

TDA8946J

2 x 15 W stereo Bridge Tied Load (BTL) audio amplifier

Rev. 02 — 14 March 2000

Product specification

1. General description

The TDA8946J is a dual-channel audio power amplifier with an output power of 2×15 W at an 8Ω load and a 18 V supply. The circuit contains two Bridge Tied Load (BTL) amplifiers with an all-NPN output stage and standby/mute logic. The TDA8946J comes in a 17-pin DIL-bent-SIL (DBS) power package. The TDA8946J is printed-circuit board (PCB) compatible with all other types in the TDA894x family. One PCB footprint accommodates both the mono and the stereo products.

2. Features

- Few external components
- Fixed gain
- Standby and mute mode
- No on/off switching plops
- Low standby current
- High supply voltage ripple rejection
- Outputs short-circuit protected to ground, supply and across the load
- Thermally protected
- Printed-circuit board compatible.

3. Applications

- Mains fed applications (e.g. TV sound)
- PC audio
- Portable audio.

4. Quick reference data

Table 1: Quick reference data

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
V_{CC}	supply voltage		6	18	25	V
I_q	quiescent supply current	$V_{CC} = 18$ V; $R_L = \infty$	-	28	42	mA
I_{stb}	standby supply current		-	-	10	μ A



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Table 1: Quick reference data...continued

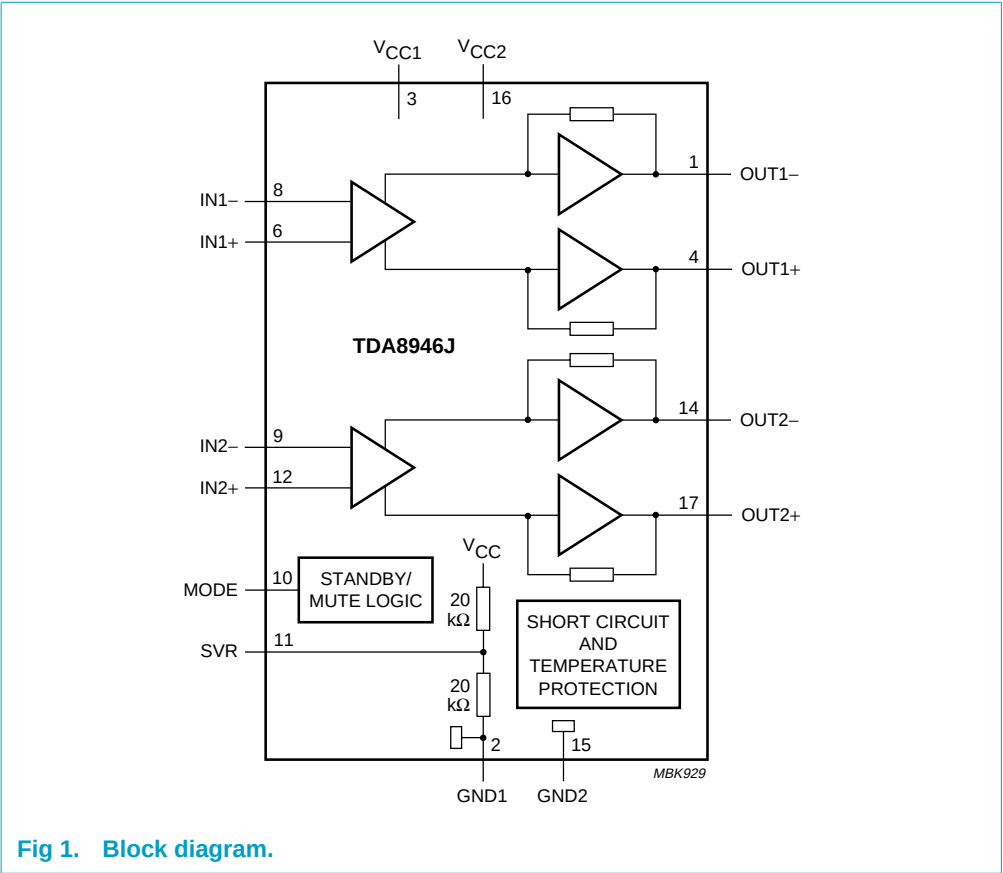
Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
P _o	output power	THD = 10%; R _L = 8 Ω; V _{CC} = 18 V	13	15	-	W
THD	total harmonic distortion	P _o = 1 W	-	0.03	0.1	%
G _v	voltage gain		31	32	33	dB
SVRR	supply voltage ripple rejection		50	65	-	dB

5. Ordering information

Table 2: Ordering information

Type number	Package		
	Name	Description	Version
TDA8946J	DBS17P	plastic DIL-bent-SIL power package; 17 leads (lead length 12 mm)	SOT243-1

6. Block diagram



7. Pinning information

7.1 Pinning

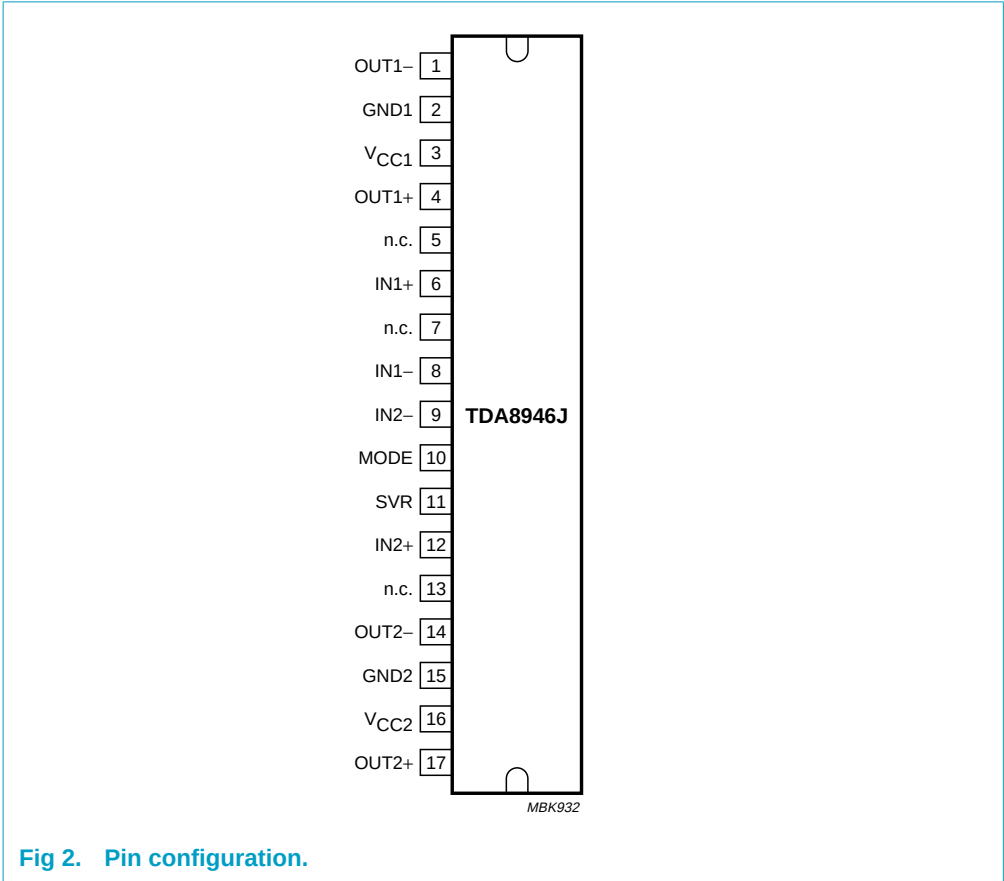


Fig 2. Pin configuration.

7.2 Pin description

Table 3: Pin description

Symbol	Pin	Description
OUT1-	1	negative loudspeaker terminal 1
GND1	2	ground channel 1
V _{CC1}	3	supply voltage channel 1
OUT1+	4	positive loudspeaker terminal 1
n.c.	5	not connected
IN1+	6	positive input 1
n.c.	7	not connected
IN1-	8	negative input 1
IN2-	9	negative input 2
MODE	10	mode selection input (standby, mute, operating)
SVR	11	half supply voltage decoupling (ripple rejection)
IN2+	12	positive input 2

Table 3: Pin description...continued

Symbol	Pin	Description
n.c.	13	not connected
OUT2–	14	negative loudspeaker terminal 2
GND2	15	ground channel 2
V _{CC2}	16	supply voltage channel 2
OUT2+	17	positive loudspeaker terminal 2

8. Functional description

The TDA8946J is a stereo BTL audio power amplifier capable of delivering 2 × 15 W output power to an 8 Ω load at THD = 10%, using a 18 V power supply and an external heatsink. The voltage gain is fixed at 32 dB.

With the three-level MODE input the device can be switched from 'standby' to 'mute' and to 'operating' mode.

The TDA8946J outputs are protected by an internal thermal shutdown protection mechanism and a short-circuit protection.

8.1 Input configuration

The TDA8946J inputs can be driven symmetrical (floating) as well as asymmetrical. In the asymmetrical mode one input pin is connected via a capacitor to the signal ground which should be as close as possible to the SVR (electrolytic) capacitor ground. Note that the DC level of the input pins is half of the supply voltage V_{CC}, so coupling capacitors for both pins are necessary.

The input cut-off frequency is:

$$f_{i(cut-off)} = \frac{1}{2\pi(R_i \times C_i)} \quad (1)$$

For R_i = 45 kΩ and C_i = 220 nF:

$$f_{i(cut-off)} = \frac{1}{2\pi(45 \times 10^3 \times 220 \times 10^{-9})} = 16 \text{ Hz} \quad (2)$$

As shown in Equation 1 and 2, large capacitor values for the inputs are not necessary; so the switch-on delay during charging of the input capacitors, can be minimized. This results in a good low frequency response and good switch-on behaviour.

Remark: To prevent HF oscillations do not leave the inputs open, connect a capacitor of at least 1.5 nF across the input pins close to the device.

8.2 Power amplifier

The power amplifier is a Bridge Tied Load (BTL) amplifier with an all-NPN output stage, capable of delivering a peak output current of 2 A.

The BTL principle offers the following advantages:

- Lower peak value of the supply current
- The ripple frequency on the supply voltage is twice the signal frequency
- No expensive DC-blocking capacitor
- Good low frequency performance.

8.2.1 Output power measurement

The output power as a function of the supply voltage is measured on the output pins at THD = 10%; see Figure 8. The maximum output power is limited by the maximum supply voltage of 18 V and the maximum available output current: 2 A repetitive peak current.

8.2.2 Headroom

Typical CD music requires at least 12 dB (factor 15.85) dynamic headroom – compared to the average power output – for transferring the loudest parts without distortion. At $V_{CC} = 18\text{ V}$, $R_L = 8\ \Omega$ and $P_o = 10\text{ W}$ at THD = 0.1% (see Figure 6), the Average Listening Level (ALL) – music power – without any distortion yields:

$$P_{o(ALL)} = 10\text{ W}/15.85 = 631\text{ mW}.$$

The power dissipation can be derived from Figure 11 on page 11 for 0 dB respectively 12 dB headroom.

Table 4: Power rating as function of headroom

Headroom	Power output (THD = 0.1%)	Power dissipation (P)
0 dB	$P_o = 10\text{ W}$	18 W
12 dB	$P_{o(ALL)} = 631\text{ mW}$	8 W

For the average listening level a power dissipation of 8 W can be used for a heatsink calculation.

8.3 Mode selection

The TDA8946J has three functional modes, which can be selected by applying the proper DC voltage to pin MODE. See Figure 4 and 5 for the respective DC levels, which depend on the supply voltage level. The MODE pin can be driven by a 3-state logic output stage: e.g. a microcontroller with additional components for DC-level shifting.

Standby — In this mode the current consumption is very low and the outputs are floating. The device is in standby mode when $(V_{CC} - 0.5\text{ V}) < V_{MODE} < V_{CC}$, or when the MODE pin is left floating (high impedance). The power consumption of the TDA8946J will be reduced to <0.18 mW.

Mute — In this mode the amplifier is DC-biased but not operational (no audio output); the DC level of the input and output pins remain on half the supply voltage. This allows the input coupling and Supply Voltage Ripple Rejection (SVRR) capacitors to be charged to avoid pop-noise. The device is in mute mode when $3\text{ V} < V_{\text{MODE}} < (V_{\text{CC}} - 1.5\text{ V})$.

Operating — In this mode the amplifier is operating normally. The operating mode is activated at $V_{\text{MODE}} < 0.5\text{ V}$.

8.3.1 Switch-on and switch-off

To avoid audible plops during supply voltage switch-on or switch-off, the device is set to standby mode before the supply voltage is applied (switch-on) or removed (switch-off).

The switch-on and switch-off time can be influenced by an RC-circuit on the MODE pin. Rapid on/off switching of the device or the MODE pin may cause 'click- and pop-noise'. This can be prevented by proper timing of the RC-circuit on the MODE pin.

8.4 Supply Voltage Ripple Rejection (SVRR)

The SVRR is measured with an electrolytic capacitor of 10 μF on pin SVR at a bandwidth of 10 Hz to 80 kHz. [Figure 13 on page 12](#) illustrates the SVRR as function of the frequency. A larger capacitor value on the SVR pin improves the ripple rejection behaviour at the lower frequencies.

8.5 Built-in protection circuits

The TDA8946J contains two types of protection circuits, i.e. short-circuit and thermal shutdown.

8.5.1 Short-circuit protection

Short-circuit to ground or supply line — This is detected by a so-called 'missing current' detection circuit which measures the current in the positive supply line and the current in the ground line. A difference between both currents larger than 0.7 A, switches the power stage to standby mode (high impedance).

Short-circuit across the load — This is detected by an absolute-current measurement. An absolute-current larger than 3 A, switches the power stage to standby mode (high impedance).

8.5.2 Thermal shutdown protection

The junction temperature is measured by a temperature sensor; at a junction temperature of approximately 150 °C this detection circuit switches the power stage to standby mode (high impedance).

9. Limiting values

Table 5: Limiting values

In accordance with the Absolute Maximum Rating System (IEC 60134).

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Max	Unit
V _{CC}	supply voltage	no signal	−0.3	+25	V
		operating	−0.3	+18	V
V _I	input voltage		−0.3	V _{CC} + 0.3	V
I _{ORM}	repetitive peak output current		-	2	A
T _{stg}	storage temperature	non-operating	−55	+150	°C
T _{amb}	operating ambient temperature		−40	+70	°C
P _{tot}	total power dissipation		-	28	W
V _{CC(sc)}	supply voltage to guarantee short-circuit protection		-	15	V

10. Thermal characteristics

Table 6: Thermal characteristics

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Value	Unit
R _{th(j-a)}	thermal resistance from junction to ambient	in free air	40	K/W
R _{th(j-mb)}	thermal resistance from junction to mounting base	both channels driven	4.5	K/W

11. Static characteristics

Table 7: Static characteristics

V_{CC} = 18 V; T_{amb} = 25 °C; R_L = 8 Ω; V_{MODE} = 0 V; V_I = 0 V; measured in test circuit [Figure 14](#); unless otherwise specified.

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
V _{CC}	supply voltage	operating	6	18	25	V
I _q	quiescent supply current	R _L = ∞	[1] -	28	42	mA
I _{stb}	standby supply current	V _{MODE} = V _{CC}	-	-	10	μA
V _O	DC output voltage	[2] -	-	9	-	V
ΔV _{OUT} [3]	differential output voltage offset		-	-	200	mV
V _{MODE}	mode selection input voltage	operating mode	0	-	0.5	V
		mute mode	3	-	V _{CC} − 1.5	V
		standby mode	V _{CC} − 0.5	-	V _{CC}	V
I _{MODE}	mode selection input current	0 < V _{MODE} < V _{CC}	-	-	20	μA

[1] With a load connected at the outputs the quiescent current will increase, the maximum of this increase being equal to the differential output voltage offset (ΔV_{OUT}) divided by the load resistance (R_L).

[2] The DC output voltage with respect to ground is approximately 0.5V_{CC}.

[3] ΔV_{OUT} = |V_{OUT+} − V_{OUT−}|

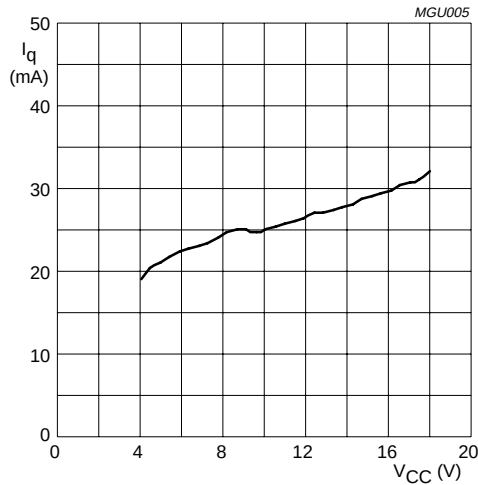


Fig 3. Quiescent supply current as function of supply voltage.

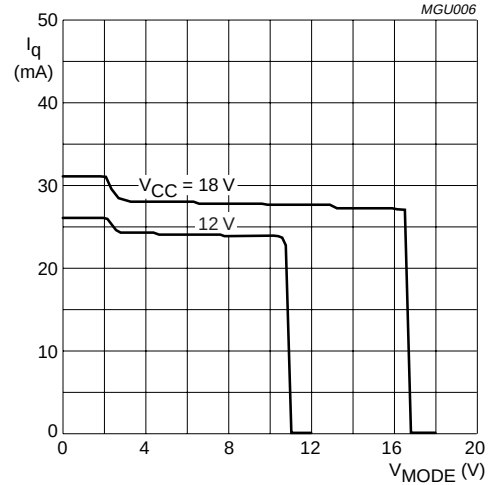


Fig 4. Quiescent supply current as function of mode voltage.

12. Dynamic characteristics

Table 8: Dynamic characteristics

$V_{CC} = 18\text{ V}$; $T_{amb} = 25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$; $R_L = 8\text{ }\Omega$; $f = 1\text{ kHz}$; $V_{MODE} = 0\text{ V}$; measured in test circuit [Figure 14](#); audio pass band 22 Hz to 22 kHz; unless otherwise specified.

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
P_o	output power	THD = 10%	13	15	-	W
		THD = 0.5%	10	11.5	-	W
THD	total harmonic distortion	$P_o = 1\text{ W}$	-	0.03	0.1	%
G_v	voltage gain		31	32	33	dB
$Z_{i(dif)}$	differential input impedance		70	90	110	k Ω
$V_{n(o)}$	noise output voltage		[1] -	90	120	μV
SVRR	supply voltage ripple rejection	$f_{\text{ripple}} = 1\text{ kHz}$	[2] 50	65	-	dB
		$f_{\text{ripple}} = 100\text{ Hz}$ to 20 kHz	[2] -	60	-	dB
$V_{o(\text{mute})}$	output voltage	mute mode	[3] -	-	50	μV
α_{cs}	channel separation	$R_S = 0\text{ }\Omega$	50	75	-	dB

[1] The noise output voltage is measured at the output in a frequency range from 20 Hz to 20 kHz (unweighted), with a source impedance $R_S = 0\text{ }\Omega$ at the input.

[2] Supply voltage ripple rejection is measured at the output, with a source impedance $R_S = 0\text{ }\Omega$ at the input. The ripple voltage is a sine wave with a frequency f_{ripple} and an amplitude of 700 mV (RMS), which is applied to the positive supply rail.

[3] Output voltage in mute mode is measured with an input voltage of 1 V (RMS) in a bandwidth of 20 kHz, so including noise.

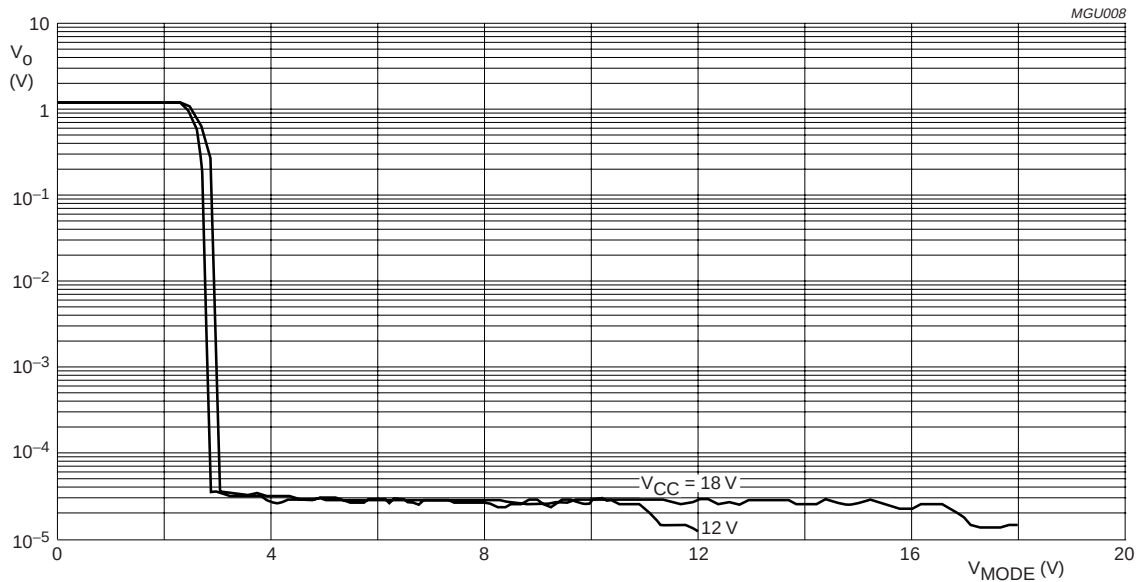


Fig 5. Output voltage as function of mode voltage.

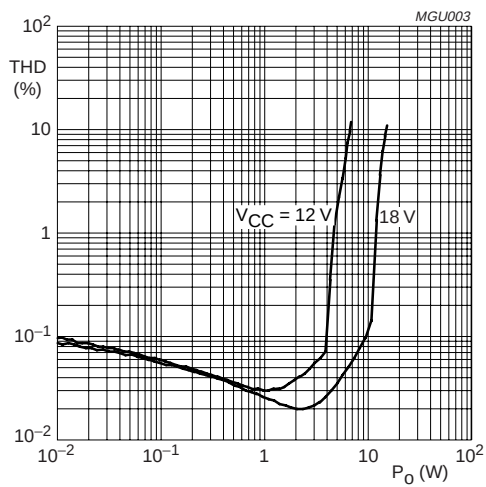
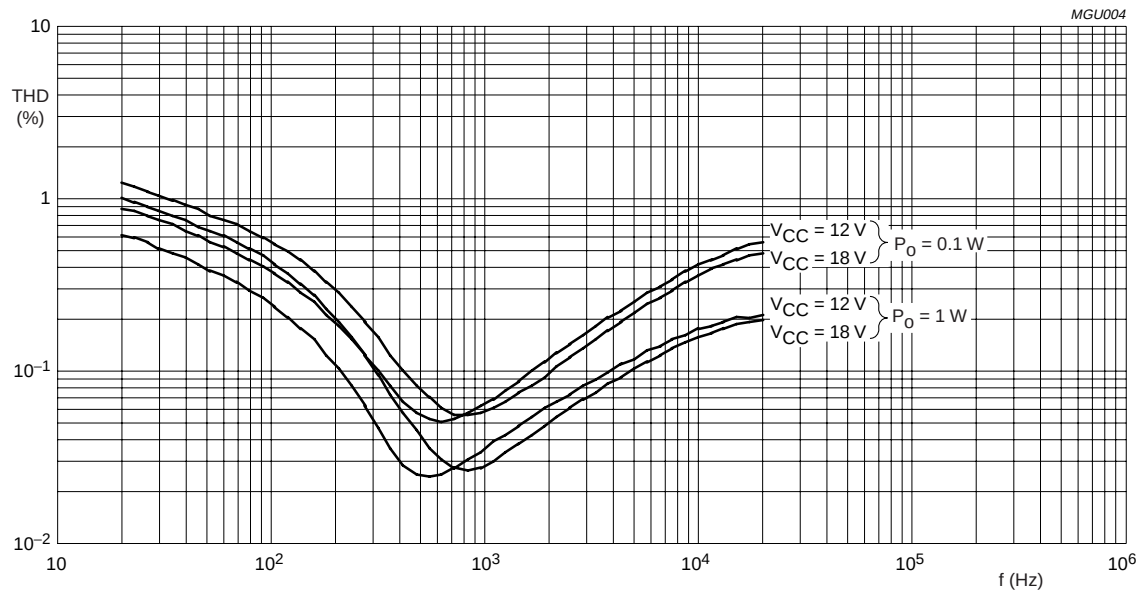
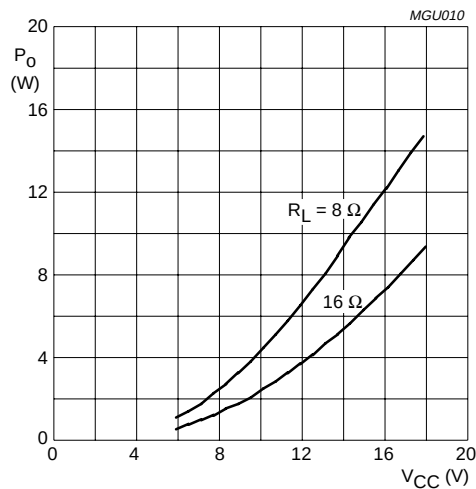


Fig 6. Total harmonic distortion as function of output power.



No bandpass filter applied.

Fig 7. Total harmonic distortion as function of frequency.



THD = 10%.

Fig 8. Output power as function of supply voltage.

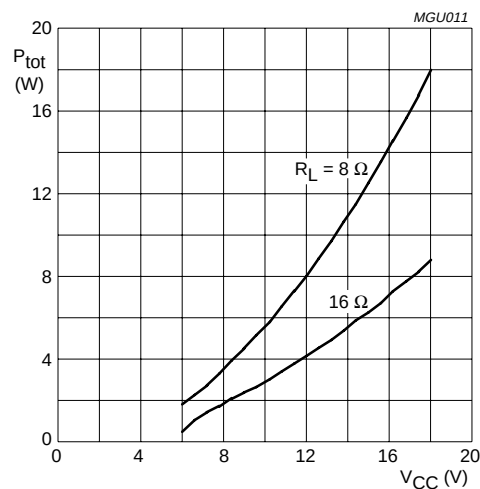
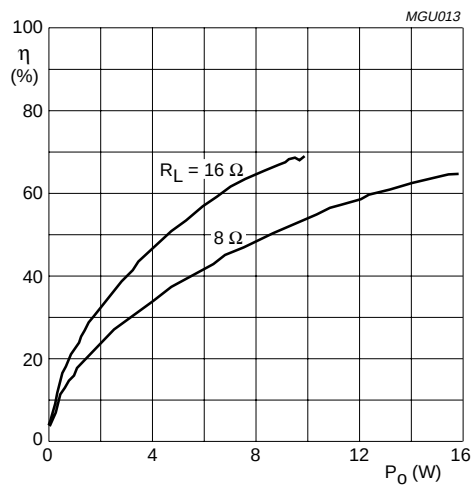
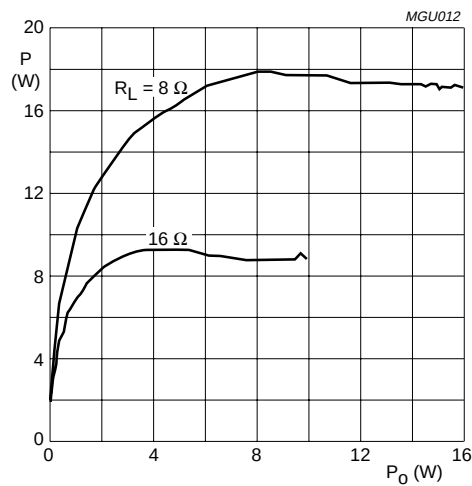


Fig 9. Total power dissipation as function of supply voltage.



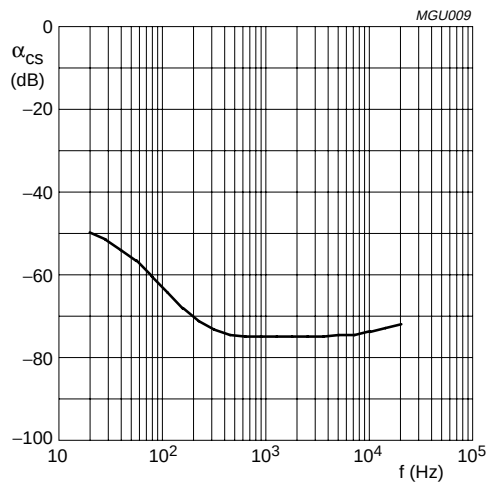
$V_{CC} = 18 \text{ V}$.

Fig 10. Efficiency as function of output power.



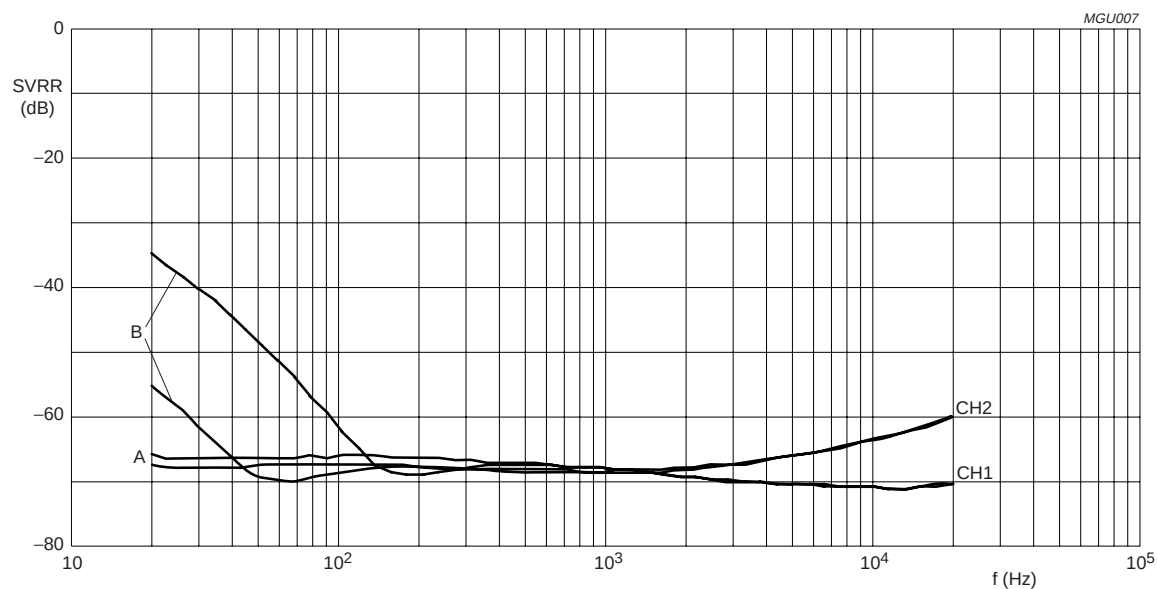
$V_{CC} = 18 \text{ V}$.

Fig 11. Power dissipation as function of output power.



No bandpass filter applied.

Fig 12. Channel separation as function of frequency.



$V_{CC} = 18\text{ V}$; $R_S = 0\ \Omega$; $V_{\text{ripple}} = 700\text{ mV (RMS)}$; no bandpass filter applied.

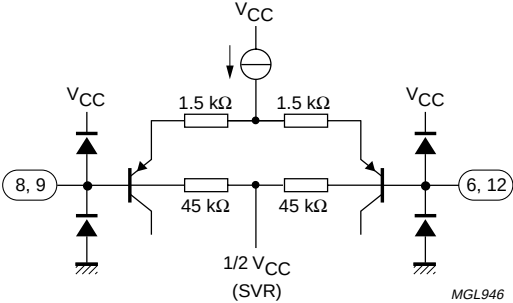
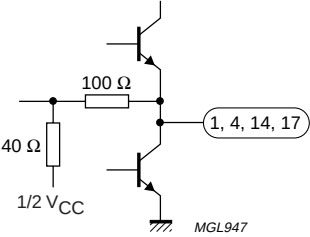
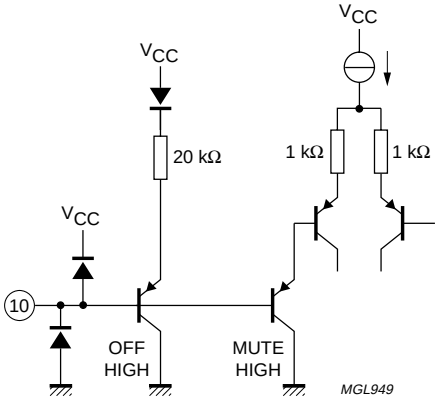
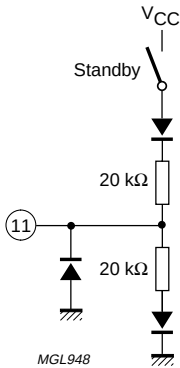
Curves A: inputs short-circuited

Curves B: inputs short-circuited and connected to ground (asymmetrical application)

Fig 13. Supply voltage ripple rejection as function of frequency.

13. Internal circuitry

Table 9: Internal circuitry

Pin	Symbol	Equivalent circuit
6 and 8	IN1+ and IN1–	
12 and 9	IN2+ and IN2–	
1 and 4	OUT1- and OUT1+	
14 and 17	OUT2- and OUT2+	
10	MODE	
11	SVR	

14. Application information

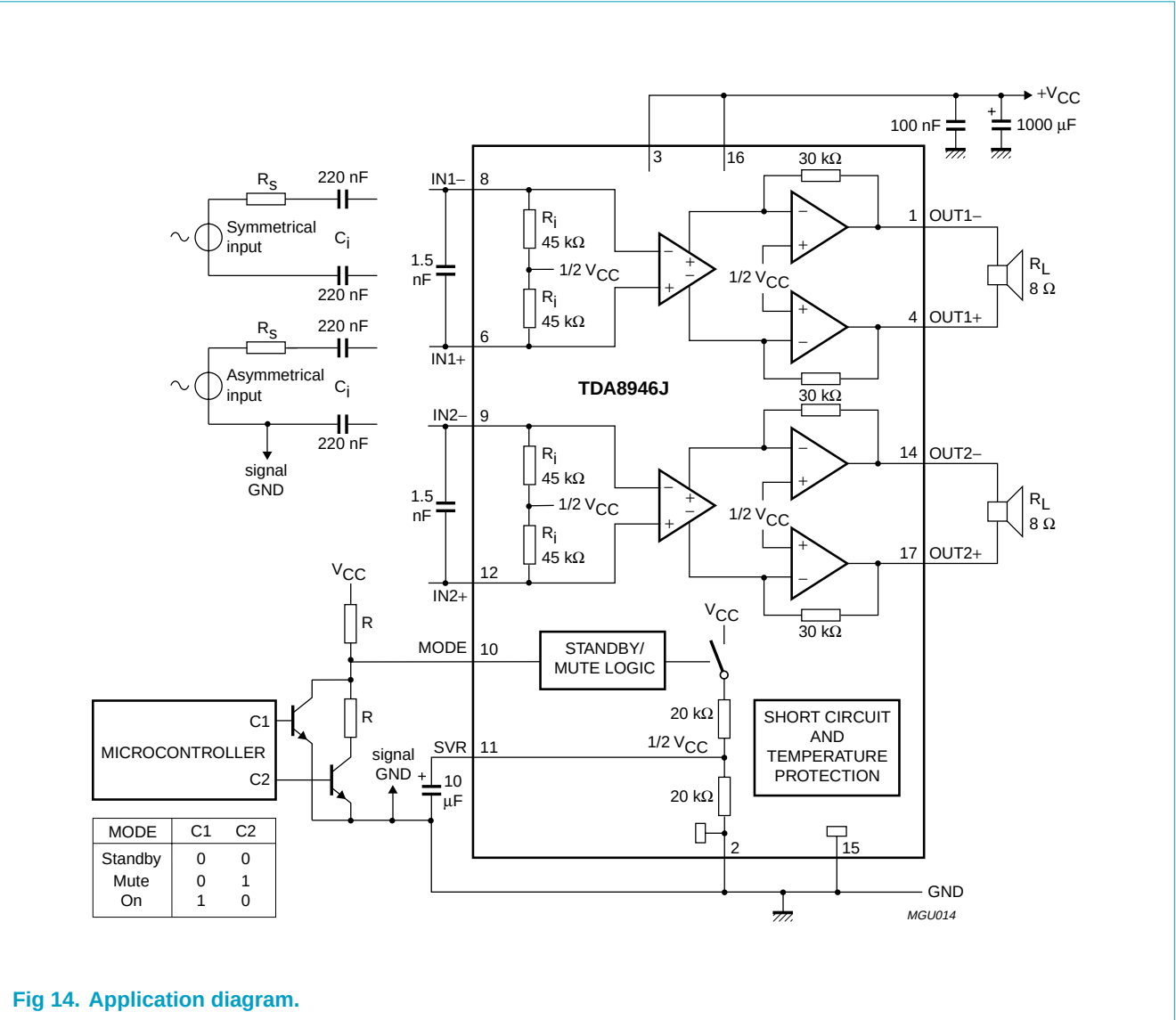
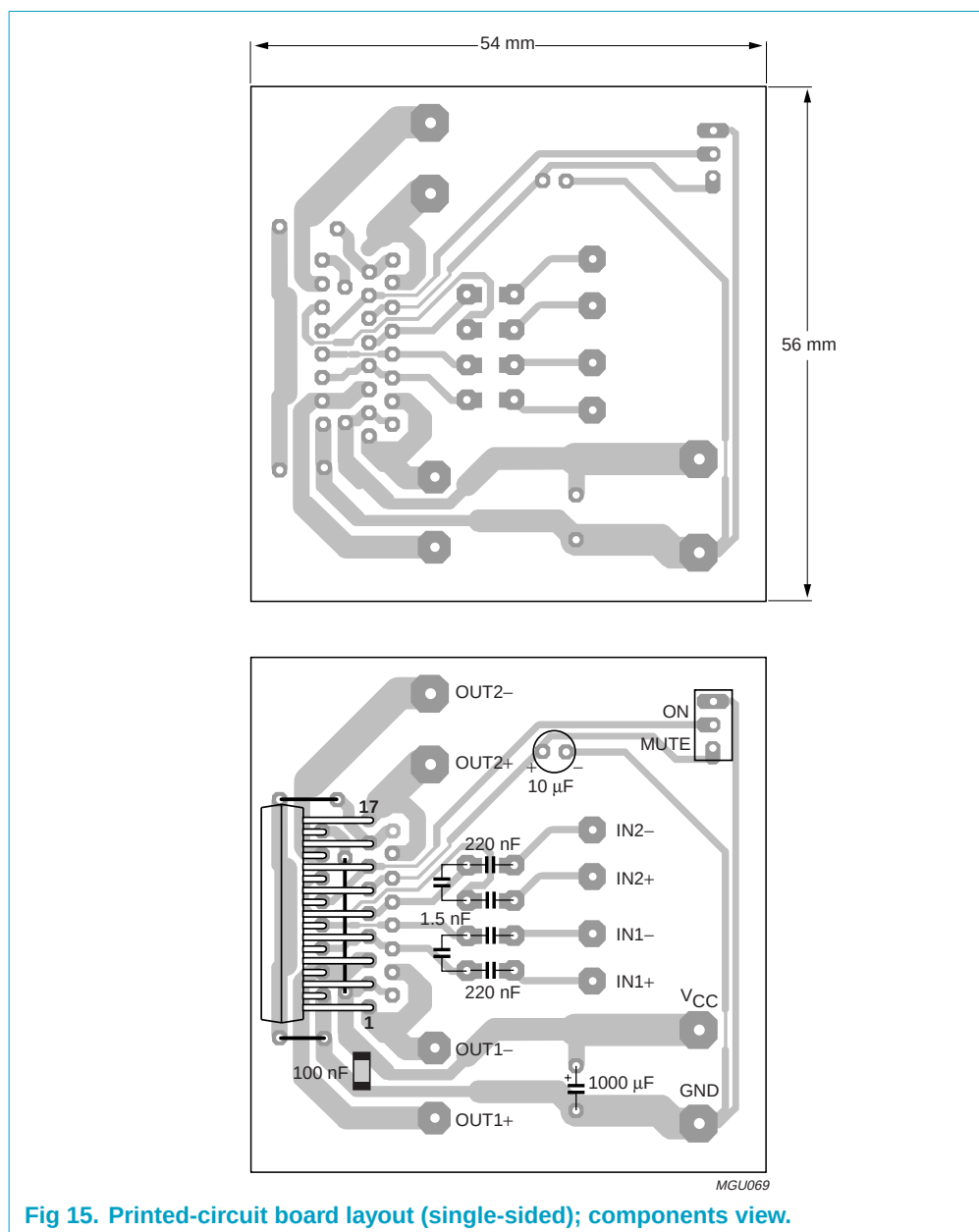


Fig 14. Application diagram.

14.1 Printed-circuit board (PCB)

14.1.1 Layout and grounding

For a high system performance level certain grounding techniques are essential. The input reference grounds have to be tied with their respective source grounds and must have separate tracks from the power ground tracks; this will prevent the large (output) signal currents from interfering with the small AC input signals. The small-signal ground tracks should be physically located as far as possible from the power ground tracks. Supply and output tracks should be as wide as possible for delivering maximum output power.



14.1.2 Power supply decoupling

Proper supply bypassing is critical for low-noise performance and high supply voltage ripple rejection. The respective capacitor locations should be as close as possible to the device and grounded to the power ground. Proper power supply decoupling also prevents oscillations.

For suppressing higher frequency transients (spikes) on the supply line a capacitor with low ESR – typical 100 nF – has to be placed as close as possible to the device. For suppressing lower frequency noise and ripple signals, a large electrolytic capacitor – e.g. 1000 μ F or greater – must be placed close to the device.

The bypass capacitor on the SVR pin reduces the noise and ripple on the midrail voltage. For good THD and noise performance a low ESR capacitor is recommended.

14.2 Thermal behaviour and heatsink calculation

The measured maximum thermal resistance of the IC package, $R_{th(j-mb)}$ is 4.5 K/W. A calculation for the heatsink can be made, with the following parameters:

$$T_{amb(max)} = 50\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$$

$$V_{CC} = 18\text{ V and } R_L = 8\text{ }\Omega$$

$$T_{j(max)} = 150\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}.$$

$R_{th(tot)}$ is the total thermal resistance between the junction and the ambient including the heatsink. In the heatsink calculations the value of $R_{th(mb-h)}$ is ignored.

At $V_{CC} = 12\text{ V}$ and $R_L = 8\text{ }\Omega$ the measured worst-case sine-wave dissipation is 18 W; see [Figure 11](#). For $T_{j(max)} = 150\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ the temperature raise - caused by the power dissipation - is: $150 - 50 = 100\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$.

$$P \times R_{th(tot)} = 100\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$$

$$R_{th(tot)} = 100/18 = 5.56\text{ K/W}$$

$$R_{th(h-a)} = R_{th(tot)} - R_{th(j-mb)} = 5.56 - 4.5 = 1.06\text{ K/W}.$$

The calculation above is for an application at worst-case (stereo) sine-wave output signals. In practice music signals will be applied, which decreases the maximum power dissipation to approximately half of the sine-wave power dissipation (see [Section 8.2.2](#)). This allows for the use of a smaller heatsink:

$$P \times R_{th(tot)} = 100\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$$

$$R_{th(tot)} = 100/8 = 12.5\text{ K/W}$$

$$R_{th(h-a)} = R_{th(tot)} - R_{th(j-mb)} = 12.5 - 4.5 = 8.0\text{ K/W}.$$

To increase the lifetime of the IC, $T_{j(max)}$ should be reduced to $125\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. This requires a heatsink of approximately 4 K/W for music signals.

15. Test information

15.1 Quality information

The *General Quality Specification for Integrated Circuits*, SNW-FQ-611D is applicable.

15.2 Test conditions

$T_{amb} = 25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$; $V_{CC} = 18\text{ V}$; $f = 1\text{ kHz}$; $R_L = 8\text{ }\Omega$; audio pass band 22 Hz to 22 kHz; unless otherwise specified.

Remark: In the graphs as function of frequency no bandpass filter was applied; see [Figure 7](#), [12](#) and [13](#).

16. Package outline

DBS17P: plastic DIL-bent-SIL power package; 17 leads (lead length 12 mm)

SOT243-1

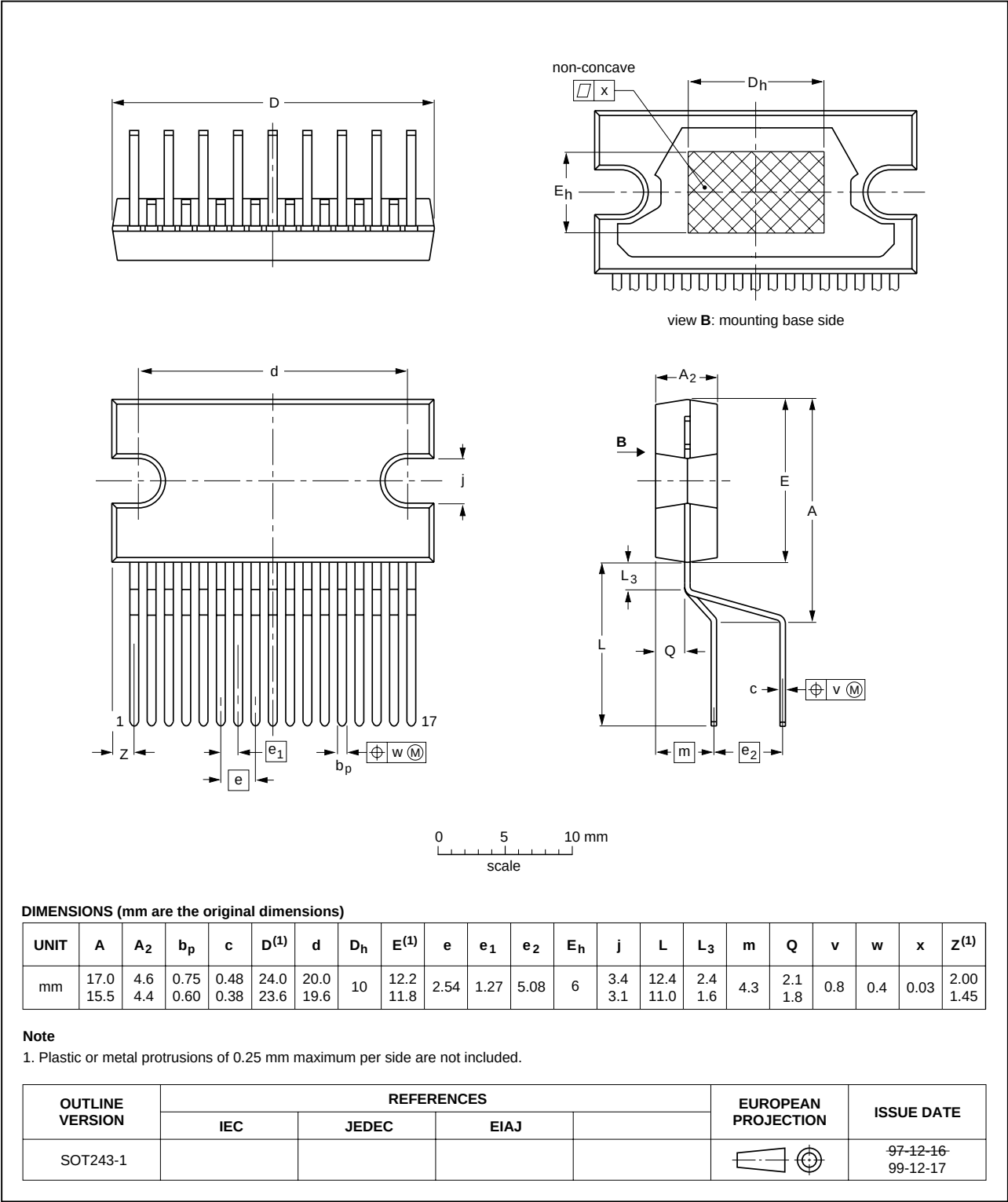


Fig 16. DBS17P package outline.

17. Soldering

17.1 Introduction to soldering through-hole mount packages

This text gives a brief insight to wave, dip and manual soldering. A more in-depth account of soldering ICs can be found in our *Data Handbook IC26; Integrated Circuit Packages* (document order number 9398 652 90011).

Wave soldering is the preferred method for mounting of through-hole mount IC packages on a printed-circuit board.

17.2 Soldering by dipping or by solder wave

The maximum permissible temperature of the solder is 260 °C; solder at this temperature must not be in contact with the joints for more than 5 seconds. The total contact time of successive solder waves must not exceed 5 seconds.

The device may be mounted up to the seating plane, but the temperature of the plastic body must not exceed the specified maximum storage temperature ($T_{stg(max)}$). If the printed-circuit board has been pre-heated, forced cooling may be necessary immediately after soldering to keep the temperature within the permissible limit.

17.3 Manual soldering

Apply the soldering iron (24 V or less) to the lead(s) of the package, either below the seating plane or not more than 2 mm above it. If the temperature of the soldering iron bit is less than 300 °C it may remain in contact for up to 10 seconds. If the bit temperature is between 300 and 400 °C, contact may be up to 5 seconds.

17.4 Package related soldering information

Table 10: Suitability of through-hole mount IC packages for dipping and wave soldering methods

Package	Soldering method	
	Dipping	Wave
DBS, DIP, HDIP, SDIP, SIL	suitable	suitable ^[1]

[1] For SDIP packages, the longitudinal axis must be parallel to the transport direction of the printed-circuit board.

18. Revision history

Table 11: Revision history

Rev	Date	CPCN	Description
02	20000314	-	Product specification; second version; supersedes initial version TDA8946J-01 of 14 April 1999 (9397 750 04882). Modifications: • Table 1 on page 1: SVRR; Typ value 65 dB → added • Ordering options removed • Figure 1 on page 2: Block diagram; pin numbers changed OUT2- → 14 and OUT2+ → 17 • Figure 2 on page 3: Pin configuration; pin numbers changed OUT2- → 14 and OUT2+ → 17 • Table 3 on page 3: Pin description; pin numbers changed OUT2- → 14 and OUT2+ → 17 • Section 8 “Functional description”: – Section 8.1 “Input configuration” on page 4 → added. – Section 8.2 “Power amplifier” on page 5:, capable of delivering a peak output current of 1.5 A → changed to 2 A. – Section 8.2.1 “Output power measurement” on page 5 → added – Section 8.2.2 “Headroom” on page 5 → added • Section 8.3 “Mode selection”: – Standby mode: $V_{\text{MODE}} > (V_{\text{CC}} - 0.5 \text{ V})$ → changed to $(V_{\text{CC}} - 0.5 \text{ V}) < V_{\text{MODE}} < V_{\text{CC}}$; The power consumption of the TDA8946J will be reduced to <0.18 mW → added. – Mute mode: the DC level of the input and output pins remain on half the supply voltage → added; – $2.5 \text{ V} < V_{\text{MODE}} < (V_{\text{CC}} - 1.5 \text{ V})$ → changed to $3 \text{ V} < V_{\text{MODE}} < (V_{\text{CC}} - 1.5 \text{ V})$ – Section 8.3.1 “Switch-on and switch-off” on page 6 → added • Section 8.4 “Supply Voltage Ripple Rejection (SVRR)” on page 6 → added • Section 8.5 “Built-in protection circuits” on page 6 → added • Table 5 on page 7: – P_{tot} value added 28 W – $V_{\text{CC(SC)}}$ value added 15 V • Table 6 on page 7: – $R_{\text{th(j-a)}}$ value added 40 K/W – $R_{\text{th(j-c)}}$ value 10 k/W → changed to $R_{\text{th(j-mb)}}$ value 4.5 K/W; condition ‘in free air’ → changed to ‘both channels driven’ • Table 7 on page 7: V_{CC}: Max value 18 V changed to → 25 V; V_{MODE} - mute mode - value Min 2.5 → changed to 3 V • Table 8 on page 8: – SVRR; Typ values 65 and 60 dB → added – α_{CS}; Typ value 75 dB → added – R_{source} changed to → R_{S} in table and associated table notes; Value added $R_{\text{S}} = 0 \Omega$; – Table note [2]: 100 mV (RMS).... changed to → ... 700 mV (RMS).... • Figure 3 to 13: figures added • Section 13 “Internal circuitry” on page 13: → added • Figure 14: figure modified

Table 11: Revision history...continued

Rev	Date	CPCN	Description
02	20000314	-	Modifications: • Section 14.1 "Printed-circuit board (PCB)" on page 14: → added • Figure 15: figure added • Section 14.2 "Thermal behaviour and heatsink calculation" on page 16: → added • Section 15 "Test information" on page 16: Section 15.1 → updated • Section 15.2 "Test conditions" on page 16: → added
01	19990414	-	Preliminary specification; initial version.

19. Data sheet status

Datasheet status	Product status	Definition ^[1]
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[1] Please consult the most recently issued data sheet before initiating or completing a design.

20. Definitions

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