

# HE910 Hardware User Guide

1w03700925 Rev.27 – 2015-05-25



### Applicability Table

PRODUCT
HE910 (*)
HE910-D
HE910-GL
HE910-EUR
HE910-EUD
HE910-EUG
HE910-NAR
HE910-NAD
HE910-NAG

(\*) HE910 is the “type name” of the products marketed as HE910-G & HE910-DG





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## 1.4 Document Organization

This document contains the following chapters:

Chapter 1: “Introduction” provides a scope for this document, target audience, contact and support information, and text conventions.

Chapter 2: “Overview” provides an overview of the document.

Chapter 3: “HE910 Module Connections” deals with the pin out configuration and layout.

Chapter 4: “Hardware Commands” How to operate on the module via hardware.

Chapter 5: “Power supply” Power supply requirements and general design rules.

Chapter 6: “GSM/WCDMA Radio” The antenna connection and board layout design are the most important parts in the full product design.

Chapter 7: “GPS Receiver” This section describes the GPS receiver.

Chapter 8: “Logic Level specifications” Specific values adopted in the implementation of logic levels for this module.

Chapter 9: “USB Port” The USB port on the Telit HE910 is the core of the interface between the module and OEM hardware

Chapter 10: “SPI port” Refers to the SPI port of the Telit HE910

Chapter 11: “USB HSIC” Refers to the USB HSIC port of the Telit HE910

Chapter 12: “Serial ports” Refers to the serial ports of the Telit HE910

Chapter 13: “Audio Section overview” Refers to the audio blocks of the Base Band Chip of the HE910 Telit Modules.

Chapter 14: “General Purpose I/O” How the general purpose I/O pads can be configured.

Chapter 15: “Mounting the HE910 on the application board” Mechanical dimensions and recommendations on how to mount the module on the user’s board.

Chapter 16: “Safety Recommendations” Information related to the Safety topics.

Chapter 17: “Conformity Assessment Issues” Information related to the Conformity Assessments.



## 1.5 Text Conventions



**Danger – This information MUST be followed or catastrophic equipment failure or bodily injury may occur.**



**Caution or Warning – Alerts the user to important points about integrating the module, if these points are not followed, the module and end user equipment may fail or malfunction.**



**Tip or Information – Provides advice and suggestions that may be useful when integrating the module.**

All dates are in ISO 8601 format, i.e. YYYY-MM-DD.

## 1.6 Related Documents

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| • Digital Voice Interface Application Note | 80000NT10050A |
| • SPI Port Application Note                | 80000NT10053A |
| • Product description                      | 80378ST10085A |
| • SIM Holder Design Guides                 | 80000NT10001A |
| • USB HSIC Port Application Note           | 80000NT10071A |
| • AT Commands Reference Guide              | 80378ST10091A |
| • Telit EVK2 User Guide                    | 1vv0300704    |











## 3 HE910 module connections

### 3.1 PIN-OUT

PAD	Signal	I/O	Function	Type	COMMENT
<b>USB HS 2.0 COMMUNICATION PORT</b>					
B15	USB_D+	I/O	USB differential Data (+)		
C15	USB_D-	I/O	USB differential Data (-)		
A13	VUSB	I	Power sense for the internal USB transceiver.		
<b>Asynchronous Serial Port (USIF0) - Prog. / Data + HW Flow Control</b>					
N15	C103/TXD	I	Serial data input from DTE	CMOS 1.8V	
M15	C104/RXD	O	Serial data output to DTE	CMOS 1.8V	
M14	C108/DTR	I	Input for (DTR) from DTE	CMOS 1.8V	
L14	C105/RTS	I	Input for Request to send signal (RTS) from DTE	CMOS 1.8V	
P15	C106/CTS	O	Output for Clear to Send signal (CTS) to DTE	CMOS 1.8V	
N14	C109/DCD	O	Output for (DCD) to DTE	CMOS 1.8V	
P14	C107/DSR	O	Output for (DSR) to DTE	CMOS 1.8V	
R14	C125/RING	O	Output for Ring (RI) to DTE	CMOS 1.8V	
<b>Asynchronous Auxiliary Serial Port (USIF1)</b>					
D15	TX_AUX	O	Auxiliary UART (TX Data to DTE)	CMOS 1.8V	
E15	RX_AUX	I	Auxiliary UART (RX Data from DTE)	CMOS 1.8V	
<b>USB HSIC</b>					
A12	HSIC_USB_DATA	I/O	USB HSIC data signal	CMOS 1.2V	
A11	HSIC_USB_STRB	I/O	USB HSIC strobe signal	CMOS 1.2V	
H15	HSIC_SLAVE_WAKEUP	I	Slave Wake Up	CMOS 1.8V	Shared with SPI_MRDI
F15	HSIC_HOST_WAKEUP	O	Host Wake Up	CMOS 1.8V	Shared with SPI_CLK
K15	HSIC_SUSPEND_REQUEST	O	Slave Suspend Request	CMOS 1.8V	Shared with GPIO08
J15	HSIC_HOST_ACTIVE	I	Active Host Indication	CMOS 1.8V	Shared with SPI_SRDI
D13	VDD_IO1	I	VDD_IO1 Input		To be connected to E13
E13	1V8_SEL	O	1V8 SEL for VDD_IO1		To be connected to D13
<b>SIM card interface</b>					
A6	SIMCLK	O	External SIM signal – Clock	1.8 / 3V	
A7	SIMRST	O	External SIM signal – Reset	1.8 / 3V	
A5	SIMIO	I/O	External SIM signal – Data I/O	1.8 / 3V	
A4	SIMIN	I	External SIM signal – Presence (active low)	CMOS 1.8	















**NOTE:**

If not used, almost all pins should be left disconnected. The only exceptions are the following pins:

PAD	Signal	Notes
M1,M2,N1,N2,P1,P2	VBATT & VBATT_PA	
E1,G1,H1,J1,L1,A2,E2,F2,G2,H2, J2,K2,L2,R2,M3,N3,P3,R3,D4,M4, N4,P4,R4,N5,P5,R5,N6,P6,R6,P8, R8,P9,P10,R10,M12,B13,P13,E14	GND	
R12	ON/OFF*	
R13	HW_SHUTDOWN*	
B15	USB_D+	If not used should be connected to a Test Point or an USB connector
C15	USB_D-	If not used should be connected to a Test Point or an USB connector
A13	VUSB	If not used should be connected to a Test Point or an USB connector
N15	C103/TXD	If not used should be connected to a Test Point
M15	C104/RXD	If not used should be connected to a Test Point
L14	C105/RTS	If the flow control is not used it should be connected to GND
P15	C106/CTS	If not used should be connected to a Test Point
D15	TXD_AUX	If not used should be connected to a Test Point
E15	RXD_AUX	If not used should be connected to a Test Point
D13	VDD_IO1	It has always to be connected to 1V8_SEL
E13	1V8_SEL	It has always to be connected to VDD_IO1
K1	MAIN ANTENNA	
F1	ANT_DIV (if supported by the product)	If not used it could left unconnected but has to be disabled by the related AT Command (AT#RXDIV); please refer to the At User guide for the related syntax
R9	ANT_GPS (if supported by the product)	If the GPS is not used it could be left unconnected

RTS pin should be connected to the GND (on the module side) if flow control is not used.

The above pins are also necessary to debug the application when the module is assembled on it so we recommend connecting them also to dedicated test point.











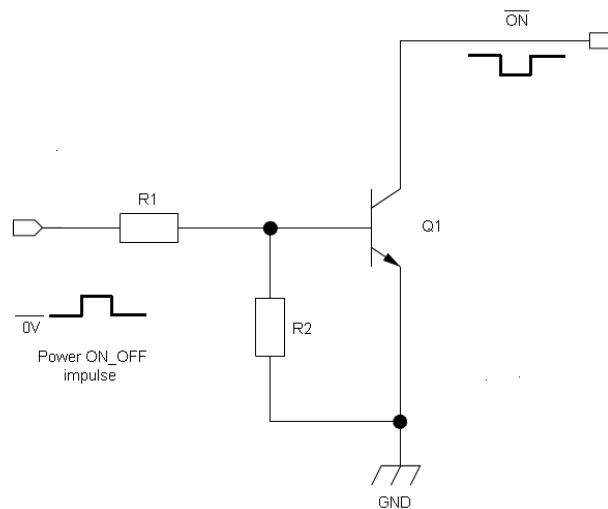


## 4 Hardware Commands

### 4.1 Turning ON the HE910

To turn on the HE910 the pad ON\_OFF\* must be tied low for at least 5 seconds and then released.

The maximum current that can be drained from the ON\_OFF\* pad is 0,1 mA.  
A simple circuit to do it is:



**NOTE:**

Don't use any pull up resistor on the ON\_OFF\* line, it is internally pulled up. Using pull up resistor may bring to latch up problems on the HE910 power regulator and improper power on/off of the module. The line ON\_OFF\* must be connected only in open collector or open drain configuration.

**NOTE:**

In this document all the lines that are inverted, hence have active low signals are labelled with a name that ends with "#", "\*" or with a bar over the name.

**TIP:**

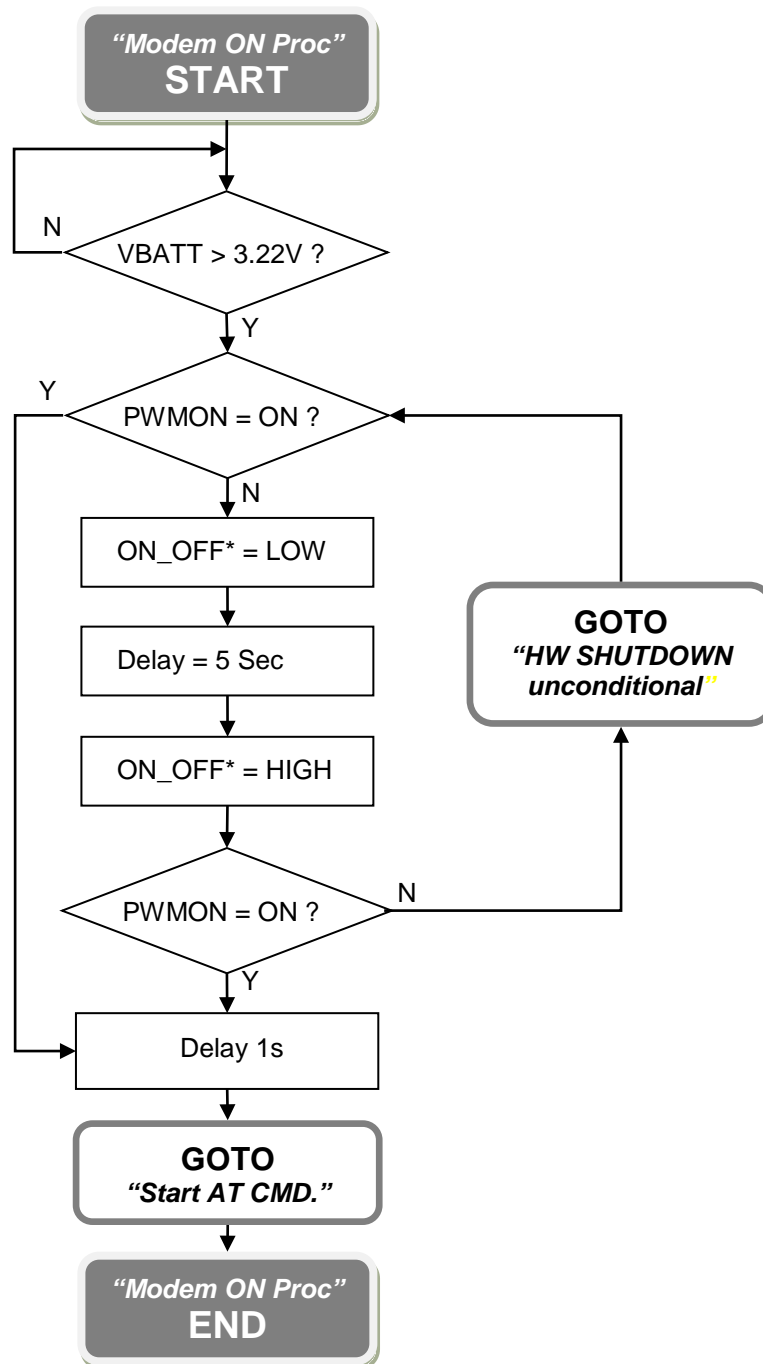
To check if the device has powered on, the hardware line PWRMON should be monitored.

**NOTE:**

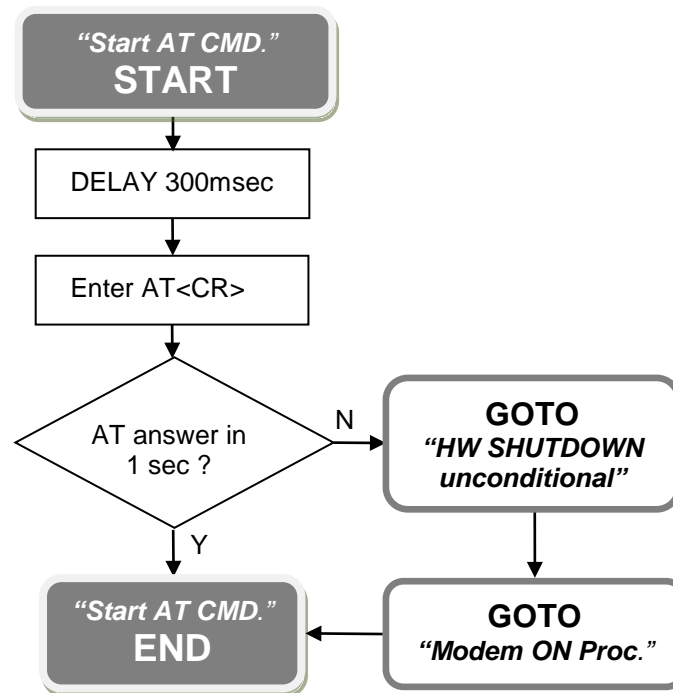
It is mandatory to avoid sending data to the serial ports during the first 200ms of the module start-up.



A flow chart showing the proper turn on procedure is displayed below:



A flow chart showing the AT commands managing procedure is displayed below:



**NOTE:**

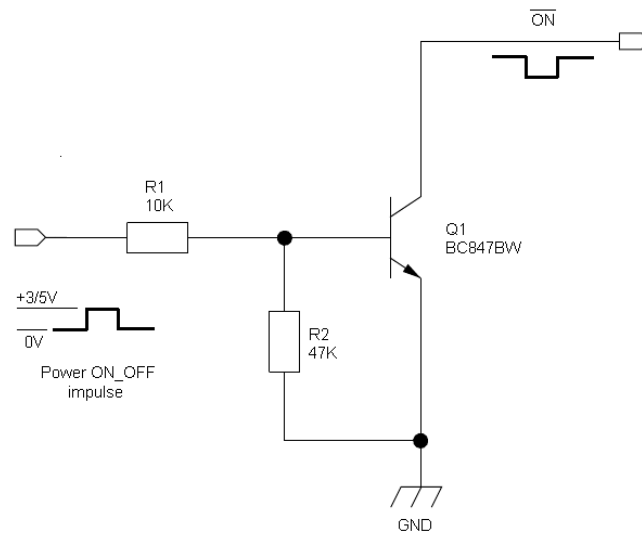


In order to avoid a back powering effect it is recommended to avoid having any HIGH logic level signal applied to the digital pins of the HE910 when the module is powered off or during an ON/OFF transition.

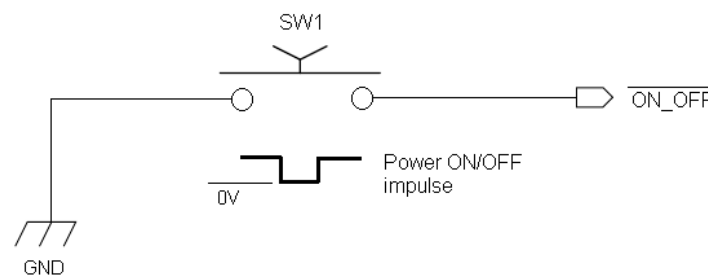


For example:

1- Let's assume you need to drive the ON\_OFF\* pad with a totem pole output of a +3/5 V microcontroller (uP\_OUT1):



2- Let's assume you need to drive the ON\_OFF\* pad directly with an ON/OFF button:





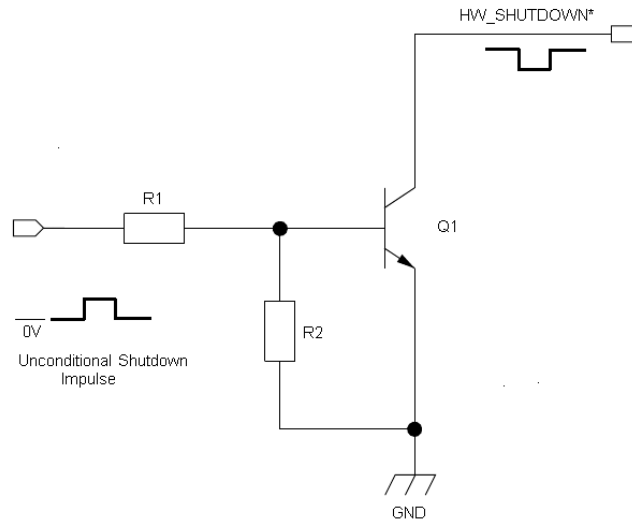






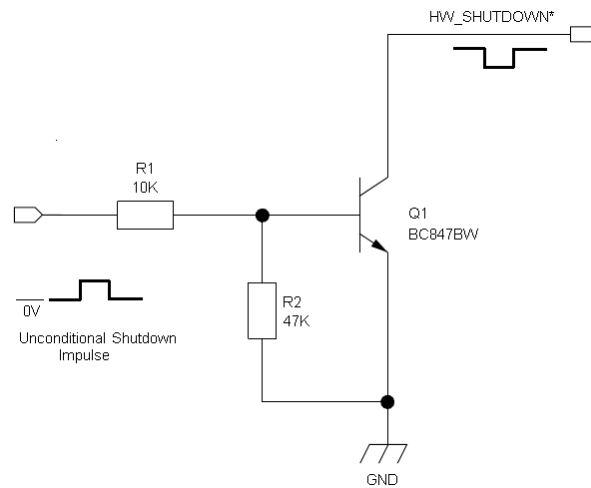


A typical circuit is the following:



For example:

- 1- Let us assume you need to drive the HW\_SHUTDOWN\* pad with a totem pole output of a +3/5 V microcontroller (uP\_OUT2):



**NOTE:**

In order to avoid a back powering effect it is recommended to avoid having any HIGH logic level signal applied to the digital pins of the HE910 when the module is powered off or during an ON/OFF transition.





# 5 Power Supply

The power supply circuitry and board layout are a very important part in the full product design and they strongly reflect on the product overall performances, hence read carefully the requirements and the guidelines that will follow for a proper design.

## 5.1 Power Supply Requirements

The external power supply must be connected to VBATT & VBATT\_PA signals and must fulfil the following requirements:

POWER SUPPLY	
Nominal Supply Voltage	3.8 V
Normal Operating Voltage Range	3.40 V ÷ 4.20 V
Extended Operating Voltage Range	3.10 V ÷ 4.50 V



**NOTE:**

The Operating Voltage Range **MUST** never be exceeded; care must be taken when designing the application’s power supply section to avoid having an excessive voltage drop.

If the voltage drop is exceeding the limits it could cause a Power Off of the module.

The Power supply must be higher than 3.22 V to power on the module



**NOTE:**

Overshoot voltage (regarding MAX Extended Operating Voltage) and drop in voltage (regarding MIN Extended Operating Voltage) **MUST** never be exceeded;

The “Extended Operating Voltage Range” can be used only with completely assumption and application of the HW User guide suggestions.



## 5.2 Power Consumption

HE910		
Mode	Average (mA)	Mode description
<b>SWITCHED OFF</b>		
Switched Off	40uA	Module supplied but Switched Off
<b>IDLE mode (WCDMA)</b>		
AT+CFUN=1	12.2	Normal mode: full functionality of the module
AT+CFUN=5	1.2	Full functionality with power saving; DRX7; Module registered on the network can receive incoming calls and SMS
<b>IDLE mode (GSM/EDGE)</b>		
AT+CFUN=1	19	Normal mode: full functionality of the module
AT+CFUN=4	16.5	Disabled TX and RX; module is not registered on the network
AT+CFUN=5	0.8	Full functionality with power saving; DRX9 (1.3mA in case of DRX5).
<b>Operative mode (WCDMA)</b>		
WCDMA Voice	152	WCDMA voice call (TX = 10dBm)
WCDMA HSDPA (0dBm)	187	WCDMA data call (Cat 14, TX = 0dBm)
WCDMA HSDPA (22dBm)	494	WCDMA data call (Cat 14, TX = 22dBm)
<b>Operative mode (EDGE)</b>		
<b>EDGE 4TX+2RX</b>		
GSM900 PL5	495	EDGE Sending data mode
DCS1800 PL0	484	
<b>Operative mode (GSM)</b>		
<b>CSD TX and RX mode</b>		
GSM900 CSD PL5	220	GSM VOICE CALL
DCS1800 CSD PL0	167	
<b>GPRS 4TX+2RX</b>		
GSM900 PL5	580	GPRS Sending data mode
DCS1800 PL0	438	

The GSM system is made in a way that the RF transmission is not continuous, else it is packed into bursts at a base frequency of about 216 Hz, and the relative current peaks can be as high as about 2A. Therefore the power supply has to be designed in order to withstand with these current peaks without big voltage drops; this means that both the electrical design and the board layout must be designed for this current flow. If the layout of the PCB is not well designed a strong noise floor is generated on the ground and the supply; this will reflect on all the audio paths producing an audible annoying noise at 216 Hz; if the voltage drop during the peak current absorption is too much, then the device may even shutdown as a consequence of the supply voltage drop.



**NOTE:**

The electrical design for the Power supply should be made ensuring it will be capable of a peak current output of at least 2 A.





## 5.3 General Design Rules

The principal guidelines for the Power Supply Design embrace three different design steps:

- the electrical design
- the thermal design
- the PCB layout.

### 5.3.1 Electrical Design Guidelines

The electrical design of the power supply depends strongly from the power source where this power is drained. We will distinguish them into three categories:

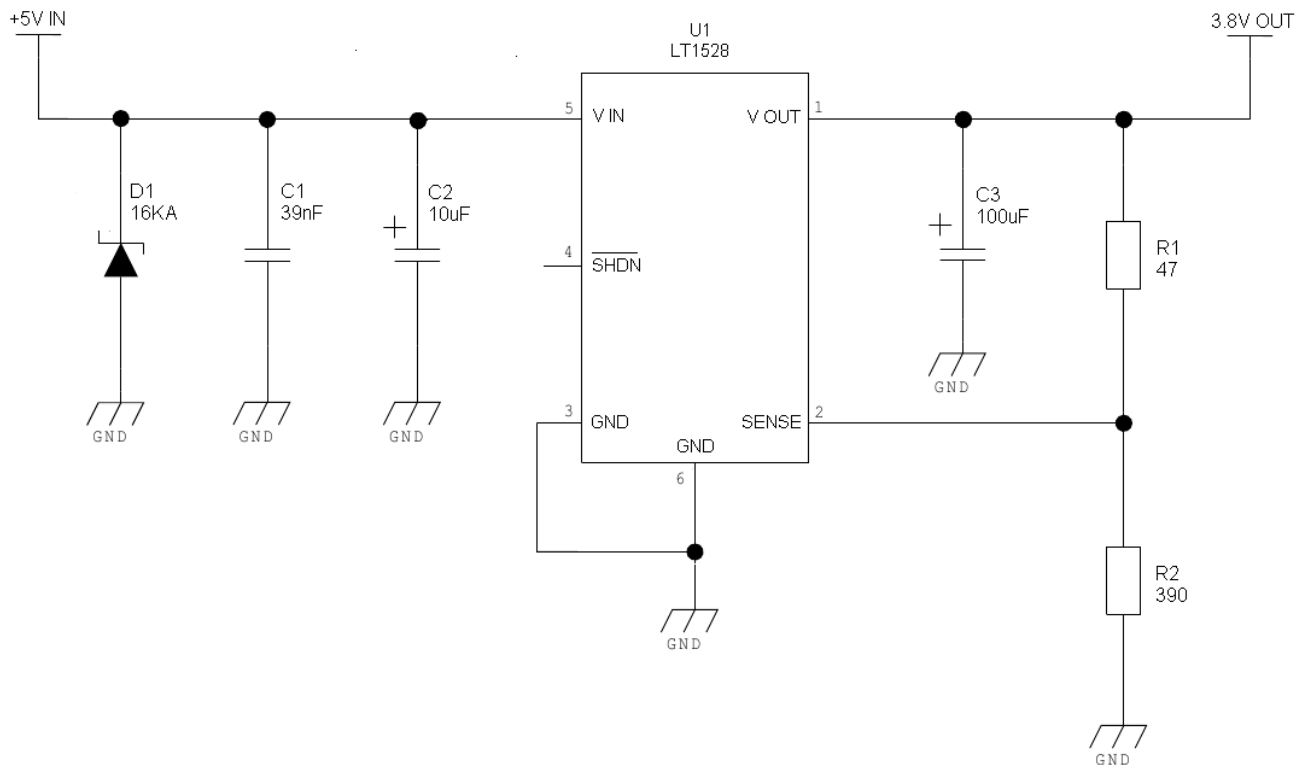
- +5V input (typically PC internal regulator output)
- +12V input (typically automotive)
- Battery

#### 5.3.1.1 + 5V input Source Power Supply Design Guidelines

- The desired output for the power supply is 3.8V, hence there's not a big difference between the input source and the desired output and a linear regulator can be used. A switching power supply will not be suited because of the low drop out requirements.
- When using a linear regulator, a proper heat sink shall be provided in order to dissipate the power generated.
- A Bypass low ESR capacitor of adequate capacity must be provided in order to cut the current absorption peaks close to the HE910, a 100 $\mu$ F tantalum capacitor is usually suited.
- Make sure the low ESR capacitor on the power supply output (usually a tantalum one) is rated at least 10V.
- A protection diode should be inserted close to the power input, in order to save the HE910 from power polarity inversion.



An example of linear regulator with 5V input is:



### 5.3.1.2 + 12V input Source Power Supply Design Guidelines

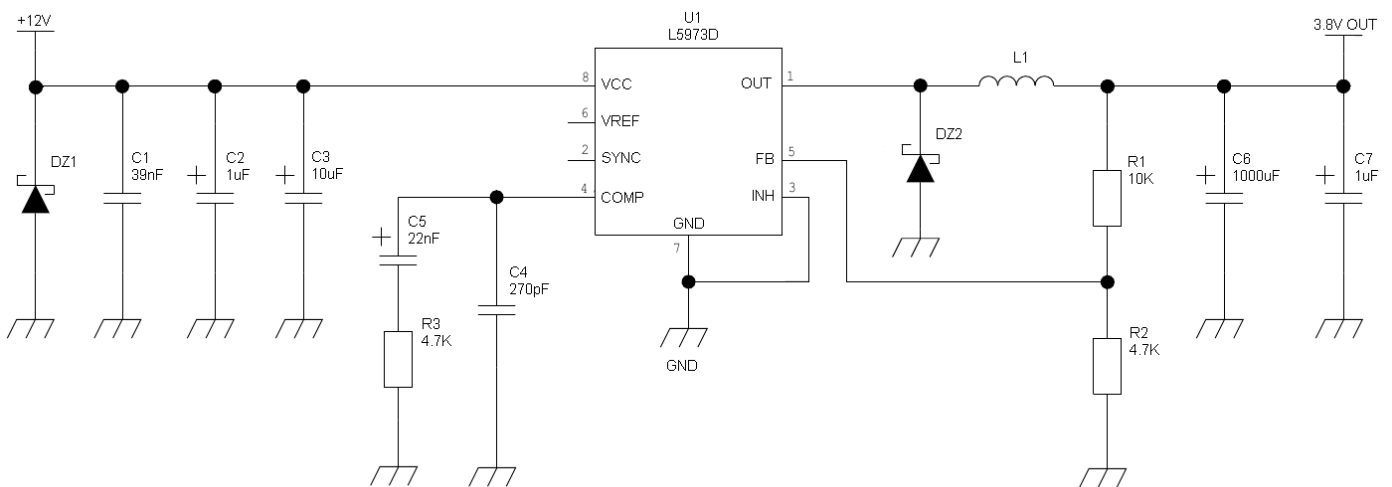
- The desired output for the power supply is 3.8V, hence due to the big difference between the input source and the desired output, a linear regulator is not suited and shall not be used. A switching power supply will be preferable because of its better efficiency especially with the 2A peak current load represented by the HE910.
- When using a switching regulator, a 500kHz or more switching frequency regulator is preferable because of its smaller inductor size and its faster transient response. This allows the regulator to respond quickly to the current peaks absorption.
- In any case the frequency and Switching design selection is related to the application to be developed due to the fact the switching frequency could also generate EMC interferences.
- For car PB battery the input voltage can rise up to 15,8V and this should be kept in mind when choosing components: all components in the power supply must withstand this voltage.
- A Bypass low ESR capacitor of adequate capacity must be provided in order to cut the current absorption peaks, a 100µF tantalum capacitor is usually suited.
- Make sure the low ESR capacitor on the power supply output (usually a tantalum one) is rated at least 10V.



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- For Car applications a spike protection diode should be inserted close to the power input, in order to clean the supply from spikes.
- A protection diode should be inserted close to the power input, in order to save the HE910 from power polarity inversion. This can be the same diode as for spike protection.

An example of switching regulator with 12V input is in the below schematic:





















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- The ground surrounding the antenna line on PCB has to be strictly connected to the main Ground Plane by means of via holes (once per 2mm at least), placed close to the ground edges facing line track;
- Place EM noisy devices as far as possible from HE910 antenna line;
- Keep the antenna line far away from the HE910 power supply lines;
- If EM noisy devices are present on the PCB hosting the HE910, such as fast switching ICs, take care of the shielding of the antenna line by burying it inside the layers of PCB and surround it with Ground planes, or shield it with a metal frame cover.
- If EM noisy devices are not present around the line, the use of geometries like Microstrip or Grounded Coplanar Waveguide has to be preferred, since they typically ensure less attenuation if compared to a Stripline having same length;





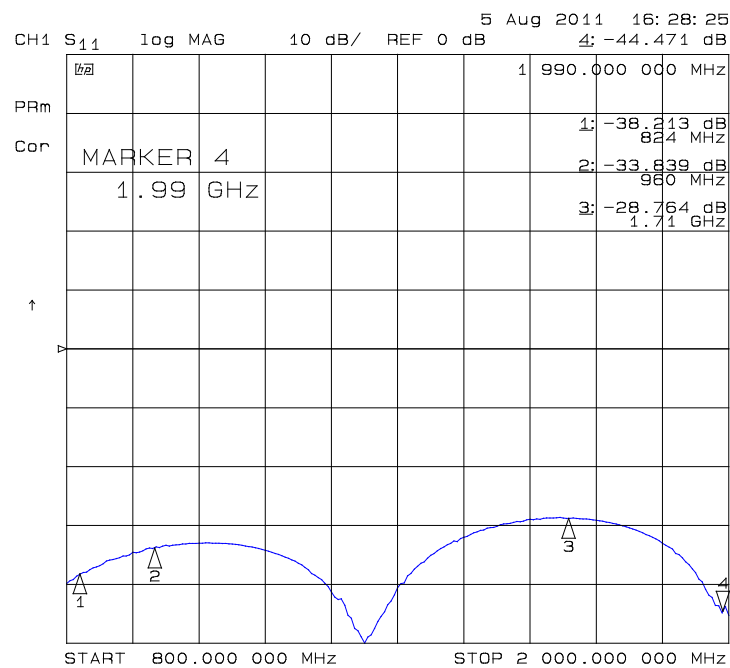




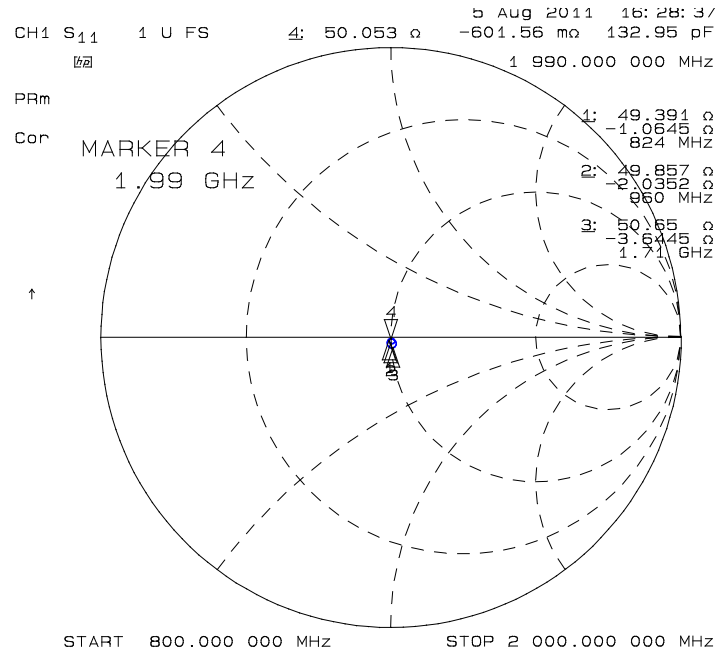
## 6.6.2 Transmission line measurements

HP8753E VNA (Full-2-port calibration) has been used in this measurement session. A calibrated coaxial cable has been soldered at the pad corresponding to RF output; a SMA connector has been soldered to the board in order to characterize the losses of the transmission line including the connector itself. During Return Loss / impedance measurements, the transmission line has been terminated to 50  $\Omega$  load.

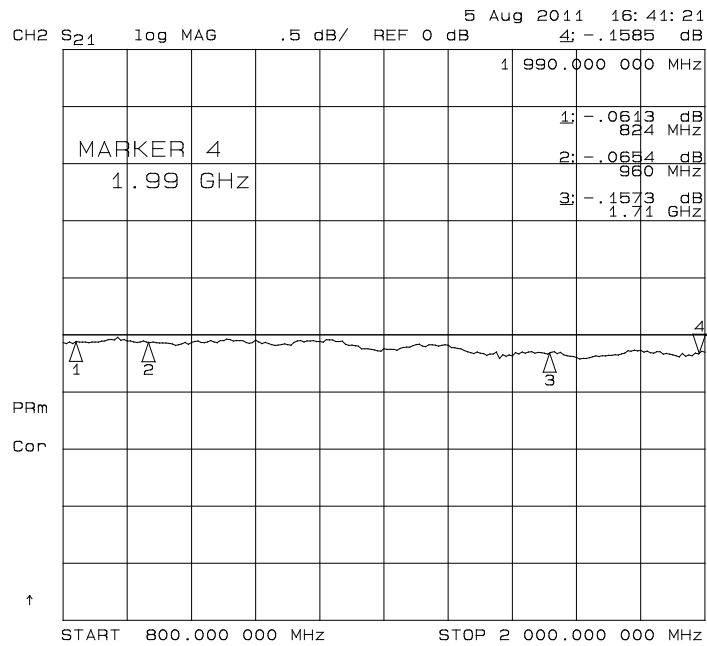
Return Loss plot of line under test is shown below:



Line input impedance (in Smith Chart format, once the line has been terminated to 50 Ω load) is shown in the following figure:



Insertion Loss of G-CPW line plus SMA connector is shown below:









## 7.2 GPS Signals Pinout

The Pads related to this function are the following:

PAD	Signal	I/O	Function	Type
R9	ANT_GPS	I	GPS Antenna (50 ohm)	RF
R7	GPS_LNA_EN	O	Output enable for External LNA supply	CMOS 1.8V

## 7.3 RF Front End Design

The HE910 Module contains an integrated LNA and pre-select SAW filter. This allows the module to work well with a passive GPS antenna. If the antenna cannot be located near the HE910, then an active antenna (that is, an antenna with a low noise amplifier built in) can be used.

### 7.3.1 RF Signal Requirements

The HE910 can achieve Cold Start acquisition with a signal level of -147 dBm at its input. This means the GPS receiver can find the necessary satellites, download the necessary ephemeris data and compute the location within a 5 minute period.

In the GPS signal acquisition process, downloading and decoding the data is the most difficult task, which is why Cold Start acquisition requires a higher signal level than navigation or tracking signal levels. For the purposes of this discussion, autonomous operation is assumed, which makes the Cold Start acquisition level the important design constraint. If assistance data in the form of time or ephemeris aiding is available, then even lower signal levels can be used to compute a navigation solution.

Each GPS satellite presents its own signal to the HE910, and best performance is obtained when the signal levels are between -125 dBm and -117 dBm. These received signal levels are determined by :

- GPS satellite transmit power
- GPS satellite elevation and azimuth
- Free space path loss
- Extraneous path loss such as rain
- Partial or total path blockage such as foliage or building
- Multipath caused by signal reflection
- GPS antenna
- Signal path after the GPS antenna

The first three items in the list above are specified in IS-GPS-200E, readily available multiple sources online. IS-GPS-200E specifies a signal level minimum of -130 dBm will be presented to the receiver when using a linearly polarized antenna with 3 dBi gain.

The GPS signal is relatively immune to rainfall attenuation and does not really need to be considered.





However, the GPS signal is heavily influenced by attenuation due to foliage such as tree canopies, etc., as well as outright blockage caused by building, terrain or other items in the line of sight to the specific GPS satellite. This variable attenuation is highly dependent upon GPS satellite location. If enough satellites are blocked, say at a lower elevation, or all in a general direction, the geometry of the remaining satellites will result in a lower accuracy of position. The HE910 reports this geometry in the form of PDOP, HDOP and VDOP.

For example, in a vehicular application, the GPS antenna may be placed embedded into the dashboard or rear package tray of an automobile. The metal roof of the vehicle will cause significant blockage, plus any thermal coating applied to the vehicle glass can attenuate the GPS signal by as much as 15 dB. Again, both of these factors will affect the performance of the receiver.

Multipath is a phenomena where the signal from a particular satellite is reflected and is received by the GPS antenna in addition to or in place of the original line of sight signal. The multipath signal has a path length that is longer than the original line of sight path and can either attenuate the original signal, or if received in place of the original signal add additional error in determining a solution because the distance to the particular GPS satellite is actually longer than expected. It is this phenomena that makes GPS navigation in urban canyons (narrow roads surround by high rise buildings) so challenging. In general, the reflecting of the GPS signal causes the polarization to reverse. The implications of this are covered in the next section.

## 7.3.2 GPS Antenna Polarization

The GPS signal as broadcast is a right hand circularly polarized signal. The best antenna to receive the GPS signal is a right hand circularly (RHCP) polarized antenna.

Remember that IS-GPS-200E specifies the receive power level with a linearly polarized antenna. A linearly polarized antenna will have 3 dB loss as compared to an RHCP antenna assuming the same antenna gain (specified in dBi and dBic respectively).

An RHCP antenna is better at rejecting multipath than a linearly polarized antenna.

This is because the reflected signal changes polarization to LHCP, which would be rejected by the RHCP antenna by typically 20 dB or so. If the multipath signal is attenuating the line of sight signal, then the RHCP antenna would show a higher signal level than a linearly polarized antenna because the interfering signal is rejected.

However, in the case where the multipath signal is replacing the line of sight signal, such as in an urban canyon environment, then the number of satellites in view could drop below that needed to determine a 3D solution. This is a case where a bad signal may be better than no signal. The system designer needs to make tradeoffs in their application to determine which is the better choice.



### 7.3.3 GPS Antenna Gain

Antenna gain is defined as the extra signal power from the antenna as compared to a theoretical isotropic antenna (equally sensitive in all directions).

For example, a 25mm by 25mm square patch antenna on a reference ground plane (usually 70mm by 70mm) will give an antenna gain at zenith of 5 dBiC. A smaller 18mm by 18mm square patch on a reference ground plane (usually 50mm by 50mm) will give an antenna gain at zenith of 2 dBiC.

While an antenna vendor will specify a nominal antenna gain (usually at zenith, or directly overhead) they should supply antenna pattern curves specifying gain as a function of elevation, and gain at a fixed elevation as a function of azimuth. Pay careful attention to the requirement to meet these specifications, such as ground plane required and any external matching components. Failure to follow these requirements could result in very poor antenna performance.

It is important to note that GPS antenna gain is not the same thing as external LNA gain. Most antenna vendors will specify these numbers separately, but some combine them into a single number. It is important to know both numbers when designing and evaluating the front end of a GPS receiver.

For example, antenna X has an antenna gain of 5 dBiC at azimuth and an LNA gain of 20 dB for a combined total of 25 dB. Antenna Y has an antenna gain of -5 dBiC at azimuth and an LNA gain of 30 dB for a combined total of 25 dB. However, in the system, antenna X will outperform antenna Y by about 10 dB (refer to next chapter for more details on system noise floor).

An antenna with higher gain will generally outperform an antenna with lower gain. Once the signals are above about -130 dBm for a particular satellite, no improvement in performance would be gained. However, for those satellites that are below about -125 dBm, a higher gain antenna would improve the gain and improve the performance of the GPS receiver. In the case of really weak signals, a good antenna could mean the difference between being able to use a particular satellite signal or not.

### 7.3.4 Active versus Passive Antenna

If the GPS antenna is placed near the HE910 and the RF traces losses are not excessive (nominally 1 dB), then a passive antenna can be used. This would normally be the lowest cost option and most of the time the simplest to use. However, if the antenna needs to be located away from the HE910 then an active antenna may be required to obtain the best system performance. The active antenna has its own built in low noise amplifier to overcome RF trace or cable losses after the active antenna.

However, an active antenna has a low noise amplifier (LNA) with associated gain and noise figure. In addition, many active antennas have either a pre-select filter, a post-select filter, or both.





### 7.3.7 Implications of the Pre-select SAW Filter

The HE910 module contains a SAW filter used in a pre-select configuration with the built-in LNA, that is, the RF input of the HE910 ties directly into the SAW filter. Any circuit connected to the input of the HE910 would see complex impedance presented by the SAW filter, particularly out of band, rather than the relatively broad and flat return loss presented by the LNA. Filter devices pass the desired in band signal to the output, resulting in low reflected energy (good return loss), and reject the out of band signal by reflecting it back to the input, resulting in high reflected energy (bad return loss).

If an external amplifier is to be used with the HE910, the overall design should be checked for RF stability to prevent the external amplifier from oscillating. Amplifiers that are unconditionally stable at the output will be fine to use with the HE910.

If an external filter is to be connected directly to the HE910, care needs to be used in making sure neither the external filter nor the internal SAW filter performance is compromised. These components are typically specified to operate into 50 ohms impedance, which is generally true in band, but would not be true out of band. If there is extra gain associated with the external filter, then a 6 dB Pi or T resistive attenuator is suggested to improve the impedance match between the two components.

### 7.3.8 External LNA Gain and Noise Figure

The HE910 can be used with an external LNA such as what might be found in an active antenna. Because of the internal LNA, the overall gain (including signal losses past the external LNA) should not exceed 14 dB. Levels higher than that can affect the jamming detection capability of the HE910. If a higher gain LNA is used, either a resistive Pi or T attenuator can be inserted after the LNA to bring the gain down to 14 dB .

The external LNA should have a noise figure better than 1 dB. This will give an overall system noise figure of around 2 dB assuming the LNA gain is 14 dB, or if higher the low gain mode is automatically managed by the HE910 with its internal AGC.

The external LNA, if having no pre-select filter, needs to be able to handle other signals other than the GPS signal. These signals are typically at much higher levels. The amplifier needs to stay in the linear region when presented with these other signals. Again, the system designer needs to determine all of the unintended signals and their possible levels that can be presented and make sure the external LNA will not be driven into compression. If this were to happen, the GPS signal itself would start to be attenuated and the GPS performance would suffer.

### 7.3.9 Powering the External LNA (active antenna)

The external LNA needs a source of power. Many of the active antennas accept a 3 volt or 5 volt DC voltage that is impressed upon the RF signal line. This voltage is not supplied by the HE910, but can be easily supplied by the host design.





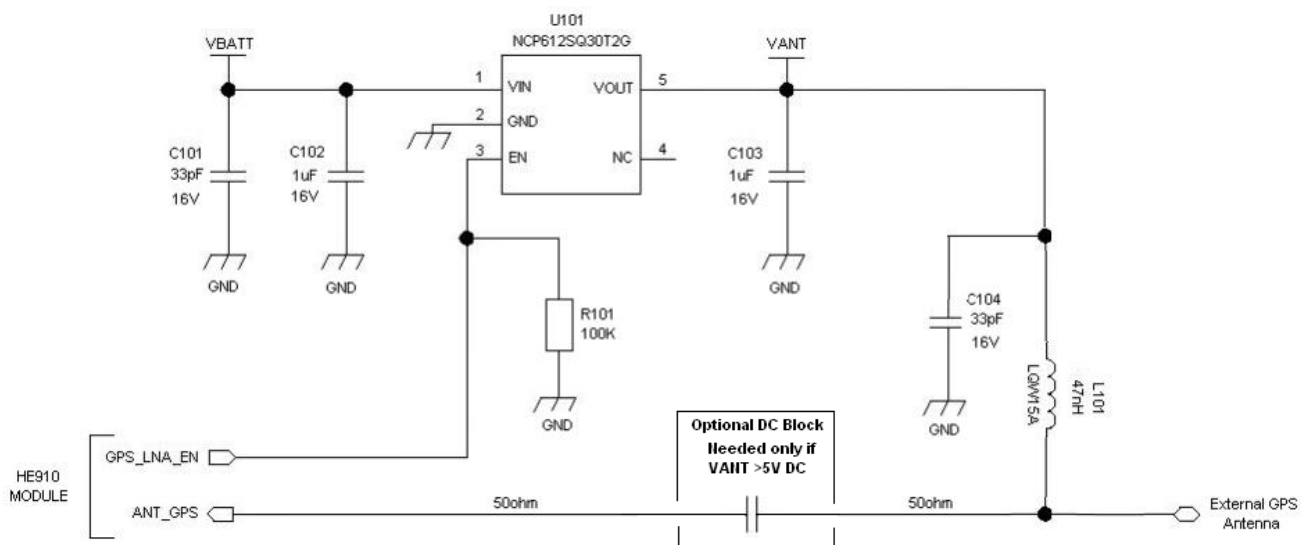
### 7.3.10 External LNA Enable

The HE910 is already provided by an internal LNA. In case the Application needs to include an additional LNA stage, the module is provided by a digital signal usable to enable the power supply of the external amplifier. The signal is set to High only when the GPS receiver is active.

The electrical characteristics of the GPS\_LNA\_EN signal are:

Level	Min	Max
Output high level	1.6V	1.9
Output low level	0V	0.2V

An example of GPS Antenna Supply circuit is shown in the following image:



**NOTE:**

The maximum DC voltage applicable to the ANT\_GPS pin is 5V. In case this is exceeded, a series capacitor has to be included in the design to avoid exceeding the maximum input DC level.



## 7.3.11 Shielding

Shielding the RF circuitry generally is ineffective because the interference is getting into the GPS antenna itself, the most sensitive portion of the RF path. The antenna cannot be shielded because then it can't receive the GPS signals.

There are two solutions, one is to move the antenna away from the source of interference or the second is to shield the digital interference to prevent it from getting to the antenna.

## 7.3.12 GPS Antenna - Installation

- The HE910 due to its characteristics of sensitivity is capable to perform a Fix inside the buildings. (In any case the sensitivity could be affected by the building characteristics i.e. shielding).
- The Antenna must not be co-located or operating in conjunction with any other antenna or transmitter.
- Antenna must not be installed inside metal cases.
- Antenna must be installed also according to the Antenna manufacturer instructions.







## 8.1 Unconditional Shutdown

Signal	Function	I/O	PAD
HW_SHUTDOWN*	Unconditional Shutdown of the Module	I	R13

HW\_SHUTDOWN\* is used to unconditionally shutdown the HE910. Whenever this signal is pulled low, the HE910 is reset. When the device is reset it stops any operation. After the release of the line, the HE910 is unconditionally shut down, without doing any detach operation from the network where it is registered. This behaviour is not a proper shut down because any GSM device is requested to issue a detach request on turn off. For this reason the HW\_SHUTDOWN\* signal must not be used to normally shutting down the device, but only as an emergency exit in the rare case the device remains stuck waiting for some network response.

The HW\_SHUTDOWN\* is internally controlled on start-up to achieve always a proper power-on reset sequence, so there's no need to control this pin on start-up.

It may only be used to reset a device already on that is not responding to any command.



### NOTE:

Do not use this signal to power off the HE910. Use the ON/OFF signal to perform this function or the AT#SHDN command.

#### Unconditional Shutdown Signal Operating levels:

Signal	Min	Max
HW_SHUTDOWN* Input high	1.5V	1.9V
HW_SHUTDOWN* Input low	0V	0.35V

\* this signal is internally pulled up so the pin can be left floating if not used.

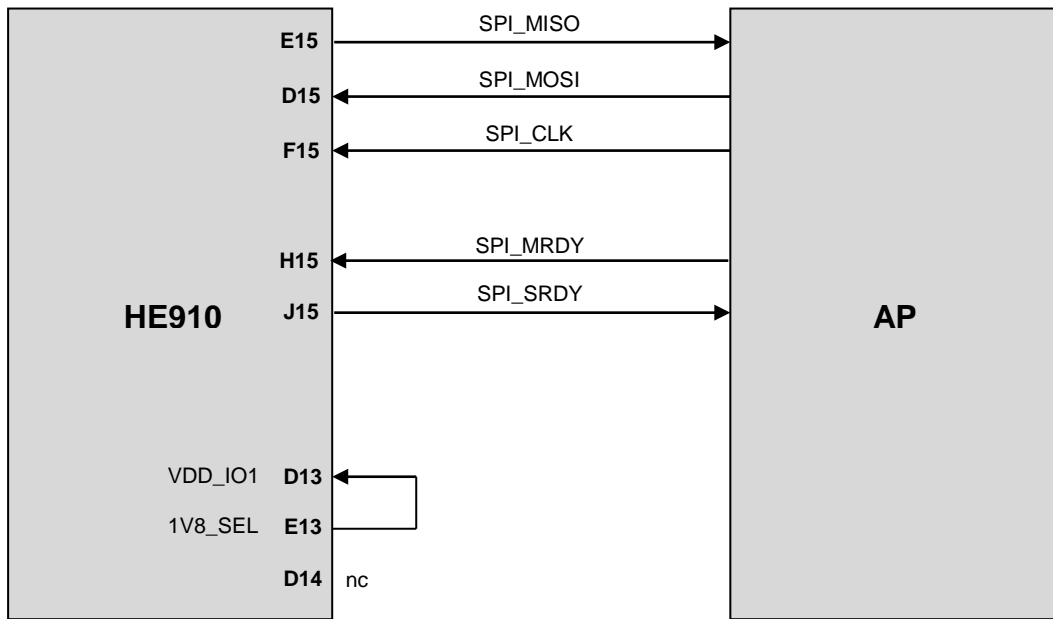
If unused, this signal may be left unconnected. If used, then it **must always be connected with an open collector transistor**, to permit to the internal circuitry the power on reset and under voltage lockout functions.







## 10.1 SPI Connections



# 11 USB HSIC

The HE910 Module is provided by one USB HSIC interface.

The USB HSIC (High Speed Inter Processor) Interface allows supporting the inter-processor communication between an application processor (AP) – the host, and the modem processor (CP) – the HE910.

The following table is listing the available signals:

Pad	Signal	Direction	Function	Type	COMMENT
A12	HSIC_USB_DATA	I/O	USB HSIC data signal	CMOS 1.2V	
A11	HSIC_USB_STRB	I/O	USB HSIC strobe signal	CMOS 1.2V	
H15	HSIC_SLAVE_WAKEUP	I	Slave Wake Up	CMOS 1.8V	Shared with SPI_MRDY
F15	HSIC_HOST_WAKEUP	O	Host Wake Up	CMOS 1.8V	Shared with SPI_CLK
K15	HSIC_SUSPEND_REQUEST	O	Slave Suspend Request	CMOS 1.8V	Shared with GPIO08
J15	HSIC_HOST_ACTIVE	I	Active Host Indication	CMOS 1.8V	Shared with SPI_SRDY
D13	VDD_IO1	I	VDD_IO1 Input		To be connected to E13
E13	1V8_SEL	O	1V8 SEL for VDD_IO1		To be connected to D13

The signal 1V8\_SEL must be connected to the VDD\_IO1 input pin to properly supply this digital section.

For the detailed use of USB HSIC port please refer to the related Application Note.



**NOTE:**

Due to the shared functions, when the USB\_HSIC port is used, it is not possible to use the SPI and the GPIO\_08.

The USB\_HSIC is not active by default but it has to be enabled using the AT#PORTCFG command (refer to the AT User guide for the detailed syntax description).





# 12 Serial Ports

The HE910 module is provided with by 2 Asynchronous serial ports:

- MODEM SERIAL PORT 1 (Main)
- MODEM SERIAL PORT 2 (Auxiliary)

Several configurations can be designed for the serial port on the OEM hardware, but the most common are:

- RS232 PC com port
- microcontroller UART @ 1.8V (Universal Asynchronous Receive Transmit)
- microcontroller UART @ 5V or other voltages different from 1.8V

Depending from the type of serial port on the OEM hardware a level translator circuit may be needed to make the system work.

On the HE910 the ports are CMOS 1.8.

The electrical characteristics of the Serial ports are explained in the following tables:

### Absolute Maximum Ratings -Not Functional

Parameter	Min	Max
Input level on any digital pin (CMOS 1.8) with respect to ground	-0.3V	2.1V

### Operating Range - Interface levels (1.8V CMOS)

Level	Min	Max
Input high level	1.5V	1.9V
Input low level	0V	0.35V
Output high level	1.6V	1.9
Output low level	0V	0.2V



## 12.1 MODEM SERIAL PORT 1 (USIF0)

The serial port 1 on the HE910 is a +1.8V UART with all the 7 RS232 signals. It differs from the PC-RS232 in the signal polarity (RS232 is reversed) and levels.

RS232 Pin #	Signal	HE910 Pad Number	Name	Usage
1	C109/DCD	N14	Data Carrier Detect	Output from the HE910 that indicates the carrier presence
2	C104/RXD	M15	Transmit line *see Note	Output transmit line of HE910 UART
3	C103/TXD	N15	Receive line *see Note	Input receive of the HE910 UART
4	C108/DTR	M14	Data Terminal Ready	Input to the HE910 that controls the DTE READY condition
5	GND	M12, B13, P13, E14 ...	Ground	Ground
6	C107/DSR	P14	Data Set Ready	Output from the HE910 that indicates the module is ready
7	C106/CTS	P15	Clear to Send	Output from the HE910 that controls the Hardware flow control
8	C105/RTS	L14	Request to Send	Input to the HE910 that controls the Hardware flow control
9	C125/RING	R14	Ring Indicator	Output from the HE910 that indicates the incoming call condition

The following table shows the typical input value of internal pull-up resistors for RTS DTR TXD and TXD input lines and in all module states:

STATE	RTS DTR TXD	
	ON	5K to 12K
OFF	Schottky diode	
RESET	Schottky diode	
POWER SAVING	5K to 12K	1V8





















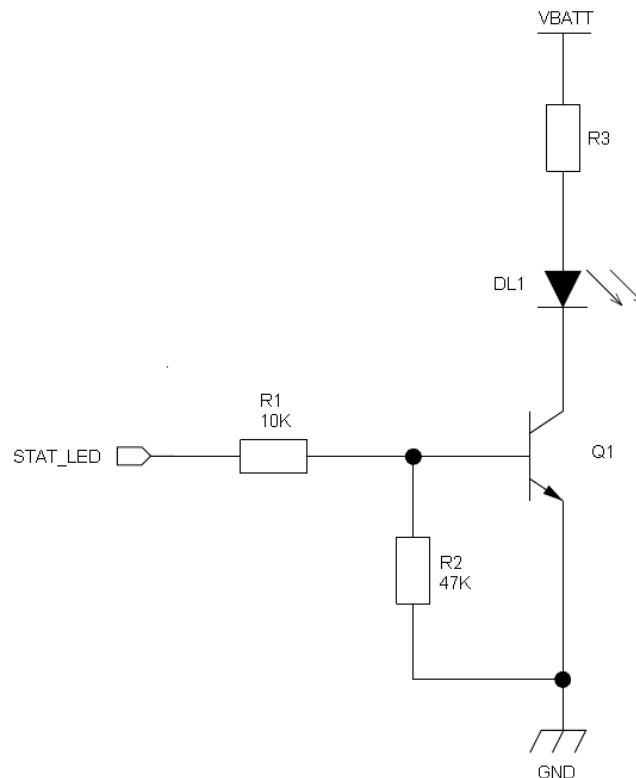
## 14.4 Indication of network service availability

The STAT\_LED pin status shows information on the network service availability and Call status. The function is available as alternate function of GPIO\_01 (to be enabled using the AT#GPIO=1,0,2 command).

In the HE910 modules, the STAT\_LED needs an external transistor to drive an external LED. Therefore, the status indicated in the following table is reversed with respect to the pin status.

Device Status	LED status
Device off	Permanently off
Not Registered	Permanently on
Registered in idle	Blinking 1sec on + 2 sec off
Registered in idle + power saving	It depends on the event that triggers the wakeup (In sync with network paging)
Voice Call Active	Permanently on
Dial-Up	Blinking 1 sec on + 2 sec off

A schematic example could be:







## 14.8 ADC Converter

### 14.8.1 Description

The HE910 is provided by one AD converter. It is able to read a voltage level in the range of 0÷1.2 volts applied on the ADC pin input, store and convert it into 10 bit word. The following table is showing the ADC characteristics:

	Min	Typical	Max	Units
Input Voltage range	0	-	1.2	Volt
AD conversion	-	-	10	bits
Input Resistance	1	-	-	Mohm
Input Capacitance	-	1	-	pF

The input line is named as **ADC\_IN1** and it is available on Pad **B1**

### 14.8.2 Using ADC Converter

An AT command is available to use the ADC function.

The command is **AT#ADC=1,2**

The read value is expressed in mV

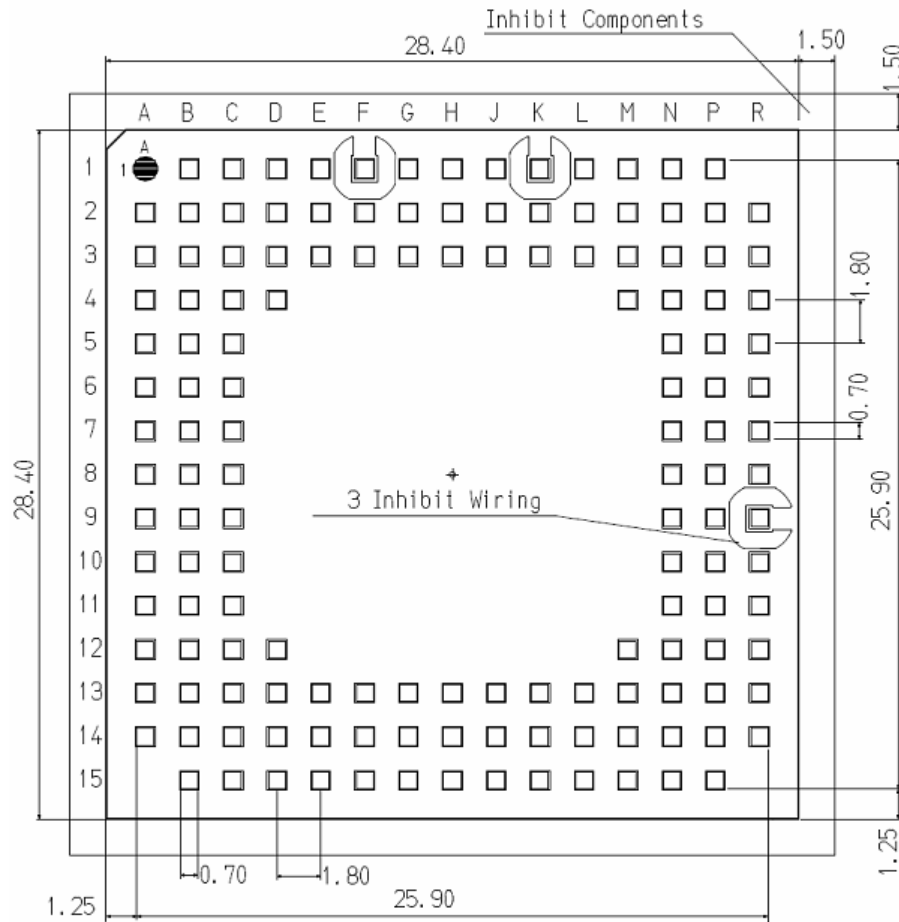
Refer to SW User Guide or AT Commands Reference Guide for the full description of this function.







## 15.3 Recommended foot print for the application



**TOP VIEW**

In order to easily rework the HE910 is suggested to consider on the application a 1.5 mm placement inhibit area around the module.

It is also suggested, as common rule for an SMT component, to avoid having a mechanical part of the application in direct contact with the module.



**NOTE:**

In the customer application, the region under WIRING INHIBIT (see figure above) must be clear from signal or ground paths.









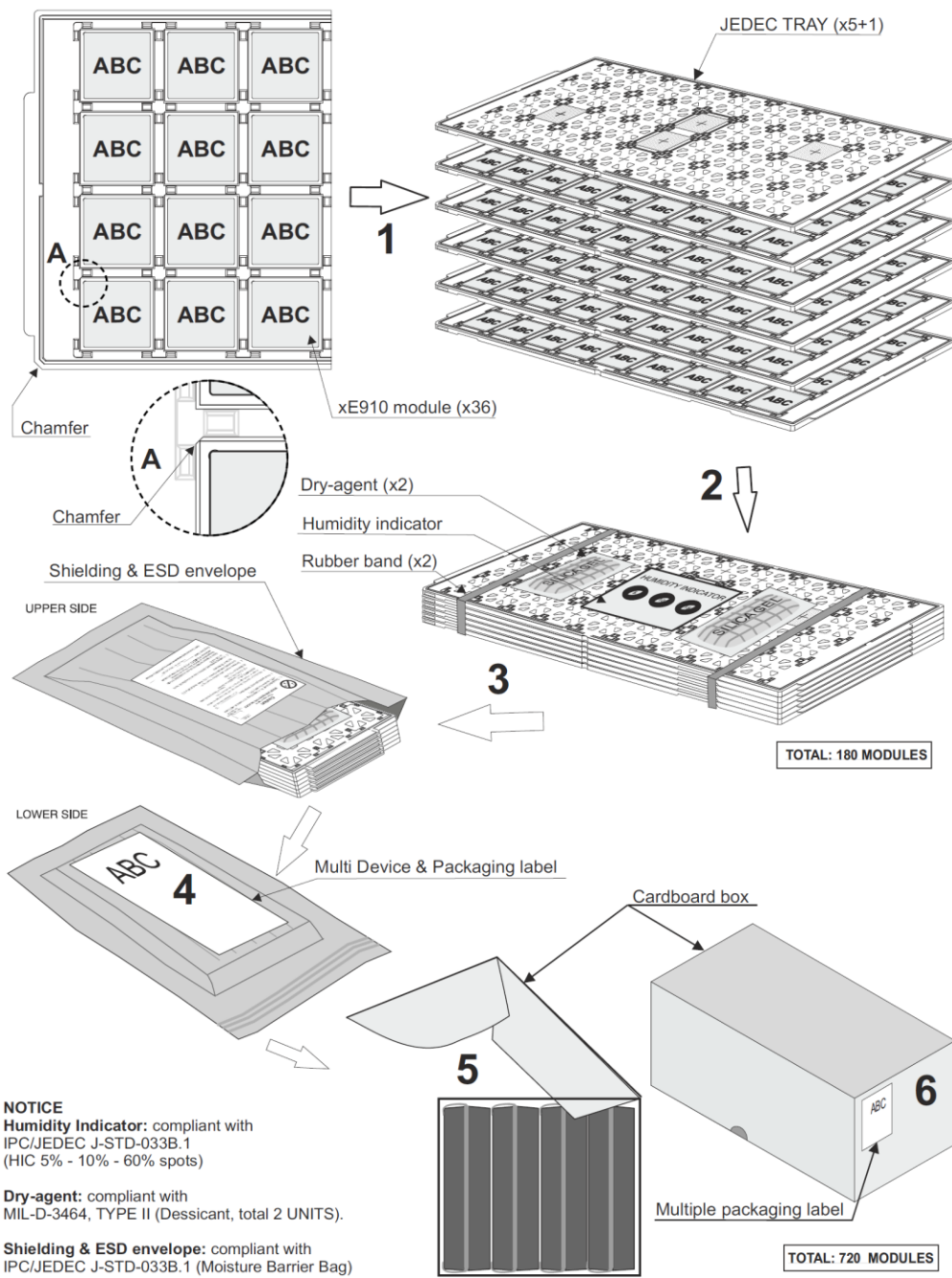




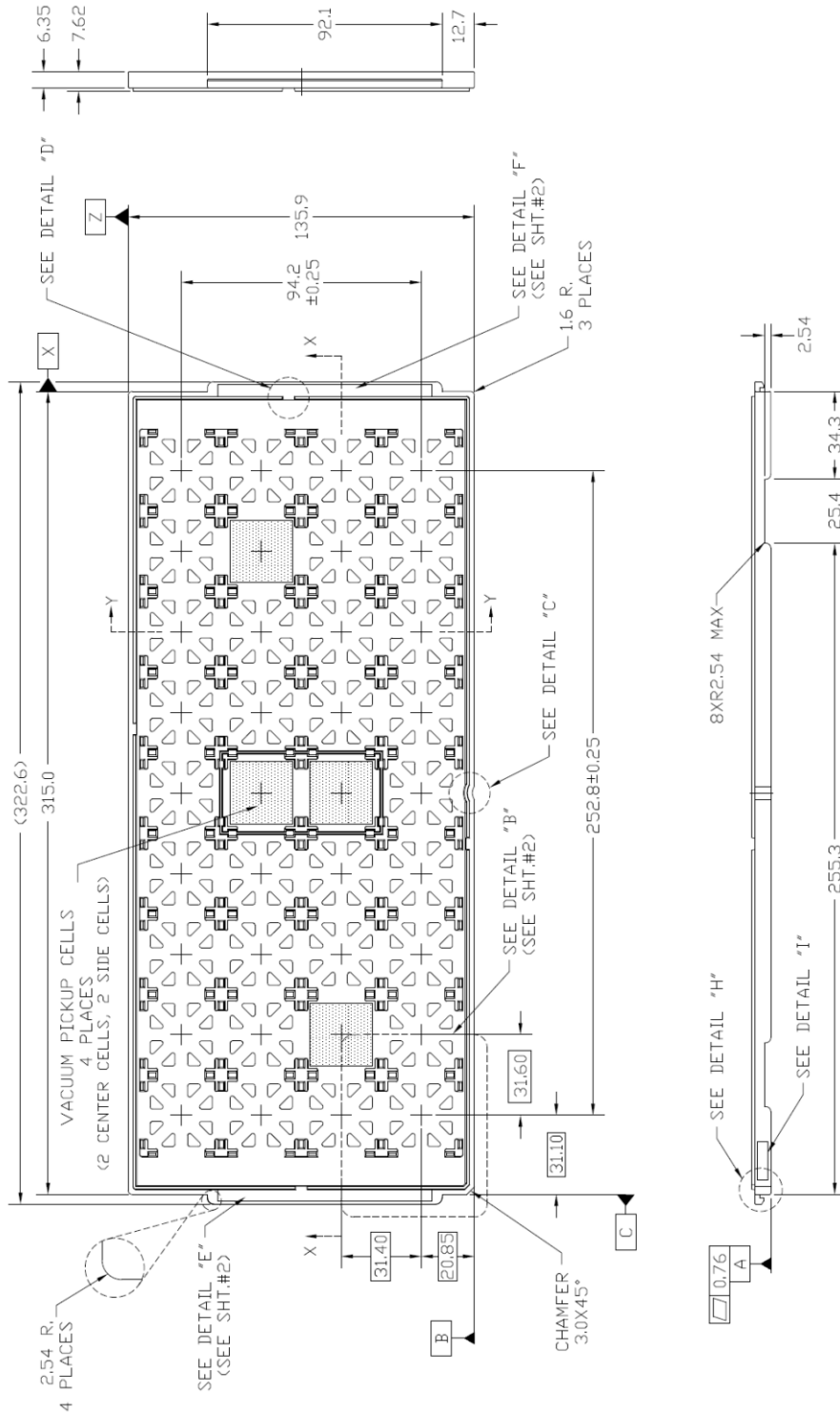


## 15.8 Packing system (Tray)

The HE910 modules are packaged on trays of 36 pieces each. These trays can be used in SMT processes for pick & place handling.

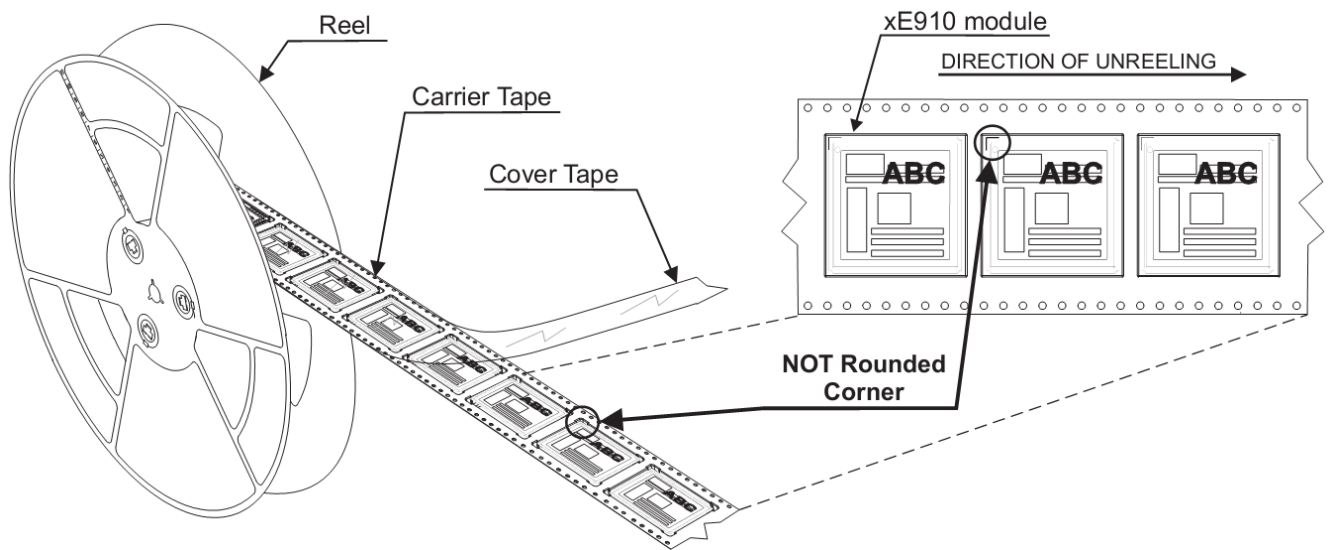




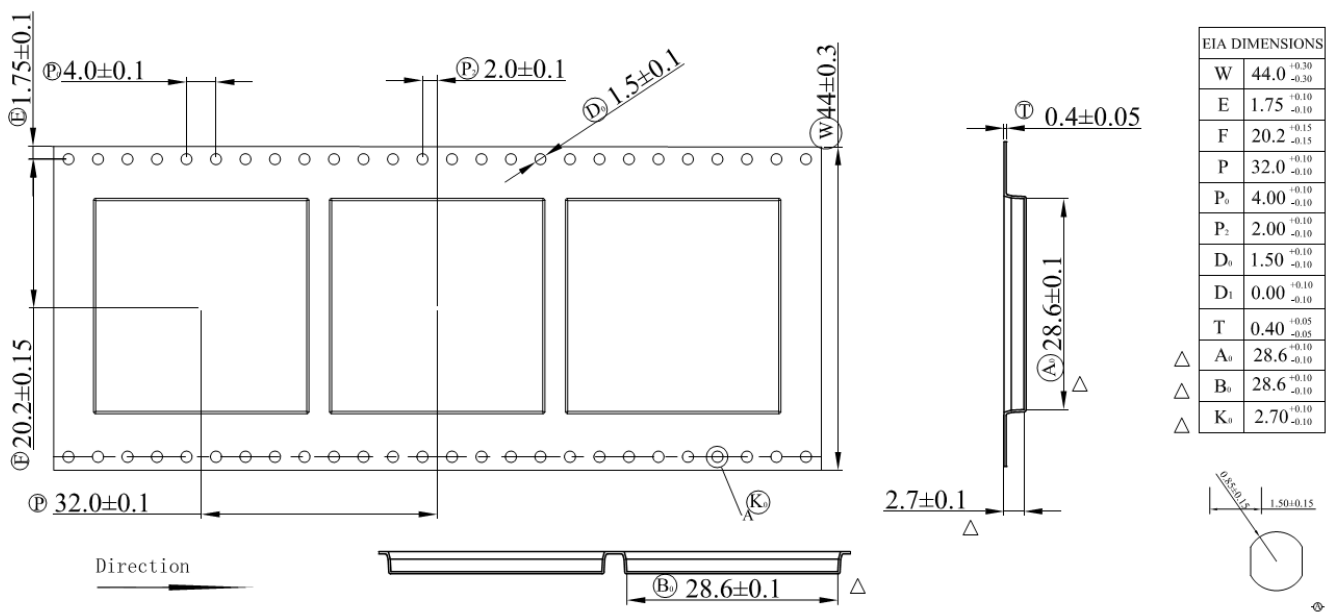


## 15.9 Packing System (Reel)

The HE910 can be packaged on reels of 200 pieces each.  
See figure for module positioning into the carrier.



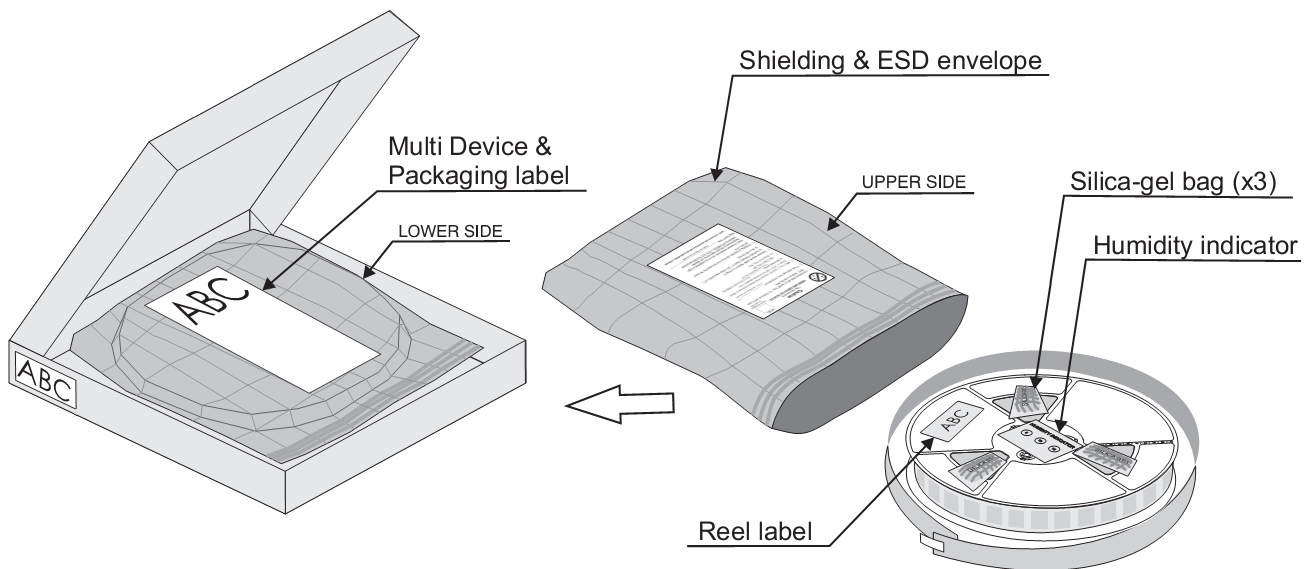
### 15.9.1 Carrier Tape Detail







### 15.9.3 Packaging Detail



### 15.10 Moisture sensitivity

The HE910 is a Moisture Sensitive Device level 3, in according with standard IPC/JEDEC J-STD-020, take care all the relatives requirements for using this kind of components.

Moreover, the customer has to take care of the following conditions:

- Calculated shelf life in sealed bag: 12 months at <math>40^{\circ}\text{C}</math> and <math>90\%</math> relative humidity (RH).
- Environmental condition during the production: <math>30^{\circ}\text{C}</math> / <math>60\%</math> RH according to IPC/JEDEC J-STD-033A paragraph 5.
- The maximum time between the opening of the sealed bag and the reflow process must be 168 hours if condition b) "IPC/JEDEC J-STD-033A paragraph 5.2" is respected
- Baking is required if conditions b) or c) are not respected
- Baking is required if the humidity indicator inside the bag indicates 10% RH or more



















