



PRODUCT OBSOLESCENCE POLICY

Linear Technology Corporation (LTC) offers the following explanation of our process and policy regarding discontinuance or obsolescence of our products.

As a general practice, LTC prefers not to discontinue products and has discontinued very few products over the years we have been in business. Most of the discontinued products have been package variations of existing products that are no longer viable or available from our sources. When this happens, our strategy is to exercise our best effort to retain the manufacturing capability and design expertise associated with the affected products for as long as there is a commercially viable reason to do so. The manufacturing processes, packages and functions of analog products tend to serve their respective market segments much longer than faster changing digital technologies such as memory, programmable logic or microprocessors, to name a few. Analog wafer fabrication processes often remain active for decades while digital types of processing may be viable for only a few years before they become technically and /or financially uncompetitive.

It is LTC's general policy that when a product is discontinued we notify our sales force and our distributors and customers who have purchased the product that the item is being discontinued. At the time of notification, customers have 6 months to place orders for the item and they may schedule deliveries for up to 6 additional months beyond the final order date. In some instances, LTC will entertain requests and proposals by interested customers to continue to manufacture the device via a special agreement, providing LTC has viable commercial and technical ability to manufacture it.

For additional or specific information about an individual product, please contact your local Linear Technology Corporation Sales Office, which can be located on our web site, www.linear.com, or you may call LTC's Marketing Department at 408-432-1900.