

HOW THEY WORK

All MTL7700 Series barriers are based on the same simple principle. Each channel contains two stages of pulse-tested Zener or forward-connected diodes and an 'infallible' terminating resistor. In the event of an electrical fault in the safe area, the diodes limit the voltage that can reach the hazardous area and the resistor limits the current. A fuse protects the diodes, and the two stages of voltage limitation ensure continued safety if either stage should fail. No active output-current limiting circuits are employed. All models are certified 'ia' for all zones and 'IIC' for all explosive atmospheres (except MTL7707P+ and MTL7729P+, 'ia' 'IIB').

TERMINOLOGY

1. Safety description

The safety description of a barrier, eg '10V 50Ω 200mA', refers to the maximum voltage of the terminating Zener or forward diode while the fuse is blowing, the minimum value of the terminating resistor, and the corresponding maximum short-circuit current. It is an indication of the fault energy that can be developed in the hazardous area, and not of the working voltage or end-to-end resistance.

2. Polarity

Barriers may be polarised + or -, or non-polarised ('ac'). Polarised barriers accept and/or deliver safe-area voltages of the specified polarity only. Non-polarised barriers support voltages of either polarity applied at either end.

3. End-to-end resistance

The resistance between the two ends of a barrier channel at 20°C, ie of the resistors and the fuse. If diodes or transistors are present, their voltage drop (transistors ON) is quoted in addition.

4. Working voltage (Vwkg)

The greatest steady voltage, of appropriate polarity, that can be applied between the safe-area terminal of a 'basic' barrier channel and earth at 20°C for the specified leakage current, with the hazardous-area terminal open circuit.

5. Maximum voltage (Vmax)

The greatest steady voltage, of appropriate polarity, that can be applied continuously between the safe-area terminal of any barrier channel and earth at 20°C without blowing the fuse. For 'basic' barriers, it is specified with the hazardous-area terminal open circuit; if current is drawn in the hazardous area, the maximum voltage for these barriers is reduced. The 'ac' channels of 'basic' barriers and most channels of overvoltage-protected barriers withstand voltages of the opposite polarity also – see circuit diagrams.

6. Fuse rating

The greatest current that can be passed continuously (for 1000 hours at 35°C) through the fuse.

7. Star connection

In star-connected barriers, the two channels are interlocked such that the voltage between them cannot exceed the working voltage, Vwkg; this allows for higher cable capacitance or inductance.

8. Maximum safe-area voltage (U_m)

The maximum permissible safe-area voltage (U_m) for MTL7700 Series barriers is 250V ac/dc.

GENERAL SPECIFICATION

Ambient temperature and humidity limits

-20 to +60°C continuous working
-40 to +80°C storage
5-95% RH

Leakage current

For 'basic' barriers with a working voltage of 5V or more, the leakage current decreases by at least one decade per volt reduction in applied voltage below the working voltage, over two decades. For the MTL7755ac/7756ac it decreases by at least one decade for a 0.4V reduction in applied voltage.

Terminations

Removable terminals accommodate conductors up to 2.5mm² (13AWG). Hazardous-area terminals are identified by blue labels. Removal force >15N

Colour coding of barrier label

Grey: non-polarised
Red: positive polarity (MTL7706 negative to transmitter)
Black: negative polarity
White: dummy barrier, MTL7799

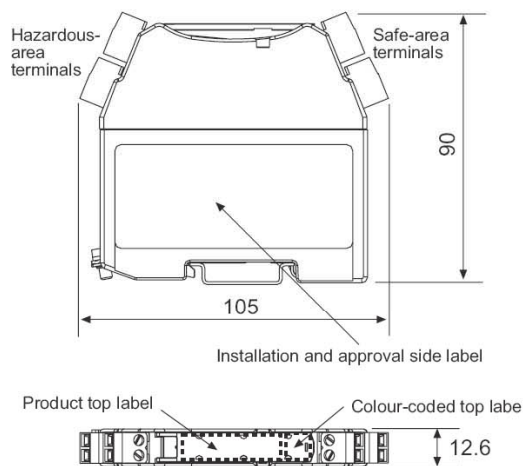
Weight

140g approx

Mounting and earthing

By 35mm Top Hat DIN rail

DIMENSIONS (mm)



KEY MTL7700 SERIES BARRIERS SUMMARISED

TYPE	APPLICATION	KEY BARRIER
Analogue input (low-level)	Resistance temperature detectors Thermocouples, ac sensors	7756ac 7760ac
Analogue input (high-level)	Transmitters, 2-wire, 4/20mA	7706+ 7787+
Analogue output	Controller outputs, one line earthed Controller outputs, neither line earthed	7728+ 7787+
Digital (on/off) input	Switches	7787+ 7741/3
Digital (on/off) output	Solenoids, alarms, LEDs	7728

ACTIVE / ELECTRONICALLY PROTECTED BARRIERS

ACTIVE / ELECTRONICALLY PROTECTED BARRIERS

The following barriers have built-in overvoltage protection, allowing their use with unregulated power supplies. In many applications, eg, sensor inputs or controller outputs, there is insufficient power available to blow the barrier fuse and this additional protection is not necessary. However, where the barrier is connected to a power supply, eg, for energising transmitters, switches, solenoids or local alarms, overvoltage protection allows the barriers to be used with unregulated supplies and also gives protection against faulty wiring during commissioning.

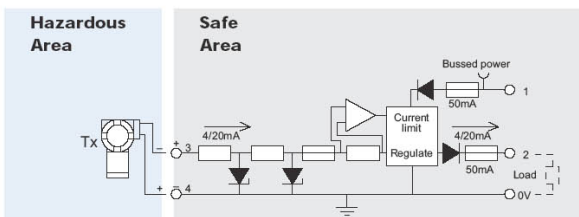
MTL7706+ for 'smart' 2-wire 4/20mA transmitters

The MTL7706+ is a 1-channel shunt-diode safety barrier, with built-in electronic overvoltage protection, for energising a 2-wire, 4/20mA transmitter in a hazardous area. It is powered from a positive supply of 20–35V dc and delivers a 4/20mA signal into an earthed load in the safe area. It is proof against short circuits in the field and in the safe area and is extremely accurate. The MTL7706+ will pass incoming communication signals up to 10kHz from a 'smart' transmitter, while in the outgoing direction it will pass signals of any frequency likely to be encountered.

Since the MTL7706+ has no return channel for energising the load, the entire output of the single '28V' channel is available to power the transmitter, providing high output capability. This channel is negatively polarised, and the safe-area signal is in fact the very current that returns through it from the hazardous area, the novel circuit being energised by a built-in floating dc supply derived from the external dc source of power.

To prevent any leakage through the zener diodes and maximise the output voltage available at 20mA, the floating supply is given a rising voltage/current characteristic. A separate circuit limits the current to protect the fuse in the event of a short circuit in the hazardous area. With a 20V supply, the barrier will deliver 16.2V minimum at 20mA for the transmitter and lines and consumes typically 45mA at 24V operation.

BASIC CIRCUIT



ADDITIONAL SPECIFICATION

Safety description

28V 300Ω 93mA

Supply voltage

20 to 35V dc w.r.t earth

Output current

4 to 20 mA

Voltage available to transmitter and lines

16.2V @ 20mA with 250Ω load (negative w.r.t. earth)

11.0V @ 20mA with 500Ω load (negative w.r.t. earth)

Accuracy

±2μA under all conditions

Safe-area load resistance

0 to 500Ω

Supply current

45mA typical at 20mA and 24V supply

60mA maximum at 20mA and 20V supply

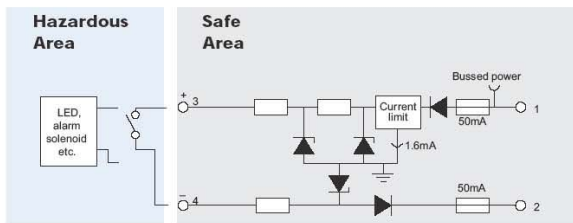
MTL7707+ for switch inputs and switched outputs

The MTL7707+ is a 2-channel shunt-diode safety barrier similar to the MTL7787+ but with built-in electronic overvoltage protection. It is intended primarily for safeguarding a hazardous-area switch controlling a relay, opto-coupler or other safe-area load from an unregulated dc supply in the safe area.

The outgoing channel accepts supply voltages up to +35V and is protected against reverse voltages: the return channel is unaffected by voltages up to +250V.

In normal operation the protection circuit introduces only a small voltage drop and shunts less than 1mA to earth, so its overall effect is minimal. If the supply voltage exceeds about 27V, however, causing the Zener diodes to conduct – or if the safe-area load has a very low resistance – the supply current is limited automatically to 50mA, protecting the fuse and power supply and enabling the loop to continue working.

BASIC CIRCUIT



ADDITIONAL SPECIFICATION

Safety description

28V 300Ω 93mA, terminals 1 to 3

28V Diode, terminals 2 -4

Supply voltage

10 to 35V dc with respect to earth

Output current

Up to 35mA available

Maximum voltage drop

(at 20°C, current not limited)

$I_{out} \times 345\Omega + 0.3V$, terminals 1 to 3

$I_{out} \times 25\Omega + 0.9V$, terminals 4 to 2

Supply current

$I_{out} + 1.6mA$, supply <26V

Limited to 50mA, supply >28V or low load resistance

MTL7707P+ for switch inputs and switched outputs, 2W Transmitters (IIB gases)

The MTL7707P+ is a two-channel shunt-diode safety barrier similar to the MTL7787P+, but is designed for use with group IIB gases and features built-in electronic overvoltage protection allowing use with unregulated power supplies up to 35V dc. It is intended primarily as a low cost solution for driving IIB certified 2-wire 4/20mA transmitters, but can also be used with controller outputs with current monitoring, solenoid valves and switches. To protect the fuse and enable the loop to continue working, the supply current is limited automatically at 50mA should the output be short-circuited or excess voltage applied.