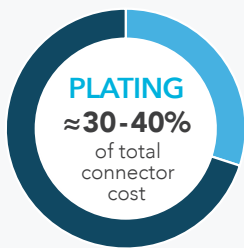
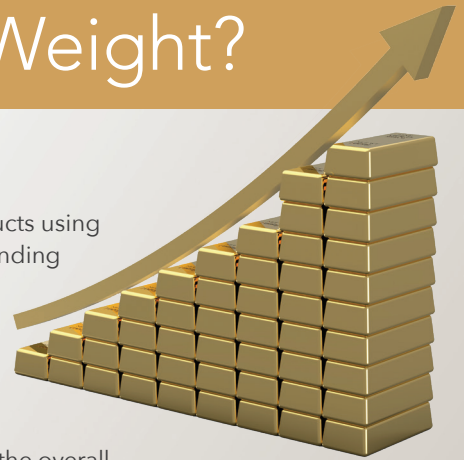


# GOLD PLATING: Worth its Weight?

## Cost-Saving Opportunities & Strategies for Interconnects

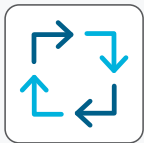
With rising gold prices showing no signs of slowing, eventual cost increases to products using gold are inevitable. Samtec is actively pursuing opportunities to help offset the impending impact to our interconnect products.



### The Cost of a Plating Choice

Considering that plating can be attributed to nearly 30-40% of the overall cost of a connector, specifying gold plating can have a significant impact, especially with heavier gold options. Alternate materials and lower gold options can provide immediate cost-savings, and potentially help mitigate possible gold-driven price increases in the future.

## Selecting the Right Plating Option



The rugged qualities of gold make it an ideal choice for high-cycle applications, however, heavy gold is often specified when a lower thickness may be sufficient.

Applications requiring less than 100 cycles, for example, could potentially use 10μ" Au (or less) with adequate reliability, while also providing significant cost-savings. Please contact [ASG@Samtec.com](mailto:ASG@Samtec.com) to discuss your application with a specialist.

In addition to offering a variety of lower gold plating options, Samtec is currently evaluating alternative plating technologies designed to provide excellent performance, along with cost-efficiencies.

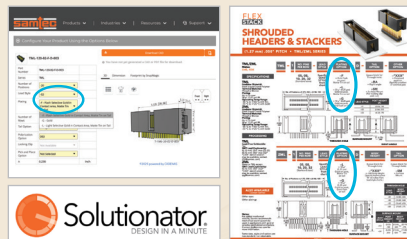
| COMMON GOLD PLATINGS |                                              | MATING CYCLES<br>(Average)* |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| -F                   | 3μ" Flash Selective Gold, Matte Tin on tail  | < 25                        |
| -G                   | 10μ" Gold, 3μ" Gold on Tail                  | 25 - 100 (min)              |
| -L                   | 10μ" Light Selective Gold, Matte Tin on tail | 25 - 100 (min)              |
| -S                   | 30μ" Selective Gold, Matte Tin on tail       | 100 - 250 (min)             |

**\*Note: Average mating cycles are dependent upon contact style and are not tested to failure.** Please review the Series product prints for relevant test reports, test results for cycles, mixed flow gas, and a complete list of plating options.

## ONLINE TOOLS & RESOURCES FOR CONNECTOR SELECTION

Samtec makes it easy to locate and select plating and other options for specific part numbers with our **Online Product Configurator**, downloadable **Product Prints**, **Test Reports** and **Catalog Pages**.

Additional tools include **Solutionator**® mated set generators, **Picture Search**, free **3D models** and more. Visit [samtec.com/solutions/digital-tools](http://samtec.com/solutions/digital-tools) to find your ideal product solution.



**Reserve**  
SHIPS TOMORROW

### COMING SOON!

Lower plating option products - in stock and ready for shipment!



# GOLD PLATING OPTION UPDATES

Samtec has recently re-evaluated and updated our plating options for standard catalog parts. Among other adjustments, updates include the addition of lower gold options (3µ" Flash Selective Gold and 10µ" Gold) where applicable.

Visit [samtec.com](https://www.samtec.com) to view options for a specific part number using Samtec's Online Product Configurator, or to download product prints and catalog pages for a specific Series.

| -F Plating ADDED to Catalog Page |       | -S Plating REMOVED from Catalog Page   |          |                   |         | -S Plating REMOVED & -G Plating ADDED                                                                                                                         |       |
|----------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Flexible Stacking                | CES   | AcceleRate® HD Strips                  | ADM6     | Q Rate® Strips    | QRF8    | mPOWER®                                                                                                                                                       | UMPS  |
|                                  | CLE   |                                        | ADF6     |                   | QRM8    |                                                                                                                                                               | UMPT  |
|                                  | ESHF  |                                        | APF6     | SEARAY™           | SEAF    |                                                                                                                                                               | UMPC  |
|                                  | ESW   |                                        | APM6     |                   | SEAM    |                                                                                                                                                               | UMPCT |
|                                  | FTR   | Edge Rate® Strips                      | ERF8     |                   | SEAF-RA |                                                                                                                                                               | UMPI  |
|                                  | HTMS  |                                        | ERM8     |                   | SEAM-RA |                                                                                                                                                               | UMPIT |
|                                  | MNT   |                                        | ERF8-S   |                   | SEAM-GP |                                                                                                                                                               | UMPE  |
|                                  | MW    |                                        | ERM8-S   |                   | SEAF8   |                                                                                                                                                               | UMPET |
|                                  | RSM   | EXTreme Ten60Power™                    | ET60S    |                   | SEAM8   |                                                                                                                                                               | CC489 |
|                                  | SLM   |                                        | ET60T    |                   | SEAFP   |                                                                                                                                                               | TC146 |
|                                  | SMS   | Generate® High-Speed Edge Card Sockets | HSEC1    |                   | SEAMP   | *Note: Please review the Series product prints for relevant test reports, test results for cycles and mixed flow gas, and a complete list of plating options. |       |
|                                  | TFM   |                                        | HTEC8    |                   | SEAMI   |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | TFML  |                                        | HSEC8-DV | One Piece         | SIR1    |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | TML   |                                        | HSEC8-RA | Flexible Stacking | SMM     |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | TMS   |                                        | HSEC8-EM |                   | SSM     |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
| Mini Mate® Cable Assy            | CC79L |                                        | HSEC8-PE |                   | TCSD    |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | CC79R |                                        | HSEC8-PV |                   | TEM-DH  |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | IPL1  | LP Array™                              | LPAF     |                   | TMM-SM  |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | MMSD  |                                        | LPAM     |                   | TMM-TH  |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | MMSDT | PCI Express® Sockets                   | PCIE-LP  | AcceleRate® mP    | TSM     |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
| Tiger Eye™ Systems               | MMSS  |                                        | PCIE-G4  |                   | UDF6    |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | MMSST |                                        | PCIE-G5  |                   | UDM6    |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | SFM   |                                        |          |                   |         |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | SFMC  |                                        |          |                   |         |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | SFML  |                                        |          |                   |         |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | SFSD  |                                        |          |                   |         |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | SFSDT |                                        |          |                   |         |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | SFSS  |                                        |          |                   |         |                                                                                                                                                               |       |
|                                  | SFSST |                                        |          |                   |         |                                                                                                                                                               |       |