

## Documentation EVA4201/4301 – User Guide

## Evaluation Board for 150W – 400W (800) Power Factor Corrected (PFC) Supply

Rev 1.1

Featured Products: PE4201/PE4301



#### **Table of Contents**

1.	Revision History	. 2
2.	Safety Instuctions	. 3
3.	Introduction	. 3
3.1	Features	. 3
3.2	IC's General Description	. 3
4	How to design an application	. 4
4.1	Given board specification	. 4
4.2	Calculating the Current	. 4
4.3	Inductor	. 5
4.4	Current Sense Resistor	. 7
4.5	Input Filter	. 9
4.6	Error Amplifier Compensations	. 9
4.7	Self Biasing	10
4.8	EMI and Driver SlewRate	11
4.9	Start-Up Bypass Rectifier	12
5	Description	12
5.1	Evaluation Board Specifications	13
5.2	Wire bridges	13
5.4	Component Placement	15
5.5	Board Picture and Layout	16
5.6	Bill of Material	17
6	Operating	18
6.1	Caution	18
6.2	Load	18
6.3	AC-Input	18
6.4	Power-up Sequence	18
6.5	Measure points	18
7	EVA4201 board changes to support difficult DC-DC converters	19
7.1	What can be done?	19
7.2	Results after the board changes	19
8	Abbreviation	21
9	Notes	22
9.	Contact Addresses	23

#### 1. Revision History

Version	Date	Changes	Page
Initial Version V1.0	12/2008		
V1.1	03/2011	Added paragraph 7	19, 20



#### 2. Safety Instuctions

Please take care - the board operates at 405V DC and is directly plugged to the powernetwork. Operating the Board requires an isolated transformer!

#### More details under paragraph 5. Operating.

The EVA4201/4301 was designed to help understand and evaluate the features of two Power Factor Correction IC's. Used external devices are standard components chosen for safe operation and do not represent a completely fine-tuned OEM application. The BOM (bill of material) for a final application may look slightly different.

#### 3. Introduction

#### 3.1 Features

The board is designed to support applications of our two PFC-IC's PE4201 and PE4301

#### PE4201

<ul> <li>Low Total Harmonic Distortion (THD)</li> </ul>	- Wide Range Input
- Low StartUp Current (<5µA)	- Low Total Harmonic Distortion (THD)
- Low Operating Current (<450µA)	- Low Operating Current (<550µA)
- Disable Function (<170µA)	- Disable Function (<100µA)
- Under-Voltage Lockout with >8V Hysteresis	- Under-Voltage Lockout with >8V Hysteresis
Over voltage and Over current protection with separate Reference     Beduse operating Frequency if Output Power	- Over voltage protection, Peak current protection and Open loop protection with separate
low	- low Peak current protection threshold
- High Efficiency at high and low Output Power - Internal Clamping Resistor at G	- Operating Frequency between 40 kHz and 250 kHz dependent upon load
- very fast Driver 'off' at over current sense - Driver load up to 5nF	<ul> <li>Internal Clamping Resistor at Driver</li> <li>Soft start</li> </ul>
	- fast Driver Switch 'off'

PF4301

#### • Applications PE4201/PE4301

- Active power factor correction
- Switch mode power supplies

#### 3.2 IC`s General Description

The **PE4201** is a wide input range controller IC for active power factor correction converters.

The IC operates in the CRM with voltage mode PWM control, and in DCM under light load condition. The maximum switching frequency is clamp with internal delay circuit. Compensations for voltage loop are external.

PE4201 provides many protection functions, such over voltage protection, open loop protection, supply under voltage lockout, output under voltage protection and peak current limit protection. These protection functions are working with separate reference. If an error in regulation reference the protection function operates. If the disable function was activated the current consumption fall below  $170\mu A$ .



The **PE4301** is a wide input range controller IC for active power factor correction converters.

The IC operates in the CCM with average current control. The switching frequency depends upon load. At high output load the frequency is low and with low load the frequency is high. The Compensation for voltage loop and soft start is external.

PE4301 provides many protection functions, such over voltage protection for output voltage and for supply voltage, open loop protection, supply under voltage lockout, output under voltage protection and peak current limit protection. These protection functions work with separate reference. If an error in the regulation reference the protection function operates. The soft start function is reducing the start up current and the stress on the boost diode.

If the disable function is activated, the current consumption falls below 150µA.

#### How to design an application 4

#### 4.1 Given board specification

#### PE4201/PE4301

The board setup in the original state has the following specification parameters. The following chapters show, what has to be changed to design an active PFC supply towards different parameters. Please take caution when calculating. Wrong device parameter calculation can damage the Evaluation board or other devices.

AC Line Input voltage	85 VAC 265 VAC
AC Line Frequency	47 63Hz
Switching Frequency	40 250 kHz
Output voltage	405V DC
Output Load	200W at 85V, 400W at 265V
Over Voltage Threshold	416V DC

#### 4.2 Calculating the Current

#### **PE4201**

The input power: 
$$P_{in} = \frac{P_{out}}{\eta} = \frac{200W}{92\%} = 217W$$
 (1)

$$P_{in} = \frac{P_{out}}{\eta} = \frac{300W}{92\%} = 326W$$
(2)

The input current: 
$$I_{ACin\_LL} = \frac{P_{in}}{V_{AC}} = \frac{217W}{85V} = 2,55A$$
 (3)

$$I_{ACin\_HL} = \frac{P_{in}}{V_{AC}} = \frac{326W}{265V} = 1,23A$$
 (4)



The peak current: 
$$I_{pk\_LL} = 2 * \sqrt{2} * I_{ACin\_LL} = 2 * \sqrt{2} * 2,55A = 7,21A$$
 (5)

$$I_{pk_HL} = 2 * \sqrt{2} * I_{ACin_HL} = 2 * \sqrt{2} * 1,23A = 3,48A$$
 (6)

This peak current affects the component selection on the current sense resistor, Power-MOSFET, diode and inductor.

#### PE4301

The input power:

$$P_{\rm in} = \frac{P_{\rm out}}{\eta} = \frac{400 \rm W}{92\%} = 435 \rm W \tag{7}$$

$$P_{\rm in} = \frac{P_{\rm out}}{\eta} = \frac{800W}{92\%} = 870W$$
 (8)

The input current:

$$I_{\rm ACin\_LL} = \frac{P_{\rm in}}{V_{\rm AC}} = \frac{435W}{85V} = 5,12A$$
(9)

$$I_{\text{ACin}_\text{HL}} = \frac{P_{\text{in}}}{V_{\text{AC}}} = \frac{870\text{W}}{265\text{V}} = 3,28\text{A}$$
(10)

The ripple current  $\Delta I$  is set to 20%

$$\Delta I_{\text{LL}} = 0.2 * \sqrt{2} * I_{\text{ACin_LL}} = 0.2 * \sqrt{2} * 5.12 \text{A} = 1.45 \text{A}$$
 (11)

$$\Delta I_{\rm HL} = 0.2 * \sqrt{2} * I_{\rm ACin_HL} = 0.2 * \sqrt{2} * 3.28A = 0.93A$$
(12)

The peak current:

$$I_{\text{pk\_LL}} = \sqrt{2} * I_{\text{ACin\_LL}} + \frac{\Delta I_{\text{LL}}}{2} = \sqrt{2} * 5,12\text{A} + \frac{1,45}{2} = 7,97\text{A}$$
 (13)

$$I_{\text{pk}_{\text{HL}}} = \sqrt{2} * I_{\text{ACin}_{\text{HL}}} + \frac{\Delta I_{\text{HL}}}{2} = \sqrt{2} * 3,28\text{A} + \frac{0.93}{2} = 5,10\text{A}$$
 (14)

This peak current affects the component selection on the current sense resistor, MOSFET, diode and inductor.

#### 4.3 Inductor

#### PE4201

For CRM operation, the maximum 'on' time and the maximum 'off' time control the lowest frequency. The minimum CRM inductance  $L_{(CRM)}$  at low and high line input voltage can be calculated as follows:

$$L_{(CRM)} = \frac{V_{out} - V_{in}}{V_{out}} * \frac{V_{in}}{I_{pk}} * \frac{1}{f}$$
(15)



$$L_{(CRM)} = \frac{405V - \sqrt{2} * 85V}{405V} * \frac{\sqrt{2} * 85V}{5,27A} * \frac{1}{40kHz} = 400,6\mu H$$
(16)

$$L_{(CRM)} = \frac{405V - \sqrt{2} * 265V}{405V} * \frac{\sqrt{2} * 265V}{3,48A} * \frac{1}{40kHz} = 199,5\mu H$$
(17)

For high line voltage and high output power the inductor has to have a nominal inductance of  $400\mu$ H. The switching frequency at low line voltage can be calculated according to equation (18):

$$f = \frac{V_{out} - V_{in}}{V_{out}} * \frac{V_{in}}{I_{pk}} * \frac{1}{L_{(CRM)}}$$
(18)

$$f = \frac{405V - \sqrt{2} * 85V}{405V} * \frac{\sqrt{2} * 85V}{5,27A} * \frac{1}{400\mu H} = 40,1 \text{ kHz}$$
(19)

#### PE4301

For CCM operation, the maximum 'on' time and the maximum 'off' time control are the lowest frequencies. The minimum CCM inductance  $L_{(CCM)}$  at low and high line input voltage can be calculated as follows:

**Duty Cycle** 

$$D = \frac{V_{\text{out}} - V_{\text{in}}}{V_{\text{out}}}$$
(20)

$$D_{\rm LL} = \frac{405\mathrm{V} - \sqrt{2*85\mathrm{V}}}{405}\mathrm{V} = 0,70$$
(21)

$$D_{\rm HL} = \frac{405\mathrm{V} - \sqrt{2 * 265\mathrm{V}}}{405}\mathrm{V} = 0,074$$
(22)

**CCM** Inductor

$$L_{\rm CCM} = \frac{\sqrt{2 * V_{\rm in} * D}}{f * \Delta I}$$
(23)

$$L_{\rm CCM\_LL} = \frac{\sqrt{2 * 85V * 0.70}}{40 \text{kHz} * 1.45 \text{A}} = 1448 \mu \text{H}$$
(24)

$$L_{\rm CCM_HL} = \frac{\sqrt{2 * 265V * 0.074}}{40 \text{kHz} * 0.93\text{A}} = 746 \mu \text{H}$$
(25)



For high line voltage and high output power the inductor set to  $750\mu H.$  The switching frequency at low line voltage obtaint as:

$$f = \frac{\sqrt{2} * V_{\rm in} * D}{L_{\rm CCM} * \Delta I}$$
(26)

$$f = \frac{\sqrt{2} * 85V * 0.70}{750\mu H * 1.45A} = 77.2kHz$$
(27)

#### 4.4 Current Sense Resistor

#### PE4201

The current sense resistor provides the threshold voltage for the over-current protection function. The maximum inductor peak current is set to 7,3A.

$$R_{s} = \frac{V_{SHPCP}}{I_{OCP}} = \frac{0.22V}{7.3A} = 0.03\Omega$$
(28)

R1\*=0,03 Ω

#### PE4301

$$R_{s} = \frac{V_{CSPCP}}{I_{OCP}} = \frac{0.95V}{7.3A} = 0.13\Omega$$
(29)

For higher/lower output power the resistor RS has to be reduced/increased and the inductor has to be re-calculated.

ISO 9001 /	/ ISO 14001
------------	-------------



#### 2.5 Output Bypass Capacitor

#### PE4201/PE4301

The bypass capacitor on the output of the circuit has to be able to suppress the ripple of the switching frequency and the residues of the full-wave rectified input frequency ( $2 * f_{in}$ ).

$$C_{out} = \frac{P_{out}}{V_{out}} * \frac{1}{\Delta V_{out}} * \frac{1}{f}$$
(30)

It is recommended to use 4 \*  $f_{in}$  to suppress the sine wave residues of the input voltage for calculation. The ripple shall be assumed to be at 5% of the output voltage.

at 200W : 
$$C_{out} = \frac{\sqrt{2 * 200W}}{405V} * \frac{1}{0.05 * 405V} * \frac{1}{4 * 50Hz} = 172\mu F$$
 (31)

at 600W : 
$$C_{out} = \frac{\sqrt{2 * 300W}}{405V} * \frac{1}{0.05 * 405V} * \frac{1}{4 * 50Hz} = 258\mu F$$
 (32)

A 220 $\mu$ F capacitor with at least 220 $\mu$ F (C11) should be used. It has to withstand the maximum output voltage (on the board we used 100 $\mu$ F with a little bit higher ripple).

The equivalent series resistance (ESR) of the capacitor shall not build up a voltage higher than half the ripple amplitude (2,5% of  $V_{out-max}$ ) at peak-current.

$$R_{C} = \frac{\Delta V_{out}}{I_{peak}} = \frac{0.025 * 405V}{7.3A} = 1.37\Omega$$
(33)

To reduce the ESR it is recommend to place a capacitor with small ESR in parallel to the high capacitance device. For 2% ripple at minimum switching frequencys the parallel capacitance can be calculated according to equation (25):

$$C_{out2} = \frac{300W}{405V} * \frac{1}{0.02 * 405V} * \frac{1}{40kHz} = 2,3\mu F$$
(34)

The capacitor on the board is C12=100n/630V.



#### 4.5 Input Filter

#### PE4201/PE4301

A high-frequency has to be applied in the primary AC input to reduce reflections from and to the power grid.



Figure 1: Input Filter

The capacitor  $C_{HF}$  following the bridge rectifier provides the peak current and reduces the voltage ripple. This is typical for a 330nF or for a 470nF capacitor. A high capacitance here will decrease the power factor (C1).

The L-C filter before the bridge rectifier has to suppress the switching frequency by about 20dB. The cut-off frequency shall be below 10 kHz.

#### 4.6 Error Amplifier Compensations

#### PE4201/PE4301

The output of the integrated error amplifier has to be filtered by means of an RC filter for frequency compensation.



Figure 2: Error Amplifier Compensation

At the same time the capacitor  $C_{SP}$  ensures a soft start function. Capacitance can be calculated according to equation (35). The soft start time is set up at 30ms.

$$C_{Z} = \frac{t_{ss} * i_{VCOmax}}{V_{RREF}} = \frac{30ms * 20\mu A}{2,53V} = 237nF$$
 (35)

C8 = 220nF shall be chosen here.

The frequency response should have a second pole slightly above twice the power grid frequency. This is set up by  $R_{SP}$  and  $C_Z\!.$ 

ISO 9001	/ ISO 14001
----------	-------------



$$R_{SP} = \frac{1}{2\pi * f_z * C_z} = \frac{1}{2\pi * 100 Hz * 220 nF} = 6,028 k$$
(36)

R4 = 5,6kOhm shall be chosen here.

The frequency of the second pole shall be at about 1/7 of the switching frequency. This defines the capacitance of  $C_{\rm SP}.$ 

$$C_{SP} = \frac{1}{2\pi * f_{z} * R_{SP}} = \frac{1}{2\pi * 5,7kHz * 6k} = 4,6nF$$
 (37)

C9 = 4,7nF shall be chosen here.

#### 4.7 Self Biasing

#### PE4201/PE4301

Power supply of the PE4201/PE4301 during start up is provided through a high resistance resistor from the power grid input voltage. The maximum resistance has to be calculated resulting from the minimum input voltage and the required supply voltage of the PE4301 as well as the minimum required start up current.

$$R_{STUP} = \frac{\sqrt{2} * V_{in} - V_{ST}}{I_{ST}} = \frac{\sqrt{2} * 85V - 20V}{5\mu A} = 20 \text{Meg}\Omega$$
(38)

To reduce start up time and account for leakage currents in the external diode the resistor is chosen to be 4MOhm. This is an experimental trade-off. Make sure the chosen resistor type has the proper power dissipation. Also, relatively high voltage over the resistor is to be accounted for (245V). It is recommended to use two 2MOhm resistors is series.

The capacitor on VDD has to provide power until the switching of the power-MOSFET has started and power will be provided from the help winding on the transformer. That can only happen after start-up and when the input voltage is at maximum level. At 50Hz this time  $t_{VDD}$  is about 10ms. Current consumption calculates from the IC supply current and the loss in the power-MOSFET when switching.

Power consumption of the IC is <450 $\mu$ A. Power-MOSFET switching consumption consists of an ohmic part (resistor on 'G') and the dynamical part in the MOSFET. This is a charge changing process at the gate capacitance in the device.

Switching frequency will not be constant over an input frequency period. It can be assumed to be 100 kHz on average. Also the duty cycle factor will not be constant. For simplicity it can be assumed to be 50%.

ISO	9001	/ ISO	14001



A simplified but sufficient equation to calculate the dynamic and ohmic portion is given in equation (39) and (40) respectively.

$$I_{Gdyn} = C_G * f * U_{Gmax} = 2nF * 100kHz * 12V = 2mA$$
 (39)

$$I_{\text{Gohm}} = \frac{U_{\text{Gmax}}}{R_{\text{G}}} * T = \frac{12V}{20k\Omega} * 0.5 = 0.3\text{mA}$$
(40)

Total current consumption calculates according to equation (41).

$$I_{VDD} = I_{stat} + I_{Gdyn} + I_{Gohm} = 0.45mA + 2mA + 0.3mA = 2.75mA$$
 (41)

From that the capacitance of  $C_{VVD}$  can be calculated:

$$C_{VDD} = \frac{I_{VDD} * t_{VDD}}{V_{ST} - V_{LO}} = \frac{2,75\text{mA} * 10\text{ms}}{22\text{V} - 8\text{V}} = 2\mu\text{F}$$
(42)

The help winding on the transformer has to provide between 20 ... 25V DC.

The Transformation Ration (TR) can be calculated according to equation (43):

$$TR = \frac{V_{out}}{V_{VDD}} = \frac{405V}{22V} = 18,4$$
(43)

#### 4.8 EMI and Driver SlewRate

#### PE4201/PE4301

The driver slew rate can be influenced a network according to figure 3.



Figure 3: Network for Driver Slew Rate

 $R_{\text{tFALL}}$  determines the Slew Rate of the falling edge. The diode can be a standard Si-diode.

R<sub>tRISE</sub> determines the Slew Rate of the rising edge.

Those values vary between the used power-MOSFET. Caution has to be taken to meet EMI regulations.



#### 4.9 Start-Up Bypass Rectifier

#### PE4201/PE4301

A diode ( $D_{BYPASS}$ ) in parallel to the coil and the boost diode ( $D_{BOOST}$ ) reduces the current through the coil during start-up. It also pre-charges the bypass capacitor on the output to the peak input voltage.

This reduces over voltage peaks and currents in the coil and so improves EMI parameters. It also protects the power-MOSFET from over voltage damage. To reduce the current through the diode a series resistor shall be used.



Figure 4: Bypass Rectifier

#### 5 Description

The EVA4301-300 was designed to help understand and evaluate the features of the PE4201/PE4301 Power Factor Correction IC. Used external devices are standard components chosen for safe operation and do not represent a completely fine-tuned OEM application. The BOM (bill of material) for a final application may look slightly different.

The PE4201 is a wide input range controller IC for active power factor correction converters in CRMode with voltage mode PWM control.

The PE4301 is a wide input range controller IC for active power factor correction converters in CCMode with voltage mode frequency and PWM control.

Please take caution since the board operates at 405V DC.



#### 5.1 Evaluation Board Specifications

AC Line Input voltage	.85 Vac - 265 VAC
AC Line Frequency	.47 – 65 Hz
Switching Frequency	.40 – 170 kHz
Output voltage	.405V DC
Output Load	.150W at 85V, 400W at 265V
Over Voltage Threshold	.416V DC
Efficiency (@85V / 200W)	.92%
Power Factor (@85V / 200W)	.0.998
Operating Ambient Temp Range	.0−40 °C

#### 5.2 Wire bridges

The board has been designed to provide evaluation support for the PE4301 as well as the PE4201 PFC ICs. For that reason the following wire bridges and components will have to be set properly.

	PE4201	PE4301
JP1	2_3	1_2
JP2	2_3	1_2
R2*,R5*,C7*	on Board	open
R5**,C10**,C1**	open	on Board
R1*,R1**	0,03 Ohm	0,12 Ohm



5.3 Schematic



Figure 5: Board Schematic



#### 5.4 Component Placement





for PE4201 on board for PE4201 cancelled

Figure 6: Board device population





5.5 Board Picture and Layout



Figure 7: Board photograph

![](_page_15_Figure_5.jpeg)

Figure 8: PCB Layout

![](_page_16_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### 5.6 Bill of Material

Nr.	Reference	Used	Description	Vendor
1	IC1		PE4201/PE4301	PE GmbH
2	R1*		0.03 Ω 3W	
2	R1**		0.12 Ω 3W	
3	R2		1 MΩ 1/4W	
3	R2*		2 kΩ 1/4W	
4	R3		4.7 k $\Omega$ variable resistor	
5	R4		5.6 kΩ 1/4W	
6	R5*		10 kΩ 1/4W	
6	R5**		100 kΩ 1/4W	
7	R6		1MegΩ 1/4W	
8	R7		11 kΩ 1/4W	
9	R9	Opt.	18 Ω 1/4W	
10	R10	Opt.	6.8 Ω 1/4W	
11	R11		2 MΩ 1/4W	
12	R12		2 MΩ 1/4W	
13	R13		4.7 Ω 1/4W	
14	R14		100 kΩ 1/4W	
15	R16**		10 kΩ 1/4W	
16	R17		2 kΩ 1/4W	
18	C1		470 nF 630V	
19	C2		2.2 nF 3kV	
20	C3		2.2 nF 3kV	
21	C4		47 nF 250VAC	
22	C5		150 nF 250VAC	
23	C6		10 μF 40V Elko	
24	C7		100 nF 630V	
25	C7*		100 pf 63V	
26	C8		220nF 63V	
27	C9		4.7nF 63V	
28	C10		100 pF 100V	
29	C11		220µF 450V Elko	
30	C11**		100 nF 63V	
31	D1	Opt.	1N4148	
32	D2		1N4148	
33	D3	Opt.	1N5406	
34	D4		ISL9R860	
35	Rect		KBU6G	
36	Q1		FQA24N50 (PE4201), IRF840 (PE4301)	
37	L1		Line Filter 32mH 6A	
38	L2		Boost inductor ETD39/ETD49	
39	F1		Fuse 6A	

01/06/2016

![](_page_17_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### 6 Operating

#### 6.1 Caution

The Evaluation board has been designed to operate between 85VAC and 256VAC input power grid voltages and 405VDC output voltage.

Powering the board outside specified operating conditions will destroy devices and might cause severe damage and harm people.

The board has been designed for a maximum load of 300VA. Overloading the output will cause overheating and destruction of devices.

Devices can heat up to 50 °C in normal operation mode. Take caution to not burn your fingers. Security measures for high voltage operation have to be taken.

#### 6.2 Load

Resistive and electronic continuous loads up to 300VA at 450VDC can be applied on the output. The load can be applied on the DC-OUT terminal. Pay attention to the polarity and wire diameter.

#### 6.3 AC-Input

The Input voltage has to be applied on the AC-IN terminal. An isolation transformer is required, especially when other power grid supplied measurement devices (oscilloscope, voltmeter) are being used to prevent from electrical shock or device damage. Avoid personal contact with the board when powered. Be aware that capacitors hold charges even when power will be turned off. Discharge the output capacitor through the load or a high ohmic load resistor after power off.

#### 6.4 Power-up Sequence

Before input voltage will be turned on, all measurement devices should be connected. It is recommended to slowly turn up the input voltage with a regulation transformer, usually in combination with a separation transformer. Be aware that capacitors hold charges even when power will be turned off. Make sure they will be discharged before disconnecting the measurement devices.

#### 6.5 Measure points

The board has several measuring points. They are marked on the board by names.

M1 / M2:	input current through a $0,1\Omega$ measurement resistor
GND:	Ground, reference potential for all measuring points but M1 and M2
VDD:	supply voltage for PE4201/4301, 030V
ZC (PE4201):	AC help winding voltage through 2kOhm, -5025V
CS (PE4301):	negative voltage of current sensor (-0,91,0V)
RG (PE4201):	voltage on RG, 1,03V
FQ (PE4301):	voltage on FQ, 1,03V
VCO:	voltage on output of regulation amplifier, 0 5,5V
SH (PE4201):	voltage over Shunt resistor, 0 0,5V
RV (PE4301):	adjust slew rate of the duty cycle
IN:	voltage in loop back, V <sub>OUT</sub> /160, 0 2,65V
G1:	voltage at IC-Pin G, power-MOSFET Gate driver voltage, 0 12V
G2:	voltage at Gate of power-MOSFET, 0 12V

Measuring points CS/CZ, RG/FQ, SH/RV on the board are identical; there is always only one of the two markings on the board.

![](_page_18_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### 7 EVA4201 board changes to support difficult DC-DC converters

Powering DC-DC converters from the output of the EVA4201-300 board may cause the output voltage to drop to zero, pulse and interrupt irregularly. This can especially be observed at low load conditions below 100W. The reason is that the supply voltage for the PE4201 power factor controller IC may fall below the minimal operating voltage due to the fact that the board transformer is supposed to not only provide output power but also the supply voltage for the PE4201. As the power transistor will be turned on at a lower frequency at low load condition VDD for the PE4201 might not be high enough anymore to keep normal operation alive. Another reason can also be that the output voltage of the board raises above the OVP (over voltage protection) level of the PE4201 and this will cause the power FET to be turned off. In conclusion the PE4201 will not be powered any more sufficiently. At this point the operation power for the board will be provided through R11 and R12 and the IC will power up again, causing the same cycle to start all over again and again. Some minor changes have to be done on the board to prevent such observation.

#### 7.1 What can be done?

It is essential to always have sufficient operating voltage on VDD. The number of windings transforming this voltage can be increased to 3. This way to supply voltage does not even in worst case conditions drop below 8V. The board is fully operational at 50% load even on 110V line voltage. At full load the supply voltage for the PE4201 stays below 28V.

The internal voltage stabilization tolerates input voltages from 8V to 30V. To reduce the ripple and provide storage capacity the capacitor on VDD should be increased to  $22\mu$ F and the resistor R13 should be increased to 470hm.

To improve the timing the resistor on "RG" should be changed from 100kOhm to 68kOhm. This reduces the on-times under no load condition. The capacitor on "VCO" should be changed from 220nF to 470nF. This improves the soft start behavior after zero crossing.

An additional capacitor of 330pF on "IN" to "GND" reduces load spikes potentially influencing the "IN" voltage.

The startup time has been decreased be reducing R11 and R12 from 2x2.2MOhm to 2x470kOhm.

#### 7.2 Results after the board changes

The board starts up at no-load condition and has no hick-ups. It immediately provides 400V output voltage. Softly adding full load to the output, which is typically done due to EMI regulations anyway, does not cause the board to enter "pulse-mode". It operates completely normally and ensures a very good power factor from almost zero load to full load and beyond. The board has been tested at 400W output load. Even when the load will be turned on quickly in a µs-range, which surely causes EMI, some input current half waves will show up in current mode. After that the board operates normally.

# PE4201 PFC

## Application Note 300W Evaluation Board

![](_page_19_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Figure_3.jpeg)

Figure 9: PFC-Board with relevant changes

![](_page_20_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### Abbreviation

8

Abbreviation	Explanation
AC-IN	Input Voltage
ACLin	Input Current
BOM	Bill of material
ССМ	Constant Conduction Mode
C <sub>EMI</sub>	Capacitor for EMI
C <sub>G</sub>	Capacity of the gate (MOSFET)
C <sub>HF</sub>	Capacitor for reduction of HF- transmitting
Cout	Output Capacitor
C <sub>out</sub> 2	Output Capacitor
C <sub>SP</sub>	Cap. For
C <sub>WVD</sub>	Cap. On Pin VDD
C <sub>7</sub>	Cap. On Current Sense
CRM	Critical Conduction Mode
DROOST	Boost- Diode
DRVPASS	Bypass- Diode
DCM	Discontinuous Conduction Mode
DC-OUT	Output Voltage
EMI	Electromagnetic Interferences
ESB	Equivalent series resistance
G	Output to Gate (MOSEET)
IN	Feedback- Input for Output- Voltage
	Max. Current for switching of MOSFET
	Max. VCO- Voltage
	IC- Current
	Inductivity in CCM
	Inductivity in CRM
	Inductor to reduce EMI
	Powerfactor- Correction
Pin	Input- Power
Part	Output- Power
PWM	Pulse- Width- Modulation
Be	Clamping Resistor
Betup	Start-Up Resistor
Breath	Fall-Time of Voltage on Gate
B <sub>tPISE</sub>	Rise-Time of Voltage on Gate
THD	Total Harmonic Distortion
TR	Transformation Ration
	Time for Starting the IC
	Max, Voltage on Gate
VCO	Voltage Controlled Oscillator
Vesper	Voltage of Peak- Current- Protection
VDD	Operating Voltage of the IC
Vin	Voltage on Pin "IN"
Vio	Lock Out Voltage
Vout	Output Voltage
	Internal Reference of the IC
	Max. Voltage on Input Current Protection
V <sub>ST</sub>	Start UP Voltage

## PE4201 PFC Application Note

300W Evaluation Board

![](_page_21_Picture_2.jpeg)

9 Notes

01/06/2016

![](_page_22_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### 9. Contact Addresses

#### Germany

#### Stuttgart

Productivity Engineering Process Integration GmbH Behringstrasse 7 D-71083 Herrenberg Germany Phone.: +49 (0) 70322798 0 Fax: +49 (0) 70322798 29 Email: info@pe-gmbh.com Web: www.pe-gmbh.com

#### Dresden

Productivity Engineering GmbH Branch Sachsenallee 9 D-01723 Kesselsdorf Germany Phone.: +49 (0) 35204777 00 Fax: +49 (0) 35204777 000 Email: info@pe-gmbh.com

#### Important Notice

Productivity Engineering GmbH (PE) reserves the right to make corrections, modifications, enhancements, improvements, and other changes to its products and services at any time and to discontinue any product or service without notice. Customers should obtain the latest relevant information before placing orders and should verify that such information is current and complete. All products are sold subject to PE's terms and conditions of sale supplied at the time of order acknowledgment. PE warrants performance of its hardware products to the specifications applicable at the time of sale in accordance with PE's standard warranty. Testing and other quality control techniques are used to the extent PE deems necessary to support this warranty. Except where mandated by government requirements, testing of all parameters of each product is not necessarily performed. PE assumes no liability for applications assistance or customer product design. Customers are responsible for their products and applications using PE components. To minimize the risks associated with customer products and applications, customers should provide adequate design and operating safeguards. PE does not warrant or represent that any license, either express or implied, is granted under any PE patent right, copyright, mask work right, or other PE intellectual property right relating to any combination, machine, or process in which PE products or services are used. Information published by PE regarding third–party products or services does not constitute a license from PE to use such products or services or a warranty or endorsement thereof. Use of such information may require a license from a third party under the patents or other intellectual property of PE. Resale of PE products or services with statements different from or beyond the parameters stated by PE for that product or service voids all express and any implied warranties for the associated PE product or service and is an unfair and deceptive business practice. PE is not responsible or li

All trademarks and registered trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

The project is funded in parts by the European fund for regional development (EFRE) and the state of Saxony.