

RF expertise

Antenna Integration

& Design Guidelines

RF Expertise

Antenna 3F optimization (form-fit-function)

Close cooperation & collaboration with the customer for:

- ⌚ SAR and shielding related issues
- ⌚ PCB editing and ground plane related issues
- ⌚ Impedance matching requirements
- ⌚ Integration – microphone, speaker, camera, FPCB, etc.
- ⌚ Diversity issues

Simulation

Rapid prototyping

Benchmarking

RF Expertise

Choice of material

$$\eta_t = \eta_r \eta_c \eta_d \quad \longrightarrow$$

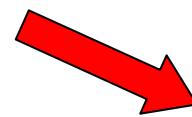
Use Low loss Plastics and high conductivity radiators

η_t = total efficiency

η_r = reflection efficiency = $(1 - |\Gamma|^2)$

η_c = conduction efficiency

η_d = dielectric efficiency



Also effected by Hand and Head

RF Expertise



Hand held positions

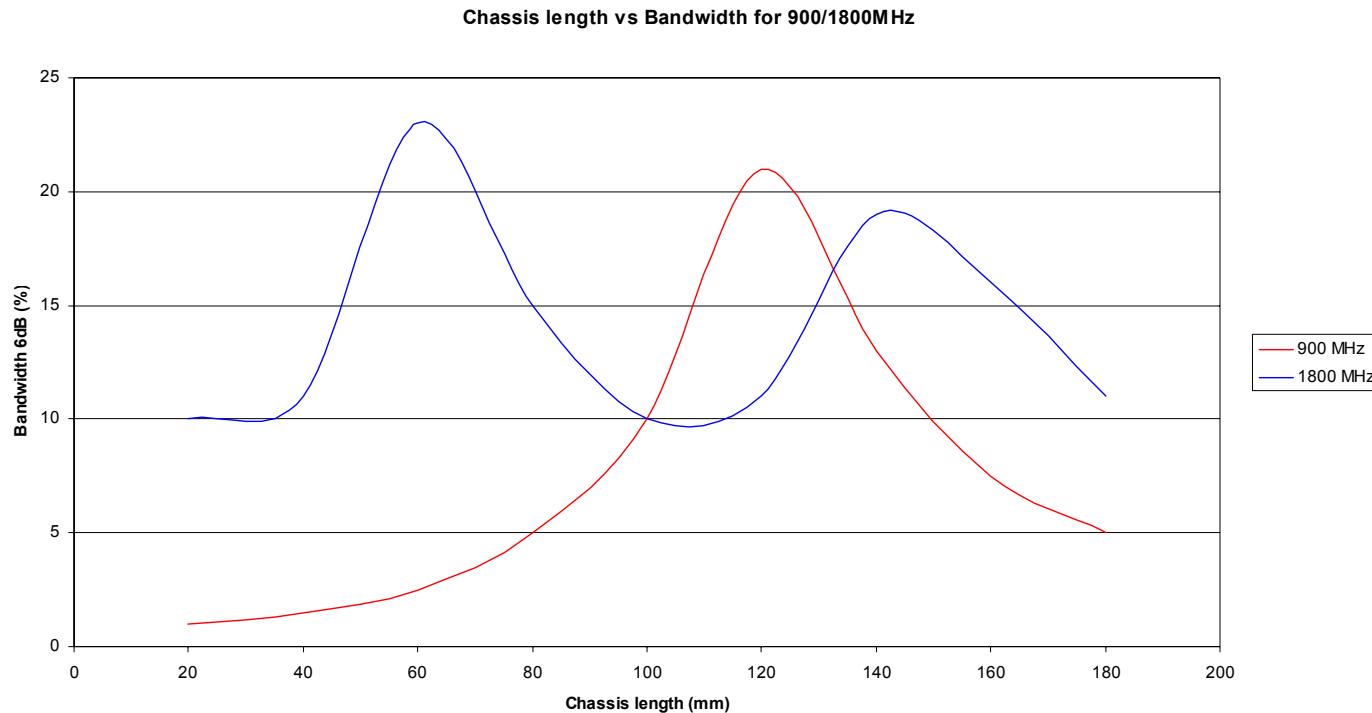
The hand and head can reduce the signal form 6 – 12 dB's depending on the phone structure and how the phone is held.

Careful consideration to antenna location can help reduce the performance loss.

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The Ground Plane

The length of the phone Chassis has a considerable effect on the performance of the antenna.



RF Expertise



Antenna Volume

The greater the Antenna volume the better the Bandwidth and Efficiency.

A good volume for Dual band is approx 4 - 6cc.

Quad-band volume approx 5 – 7cc.

The minimum height of the antenna above the ground plane should be about 5mm.

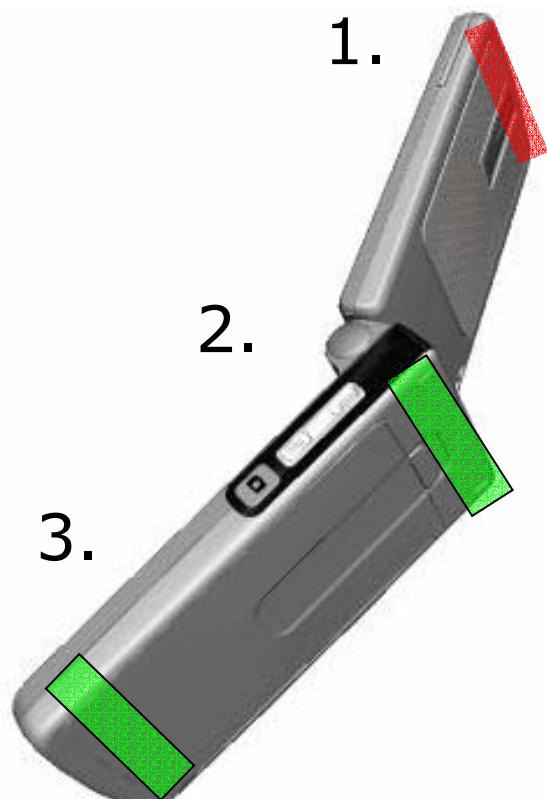
Bar Phone - Antenna Integration



1. This is the simplest phone type for antenna integration and has been done so for many years.

1. Best location for the antenna, antenna performance is very much dictated by the length of the Ground plane (phone)
2. Location can be used but the hand can cover antenna depending on the holding position of the phone. Antenna is close to bottom connector for the phone causing interference with data lines.

Clamshell Phone - Antenna Integration



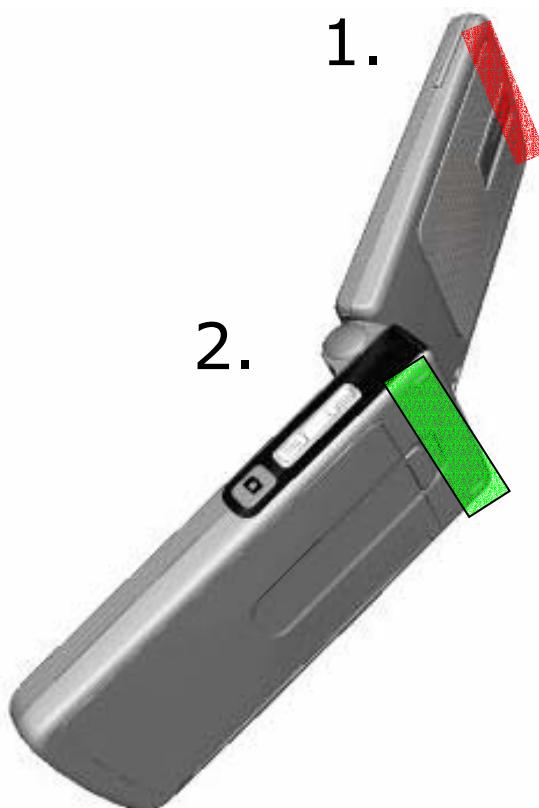
1. Location poor due to a number of reasons:
 - Small antenna volume because top flip is normally thin.
 - Minimal ground plane support for antenna to work against especially if double sided LCD present.
 - Interaction with display, speaker and FPCB.
 - Miniature coax cable has to be run from main board to top flip adding extra loss and potential cable radiation problems.
 - Close Proximity to the head can give SAR issues.
2. and 3. are acceptable locations for antenna.

Slider Phone - Antenna Integration

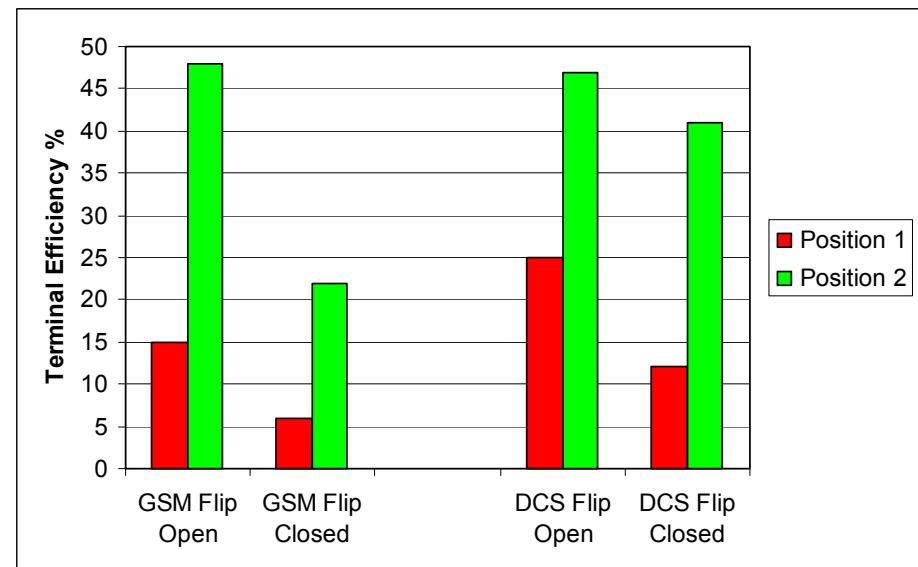


1. Location poor due to antenna being shielded in closed position.
2. Position is workable but hand coverage can be an issue, care has to be taken with the FPCB that connects the two parts of the phone.
3. Position is probably the best for Slider phones minimal hand coverage.

Clamshell Phone - Real Example



Antenna relocated from position 1 to 2 for improvement in performance.



Bar Phone – Battery position

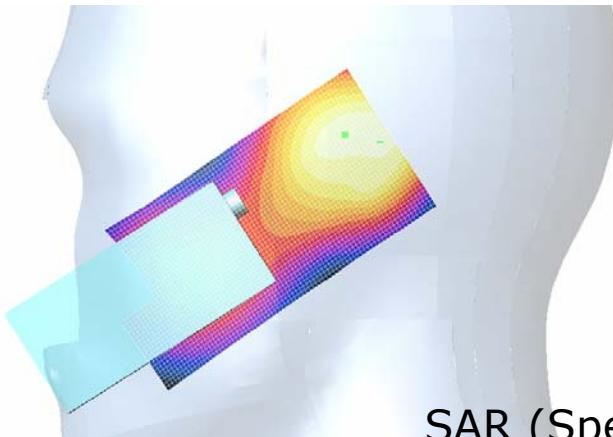


One the key effects impacting on the antenna performance is the position of the battery. If the battery is placed too close to the antenna, radiation efficiency might be reduced significantly.

A distance of 10mm is recommended. As this is not achievable in some phones especially clam shell types a minimum of 5mm is advised.

Expertise beyond the antenna

- SAR reduction techniques
- Simulation of RF fields around the antenna
- Noise and Sensitivity issues created by other parts in the phone



SAR Considerations

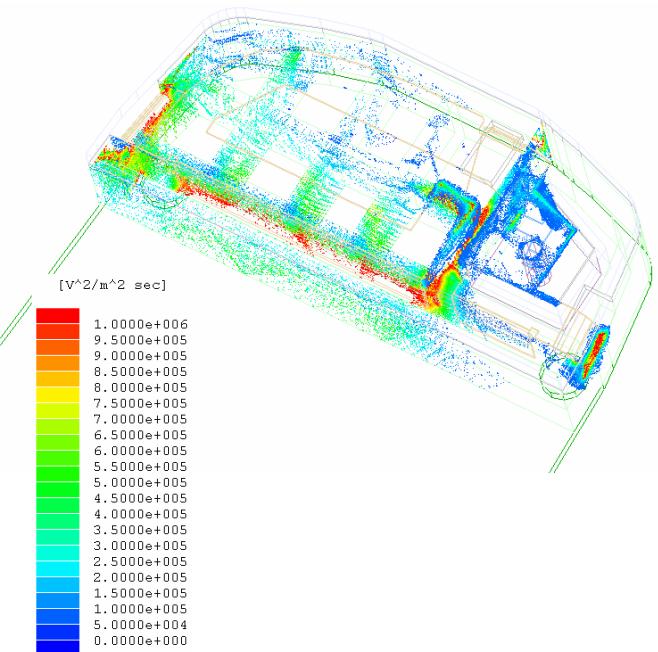
SAR (Specific absorption rate) – Portion of power absorbed in the biological tissue.

Any location where the antenna is close to the head in talk position will increase the SAR

PIFA designs where there is a ground shield in between the Antenna and the users head will have lower SAR than an internal Monopole design with no shield.

Simulation of RF Fields

Use High frequency structure simulator HFSS

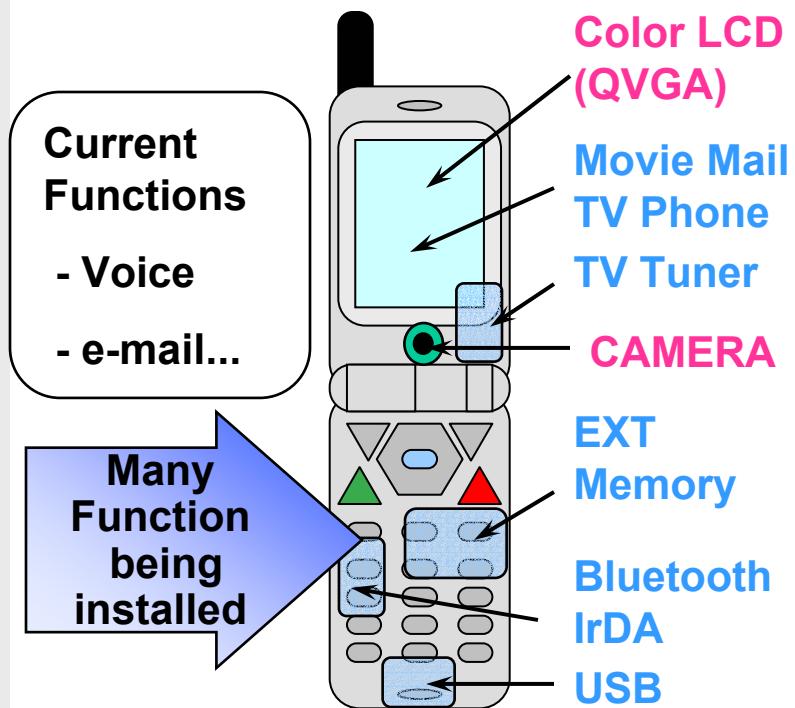


- Analyze power dissipation in and around the antenna
- Determine hotspots and area of energy losses
- Recommend choice of material
- Ensure best design



Noise issues Considerations

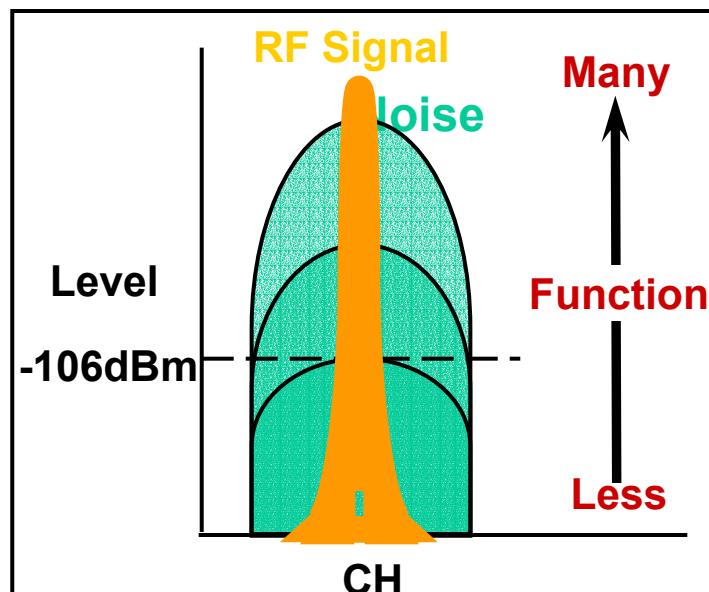
- Effects on antenna sensitivity



- In today's mobile phone the communication through RF signals is paralleled with many other functions.
- Many new functions are installed in the baseband
- Many additional features are installed which carry large amount of data signals
- Examples are camera, color LCD, external memory, USB and bluetooth ports and others



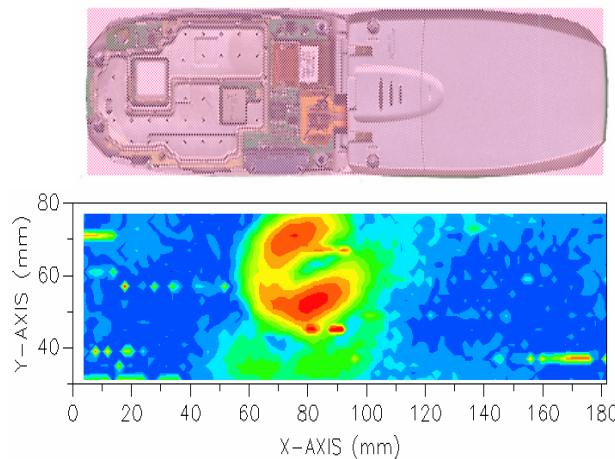
Noise issues Considerations



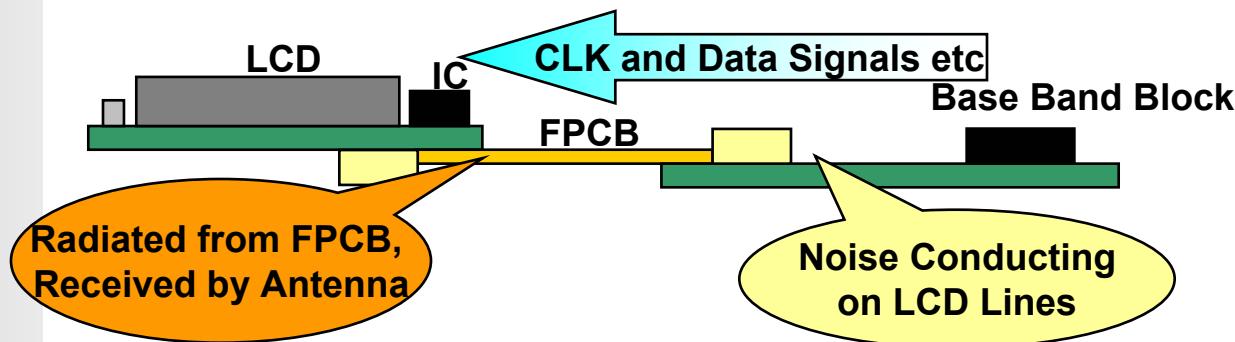
- The ability of the phone to receive the RF signals from the communicating Basestation depends largely on the strength of the RF signal above the noise floor level.
- Most of the new functions installed increase the noise floor level of the phone
- Depending on the quality of the shielding the noise will disturb the RF signal received by the antenna
- Concurrently the Receiver sensitivity decreases as the Bit Error Rate (BER) and Frame Error Rate (FER) are increased



Noise related to the LCD



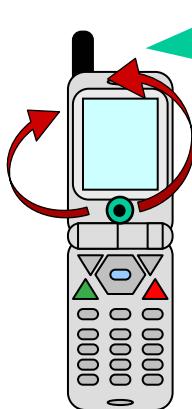
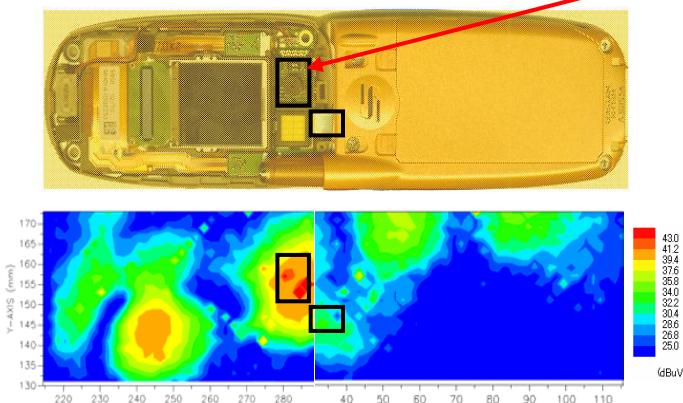
- **The Sensitivity depends on the RF signal to Noise ratio**
- Noise Related to the LCD is coming from Base Band Block :
 - Clock and Data Signals
 - Noise on Power Line to Data processing IC
 - Noise Generated by IC operating at High Frequency





Noise related to the camera

camera module



RF Signal from Base Station
Will be Interfered by Noise from the camera module

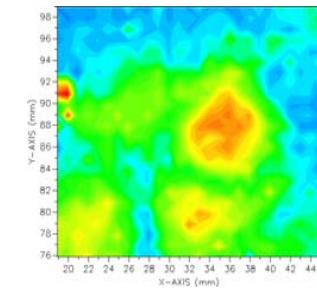
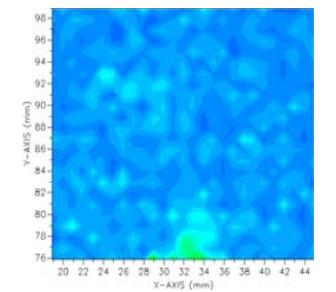
➤The Sensitivity depends on the RF signal to Noise ratio

Noise from the camera will couple to the antenna through its flex film circuit

Sensitivity at 915MHz

Waiting mode
-106 dBm

Operating mode
-101.5 dBm

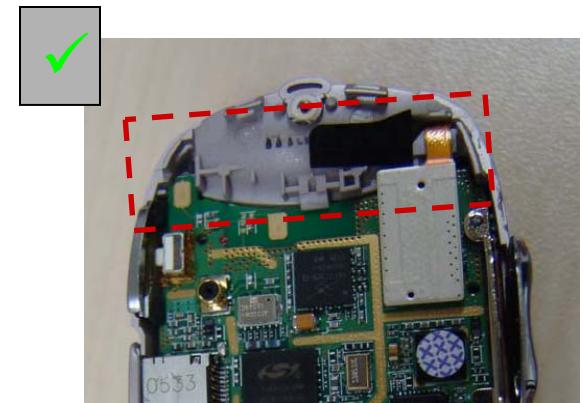
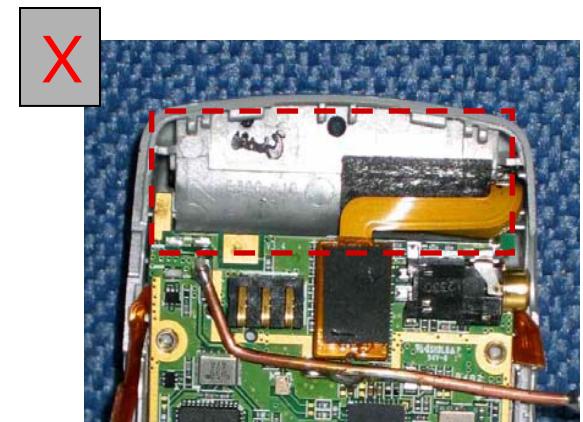


dBuV



General Design Guidelines

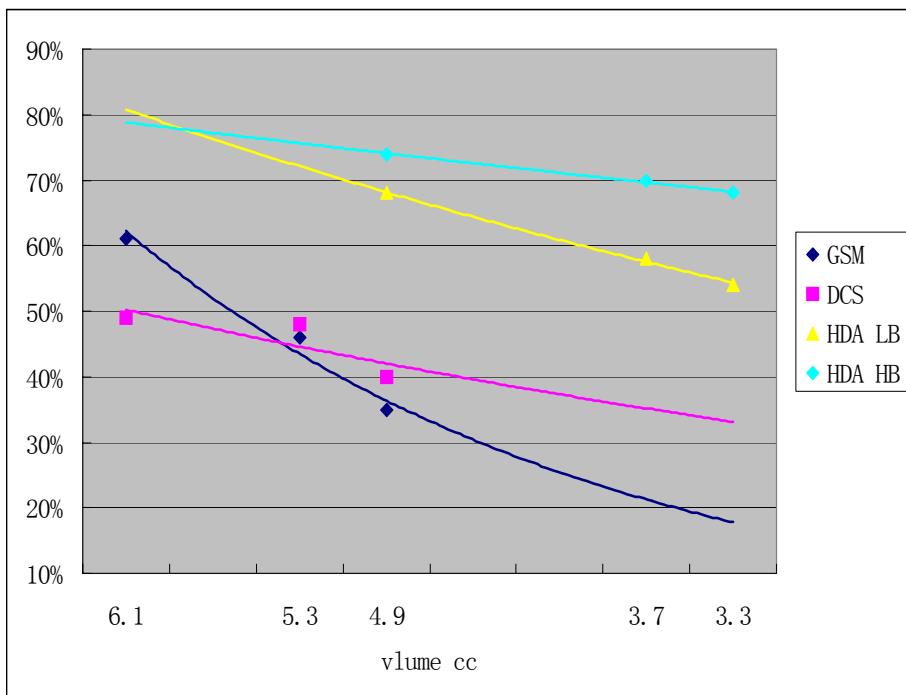
1. Keep antenna away from moveable Camera and Flexible PCB.
2. Keep battery and battery metal cage a minimum of 5 mm away from antenna space or antenna element.
3. Use inductors on speaker wires if speaker is inside antenna space.
4. Keep counter balance vibrators away from antenna.





5. Keep antenna volume sensible.

Efficiency Evaluation –PIFA versus HDA

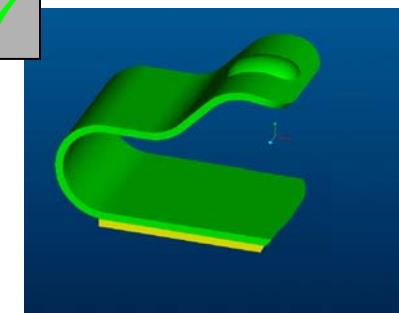
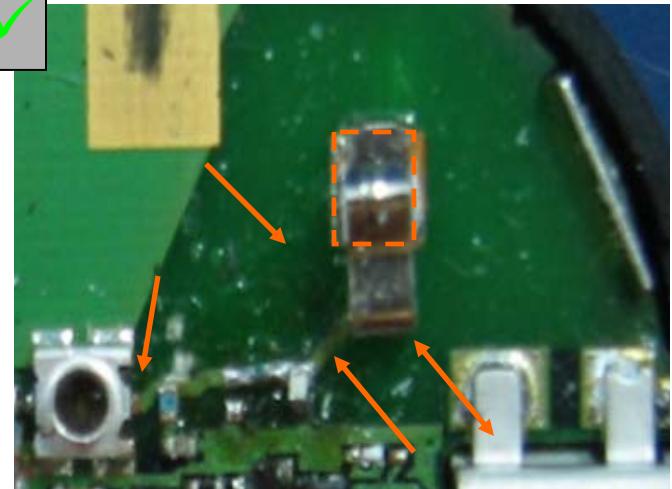


- The performance of 3 existing PIFA antenna designs on Bar-type phones are compared with an HDA antenna
- For a regular PIFA design the recommended antenna volume is 4.5-6cc
- The extrapolated average efficiency for a volume as small as 3.5cc is estimated at 20% for the GSM band and 35% for the DCS band.



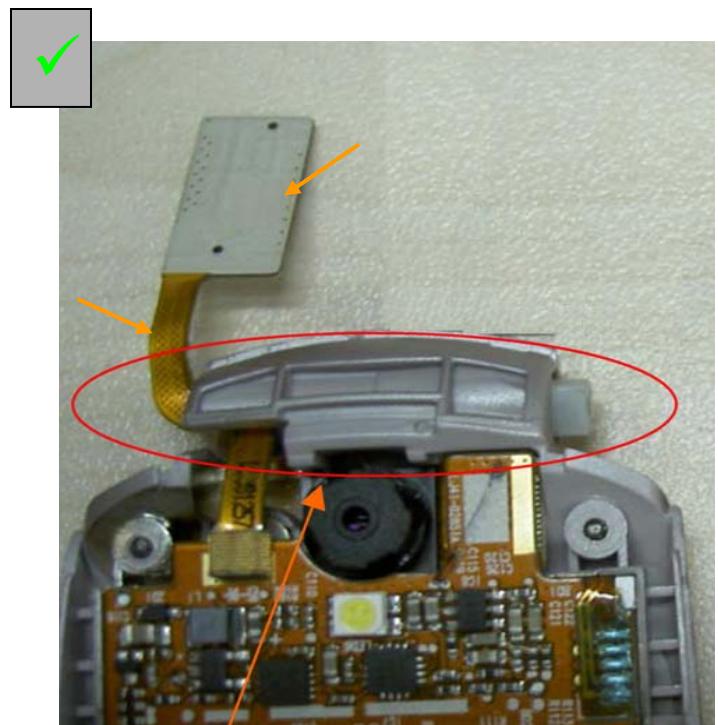
General Design Guidelines

6. Keep antenna contact pad size to a minimum
7. No ground on any layers below the contact pad neither inside nor on the opposite side of the PCB
8. No ground on layers inside the PCB below matching circuit
9. Antenna contact clip length to be at minimum
10. Distance between antenna contact and shielding cans etc. to be minimum 2 to 4mm (parasitic effect)
11. RF switch and amplifier or duplexer to be as close as possible to the matching circuit area



General Design Guidelines

12. No conductive paint (EMI shield) around antenna area or close to its contact
13. Minimize length of Flex circuit that connects the upper folder on clam shell phones
14. Flex circuit connection to flip should be covered with ground layer on both sides which connects well to main ground



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