When you use aluminum electrolytic capacitors, remember the following.

### 1. Polarity

- Aluminum electrolytic capacitors are polarized.
- Reverse voltage causes short circuit breakage of the capacitor or leakage of electrolyte. Where the polarity in a circuit sometimes reversed or unknown, a bi-polar capacitor should be used.

# 2. Overvoltage

- Do not apply overvoltage continuously.
- When overvoltage is applied to the capacitor, leakage current increase drastically.
- Applied working voltage to capacitors should not exceed the rated working voltage of capacitor.

# 3. Operating temperature and life:

- Use the capacitors according to the specified operation temperature range.
- Life time of the capacitor depends on the temperature.
- If used the capacitor outside the maximum rated temperature will considerable shorten the life or cause the capacitor to vent. Usage of capacitor at room temperature will ensure longer life.

#### 4. Ripple current

- Do not apply a ripple current exceeding the rated maximum ripple current.
- Applying too higher ripple current to the capacitor causes great heat generation, invites deterioration of properties of cases breakage.

### 5. Charge and discharging

• Frequent and quick charge/discharge generates heat inside the capacitor, causing increase of leakage current, decrease of capacitance, or breakage occasionally.

#### 6. Explosion-proof vent

• During use the capacitor, the explosion-proof vent should keep at least 3mm space from other components or organization. If such space is not provided, the vent will not operate normally.

# 7. Soldering

- Be careful of temperature and time when soldering. Dip of flow soldering of the capacitors should be limited at less than 260°C and 10 seconds.
- When soldering temperature is too high and the soldering time is too long, it will cause the capacitor's characteristics and the sleeve may shrink or break.

- 8. Cleaning of boards after soldering
  - If the PCB is cleaned in halogenated organic solvent, the solvent may penetrate into the inside of capacitor, and may cause corrosion.
- 9. Mechanical stress on the lead wire and the terminal
  - Do not apply excessive force to the lead wire and the terminal.
  - Do not move the capacitor after soldering to the PC board, not carry the PC board by picking up the capacitor.

# 10. Sleeve materials

• The standard sleeve material is polyvinyl-chloride (PVC). If it is dipped in xylene, toluene and then put under high temperature, the sleeve may crack. This sleeve will lose insulating function.

# 11. Storage

- When the capacitor is stored for a long time without applying voltage, leakage current tends to increase.
- This returns to normal by applying the rated voltage to the capacitor before use.
- It is recommended to apply D.C. working voltage to the capacitor for 30 minutes through  $1K\Omega$  of protective series resistor, if it is stored for more than 12 months.
- The capacitor should be stored at  $5^{\circ}$ C and less than 75% in relative humidity indoor.