

The most challenging part of the testing process

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Testing in the ultracapacitor industry is challenging because manufacturers are not required to adhere to compliance standards. The lack of specifications means that tests vary from company to company, making it extremely difficult for customers to compare products. Since customers can't judge the quality of an ultracapacitor based on particular tests, it is impossible for them to weigh all of the different options and choose the right ultracapacitor for their specific needs.

If testing was to be standardized, customers could buy products with confidence, knowing that they comply with industry regulations. Standardized testing should require manufacturers to measure capacitance, equivalent series resistance (ESR), cooling requirements, cycle testing, maximum current, and duty cycles, as they are all important factors in the decision making process.

However, adopting testing standards in the ultracapacitor industry will not only improve the end-user's experience, but the manufacturer's as well. With required tests, the quality of a company's cell cannot be speculated. Manufacturers have concrete proof how their cell works in comparison to their competitors. Manufacturers can then effectively market their products against competitors with the statistics to support their claims and see the benefit of increased market adoption. Imposing compliance standards would only help the industry, as well as the customers.

Source URL (retrieved on 02/01/2015 - 12:47am):

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