

Teardown of an industrial-grade switch



Overview

The STMicroelectronics L4973D3.3 is a 3.5 A step down switching regulator rated for 8-55V input with an output of 3.3V. The Atmel ATMLH516 I can't quite figure out since that isn't the part...

Key Takeaways

Industrial-grade switches feature ruggedized hardware, redundant power inputs, and specialized networking components designed for harsh environments.

Overview of Industrial-Grade Switches

Industrial switches are designed for reliable operation in extreme conditions, including wide temperature ranges (e.g., -40°C to 80°C), vibration, and dust exposure. They typically feature metal enclosures with IP30-IP40 protection, DIN rail mounting, and support for multiple redundant power inputs to ensure continuous operation even if one power source fails. These switches are widely used in factories, warehouses, container ports, and outdoor industrial sites.

Key Components Revealed in Teardowns

Power Supply and Redundancy Industrial switches often include multiple DC power inputs (e.g., 9-52VDC) with reverse polarity protection. Some models, like the Altai MIS120P, provide PoE support with a total power budget (e.g., 120W) to power connected devices. Redundant power design ensures uptime in critical industrial networks.



Network Ports and Interfaces Teardowns show a combination of Gigabit Ethernet ports, SFP slots, and PoE ports. For example, the Altai MIS120P has four 1GbE PoE ports and two 100/1000BASE-X SFP slots. High-performance enterprise switches, like the Dell Z9100, can have 128 ports supporting 10/25/40/50/100GbE, delivering up to 6.

4Tbps of switching bandwidth. Printed Circuit Boards (PCBs) and Chips The main PCB houses switching ASICs, memory modules, and PHY chips. Teardowns reveal careful layout for signal integrity, heat dissipation, and redundancy.

High-end switches may include multiple ASICs to handle large-scale data throughput. Cooling and Thermal Management Industrial switches rely on passive cooling through metal enclosures or heat sinks, avoiding moving parts to increase reliability in dusty or high-vibration environments. Management and Security Features Industrial switches support SSH, SSL, RADIUS, SNMP, and advanced protocols like STP/RSTP/MSTP and ERPS for network reliability.

These features are critical for monitoring, configuration, and maintaining uptime in industrial networks.

Teardown Insights

Teardowns, such as those available on YouTube or TechInsights, provide step-by-step disassembly, revealing the internal layout, component relationships, and design choices. They highlight robust construction, modularity, and redundancy that differentiate industrial switches from consumer-grade devices. Observing these teardowns can help engineers understand component sourcing, PCB design, and thermal management strategies.

Practical Considerations

Safety: Always disconnect power before disassembly. Avoid contact with wet surfaces or conductive materials. Maintenance: Regular inspection of connectors, power inputs, and heat sinks ensures long-term reliability.

Deployment: Consider environmental factors like temperature, vibration, and dust when selecting a switch model. Industrial-grade switch teardowns provide valuable insights into durable design, high-performance networking, and redundancy strategies, which are essential for maintaining reliable industrial networks.

Article Content

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The following is an overview of a teardown analysis conducted by IHS Benchmarking.

Teardowns, A Complete List. – Kaizer Power Electronics

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Ethernet Switches

Ethernet Switches Moxa provides a wide range of industrial Ethernet switches that feature industrial-grade reliability, network redundancy, strengthened security, easy management, and competitive

Industrial Switch: Understanding Industrial Ethernet Switch ...

What is an Industrial Ethernet Switch? An industrial Ethernet switch is a type of network switch designed to operate in harsh industrial environments.

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Nintendo Switch Teardown

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Guide to implementing Industrial Grade Switches

However, implementing industrial grade switches is a complex process that requires careful consideration and planning. With detailed analysis

hardware:teardown [ReSwitched Wiki]

Teardown Notes There is a screw behind the kickstand that can easily be missed. When removing the back cover, it's recommended to only remove the center screws from the Joy-Con rails

Nintendo Switch Teardown

Nintendo's wildly popular hybrid console, the Switch, gets the teardown treatment as TechInsights dives into the hardware powering its versatile gaming experience. Friday was a big day

Nintendo Switch 2 Teardown Video Provides an Early Look at the

June 5, 2025, kicks off a new chapter for handheld gaming with the Nintendo Switch 2 hitting shelves, and before reviews could even drop, 's ProModding ripped it apart in a 17-minute teardown video that's a testament to the console's revamped design. ProModding starts with the Switch 2's chassis, a

Written By: Evan Noronha

This Friday night is the moment you've all been waiting for: Nintendo has finally launched its Zelda machine new console, the Nintendo Switch. Forget playing games for now, it's time to take a peek at

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