

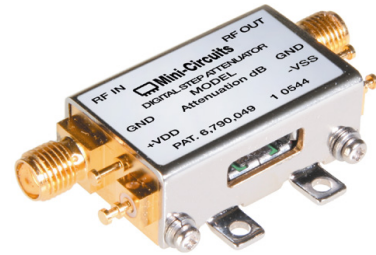
# Digital Step Attenuator

50Ω DC-4000 MHz

15.5 dB, 0.5 dB Step, 5 Bit, Parallel Control Interface  
Dual Supply Voltage

## Product Features

- Low Insertion Loss
- High IP3, +52 dBm Typ
- Excellent return loss, 20 dB Typ
- Excellent accuracy, 0.1 dB Typ
- Fast switching control frequency, 1 MHz typ.
- Dual Supply Voltage:  $V_{DD}=+3V$ ,  $V_{SS}=-3V$
- Control inputs buffered by Schmitt Triggers
- Rigid unibody case
- Protected by US patent 6,790,049



## ZX76-15R5-PN+

CASE STYLE: HK1149

Connectors	Order P/N
SMA	ZX76-15R5-PN-S+

## Typical Applications

- Lab
- Instrumentation
- Test equipment

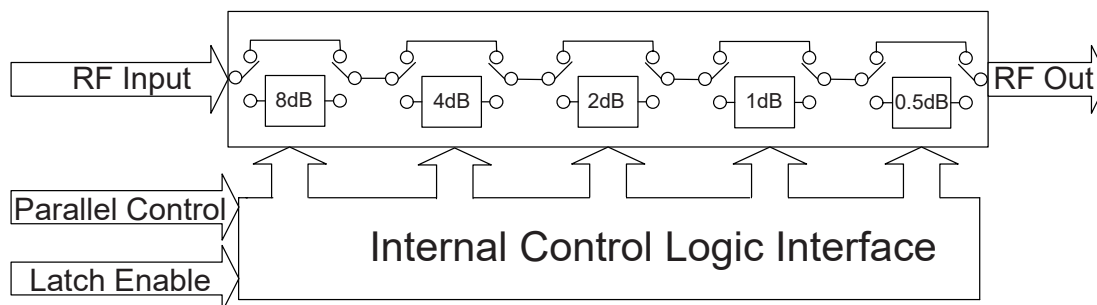
### +RoHS Compliant

The +Suffix identifies RoHS Compliance. See our web site for RoHS Compliance methodologies and qualifications

## General Description

The ZX76-15R5-PN+ is a 50Ω RF digital step attenuator that offers an attenuation range up to 15.5 dB in 0.5 dB steps. The control is a 5-bit parallel interface. The model operates on a dual supply voltage:  $V_{DD}=+3V$ ,  $V_{SS}=-3V$ . See application note AN-70-004 for 5V supply voltage. The ZX76-15R5-PN+ is produced using a unique case package for ruggedness and operation in tough environments.

## Simplified Schematic



## RF Electrical Specifications, DC-4000 MHz, $T_{AMB}=25^{\circ}C$ , $V_{DD}=+3V$ , $V_{SS}=-3V$

Parameter	Freq. Range (GHz)	Min.	Typ.	Max.	Units
Accuracy @ 0.5 dB Attenuation Setting	DC-1	—	0.03	0.1	dB
	1-2.2	—	0.05	0.15	dB
	2.2-4.0	—	0.1	0.35	dB
Accuracy @ 1 dB Attenuation Setting	DC-1	—	0.02	0.1	dB
	1-2.2	—	0.05	0.15	dB
	2.2-4.0	—	0.1	0.35	dB
Accuracy @ 2 dB Attenuation Setting	DC-1	—	0.05	0.15	dB
	1-2.2	—	0.15	0.25	dB
	2.2-4.0	—	0.2	0.6	dB
Accuracy @ 4 dB Attenuation Setting	DC-1	—	0.07	0.2	dB
	1-2.2	—	0.15	0.25	dB
	2.2-4.0	—	0.18	0.6	dB
Accuracy @ 8 dB Attenuation Setting	DC-1	—	0.03	0.2	dB
	1-2.2	—	0.15	0.3	dB
	2.2-4.0	—	0.5	0.6	dB
Insertion Loss @ all attenuator set to 0dB	DC-1	—	1.5	2.0	dB
	1-2.2	—	1.8	2.5	dB
	2.2-4.0	—	3.0	4.5	dB
IP3 Input * (at Min. and Max. Attenuation)	DC-2.2	—	+52	—	dBm
	2.2-4.0	—	+42	—	dBm
Input Power @ 0.2dB Compression* (at Min. and Max. Attenuation)	DC-4.0	—	+24	—	dBm
VSWR	DC-1	—	1.2	1.5	—
	1-2.2	—	1.2	1.5	—
	2.2-4.0	—	1.8	2.1	—

\* IP3 and 1dB compression degrade below 1 MHz

## DC Electrical Specifications

Parameter	Min.	Typ.	Max.	Units
$V_{DD}$ , Supply Voltage	2.7	3	3.3	V
$V_{SS}$ , Supply Voltage	-3.3	-3	-2.7	V
$I_{DD}$ , Supply Current	—	—	3	mA
$I_{SS}$ , Supply Current	—	—	100	$\mu A$
Control Input Voltage Low	0	—	$0.3 \times V_{DD}$	V
Control Input Voltage High	$0.7 \times V_{DD}$	—	5V	V
Control Current	—	—	400	$\mu A$

## Switching Specifications

Parameter	Min.	Typ.	Max.	Units
Switching Speed, 50% Control to 0.5dB of Attenuation Value	—	1.0	—	$\mu Sec$
Switching Control Frequency	—	1.0	—	MHz

## Absolute Maximum Ratings

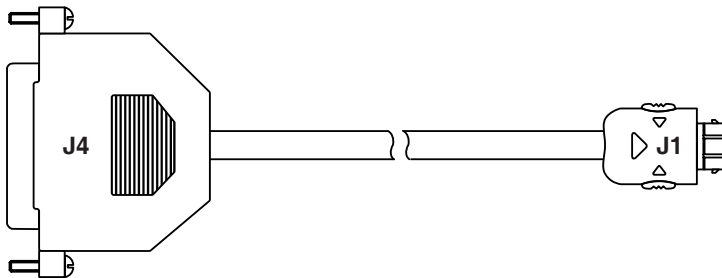
Parameter	Ratings
Operating Temperature	-40°C to 85°C
Storage Temperature	-40°C to 85°C
$V_{DD}$	-0.3V Min., 4V Max.
$V_{SS}$	-4V Min., 0.3V Max.
Voltage on Control Input	-0.3V Min., 6V Max.
ESD, HBM	500V
ESD, MM	100V
Input Power	+24dBm

Permanent damage may occur if any of these limits are exceeded

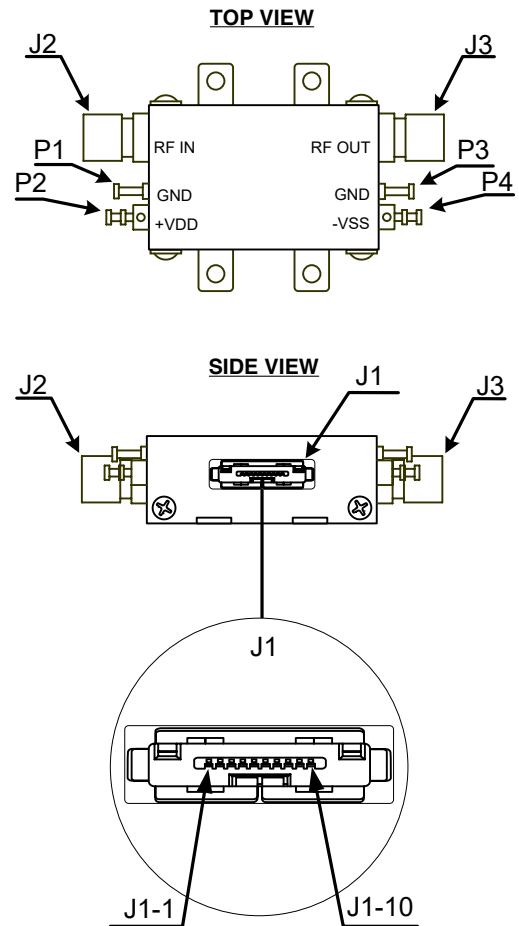
## Pin Description

Function	Pin Number	Description
LE	J1-1	Latch Enable Input
C1	J1-2	Control for attenuation bit, 1 dB
C0.5	J1-3	Control for attenuation bit, 0.5 dB
N/C	J1-4	Not Connected
-	J1-5	Not used
GND	J1-6	Ground connection
GND	J1-7	Ground connection
C4	J1-8	Control for attenuation bit, 4 dB
C8	J1-9	Control for attenuation bit, 8 dB
C2	J1-10	Control for attenuation bit, 2 dB
RF in	J2	RF in port (Note 1)
RF out	J3	RF out port (Note 1)
GND	P1	Ground connection
V <sub>DD</sub>	P2	Positive Supply Voltage
GND	P3	Ground connection
V <sub>SS</sub>	P4	Negative Supply Voltage

Note 1: Both RF ports must be held at 0VDC or DC blocked with an external series capacitor.



## Pin Configuration



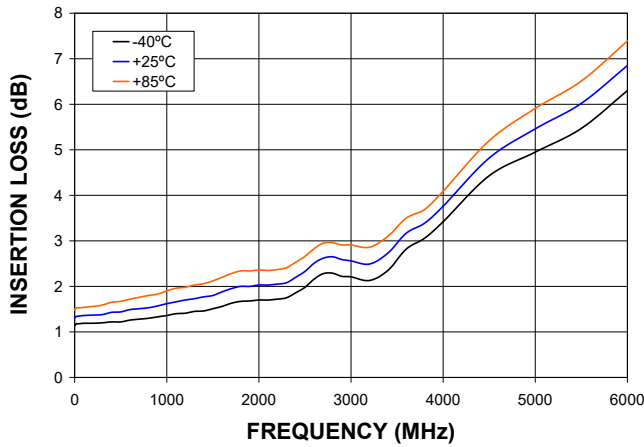
## Cable Pin Description

J1-Pin Number	J4-Pin Number	Function	Description	Wire Color
J1-1	J4-8	LE	Latch Enable Input	WHITE
J1-2	J4-3	C1	Control for attenuation bit, 1 dB	YELLOW
J1-3	J4-2	C0.5	Control for attenuation bit, 0.5 dB	GREEN
J1-5	J4-7	-	Not used	BLUE
J1-6	J4-20	GND	Ground connection	BLACK
J1-8	J4-5	C4	Control for attenuation bit, 4 dB	ORANGE
J1-9	J4-6	C8	Control for attenuation bit, 8 dB	BROWN
J1-10	J4-4	C2	Control for attenuation bit, 2 dB	RED

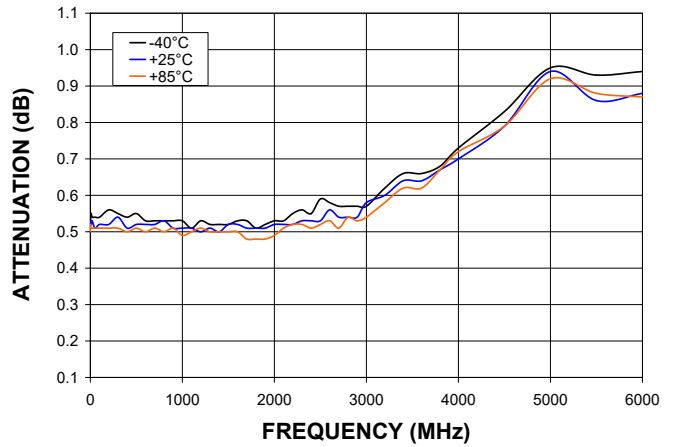
Note: Other pins not connected. Cable shield connected to case ground.

## Typical Performance Curves

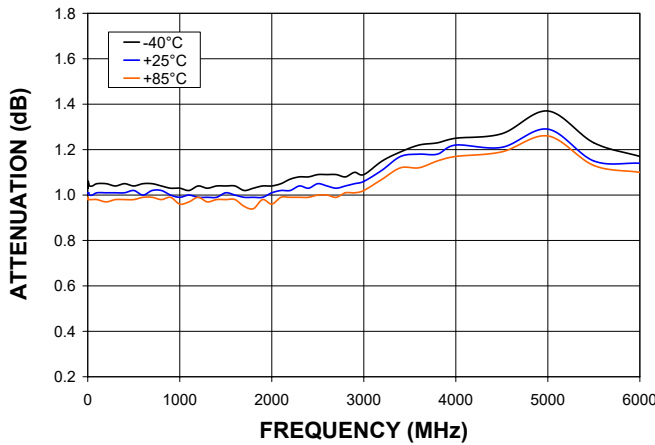
### INSERTION LOSS (Ref)



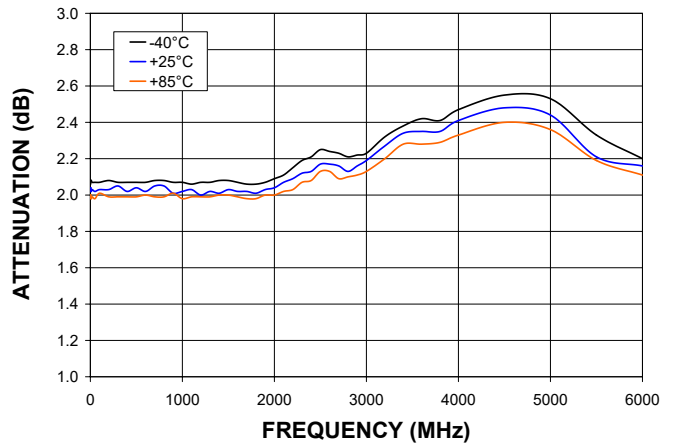
### ATTENUATION (0.5 dB)



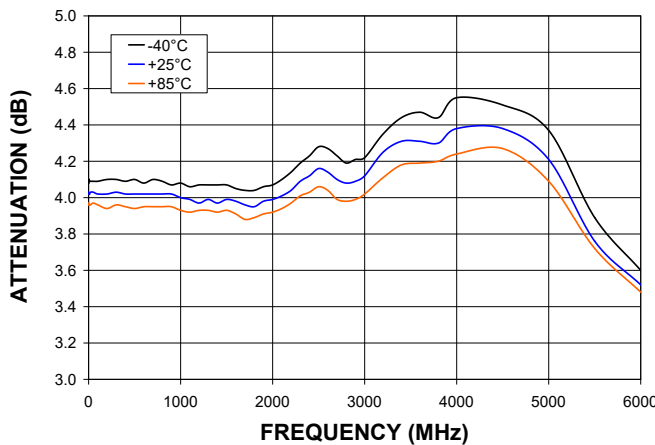
### ATTENUATION (1 dB)



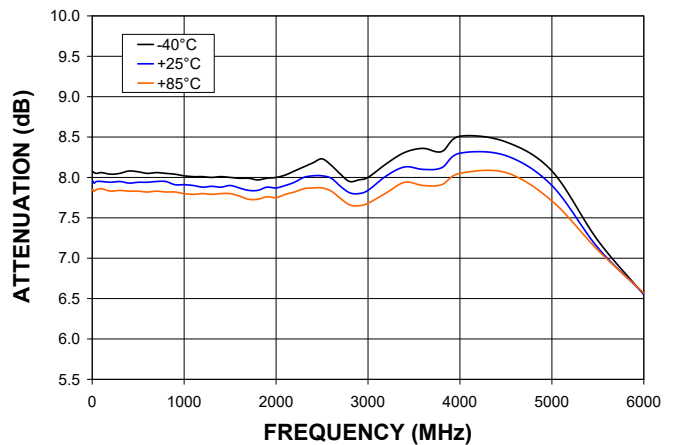
### ATTENUATION (2 dB)



### ATTENUATION (4 dB)

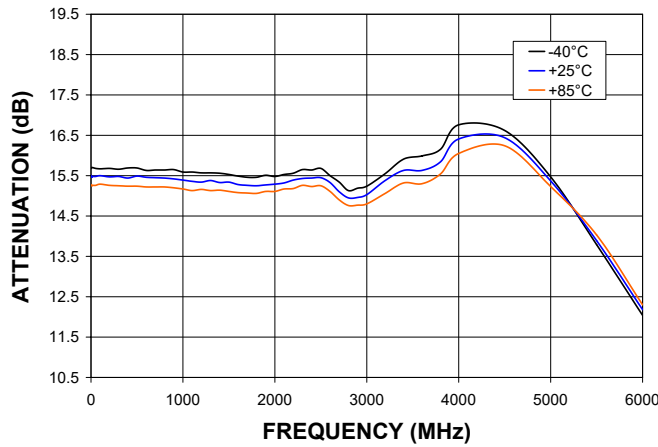


### ATTENUATION (8 dB)

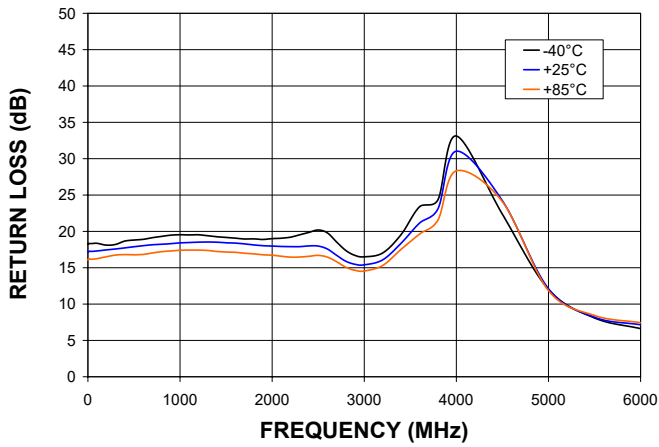


## Typical Performance Curves

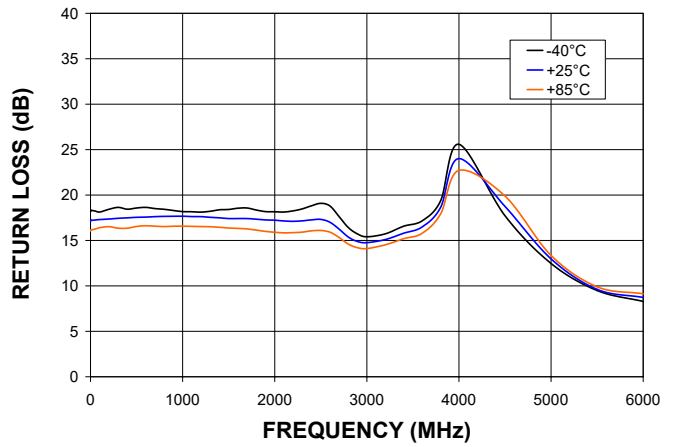
### ATTENUATION (15.5 dB)



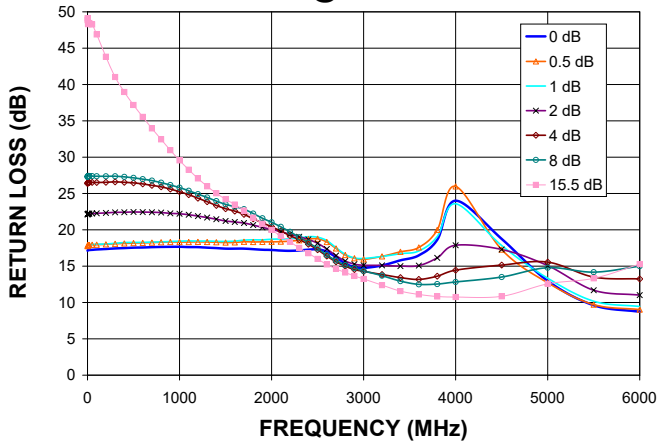
### RETURN LOSS IN (Ref)



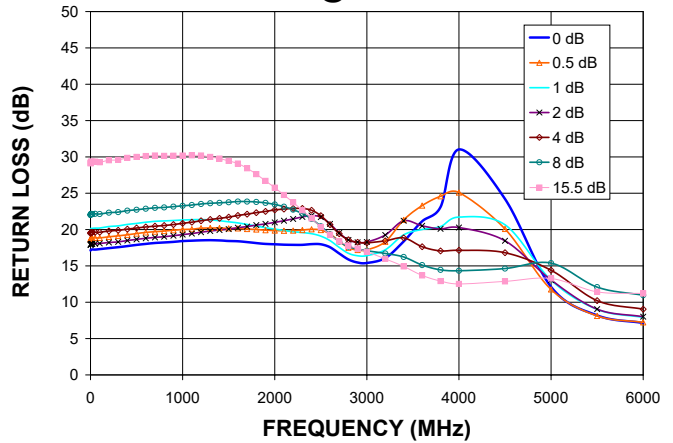
### RETURN LOSS OUT (Ref)



### RETURN LOSS OUT (Major Atten. Steps) @ +25°C

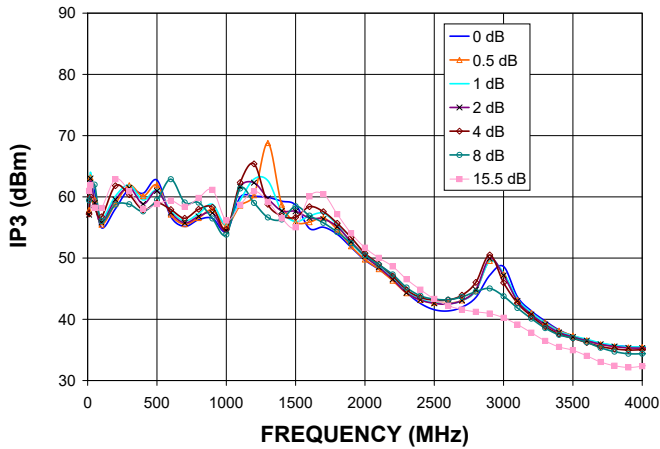


### RETURN LOSS IN (Major Atten. Steps) @ +25°C

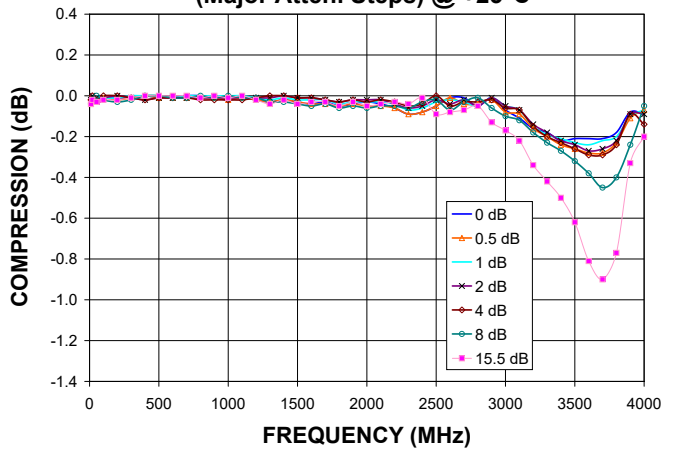


## Typical Performance Curves

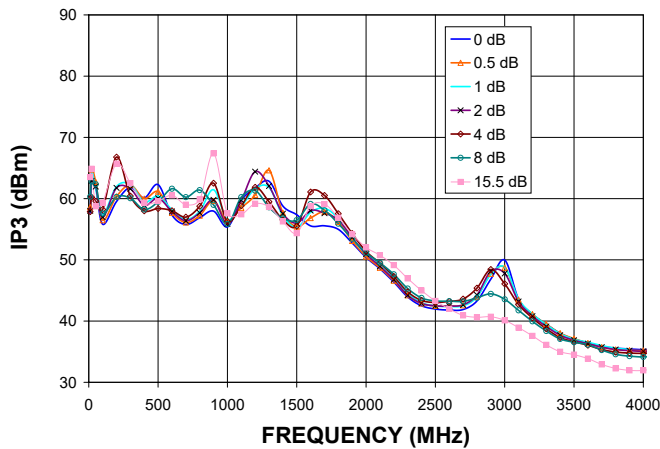
IP3 (Major Atten. Steps) @ +25°C



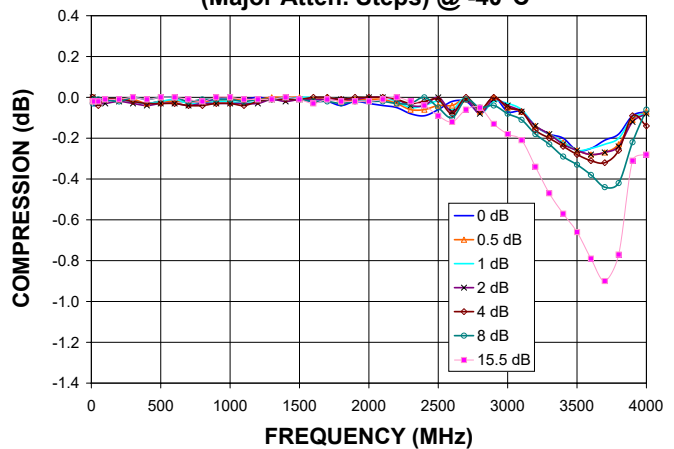
COMPRESSION @ INPUT POWER=+24dBm (Major Atten. Steps) @ +25°C



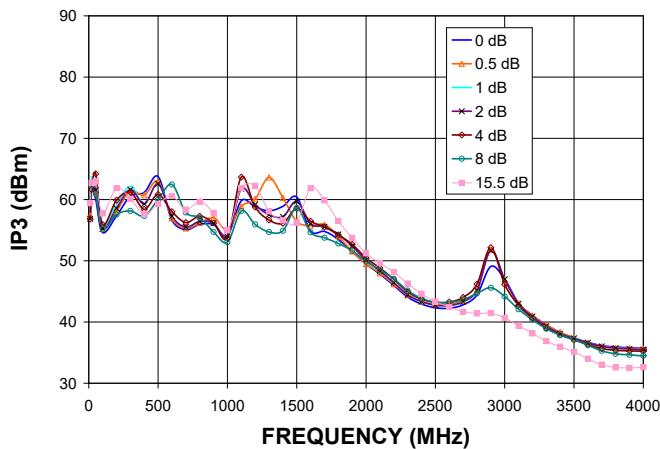
IP3 (Major Atten. Steps) @ -40°C



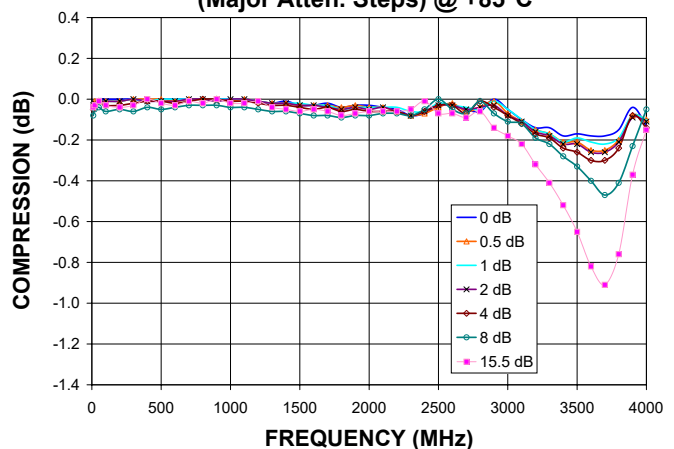
COMPRESSION @ INPUT POWER=+24dBm (Major Atten. Steps) @ -40°C



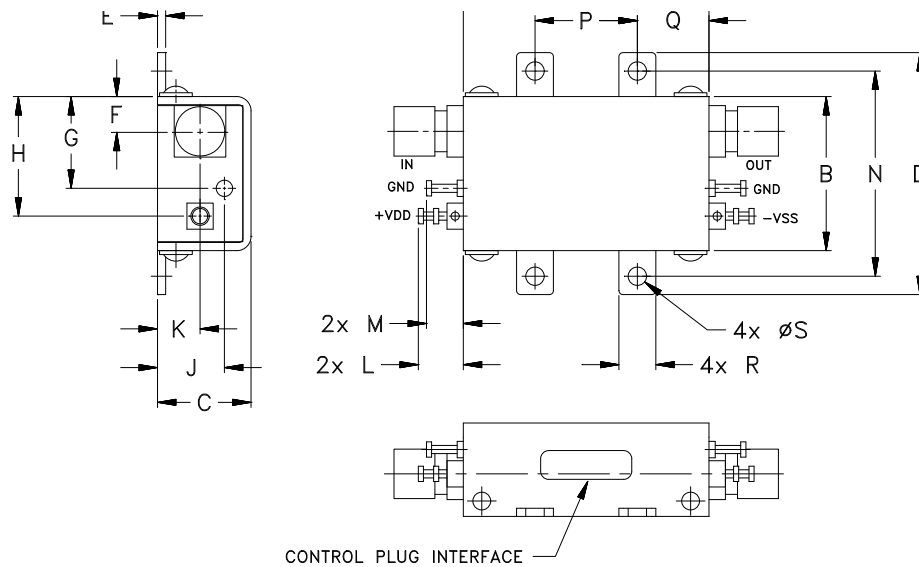
IP3 (Major Atten. Steps) @ +85°C



COMPRESSION @ INPUT POWER=+24dBm (Major Atten. Steps) @ +85°C



## Outline Drawing



**NOTE:** When soldering the DC connections, caution must be used to avoid overheating the DC terminals. See Application Note [AN-40-10](#).

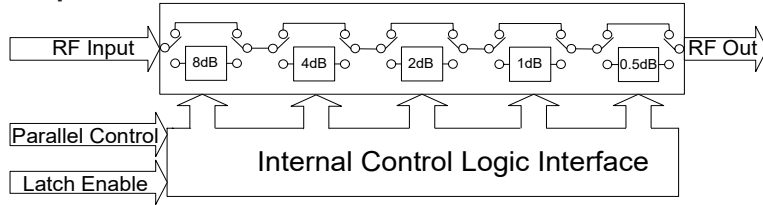
## Outline Dimensions (inch/mm)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	L	M	N	P	Q	R	S	WT. GRAMS
1.20	.75	.46	1.18	.04	.17	.45	.59	.33	.21	.22	.18	1.00	.50	.35	.18	.106	35
30.5	19.1	11.6	30.0	1.0	4.3	11.4	14.9	8.3	5.3	5.6	4.6	25.4	12.7	8.9	4.6	2.69	

## Recommended Mounting Hardware:

Use UNC#2 pan head screws with internal tooth lock washers for unit mounting.

## Simplified Schematic



The ZX76-15R5-PN+ parallel interface consists of 5 control bits that select the desired attenuation state, as shown in Table 1: Truth Table

Attenuation State	C8	C4	C2	C1	C0.5
Reference	0	0	0	0	0
0.5 (dB)	0	0	0	0	1
1 (dB)	0	0	0	1	0
2 (dB)	0	0	1	0	0
4 (dB)	0	1	0	0	0
8 (dB)	1	0	0	0	0
15.5 (dB)	1	1	1	1	1

Note: Not all 32 possible combinations of C0.5 - C8 are shown in table

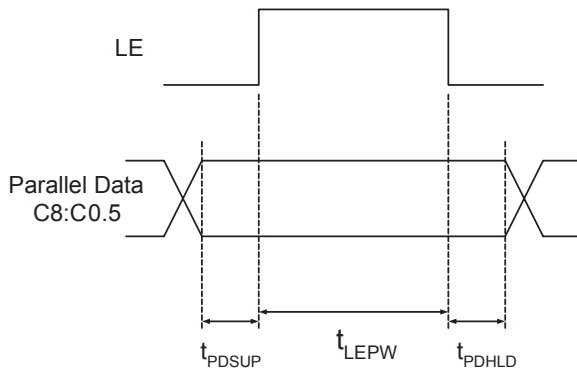
The parallel interface timing requirements are defined by Figure 1 (Parallel Interface Timing Diagram) and Table 2 (Parallel Interface AC Characteristics), and switching speed.

For latched parallel programming the Latch Enable (LE) should be held LOW while changing attenuation state control values, then pulse LE HIGH to LOW (per Figure 1) to latch new attenuation state into device.

For direct parallel programming, the Latch Enable (LE) line should be pulled HIGH. Changing attenuation state control values will change device state to new attenuation. Direct mode is ideal for manual control of the device (using hardware, switches, or jumpers).

Control cables for programming can be ordered separately. For details see page 9.

**Figure 1: Parallel Interface Timing Diagram**



Symbol	Parameter	Min.	Units
$t_{LEPW}$	LE minimum pulse width	10	ns
$t_{PDSUP}$	Data set-up time before clock rising edge of LE	10	ns
$t_{PDHLD}$	Data hold time after clock falling edge of LE	10	ns

## Power-up State

When the attenuator powers up and LE is logic low, the nominal attenuation is set on 0 dB. When LE is logic high, the nominal attenuation selected upon control logics ( see Table 1 ).



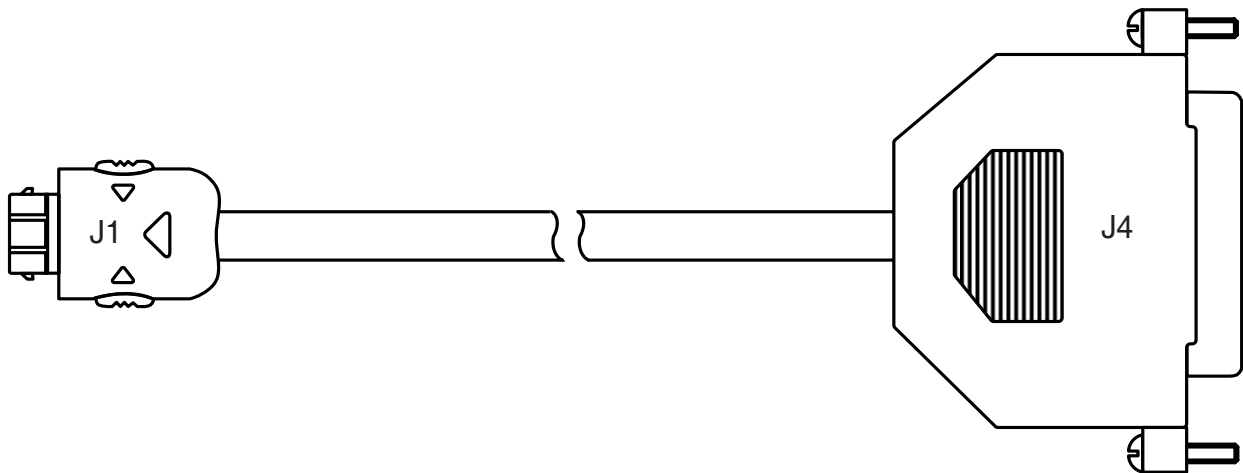
## Recommended Accessories

Two optional cable accessories with and without interface connector are available with ZX76-15R5-PN+, the ZX76-CP+ and ZX76-WP+. Cable length is 4.9 feet / 1.5 meters.

ZX76-CP+ shielded cable with interface 25 pin D-type connector and supplied software are used to control the ZX76-15R5-PN+ digital attenuator from a computer, using LPT port.

ZX76-WP+ shielded cable without interface 25 pin D-type connector enables customer to use the ZX76-15R5-PN+ digital attenuator in his own application.

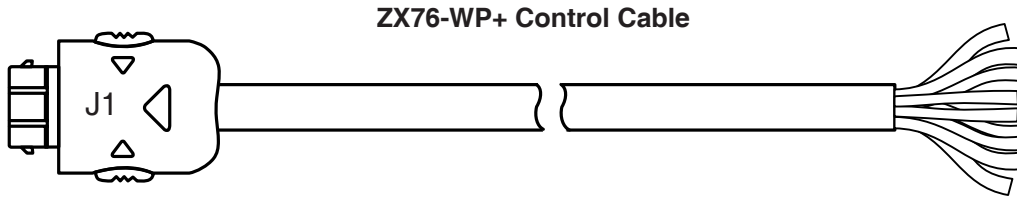
**ZX76-CP+ Control Cable**



**ZX76-CP+ wiring information**

J1-Pin Number	J4-Pin Number	Function	Description	Wire Color
J1-1	J4-8	LE	Latch Enable Input	WHITE
J1-2	J4-3	C1	Control for attenuation bit, 1 dB	YELLOW
J1-3	J4-2	C0.5	Control for attenuation bit, 0.5 dB	GREEN
J1-5	J4-7	-	Not used	BLUE
J1-6	J4-20	GND	Ground connection	BLACK
J1-8	J4-5	C4	Control for attenuation bit, 4 dB	ORANGE
J1-9	J4-6	C8	Control for attenuation bit, 8 dB	BROWN
J1-10	J4-4	C2	Control for attenuation bit, 2 dB	RED

Note: Other pins not connected. Cable shield connected to case ground.



### ZX76-WP+ wiring information

Pin Number	Function	Description	Wire Color
J1-1	LE	Latch Enable Input	WHITE
J1-2	C1	Control for attenuation bit, 1 dB	YELLOW
J1-3	C0.5	Control for attenuation bit, 0.5 dB	GREEN
J1-5	-	Not used	BLUE
J1-6	GND	Ground connection	BLACK
J1-8	C4	Control for attenuation bit, 4 dB	ORANGE
J1-9	C8	Control for attenuation bit, 8 dB	BROWN
J1-10	C2	Control for attenuation bit, 2 dB	RED

Note: Other pins not connected. Cable shield connected to case ground.

### Ordering Information

Model Number	Description
ZX76-15R5-PN-S+	Digital attenuator - Parallel interface Dual Voltage (Negative and Positive)
ZX76-CP+	Cable accessory with interface connector
ZX76-WP+	Cable accessory without interface connector

### Additional Notes

- Performance and quality attributes and conditions not expressly stated in this specification document are intended to be excluded and do not form a part of this specification document.
- Electrical specifications and performance data contained in this specification document are based on Mini-Circuit's applicable established test performance criteria and measurement instructions.
- The parts covered by this specification document are subject to Mini-Circuits standard limited warranty and terms and conditions (collectively, "Standard Terms"); Purchasers of this part are entitled to the rights and benefits contained therein. For a full statement of the Standard Terms and the exclusive rights and remedies thereunder, please visit Mini-Circuits' website at [www.minicircuits.com/MCLStore/terms.jsp](http://www.minicircuits.com/MCLStore/terms.jsp)