Application Information for Sharp's LS012B4DG01 Memory LCD

Sharp Microelectronics of the Americas

INTRODUCTION

This Application Note provides additional design assistance for Sharp's LS012B4DG01 Memory LCD. This module is a transflective, monolithic active-matrix liquid crystal module utilizing Sharp's CG-silicon thinfilm transistor process. Operating from a single 3 V supply, it offers high performance and power efficiency for compact display applications, with a serial interface for simple integration.

Subjects covered will be:

- Mechanical Specifications, including dimension drawings and connector specifications
- Absolute Maximum Ratings
- Optical Specifications, including view angles, reflectivity, contrast, and risetime
- Electrical Characteristics, including interfacing and signal timing information
- Design Notes
- Manufacturing Information, including handling and storage
- Reliability Information

This Note is based on Sharp's document number LCP-2111006 and is designed to provide supplementary information for the Specifications for this part.

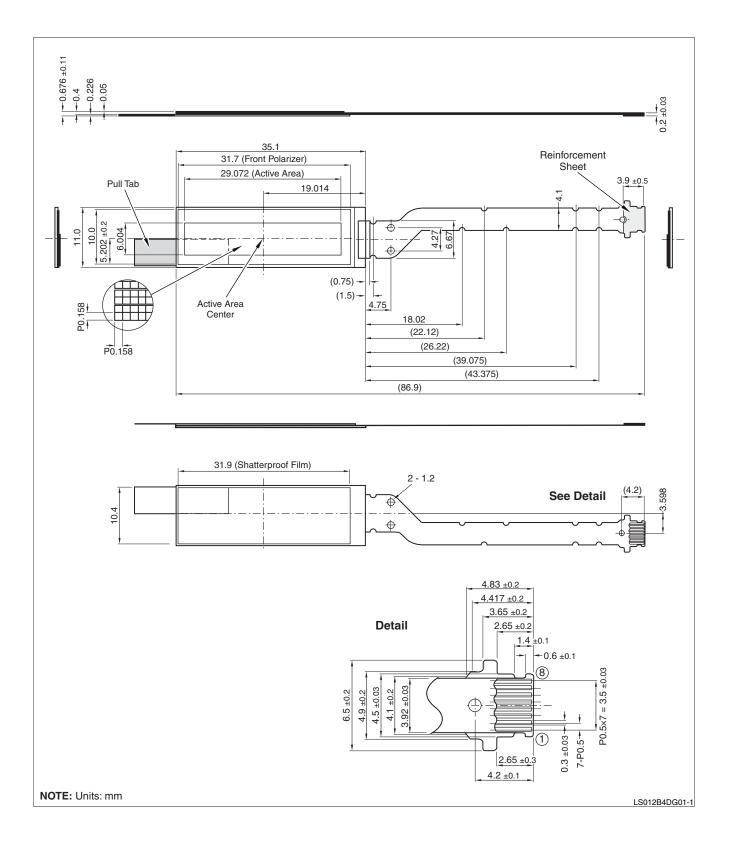
Always refer to the latest Specifications when designing with these devices.

FEATURES

- Reflective monochrome panel
- Normally White (reflective)
- Square pixels
- 1.17-inch screen with 184 × 38 resolution
- 3-wire serial interface
- · Screen data is arbitrarily renewable by line
- · Built-in, 1-bit internal memory in each pixel
- Super low power consumption TFT panel
- · RoHS compliant



EXTERNAL DIMENSIONS



SHARP

PARAMETER	SPECIFICATION	UNIT
Screen Size	1.17	Inch
Viewing Area	29.072 (H) × 6.004 (V)	mm
Dot Configuration (Square panel)	128 (H) × 128 (V)	Dots
Dot Pitch	0.158 (H) × 0.158 (V)	mm
Pixel Array	Square	—
External Dimensions	35.1 (W) × 11.0 (H) × 0.676 (D)	mm
Mass	0.6 (TYP.)	g
Surface Hardness	3H (MIN.)	Pencil hardness

Connector Specifications

This module utilizes an extended connector with a limited number of pins available. Therefore, EXTMODE is hard-wired LOW; making the software VCOM (COM) toggling function unavailable. See Figure 1.

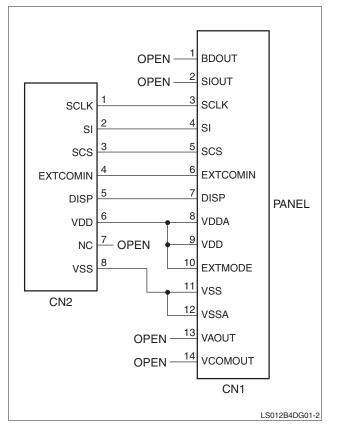


Figure 1. Connection Schematic

The connection side has Pin 1 as the farthest from the display. See Figure 2.

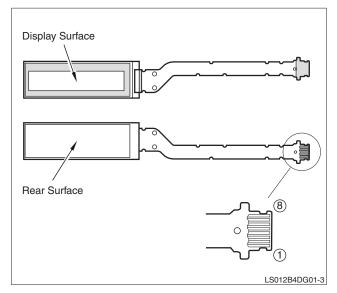


Figure 2. Flex Panel Connector

TERMINAL	SYMBOL	I/O	FUNCTION	NOTES
1	SCLK	INPUT	Serial clock signal	
2	SI	INPUT	Serial Data input signal	
3	SCS	INPUT	Chip select signal	
4	EXTCOMIN	INPUT	External COM inversion signal input	1
5	DISP	INPUT	Display ON/OFF signal	2
6	VDD	POWER	Power supply (Logic)	
7	NC	—	Not Connected	
8	VSS	POWER	GND	

Table 1. Input Terminals and Functions

NOTES:

1. This part is hardwired for hardware COM inversion only. COM (VCOM) inversion cannot be implemented in software. See *Programming*.

2. DISP enables/disables the display. All pixels will revert to Normal mode (reflective) when LOW; pixel memory is retained. When DISP = H, data in the pixel memories displays normally. DISP = LOW will prevent VCOM inversion.

Absolute Maximum Ratings

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	MIN.	MAX.	UNIT	NOTES
Power Supply Voltage (Logic)	VDD	-0.3	+3.6	V	
Input Signal Voltage	VIN	-0.3	VDD	V	1
Storage Temperature	Tstg	-20	+85	°C	2
Operation Temperature (panel surface)	Topr	-10	+70	°C	2

NOTES:

1. Applies to SCLK, SI, SCS, DISP, EXTCOMIN.

2. Maximum wet bulb temperature is 57°C or lower, non-condensing. Condensation will

cause electrical leakage and may cause the module to fail to meet this Specification.

3. For contrast, response time, and other display quality determination, use $Ta = +25^{\circ}C$.

OPTICAL SPECIFICATIONS

							Ta = 25°C
PARAMETER		SYMBOL	MIN.	TYP.	MAX.	UNIT	NOTES
Viewing Angle CR \ge 5	Н	θ21, θ22	50	60		° (degrees)	1
	V	θ11	50	60		° (degrees)	1
		θ12	50	60		° (degrees)	1
Contrast Ratio		CR	18	22			2
Reflectivity Ratio		R	12	15		%	2
Chromaticity	White	х		0.31			2
	VVIIILE	У		0.33			2

NOTES:

- 1. Viewing Angle is described as clock positions: $\theta 12 = 12$ o'clock, $\theta 11 = 6$ o'clock, $\theta 21 = 3$ o'clock, $\theta 22 = 9$ o'clock. See Figure 3.
- 2. Contrast Ratio, Reflectivity Ratio, and Chromaticity are measured through the use of an integrating sphere. See Figure 4.

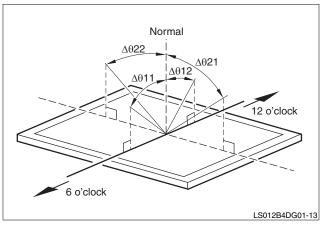


Figure 3. Viewing Angle

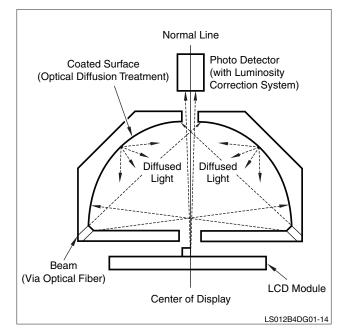


Figure 4. Setup for Contrast, Reflection Ratio, and Chromaticity

ELECTRICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Here are the Recommended Operating Conditions for this module, with VSS (GND) = 0 V and Ta = 25° C.

PARAMET	SYMBOL	MIN.	TYP.	MAX.	UNIT	NOTES	
Driver Supply Voltage		VDD	2.7	3.0	3.3	V	
Input Signal Voltage		VINH	VDD-0.1		VDD	V	1
		VINL	VSS		VSS+0.1	V	
Power Consumption 1		IVDD1			15	μA	2
Power Consumption 2		IVDD2			150	μA	3

NOTES:

- 1. Applies to SCLK, SI, SCS, DISP, EXTCOMIN.
- 2. All-black display, no image updating. SCS = SCLK = SI = L, EXTCOMIN = 60 Hz

3. 1-dot-wide vertical stripes, continuous image updating, SCLK = 1 MHz, EXTCOMIN= 60 Hz

Power Consumption

This module has the ability to shut down most of its logic circuits when in Static mode (not being updated). It has two levels of power consumption: Static and Dynamic Display.

Static Display: 15 μ A (MAX.) All black display; fully static, no display updates.

 This includes a 1 Hz VCOM toggle, and VDD = 3 V, SCS, SCLK, SI are all held LOW. *f*EXTCOMIN = 60 Hz

Dynamic Display: 150 μ A (MAX.) Vertical stripe display; updated at each clock transition.

• VDD = 3 V, fSCLK = 1 MHz, fEXTCOMIN = 60 Hz

These numbers represent peak power usage when driving VCOM. Always allow for a margin in power supply design.

Decoupling Capacitors

Use of a decoupling capacitor on VDD is recommended. See Figure 5.

Value for capacitor C1: DISP to VSS: 2 μ F, 6.3 V

This is a recommended value; the actual value should be determined by the final design. Always place a decoupling capacitor as close as possible to the part as the impedance of the VDD and VSS lines are low when the module is operating.

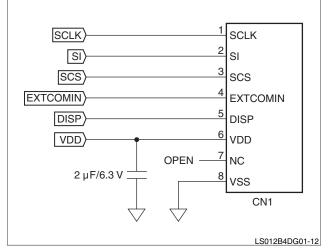


Figure 5. Decoupling Capacitors

Power Supply Sequencing

This device requires proper supply sequencing on both startup and shutdown to prevent latching of the logic circuits. Refer to Figure 6.

POWER-UP

VDD and VDDA must rise together or VDD must rise faster than VDDA.

- 1. 3 V rises to nominal
- Initialize pixel memory: send M2 CLEAR ALL flag or set the display to all-white (minimum once).
 An alternate method requires at least 16

tsSCS + SCLK cycles (See *CLEAR ALL* under *Programming*).

- 3. Latch cancellation for TCOM; requires a period to cancel the COM latch circuit by DISP = HIGH (requires \ge 30 µs)
- 4. TCOM polarity initialization by EXTCOMIN (requires \ge 30 µs)

POWER-DOWN

VDD and VDDA must fall together or VDDA must fall faster than VDD.

- Initialize pixel memory: send M2 CLEAR ALL flag or set the display to all-white (minimum once).
 An alternate method requires at least 16 tsSCS + SCLK cycles (See CLEAR ALL under Programming).
- 2. Initialize VA, VB, and VCOM (requires \geq 30 $\mu s)$
- 3. 3 V falls

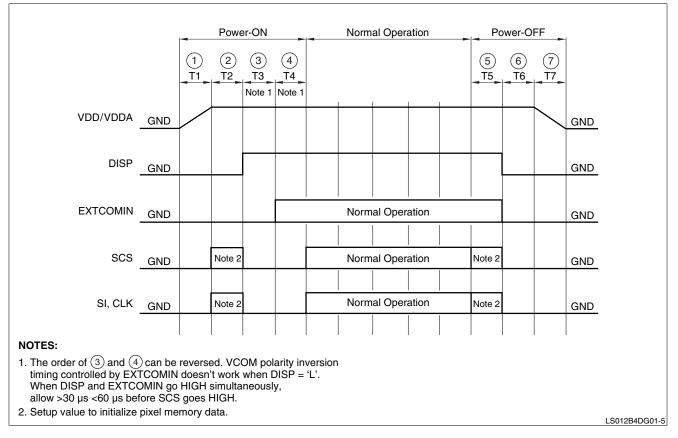


Figure 6. Power Supply Sequencing

SIGNAL DESCRIPTIONS

Input signal characteristics are given in Table 4 and Table 5. All measurements are at VDDA = +5.0 V, VDD = +5.0 V, GND = 0 V, Ta = 25° C.

PARAMETER	DESCRIPTION	MIN.	TYP.	MAX.	UNIT
fSCS	Frame frequency	1	—	60	Hz
fSCLK	Clock frequency	—	0.5	1.1	MHz
tV	Vertical Interval	16.67	—	1000	ms
fCOM	COM Frequency	0.5	—	30	Hz

Table 4. Signal Frequencies

Table 5. Signal Transition Times

PARAMETER	DESCRIPTION	MIN.	TYP.	MAX.	UNIT	NOTES
trSCS	SCS Risetime			70	ns	
tfSCS	SCS Falltime			70	ns	
twSCSH	SCS HIGH width	153.45			μs	1
twocorr		22.55			μs	2
twSCSL	SCS LOW width	2			μs	
tsSCS	SCS setup time	6			μs	
thSCS	SCS hold time	2			μs	
trSI	SI Risetime			50	ns	
tfSI	SI Falltime			50	ns	
tsSI	SI setup time	227			ns	
thSI	SI hold time	525			ns	
trSCLK	SCLK Risetime			50	ns	
tfSCLK	SCLK Falltime			50	ns	
twSCLKH	SCLK HIGH width	404.55	950		ns	
twSCLKL	SCLK LOW width	404.55	950		ns	
fEXTCOMIN	EXTCOMIN frequency	1		60	Hz	3
trEXTCOMIN	EXTCOMIN Risetime			70	ns	
tfEXTCOMIN	EXTCOMIN Falltime			70	ns	
thIEXTCOMIN	EXTCOMIN HIGH width	2			μs	
trDISP	DISP Risetime			70	ns	
tfDISP	DISP Falltime			70	ns	

NOTES:

1. Dynamic Mode (continuously updating display)

2. Static Mode (no display updating)

3. *f*EXTCOMIN must always be less than *f*SCS (Table 4)

Timing Diagrams

PIN NAME	ITEM	SYMBOL	WAVEFORM
SCS	SCS risetime	trSCS	SCS 90% 90%
	SCS falltime	tfSCS	10% trSCS trSCS
	SCS HIGH width twSCSH SC		SCS 50%
	SCS LOW width	twSCSL	
	SCS setup time	tsSCS	SI <u>10%</u> SCS <u>yow</u> tsSCS
	SCS hold time	thSCS	SI 10% SCS
SI	SI risetime	trSI	90% 90%
	SI falltime tfSI		$\begin{array}{c c} 10\% \\ \hline \\ trSI \\ trSI \\ tfSI \\ tfSI$
	SI setup time	tsSI	SI 90%
	SI hold time	thSI	SCLK
SCLK	SCLK risetime	trSCLK	SCLK 90% 90% 10%
	SCLK falltime	tfSCLK	trSCLK tfSCLK
	SCLK HIGH width	twSCLKH	SCLK 50% 50%
	SCLK LOW width	twSCLKL	
EXTCOMIN	EXTCOMIN frequency	fEXTCOMIN	fextcomin
	EXTCOMIN risetime	trEXTCOMIN	90%
-	EXTCOMIN falltime	tfEXTCOMIN	EXTCOMIN 10%
	EXTCOMIN HIGH width	twEXTCOMINH	
DISP	DISP risetime	trDISP	DISP 90% 90%
	DISP falltime	tfDISP	trDISP trDISP

Figure 7. SCS, SI, SCLK, EXTCOMIN, and DISP Signals

PROGRAMMING

For software commands, see the Application Note, *Programming Sharp's Memory LCDs,* by Ken Green.

In all the following diagrams and descriptions, these conventions are used:

• M0: MODE

When M0 is 'H', the module enters Dynamic Mode, where pixel data will be updated.

When M0 is 'L' the module remains in Static Mode, where pixel data is retained.

• M1: VCOM

The M1 value = XX (don't care). This module is wired for hardware (EXTCOMIN) toggling of VCOM. See *COM Inversion and Signal Selection.*

• M2: CLEAR ALL

When M2 is 'L' then all flags are cleared. When a full display clearing is required, set M0 and M2 = HIGH and set all display data to white. (Also see CLEAR ALL under Static Mode.)

- D[1:128]: Display data
 Setting D(n) = 'L' sets that pixel to black. Conversely,
 Setting D(n) = 'H' sets that pixel to white.
- DUMMY DATA: Dummy data Dummy data is typically 'XX (don't care); however Sharp recommends setting bits to 'L'.

Data Addressing and Positions

This part uses mixed addressing for columns and lines. Columns (X direction) are addressed using an 8-bit binary scheme, and lines (Y direction) are addressed directly as 128 bits. See Table 6. One line is the minimum addressable unit in the display; even if only one pixel in the line is to be updated, the entire line must be sent.

Table 6.	Column	(X	Direction)	Addressing
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SS	()							
LINE	CA0	CA1	CA2	CA3	CA4	CA5		
L1	Н	L	L	L	L	L		
L2	L	Н	L	L	L	L		
L3	Н	Н	L	L	L	L		
:	:	:	:	:	:	:		
L36	L	L	Н	L	L	Н		
L37	Н	L	Н	L	L	Н		
L38	L	Н	Н	L	L	Н		

Dynamic Mode

For software commands, see the *Programming Sharp's Memory LCDs* application note.

MULTIPLE LINE WRITE

Dynamic Mode assumes the updating of at least one line in the display. During the Data Write period, data is stored in the panel's binary latch. During Data Transfer, the data from the latch is written to the panel memory, line-by-line. During the write to panel memory, data for the next line is latched.

Dynamic Mode is entered by sending M0 = H and M2 = L.

Figure 8 shows an example of writing multiple lines.

SINGLE LINE WRITE

Writing a single line of data is much the same as writing multiple lines. During the Data Write period, data is stored in the panel's binary latch. During Data Transfer, the data from the latch is written to the panel memory, line-by-line. During the write to panel memory, data for the next line is latched.

Single Line Write requires the panel to be in Dynamic Mode.

Dynamic Mode is entered the same way, by sending M0 = H and M2 = L.

Figure 9 shows an example of writing a single line.

Static Mode

Static Mode is the module's lowest-power mode, with data latches and other circuitry powered down. Static Mode can be held indefinitely; as long as the panel has power and VCOM is toggled periodically.

Sharp recommends keeping maximum time between VCOM toggles to no more than one second, and refreshing data every two hours, to prevent stuck pixels.

Static Mode is entered by sending M0 = L and M2 = L.

CLEAR ALL

CLEAR ALL will clear all data from pixel memories and the display will revert to its normal white color.

CLEAR ALL is invoked by sending M0 = L and M2 = H.

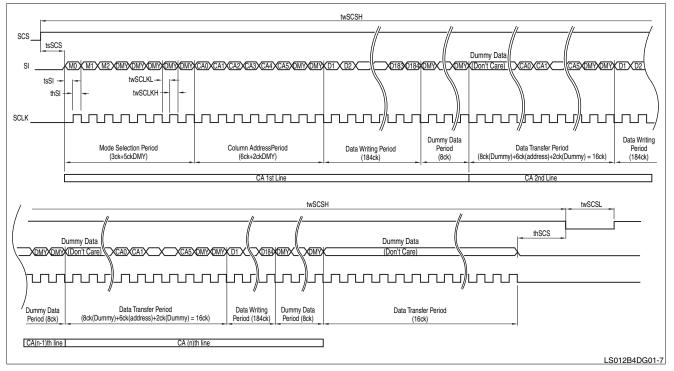


Figure 8. Dynamic Mode Timing Diagram, Writing Multiple Lines

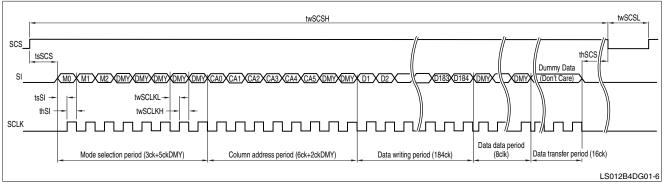


Figure 9. Dynamic Mode Timing Diagram, Writing a Single Line

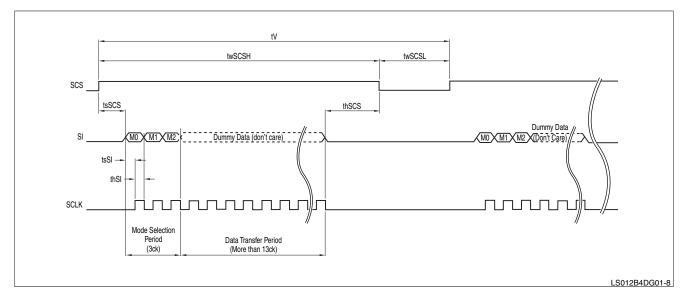


Figure 10. Static Mode Timing Diagram

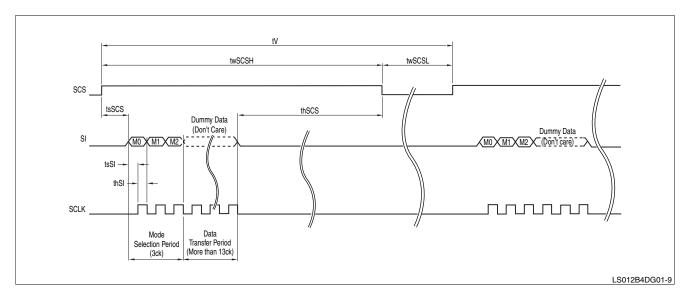


Figure 11. CLEAR ALL Timing Diagram

VCOM Inversion

Periodic VCOM (often known as just COM) inversion impresses a periodic polarity inversion across the panel to keep a latent charge from building up within the Liquid Crystal cell.



Positive and negative inversion intervals should be kept equal, and intervals should not exceed one second.

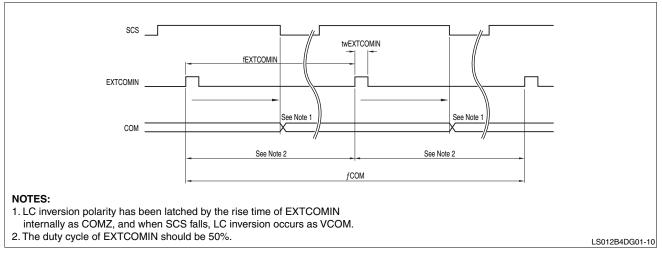
This module implements VCOM inversion only through hardware. As hardware toggles EXTCOMIN, the timing between toggles of this line sets the VCOM inversion interval. Therefore, it's important not to allow the toggling interval of EXTCOMIN to exceed one second.

When DISP is LOW, all VCOM inversion is halted.

IMPLEMENTATION

The LC cell inversion polarity toggle is armed when EXTCOMIN rises. Internal signal COMZ toggles with each rise of EXTCOMIN, and latches the VCOM transition. The VCOM transition takes place upon the next LOW transition of SCS.

If SCS is LOW when EXTCOMIN rises, then VCOM will toggle immediately. Again, keep the duty cycle of EXTCOMIN at 50%. See Figure 12 and Figure 13.





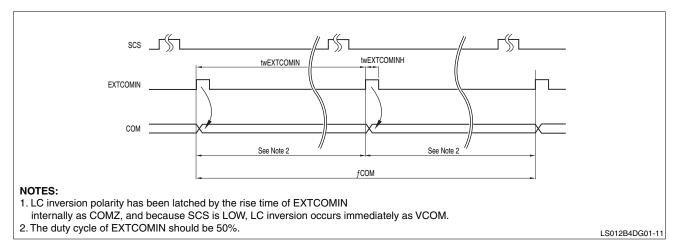


Figure 13. EXTCOMIN Goes HIGH During SCS LOW

The Truth Table (Table 7) shows how VCOM is implemented. COMZ is an internal signal which toggles the display bias upon the EXTMODE state change from LOW to HIGH.

EXTCOMIN	COMZ	
	Before Inversion	After Inversion
L	L	L
L	Н	Н
H (rising edge)	L	Н
H (rising edge)	Н	L

NOTE: COMZ is an internal signal, and is inverted with each rising of EXTMODE.

DESIGN NOTES

This device is static sensitive. Handle it only in a static-safe environment.

Light Sensitivity

- 1. Do not allow the finished design to expose the driver electronics on this module to light. Exposing these circuits to light can cause improper operation.
- 2. When storing this module, keep it from long periods of exposure to direct sunlight or other sources of ultraviolet light. Recommended storage is in a dark place.

Surface Areas

- 1. The polarizer surface is easily damaged. Take precautions against scratching it, and do not allow the finished design to put pressure or torquing tensions on the glass exceeding that of the published Specifications.
- 2. Once the protective film has been removed, do not reapply it. Reapplying the protective film and then storing the module for a long period may cause an image defect.
- 3. Water droplets on the polarizer surface must be wiped off immediately, as they may cause color changes or other permanent damage.
- 4. Clean the polarizer surface by wiping it with absorbent cotton or other soft cloth. If further cleaning is necessary, use IPA (isopropyl alcohol) lightly on the surface. Do not use organic solvents as they may damage the terminal areas. If the terminal areas need cleaning, they may be cleaned with a soft cotton cloth or a cotton swab. Avoid directly touching them with fingers.

- 5. Keep fingerprints off the surface and the terminal areas of this module.
- Do not press on the surface of the module, and do not stack modules in such a way that pressure will be applied to the surfaces or to the connector area. The safest place for temporary storage of modules is in their shipping tray.

Operation

- 1. When the final design will be used in areas of high static electricity, the image written to pixel memory may not be properly displayed. More frequent data updates are recommended to counter this. When inserting and removing the FPC (flex connector) always do so with the power OFF.
- 2. When inserting the module, make sure that stresses are within published Specifications, evenly distributed, and are not applying warping or torquing forces to the module. When embedding the module in a substance, make sure that no excess mechanical forces are applied to the module's surface.
- 3. In a design where the module face is 'bare' (no protective or anti-reflective sheet), there can be a risk of electrostatic damage to the module. Ensure that the final design has a grounded, conductive surface that mates to the polarizer's periphery. See Figure 14.
- 4. When displaying static images, Sharp recommends VCOM toggles not exceed one-second intervals, and refreshing the image data every two hours to prevent stuck pixels.
- 5. Use of decoupling capacitors is recommended. See *Electrical Specifications.*

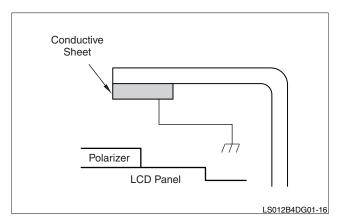


Figure 14. Bare Module Grounding

Environment

- 1. The liquid crystal material in this module will solidify if stored below the rated temperature, and will become an isotropic liquid if stored above the rated storage temperatures. After such storage, the material may not return to its original properties.
- 2. When handling this module in a production environment, do not store it in the presence of oxidation or deoxidation gases or near reagents, solvents, adhesives, resins, and materials which generate these gasses, as they may cause corrosion and discoloration of these modules.
- Materials used in setting or epoxy resins such as amine hardening agents from packaging and silicon adhesives (dealcoholized or oximes) all release gasses which may affect the polarizer's quality. Always confirm the compatibility of these materials.
- 4. To avoid picture uniformity failures, do not put a seal or an adhesive material on the panel surface.
- 5. Do not use chloroprene rubber in the final design as it generates chlorine gas and will affect this module's reliability.

General

- 1. This set of Specifications gives definite environmental, electrical, and signal drive conditions for the operation of this module. Operating it outside of these given limits can reduce image quality, shorten its life, or cause it to fail altogether.
- 2. The connector on this module is designed for a limited number of insertions. Do not attempt to solder directly to the connector.
- 3. It is not a defect nor a failure to have a slight visible change in the displayed black level depending on the light source's angle of illumination and type of source.

HANDLING, STORAGE, AND PACKAGING

Handling

- 1. When inserting and removing the FPC (flex connector) always do so with the power OFF.
- 2. When inserting the module, make sure that stresses are within published Specifications, evenly distributed, and are not applying warping or torquing forces to the module. When embedding the module in a substance, make sure that no excess mechanical forces are applied to the module's surface.
- 3. In a design where the module face is 'bare' (no protective or anti-reflective sheet), there can be a risk of electrostatic damage to the module. Ensure that the final design has a grounded, conductive surface that mates to the polarizer's periphery.

- 4. This module is not made to be disassembled. Doing so may cause permanent damage.
- 5. The liquid crystal material in this module is injurious to humans. Do not allow it to get into the eyes or mouth. If any liquid crystal material gets on skin or clothing, immediately wash it out with soap and water.
- 6. This module is RoHS compliant, and does not use any ODS (1,1,1-Trichloroethane, CCL4) in its materials or in its production processes.
- 7. When discarding this module, dispose of it as glass waste. This LCD module contains no harmful substances. The liquid crystal panel contains no dangerous or harmful substances. The liquid crystal cell contains an extremely small amount of liquid crystal (approx.100 mg) and therefore will not leak; even if the panel should break.
- 8. The material used in this panel has a median lethal dose (LD50) of greater than 2,000 mg/kg and tests negative (Aims test) for mutagenic properties.

Storage

- 1. Store these devices at a temperature range between 0°C and 40°C, at 60% RH or less (non-condensing).
- 2. Use within 3 months.
- 3. Open the package within an area that has proper static control precautions, and more than 50% RH.
- 4. When storing this module, keep it from long periods of exposure to direct sunlight or other sources of ultraviolet light. Recommended storage is in a dark place.

Packaging

Figure 15 shows the serial number location and schema.

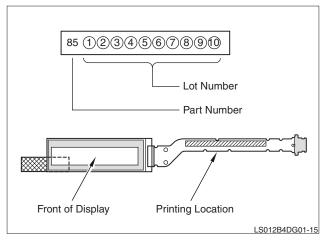
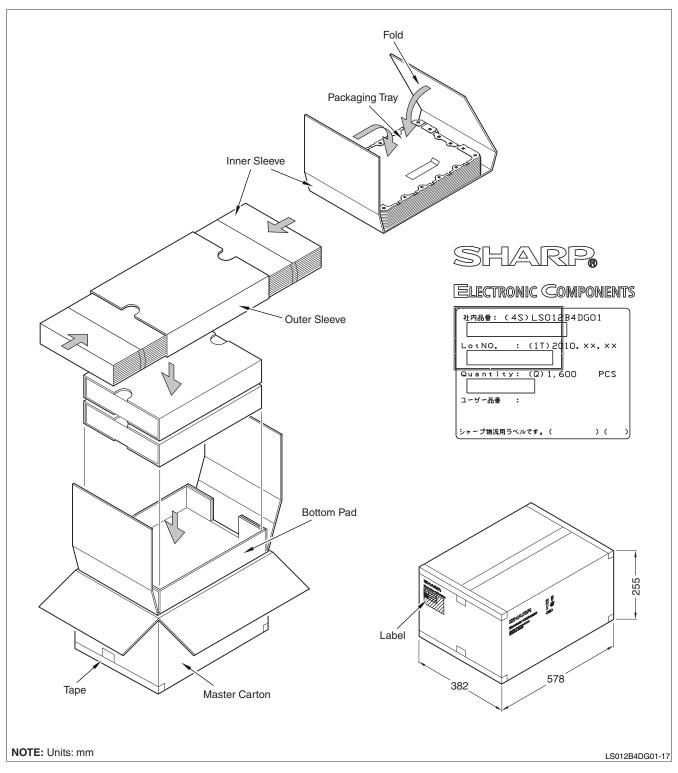


Figure 15. Serial Number

Packaging Diagrams

Stack no more than 12 cartons high. Product is packed in lots of 800.





RELIABILITY

Environmental Reliability

Table 5. Test Item Reliability

NO.	TEST ITEM	TEST CONDITION
1	High temperature storage test	Ta = 85°C, 240h
2	Low temperature storage test	Ta = -20°C, 240h
3	High temperature and high humidity operating test	Tp = 40°C/95% RH, 240h
4	High temperature operating test	Tp = 70°C, 240h
5	Low temperature op- erating test	Tp = -10°C, 240h
6	Shock test (non-operating)	Ta = -20°C (1h) to +70°C (1h) / 5 cycles
7	Electrostatic discharge test	±200 V, 200 pF (0 Ω) once per terminal

NOTES:

Ta = ambient temperature, Tp = panel temperature
 Check for any items which impair display function.

SPECIFICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

Suggested applications (if any) are for standard use; See Important Restrictions for limitations on special applications. See Limited Warranty for SHARP's product warranty. The Limited Warranty is in lieu, and exclusive of, all other warranties, express or implied. ALL EXPRESS AND IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR USE AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARE SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED. In no event will SHARP be liable, or in any way responsible, for any incidental or consequential economic or property damage.

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