

## NCP1351 Evaluation Board, a 19 V - 3 A Adapter

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### APPLICATION NOTE

#### The NCP1351 at a Glance

Fixed  $t_{on}$ , variable  $t_{off}$  current-mode control: implementing a fixed peak current mode control (hence the more appropriate term “quasi-fixed”  $t_{on}$ ), the NCP1351 modulates the off time duration according to the output power demand. In high power conditions, the switching frequency increases until a maximum is hit. This upper limit depends on an external capacitor selected by the designer. In light load conditions, the off time expands and the NCP1351 operates at a lower frequency. As the frequency reduces, the contribution of all frequency-dependent losses accordingly goes down (driver current, drain capacitive losses, switching losses), naturally improving the efficiency at various load levels.

**Peak Current Compression at Light Loads:** Reducing the frequency will certainly force the converter to operate into the audible region. To prevent the transformer mechanical resonance, the NCP1351 gradually reduces – compresses – the peak current setpoint as the load becomes lighter. When the current reaches 30% of the nominal value, the compression stops and the off duration keeps expanding towards low frequencies.

**Low Standby-power:** the frequency reduction technique offers an excellent solution for designers looking for low standby power converters. Also, compared to the skip-cycle method, the smooth off time expansion does not bring additional ripple in no-load conditions: the output voltage remains quiet.

**Natural Frequency Dithering:** the quasi-fixed  $t_{on}$  mode of operation improves the EMI signature since the switching frequency varies with the natural bulk ripple voltage.

**Extremely Low Start-up Current:** built on a proprietary circuitry, the NCP1351 startup section does not consume more than 10  $\mu$ A during the startup sequence. The designer can thus easily combine startup time and standby consumption.

**Overload Protection Based on Fault Timer:** every designer knows the pain of building converters where a precise over current limit must be obtained. When the fault detection relies on the auxiliary  $V_{CC}$ , the pain even increases. Here, the NCP1351 observes the lack of feedback current starts a timer to countdown. At the end of its charge,

the timer either triggers an auto-recovery sequence (auto-restart, B version) or permanently latches-off (A).

**Latch Fault Input:** a dedicated input lets the designer externally trigger the latch to build additional protections such as over-voltage (OVP) or over-temperature (OTP).

#### The Schematic

The design must fulfill the following specifications:

Input voltage: 90 – 265 Vac

Output voltage: 19 V @ 3 A

Over voltage protection

Over power protection

Auto-recovery short-circuit protection

Offering a good EMI signature, the 65 kHz maximum switching frequency has become an industry standard for the vast majority of power supplies connected on the mains. With the NCP1351, selecting a  $C_t$  capacitor of 270 pF fixes the upper limit to 65 kHz. As a result, when the controller detects a need for a higher frequency, implying an overload condition, it will start to charge the timer capacitor: if the overload disappears, the timer capacitor goes back to zero. If the fault remains, the timer capacitor voltage reaches 5 V and starts the auto-recovery process.

The transformer has been derived using the design recommendations described in the NCP1351 data-sheet. We came-up to the following values:

$$L_p = 770 \mu\text{H}$$

$$N_p:N_s = 1:0.25$$

$$N_p:N_{aux} = 1:0.18$$

It is also possible to use the Excel® spreadsheet available from the ON Semiconductor website which also gives transformer parameters. The core is a PQ26x25 made of a 3F3 material and has been manufactured by Delta Electronics (reference 86H-6232). The leakage inductance is kept around 1%, leading to a good efficiency and reduced losses in no-load conditions. The schematic appears on Figure 2. The converter operates in CCM with a 40% duty-cycle at low mains and stays CCM at high line. Despite the frequency variation, it is possible to evaluate the input voltage point at which the converter leaves CCM:

$$V_{in, crit} = \frac{2P_{out}V_{out}}{I_{peak}V_{out}\eta - 2NP_{out}} = \frac{2 \times 57 \times 19}{2 \times 19 \times 0.9 - 2 \times 0.25 \times 57} = 380 \text{ Vdc} \quad (\text{eq. 1})$$

Where:

$I_{peak}$  is the selected peak current in the inductor

$V_{out}$ , the output voltage

$\eta$ , the converter efficiency

$P_{out}$ , the delivered power

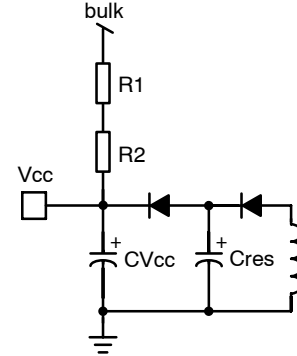
$N$ , the transformer turn ratio,  $N_p:N_s = 1:N$

Since we are limited to 265 Vac, we can see that the converter will always be in CCM at full power. To the opposite, we can also predict the power level at which the converter leaves CCM at low and high line conditions:

$$P_{out, crit} = \frac{\eta I_{peak} V_{in} V_{out}}{V_{out} + N V_{in}} \quad (\text{eq. 2})$$

For an input voltage of 120 Vdc, the converter enters DCM for an output power below 42 W. When the voltage increases to 330 Vdc, the power level at which CCM is excited is 55 W.

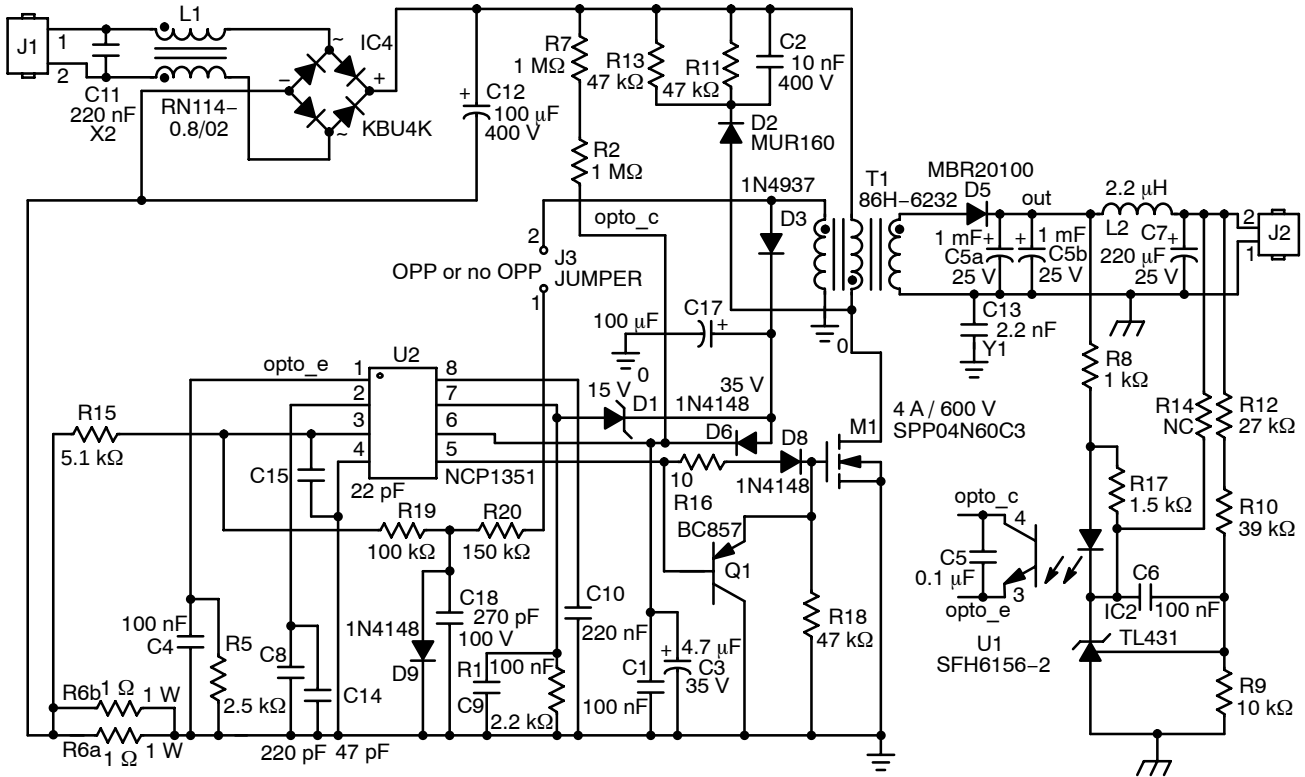
Two 1 M $\Omega$  resistors ensure a clean start-up sequence with the 4.7  $\mu$ F capacitor ( $C_3$ ), directly from the bulk capacitor. Despite a small value for  $C_3$ , the  $V_{CC}$  still maintains in no-load conditions thanks to the split configuration:



**Figure 1.**

The split  $V_{CC}$  configuration helps to start-up in a small period of time ( $CV_{CC}$  to charge alone) but the addition of a second, larger capacitor ( $C_{res}$ ), ensures enough  $V_{CC}$  in standby.

The primary-side feedback current is fixed to roughly 300  $\mu$ A via  $R_5$  and an additional bias is provided for the TL431. 1 mA at least must flow in the TL431 in worse case conditions (full load). Failure to respect this will degrade the power supply output impedance and regulation will suffer. A 1.5 k $\Omega$  has proven to do just well, without degrading the standby power.



**Figure 2. The 57 W Adapter Board Featuring the NCP1351 Controller**

The overvoltage protection uses a 15 V zener diode (D<sub>1</sub>) connected to the auxiliary V<sub>CC</sub>. When the voltage on this rail exceeds 15 V plus the NCP1351 5 V latch trip point (total is thus 20 V), the circuit latches-off and immediately pulls the V<sub>CC</sub> pin down to 6 V. The reset occurs when the injected current into the V<sub>CC</sub> pin passes below a few  $\mu$ A, that is to say when the power supply is disconnected from the mains

outlet. To speed-up this reset phase, a connection via a diode to the half-wave point will reset the circuit faster (Figure 3). Please note that the half-wave resistor equals the original bulk start-up resistor divided by 3.14. This provides the same startup current, despite the half-wave signal. The power dissipation is also slightly reduced (by 30% roughly).

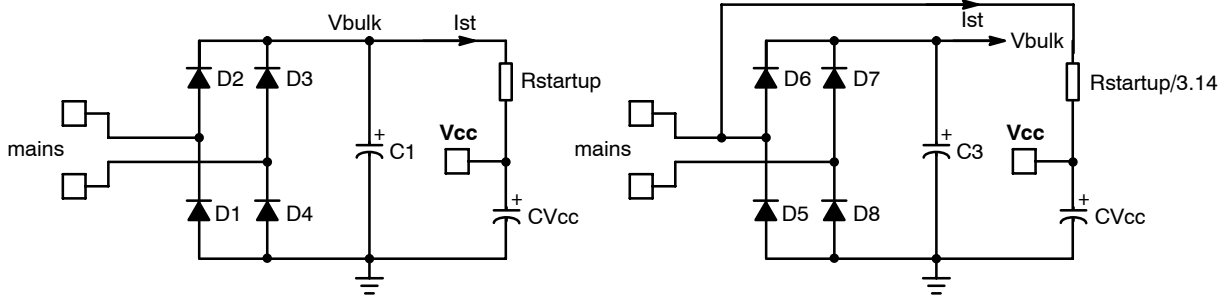


Figure 3.

Connecting the startup resistor to the mains before the diode bridge helps to speed-up the NCP1351 reset time when latched.

To satisfy the maximum power limit, we can install an Over Power Protection (OPP) circuit. Given the negative sensing technique, we can use a portion of the auxiliary signal during the on time, as it also swings negative. However, we need this compensation at high line only since standby power can be affected. For this reason, we have installed a small integrator made of C<sub>18</sub>-R<sub>20</sub>. To avoid charging C<sub>18</sub> during the flyback stroke, D<sub>9</sub> clamps the

positive excursion and offers a stronger negative voltage during the on time.

Finally, the clamping network maintains the drain voltage below 520 V at high-line (375 Vdc) which provides 85% derating for the 600 V BV<sub>dss</sub> device.

#### Measurements

Once assembled, the board has been operated during 15 mn at full power to allow some warm-up time. We used a WT210A from Yokogawa to perform all power related measurements coupled to an electronic ac source.

#### Efficiency

| V <sub>IN</sub> (P <sub>OUT</sub> ) | 110 Vac | 230 Vac |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 57 W                                | 89.8%   | 91.2%   |
| 30 W                                | 90%     | 91%     |
| 10 W                                | 89%     | 88.5%   |
| 1 W                                 | 72%     | 68.3%   |
| 0.5 W                               | 60.7%   | 58%     |

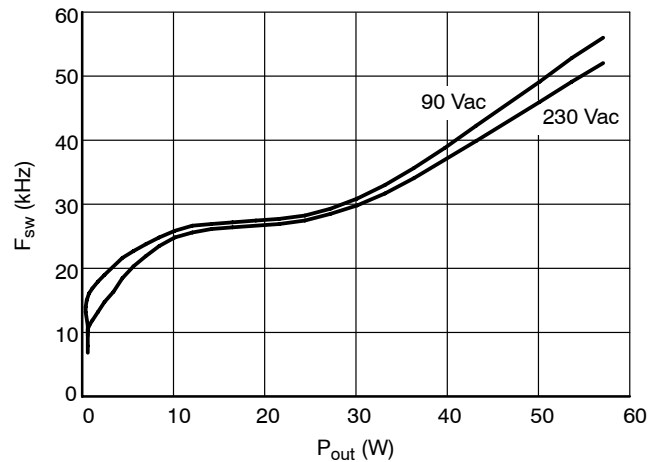


Figure 4. Switching Frequency F<sub>sw</sub> vs. P<sub>out</sub>

| $V_{IN}$ ( $P_{OUT}$ )              | 110 Vac | 230 Vac |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| <b>0.5 Output Power</b>             |         |         |
| 0.5 W                               | 833 mW  | 865 mW  |
| <b>No-load Power</b>                |         |         |
| No-load                             | 112 mW  | 139 mW  |
| <b>Overpower Protection Level</b>   |         |         |
| $V_{IN}$ ( $P_{OUT}$ )              | 90 Vac  | 265 Vac |
| Overpower                           | 3.2 A   | 4.1 A   |
| <b>Start-up Time</b>                |         |         |
| $V_{IN}$ ( $I_{OUT} = 3\text{ A}$ ) | 90 Vac  | 230 Vac |
| Start-up Duration                   | 1.5 s   | 0.5 s   |

On the above arrays, we can see the excellent efficiency at different loading conditions. The first explanation is the low leakage inductance on the tested transformer (below 1% of the primary inductance). Also, the frequency reduction in lighter load configurations helps for the switching losses. The no-load standby power stays below 150 mW at high line, a good performance for a 60 W adapter. Please note that the high-voltage probe observing the drain was removed and the load totally disconnected to avoid leakage. The OPP proves to work ok. Perhaps an improved margin would help

at 90 Vac, which could be obtained by slightly increasing  $R_{19}$  or, if necessary, by increasing  $R_{15}$ .

Despite operation in the audible range, we did not notice any noise problems coming from either the transformer or the RCD clamp capacitor.

#### Scope shots

Below are some oscilloscope shots gathered on the demoboard:

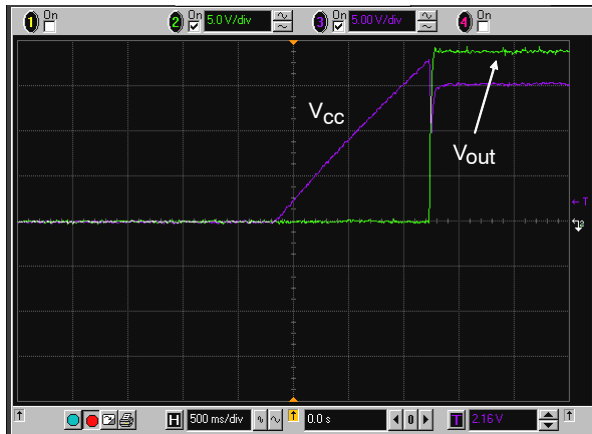


Figure 5. Startup time,  $V_{in} = 90\text{ Vac}$

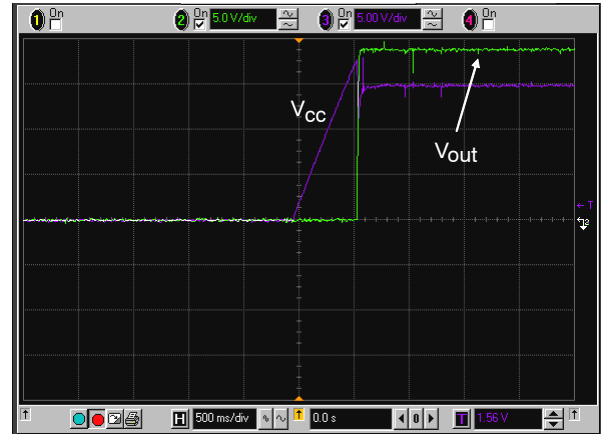
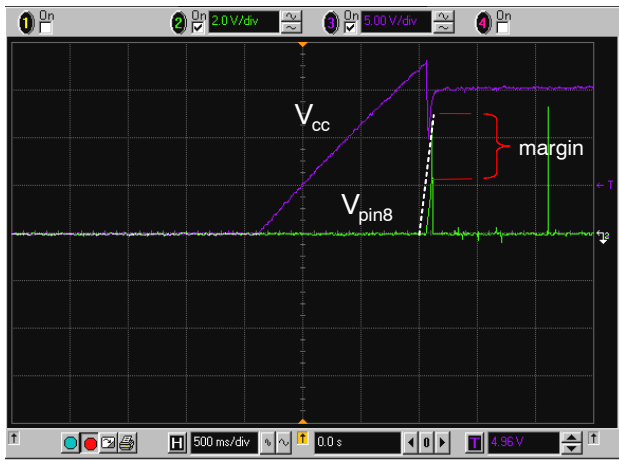
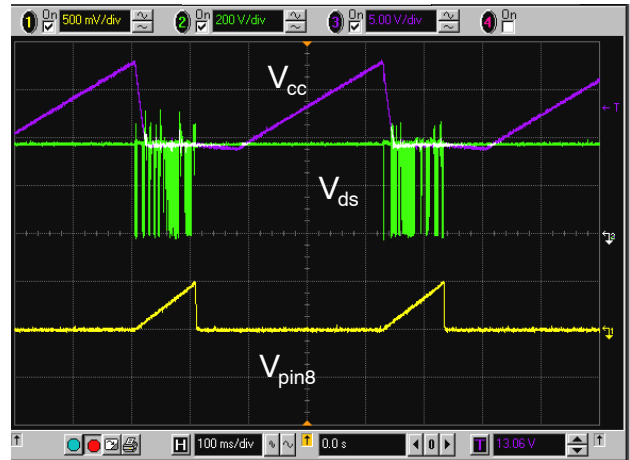


Figure 6. Startup time,  $V_{in} = 230\text{ Vac}$



**Figure 7. Startup Sequence to Test the Margin on the 100 ms Timer.  $V_{in} = 90 \text{ Vac}$   $I_{out} = 3 \text{ A}$**



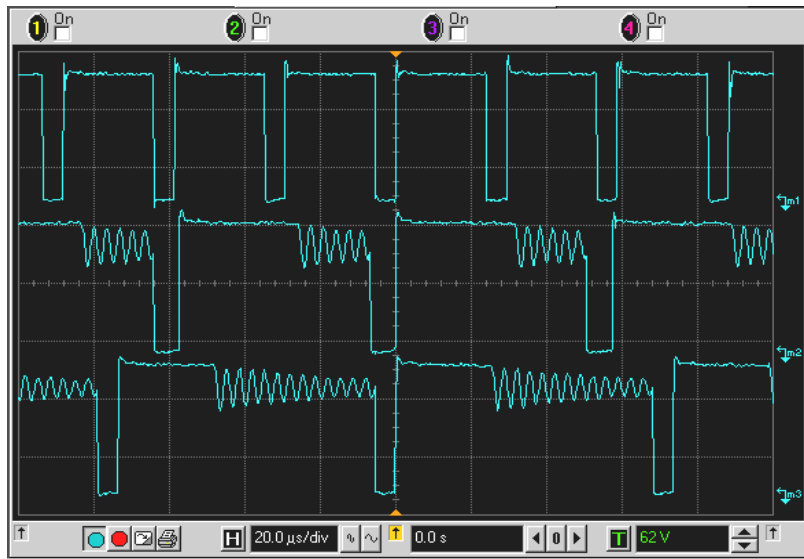
**Figure 8. Short-circuit,  $V_{in} = 265 \text{ Vac}$**

On the above picture, a short-circuit has been made at the highest line voltage. During the burst operation, the input power was maintained to 6.3 W at 275 Vac. It dropped to 5.2 W at 230 Vac.

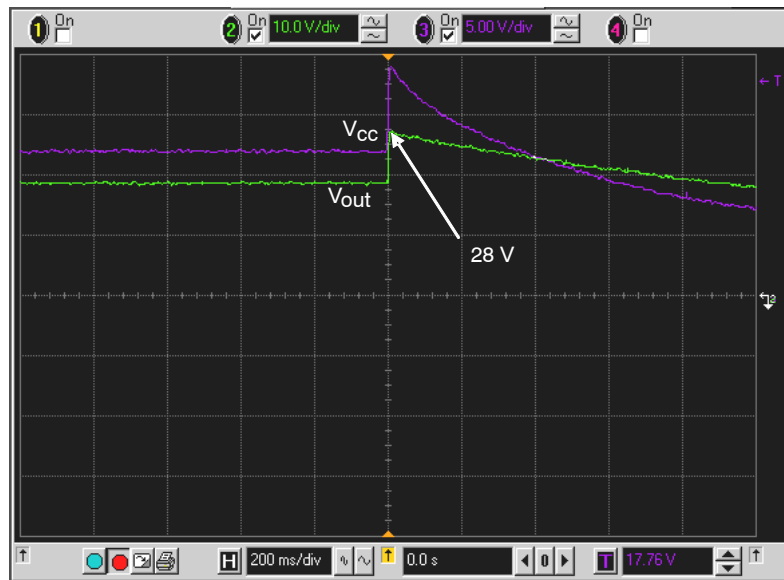


**Figure 9. Maximum Output Power,  $V_{in} = 265 \text{ Vac}$**   
Note the good margin on the drain thanks to the low leakage term

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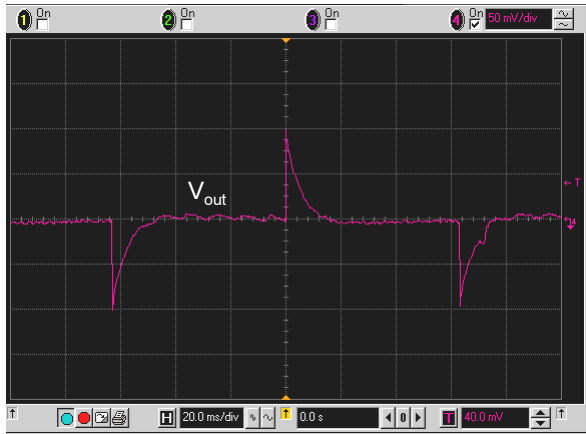


**Figure 10. The Drain-source Waveform at Different Output Currents (3 A, 2 A and 1 A). The Input Voltage is 230 Vac**

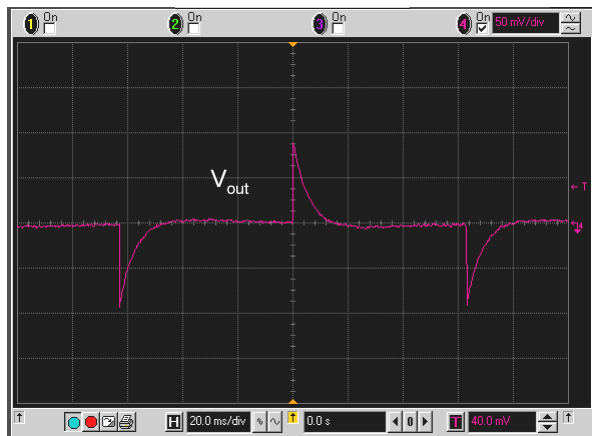


**Figure 11. Short-circuit on the Optocoupler LED**

The output voltage increases to 28 V and then the controller latches-off. Different levels can be obtained by changing D<sub>1</sub>.



**Figure 12. Load Step from 0.5 A to 3 A with a 1 A /  $\mu$ s Slew-rate from a 90 Vac**



**Figure 13. Load Step from 0.5 A to 3 A with a 1 A /  $\mu$ s Slew-rate from a 230 Vac source**

## Conclusion

The adapter built with the NCP1351 exhibits an excellent performance on several parameters like the efficiency and the no-load standby. The OPP is made in a simple non-dissipative way and does not hamper the standby power. The limited number of surrounding components around the controller associated to useful features (timer-based protection, latch input...) makes the NCP1351 an excellent choice for cost-sensitive adapter designs.

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## Bill of Materials for the NCP1351 ZADIG

| Designator     | Qty | Description            | Value                  | Tolerance | Footprint | Manufacturer          | Manufacturer Part Number | Substitution Allowed | Lead Free |
|----------------|-----|------------------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| C1, C4, C5, C9 | 3   | SMD capacitor          | 100 nF/50 V            | 5%        | SMD 1206  | PHYCOMP               | 2238 581 15649           | yes                  | yes       |
| C2             | 1   | capacitor              | 10 nF/630 V            | 10%       | radial    | Vishay                | 2222 372 61103           | yes                  | yes       |
| C3             | 1   | electrolytic capacitor | 4.7 $\mu$ F/50 V       | 20%       | radial    | Panasonic             | ECA1HM4R7                | yes                  | yes       |
| C5b, C5a       | 2   | electrolytic capacitor | 1000 $\mu$ F/35 V      | 20%       | radial    | Panasonic             | EEUFC1V102               | no                   | yes       |
| C6             | 1   | capacitor              | 100 nF/50 V            | 10%       | radial    | AVX                   | SR215C104KTR             | yes                  | yes       |
| C7             | 1   | electrolytic capacitor | 220 $\mu$ F/25 V       | 20%       | radial    | Panasonic             | EEUFC1E221               | yes                  | yes       |
| C8             | 1   | SMD capacitor          | 220 pF/50 V            | 5%        | SMD 1206  | PHYCOMP               | 2238 863 15471           | yes                  | yes       |
| C10            | 1   | SMD capacitor          | 220 nF/50 V            | 10%       | SMD 1206  | AVX                   | CM316X7R224K50AT         | yes                  | yes       |
| C11            | 1   | X2 capacitor           | 220 nF/630 V           | 20%       | radial    | Evov Rifa             | PHE840MD6220M            | yes                  | yes       |
| C12            | 1   | electrolytic capacitor | 100 $\mu$ F/400 V      | 20%       | radial    | Panasonic             | ECA2GM101                | yes                  | yes       |
| C13            | 1   | Y1 capacitor           | 2.2 nF/250 V           | 20%       | radial    | Ceramite              | 440LD22                  | yes                  | yes       |
| C14            | 1   | SMD capacitor          | 47 pF/50 V             | 5%        | SMD 1206  | PHYCOMP               | 2238 863 15479           | yes                  | yes       |
| C15            | 1   | SMD capacitor          | 22 pF/50 V             | 5%        | SMD 1206  | PHYCOMP               | 2238 863 15229           | yes                  | yes       |
| C17            | 1   | electrolytic capacitor | 100 $\mu$ F/35 V       | 20%       | radial    | Panasonic             | ECA1VM101                | yes                  | yes       |
| C18            | 1   | SMD capacitor          | 270 pF/50 V            | 5%        | SMD 0805  | PHYCOMP               | 2238 861 15271           | yes                  | yes       |
| D1             | 1   | zener diode            | 15 V/225 mW            | 5%        | SOT23     | ON Semiconductor      | BZX84C15LT1G             | yes                  | yes       |
| D2             | 1   | ultrafast rectifier    | 1 A/600 V              | 0%        | axial     | ON Semiconductor      | MUR160G                  | yes                  | yes       |
| D3             | 1   | high-speed diode       | 1 A/600 V              | 0%        | axial     | ON Semiconductor      | 1N4937G                  | yes                  | yes       |
| D5             | 1   | schottky diode         | 20 A/100 V             | 0%        | TO220     | ON Semiconductor      | MBR20100CTG              | yes                  | yes       |
| D6             | 1   | high-speed diode       | 0.2 A/75 V             | 0%        | axial     | Philips Semiconductor | 1N4148                   | yes                  | yes       |
| D8,D9          | 1   | high-speed diode       | 0.2 A/100 V            | 0%        | SOD-123   | ON Semiconductor      | MMSD4148G                | yes                  | yes       |
| HS1, HS2       | 2   | heatsink               | 6.2 $^{\circ}$ C/W     | 0%        | radial    | Seifert               | KL195/25.4/SWI           | yes                  | yes       |
| IC2            | 1   | shunt regulator        | 2.5–36 V/<br>1–100 mA  | 2%        | TO92      | ON Semiconductor      | TL431ILPG                | yes                  | yes       |
| IC4            | 1   | diode bridge           | 4 A/800 V              | 0%        | radial    | Multicomp             | KBU4K                    | yes                  | yes       |
| J1             | 1   | connector              | 230 Vac/               | 0%        | radial    | Schurter              | 0721-PP                  | yes                  | yes       |
| J2             | 1   | connector              | 2"                     | 0%        | rad5.08mm | Weidmuller            | PM5.08/2/90              | yes                  | yes       |
| L1             | 1   | Common mode            | 2*27 mH/0.8 A          | 0%        | radial    | Schaffner             | RN114-0.8/02             | yes                  | yes       |
| L2             | 1   | Inductor               | 2.2 $\mu$ H/10 A       | 0%        | radial    | Würth Elektronik      | 744772022                | yes                  | yes       |
| M1             | 1   | power MOSFET N-Channel | 4 A/600 V              | 0%        | TO220     | Infineon              | SPP04N60C3               | yes                  | yes       |
| Q1             | 1   | PNP transistor         | -100 mA/-45 V          | 0%        | TO92      | ON Semiconductor      | BC857                    | yes                  | yes       |
| R1             | 1   | SMD resistor           | 2.2 k $\Omega$ /0.25 W | 1%        | SOT23     | Welwyn                | WCR12062K22%             | yes                  | yes       |
| R2, R7         | 2   | resistor               | 1 M $\Omega$ /0.33 W   | 5%        | axial     | Vishay                | SFR2500001004J-R500      | yes                  | yes       |
| R5             | 1   | SMD resistor           | 2.5 k $\Omega$ /0.25 W | 2%        | SMD 1206  | Welwyn                | WCR12062K52%             | yes                  | yes       |
| R6b, R6a       | 2   | SMD resistor           | 1 $\Omega$ /1 W        | 5%        | SMD 2512  | PHYCOMP               | 232276260108             | yes                  | yes       |
| R8             | 1   | resistor               | 1 k $\Omega$ /0.4 W    | 5%        | axial     | Vishay                | SFR2500001001J-R500      | yes                  | yes       |
| R9             | 1   | SMD resistor           | 10 k $\Omega$ /0.25 W  | 2%        | SMD 1206  | Welwyn                | WCR120610K2%             | yes                  | yes       |
| R10            | 1   | SMD resistor           | 39 k $\Omega$ /0.25 W  | 2%        | SMD 1206  | Welwyn                | WCR120639K2%             | yes                  | yes       |
| R11, R13       | 2   | resistor               | 47 k $\Omega$ /2 W     | 5%        | axial     | Multicomp             | MCF2W47K                 | yes                  | yes       |
| R12            | 1   | SMD resistor           | 27 k $\Omega$ /0.25 W  | 2%        | SMD 1206  | Welwyn                | WCR120627K2%             | yes                  | yes       |

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## Bill of Materials for the NCP1351 ZADIG

| Designator         | Qty | Description  | Value                  | Tolerance | Footprint | Manufacturer     | Manufacturer Part Number | Substitution Allowed | Lead Free |
|--------------------|-----|--------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| R14                | 1   | SMD resistor | NC                     |           | SMD 1206  |                  |                          | yes                  | yes       |
| R15                | 1   | SMD resistor | 3.9 k $\Omega$ /0.25 W | 2%        | SMD 1206  | Welwyn           | WCR12063K92%             | yes                  | yes       |
| R16                | 1   | SMD resistor | 10 $\Omega$ /0.25 W    | 2%        | SMD 1206  | Welwyn           | WCR120610R2%             | yes                  | yes       |
| R17                | 1   | SMD resistor | 1.5 k $\Omega$ /0.25 W | 2%        | SMD 1206  | Welwyn           | WCR12061K52%             | yes                  | yes       |
| R18                | 1   | SMD resistor | 47 k $\Omega$ /0.25 W  | 2%        | SMD 1206  | Welwyn           | WCR120647K2%             | yes                  | yes       |
| R19                | 1   | SMD resistor | 100 k $\Omega$ /0.25 W | 2%        | SMD 1206  | Welwyn           | WCR1206100K2%            | yes                  | yes       |
| R20                | 1   | SMD resistor | 150 k $\Omega$ /0.25 W | 2%        | SMD 1206  | Welwyn           | WCR1206150K2%            | yes                  | yes       |
| TP1, TP2, TP3, TP4 | 4   | pcb foot     | T POINT A              |           | FIX 4 H   | Richco           | LCBS-TF-M4-8-01          | yes                  | yes       |
| T1                 | 1   | Transformer  | 86H-6232               |           | radial    | Delta            | 86H-6232                 | no                   | yes       |
| U1                 | 1   | optocoupler  | sfh6156/               |           | SMD       | Vishay           | SFH6156-2T               | no                   | yes       |
| U2                 | 1   | CMOS IC      | NCP1351B               |           | SO-8      | ON Semiconductor | NCP1351B                 | no                   | yes       |

# PCB layout

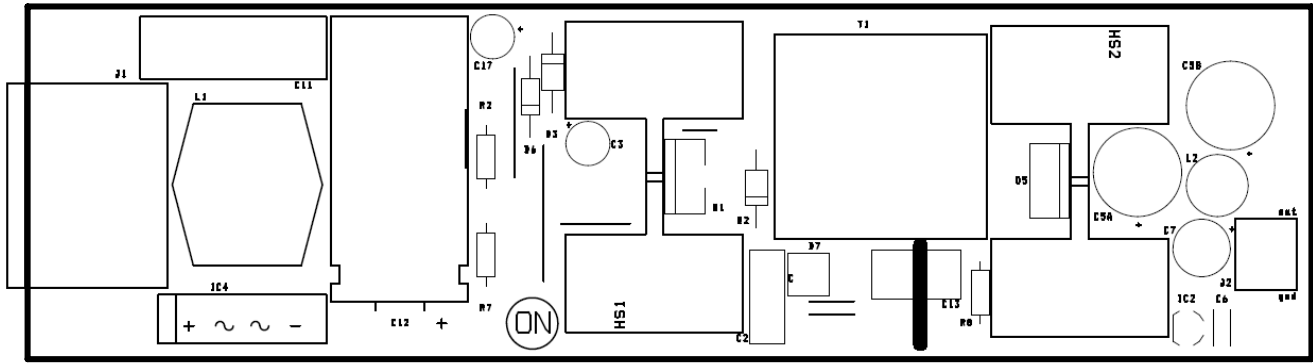


Figure 14. Top Side Components

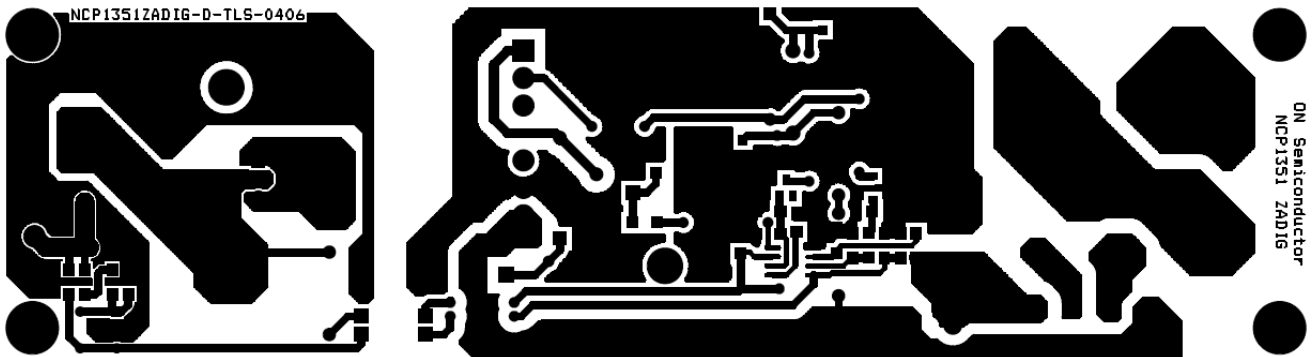


Figure 15. Copper Traces

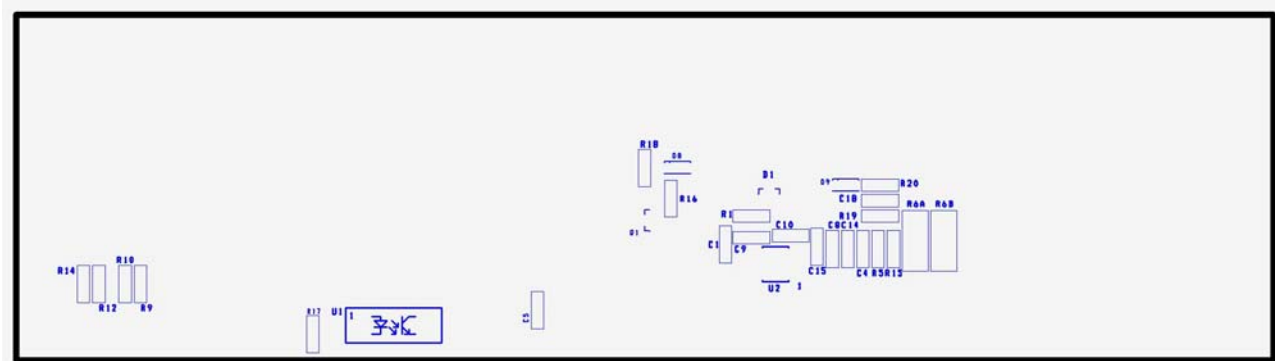


Figure 16. SMD components

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