

MULTI-FUNCTIONAL INTELLIGENT SURFACE FOR AUTOMOTIVE AND AERONAUTICS COCKPITS

> PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The main objective of this project is to improve the HMI (Human Machine Interface) systems by the integration of mechanical feedback on a tactile surface to simulate a button or joystick. The MISAC project focus on actuator solutions aiming at generating a mechanical vibration and studying the effect of the mechanical vibration profile (amplitude, frequency, type of signal, duration of signal...). A haptic test bench was implemented and a test campaign was performed to evaluate the needs for automotive and avionic applications.

> CEDRAT TECHNOLOGIES CONTRIBUTION

In the framework of this project, the objective for VALEO (automotive) and Thales (avionic), the end users, was to design an adapted actuator able to generate a perceptible vibration signal upon a tactile surface whatever the vibration generated by the external environment. The contribution of Cedrat Technologies is the expertise on actuation solutions based on piezoelectric technologies.

• A high bandwidth haptic bench

A specific haptic test bench was implemented in order to establish a specification for the final actuator. The haptic test bench (Fig1) has been manufactured based on standard actuators APA400MML® (Fig 2). The test bench has a high bandwidth which enables it to generate different vibration profiles that will meet customers' requirements. A test campaign with various profiles has been performed in order to define an appropriate and optimal vibration profile.

• A haptic resonant solution

Once the specifications were defined by the end users, CTEC designed, manufactured and tested 2 amplified piezoelectric actuators (APA®) with two different types of low voltage piezoelectric ceramics (Type 1&2).

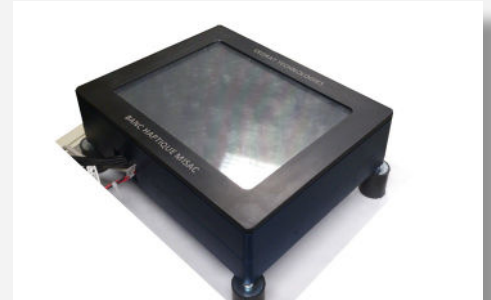


Fig1: Haptic Test Bench



Fig2: Standard actuator from CTEC

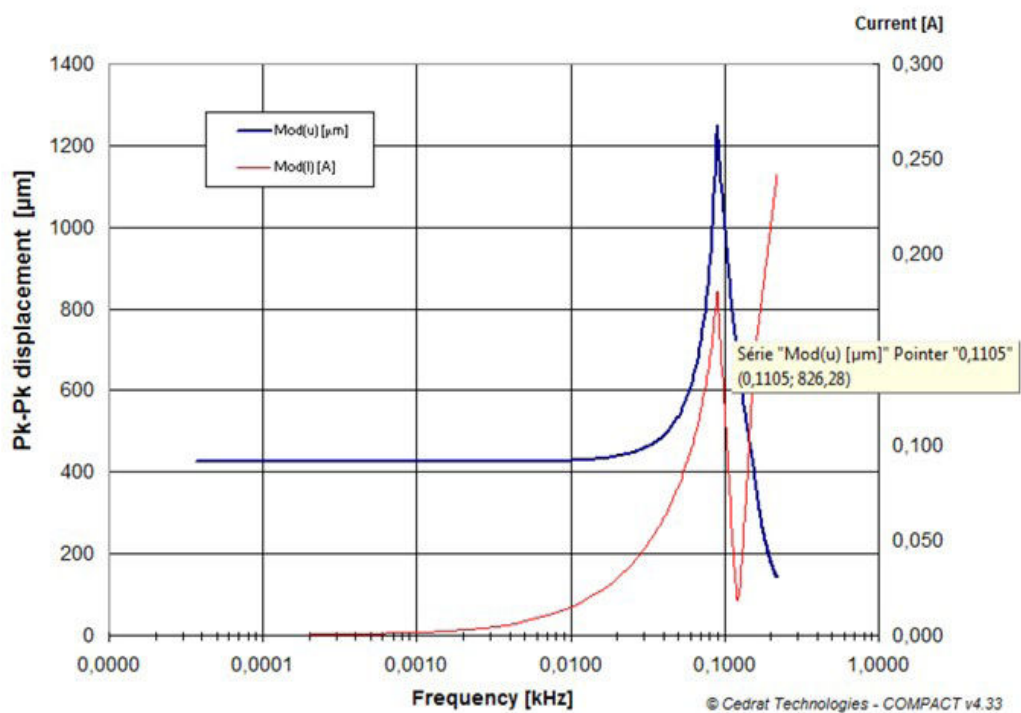


Fig3: APA400M (left) & APA600M(right)

This tradeoff between Type 1&2 ceramics was performed in order to comply with both technical performances and economical aspects required by the final application. Note that the APA® is integrated inside a flexural guiding system. The characteristics of the actuators are given in the table below. These values correspond to the properties at the actuator level.

Actuator	Stroke μm	Blocked Force N	Stiffness N/ μm	Capacitance μF
APA400M Type 1	474	43	91-E-3	2.5
APA600M Type 2	597	44	74-E-3	4.6

The actuator APA400M® type1 has been selected to be implemented on the final haptic solution for the avionic customer. The performance at the system level has been also evaluated. The configuration of the final haptic solution is based on two actuators moving a load of 800 gr. The system generates an acceleration of 50 gp-p at the resonance which allows to have a perceptible feedback even with high vibrations from an external environment.



☒ Maximum peak to peak displacement & required current

The final haptic solution has been designed in such way that its frequency resonance fits with the optimal frequency based on the conclusion of the test campaign. This haptic resonant demonstrator is well suited for embedded solutions.

> PARTNERS

VALEO (Project Leader), THALES, LUXALP, CEDRAT TECHNOLOGIES, POLYTECH SAVOIE, ENSC BORDEAUX, UNIVERSITE LUMIERE LYON 2

For more information, please contact:

CEDRAT TECHNOLOGIES
59 Chemin du Vieux Chêne - Inovalée
38246 Meylan Cedex - France
actuator@cedrat-tec.com
Phone: +33 (0)4 56 58 04 00 - Fax: +33 (0)4 56 58 04 01