




---


# Installation

## Before installation

 **WARNING:** Read this manual carefully before installing and operating the SMD4. Observe the following safety instructions.

 **WARNING:** All work described in this document may only be carried out by persons who have suitable technical training and the necessary experience or who have been instructed by the end-user of the product.

 **WARNING:** Without proper training and necessary experience, damage to the equipment or personal injury might result.

 **DANGER:** Danger of electric arcing! Never plug or unplug any connector while powered. Plugging or unplugging a motor while powered may damage or destroy the driver output stage.

## Unpacking

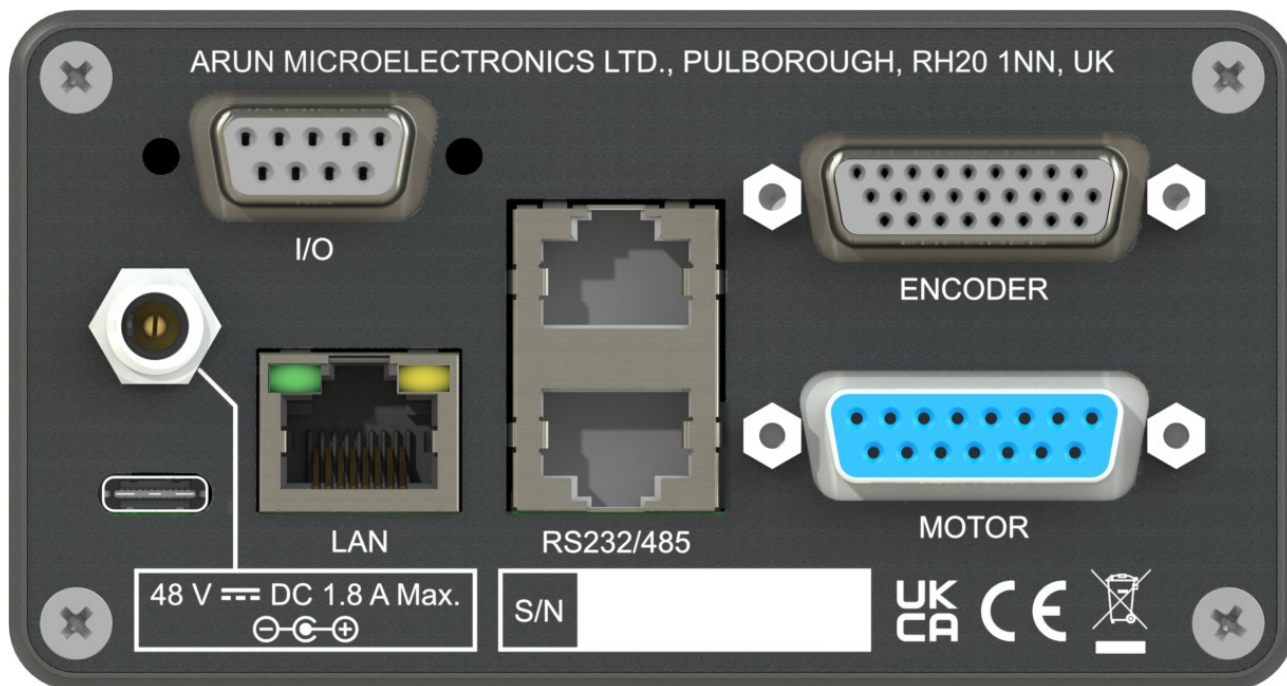
On receipt of the instrument remove all packing material and check that all items on the delivery note have been received. Report any damage or shortages to the company or distributor who supplied the instrument. The packing material has been specially designed to protect the instrument and should be retained for possible future use.

## Mechanical installation

The SMD4 is a freestanding instrument. It does not require mounting. Forced air ventilation is not required. The ambient operating temperature range is 10 °C to 60 °C.

## Connecting

Rear panel



## Power

Connector: Barrel power jack  
2.1 mm pin, 5.6 mm hole



48 Vdc input. Centre positive.

Power input for both internal logic circuits and the motor itself.

The power supply must:

- Meet the requirements set out in the [technical information](#) section of this document
- Provide reinforced or double insulation between mains and supply output

**⚠ DANGER:** Danger of electric arcing! Never plug or unplug the connector while powered.

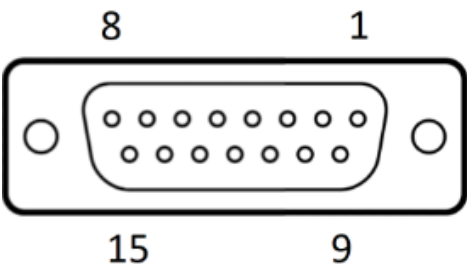
**⚠ CAUTION:** In the event of reverse polarity, a short circuit will occur between GND and V+ through an internal power diode. An external fuse may be required.

The fuse should be sized:

- Greater than the current consumption of the SMD4 when operating the connected motor
- Less than the maximum current output of the power supply
- Considering the voltage of the supply

## Motor

Connector: DA15-F  
D-Sub, 15 ways, female



1 Phase B2

2 Phase B1

3 Phase A2

4 Phase A1

5 Limit 1

6 Limit 2

7 Thermocouple negative

8 Thermocouple positive

9 GND

10

11

12

13 RTD B2

14 RTD B1



**DANGER!** Danger of electric arcing! Never plug or unplug the connector while powered!  
Plugging or unplugging motor while powered may damage or destroy the driver output stages.

## Motor

Connection of the motor to the vacuum feedthrough, and vacuum feedthrough to the SMD4 is discussed in section [Motor Wiring](#).

## Limits

There are two limits inputs; they can be configured to stop the motor on one or both limits being triggered. A limit input is triggered by shorting it to 'GND', usually with a mechanical switch mounted on the mechanism that the motor is driving. Logic level signals, for example, from optical or hall effect sensors may also be used.

Input polarity can be reversed to accommodate normally open or normally closed switches.

Limit 1 applies when the motor position counter is incrementing, and limit 2 applies when the motor position counter is decrementing.

Limits inputs include a pullup resistor. See section [Limits](#) for details.



**INFORMATION:** Limits inputs are duplicated on the I/O connector for maximum user flexibility in arranging wiring for the system. Limit signals on both this and the I/O connector are electrically connected. Do not apply different electrical potentials between like-named limits inputs otherwise a short will occur between the two.

## Thermocouple

The thermocouple lead for motors equipped with the standard K-Type thermocouple should be connected here. If using a motor equipped with an RTD, this connection may be left open. Be sure to select the correct sensor type, see section [Temperature sensor selection](#).



**INFORMATION:** To provide greater convenience in wiring to the vacuum chamber, the thermocouple input is included on the motor connector, rather than a dedicated micro K-Type thermocouple connector. This comes at the cost of reduced accuracy due to the parasitic thermocouple junctions that exist within the connector. This is accounted for by the looser accuracy specification for the thermocouple input over the RTD one, and a generous tolerance in the motor over temperature threshold as further insurance. Nonetheless, accuracy can be

improved by avoiding large temperature gradients across the SMD4; for example, avoid placing the rear panel of the product in direct line of hot exhaust from other equipment.

## RTD

For motors equipped with an RTD instead of a thermocouple, make the RTD connection here. If the RTD is not required, leave the connections open.

The RTD input is compensated for cable length by the three-wire connection.

## Custom cables

Custom motor cables must be built to the following specification to ensure continued compliance with EMC standards and correct function.

General requirements:

- Rated voltage  $\geq 300$  V rms, rated current  $> 1.5$  A rms
- Construction; twisted pairs plus overall screen. Foil screen plus drain wire (of same or greater cross-sectional area as main cores) acceptable, foil plus braided screen better
- Screen must be connected via as short a wire as possible to a ground pin (pins 9-11) on the connector, using insulated wire
- Maximum cable length is limited by the resistance of the cores; total round-trip cable resistance per phase should be kept to less than a few ohms. Consult the cable manufacturer's data for these details. Excessive cable length causes a reduction in phase voltage at the motor compromising speed/torque characteristics. The RTD circuit is compensated against cable length.

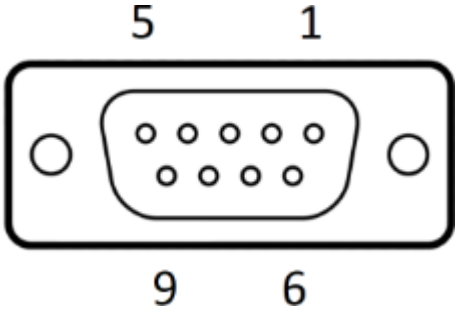
Temperature sensors:

- Use one twisted pair for the thermocouple
- Use one twisted pair for RTD A and B1, and one lead from a second pair for B2

## I/O

Connector: DE9-F  
D-Sub, 9 ways, female

1	GND
---	-----

		
	2	Fault (Output, open collector)
	3	Limit 1/positive
	4	Enable
	5	Step
	6	Reset fault (Input, active low)
	7	Limit 2/negative
	8	SDE COM
	9	Direction

## Fault output and fault reset

The SMD4 disables the motor under certain fault conditions, see section [Faults](#). When this happens, the open collector 'Fault' output is set and may be used to signal to an external controller that the SMD4 is in a fault state.

Fault states are latching; once set the fault condition must be removed and the fault reset before normal operation may resume using either a remote interface command (see [CLR](#)) or pulling the 'Reset fault' signal to 'GND'. This does not apply to the 'EN' (enable) input when in step direction mode, i.e. the enable input is not latching, and normal operation will resume immediately on restoring the enable input state. See section [Faults](#) for details.

## Limits

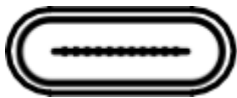
Duplicated from the [motor connector](#).

## Step, direction and enable

The step direction enable interface is an industry-standard interface allowing an external motion controller to generate stepping sequences, bypassing the SMD4's internal motion controller. The inputs are galvanically isolated with three opto-isolators, and share a common connection, 'SDE COM'. See section [Step/Direction](#) for details.

## USB

Connector: USB-C



USB Type-C connection. The connection is reversible, and the plug may be inserted either way up.

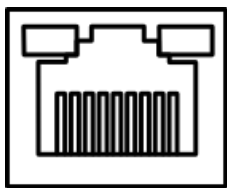
The SMD4 appears as a virtual COM port when connected to the PC. No additional drivers are required. Configure and control the SMD4 using AML Device Control software, available as a free download from our website at <https://arunmicro.com/documents/software/>

Alternatively, use a terminal program, or your own application. AML supply a C# API, available on our website to help customers implement their own applications faster.

## LAN

Connector: 8P8C RJ45

RJ45, 8 poles, 8 connections



10/100M network connection with Auto MDI-X.

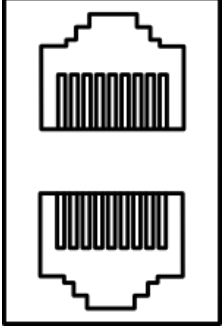
Configure and control the SMD4 using AML Device Control software, available as a free download from our website at <https://arunmicro.com/documents/software/>

Alternatively, use a terminal program, or your own application. AML supply a C# API, available on our website to help customers implement their own applications faster.

## RS232/485

Connector: 8P8C RJ45

RJ45, 8 poles 8 connections

	1	
	2	
	3	
	4	A+/Tx
	5	B-/Rx
	6	
	7	
	8	GND

RS232 and RS485 share pins. Before connecting to them, use an alternate interface (USB or LAN) to configure the desired mode of operation. Undefined behaviour will result if the SMD4 is connected to an RS485 network when in RS232 mode or vice-versa.

There are two identical connectors, allowing SMD4 devices to be daisy-chained together.

An optional termination resistance can be enabled if required. This would typically be enabled on the last device on the bus, to reduce reflections and maintain signal integrity. The usage of this feature should be evaluated in the final system.



Configure the mode of operation (RS232 or RS485) before plugging a connector in. Do not make changes to the mode without first disconnecting both connectors. Undefined behaviour will result if the SMD4 is connected to an RS485 network when in RS232 mode or vice-versa.



## Bussing

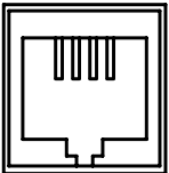
The dual connectors allow multiple SMD4s (or other devices) to be bussed together. There are several important considerations to be aware of when doing so:

- RS232 is not well suited to multi-drop; use RS485 for this purpose if at all possible. If using RS232, devices can receive and process commands, but will not respond and data cannot be returned to the host.
- Ensure all devices on the bus are in the the same mode (RS232 or RS485) and the same serial configuration (baud rate, etc) matches between devices.
- When using text protocol, begin all commands with the '@' addressing prefix. This places the SMD4 into addressing mode which brings into force alternate communication rules that allow the SMD4 to function properly on a bus with other devices. This is discussed in the [Addressing](#) section.
- Do not use text protocol commands without the addressing prefix. This will cause multiple devices to respond at once and the resulting bus contention may result in undefined behaviour.

### Front panel



### Joystick

	1	GND
	2	CW
	3	CCW

For connection of a two-button joystick allowing basic motor control, for example, during commissioning. AML supply the SMD3 Joystick, part number 'SMD3JOY', which is compatible with the SMD4, for this purpose. The SMD4 can be configured to automatically switch to joystick mode on connection of the joystick. See [AUTOJS](#).

If designing your own joystick or device to connect to this port:

- Inputs have internal pull-ups
- Activate the function by shorting 'CW', 'CCW' or 'DETECT' to pin 1, 'GND'
- 'DETECT' is used to signal to the SMD4 that the joystick is connected and trigger automatic switch to joystick mode (if configured). If this functionality is not required, leave the pin unconnected.

Logic level signals may also be used; 12 V max.

## Status indicators

The fault indicator flashes or remains lit if the SMD4 is in a fault state (see section [Faults](#) for fault indications). When a fault is present, motor operation is disabled.

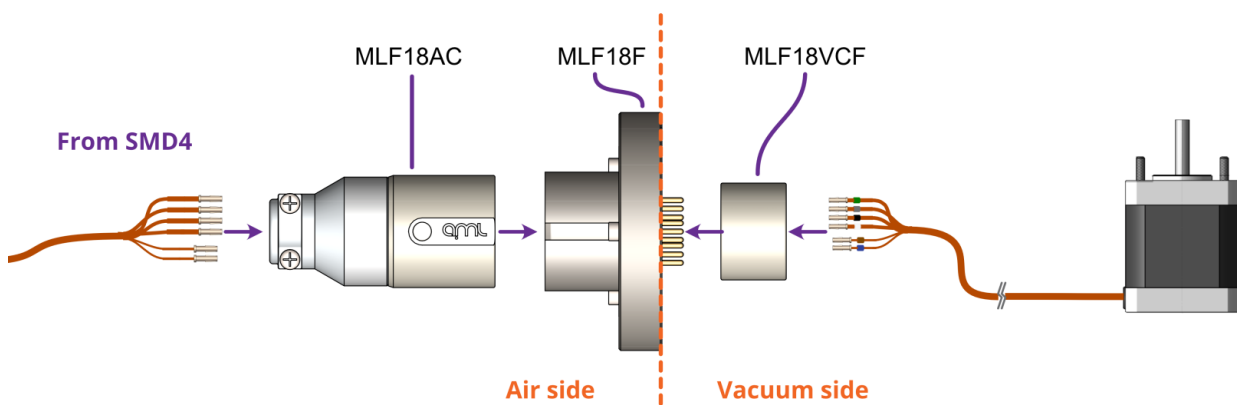
## Motor wiring

### Overview

Connecting motors inside a vacuum chamber to the SMD4 comprises two tasks:

- Wiring the motor to a vacuum feedthrough installed in the chamber wall.
- Wiring the vacuum feedthrough to the SMD4.

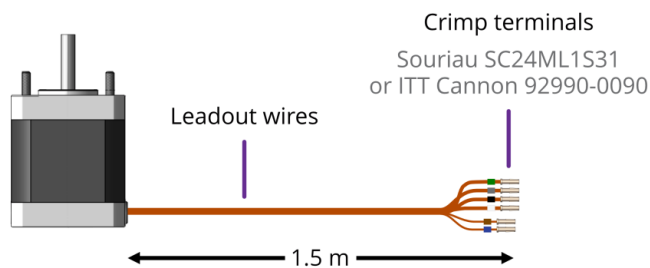
AML supply vacuum feedthroughs, ready-made cabling, and components allowing custom cables to be easily manufactured. A typical setup is shown below and used for illustration throughout this section.



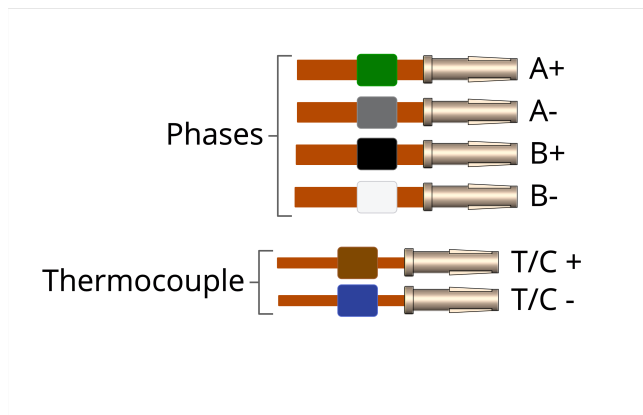
**i INFORMATION:** Verify that the motor is working correctly before sealing the vacuum chamber. Rectifying mistakes afterwards is inconvenient.

## Lead identification

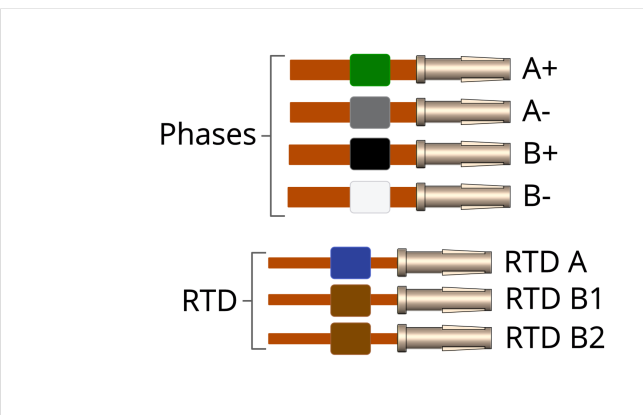
The motor leadout wires are self-coloured polyimide film-wrapped, silver-plated OFHC solid copper and each is fitted with a 1.5 mm crimp socket terminal. They are supplied fitted with UHV compatible coloured glass beads for identification. The phase leadout wires are much thicker than the thermocouple leadouts. The leadout wires of each phase should be twisted together.



Motors equipped with a **Thermocouple**:



Motors equipped with an **RTD**:





If the identification beads have been removed, the wires can be identified using an inexpensive multimeter, and a magnet. The multimeter must be capable of measuring resistance with a resolution of about 1 ohm.

## Thermocouple Leadouts




The thermocouple wires are much thinner than the phase leads, and there are two of them. If three wires are present, the motor has an RTD installed, see below for details. The thermocouple is insulated from the rest of the motor.

The two leads are of different material; one is made from Alumel, which is weakly magnetic, and the other Chromel, which is not. Use a magnet to find the Alumel wire, then connect as shown below.

Lead	Connected to terminal marked	
Alumel	Alumel, N, - (minus) or coloured blue	
Chromel	Chromel, P, + (plus) or coloured brown	

## RTD Leadouts

As per the thermocouple leads, but three instead of two leads. These must be identified by resistance; one pair of wires are connected at the motor end. These will measure a few ohms depending on cable length and are the 'B1' and 'B2' connections, which are interchangeable. The remaining wire is the 'A' connection and should measure around 100 ohms to either 'B1' or 'B2'.

Lead	Connected to terminal marked	
A	A, or coloured blue	
B1	Chromel, B1, or coloured brown	
B2	B2, or coloured brown	

## Phase leadouts

These are the four thicker leadouts. Identify the two motor phases by their resistance, which will be in the range of 3 to 15 ohms, depending on the motor type. There is no electrical connection between the two phases, to the thermocouple/RTD or the case of the motor. Most of the resistance is in the windings of the motor and is virtually unaffected by shortening of the leads. Connect each phase to the appropriate drive terminals. The resistance of the wires from the feedthrough to the drive must be less than a few ohms.

## Note regarding reversal of rotation

Upon completion of wiring, there is a 50 % probability that the direction of rotation will be reversed from the desired or conventional sense. To rectify this, exchange the connections to one of the phases. For example, locate the Phase A + and Phase A – connections, and swap them around. This can be done on air or vacuum side while the chamber is still open.

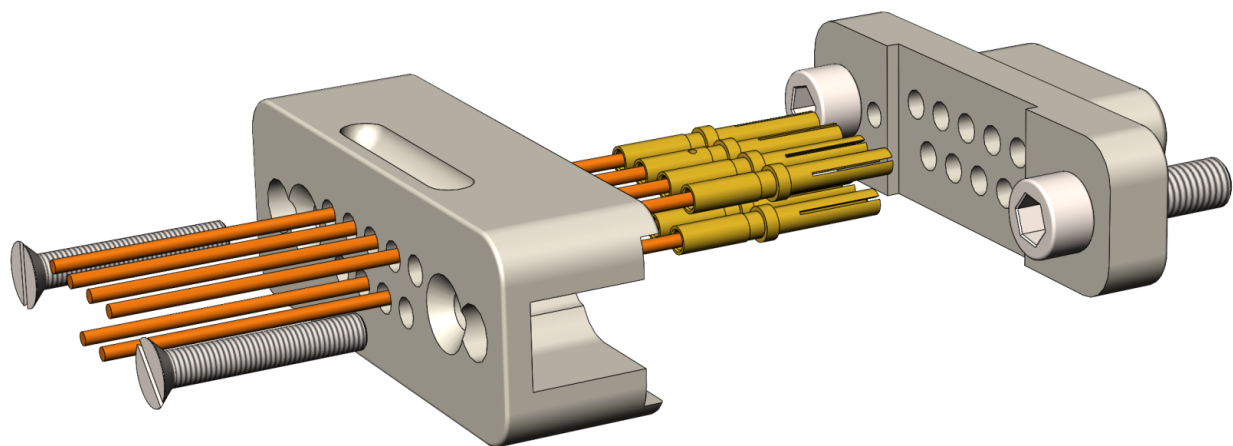
## Wiring motor to a vacuum feedthrough

AML motors are commonly connected via an MLF18 feedthrough or a standard D-Sub feedthrough.

### 9-Way D-Sub

The VC9D-40CF 9-way D-Sub male feedthrough is suitable for one motor fitted with either a thermocouple or 3-wire RTD. The standard crimp terminals supplied with AML motor leadout wires should be removed

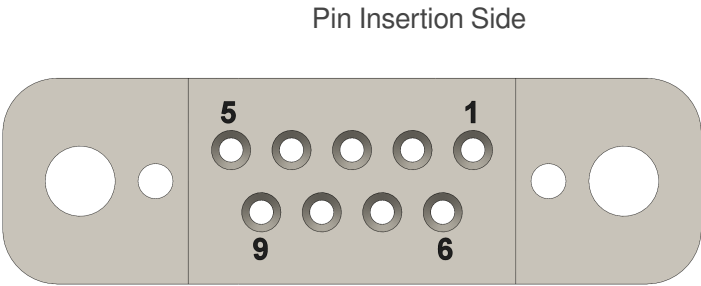
and replaced with a VC9DF PEEK D-Sub female connector and crimp terminals. An optional VC9DB cable strain relief is also available.



**Motor wires pinout for the VC9DF**

The illustration below shows the view into the non-mating side of the connector, into which the motor leads should be inserted, as shown below. Pass the wires through the backshell before crimping.

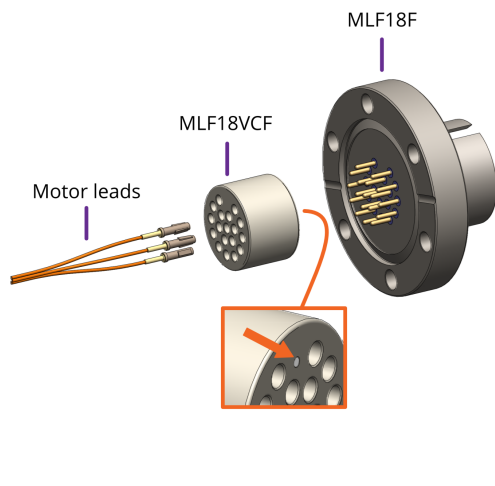
Connection	Colour	Pin
Phase A1	Green	4
Phase A2	Grey	3
Phase B1	Black	2
Phase B2	White	1
Thermocouple +	Brown	8
Thermocouple -	Blue	7
RTD A	Blue	5
RTD B1	Brown	6



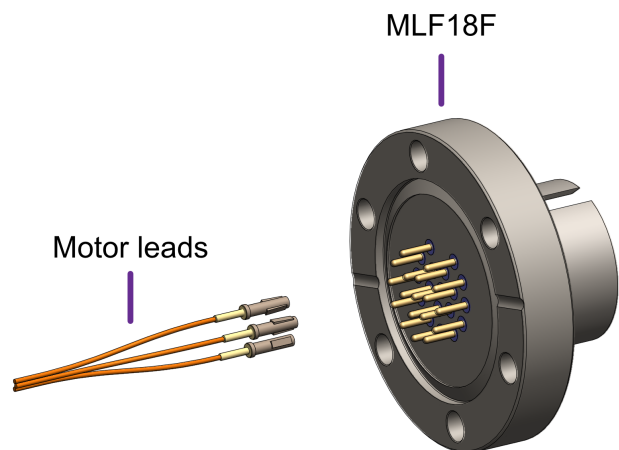
## 18-Way MLF18

The MLF18F feedthrough has 18 x 1.5 mm gold-plated feedthrough pins and is suitable for up to three motors fitted with thermocouples or up to two motors fitted with 3-wire RTDs. An internal bakeable connector, MLF18VCF, is available into which the crimp terminals on the motor leads are inserted. This significantly reduces the risk of short-circuits and makes the installation more convenient.

Using the MLF18F feedthrough and MLF18VCF vacuum side connector:



Alternatively, plug crimps directly onto the feed-through pins of the MLF18F:

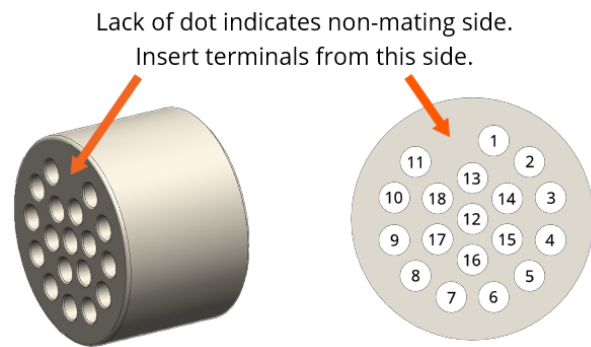


Mating side identified by dot. Motor lead terminals should be inserted in the other side.

### Standard pinout for the MLF18VCF

The illustration below shows the view into the non-mating side of the connector, into which the motor leads should be inserted, as shown below.

Connection	Colour	Motor 1	Motor 2
Phase A1	Green	1	7
Phase A2	Grey	3	9
Phase B1	Black	2	8
Phase B2	White	4	10
Thermocouple +	Brown	5	11
Thermocouple -	Blue	6	12
RTD A	Blue	13	16
RTD B1	Brown	14	17
RTD B2	Brown	15	18



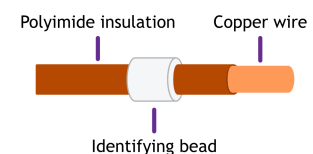
### Using other feedthroughs

AML stepper motors can be ordered with either a K-Type thermocouple, or 3-wire PT100 RTD. The former requires 6 pins, and the latter 7 pins.

When using motors installed with a thermocouple, it is not necessary to use a thermocouple vacuum feedthrough or extension wires, as the error introduced by incompatible feedthrough material is usually less than 5 °C and the temperature measurement is not required to be very precise.

### Preparation of motor leadouts for connection to other feedthroughs

If making custom terminations for the motor leads, the installed crimps must be removed, and the wire ends stripped of insulation. Standard motors are fitted with Polyimide film-wrapped leads (illustrated below), and radiation-hard motors are fitted with polyimide-enamelled leads.



Polyimide is strong, flexible and abrasion-resistant and therefore difficult to strip. The simplest method of stripping polyimide film is to cut a ring with a sharp knife and withdraw the cylinder of insulation over the end of the wire.

Be careful not to mark the conductor surface with the knife. Strip the enamelled radiation-hard leads by scraping with a sharp knife. Either type of lead may be stripped with a suitable high-speed rotary stripper. Do not use a thermal stripper.

## Wiring between drive and vacuum feedthrough

AML supply three standard SMD4 cables. These are:

**CAB-D15D9:** 3 metres long. D-sub 15-way male connector for connecting to the SMD4. D-sub 9-way female connector for connecting to a feedthrough, such as AML's VF9D-40CF.

**CAB-D15MLF:** 3 metres long. D-sub 15-way male connector for connecting to the SMD4. MLF18AC connector for connecting to AML's MLF18F feedthrough.

**CAB-3D15MLF:** 3 metres long. 3x D-sub 15-way male connectors for connecting up to 3 separate SMD4s. MLF18AC connector for connecting to AML's MLF18F feedthrough.

Alternatively, AML supply multiple air-side connectors which can be used to make custom leads to mate with the MLF18F or D-sub electrical feedthroughs. These are supplied with a kit that includes the crimps as well as instructions for their use.

Leads between the MLF18AC and SMD4 should be assembled according to the following guidance for safe, reliable operation and continued compliance with EMC standards.

### Cable requirements

- Quantity of cores as required; (one motor requires 6 cores when fitted with a thermocouple, or 7 if fitted with an RTD). The cable must be screened. A foil screen plus drain wire is acceptable; a foil plus braid screen is better.
- The screen must be connected via as short a wire as possible to pin 1, 'GND' of the motor connector, using insulated wire.
- Rated voltage  $\geq 300$  V rms
- Rated current  $> 1.5$  A rms
- Cable cores must be twisted together in pairs, using one pair per phase, one pair for the thermocouple, and a group of three for the RTD. This reduces radiated emissions from the cable and improves immunity of the RTD and thermocouple signals to the motor.
- Maximum cable length is limited by round trip resistance, which should be less than a few ohms. Review cable manufacturer's data to obtain this figure.

### Wiring up to the MLF18AC airside connector

The MLF18AC is supplied with comprehensive instructions detailing correct usage of the connector. The pinout to match with the standard MLF18F + MLF18VCF pinning described in section [Motor wiring](#) is shown below. Note that the illustration shows the MLF18AC looking into the non-mating side of the connector, i.e. the side into which crimps are inserted.



Connection	Colour	Motor 1	Motor 2
Phase A1	Green	1	7
Phase A2	Grey	3	9
Phase B1	Black	2	8
Phase B2	White	4	10
Thermocouple +	Brown	5	11
Thermocouple -	Blue	6	12
RTD A	Blue	13	16
RTD B1	Brown	14	17
RTD B2	Brown	15	18

Looking into the non-mating face of the MLF18AC, into which crimps are inserted

