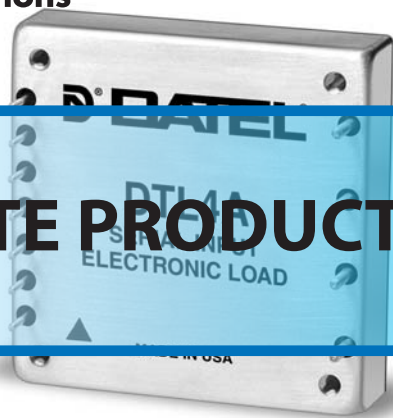


**OBSOLETE PRODUCT**



## DTL Series DTL4A Model

Digitally Programmable, 10A/150V  
100 Watt, Electronic Loads

### Features

- 12-bit, optically isolated (500Vdc), CMOS/TTL-compatible serial input
- 0-10 Amp output in 2.44mA increments
- 10M $\Omega$  minimum output impedance
- Output voltage to 150 Volts
- Output power to 100 Watts
- $\pm 3$ mA offset error;  $\pm 0.1\%$  gain error
- 100 $\mu$ sec full-scale step response
- Update rates to 20kHz
- Operate in parallel for higher power
- Miniature, 2" x 2" metal package

### Applications

- Static/dynamic power-supply burn-in
- Power-supply test and characterization
- Battery capacity testing
- Current-source testing
- Capacitor discharge testing
- Real-time load simulation

DATEL's new DTL4A is an optically isolated, digitally programmable, serial-input, electronic load. It is essentially a digitally controlled current source that can sink currents from 0 to 10 Amps, at loading voltages from 2.5 to 150 Volts, up to a maximum power of 100 Watts. The DTL4A is packaged in a thermally efficient, 2" x 2" x 0.5" metal package that incorporates an aluminum baseplate with through-hole spacers for easy pcb mounting and/or external heat-sink attachment.

The DTL4A accepts a serialized, 12-bit, CMOS/TTL-compatible, digital input word easily generated by any standard digital I/O card. The DTL4A buffers and then optically isolates (500Vdc) the digital input data before storing it in a register and presenting it to an on-board, 12-bit, digital-to-analog (D/A) converter. The D/A output drives a near-ideal (10M $\Omega$  minimum output impedance), voltage-controlled current source. One LSB (least significant bit) of the D/A converter corresponds to a 2.4mA increment (0.024% of 10A) in load current.

The DTL4A features a max.  $\pm 3$ mA offset error and a max.  $\pm 0.1\%$  gain error. It has an impressive full-scale step response time of 100 $\mu$ sec and can be operated dynamically at update rates up to 20kHz. Powered by a single +5V supply, the DTL4A draws a mere 150mA (maximum).

While operating in the constant-current mode up to 10 Amps (100W max. power), the output compliance voltage of the DTL4A is 2.5 to 150 Volts. Should the output/load voltage drop below the 2.5V minimum required for proper biasing, an internal monitoring circuit activates the DTL4A's output Fault line. See DATEL's DTL2A-LC for compliance voltages as low as 0.6V.

DTL4A's and other electronic loads, controller boards, and software from DATEL are outstanding building-block components for power-supply burn-in and test systems. They are an extremely reliable, cost-effective solution that enables you to quickly configure impressively accurate systems.

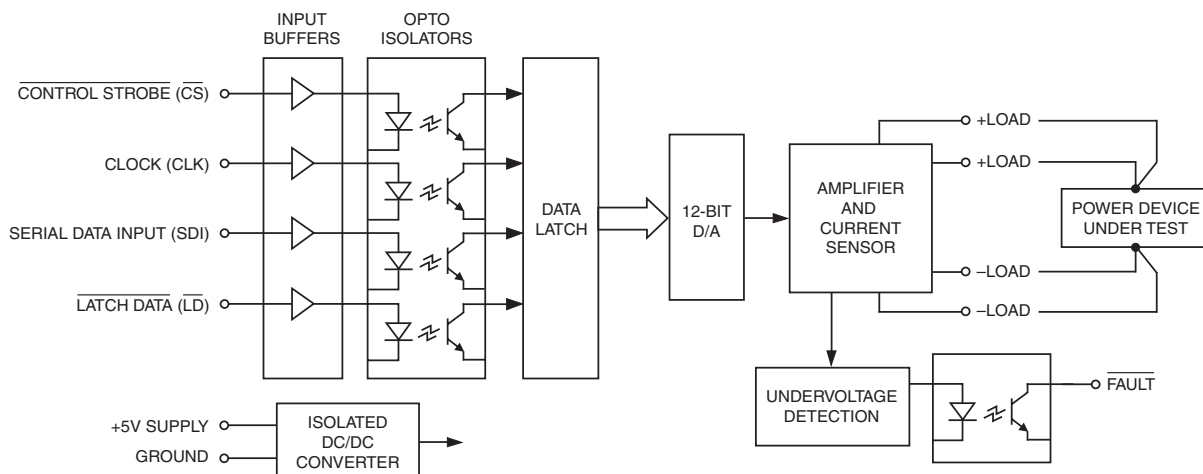


Figure 1. Simplified Schematic

Performance Specifications and Ordering Guide <sup>①</sup>

| Model | Input                |                        | Output            |                                 |   |                  | Package<br>(Case, Pinout) |
|-------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|---|------------------|---------------------------|
|       | Resolution<br>(Bits) | Logic<br>Compatibility | Current<br>(Amps) | Resolution<br>(mA) <sup>②</sup> | Compliance<br>Voltage<br>(Volts) <sup>③</sup> | Power<br>(Watts) |                           |
| DTL4A | 12                   | CMOS/TTL <sup>④</sup>  | 0-10              | 2.44                            | 2.5-150                                       | 0-100            | C24, P31                  |

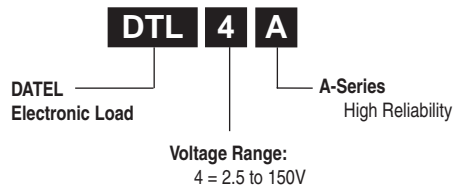
① Typical at TA = +25°C with nominal +5V supply voltage unless noted.

② The smallest increment/decrement in output current is defined by one LSB (least significant bit) of the 12-bit digital input word. One LSB is equal to full scale (FS) divided by 4096 which corresponds to 0.0244% of 10A or 2.44mA.

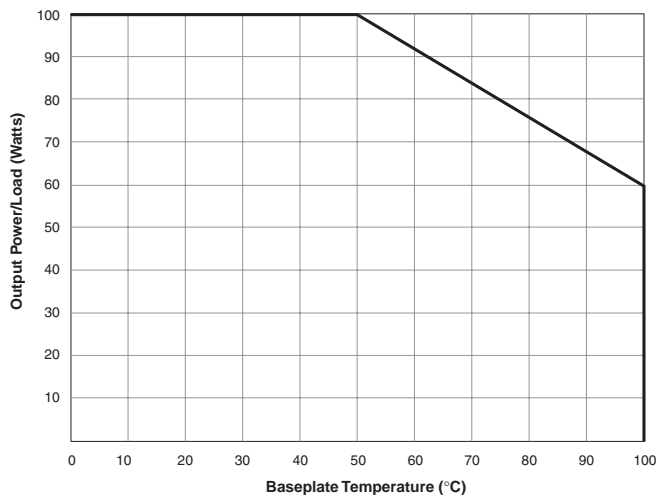
③ For proper operation, the unit's output/load voltage must remain within this range. Voltages greater than the listed maximum can damage the device. Voltages less than the minimum provide insufficient bias for the output stage and will result in unpredictable or no operation. See Output Compliance Voltage and the Fault Line for details.

④ See Performance/Functional Specifications for details.

## PART NUMBER STRUCTURE

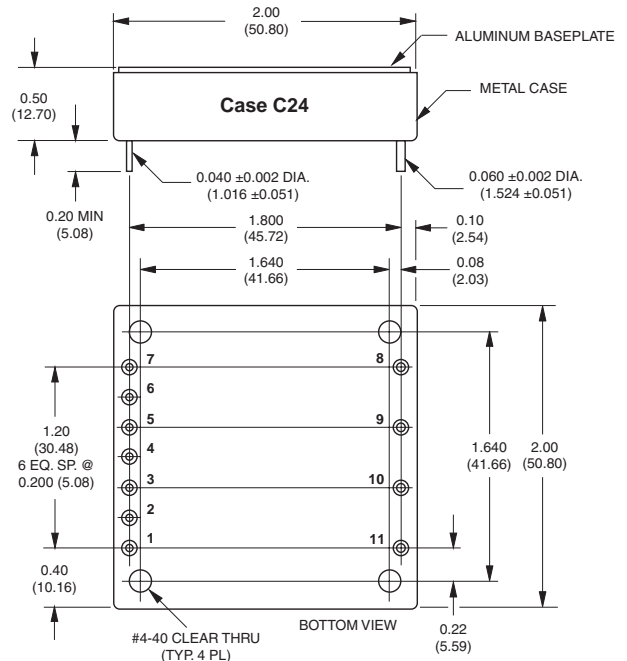


## TEMPERATURE DERATIN



The horizontal axis of the above chart references the temperature of the DTL4A's aluminum baseplate. The device can continually dissipate up to 100 Watts if the baseplate is maintained at or below +50°C. At +25°C ambient temperature, with no heat sink or supplemental air flow, the DTL4A can reliably dissipate a continuous 10 Watts.

## MECHANICAL SPECIFICATIONS



## I/O Connections

| Pin | Function P31         | Pin | Function P31        |
|-----|----------------------|-----|---------------------|
| 1   | Fault                | 7   | Control Strobe (CS) |
| 2   | Ground               | 8   | -Load               |
| 3   | +5 Volt Supply       | 9   | -Load               |
| 4   | Latch Data (LD)      | 10  | +Load               |
| 5   | Serial Data In (SDI) | 11  | +Load               |
| 6   | Clock (CLK)          |     |                     |

Contact DATEL for Heat Sink information.

## Performance/Functional Specifications

Typical @ T<sub>A</sub> = +25°C with nominal +5V supply voltage, unless noted.

| Digital Inputs/Outputs                                  |  |
|---|--|
| Logic Compatibility (Pins 1, 4-7)                       | CMOS/TTL                                       |
| Input Logic Levels:                                     |  |
| Logic "1"   | +2 Volts, minimum                              |
| Logic "0"   | +0.8 Volts, maximum                            |
| Input Logic Loading:                                    |  |
| Logic "1" (I <sub>IH</sub> @ V <sub>IH</sub> = 5 Volts) | 20μA, maximum                                  |
| Logic "0" (I <sub>IL</sub> @ V <sub>IL</sub> = 0 Volts) | -0.6mA, maximum                                |
| Output Logic Levels:                                    |  |
| Logic "1" (@ 150μA)                                     | +3.5 Volts, minimum                            |
| Logic "0" (@ 1.6mA)                                     | +0.4 Volts, maximum                            |
| Timing  | See Timing Diagram                             |
| Output  |  |
| Current:  |  |
| Range   | 0-10 Amps                                      |
| Resolution ①  | 0.024%FS (2.44mA)                              |
| Accuracy ⑥  | ±1%, maximum                                   |
| Voltage Range ②   | 2.5-150 Volts                                  |
| Power Range   | 0-100 Watts                                    |
| Impedance   | 10MΩ, minimum                                  |
| Offset Error ③  | ±3mA, maximum                                  |
| Gain Error  | ±0.1%, maximum                                 |
| Isolation Voltage:                                      |  |
| Digital Inputs/Output to ±Load                          | 500Vdc, minimum                                |
| Any Pin to Case   | 500Vdc, minimum                                |
| Isolation Resistance                                    | 100MΩ, minimum                                 |
| Dynamic Performance                                     |  |
| Output Slew Rate  | ±10A/μsec, minimum                             |
| Output Settling Time ④                                  | 100μsec  |
| Digital Input Update Rate                               | to 20kHz                                       |
| Power Requirements                                      |  |
| Power Supply Range (+V <sub>CC</sub> , Pin 3)           | +4.75-5.25 Volts (+5V nominal)                 |
| Power Supply Current                                    | 110mA typ., 150mA max.                         |
| Environmental   |  |
| Operating Temperature ⑤                                 | -40 to +100°C (Case)                           |
| Storage Temperature                                     | -40 to +125°C (Ambient)                        |
| Humidity (Non-condensing)                               | to 95%   |
| Altitude Above Sea Level                                | 10,000 feet                                    |
| Physical  |  |
| Dimensions  | 2" x 2" x 0.5" (51 x 51 x 12.7mm)              |
| Shielding   | 6-sided (Connected to pin 2)                   |
| Case Material   | Tin-plated steel shell with aluminum baseplate |
| Pin Material  | Brass, solder coated                           |
| Mounting Holes  | Through-hole spacers, #4-40 clearance          |
| Weight  | 1.9 ounces (54 grams)                          |

- ① The smallest increment/decrement in output current is defined by one LSB (least significant bit) of the 12-bit digital input word. One LSB is equal to full scale (FS) divided by 4096 which corresponds to 0.0244% of 10A or 2.44mA.
- ② For proper operation, the unit's output/load voltage must remain within this range. Voltages greater than the listed maximum can damage the device. Voltages less than the minimum provide insufficient bias for the output stage and will result in unpredictable or no operation. See Output Compliance Voltage and the Fault Line for details.
- ③ Offset error is defined as the current sunk/sourced by the DTL4A's output, under any output voltage conditions, when the digital input word is all "0's."
- ④ Full scale step (10 Amps) settling to within ±2.44mA of its final value.
- ⑤ See Temperature Derating.
- ⑥ Applies over all specified ranges/combinations of load voltage/current, operating temperature, and V<sub>CC</sub>.

| Absolute Maximum Ratings  |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Power Supply Voltage (+V <sub>CC</sub> , Pin 3)   | -0.5 to +5.5 Volts   |
| Digital Input Voltage (Pins 4-7)  | -0.5 to +5.5 Volts   |
| Output Reverse-Polarity Protection  | No protection        |
| Output Overvoltage Protection   | No protection        |
| Output Undervoltage Protection  | Yes (See Fault Line) |
| Case Temperature  | +105°C               |
| Storage Temperature (Ambient)   | -40 to +125°C        |
| Lead Temperature (soldering, 10 sec.)   | +300°C               |
| These are stress ratings. Exposure of devices to any of these conditions may adversely affect long-term reliability. Proper operation under conditions other than those listed in the Performance/Functional Specifications Table is not implied. |                      |

## TECHNICAL NOTES

### Overview

The DTL4A is a digitally programmable, CMOS/TTL-compatible, serial-input current sink. It's output/load current range is 0 to 10 Amps (in 2.44mA increments), over a compliance voltage range of 2.5 to 150 Volts and an output/load power range of 0 to 100 Watts. The device's digital I/O coding is straight binary (see table below). A digital input of all "0's" forces a load current of 0 Amps. A digital input of all "1's" forces a load current of 9.99756 Amps.

In a typical power-supply test or burn-in application, the output pins of the device under test (DUT) are connected to the DTL4A's +Load (pins 10 and 11) and -Load (pins 8 and 9) outputs. The DTL4A's operation is controlled by its four digital input lines (Serial Data In, Clock, Latch Data and Control Strobe).

| Serial Input Data Word |      |      | Load Current (Amps) |
|------------------------|------|------|---------------------|
| MSB                    |      | LSB  | DTL4A               |
| 1111                   | 1111 | 1111 | 9.9976              |
| 1100                   | 0000 | 0000 | 7.5000              |
| 1000                   | 0000 | 0000 | 5.0000              |
| 0111                   | 1111 | 1111 | 4.9976              |
| 0100                   | 0000 | 0000 | 2.5000              |
| 0010                   | 0000 | 0000 | 1.2500              |
| 0000                   | 0000 | 0001 | 0.0024              |
| 0000                   | 0000 | 0000 | 0.0000              |

Mapping of the Serial-Input Data to Load Current

### Initialization

Preparing the DTL4A to accept new digital data is accomplished by applying logic "1's" to Control Strobe ( $\overline{CS}$ , pin 7), Latch Data ( $\overline{LD}$ , pin 4) and Clock (CLK, pin 6) with all signals present and stable for a minimum of 1 $\mu$ sec. During this interval, it does not matter whether or not data is present on the Serial Data In (SDI, pin 5) line.

### Serial Data

Following initialization, the 12-bit digital word representing the desired output current is applied to the SDI pin. The serial data should appear starting with the most significant bit (MSB, bit 1, D11) and ending with the least significant bit (LSB, bit 12, D0). With each data bit present and stable on the SDI line, the CLK must be toggled through a low-to-high transition to register that bit. Twelve rising clock edges, at rates up to 500kHz, are required to clock all 12 digital bits into the DTL4A's input register.

### Latching Data and Presenting It to the D/A

After loading the LSB, the serial data word is latched by bringing the Control Strobe (pin 7) high and then toggling the Latch Data pin (pin 4) through a high-low-high sequence. Approximately 100 $\mu$ sec later, the output current will settle to its final desired value.

### Software: C Language

The following steps describe a typical timing sequence when using the DTL4A's 4 digital inputs and a programming language such as C. Using 4 bits of a typical 8-bit port, assign BIT\_0 to the Control Strobe ( $\overline{CS}$ , pin 7), BIT\_1 to Latch Data ( $\overline{LD}$ , pin 4), BIT\_2 to Serial Data In (SDI, pin 5), and BIT\_3 to the Clock (CLK, pin 6).

1. Initialize with Control Strobe, Latch Data, and Clock high:  
BIT\_0 = 1, BIT\_1 = 1, BIT\_2 = X (don't care), BIT\_3 = 1
2. Bring the Control Strobe low.  
BIT\_0 = 0
3. Apply the MSB (D11) of the serial data word to Serial Data In.  
BIT\_2 = 0 or 1
4. Toggle the Clock high-low-high.  
BIT\_3 = 1 to 0 to 1
5. Apply D10 of the serial data word to Serial Data In.  
BIT\_2 = 0 or 1
6. Toggle the Clock high-low-high.  
BIT\_3 = 1 to 0 to 1
7. Repeat the process for remaining data bits D9 through D0.
8. Drive the Control Strobe high.  
BIT\_0 = 1
9. Toggle the Latch Data input high-low-high.  
BIT\_1 = 1 to 0 to 1.

### Output Compliance Voltage and the Fault Line

For proper operation, the DTL4A's output/load voltage must always be between 2.5 and 150 Volts. The device cannot be used to directly load low-voltage, e.g. 1.8V or 2.5V, power components or to simulate a true short circuit (0 Volts). Voltages greater than 150V can damage the device. Voltages <2.5V will result in insufficient biasing of the output current source and consequently unpredictable or no operation. Accordingly, we have installed an internal output/load-voltage monitoring circuit. If the output/load voltage drops below 2.5V and the DTL4A's output is at risk of becoming disabled, the Fault line activates.

The Fault line is an optically isolated, active-low function with an open-collector output (internal 10k $\Omega$  pull-up resistor to +5V). Under normal conditions, its output is high (logic "1"). Under fault conditions ( $V_{OUT} < 2.5V$ ), its output drops to a logic "0." There is no output/load-voltage monitoring circuit for voltages greater than 150V, and operation above 150V can damage the device.

An "offset supply" can be inserted between the DTL4A's -Load output (pins 8 and 9) and the power device under test (DUT) to "translate" the DTL4A's 147.5V output/load voltage range. The offset supply must have adequate current capabilities and be connected with the polarities indicated in Figure 2 below. Under no circumstances should the voltage across the DTL4A's output be allowed to experience a polarity reversal.

If a 5V/20A offset supply is inserted as shown, the range of DUT voltages will be -2.5 to +145 Volts. Such a configuration can be used for true short-circuit testing. A mechanical relay can be used to short the outputs of the DUT while the offset supply ensures the DTL4A always sees at least 5 Volts across its outputs.

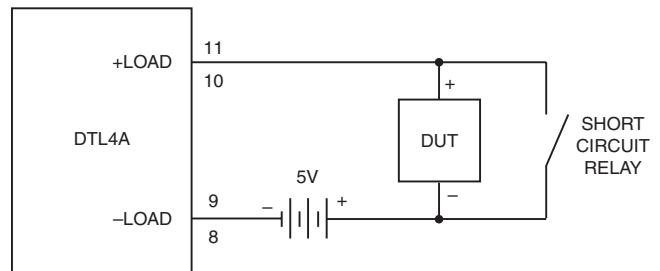
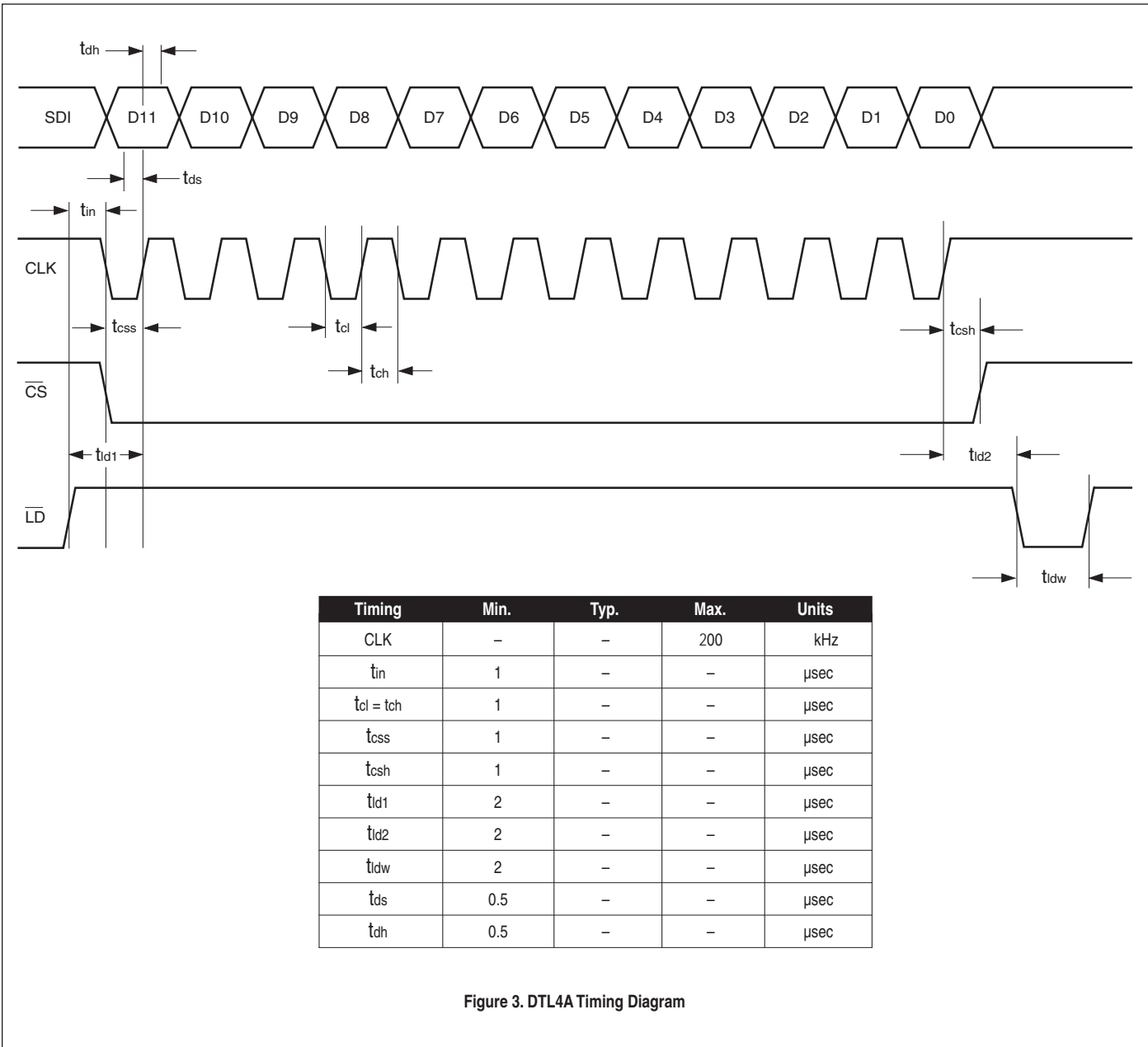


Figure 2. An "Offset Supply" Enables True Short-Circuit Testing

### Thermal Considerations

The DTL4A can reliably handle 100W loads if its case temperature is maintained at or below +50°C. With no heat sinking or auxiliary cooling, the device can only handle loads up to 10 Watts. Please refer to the Temperature Derating Curve for additional information. DATEL's Electronic Load Applications Engineers can assist you in developing heat-sink solutions for your higher-power DTL4A applications. Please contact us for details.



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