



USB & ETHERNET CONTROLLED RF Switch Matrix

RC-8SPDT-A18

50Ω DC to 18 GHz SMA-Female

THE BIG DEAL

- Eight independent mechanical SPDT switches
- 20W power rating (cold switching)
- High isolation, 85 dB typ
- High reliability



CASE STYLE: LM1852

[DOWNLOAD](#) SOFTWARE PACKAGE

RoHS Compliant

See our website for RoHS Compliance methodologies and qualifications

APPLICATIONS

- Fail safe / redundancy switching
- Automated test equipment
- Satcom switching

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Mini-Circuits' RC-8SPDT-A18 contains eight independently controlled, electro mechanical SPDT switches. Each switch operates over an extremely wide bandwidth, from DC to 18 GHz with high isolation and low insertion loss. The absorptive switches are of a failsafe and break before make configuration, with a lifetime of 5 million switching cycles per switch when used within the noted specifications.

The switch box is constructed in a compact, rugged metal case (4.5 x 12.0 x 2.25") with all SMA (f) RF connectors on the front panel. The switches are controlled via USB or Ethernet, allowing control directly from a PC, or remotely over a network. Full software support is provided, including our user friendly GUI application for Windows and a full API with programming instructions for Windows and Linux environments (both 32 bit and 64 bit systems). Download the software from our website at www.minicircuits.com/softwaredownload/rfswitchcontroller.html.

KEY FEATURES

Feature	Advantages
Eight mechanical SPDT switches	Mechanical absorptive switches provide high reliability, repeatable high performance and internal termination of input signals on the disconnected paths
High power operation from DC to 18 GHz	Supports a wide range of RF test and signal routing applications up to X and Ku bands, with 40W input power.
Break-before make configuration	Prevents a momentary connection of the old and new signal paths, reducing the inconsistent transient effects that could otherwise be observed during switching
USB & Ethernet control	USB HID and Ethernet (HTTP / Telnet) interfaces provide easy compatibility with a wide range of software setups and programming environments
Full software support	User friendly Windows GUI (graphical user interface) allows manual control straight out of the box, while the comprehensive API (application programming interface) with examples and instructions allows easy automation in most programming environments

REV. F
ECO-021362
EDR-10927/10F1
RC-8SPDT-A18
MCL NY
240401





ELECTRICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Parameter	Conditions (GHz)	Min.	Typ.	Max.	Units
Frequency	–	DC		18	GHz
RF Insertion Loss (per switch)	DC to 1 GHz	–	0.10	0.15	dB
	1 to 8 GHz	–	0.15	0.30	
	8 to 12 GHz	–	0.25	0.40	
	12 to 18 GHz	–	0.30	0.50	
RF VSWR	DC to 1 GHz	–	1.05	–	:1
	1 to 8 GHz	–	1.20	–	
	8 to 12 GHz	–	1.20	–	
	12 to 18 GHz	–	1.25	–	
RF Isolation (per switch)	DC to 1 GHz	85	100	–	dB
	1 to 8 GHz	75	90	–	
	8 to 12 GHz	70	80	–	
	12 to 18 GHz	60	66	–	
Switching Time	–	–	15	–	ms
RF Power (cold switching) ¹	–	–	–	40	W
Rated Voltage	24V _{DC} input USB port	23	24	25	V
		–	5	–	
Rated Current (24V _{DC} input)	All switches in COM -> 2 position	–	790	1055	mA
	All switches in COM -> 1 position	–	115	165	
Rated Current (USB port)		–	10	20	
Life (per switch)	@ 100 mW (hot switching) ²	–	5	–	million switching cycles
	@ 1 W (hot switching)	–	1	–	

1. Maximum power for any connected through path as stated; maximum power into any internal termination is 1W
 2. Hot switching powers above this level will degrade the switch lifetime

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS³

Parameter	Ratings
Operating Temperature	0°C to +40°C
Storage Temperature	-15°C to +85°C
DC Voltage max.	+26 V

3. Permanent damage may occur if any of these limits are exceeded.

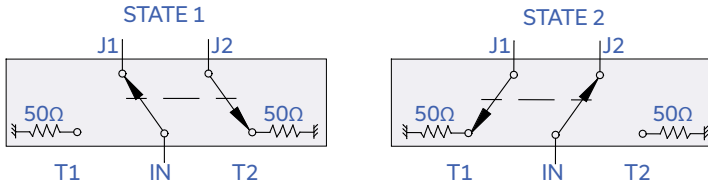
CONNECTIONS

24V _{DC} IN	(2.1 mm center positive DC Socket)
RF Switch A (1, COM, 2)	(SMA female)
RF Switch B (1, COM, 2)	(SMA female)
RF Switch C (1, COM, 2)	(SMA female)
RF Switch D (1, COM, 2)	(SMA female)
RF Switch E (1, COM, 2)	(SMA female)
RF Switch F (1, COM, 2)	(SMA female)
RF Switch G (1, COM, 2)	(SMA female)
RF Switch H (1, COM, 2)	(SMA female)
USB	(USB type B receptacle)
Network (Ethernet/LAN)	(RJ45 socket)

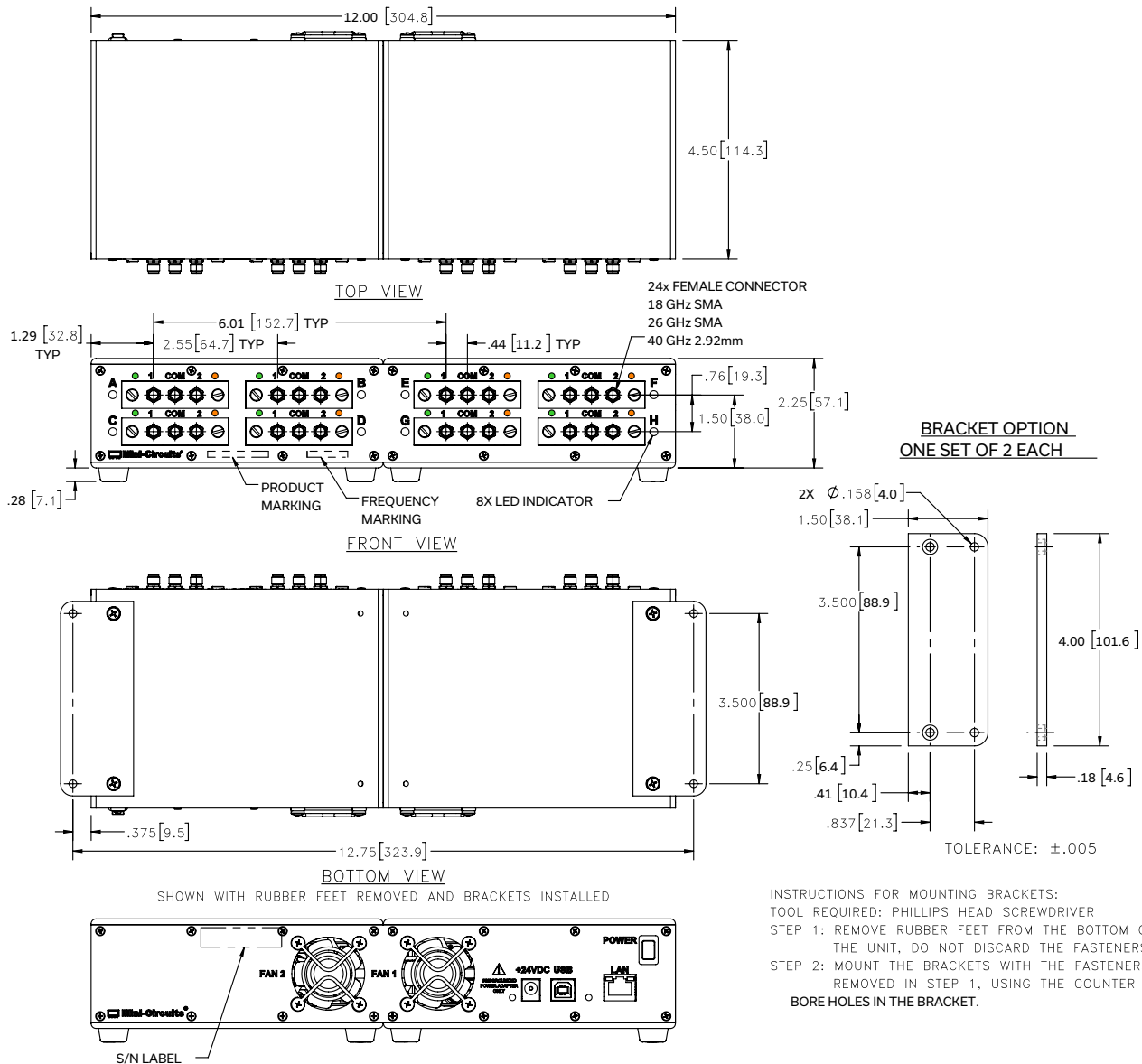


SWITCHING CONFIGURATION (PER SWITCH):

- Fail-Safe
- Absorptive (Internal terminations on ports J1-J2)



OUTLINE DRAWING (LM1852)



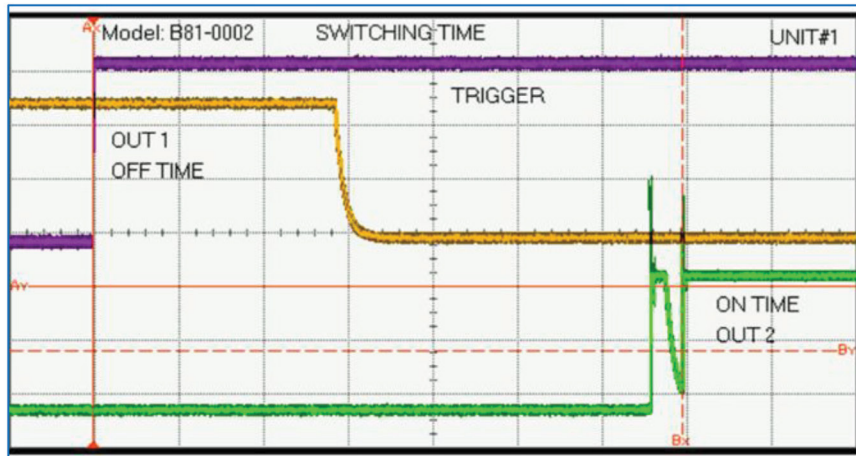
Weight: 2240 grams.
Dimensions are in inches [mm]. Tolerances: 2 Pl. ±.03 inch; 3 Pl. ±.015 inch.



TYPICAL SWITCHING PERFORMANCE

The graphs below present the typical mechanical switching characteristic from the point of applying the internal DC voltage to the switch actuator (identified by the purple "trigger" trace). USB / Ethernet communication delays are excluded (in the order of several ms, depending on PC / network performance). The break before make process is visible in the sequence of events (the active switch path is disconnected, prior to connecting the final switch path).

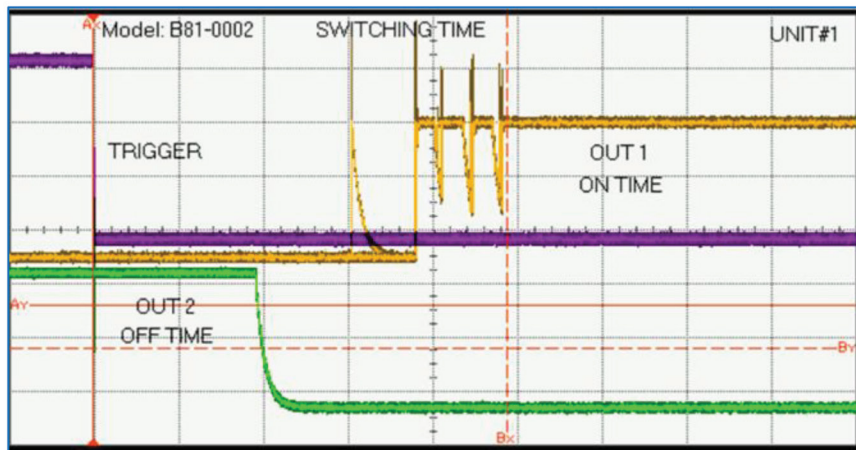
Switching from COM<>1 to COM<>2 state: 6.95 ms



- Trigger
- COM <> 1 path (off time)
- COM <> 2 path (on time)

Horizontal scale: 1 ms per division

Switching from COM<>2 to COM<>1 state: 4.88 ms



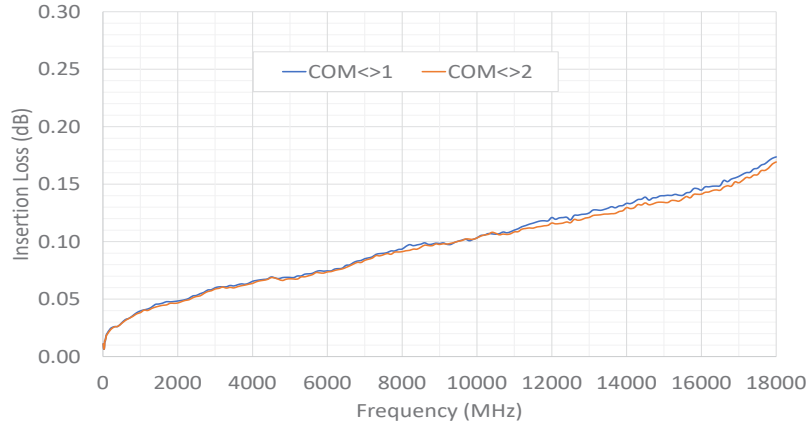
- Trigger
- COM <> 1 path (on time)
- COM <> 2 path (off time)

Horizontal scale: 1 ms per division

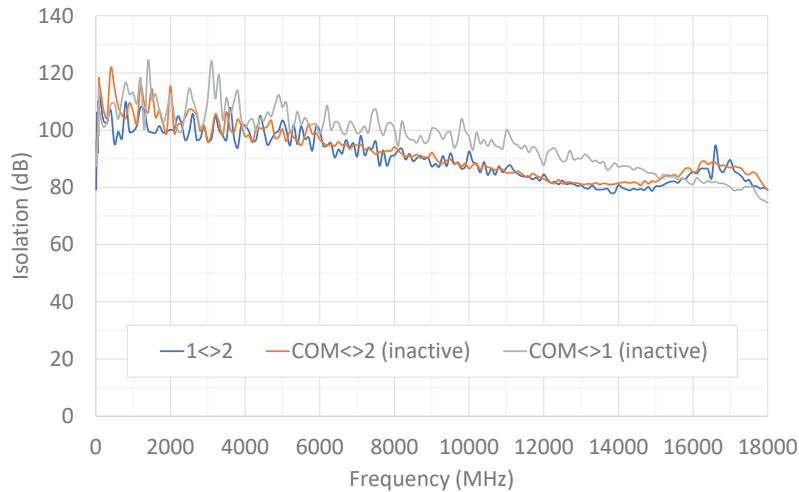


TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CURVES

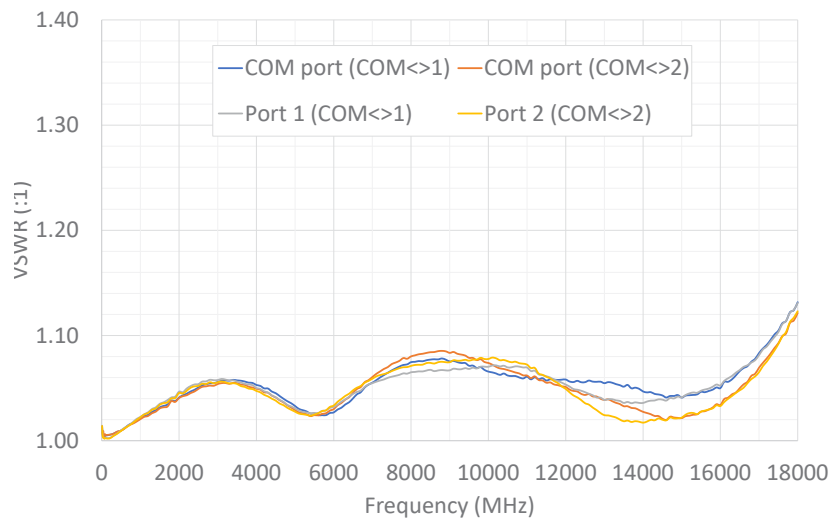
Insertion Loss



Isolation



VSWR





SOFTWARE SPECIFICATIONS

SOFTWARE & DOCUMENTATION DOWNLOAD:

- Mini-Circuits' full software and support package including user guide, Windows GUI, DLL files, programming manual and examples can be downloaded free of charge from www.minicircuits.com/softwaredownload/rfswitchcontroller.html
- Please contact testsolutions@minicircuits.com for support

MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:

Parameter	Requirements	
Interface	USB HID & Ethernet (HTTP & Telnet)	
System Requirements	GUI	Windows 98 or later
	USB API DLL	Windows 98 or later and programming environment with ActiveX or .NET support
	USB Direct Programming	Linux, Windows 98 or later
	Ethernet	Windows, Linux or Mac computer with a network port and Ethernet TCP/IP support
Hardware	Pentium II or later with 256 MB RAM	

APPLICATION PROGRAMMING INTERFACE (API)

ETHERNET SUPPORT:

- Simple ASCII / SCPI command set for attenuator control
- Communication via HTTP or Telnet
- Supported by most common programming environments

USB SUPPORT (WINDOWS):

- ActiveX COM DLL file for creation of 32-bit programs
- .NET library DLL file for creation of 32 / 64-bit programs
- Supported by most common programming environments (refer to application note AN-49-001 for summary of supported environments)

USB SUPPORT (LINUX):

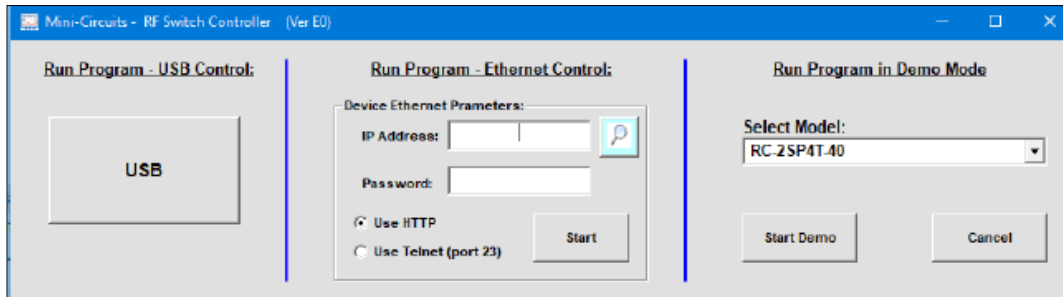
- Direct USB programming using a series of USB interrupt codes

Full programming instructions and examples available for a wide range of programming environments / languages.

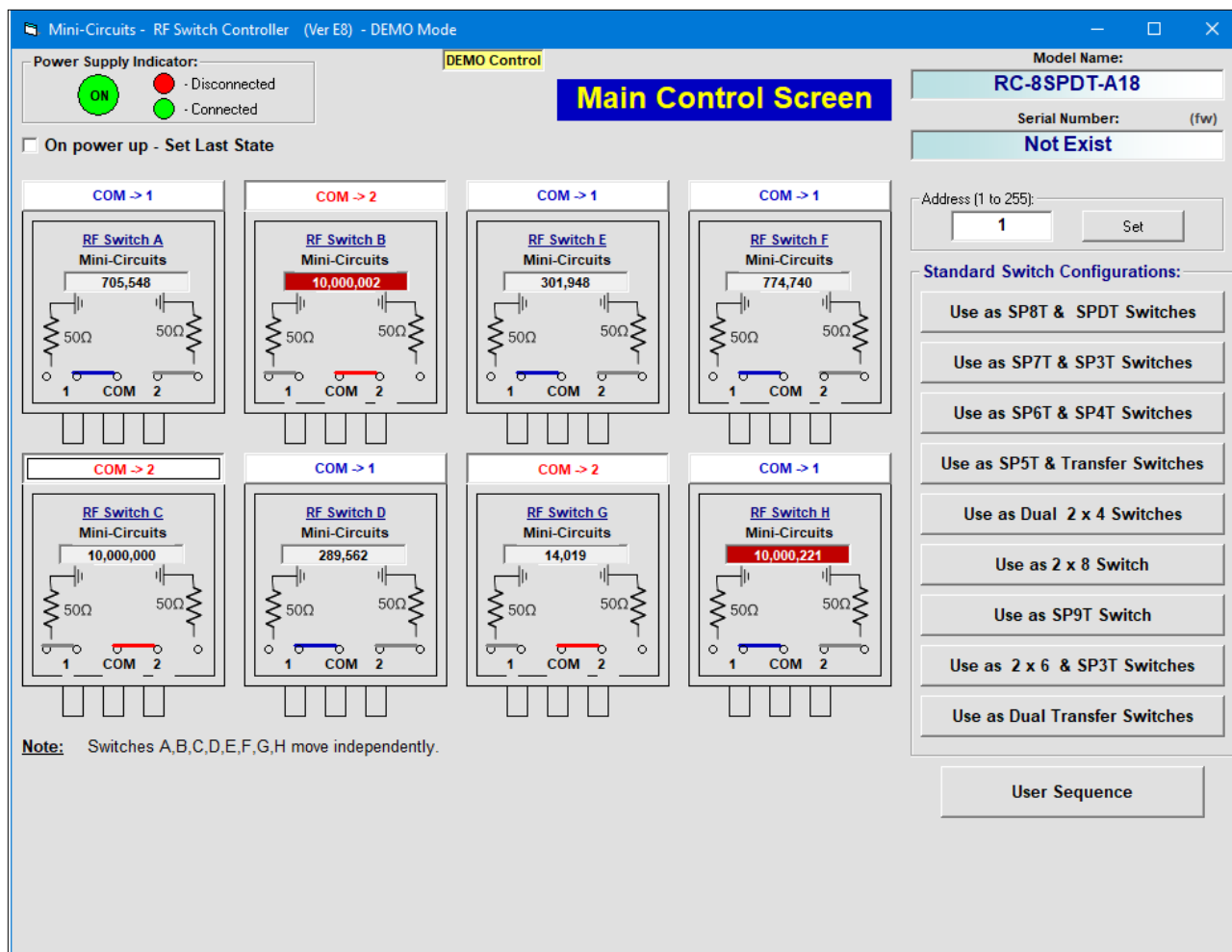


GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE (GUI) FOR WINDOWS - KEY FEATURES

- Connect via USB or Ethernet
- Run GUI in "demo mode" to evaluate software without a hardware connection



- View and set switch states at the click of a button
- Configure and run timed switching sequences
- Set start-up switch state
- Configure Ethernet IP Settings





USB & ETHERNET CONTROLLED

RF Switch Matrix

RC-8SPDT-A18



Mini-Circuits






50Ω DC to 18 GHz SMA-Female

ORDERING INFORMATION

Please contact Mini-Circuits' Test Solutions department for price and availability: testsolutions@minicircuits.com

Model	Description
RC-8SPDT-A18	USB & Ethernet controlled SPDT switch matrix

Included Accessories	Part No.	Description
	AC/DC-24-3W1	AC/DC 24V _{DC} Grounded Power Adaptor. Operating temperature: 0°C to +40°C, I _{Max} =2.5A
See Below	CBL-3W1-XX	AC Power Cord (Select one power cord from below with each Switch Matrix box)
	USB-CBL-AB-3+	2.7 ft (0.8 m) USB Cable: USB type A(Male) to USB type B(Male)

AC Power Cords ⁵	Part No.	Description
	CBL-3W1-US	Power Cord for United States
	CBL-3W1-EU	Power Cord for Europe
	CBL-3W1-UK	Power Cord for United Kingdom
	CBL-3W1-AU	Power Cord for Australia and China
	CBL-3W1-IL	Power Cord for Israel

5. If you need a Power cord for a country not listed please contact testsolutions@minicircuits.com

OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES

USB-CBL-AB-3+	2.7 ft (0.8 m) USB Cable: USB type A(Male) to USB type B(Male)
USB-CBL-AB-7+	6.8 ft (2.1 m) USB Cable: USB type A(Male) to USB type B(Male)
USB-CBL-AB-11+	11 ft (3.4 m) USB Cable: USB type A(Male) to USB type B(Male)
CBL-RJ45-MM-5+	5 ft (1.5 m) Ethernet cable: RJ45(Male) to RJ45(Male) Cat 5E cable
BKT-272-08+	Bracket (One set of 2 each)

- NOTES**
- A. 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.
 - B. Electrical specifications and performance data contained in this specification document are based on Mini-Circuit's applicable established test performance criteria and measurement instructions.
 - C. 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

