

# 3A Fast-Response LDO Regulator

### **General Description**

The LT1764 is a high-current, low-cost, low-dropout voltage regulator which uses Micrel's proprietary Super  $\beta$ eta PNP® process with a PNP pass element. The 3A LDO regulator features 450mV (full load) dropout voltage and very low ground current. Designed for high-current loads, these devices also find applications in lower current, low dropout-critical systems, where their dropout voltage and ground current values are important attributes.

Along with a total accuracy of  $\pm 2\%$  (over temperature, line and load regulation) the regulator features very-fast transient recovery from input voltage surges and output load current changes.

The LT1764 has an adjustable output which can be set by two external resistors to a voltage between 1.24V to 15V. In addition, the device is fully protected against over current faults, reversed input polarity, reversed lead insertion, and overtemperature operation. A TTL logic enable (EN) pin is available in the LT1764 to shutdown the regulator. When not used, the device can be set to continuous operation by connecting EN to the input (IN). The LT1764 is available in the standard and 5-pin

TO-263 and TO-252 packages with an operating junction temperature range of -40°C to +85°C.

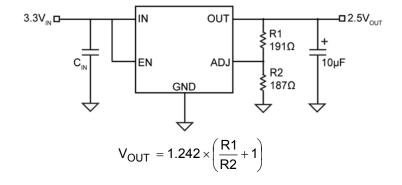
#### **Features**

- High-current capability
  - 3A over full temperature range
- · Low-dropout voltage of 450mV at full load
- Low ground current
- · Accurate 1% guaranteed tolerance
- Extremely-fast transient response
- Zero-current shutdown mode
- Error flag signals output out-of-regulation
- · Adjustable output voltage
- Packages: TO-263-5L.TO-220-5L and TO-252-5L

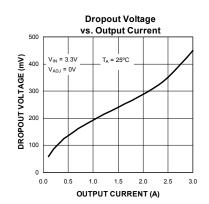
### **Applications**

- Processor peripheral and I/O supplies
- High-efficiency "Green" computer systems
- · Automotive electronics
- High-efficiency linear lower supplies
- Battery-powered equipment
- · PC add-in cards
- High-efficiency lost-regulator for switching supply

### **Typical Application**



LT1764 Adjustable Output Regulator

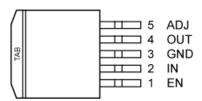


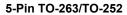


### **ORDERING INFORMATION**

DEVICE	Package Type	MARKING	Packing	Packing Qty
LT1764T	TO220-5L	LT1764	TUBE	1000pcs/box
LT1764S/TR	TO263-5L	LT1764	REEL	500pcs/reel
LT1764DT/TR	TO252-5L	LT1764	REEL	2000pcs/reel

# **Pin Configuration**







TO-220-5

# **Pin Description**

Pin Number TO-263/TO-252	Pin Number TO-220	Pin Name	Pin Name
1 1 EN Enable (Input): Active-high CMOS compatible control input. Do not float.		Enable (Input): Active-high CMOS compatible control input. Do not float.	
2 2 IN INPUT: Unregulated input, +2.8V to +16V maximum		INPUT: Unregulated input, +2.8V to +16V maximum	
3, TAB 3, TAB GND GND: TAB is also connected internally to the IC's ground on both pack		GND: TAB is also connected internally to the IC's ground on both packages.	
4	4	OUT	OUTPUT: The regulator output voltage
5	5	ADJ	Feedback Voltage: 1.24V feedback from external resistor divider.



# Absolute Maximum Ratings<sup>(1)</sup>

Input Supply Voltage (V <sub>IN</sub> ) <sup>(1)</sup>	20V to +20V
Enable Input Voltage (V <sub>EN</sub> )	0.3V to V <sub>IN</sub>
Lead Temperature (soldering, 5sec.)	260°C
Power Dissipation	Internally Limited
Storage Temperature Range	–65°C to +150°C
ESD Rating all pins <sup>(3)</sup>	

# Operating Ratings<sup>(2)</sup>

Operating .	Junction Temperature	40°C to +12	25°C
Operating I	Input Voltage	3V to	16V

# **Electrical Characteristics**(4)

 $V_{IN}$  = 4.2V;  $I_{OUT}$  = 100mA;  $T_A$  = 25°C, **bold** values indicate  $-40^{\circ}C \le T_J \le +125^{\circ}C$ , unless noted.

Parameter	Condition	Min.	Тур.	Max.	Units	
Output Voltage	•					
Output Voltage Accuracy	$100mA \leq I_{OUT} \leq 3A, \   \left(V_{OUT} + 1V\right) \leq V_{IN} \leq 16V$	-2		2	%	
Line Regulation	$I_{OUT}$ = 100mA, $(V_{OUT} + 1V) \le V_{IN} \le 16V$		0.1	0.5	%	
Load Regulation	$V_{IN} = V_{OUT} + 1V$ , $100mA \le I_{OUT} \le 3A$		0.2	1	%	
	$\Delta V_{OUT} = -1\%^{(6)}$				mV	
	I <sub>OUT</sub> = 100mA		80	200		
Dropout Voltage	I <sub>OUT</sub> = 750mA		220			
	I <sub>OUT</sub> = 1.5A		275			
	I <sub>OUT</sub> = 3A		450	800		
Ground Current						
	$I_{OUT} = 750 \text{mA}, V_{IN} = V_{OUT} + 1 \text{V}$		5	20		
Ground Current	I <sub>OUT</sub> = 1.5A		15		mA	
	I <sub>OUT</sub> = 3A		60	150		
I <sub>GRNDDO</sub> Ground Pin Current  @ Dropout	$V_{IN}$ = 0.5V less than specified $V_{OUT} \times I_{OUT}$ = 10mA		2			
Current Limit	$V_{OUT} = 0V^{(7)}$	3	4		Α	
e <sub>n</sub> , Output Noise Voltage (10Hz to 100kHz	C <sub>L</sub> = 10µF		400		μV	
I <sub>L</sub> = 100mA	C <sub>L</sub> = 33 μF		260		(rms)	
Ground Pin Current in Shutdown	Input Voltage V <sub>IN</sub> = 16V		32		μA	



## Electrical Characteristics (4) (Continued)

 $V_{IN}$  = 4.2V;  $I_{OUT}$  = 10mA;  $T_A$  = 25°C, **bold** values indicate –40°C≤  $T_J$  ≤ +125°C, unless noted.

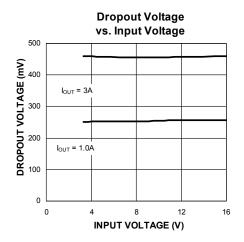
Reference					
Reference Voltage	(8)	1.215		1.267	V
A II. 4 D. D. O. 4			40		A
Adjust Pin Bias Current			120		nA
ENABLE Input		·			
Input Logic Voltage	Low (OFF)			0.8	V
	High (ON)	2.4			
Enable Pin Input Current	V <sub>EN</sub> = 8V		15	30	μΑ
				75	
	V = 0.9V			2	
	V <sub>EN</sub> = 0.8V			4	
Regulator Output Current	(10)		10		μA
in Shutdown				20	

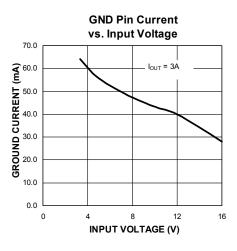
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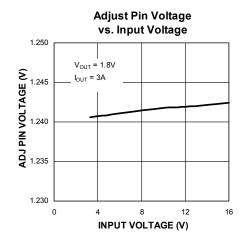
- 1. Exceeding the absolute maximum rating may damage the device.
- 2. The device is not guaranteed to function outside its operating rating.
- 3. Devices are ESD sensitive. Handling precautions recommended. Human body model, 1.5k in series with 100pF.
- 4. Specification for packaged product only
- 5. Output voltage temperature coefficient is defined as the worst case voltage change divided by the total temperature change.
- 6. Dropout voltage is defined as the input-to-output differential when output voltage drops to 99% of its normal value with V<sub>OUT</sub> + 1V applied to V<sub>IN</sub>.
- 7. VIN = VOUT (nominal) + 1V. For example, use VIN = 4.3V for a 3.3V regulator or use 6V for a 5V regulator. Employ pulse testing procedure for current limit.
- 8.  $V_{REF} \le V_{OUT} \le V_{IN} 1$ ,  $3V \le V_{OUT} \le 16V$ ,  $10mA \le I_L \le I_{FL}$ ,  $T_J \le T_{Jmax}$ .
- Thermal regulation is defined as the change in the output voltage at a time T after a change in power dissipation is applied, excluding load or line regulation effects. Specifications are for a 250mA load pulse at V<sub>IN</sub> =16V (a 4W pulse) for T= 10ms.
- 10.  $V_{EN} \le 0.8V$ ,  $V_{IN} \le 16V$  and  $V_{OUT}$  = 0V.

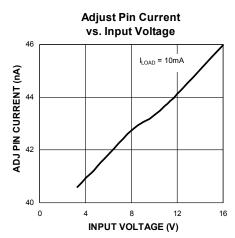


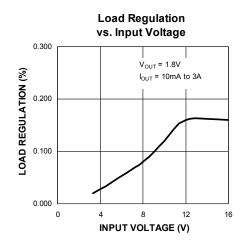
## **Typical Characteristics**

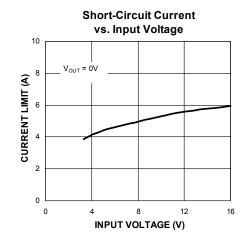


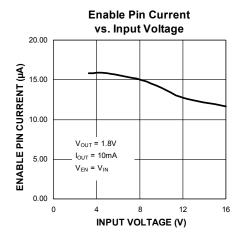


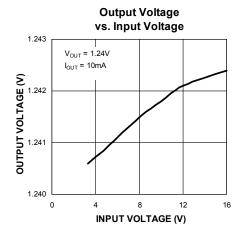






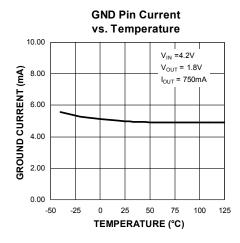


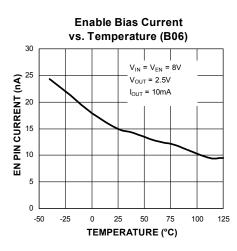


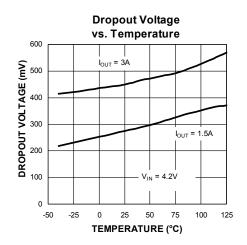


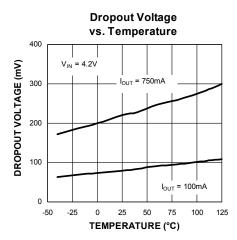


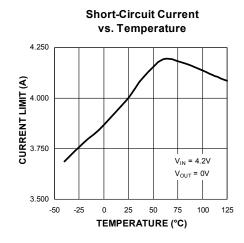
## **Typical Characteristics (Continued)**

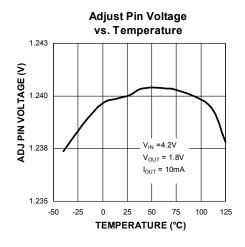


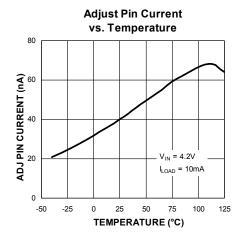


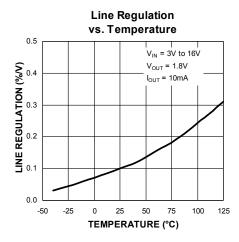






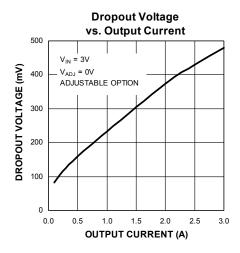


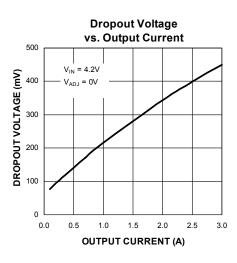


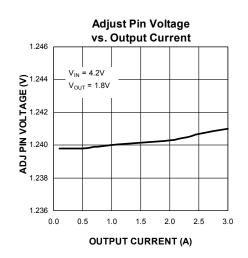


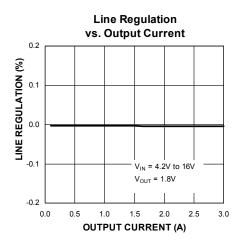


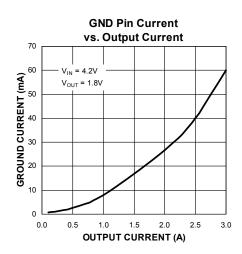
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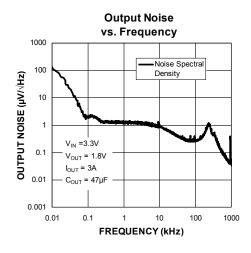


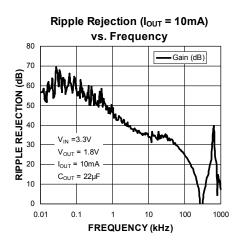


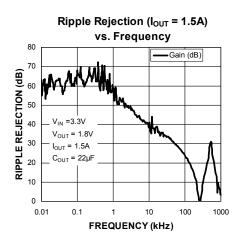


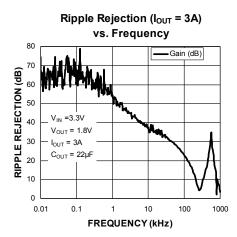














### **Functional Characteristics**

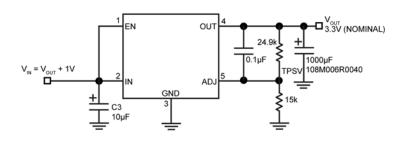
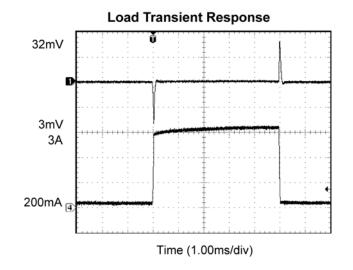
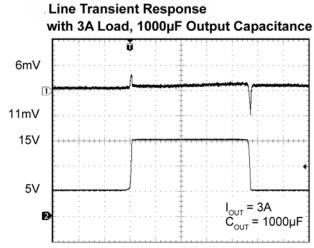
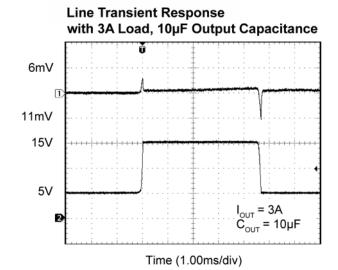


Figure 2. LT1764 Load Transient Response Test Circuit



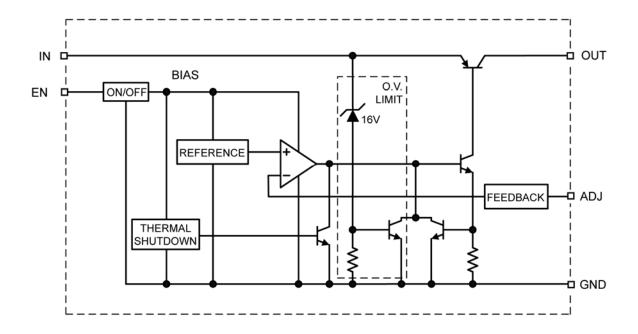


Time (1.00ms/div)





# **Functional Diagram**





### **Application Information**

The LT1764 is a high-performance, low-dropout voltage regulator suitable for all moderate to high-current voltage regulation applications. Its 450mV typical dropout voltage at full load makes it especially valuable in battery-powered systems and as high efficiency noise filters in "post-regulator" applications. Unlike older NPN-pass transistor designs, where the minimum dropout voltage is limited by the base-emitter voltage drop and collector-emitter saturation voltage, dropout performance of the PNP output is limited merely by the low  $V_{\text{CE}}$  saturation voltage.

A trade-off for the low-dropout voltage is a varying base driver requirement. But Micrel's Super ßeta PNP® process reduces this drive requirement to merely 1% of the load current.

The LT1764 regulator is fully protected from damage due to fault conditions. Current limiting is linear; output current under overload conditions is constant. Thermal shutdown disables the device when the die temperature exceeds the 125°C maximum safe operating temperature. The output structure of the regulators allows voltages in excess of the desired output voltage to be applied without reverse current flow. The LT1764 offer a logic level ON/OFF control: when disabled, the devices draw nearly zero current.

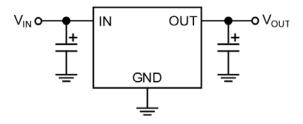


Figure 3. Linear Regulators Require Only Two Capacitors for Operation

#### **Thermal Design**

Linear regulators are simple to use. The most complicated set of design parameters to consider are thermal characteristics. Thermal design requires the following application-specific parameters:

- Maximum ambient temperature, T<sub>A</sub>
- Output Current, I<sub>OUT</sub>
- Output Voltage, V<sub>OUT</sub>
- Input Voltage, V<sub>IN</sub>

First, we calculate the power dissipation of the regulator from these numbers and the device parameters from this datasheet:

$$P_{D} = I_{OUT} (1.02V_{IN} - V_{OUT})$$

Where the ground current is approximated by 2% of  $I_{\text{OUT}}$ . Then the heat sink thermal resistance is determined with this formula:

$$\theta_{SA} = \frac{T_{JMAX} - T_{A}}{P_{D}} - (\theta_{JC} + \theta_{CS})$$

where:

 $T_{JMAX} \le 125$ °C and  $\theta_{CS}$  is between 0 and 2°C/W.

The heat sink may be significantly reduced in applications where the minimum input voltage is known and is large compared to the dropout voltage. A series input resistor can be used to drop excessive voltage and distribute the heat between this resistor and the regulator. The low-dropout properties of Micrel Super βeta PNP® regulators allow very significant reductions in regulator power dissipation and the associated heat sink without compromising performance. When this technique is employed, a capacitor of at least 0.1μF is needed directly between the input and regulator ground.

With no heat sink in the application, calculate the junction temperature to determine the maximum power dissipation that will be allowed before exceeding the maximum junction temperature of the LT1764. The maximum power allowed can be calculated using the thermal resistance ( $\theta_{JA}$ ) of the D-Pak (TO252) adhering to the following criteria for the PCB design: 2 oz. copper and  $100 \text{mm}^2$  copper area for the LT1764.

For example, given an expected maximum ambient temperature ( $T_A$ ) of 75°C with  $V_{IN}$  = 3.3V,  $V_{OUT}$  = 2.5V, and  $I_{OUT}$  = 1.5A, first calculate the expected  $P_D$  using:

$$P_D = (3.3V - 2.5V) \times 3A - (3.3V) \times (0.016A) = 2.3472W$$



Next, calcualte the junction temperature for the expected power dissipation:

$$T_J = (\theta_{JA} \times P_D) + T_A = (35^{\circ}C/W \times 2.3472W) + 75^{\circ}C = 157.15^{\circ}C$$

Now determine the maximum power dissipation allowed that would not exceed the IC's maximum junction temperature (125°C) without the use of a heat sink by:

$$P_{D(MAX)} = (T_{J(MAX)} - T_A) / \theta_{JA}$$
= (125°C - 75°C) / (35°C/W)
= 1 428W

#### **Capacitor Requirements**

For stability and minimum output noise, a capacitor on the regulator output is necessary. The value of this capacitor is dependent upon the output current; lower currents allow smaller capacitors. The LT1764 is stable with a  $10\mu F$  capacitor at full load.

This capacitor need not be an expensive low-ESR type; aluminum electrolytics are adequate. In fact, extremely low-ESR capacitors may contribute to instability. Tantalum capacitors are recommended for systems where fast load transient response is important.

When the regulator is powered from a source with high AC impedance, a  $0.1\mu F$  capacitor connected between input and GND is recommended.

#### Transient Response and 5V to 3.3V Conversion

The LT1764 has excellent response to variations in input voltage and load current. By virtue of its low dropout voltage, the device does not saturate into dropout as readily as similar NPN-based designs. A 3.3V output Micrel LDO will maintain full speed and performance with an input supply as low as 4.2V, and will still provide some regulation with supplies down to 3.8V, unlike NPN devices that require 5.1V or more for good performance and become nothing more than a resistor under 4.6V of input. Micrel's PNP regulators provide superior performance in "5V to 3.3V" conversion applications than NPN regulators, especially when all tolerances are considered.

#### **Minimum Load Current**

The LT1764 regulator operates within a specified load range. If the output current is too small, leakage currents dominate and the output voltage rises.

A minimum load current of 10mA is necessary for proper regulation and to swamp any expected leakage current across the operating temperature range.

For best performance the total resistance (R1+R2) should be small enough to pass the minimum regulator load current of 10mA.

#### Adjustable Regulator Design

The output voltage can be programmed anywhere between 1.25V and the 15V. Two resistors are used. The resistor values are calculated by:

$$R_1 = R_2 \times \left( \frac{V_{OUT}}{1.240} - 1 \right)$$

where V<sub>OUT</sub> is the desired output voltage.

Figure 4 shows component definition. Applications with widely varying load currents may scale the resistors to draw the minimum load current required for proper operation (see "Minimum Load Current" section).

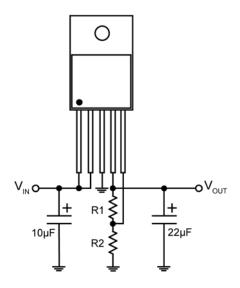


Figure 4. Adjustable Regulator with Resistors

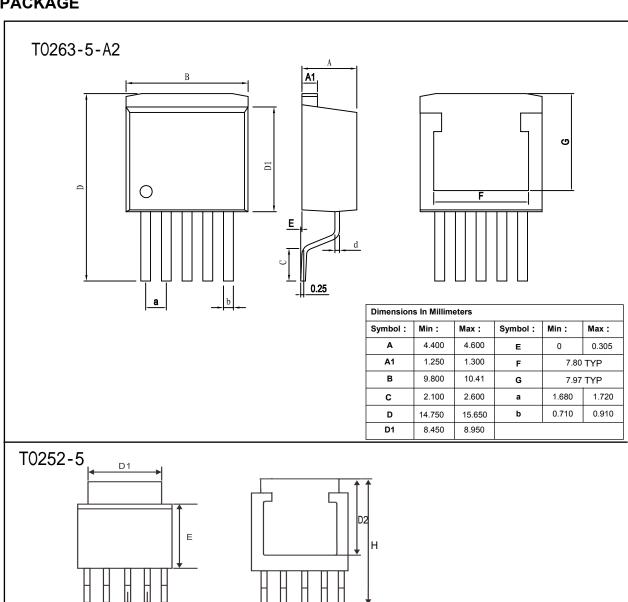
#### **Enable Input**

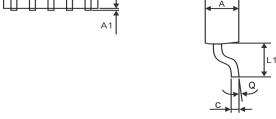
LT1764 features an enable (EN) input that allows ON/OFF control of the device. Special design allows "zero" current drain when the device is disabled—only microamperes of leakage current flows. The EN input has TTL/CMOS compatible thresholds for simple interfacing with logic, or may be directly tied to  $V_{\rm IN}$ . Enabling the regulator requires approximately  $20\mu A$  of current into the EN pin.

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### **PACKAGE**

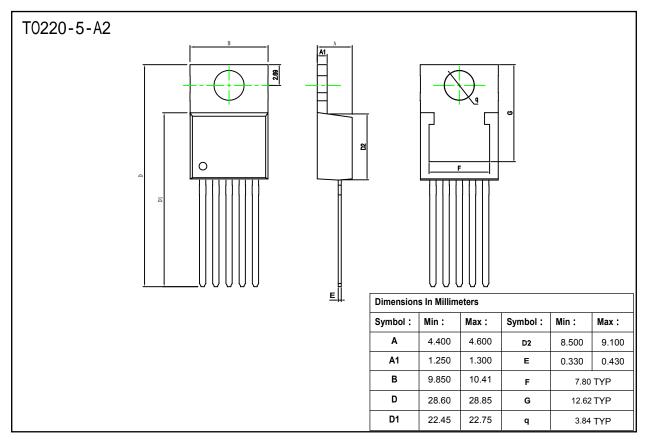




Dimension	s In Millim	eters			
Symbol :	Min: Max: Symbol: Min: Ma				Max:
Α	2.100	2.500	L1	3.100	3.200
<b>A</b> 1	0.000	0.300	ø	0°	8°
В	6.400	6.600	b	0.550	0.660
С	0.490	0.560	e	1.143	1.379
E	5.800	6.200	D1	5.300 TYP	
Н	9.200	10.200	D2	5.415 TYP	



### **PACKAGE**





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