted emissions to actually couple around the filter components directly into the input conductors or cause radiated emissions. The copper traces of power input and output and high current paths must be sized according to the RMS current passing through them. Keep the high current loops small and the path defined. Use single point grounding. Capacitor lead length must be minimized as much as possible to reduce ESL. This includes the traces on the PC board leading up to the capacitor pads. Based on the layout, voltage transients may reduce the level of the acceptable max V_{IN} when operating close to 28V. In this case, one can consider the use of snubbers or reduce the max VIN. Use of a GND plane in a multilayered board is preferred.

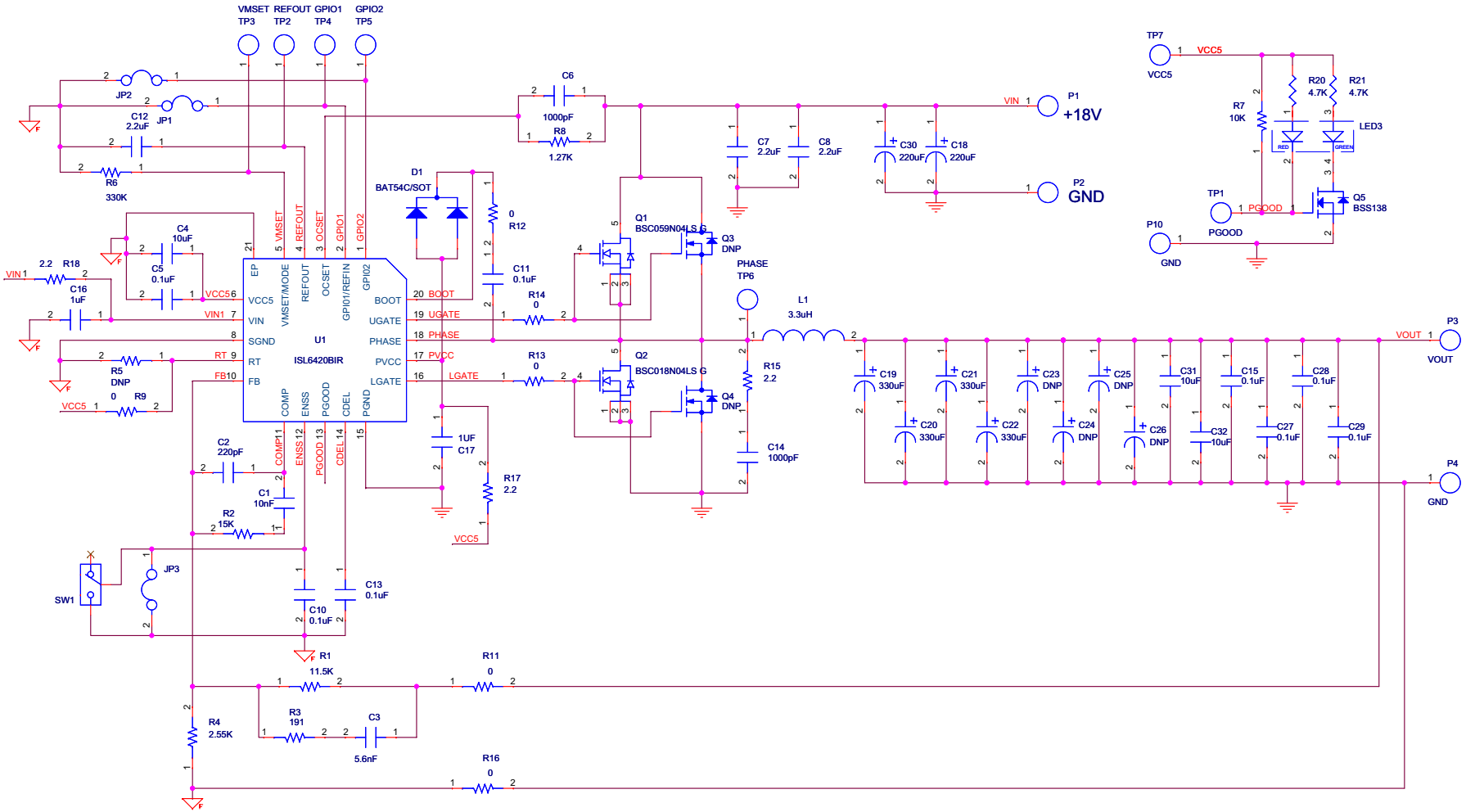
References

For Intersil documents available on the web, see http://www.intersil.com/

[1] ISL6420A Data Sheet, *Advanced Single Synchronous Buck Pulse-Width Modulation (PWM) Controller*, Intersil Corporation, File No. FN9169.

[2] ISL6420B Data Sheet, *Advanced Single Synchronous Buck Pulse-Width Modulation (PWM) Controller*, File No. FN6901

ISL6420BEVAL1Z Schematic



ISL6420BEVAL1Z Rev. A Bill of Materials

ID	REFERENCE	QTY	PART NUMBER	PART TYPE	DESCRIPTION	PACKAGE	VENDOR
1	U1	1	ISL6420BIRZ	PWM Controller IC	IC, Single PWM Controller	20 Ld 4x4 QFN	Intersil
2	Q1	1	BSC059N04LS G	MOSFET, Single	N-channel, 40V	SuperSO8	Infineon
3	Q2	1	BSC018N04LS G	MOSFET, Single	N-channel, 40V	SuperSO8	Infineon
4	Q3, Q4		Do not populate				
5	Q5	1	BSS138LT1G	MOSFET, Single	N-channel, 50V, 200mA	SOT23	On Semi
6	D1	1	BAT54C	Diode, Schottky	30V, 200mA	SOT23	Fairchild
7	L1	1	HC9-3R3-R	Inductor	3.3µH, 20%, 14.3A	SMD	Coiltronics
CAPACITORS							
8	C1	1		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	0.01µF, 10%, 50V	SM_0603	Various
9	C2	1		Capacitor, Ceramic, COG	220pF, 10%, 50V	SM_0603	Various
10	C3	1		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	5600pF, 10%, 50V	SM_0603	Various
11	C4, C31, C32	3		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	1µF, 10%, 25V	SM_1210	Various
12	C5, C10, C11, C13, C15, C27, C28, C29	8		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	0.1µF, 10%, 50V	SM_0603	Various
13	C6, C14	2		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	1000pF, 10%, 50V	SM_0603	Various
14	C7, C8	2		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	2.2µF, 10%, 50V	SM_1210	Various
15	C12	1		Capacitor, Ceramic, X5R	2.2µF, 10%, 16V	SM_1206	Various
16	C16	1		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	1µF, 10%, 50V	SM_1206	Various
17	C17	1		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	1µF, 10%, 50V	SM_0805	Various
18	C18, C30	2	EEUFC1H221S	Capacitor, Alum. Elec.	220µF, 20%, 50V, 1150mA	12.5 X 15	Panasonic
19	C19, C20, C21, C22	4	6TPB330M9L	Capacitor, POSCAP	330µF, 20%, 6.3V, 0.009Ω	Case D3L	SANYO
20	C23, C24, C25, C26		Do not populate				
RESISTORS							
21	R1	1		Resistor, Film	11.5kΩ, 1%, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
22	R2	1		Resistor, Film	15kΩ, 1%, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
23	R3	1		Resistor, Film	191Ω, 1%, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
24	R4	1		Resistor, Film	2.55kΩ, 1%, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
25	R6	1		Resistor, Film	330kΩ, 1%, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
26	R7	1		Resistor, Film	10kΩ, 1%, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
27	R8	1		Resistor, Film	1.27kΩ,1%,1/10W	SM_0603	Various

ISL6420BEVAL1Z Rev. A Bill of Materials (Continued)

ID	REFERENCE	QTY	PART NUMBER	PART TYPE	DESCRIPTION	PACKAGE	VENDOR
28	R9, R11, R12, R13, R14, R16	6		Resistor, Film	0Ω, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
29	R15, R17, R18	3		Resistor, Film	2.2Ω, 1%, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
30	R20, R21	2		Resistor, Film	4.7kΩ,1%,1/10W	SM_0603	Various
31	R5		Do not populate				
OTHERS							
32	P1 - P4	4	1514-2	Turrett Post	Terminal post, through hole, 1/4 inch	PTH	Keystone
33	TP1 - TP5	3	5002	TEST POINT vertical, white	PC test jack	PTH	Keystone
34	JP1, JP2, JP3	3	69190-202HLF	Header	1X2 Break Strip GOLD		BERG/FCI
35	JP1, JP2	2	SPC02SYAN	Jumper	Connector Jumper		Sullins
36	LED3	1	SSL-LXA3025IGC	LED	LED, Red/Green	SMD3x2.5 mm	Lumex
37	SW1	1	GT11MSCBE-T	Toggle Switch	SPDT Toggle Switch	SMD	ITT
38	P10		Do not populate				
39	TP6		Do not populate				

ISL6420BEVAL1Z Printed Circuit Board Layers

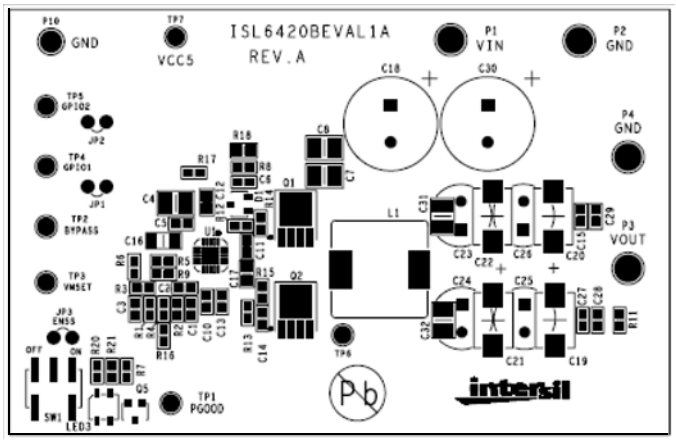


FIGURE 17. ISL6420BEVAL1Z - TOP LAYER (SILKSCREEN)

ISL6420BEVAL1Z Printed Circuit Board Layers (Continued)

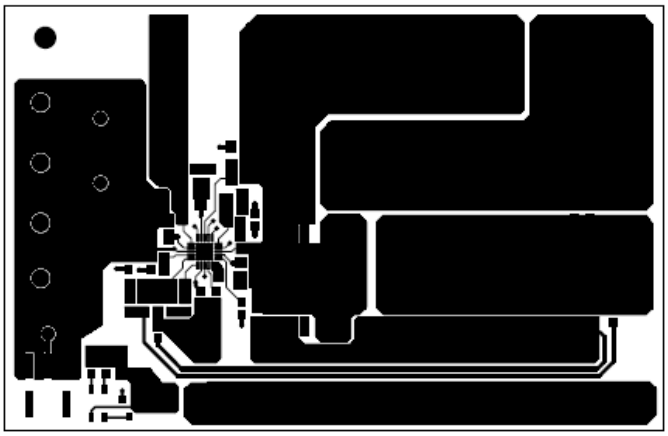


FIGURE 18. ISL6420BEVAL1Z - TOP LAYER (COMPONENT SIDE)

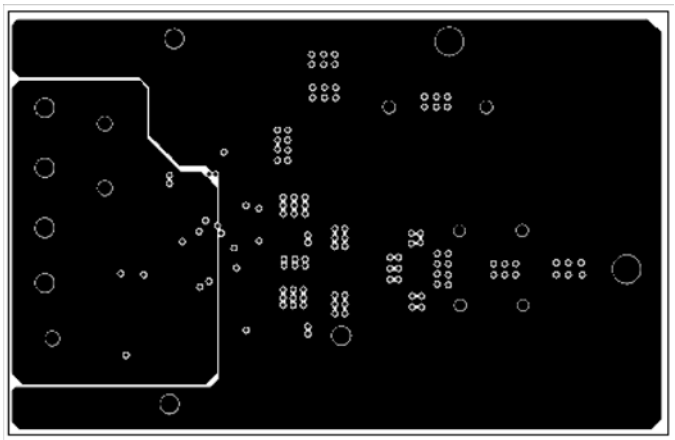


FIGURE 19. ISL6420BEVAL1Z - LAYER 2

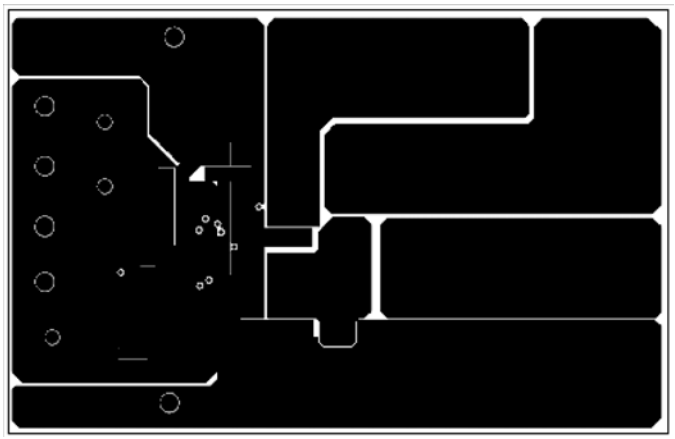


FIGURE 20. ISL6420BEVAL1Z - LAYER 3

ISL6420BEVAL1Z Printed Circuit Board Layers (Continued)

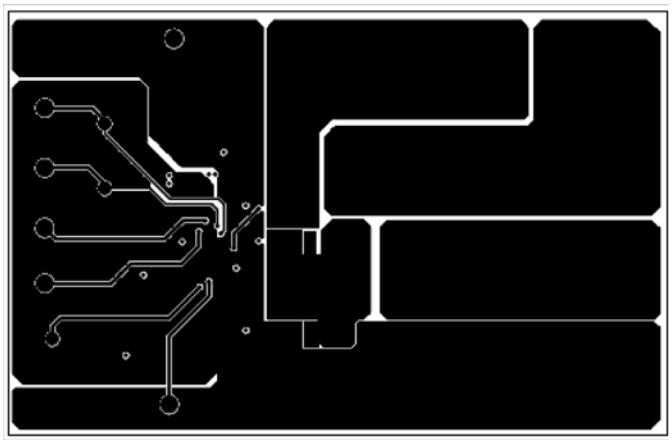


FIGURE 21. ISL6420BEVAL1Z - BOTTOM LAYER (SOLDER SIDE)

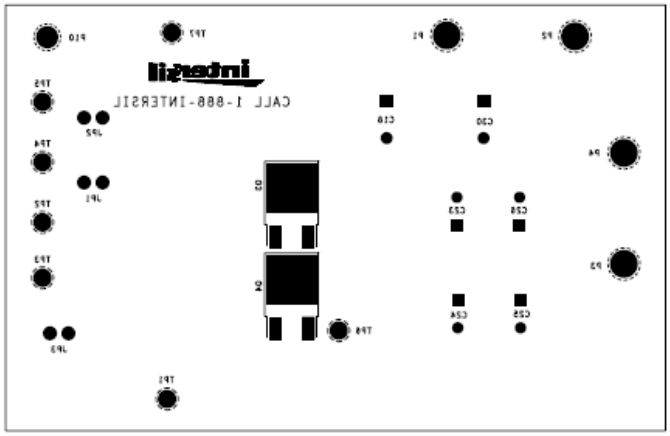
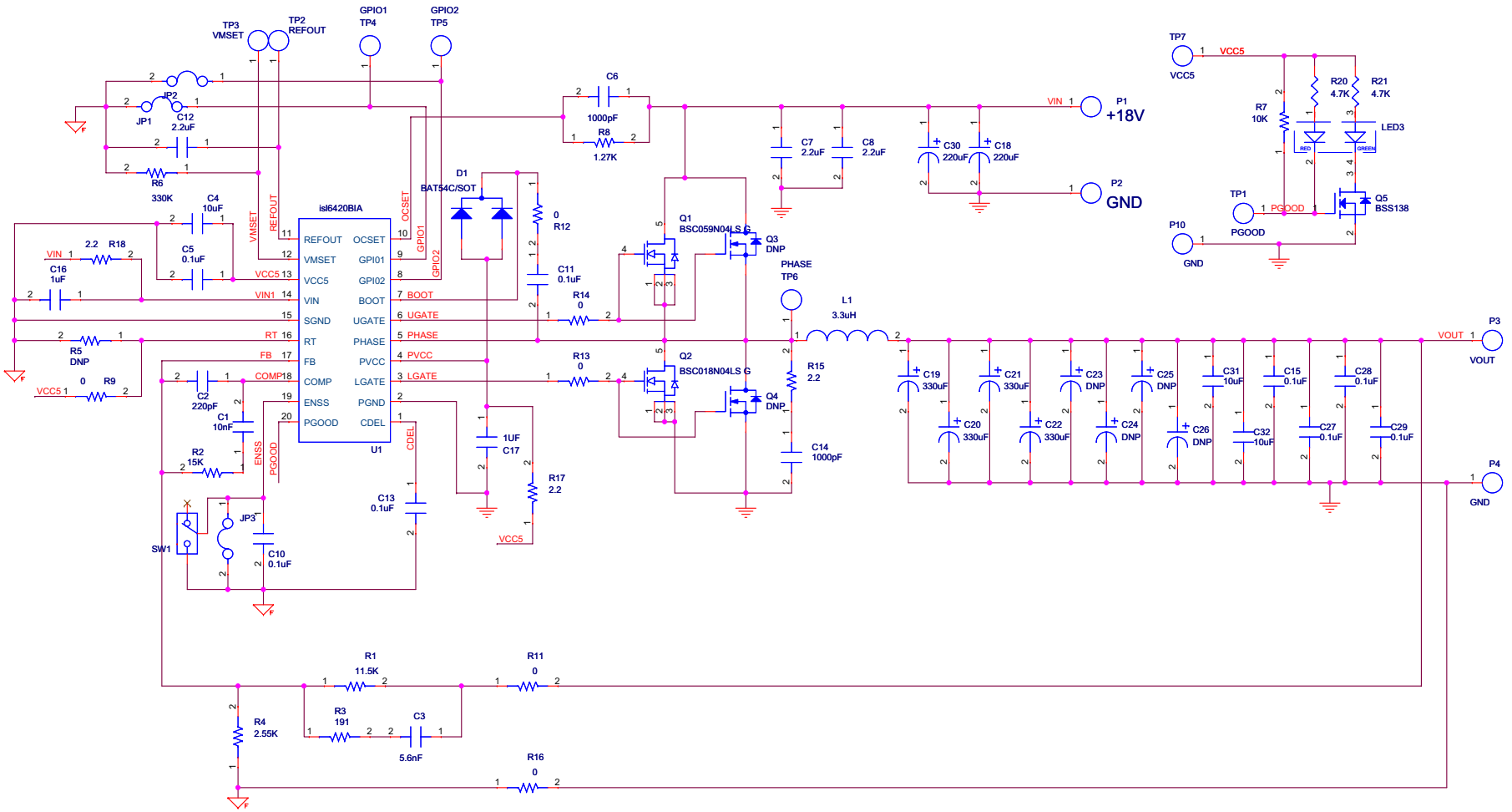


FIGURE 22. ISL6420BEVAL1Z - BOTTOM LAYER (SILKSCREEN)

ISL6420BEVAL2Z Schematic



ISL6420BEVAL2Z Rev. A Bill of Materials

ID	REFERENCE	QTY	PART NUMBER	PART TYPE	DESCRIPTION	PACKAGE	VENDOR
1	U1	1	ISL6420BIAZ	PWM Controller IC	IC, Single PWM Controller	20 Ld QSOP	Intersil
2	Q1	1	BSC059N04LS G	MOSFET, Single	N-channel, 40V	SuperSO8	Infineon
3	Q2	1	BSC018N04LS G	MOSFET, Single	N-channel, 40V	SuperSO8	Infineon
4	Q3, Q4		Do not populate				
5	Q5	1	BSS138LT1G	MOSFET, Single	N-channel, 50V, 200mA	SOT23	On Semi
6	D1	1	BAT54C	Diode, Schottky	30V, 200mA	SOT23	Fairchild
7	L1	1	HC9-3R3-R	Inductor	3.3µH, 20%, 14.3A	SMD	Coiltronics
CAPACITORS							
8	C1	1		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	0.01µF, 10%, 50V	SM_0603	Various
9	C2	1		Capacitor, Ceramic, COG	220pF, 10%, 50V	SM_0603	Various
10	C3	1		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	5600pF, 10%, 50V	SM_0603	Various
11	C4, C31, C32	3		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	1µF, 10%, 25V	SM_1210	Various
12	C5, C10, C11, C13, C15, C27, C28, C29	8		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	0.1µF, 10%, 50V	SM_0603	Various
13	C6, C14	2		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	1000pF, 10%, 50V	SM_0603	Various
14	C7, C8	2		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	2.2µF, 10%, 50V	SM_1210	Various
15	C12	1		Capacitor, Ceramic, X5R	2.2µF, 10%, 16V	SM_1206	Various
16	C16	1		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	1µF, 10%, 50V	SM_1206	Various
17	C17	1		Capacitor, Ceramic, X7R	1µF, 10%, 50V	SM_0805	Various
18	C18, C30	2	EEUFC1H221S	Capacitor, Alum. Elec.	220µF, 20%, 50V, 1150mA	12.5 X 15	Panasonic
19	C19, C20, C21, C22	4	6TPB330M9L	Capacitor, POSCAP	330µF, 20%, 6.3V, 0.009Ω	Case D3L	SANYO
20	C23, C24, C25, C26		Do not populate				
RESISTORS							
21	R1	1		Resistor, Film	11.5kΩ, 1%, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
22	R2	1		Resistor, Film	15kΩ, 1%, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
23	R3	1		Resistor, Film	191Ω, 1%, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
24	R4	1		Resistor, Film	2.55kΩ, 1%, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
25	R6	1		Resistor, Film	330kΩ, 1%, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
26	R7	1		Resistor, Film	10kΩ, 1%, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
27	R8	1		Resistor, Film	1.27kΩ,1%,1/10W	SM_0603	Various

ISL6420BEVAL2Z Rev. A Bill of Materials (Continued)

ID	REFERENCE	QTY	PART NUMBER	PART TYPE	DESCRIPTION	PACKAGE	VENDOR
28	R9, R11, R12, R13, R14, R16	6		Resistor, Film	0Ω, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
29	R15, R17, R18	3		Resistor, Film	2.2Ω, 1%, 1/10W	SM_0603	Various
30	R20, R21	2		Resistor, Film	4.7kΩ,1%,1/10W	SM_0603	Various
31	R5		Do not populate				
OTHERS							
32	P1 - P4	4	1514-2	Turrett Post	Terminal post, through hole, 1/4 inch	PTH	Keystone
33	TP1 - TP5	3	5002	TEST POINT vertical, white	PC test jack	PTH	Keystone
34	JP1, JP2, JP3	3	69190-202HLF	Header	1X2 Break Strip GOLD		BERG/FCI
35	JP1, JP2	2	SPC02SYAN	Jumper	Connector Jumper		Sullins
36	LED3	1	SSL-LXA3025IGC	LED	LED, Red/Green	SMD3x2.5 mm	Lumex
37	SW1	1	GT11MSCBE-T	Toggle Switch	SPDT Toggle Switch	SMD	ITT
38	P10		Do not populate				
39	TP6		Do not populate				

ISL6420BEVAL2Z Printed Circuit Board Layers

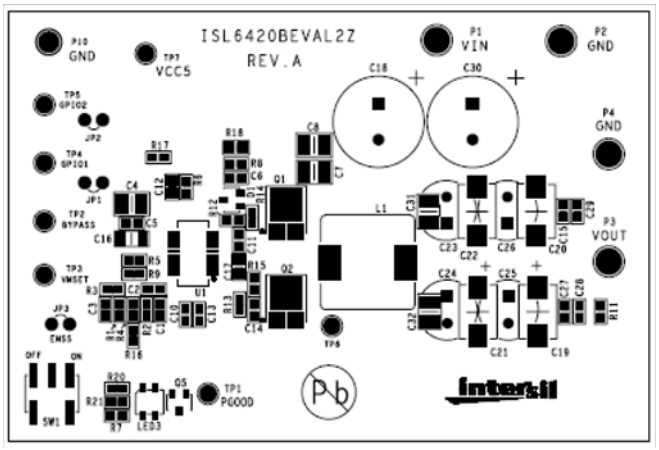


FIGURE 23. ISL6420BEVAL2Z - TOP LAYER (SILKSCREEN)

ISL6420BEVAL2Z Printed Circuit Board Layers (Continued)

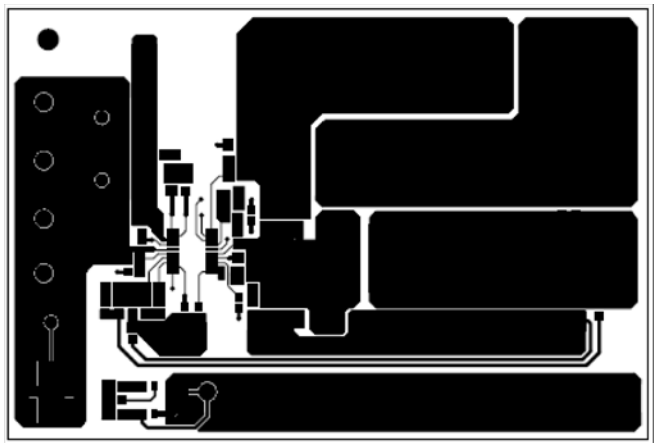


FIGURE 24. ISL6420BEVAL2Z - TOP LAYER (COMPONENT SIDE)

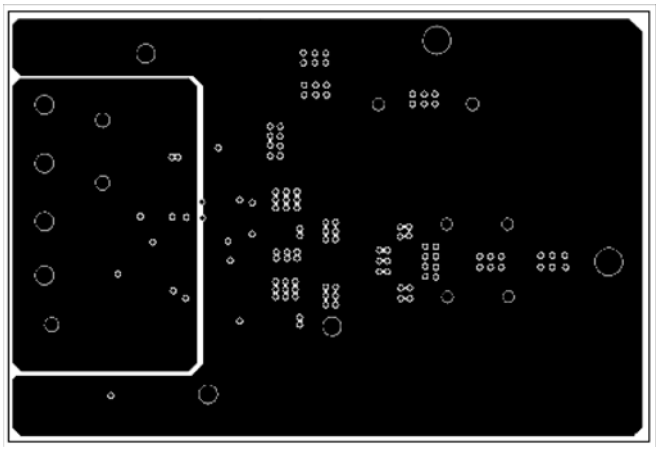


FIGURE 25. ISL6420BEVAL2Z - LAYER 2

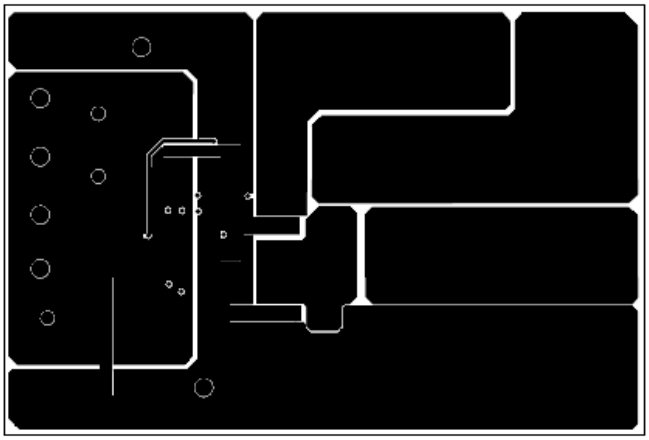


FIGURE 26. ISL6420BEVAL2Z - LAYER 3

ISL6420BEVAL2Z Printed Circuit Board Layers (Continued)

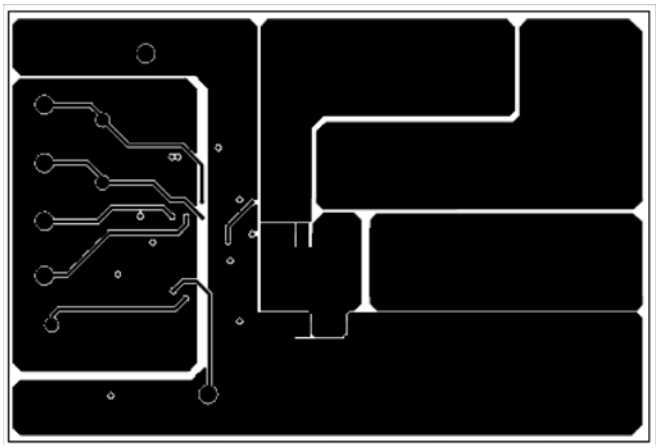


FIGURE 27. ISL6420BEVAL2Z - BOTTOM LAYER (SOLDER SIDE)

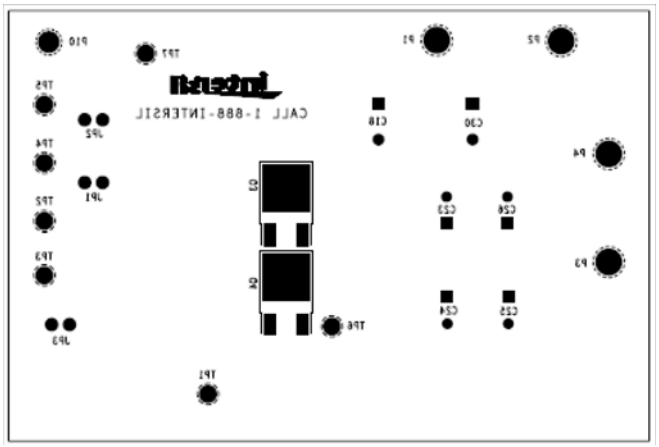


FIGURE 28. ISL6420AEVAL2Z - BOTTOM LAYER (SILKSCREEN)