

9702491-3
IPDS copy
P/1071-367

- 1 -

MONOLITHIC CERAMIC CAPACITOR

[FIELD OF THE INVENTION]

[* 1 moved from here; text not shown]

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

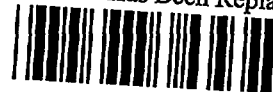
5 [Hitherto, a production process of a monolithic ceramic capacitor is generally as follows.] 1. Field of the Invention

10 ** 1 The present invention relates to a ceramic capacitor used for electronic instruments, and particularly to a monolithic ceramic capacitor having internal electrodes made up of nickel or a nickel alloy.

15 Hitherto, the production process for a monolithic ceramic capacitor is generally as follows. First, a sheet-form dielectric ceramic layer having coated on [the] its surface [thereof] an electrode material [becoming] for forming an internal electrode is prepared. As the dielectric ceramic layer, a material composed of, for example, BaTiO₃, is used as the main component. Then, [by calcining] a laminate is prepared
20 by laminating the sheet-form ceramic dielectric layers [each] coated with the electrode material followed by [press-sticking by heating in a body in a natural atmosphere] being pressed and heated at 1250 to 1350°C. Thereby, a ceramic laminate having internal electrodes is
25 obtained. Also, by plating an external electrode electrically connecting to the internal electrodes [to the side surface of the ceramic laminate], a monolithic ceramic capacitor is obtained.

SPEC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 2 -

Accordingly, it is necessary that the material for the internal electrodes [meets] to meet the following conditions.

5 1. Because the ceramic laminate and the internal electrodes are simultaneously calcined, the material has a melting point of at least the calcination temperature of the ceramic laminate.

2. The material is not oxidized in an oxidative high-temperature atmosphere and does not react
10 with the dielectric ceramic layer.

As the electrode meeting such conditions, noble metals such as platinum, gold, palladium[,] or a silver-palladium alloy, etc., have been used. These [However, these] electrode materials have excellent characteristics
15 but on the other hand, because the material is expensive, the ratio of the electrode material cost [occupying] to the monolithic ceramic capacitor cost reaches from 30 to 70%, which is the largest factor [of] increasing the production cost.

20 As other materials having a high melting point [than the noble metals], there are base metals such as Ni, Fe, Co, W, Mo, etc., but these base metals are easily oxidized in a high-temperature oxidative atmosphere and becomes useless as the electrode. Thus, to use these
25 base metals as the internal electrodes of a monolithic ceramic capacitor, it is necessary that the base metal is calcined in a neutral or reducing atmosphere together with the dielectric ceramic layer. However, conventional dielectric ceramic materials have the fault that when the
30 dielectric ceramic materials are calcined in such a neutral or reducing atmosphere, the material [are] is greatly reduced and converted to semiconductors.

SPEC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 3 -

To overcome [such a] this fault, a dielectric ceramic material wherein [in a barium titanate solid solution,] the ratio of barium site/titanium site [is excessive to] in the barium titanate solid solution is in excess of the stoichiometric ratio as shown in
5 Examined Published Japanese Patent Application No. Sho 57-42588 and a dielectric ceramic material obtained by adding the oxide of a rare earth element such as La, Nd, Sm, Dy, Y, etc., to a barium titanate solid solution as
10 shown in Unexamined Published Japanese Patent Application No. Sho 61-101459 are proposed.

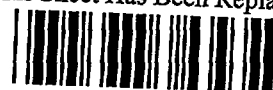
Also, as dielectric ceramic materials having a [less] lower temperature change of the dielectric constant, for example, the dielectric ceramic materials
15 of [a] the $\text{BaTiO}_3\text{-CaZrO}_3\text{-MnO-MgO}$ series composition shown in Unexamined Published Japanese Patent No. 62-256422 and a $\text{BaTiO}_3\text{-(Mg, Zn, Sr, Ca)O-B}_2\text{O}_3\text{-SiO}_2$ series composition shown in Examined Published Japanese Patent Application
No. Sho 61-14611 are proposed.

20 By using such [a] dielectric ceramic [material] materials, a ceramic laminate which is not converted to a semiconductor by calcination in a reducing atmosphere can be obtained and the production of a monolithic ceramic capacitor using a base metal such as nickel, etc., as the
25 internal electrodes becomes possible.

With the recent progress [of] in electronics, small-sizing of electronic parts [proceeds] has proceeded rapidly and the tendency [of] to small [-sizing] size and [increasing the] increase in capacity of the monolithic
30 ceramic capacitor [becomes] is remarkable. Accordingly, [the] demand for [the] a dielectric ceramic material having a high dielectric constant, showing a [less] lower

SPEC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 4 -

temperature change of the dielectric constant, and having
[an] excellent reliability. [is] has increased.

However, in the dielectric ceramic materials
shown in Examined Published Japanese Patent Application
5 No. Sho 57-42588 and Unexamined Published Japanese Patent
No. Sho 61-101459, a large dielectric constant is
obtained but there is [a] the fault that the crystal
particles of the ceramic laminate obtained [become] are
large and when the thickness of the dielectric ceramic
10 layer in the monolithic ceramic capacitor becomes as thin
as 10 μ m or thinner, the number of the crystal particles
in [one] each layer is decreased [to lower the] and this
lowers reliability. Also, there is a problem that the
temperature change of the dielectric constant is large
15 and it cannot be said that these materials sufficiently
meet the demand of markets.

On the other hand, in the dielectric ceramic
material shown in Unexamined Published Japanese Patent
No. Sho 62-256422, the dielectric constant is relatively
20 high, the crystal particles of the ceramic laminate
obtained are small, and the temperature change of the
dielectric constant is small, but because CaZrO₃ or CaTiO₃
formed during the calcination process is liable to form
a secondary phase with MnO, there is a problem [on the]
25 with reliability at [a] high temperature.

Also, in the dielectric ceramic material shown
in Examined Published Japanese Patent Application No. 61-
14611, there is a fault that the dielectric constant
obtained is from 2,000 to 2,800 and the material is
30 disadvantageous [in] from the view point of small-sizing
and increasing the capacity of the monolithic ceramic
capacitor. Furthermore, there is a problem that the
material does not satisfy the X7R characteristics

SPEC\206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 5 -

[regulated by] of the BIA Standard, that is the change ratio of the electrostatic capacity between the temperature range of from -55 to +125°C [does] is not [satisfy] within $\pm 15\%$.

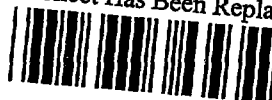
5 [Thus, to] To solve the above-described problems, [the] compositions are proposed in Unexamined Published Japanese Patent Application Nos. Hei 5-9066, Hei 5-9067, and Hei 5-9068. However, [thereafter,] the market demand [of markets] for [the] reliability
10 [becomes] thereafter has become more severe and the demand for [the] a dielectric ceramic material which is excellent in [the] reliability has been increased. Also, at the same time, the demand for thinning the ceramic dielectric layer has become severe.

15 [However, when] When in the case of thinning the ceramic dielectric layer, the rated voltage is to be the same as the rated voltage before thinning, the electric field applied per [one] layer becomes large and thus the insulation resistance at room temperature and at
20 a high temperature is lowered, whereby the reliability is greatly lowered. Thus, in conventional dielectric ceramic materials, [in the case of] it is required to lower the rated voltage when thinning the ceramic dielectric layer. Therefore, it is desired[, it is
25 required to lower the rated voltage. Thus, it becomes necessary] to provide a monolithic ceramic capacitor which does not need [to lower] a lowering of the rated voltage by thinning the ceramic dielectric layer, has an insulation resistance under a
30 high electric field strength, and has [an] excellent reliability.

[Now, in] In a small-sized and large capacity monolithic ceramic capacitor, [to cope with automatic

SPBC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 6 -

surface packaging,] a plated film such as a soft solder, etc., is formed on a baked external electrode of an electrically conductive metal powder [as the external electrodes] to cope with automatic surface packaging.

5 As [a] the method of forming a plated film, an electrolytic plating method is general used. Usually, fine voids are formed in a baked electrode of an electrically conductive metal powder[, fine voids are formed]. Accordingly, there is a problem that when the
10 monolithic ceramic capacitor is immersed in a plating liquid in the case of forming a plating film on the electrodes, the plating liquid permeates [in] the voids of the baked electrodes and reaches the interface between the internal electrode and the dielectric ceramic layer
15 to lower the reliability.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Thus, the primary object of the present invention is to provide a small-sized and large capacity monolithic ceramic capacitor at a low cost, wherein the
20 dielectric constant is at least 3,000[,]₁ when the insulation resistance is expressed by the product with the electrostatic capacity (CR product), the insulation resistances at room temperature and at 125°C are high as at least 2,000 MΩ•μF and at least 500 MΩ•μF respectively
25 [,]₁ the temperature characteristics of the electrostatic capacity [satisfy] satisfies the B characteristics [regulated by] of the JIS Standard and the X7R characteristics [regulated by] of the EIA Standard[,]₁ and the reliability is high regardless of the presence or
30 absence of the plated layer.

The present invention has been made in view of the above-described object.

SPEC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 7 -

The present invention provides a monolithic ceramic capacitor comprising plural dielectric ceramic layers, plural internal electrodes [each formed] between the above-described dielectric ceramic layers such that the end of each of the internal electrodes is alternatively [exposes] exposed to [both the] different side surfaces of the above-described dielectric ceramic layer, and external electrodes formed such that they are electrically connected to the exposed internal electrodes, wherein the dielectric ceramic layers are constituted by a material comprising barium titanate having a content of alkali metal oxides [contained] as impurities in an amount of not more than about 0.02% by weight, at least one [kind] member selected from scandium oxide and yttrium oxide, at least one [kind] member selected from samarium oxide and europium oxide, manganese oxide, cobalt oxide, and nickel oxide; containing [by addition] magnesium oxide as an accessory constituent in an amount of from about 0.5 to 5.0 mols [converted] as MgO to 100 mols of [the] a main constituent shown by the following composition formula;

(1- α - β - γ){BaO}_m•TiO₂ + α M₂O₃ + β Re₂O₃ + γ (Mn_{1-x}Ni_xCo_y)O
(wherein, M₂O₃ is at least one [kind selected from] of Sc₂O₃ and Y₂O₃; Re₂O₃ is at least one [kind selected from] of Sm₂O₃ and Eu₂O₃ and α , β , γ , m, x, and y are

$$0.0025 \leq \alpha + \beta \leq 0.025$$

$$0 \leq \beta \leq 0.0075$$

$$0.0025 \leq \gamma \leq 0.05$$

$$\gamma / (\alpha + \beta) \leq 4$$

$$0 \leq x < 1.0$$

$$0 \leq y < 1.0$$

$$0 \leq x + y < 1.0$$

$$1.000 < m \leq 1.035);$$

SPEC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 8 -

and furthermore, containing an $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ series oxide glass in an amount of from about 0.2 to 3.0 parts by weight to 100 parts by weight of the sum [total] of the above-described main [constituents] constituent and above-described magnesium oxide, and the above-described internal electrodes are constituted by nickel or a nickel alloy.

Also, in the monolithic ceramic capacitor, it is preferred that [when] in the triangular diagram of $\{\text{Li}_2\text{O}, \text{B}_2\text{O}_3, (\text{Si}_w\text{Ti}_{1-w})\text{O}_2\}$ (wherein $0.3 \leq w < 1.0$) [is formed], the above-described $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ series oxide glass is in the inside of the region surrounded by 6 straight lines or on the lines linking 6 points of

A (0, 20, 80)
B (19, 1, 80)
C (49, 1, 50)
D (45, 50, 5)
E (20, 75, 5)
F (0, 80, 20)

and contains by addition at least one [kind] of Al_2O_3 and ZrO_2 in the sum total of not more than about 20 parts by weight (with a proviso that ZrO_2 is not more than about 10 parts by weight) to 100 parts by weight of the above-described constituents.

Also, in the monolithic ceramic capacitor, it is preferred that the above-described external electrode is constituted by a sintered layer of an electrically conductive metal powder or an electrically conductive metal powder [added] mixed with a glass frit.

Furthermore, it is preferred that the above-described external electrode is composed of a first layer made up of sintered layer of an electrically conductive metal powder or an electrically conductive metal powder

SPEC006970.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 9 -

[added] mixed with a glass frit and a second layer made up of a plated layer on the first layer.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a schematic cross-sectional view showing an embodiment of the monolithic ceramic capacitor of the present invention,

Fig. 2 is a schematic plane view showing an embodiment of the dielectric ceramic layer having an internal electrode in the present invention,

Fig. 3 is an exploded slant view showing an embodiment of the ceramic laminate of this invention, and

Fig. 4 is a ternary composition diagram of $\{Li_2O, B_2O_3, (Si_wTi_{1-w})O_2\}$ showing the composition range of the $Li_2O-B_2O_3-(Si, Ti)O_2$ series oxide glass.

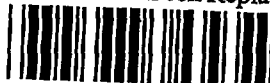
DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION

[
Then, the practical embodiments of the present invention are described.

]In the monolithic ceramic capacitor of the present invention, by using the dielectric ceramic material having a composition ratio of barium titanate, at least one [kind] of scandium oxide and yttrium oxide, at least one [kind] of samarium oxide and europium oxide, manganese oxide, cobalt oxide, and nickel oxide adjusted as described above and containing [by] in addition magnesium oxide and the $Li_2O-B_2O_3-(Si, Ti)O_2$ series oxide glass as the material for the dielectric ceramic layer, [when] the material [is] can be calcined in a reducing atmosphere[, the material can be calcined] without deteriorating [the] its characteristics, and the monolithic ceramic capacitor [satisfying] satisfies the B

SPEC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 10 -

characteristics [regulated by] of the JIS Standard and
[satisfying] the X7R characteristics [regulated by] of
the EIA Standard, and [having] has a high insulation
resistance and a high reliability at room temperature and
5 at a high temperature under a high electric field
strength.

Also, because the crystal grain sizes of the
dielectric ceramic laminate obtained are small as 1 μm or
smaller, the number of the crystal grains existing in
10 [one] each dielectric layer can be increased and thus
lowering of the reliability can be prevented [by] when
thinning the thickness of the dielectric ceramic layer of
the monolithic ceramic capacitor.

In addition, it has been confirmed that in the
15 present invention, [in] of the alkaline earth metal
oxides such as SrO, CaO, etc., the alkali metal oxides
such as Na₂O, K₂O, etc., and other oxides such as Al₂O₃,
SiO₂, etc., existing as impurities in barium titanate in
the above-described main constituents, the [contents]
20 content of particularly the alkali metal oxides such as
Na₂O, K₂O, etc., [give] has a large [influences] influence
on the electric characteristics. That is, it has been
confirmed that by using barium titanate wherein the
[contents] content of the alkali metal oxides existing as
25 impurities are less than about 0.02% by weight, the
dielectric constant of 3,000 or higher is obtained.

Also, it has been confirmed that by adding
[the] an oxide glass mainly composed of Li₂O-B₂O₃-(Si,
Ti)O₂ into the dielectric ceramic layer, the sintering
30 property becomes good and also [a] plating resistance is
improved. Furthermore, by adding Al₂O₃ and ZrO₂ to the
oxide glass mainly composed of Li₂O-B₂O₃-(Si, Ti)O₂, it

SPEC204570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 11 -

becomes possible to obtain a higher insulation resistance.

When a dielectric ceramic layer is formed using the dielectric ceramic material as described above, a
5 small-sized and large capacity monolithic ceramic capacitor capable of coping with automatic surface packaging, showing a small temperature change of the electrostatic capacity, and having a high reliability can be realized, and also nickel or a nickel alloy can be
10 used as the internal electrodes. Also, a small amount of a ceramic powder can be added together with nickel or a nickel alloy.

Also, there is no particular restriction on the composition of the external electrodes. Practically, the
15 external electrode may be constituted by, for example, [the] a sintered layer of the powder of each of various electrically conductive metals such as Ag, Pd, Ag-Pd, Cu, Cu alloys, etc., or [the] a sintered layer of the above-described electrically conductive metal powder compounded
20 with [each of] various glass frits such as [a] the B_2O_3 - Li_2O - SiO_2 - BaO series, [a] B_2O_3 - SiO_2 - BaO series, [an] Li_2O - SiO_2 - BaO series, [a] B_2O_3 - SiO_2 - ZnO series, etc. Also, a small amount of a ceramic powder may be added [together
25 with] to the electrically conductive metal powder and the glass frit. More preferably, when a plated layer is formed on the sintered layer, the plated layer may be only a plated layer made up of Ni, Cu, an Ni-Cu alloy, etc., and may further [has] have thereon a plated layer of a soft solder, tin, etc.

30 [Then, the] The present invention [is] will be practically explained based on the following examples but the present invention is not limited by such examples [only].

SPEC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 12 -

First, an embodiment of the monolithic ceramic capacitor of the present invention is explained by referring to the accompanying drawings. Fig. 1 is a schematic cross-sectional view showing an embodiment of the monolithic ceramic capacitor of the present invention, Fig. 2 is a schematic plane view showing an embodiment of the laminated ceramic layer of the present invention having an internal electrode, and Fig. 3 is an exploded slant view showing an embodiment of the present invention.

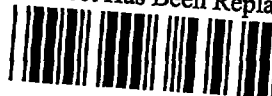
As shown in Fig. 1, the monolithic ceramic capacitor 1 of the present invention is a rectangular form chip-type monolithic ceramic capacitor prepared by forming external electrodes 5, a first layer 6 of nickel, copper, etc., and a second layer 7 of a soft solder, tin, etc., at both the side surfaces of a ceramic laminate 3 obtained by laminating plural dielectric ceramic layers 2a, 2b with [each] internal [electrode] electrodes 4 between the dielectric ceramic layers.

[Then] Next, the production method of the monolithic ceramic capacitor 1 of the present invention is explained in the order of the production steps.

First, a ceramic laminate 3 is formed. The ceramic laminate 3 is produced as follows. As shown in Fig. 2, a dielectric ceramic layer [2] 2b (green sheet) is prepared by forming a sheet of a slurry comprising the main constituents composed of barium titanate, at least one [kind selected from] of scandium oxide and yttrium oxide, at least one [kind selected from] of samarium oxide and europium oxide, manganese oxide, cobalt oxide, and nickel oxide, magnesium oxide, and [material] powders composed of an $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ series oxide glass, and an internal electrode 4 composed of nickel or a nickel

SPEC1206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 13 -

alloy is formed on one surface thereof. In addition, the internal electrode 4 may be formed by a screen printing, etc., or may be formed by a vapor-deposition method or a plating method. A necessary number of the dielectric ceramic layers 2b each having an internal electrode are laminated and as shown in Fig. 3, the laminated layers are placed between dielectric ceramic layers 2a [each] having no internal electrode and [press-stuck them] pressed together to provide a laminate. Thereafter, the laminated dielectric ceramic layers 2a, 2b[, . . . ,] 2b, 2a are calcined in a reducing atmosphere [at a definite temperature] to form the ceramic laminate 3.

Then[,] two external electrodes 5 are formed at [both] the side surfaces of the ceramic laminate 3 such that they are connected to the internal electrodes 4. As [the] material for the external electrodes 5, the same material as the internal electrodes 4 can be used. Also, silver, palladium, a silver-palladium alloy, copper, a copper alloy, etc., can be used[, also]. Also the foregoing metal powder [added] mixed with a glass frit of a B_2O_3 - SiO_2 -BaO series glass, a Li_2O - SiO_2 -BaO series glass, etc., [is] can be used[, and by]. By considering the use, [the using] place of use, etc., of the monolithic ceramic capacitor 1, a proper material is selected. [Also, the] The external electrodes 5 [are] can be formed by coating [the] a metal powder paste, which becomes the [material] electrode, on the ceramic laminate 3 obtained by calcination followed by baking but the paste may [be] also coated before calcination and the external electrodes may be formed simultaneously with the ceramic laminate 3. Thereafter, plating of nickel, copper, etc., is applied onto the external electrodes 5 to form a first layer 6. Finally, a plated second layer

SPBC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 14 -

7 of a soft solder, tin, etc., is formed on the plated first layer 6 to produce a chip-type monolithic ceramic capacitor 1.

Example 1

5 First, as the starting materials, TiCl_4 and $\text{Ba}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ having various purities were prepared and after weighing, they were precipitated as barium titanyl oxalate $\{\text{BaTiO}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4) \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}\}$ with oxalic acid [to provide precipitates]. By heat-decomposing the precipitates at a
 10 temperature of 1000°C or higher, the 4 kinds of barium [titanates] titanate (BaTiO_3) shown in Table 1 below were synthesized.

Table 1						
<u>Kind of</u> <u>BaTiO_3</u>	Content of Impurities (wt%)					<u>Mean</u> <u>Particle</u> <u>Size</u> (μm)
	Alkali [Mean Kind of] Metal [Particle BaTiO_3] Oxide	SrO	CaO	SiO_2	Al_2O_3	
A	0.003	0.012	0.001	0.010	0.005	0.60
B	0.020	0.010	0.003	0.019	0.008	0.56
C	0.012	0.179	0.018	0.155	0.071	0.72
D	0.062	0.014	0.001	0.019	0.004	0.58

20 [Also, the oxide, the carbonate, and the hydroxide of each component were weighed such that the composition ratio of $0.25\text{Li}_2\text{O}-0.30\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-0.03\text{TiO}_2-0.42\text{SiO}_2$ (mol ratio) was obtained and after mixing and grinding them, they were
 25 evaporated to dryness to provide a power. The powder was

SPBC006370.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 15 -

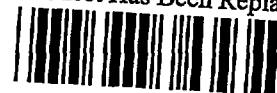
placed in an alumina crucible and after melting by heating at 1300°C, by quickly cooling and grinding the molten powder, an oxide glass powder having a mean grain size of 1 μm or smaller was obtained.)

5 Also, oxides, carbonates and hydroxides were weighed and combined such that the composition ratio of 0.25Li₂O-0.30B₂O₃-0.03TiO₂-0.42SiO₂ (mol ratio) was obtained after mixing and grinding and evaporating to dryness to provide a power. The powder was placed in an
10 alumina crucible and after melting by heating at 1300°C, quickly cooled and ground the molten powder ground to produce an oxide glass powder having a mean grain size of 1 μm or smaller.

15 Then, BaCO₃ for adjusting the Ba/Ti mol ratio [m] [m] of barium titanate and Sc₂O₃, Y₂O₃, Sm₂O₃, Eu₂O₃, MnCO₃, NiO, Co₂O₃, and MgO each having a purity of at least 99% were prepared. These raw material powders were compounded with the above-described oxide glass powder such that the composition ratios shown in Table 2 were
20 obtained to provide compounded products. To each of the compounded products were added a [polyvinylbutyral] polyvinyl butyral series binder and an organic solvent such as ethanol, etc., and the resultant mixture was wet-mixed in a ball mill to provide a ceramic slurry. Using
25 the ceramic slurry, a sheet was formed by [a] the doctor blade method to provide a rectangular green sheet having a thickness of 11 μm [was obtained]. Then, an electrically conductive paste mainly composed of Ni was screen-printed on the ceramic green sheet to form an
30 electrically conductive paste layer for constituting the internal electrode.

SPEC\206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 16 -

Table 2

Sample No.	Kind of Br ₂ O ₃	(1-x-4-y)BaO _{1-x} ·TiO ₂ +xM ₂ O ₃ +yRe ₂ O ₃ +z(Mn ₂ O ₃ +NiCo ₂ O ₄)										MgO	Addition of Amount of Oxide Glass
		M		Re		f	R ₂ O	γ	N ₂ (α+β)	x	y	z+y	III
		Se	Y	Sm	Bu								
*1	A					0.0000	0.0000	0.0260		0.20	0.20	0.40	1.015
*2	A		0.0050	0.0010		0.0060	0.0010	0.0000		0.00	0.00	0.00	1.010
*3	A		0.0080			0.0080	0.0000	0.0150	1.9	0.10	0.10	0.20	1.010
*4	A		0.0050		0.0010	0.0060	0.0010	0.0200	3.3	0.20	0.20	0.40	0.990
*5	A		0.0060	0.0015		0.0075	0.0015	0.0250	3.3	0.20	0.40	0.60	1.000
*6	A		0.0080	0.0020		0.0100	0.0020	0.0200	2.0	0.10	0.10	0.20	1.015
*7	A		0.0075	0.0025		0.0100	0.0025	0.0200	2.0	0.30	0.10	0.40	1.015
8	B		0.0015		0.0010	0.0025	0.0010	0.0025	1.0	0.30	0.10	0.40	1.015
9	A		0.0200	0.0050		0.0250	0.0050	0.0500	2.0	0.05	0.10	0.15	1.010
10	A		0.0075	0.0025		0.0100	0.0025	0.0400	4.0	0.10	0.30	0.40	1.005
11	C		0.0125	0.0075		0.0200	0.0075	0.0400	2.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.015
12	A		0.0050	0.0050		0.0100	0.0050	0.0300	3.0	0.10	0.20	0.30	1.035
13	A	0.0010	0.0050	0.0010		0.0070	0.0010	0.0200	2.9	0.00	0.60	0.60	1.010
14	A		0.0060	0.0010		0.0070	0.0010	0.0150	2.1	0.50	0.00	0.50	1.015
15	A	0.0005	0.0055	0.0005	0.0005	0.0070	0.0010	0.0250	3.6	0.10	0.10	0.20	1.010
16	A		0.0060	0.0010	0.0010	0.0080	0.0020	0.0250	3.1	0.05	0.20	0.25	1.015
17	A		0.0050	0.0010		0.0060	0.0010	0.0200	2.3	0.10	0.30	0.40	1.005
18	A		0.0040	0.0050		0.0090	0.0050	0.0250	2.8	0.10	0.10	0.20	1.015

SP2C200570 redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN REPLACED

- 17 -

Table 2 - Cont'd																
Sample No.	Kind of BaTiO ₃	(1-α-δ-γ)(BaO) _{1-x} •TiO ₂ +αM ₂ O ₃ +βRe ₂ O ₇ +γ(Mn ₂ O ₃ ,Ni ₂ O ₃)O													MgO	Addition Amount of Oxide Glass
		M		Re		α+β	δ	δ/α	γ	γ/(α+β)	x	y	x+y	m		
		Sc	Y	Sm	Eu											
*19	A		0.0240	0.0060		0.0300	0.0060	0.25	0.0150	0.5	0.10	0.10	0.20	1.010	1.20	1.00
*20	A		0.0180	0.0030		0.0210	0.0030	0.17	0.0200	3.8	0.30	0.10	0.40	1.010	1.00	1.00
*21	A		0.0060	0.0015		0.0075	0.0015	0.25	0.0400	5.3	0.20	0.20	0.40	1.015	1.00	0.80
*22	A		0.0050		0.0090	0.0140	0.0090	1.80	0.0300	2.1	0.10	0.30	0.40	1.015	0.80	0.80
*23	A		0.0050		0.0010	0.0060	0.0010	0.20	0.0150	2.5	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.010	0.80	1.00
*24	A		0.0075	0.0025		0.0100	0.0025	0.33	0.0150	1.5	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.010	1.20	1.00
*25	A		0.0060	0.0015		0.0075	0.0015	0.25	0.0120	1.6	0.40	0.60	1.00	1.010	0.80	1.20
*26	A		0.0080	0.0020		0.0100	0.0020	0.25	0.0200	2.0	0.10	0.30	0.40	1.050	1.00	1.20
*27	A		0.0060	0.0010		0.0070	0.0010	0.17	0.0200	2.9	0.20	0.20	0.40	1.010	8.00	1.50
*28	A		0.0060	0.0015		0.0075	0.0015	0.25	0.0250	3.3	0.10	0.10	0.20	1.010	1.00	6.00
*29	D		0.0080	0.0020		0.0100	0.0020	0.25	0.0300	3.0	0.10	0.20	0.30	1.005	1.00	1.00

* is Outside the Range of the Invention

SPBC0206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced

THIS SHEET HAS BEEN REPLACED

- 18 -

The plural ceramic green sheets [each] having formed thereon the electrically conductive paste layer were laminated such that the protruded sides of the conductive paste layers were alternated to provide a laminate. After [calcining] eliminating the binder by heating the laminate in an N_2 atmosphere at a temperature of $350^\circ C$, the laminate was calcined in a reducing atmosphere of an $H_2-N_2-H_2O$ gas of an oxygen partial pressure of from 10^{-9} to 10^{-12} MPa for 2 hours at the temperature shown in Table 3 below to provide a ceramic laminate.

After calcination, a silver paste containing a $B_2O_3-Li_2O-SiO_2-BaO$ series glass frit was coated on both the side surfaces of the ceramic laminate obtained and baked in an N_2 atmosphere at a temperature of $600^\circ C$ to form external electrodes electrically connected to the internal electrodes.

The outside dimensions of the laminated condenser obtained as described above were 1.6 mm in width, 3.2 mm in length[,] and 1.2 mm in thickness, and the thickness of the dielectric ceramic layer disposed between the internal electrodes was 8 μm . Also, the total number of the effective dielectric ceramic layers was 19 and the area of the counter electrode per [one] layer was 2.1 mm^2 .

[Then, the] The electric characteristics [of them] were measured. The electrostatic capacity (C) and the dielectric loss ($\tan \delta$) were measured using an automatic bridge-type measurement instrument at a frequency of 1 kHz, 1 Vrms[,] and at a temperature of $25^\circ C$, and the dielectric constant (ϵ) was calculated from the electrostatic capacity. Then, [for measuring the insulation resistance (R),] using an insulation

SPEC\206570.rdlinc

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 19 -

resistance meter [was used], a direct current voltage of 16 volts was applied for 2 minutes[,] and the insulation resistances (R) at 25°C and at 125°C were measured and the product of the electrostatic capacity (C) and the insulation resistance (R), that is the CR product, was determined. Furthermore, for measuring the insulation resistance (R) at an electric field of 20 kV/mm, a direct current voltage of 160 V was applied for 2 minutes and the insulation resistances (R) at 25°C and at 125°C were measured similarly and the CR product, was determined. [Also, the change ratio of the electrostatic capacity to a temperature change was measured.]

[In addition, about the] The change ratio of the electrostatic capacity to [a] temperature change was measured.

In particular, the change [ratios ($C/C_{20^{\circ}\text{C}}$)] ratio ($\Delta C/C_{20^{\circ}\text{C}}$) at -25°C and at 85°C using the electrostatic capacity at 20°C as the standard, the change [ratios ($C/C_{25^{\circ}\text{C}}$)] ratio ($\Delta C/C_{25^{\circ}\text{C}}$) at -55°C and at 125°C using the electrostatic capacity at 25°C as the standard, and the absolute value [$(|C|_{\text{max}})$ that] ($| \Delta C |_{\text{max}}$) of the largest change ratio [as the absolute value] within the range of from -55°C to 125°C was [largest] were shown.

Also, as a high-temperature load life test, using 36 each samples, a direct current voltage of 100 V was applied at 150°C and the change of the insulation resistance with the passage of time was measured. [In addition, in] The time the high-temperature load life test[, the time] when the insulation resistance (R) of each sample became $10^6 \Omega$ or lower was defined as the life

SPBC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 20 -

time and the mean life time was shown. The results are shown in Table 3 below.

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



SPEC206570.redline

THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 21 -

Table 3

Sample No.	Firing Temperature (°C)	Dielectric Constant ϵ	Dielectric Loss $\tan \delta$ (%)	Capacity Temperature Change Ratio $\Delta C/C20^\circ\text{C}$ (%)		Capacity Temperature Change Ratio $\Delta C/C20^\circ\text{C}$ (%)			CR Product (25°C) (MΩ•μF) 20 kV/mm applied		CR Product (125°C) (MΩ•μF) 20 kV/mm applied		Mean Life Time (h)	Grain Size (μm)
				-25°C	85°C	-55°C	125°C	max	25°C	125°C	25°C	125°C		
*1	1280	2850	2.4	-4.8	17.8	-11.0	12.8	26.1	6320	2460	5230	480	44	0.89
*2	1300	Unmeasurable owing to Becoming Semiconductor												2.1
*3	1280	3440	2.0	-0.4	-7.4	-1.2	-9.2	9.2	6980	2820	3010	730	319	0.75
*4	1280	Unmeasurable owing to Becoming Semiconductor												1.7
*5	1280	3320	2.2	-0.2	-9.5	-0.5	-10.6	10.6	5130	1580	1760	450	288	0.72
*6	1300	3500	2.3	1.2	-9.6	1.0	-18.1	19.7	4000	1410	1520	340	212	0.77
*7	1360	Unmeasurable owing to Sintering Deficiency												0.61
8	1300	3250	1.9	-0.3	-9.4	-0.9	-10.4	10.4	7160	2810	2980	840	565	0.65
9	1300	3100	1.8	0.0	-7.9	-0.5	-9.0	9.0	5970	2240	2480	610	658	0.68
10	1280	3220	1.8	0.2	-8.8	-0.4	-9.8	9.8	7400	2750	2920	710	564	0.69
11	1300	3020	1.4	0.5	-8.5	0.6	-12.8	12.8	6580	2430	2600	720	602	0.79
12	1300	3010	1.5	0.3	-9.2	0.6	-13.0	13.0	6680	2450	2570	570	617	0.67
13	1300	3200	1.5	-0.1	-8.0	-0.9	-8.6	8.6	6100	2280	2410	630	653	0.69
14	1300	3070	1.5	0.0	-7.4	-0.7	-8.3	8.3	7760	2880	3080	640	510	0.68
15	1300	3040	1.4	-0.9	-6.0	-2.0	-7.0	7.0	6410	2320	2440	580	583	0.67
16	1300	3180	1.8	-0.3	-8.2	-1.3	-9.4	9.4	6810	2280	2710	640	592	0.69
17	1300	3110	1.5	0.7	-6.7	-0.1	-11.7	11.7	6920	2740	2770	650	560	0.68

SPEC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced

THIS SHEET HAS BEEN REPLACED

- 22 -

<u>18</u>	<u>1300</u>	<u>3220</u>	<u>1.7</u>	<u>1.0</u>	<u>-9.8</u>	<u>1.4</u>	<u>-14.8</u>	<u>14.8</u>	<u>7010</u>	<u>2780</u>	<u>2800</u>	<u>650</u>	<u>565</u>	<u>0.69</u>
Table 3 - Cont'd														
Sample No.	Firing Temperature (°C)	Dielectric Constant ϵ	Dielectric Loss $\tan \delta$ (%)	Capacity Temperature Change Ratio $\Delta C/C20^\circ\text{C}$ (%)		Capacity Temperature Change Ratio $\Delta C/C20^\circ\text{C}$ (%)			CR Product (25°C) (MΩ•μF) 20 kV/mm applied		CR Product (125°C) (MΩ•μF) 20 kV/mm applied		Mean Life Time (h)	Grain Size (μm)
				-25°C	85°C	-55°C	125°C	max	25°C	125°C	25°C	125°C		
*19	1360	2180	1.6	-0.3	-7.0	-1.2	-8.3	8.3	2660	920	1000	300	218	0.65
*20	1300	3470	1.8	1.5	-12.3	0.9	-18.0	18.0	6100	1440	3830	480	331	0.75
*21	1300	3420	1.7	1.3	-12.2	0.8	-18.6	18.6	6020	1710	2070	540	382	0.74
*22	1300	3380	2.1	2.8	-12.0	3.4	-17.6	17.6	6660	2310	2590	600	572	0.74
*23	1300	3280	1.9	-0.2	-9.7	-0.5	-11.7	11.7	3680	650	1420	390	176	0.73
*24	1300	3100	1.3	-0.5	-7.4	-1.4	-8.6	8.6	3800	540	1120	260	231	0.70
*25	1300	3150	1.6	-0.2	-7.8	0.6	-12.5	12.5	3220	980	1160	230	174	0.70
*26	1360	Unmeasurable owing to Sintering Deficiency												0.61
*27	1360	2430	1.0	-0.1	-5.7	-1.4	-6.9	6.9	6360	2320	3180	630	422	0.66
*28	1260	2090	1.7	-0.8	-2.2	-0.9	5.9	5.9	6720	3660	2340	520	522	0.71
*29	1300	2490	1.6	0.4	-5.0	0.8	-6.2	6.2	6980	2320	2720	570	512	0.67

Mark * is Outside the Range of the Invention

SPBC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced

THIS SHEET HAS BEEN REPLACED

- 23 -

As is clear from Table 1, Table 2[,] and Table 3, it can be seen that in the monolithic ceramic capacitor of the present invention, the dielectric constant ϵ is high as 3,000 or higher, the dielectric loss $\tan \delta$ is 2.5% or lower, and the change ratio of the electrostatic capacity to the temperature satisfies the B characteristic [standard regulated by] of the JIS Standard in the range of from -25°C to 85°C and satisfies the X7R characteristic [standard regulated by] of the EIA Standard in the range of from -55°C to 125°C.

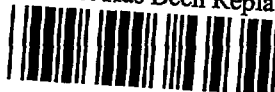
Furthermore, the insulation resistances at 25°C and at 125°C under a high electric field strength of 20 kV/mm show high values of 2000 MΩ·μm or higher and 500 MΩ·μm or higher, respectively. Also, the mean life time is long as 500 hours or longer. Furthermore, the calcination temperature is relatively low [as] 1300°C or lower, and the grain size is small [as] 1 μm or smaller.

Now, the reasons of limiting the compositions in the present invention are explained.

The reason for limiting the sum of α and β in $(1-\alpha-\beta-\gamma)\{\text{BaO}\}_m\cdot\text{TiO}_2 + \alpha\text{M}_2\text{O}_3 + \beta\text{Re}_2\text{O}_3 + \gamma(\text{Mn}_{1-x}\text{Ni}_x\text{Co}_y)\text{O}$ (wherein, M_2O_3 is at least one [kind selected from] of Sc_2O_3 and Y_2O_3 ; Re_2O_3 is at least one [kind selected from] of Sm_2O_3 and Eu_2O_3) to the range of $0.0025 \leq \alpha + \beta < 0.025$, preferably about 0.006-0.02, is that when " $\alpha + \beta$ " representing the $(\text{M}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Re}_2\text{O}_3)$ amount is less than about 0.0025 as in Sample No. 1, the dielectric constant ϵ is lower than 3,000 and temperature change ratio of the electrostatic capacity becomes large. Also, the insulation resistance in the case of applying 20 kg/mm at 125°C is lowered and also the mean life time is extremely shortened.

SPEC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 24 -

On the other hand, when " $\alpha + \beta$ " representing the ($M_2O_3 + Re_2O_3$) amount is more than about 0.025 as in Sample No. 19, the dielectric constant does not exceed 3,000, the insulation resistances at 25°C and at 125°C are lowered, the mean life time becomes short, and the calcination temperature is increased.

Also, the reason for limiting β to the range of $0 < \beta \leq$ about 0.0075, preferably about 0.001-0.005, the high-temperature load life test, is that when β representing the Re_2O_3 amount is 0 as in Sample No. 3, the mean life time becomes shorter than 500 hours.

On the other hand, when β [representing the Re_2O_3 amount] is over about 0.0075 as in Sample No. 22, the temperature change ratio of the electrostatic capacity becomes large and the sample does not satisfy the B characteristics of the JIS Standard and the X7R characteristics of the EIA Standard.

Also, the reason for limiting γ to the range of $[0.0025] \text{ } 0.0015 \leq \gamma \leq 0.05$, preferably about 0.0025-0.04, is that when γ [representing] representing the (Mn, Ni, Co)O amount is less than $[0.0025]$ about 0.0015 as in Sample No. 2, [when] and the sample is calcined in a reducing atmosphere, the dielectric ceramic is reduced to be converted to a semiconductor and the insulation resistance is lowered.

On the other hand, when γ representing the (Mn, Ni, Co)O amount is over about 0.05 as in Sample No. 20, the insulation resistance at 125°C is lowered regardless of the electric field strength, the mean life time is shortened, and further, the temperature change ratio of the electrostatic capacity is increased.

Also, the reason for limiting $x + y$ to the range of $0 \leq x + y < 1.0$, preferably about 0.15-0.5, is

SPBC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 25 -

that when $x + y = 1.00$ without containing Mn as in Sample Nos. 23, 24, and 25, the insulation resistance is lowered and the mean life time becomes shorter than 500 hours.

Also, the reason for limiting $\gamma/(\alpha + \beta)$ to the
5 range of $\gamma/(\alpha + \beta) \leq 4$, preferably about 3.6 or less, is that when the that ratio $\gamma/(\alpha + \beta)$ of the ($M_2O_3 + Re_2O_3$) amount, " $\alpha + \beta$ " and the (Mn, Ni, Co)O amount, γ is over about 4 as in Sample No. 21, the temperature change ratio of the electrostatic capacity becomes large and the mean
10 life becomes shorter than 500 hours.

Also, the reason for limiting m to the range of $1.000 < m \leq 1.035$, preferably about 1.005-1.03, is that when the mol ratio m of barium titanate is less than [1,000] 1.000 as in Sample No. 4, the sample is converted
15 to a semiconductor and when the mol ratio m of barium titanate is [1,000] 1.000 as in Sample No. 5, the insulation resistance is lowered and the mean life time becomes shorter than 500 hours.

On the other hand, when the mol ratio m is over
20 about 1.035 as in Sample No. 26, the sintering property is extremely deteriorated.

Also, the reason for limiting magnesium oxide to the range of from about 0.5 to 5.0 mols converted as MgO, preferably about 1-4 mol, is that when the MgO
25 amount is less than about 0.5 mol as in Sample No. 6, the insulation resistance is lowered and the mean life time becomes shorter than 500 hours. Furthermore, although the temperature change ratio of the electrostatic capacity satisfies the B characteristics [regulated by]
30 of the JIS Standard, it does not satisfy the X7R characteristics [regulated by] of the EIA Standard.

On the other hand, when the addition amount of MgO is over about 5 mols as in Sample Nos. 27, the

SPEC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 26 -

sintering temperature becomes high, the dielectric constant does not exceed 3,000, and the mean life time is shorter than 500 hours.

Also, the reason for limiting the addition
5 amount of the $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ series oxide glass to the range of about 0.2 to 3.0 parts by weight, preferably about 1-2.5, is that when the addition amount of the $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ series oxide glass is less than about 0.2 part by weight as in Sample No. 7, sintering becomes insufficient

10 On the other hand, when the addition amount of the $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ series oxide glass is over about 3.0 parts by weight as in Sample No. 28, the dielectric constant is lowered.

Also, the reason for limiting the content of
15 alkali metal oxides contained in barium titanate as impurities to about 0.02% by weight or lower is that when the content of the alkali metal oxides is over about 0.02% by weight as in Sample No. 29, lowering of the dielectric constant occurs.

20 In addition, there is no particular restriction on the ratio (β/α) of the Re_2O_3 amount, β , to the M_2O_3 amount, α , but in order that the temperature change ratio of the electrostatic capacity has a surplus from the allowable value of the standard, it is preferred that β/α
25 ≤ 1 , preferably ≤ 0.7 .

Example 2

As a dielectric ceramic material, raw materials obtained by compounding 100 mols of the composition formula using barium titanate of A in Table 1, 97.0
30 $\{\text{BaO}\}_{1.015} \cdot \text{TiO}_2 + 0.6\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3 + 0.4\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3 + 2.0(\text{Mn}_{0.4}\text{Ni}_{0.4}\text{Co}_{0.2})\text{O}$ (mol ratio) with 0.8 mol of MgO was prepared, [the] $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ series oxide glass having a mean grain size of 1 μm or smaller shown in Table 4 prepared by

SP5C006570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 27 -

heating at a temperature of from 1200°C to 1500°C by the
same method as in Example 1 was added to the raw
materials, and each monolithic ceramic capacitor having
formed thereon external electrodes made up of silver
5 electrically connected to internal electrodes was
prepared by the same method as in Example 1. In
addition, the external dimensions, etc., of the
monolithic ceramic capacitor prepared were same as those
in Example 1. [Also,] The electric characteristics [of
10 them] were measured.

SPBC1206570.redilae

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 28 -

Table 4							
Sample No.	Addition Amount of Oxide Glass (wt. %)	Components of Oxide Glass					
		Main Constituents (mol %)				Added Components (weight parts)	
		LiO ₂	B ₂ O ₃	(Si _w Ti _{1-w})O ₂		Al ₂ O ₃	ZrO ₂
					w		
101	1.0	0	20	80	0.7		
102	1.0	19	1	80	0.7		
103	1.0	49	1	50	0.8		
104	1.0	45	50	5	0.5		
105	1.0	20	75	5	0.4		
106	1.0	0	80	20	0.4		
107	1.0	35	15	50	0.5		
108	1.0	35	50	15	0.9		
109	1.0	20	40	40	0.3		
110	1.0	10	15	75	0.7		
111	1.0	10	70	20	0.4	5	2
112	1.0	35	15	50	0.7	15	5
113	1.0	35	15	50	0.7	20	
114	1.0	35	15	50	0.7		10
*115	1.0	10	5	85	0.5		
*116	1.0	55	20	25	0.7		
*117	1.0	35	62	3	0.7		
*118	1.0	5	85	10	0.7		
*119	1.0	10	15	75	0.1		
*120	1.0	35	50	15	1.0		
*121	1.0	35	50	15	0.7	30	
*122	1.0	35	50	15	0.7		20

SPEC\206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN REPLACED

- 29 -

The electrostatic capacity (C) and the dielectric loss ($\tan \delta$) were measured using an automatic bridge-type measurement instrument at a frequency of 1 kHz, 1 Vrms, and at a temperature of 25°C and from the dielectric constant (ϵ) was calculated from the electrostatic capacity.

Then, for measuring the insulation resistance (R) at an electric field of 20 kV/mm, using an insulation resistance meter, a direct current voltage of 160 V was applied for 2 minutes, the insulation resistances (R) at 25°C and at 125°C were measured, and the product of the electrostatic capacity (C) and the insulation resistance (R), that is the CR product, was determined. Also, the change ratio of the electrostatic capacity to a temperature change was measured. In addition, about the change ratio of the electrostatic capacity to a temperature change, the change ratios ($f\epsilon/C20^\circ\text{C}$), the change ratio ($\Delta C/C20^\circ\text{C}$) at -25°C and at 85°C using the electrostatic capacity at 20°C as the standard, the change [ratios ($f\epsilon/C25^\circ\text{C}$)] ratio ($\Delta C/C25^\circ\text{C}$) at -55°C and at 125°C using the electrostatic capacity at 25°C as the standard, and the [value ($|f\epsilon/C20^\circ\text{C}|_{\text{max}}$) that the] absolute value ($\Delta C/C20^\circ\text{C}|_{\text{max}}$) of the largest change ratio [as the absolute value] within the range of from -55°C to 125°C [was largest were shown].

After measuring [them], a nickel plating liquid containing nickel sulfate, nickel chloride, and boric acid was prepared and nickel plating was applied on the external silver electrodes by the barrel plating method.

Finally, a solder plating liquid composed of an AS bath (alkanolsulfonic acid) was prepared and by applying solder plating on the nickel plated layer by a barrel plating method, [each] monolithic ceramic

SPEC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



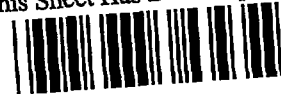
THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 30 -

[capacitor] capacitors having external electrodes plated thereon [was] were obtained. On the monolithic ceramic capacitor, the electrostatic capacity (C) was measured using an automatic bridge-type measurement instrument at a frequency of 1 kHz, 1 Vrms[,] and at a temperature of 25°C.

Then, for measuring the insulation resistance (R) at an electric field of 20 kV/mm, using an insulation resistance meter, a direct current voltage of 160 V was applied for 2 minutes, the insulation resistances (R) at 25°C and at 125°C were measured, and the product of the electrostatic capacity (C) and the insulation resistance (R), that is the CR product, was determined. The [above] results are shown in Table 5.

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



- 31 -

Table 5

Sample No.	Firing Temperature (°C)	Dielectric Constant ϵ	Dielectric Loss $\tan \delta$ (%)	Capacity Temperature Change Ratio $\Delta C/C20^\circ\text{C}$ (%)		Capacity Temperature Change Ratio $\Delta C/C20^\circ\text{C}$ (%)			CR Product After Plating (MQ $\cdot\mu$ F) 20 kV/mm applied		CR Product After Silver Baking (MQ $\cdot\mu$ F) 20 kV/mm applied	
				-25°C	85°C	-55°C	125°C	max	25°C	125°C	25°C	125°C
101	1280	3330	1.9	-0.4	-6.8	-0.6	-8.3	7.9	2740	770	2790	850
102	1280	3280	1.8	-0.3	-7.8	-0.2	-10.0	10.1	2580	770	2580	770
103	1280	3160	2.2	-0.2	-7.5	-0.5	-9.8	9.8	2510	780	2510	780
104	1260	3100	1.7	-0.9	-5.5	-1.2	-5.6	5.6	2720	790	2750	820
105	1260	3050	1.5	-0.6	-5.3	-0.8	-5.5	5.5	2860	860	2930	930
106	1280	3090	1.6	-0.2	-6.0	-0.6	-6.8	6.8	2740	700	2900	900
107	1280	3130	1.8	-0.7	-6.5	-1.1	-6.8	6.8	2660	820	2660	820
108	1260	3060	1.7	-0.6	-5.7	-0.9	-5.9	5.9	2820	860	2850	880
109	1260	3100	1.7	-0.8	-6.5	-1.0	-6.9	6.9	2770	820	2780	840
110	1280	3280	1.8	-0.1	-7.5	-0.2	-10.0	10.0	2710	730	2710	740
111	1280	3100	1.7	-0.7	-6.2	-1.0	-6.5	6.5	3740	1200	3710	1230
112	1300	3090	1.5	-0.3	-7.5	-0.4	-9.0	9.0	3310	1150	3320	1160
113	1280	3060	1.5	-0.1	-8.3	-0.1	-10.9	10.9	3800	1090	3820	1100
114	1300	3030	1.6	-0.4	-7.1	-0.5	-7.3	7.3	3650	1100	3650	1110
*115		Unmeasurable owing to sintering deficiency										
*116		Unmeasurable owing to sintering deficiency										
*117	1300	3080	2.1	-1.6	-5.3	-2.0	-5.0	5.0	710	120	2120	680
*118	1300	3060	2.2	-1.5	-4.9	-2.1	-4.7	4.7	90	10	2410	580

SPBC1206370.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN REPLACED

- 32 -

Table 5 - Cont'd

Sample No.	Firing Temperature (°C)	Dielectric Constant ϵ	Dielectric Loss $\tan \delta$ (%)	Capacity Temperature Change Ratio $\Delta C/C/20^\circ\text{C}$ (%)			Capacity Temperature Change Ratio $\Delta C/C/20^\circ\text{C}$ (%)			CR Product After Plating (MΩ·μF) 20 kV/mm applied		CR Product After Silver Baking (MΩ·μF) 20 kV/mm applied	
				-25°C	85°C	-55°C	125°C	max	max	25°C	125°C	25°C	125°C
*119				Unmeasurable owing to sintering deficiency									
*120	1260	3120	1.7	-0.4	-6.0	0.1	-6.4	6.4		140	30	2900	920
*121				Unmeasurable owing to sintering deficiency									
*122				Unmeasurable owing to sintering deficiency									

Mark * is Outside the Range of the Invention

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



SPB/C1206370.redline

THIS SHEET HAS BEEN REPLACED

- 33 -

As is clear from Table 4 and Table 5, in the monolithic ceramic capacitor of the present invention constituted from the dielectric ceramic layers containing by addition the $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ series oxide glass, the dielectric constant ϵ is high as 3,000 or higher, the dielectric loss $\tan \delta$ is 2.5% or less, and the change ratio of the electrostatic capacity to temperature satisfies the B characteristic standard [regulated by] of the JIS Standard within the range of from -25°C and 85°C and the X7R characteristic standard [regulated by] of the EIA Standard within the range of from -55°C and 125°C . Furthermore, there is a feature that when plating is applied, the electric characteristics are not deteriorated.

When triangular diagram of $\{\text{Li}_2\text{O}, \text{B}_2\text{O}_3, (\text{Si}_w\text{Ti}_{1-w})\text{O}_2\}$ [When triangular diagram of $\{\text{Li}_2\text{O}, \text{B}_2\text{O}_3, (\text{Si}_w\text{Ti}_{1-w})\text{O}_2\}$ (wherein, $0.3 \leq w < 1.0$), preferably about 0.4-0.8, is formed, the oxide glass composed of $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ is in the inside of the region surrounded by 6 straight lines or on the 6 straight lines linking 6 points, that is [the] point A [showing] of the composition [that] where Li_2O is 0 mol%, B_2O_3 is 20 mol%, and $(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ is 80 mol%; [the] point B [showing] of the composition [that] where Li_2O is 19 mol%, B_2O_3 is 1 mol%, and $(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ is 80 mol%; [the] point C [showing] of the composition [that] where Li_2O is 49 mol%, B_2O_3 is 1 mol%, and $(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ is 50 mol%; [the] point D [showing] of the composition [that] where Li_2O is 45 mol%, B_2O_3 is 50 mol%, and $(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ is 5 mol%; [the] point E [showing] of the composition [that] where Li_2O is 20 mol%, B_2O_3 is 75 mol%, and $(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ is 5 mol%; and [the] point F [showing] of the composition [that] where Li_2O is 0 mol%, B_2O_3 is 80 mol%, and $(\text{Si},$

SPEC\206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 34 -

Ti)O₂ is 20 mol%. On the other hand, Sample Nos. 115 to 118 which are outside the region surrounded by the 6 straight lines or are not on the 6 straight lines are undesirable since they [become] are sintering [deficiency] deficient or even when they are sintered, the insulation resistance is extremely lowered by plating.

Also, even when samples are in the inside of the above-described region or on the straight lines as in Sample Nos. 119 and 120, when w representing the Si amount is less than about 0.3, the samples [become] are sintering [deficiency] deficient and when w representing the Si amount is about 1.0, the insulation resistance at 20 kV/mm after plating is extremely lowered, [the] both of which are undesirable.

Also, as Sample Nos. 111 to 114, monolithic ceramic capacitors each having the insulation resistances at 25°C and at 125°C in 20 kV/mm of 3,000 MΩ•μF and 1,000 MΩ•μF, respectively, are obtained but as in Sample Nos. 121 and 122, when the addition amount of Al₂O₃ is over 20 parts by weight or the addition amount of ZrO₂ is over 10 parts by weight, the sintering property is extremely lowered, which is undesirable.

In addition, even though in the above examples[, as] the barium titanate[, the] powder [thereof] was produced by an oxalic acid method [was used], the barium titanate is not limited [to the powder] thereto but a barium titanate powder produced by an alkoxide method or a hydrothermal synthetic method may be used. By using these powders, it is possible that the characteristics are more improved than those shown in the Examples of this invention.

SPEC206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 35 -

Also, though as scandium oxide, yttrium oxide, samarium oxide, europium oxide, manganese oxide, cobalt oxide, nickel oxide, magnesium oxide, etc., [the] oxide powders were used, [they are] the invention is not limited to these powders but if they are compounded to constitute the dielectric ceramic layers of the range of the present invention, solutions of alkoxides, organic metals, etc., can be used without reducing the characteristics obtained.

As described above, [by using the monolithic ceramic capacitor of the present invention,] because the dielectric ceramic layer is constituted by the dielectric ceramic material which is not reduced and is not converted to a semiconductor even by calcination in a reducing atmosphere, nickel, which is a base metal, [and] or a nickel alloy can be used as the electrode material and the dielectric ceramic layer can be calcined at a relatively low temperature as 1300°C or lower, whereby [the] a lower cost [down] of the monolithic ceramic capacitor can be realized.

Also, [in the monolithic ceramic capacitor using the dielectric ceramic material,] the dielectric constant is 3,000 or higher and the temperature change of the dielectric constant is small in the monolithic ceramic capacitor using the dielectric ceramic material. Also, the insulation resistance in a high electric field is high and the life time at high temperatures is long. Accordingly, even when the dielectric ceramic layer is thinned, it is unnecessary to lower the rated voltage. Furthermore, because the crystal grain size is small as 1 μ m or smaller, when the dielectric ceramic layer is thinned, the amount of the crystal grains [existing] in the layer can be increased compared with conventional

SPBC1206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 36 -

monolithic ceramic capacitors. Thus, a small-sized and large capacity monolithic ceramic capacitor having a high reliability can be obtained. Also, because the electric characteristics are not lowered by plating, it is possible to cope with automatic surface packaging.

5

While the invention has been described in detail and with reference to specific embodiments thereof, it will be apparent to one skilled in the art that various changes and modifications can be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope thereof.

10

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 37 -

[What is claimed is] WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A monolithic ceramic capacitor comprising
[plural] at least three dielectric ceramic layers,
[plural] at least two internal electrodes [each formed]
between [said] adjacent dielectric ceramic layers such
5 that [the] an end of each of the internal electrodes
[alternatively exposes to both the side surfaces of said
dielectric ceramic layer] is exposed at a different side
surface of said capacitor, and external electrodes
[formed such that they are] electrically connected to the
10 exposed internal electrodes, wherein the dielectric
ceramic layers [are constituted by a material] comprise a
main component comprising barium titanate having a
content of alkali metal oxides [contained as] impurities
in an amount of not more than about 0.02% by weight, at
15 least one [kind] member selected from the group
consisting of scandium oxide and yttrium oxide, at least
one [kind] member selected from the group consisting of
samarium oxide and europium oxide, and manganese oxide,
cobalt oxide, and nickel oxide[, containing by addition
20 magnesium oxide as an accessory constituent in an amount
of from 0.5 to 5.0 mols converted as MgO to 100 mols of
the main constituent shown by], of the following
composition formula;

$(1-\alpha-\beta-\gamma) \{BaO\}_m \cdot TiO_2 + \alpha M_2O_3 + \beta Re_2O_3 + \gamma (Mn_{1-x}Ni_xCo_y)O$
25 wherein[,] M_2O_3 is at least one [kind] member selected
from the group consisting of Sc_2O_3 and Y_2O_3 ; Re_2O_3 is at
least one [kind] member selected from the group
consisting of Sm_2O_3 and Eu_2O_3 and α , β , γ , m , x , and y are

30 $0.0025 \leq \alpha + \beta \leq 0.025$
 $0 \leq \beta \leq 0.0075$
 $[0.0025] \ 0.0015 \leq \gamma \leq 0.05$

SPECV206570.redline



This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 38 -

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



$$\gamma/(\alpha + \beta) \leq 4$$

$$0 \leq x < 1.0$$

$$0 \leq y < 1.0$$

35 $0 \leq x + y < 1.0$

$$1.000 < m \leq 1.035;$$

magnesium oxide in an amount of from about 0.5 to 5.0 mols as MgO to 100 mols of said main constituent; and

40 [furthermore, containing] an $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ [series] oxide glass in an amount of from about 0.2 to 3.0 parts by weight to 100 parts by weight of the sum total of said main constituent and said magnesium oxide [,].

45 [and said internal electrodes are constituted by nickel or a nickel alloy.]

2. The monolithic ceramic capacitor of claim 1, wherein [when the] $0.006 \leq \alpha + \beta \leq 0.02$, $0.001 < \beta \leq 0.005$, $0.0025 \leq \gamma \leq 0.04$, $\gamma/(\alpha + \beta) \leq 3.6$, $0.15 \leq x + y < 0.5$, $1.005 < m \leq 1.03$; about 1-4 mols MgO to 100 mols of said main constituent; and about 1-2.5 pph glass.

3. The monolithic ceramic capacitor of claim 2, wherein said $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ oxide glass is in the inside of the region of a mol% triangular diagram of:



5 wherein $0.3 \leq w < 1.0$, [is formed, said $\text{Li}_2\text{O}-\text{B}_2\text{O}_3-(\text{Si}, \text{Ti})\text{O}_2$ series oxide glass is in the inside of the region] surrounded by [6 straight lines] or on the straight lines linking 6 points of

A (0, 20, 80)

10 B (19, 1, 80)

C (49, 1, 50)

D (45, 50, 5)

SPBC1206570.redline



* C L N S *

THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 39 -

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



E (20, 75, 5)

F (0, 80, 20)

- 15 and contains [by addition] at least one [kind] member
selected from the group consisting of Al_2O_3 and ZrO_2 in
the sum total of not more than about 20 parts by weight,
with [a] the proviso that ZrO_2 is not more than about 10
parts by weight, to 100 parts by weight of said
20 [constituents.] glass.

4. The monolithic ceramic capacitor of claim
3, wherein said internal electrodes are nickel or a
nickel alloy.

[3] 5. The monolithic ceramic capacitor of
claim [1] 2, wherein said external electrode [is
constituted by] comprises a sintered layer of an
electrically conductive metal powder or an electrically
conductive metal powder [added with a] and glass frit.

6. The monolithic ceramic capacitor of claim
4, wherein said external electrode comprises a first
layer sintered layer of an electrically conductive metal
powder or an electrically conductive metal powder and
5 glass frit and a second layer plated layer on the first
layer.

7. The monolithic ceramic capacitor of claim
1, wherein said $Li_2O-B_2O_3-(Si, Ti)_2O_3$ oxide glass is in the
inside of the region of a mol% triangular diagram of:
 $\{Li_2O, B_2O_3, (Si, Ti)_{1-w}O_3\}$
wherein $0.3 \leq w < 1.0$, surrounded by or on the straight
lines linking 6 points of

A (0, 20, 80)

SPBC206570.redline



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 40 -

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



B (19, 1, 80)

C (49, 1, 50)

D (45, 50, 5)

E (20, 75, 5)

F (0, 80, 20)

and contains at least one member selected from the group consisting of Al₂O₃ and ZrO₂ in the sum total of not more than about 20 parts by weight, with the proviso that ZrO₂ is not more than about 10 parts by weight, to 100 parts by weight of said glass.

8. The monolithic ceramic capacitor of claim 7, wherein said internal electrodes are nickel or a nickel alloy.

[4] 9. The monolithic ceramic capacitor of claim [2] 8, wherein said external electrode [is constituted by] comprises a sintered layer of an electrically conductive metal powder or an electrically conductive metal powder [added with a] and glass frit.

5 [5] 10. The monolithic ceramic capacitor of claim [1] 8, wherein said external electrode [is composed of] comprises a first layer [made up of a] sintered layer of an electrically conductive metal powder or an electrically conductive metal powder [added with a] and glass frit and a second layer [made up of a] plated layer on the first layer.

[6] 11. The monolithic ceramic capacitor of claim [2] 1, wherein said internal electrodes are nickel or a nickel alloy.

SPEC206570.redline



* C L M S *

THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED

- 41 -

12. The monolithic ceramic capacitor of claim 11, wherein said external electrode [is composed of a first layer made up of] comprises a sintered layer of an electrically conductive metal powder or an electrically conductive metal powder [added with a]and glass frit.

5 13. The monolithic ceramic capacitor of claim 11, wherein said external electrode comprises a first layer sintered layer of an electrically conductive metal powder or an electrically conductive metal powder and glass frit and a second layer [made up of a] plated layer on the first layer.

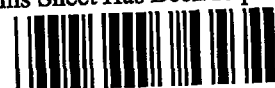
14. The monolithic ceramic capacitor of claim 1, wherein said external electrode comprises a sintered layer of an electrically conductive metal powder or an electrically conductive metal powder and glass frit.

5 15. The monolithic ceramic capacitor of claim 1, wherein said external electrode comprises a first layer sintered layer of an electrically conductive metal powder or an electrically conductive metal powder and glass frit and a second layer plated layer on the first layer.



SP6C\206570.redline

This Sheet Has Been Replaced



THIS SHEET HAS BEEN
REPLACED