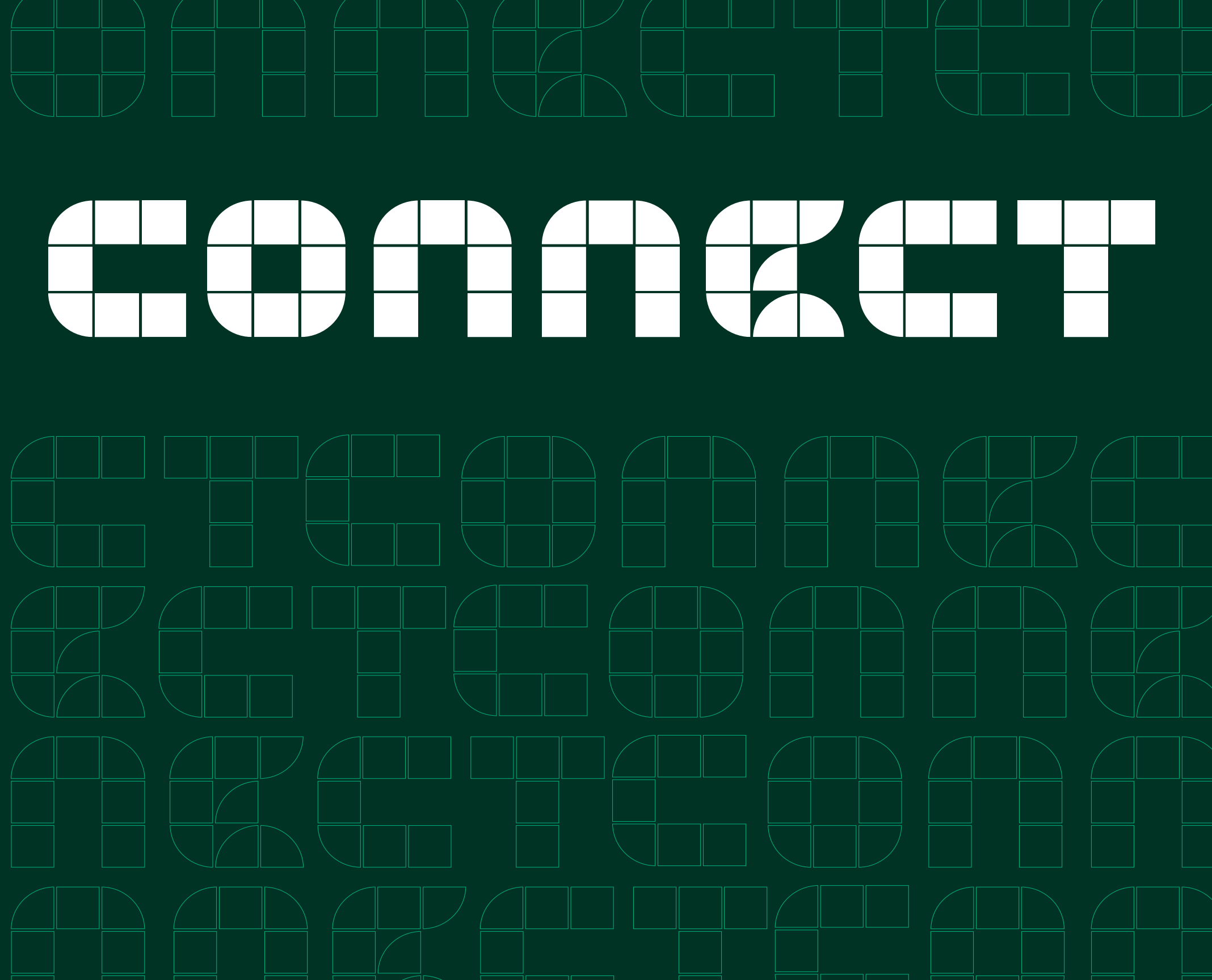
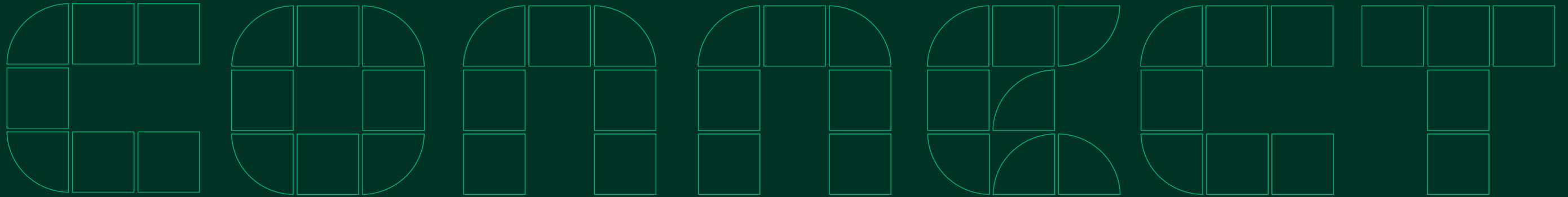


# connect





# Addressing Scalability, Modularity and Speed for Power Management IC (PMIC) Test

**Jose Arteaga**

Chief Offering Manager for Semiconductors and  
Electronics

Intro and Market Trends Driving Validation Challenges

PMIC Testing/ Validation Solutions

Reminder: Why Validation is so Critical?

Measurement IP Library

Instrumentation Requirements

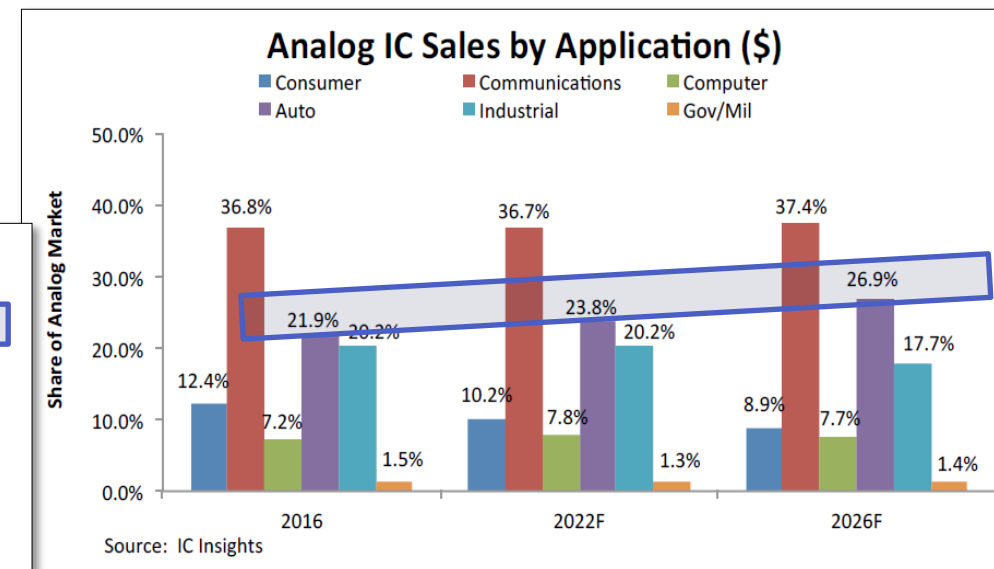
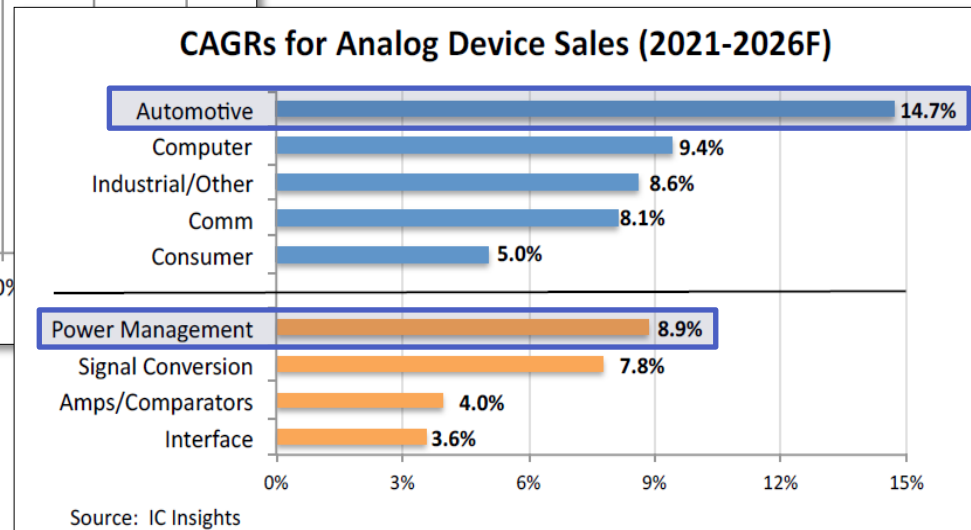
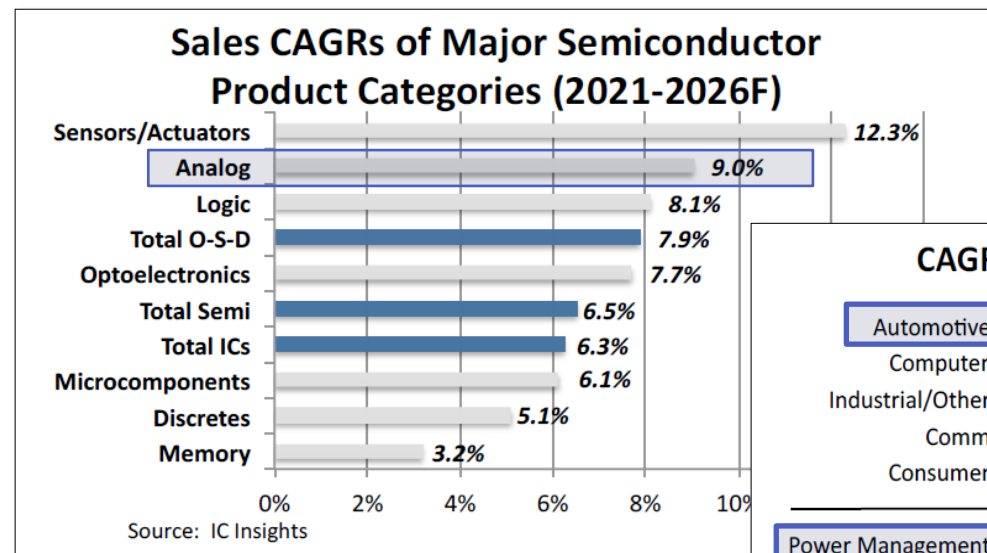
# PMIC and Automotive | Semiconductor Growth Leaders

- **Analog ICs:**

- Second highest growth product category in Semiconductor market
- PMIC highest growth sub-type of analog ICs

- **By Application:**

- Communications to maintain largest market share position ~37%
- Automotive poised for significant growth
  - Expected to make up for >25% of Analog IC market by 2026



# PMIC Market | Trends & Challenges

- PMICs in **mobile, automotive, and industrial applications** driving needs for power density and efficiency

## Top design considerations for today's PMIC landscape

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Increasing power density and efficiency</b></li><li><b>2. Lowering cost – Electromagnetic Interference (EMI)</b></li><li><b>3. Lowering quiescent current – extend battery and shelf life</b></li><li><b>4. Lowering Noise – Enhancing precision</b></li><li><b>5. Increasing Safety and Quality - Isolation between high and low voltage domains</b></li></ol> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Designers are required to squeeze more with less space, while increasing efficiency and thermal performance</li><li>➤ Low EMI design can reduce filter size, cost, and complexity, especially in automotive and industrial applications</li><li>➤ Battery-operated systems are often in standby/sleep mode for long periods</li><li>➤ Excessive noise can harm sensitive applications and peripheral circuits (such as ADCs, AFEs, and clock sources)</li><li>➤ Good isolation management enhances system reliability, simplifies EMI compliance, and reduces form factors</li></ul> |
|---|--|

# Mobile PMICs | Trends & Validation Impact

Extensive validation and testing needed for charger IC devices to ensure **performance**, **interoperability**, and **safety** meet industry standards



## Higher Power Delivery (Speed)

### Trends:

- 1. Support for ~100W+ charging becoming commonplace
- 2. USB-PD 3.1 capable of 240W+

### Test impact:

- 1. Capable HW up to 300W+
- 2. Increased importance of temperature and safety testing



## Broad Ecosystem Support

### Trend:

- 1. Growing need for charging ICs that support multiple protocols

### Test impact:

- 1. Greater need for interoperability testing across devices
- 2. More protocols need to be tested



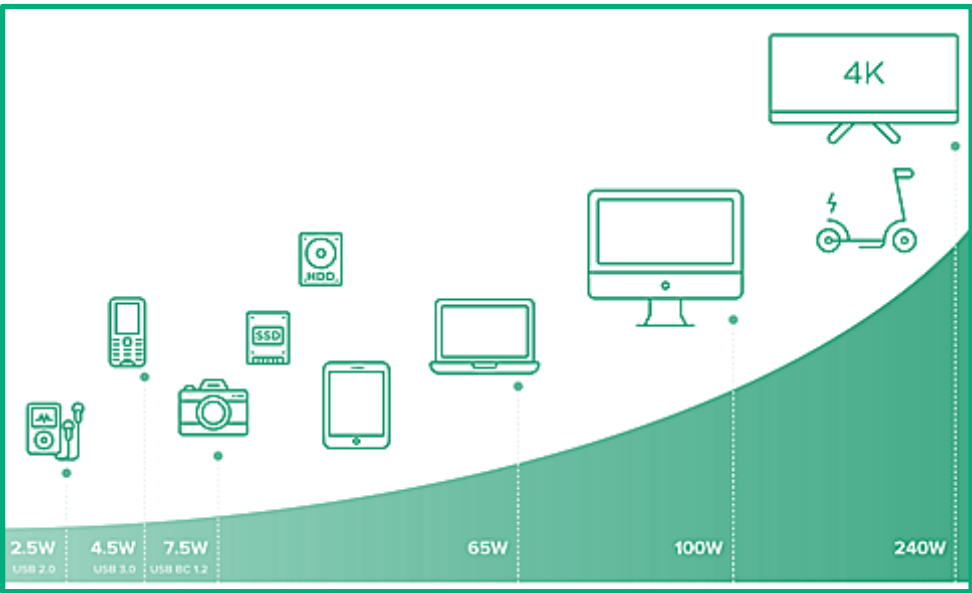
## Intelligent Charging

### Trend:

- 1. Intelligent charging that optimizes charging times and improve battery health
- 2. Smaller form factors

### Test impact:

- 1. Increased importance of temperature and safety testing

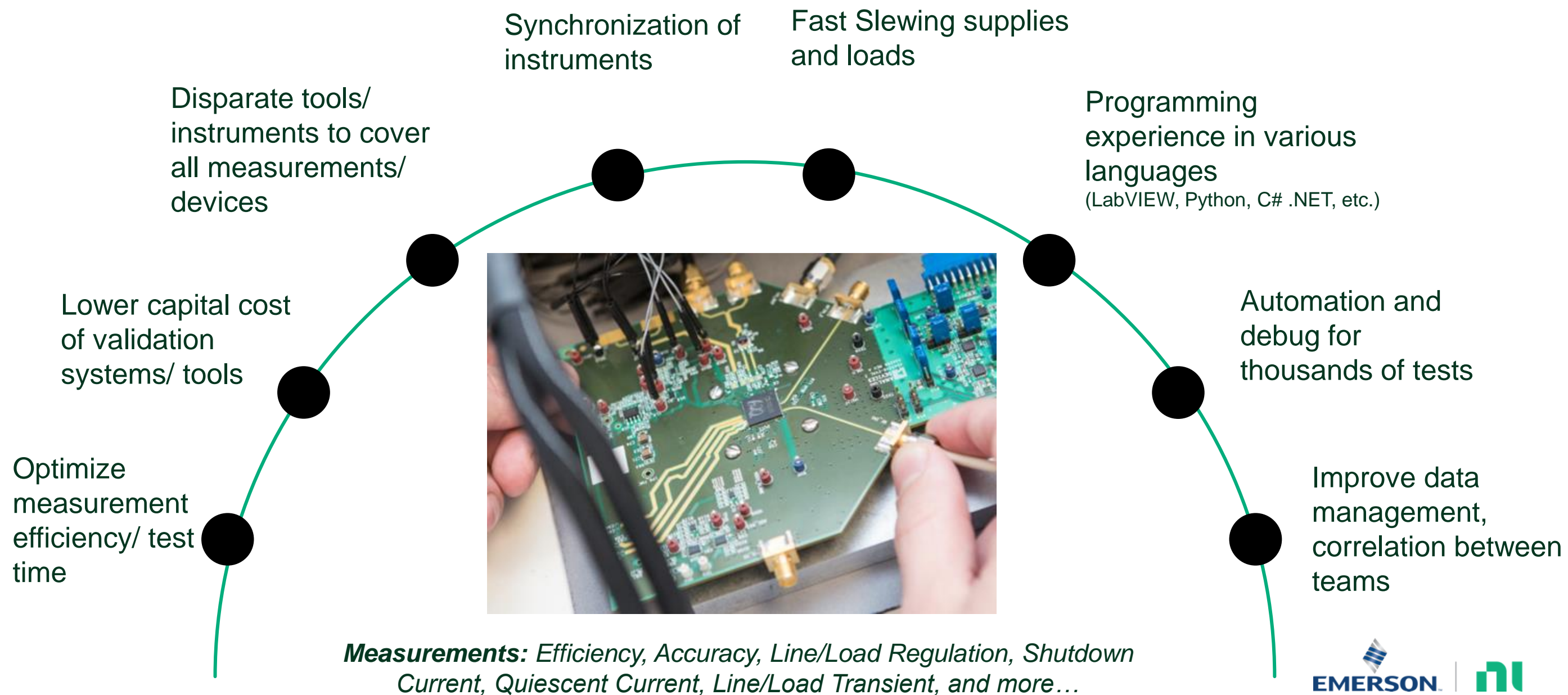


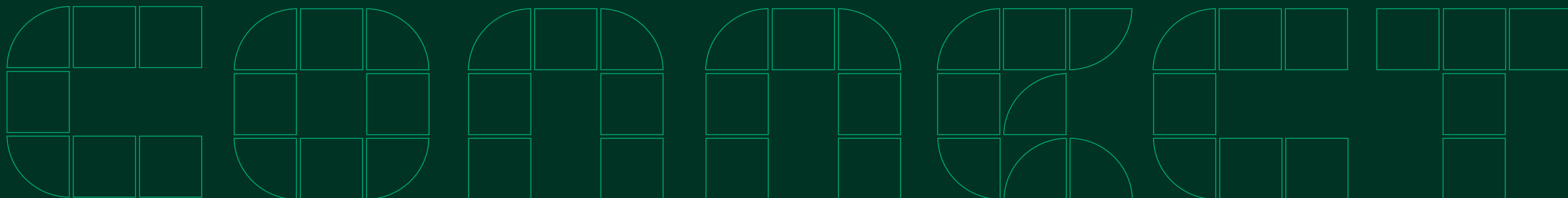
USB-PD 3.1 pushing past 100W



Wide variety of charging standards in market

# PMIC Validation Challenges | User Feedback





## **PMIC Validation Solutions**

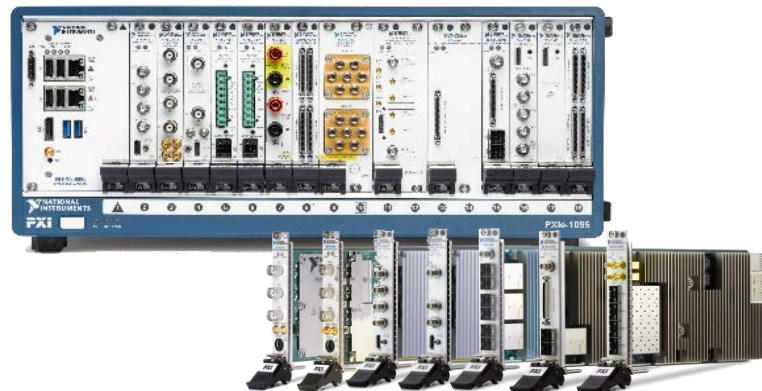
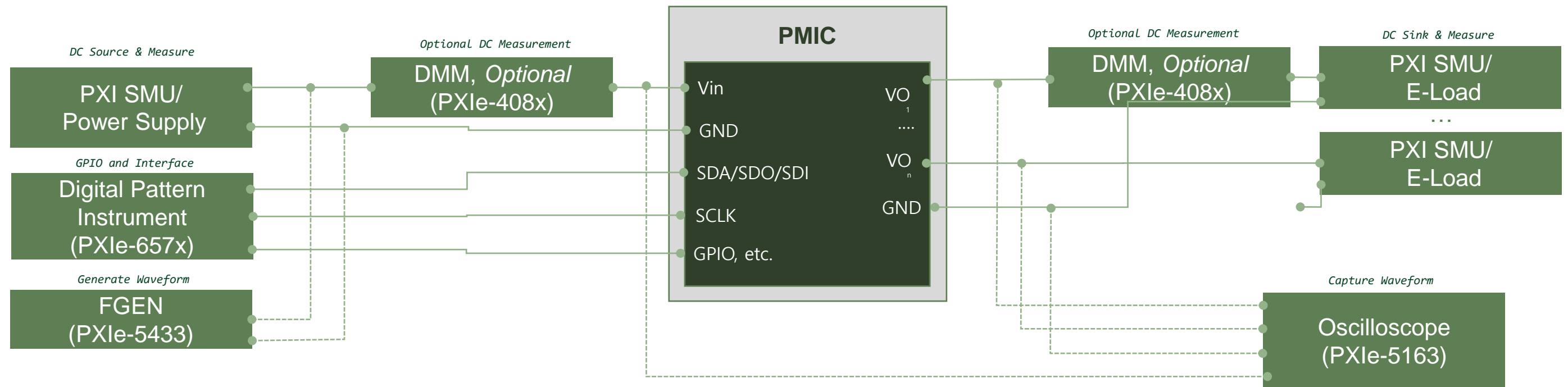




# Example PXI Configuration: Multi-Channel PMIC

## System Considerations

- NI system SMU functions both as load and as a precision power supply
- Available PXI switch for high-channel count or lower cost applications
- High precision signal generators and High pin count digital cards



## Solution Advantages

- SMUs (413x) up to 40W and PSS (415x) and e-Load (4050) up to 300W
- For higher V/I needs Ganging configuration supported
- O-Scope (5163) for very fast transient load tests
- 6571 - 8Ch for DUT Control

# PMIC Validation Solution | Value Proposition



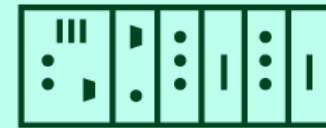
## Exceptional measurement speed and performance

...through PXI data bandwidth & latency, PXI timing & synchronization, and custom transient tuning



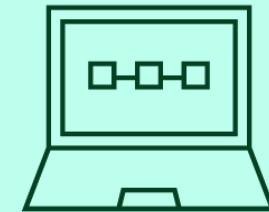
## Ability to scale with great cost per channel

...for parallel multi-site or multi-channel  
...great cost/ch for scopes <500MHz bandwidth



## Breadth of portfolio

...Robust AC (Scope, FGEN), DC (SMUs, PSS, e-Loads), and Digital instrumentation – allowing a single platform for majority of validation needs

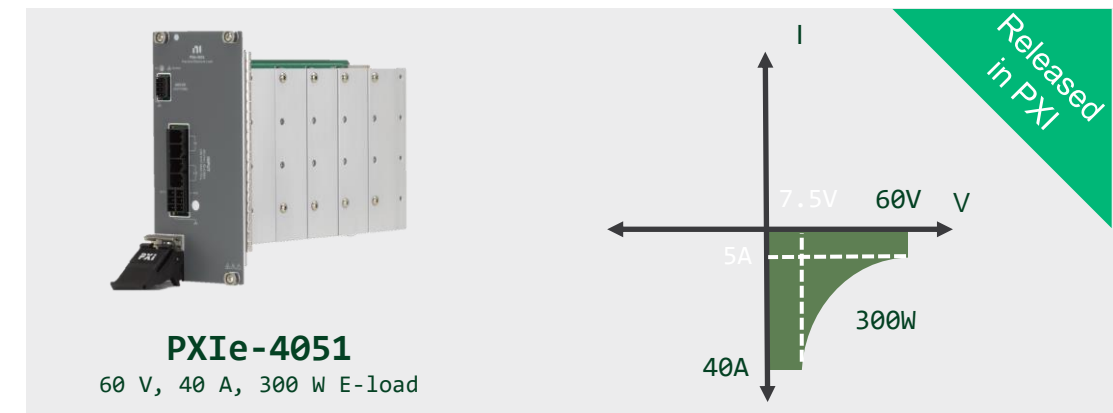
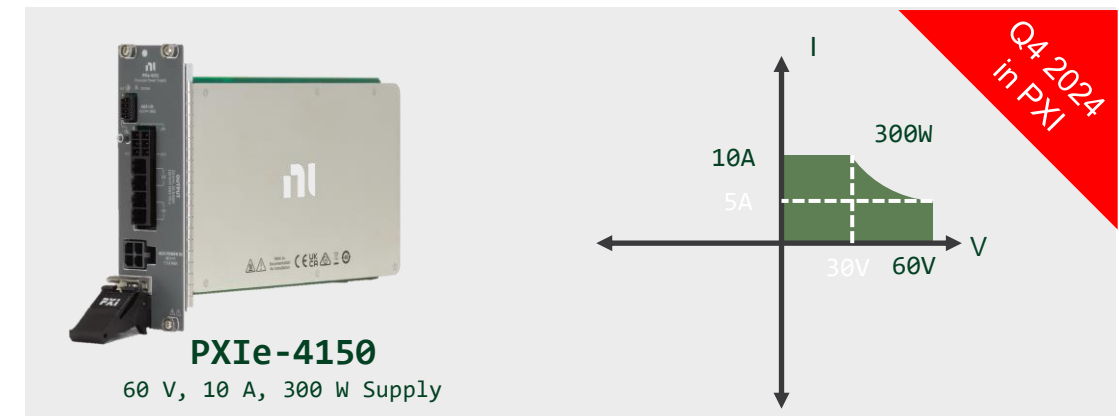
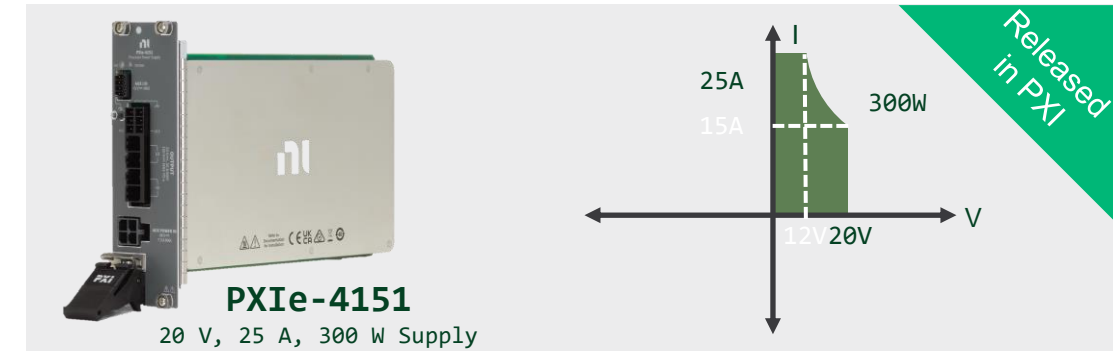


## Seamless software ecosystem for full validation process

...enables use cases for interactive validation, automated validation, and data/asset management

# High-Performance 300 W PXI Power Instruments

- **Primary Application Targets:**
  - Power management IC validation & test - General semiconductor & electronics test
- **300 W High-Performance PXI Power Supplies**
  - 1 channel, 2 PXI slots (requires auxiliary 48 V power)
  - PXIe-4151: Up to 20 V, 25 A (e.g. 20 V, 15 A or 12 V, 25 A)
  - PXIe-4150: Up to 60 V, 10 A (e.g. 60 V, 5 A or 30 V, 10 A)
- **300 W High-Performance PXI E-load**
  - 1 channel, 3 PXI slots
  - PXIe-4051: Up to 60 V, 40 A (e.g. 60 V, 5 A or 7.5 V, 40 A)
- **Common Features:**
  - 150 V CAT I isolation (max stacking voltage)
  - Simultaneous I & V measurements
  - DMM-like measurement accuracy
  - 1.8 MS/s sample rate & 100 kS/s update rate
  - Transient response tuning (SourceAdapt) - Advanced sequencing (per-step properties)



# Benefits of NI's 300 W PXI Instruments



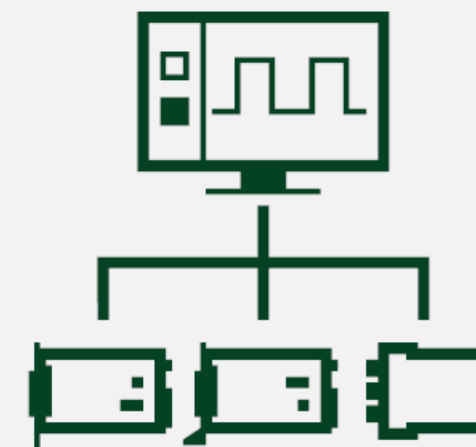
## Accuracy

NI's 300 W PXI-based instruments offer high accuracy for output values and simultaneous, voltage and current measurements



## Speed

NI's PXI-based instruments are designed for fast operation and fast measurements to help you reduce test time and improve throughput



## Timing & Synchronization

PXI-based instrument can be easily triggered and synchronized with other instrumentation, and can reuse existing code from NI SMUs

# Comparing Types of Programmable Power Instruments

## “Basic” Power Supplies & E-loads

- More affordable (more Watts per \$)
- Minimal or no measurement capabilities
- Accuracy of ~1% for setpoint
- Burdensome timing & synchronization options
- Basic programming API & minimal documentation
- Lacking application software for interactive tasks



NI RMX-41xx Power Supplies & E-loads

## High-Performance Power Supplies & E-loads

- Premium power instruments
- Simultaneous DMM-class I & V measurements
- Accuracy of ~0.0x% (setpoint & measurements)
- Integrated PXI-class timing & synchronization
- Robust API, example programs, & documentation
- InstrumentStudio support for interactive actions



NI PXIe-415x Power Supplies & PXIe-405x E-loads

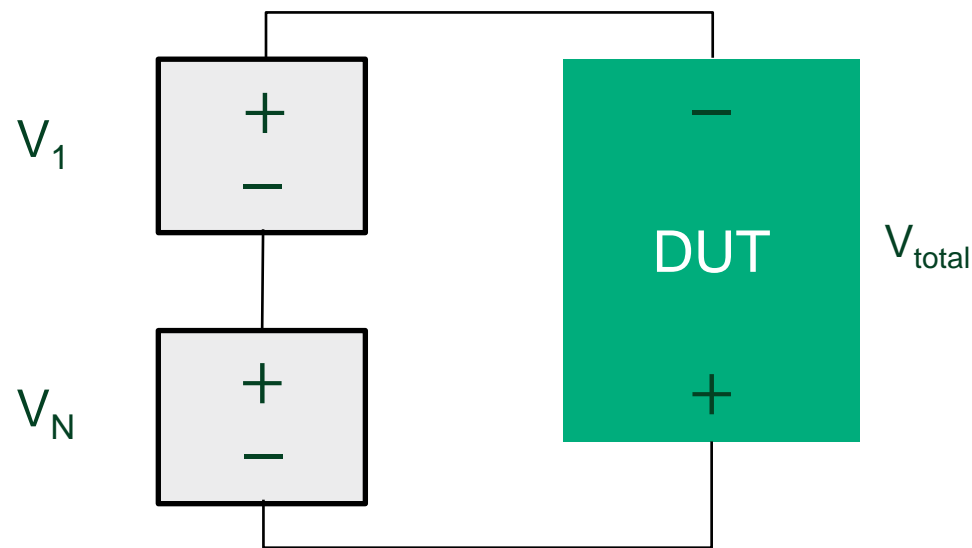
# Can I Combine Channels for Higher Voltage/Current?

**Yes**

- ✓ Works best for resistive loads (requires more customization for highly reactive loads)
- ✓ Only combine channels of the same instrument **Model** (e.g., multiple PXle-4151s)
- ✓ Each channel must be programmed separately and results must be analyzed separately

For Higher **Voltage**

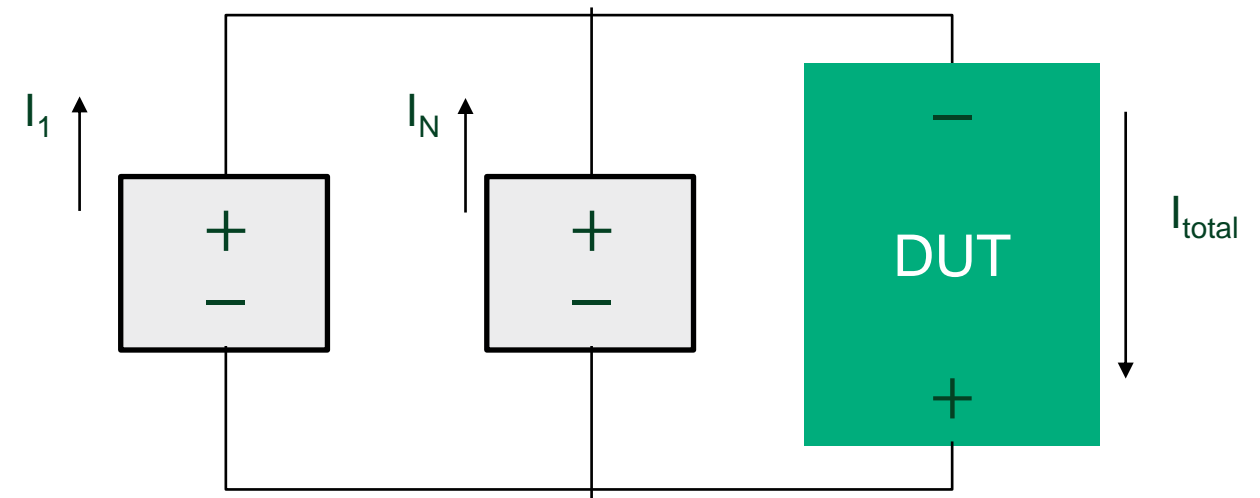
- Channels can be combined in series (**Stacked**)
- Do NOT exceed isolation voltage (150V)



$$V_1 + \dots + V_N = V_{total} \leq V_{isolation}$$

For Higher **Current**

- Channels can be combined in parallel (**Ganged**)
- No limit on maximum current
- Other limitations may apply (e.g., wire gauge)



$$I_1 + \dots + I_N = I_{total}$$

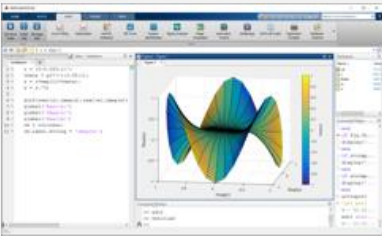
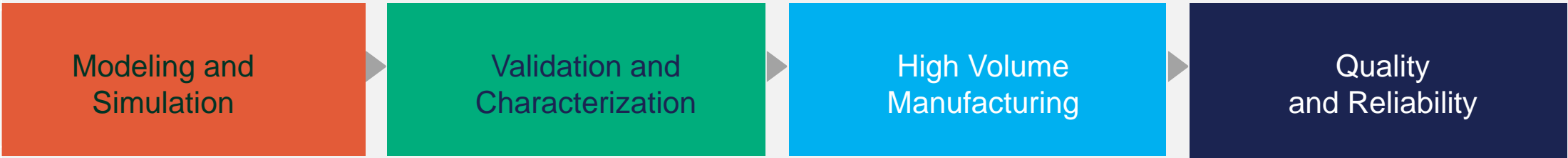
2	0
2	4

EMERSON

## Why IC Bring up & Validation is Critical?



# Semiconductor Test Solutions that Scale From Lab to Production



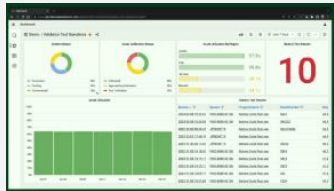
**Faster transition** to test with off the shelf instrument models



**Accelerate time to market** with scalable, modular PXI and software-connected workflows



**Lower cost of manufacturing** with the flexible, fungible Semiconductor Test System

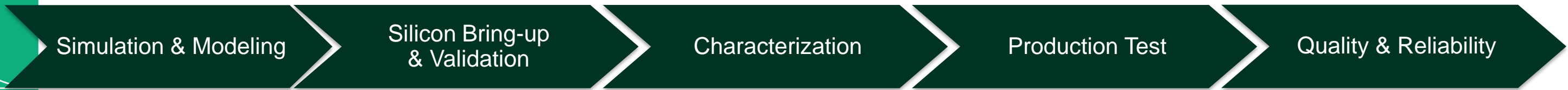


**Improve asset management,** quality and yield with SystemLink and O+ analytics

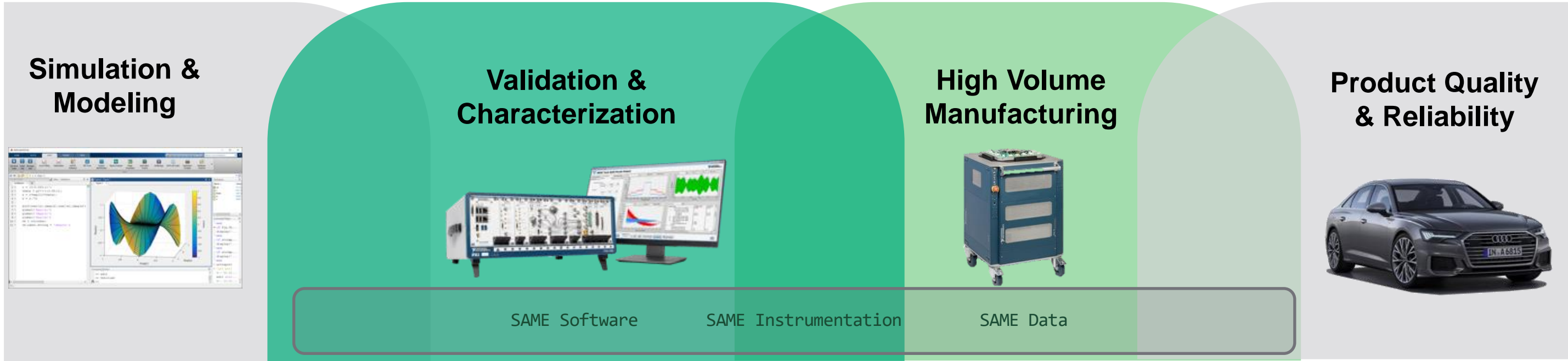
NI's comprehensive, connected approach leverages a common software, hardware and data platform to drive engineering efficiency across the semiconductor value chain

# NI Semiconductor Test Solutions

## Driving Engineering Efficiency From Lab to Production



Accelerate Productivity Across Product Lifecycle



Software Investments in Design-to-Test Workflow Optimization & Data Analytics

# NI Value Proposition for IC Validation

Shrink Time to Market

Bring up and Debug



*Same Hardware*

*Same Measurement  
Science  
(Meas. IP Libraries)*

*Same Software*

Automated Validation



Behavioral  
Modeling &  
Simulation

Simulation & Verification

Silicon Bring-up  
& Validation

Characterization

Production Test

Software Investments in Design-to-Test Workflow Optimization & Data Analytics

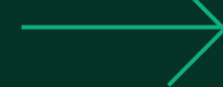


# Measurement IP Library

Merging Interactive bring-up and automated validation

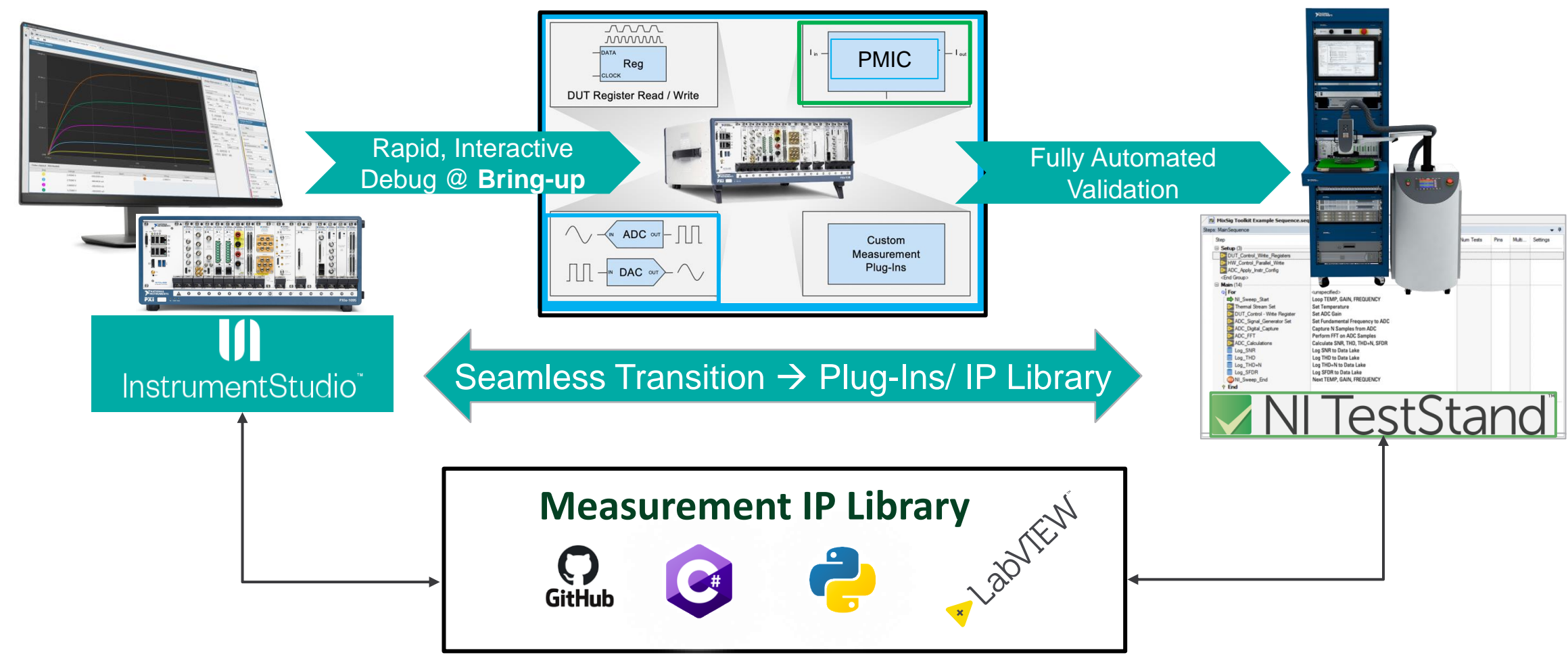
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2024 AUSTIN



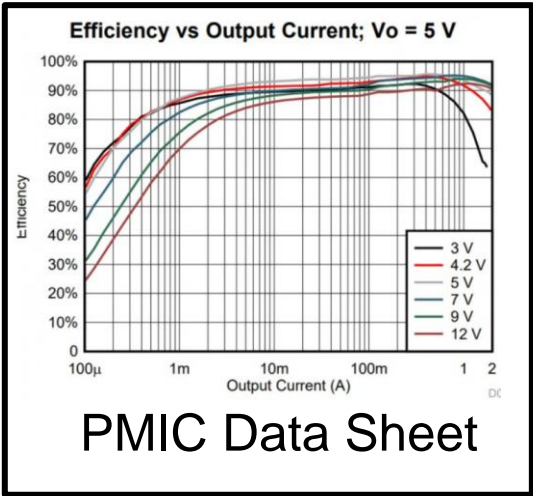
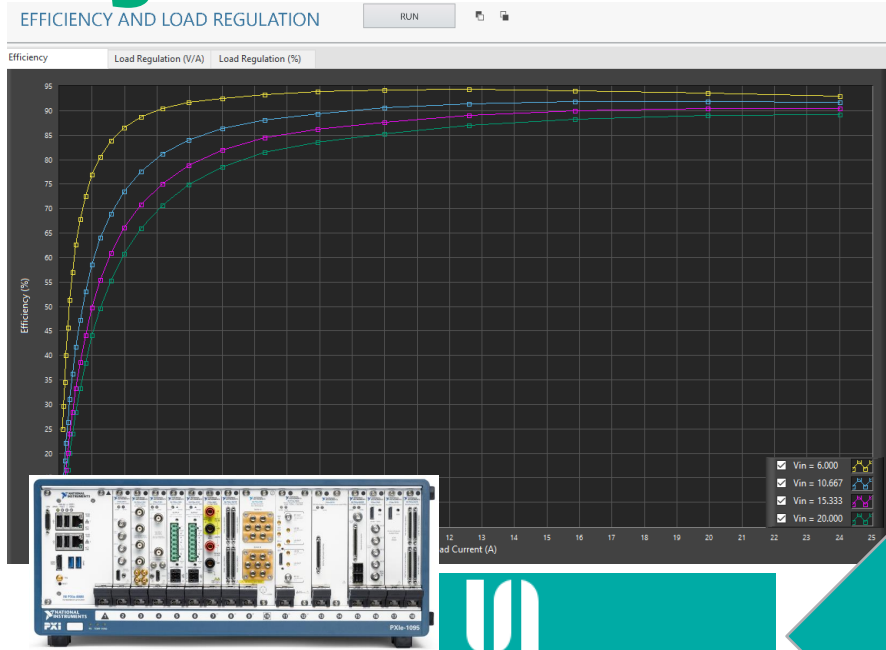


# From Interactive Bring-up to Fully Automated Validation



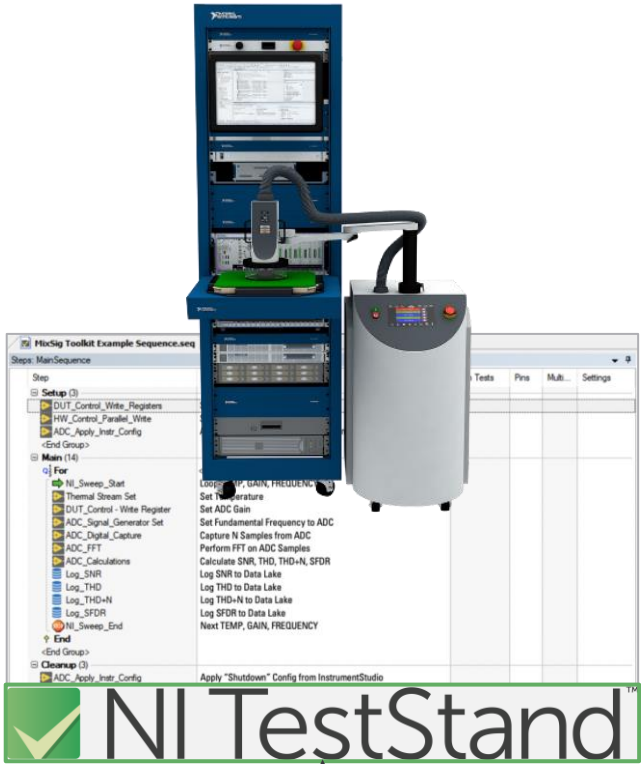
- To enable a flow from Silicon Bring-Up and Debug to Fully Automated Validation with Seamless Transition.
- Open-Source Plugins included on new version of InstrumentStudio®. Python & Labview SW examples, distributed by GitHub Repo
- Accelerate Growth in Semi with out-of-the-box capability / IP measurements.

# Key PMIC Parameters visualized as Data Sheet



InstrumentStudio™

Seamless Transition →  
Plug-Ins/ IP Library



NI TestStand™

Rapid, Interactive  
Debug @ Bring-up

Measurement IP Library

GitHub C# Python LabVIEW

Fully Automated  
Validation



# Measurement IP Library for Power Management

## Measurement IP Library

**Open Source:** A set of SW Examples (Labview and Python) for test IP on the most critical **Power Management Devices Specs** using familiar formats and standard visualization found in data sheets. Library uploaded in GitHub.

**Plug-ins for Instrument Studio:** Use all the features already available in InstrumentStudio Front Panels, adding these key measurements for interactive debug and seamless integration on Test Stand sequencer for fully automated validation

**Scalable Platform:** This Power Management library is the baseline to scale across different DUT configurations, spec limits to “brake” the IC. This requires either NI support, customer expertise in LV or Python or working with a Solutions Provider.

**Targeted DUTs:** DC/DC Converters, LDOs, etc.

Power Management Library List	DC/DC Converters	LDOs
Line Regulation	✓	✓
Efficiency/Load Regulation	✓	✓
Output Voltage accuracy	✓	✓
Ripple	✓	
Load Transient Response	✓	✓
PSRR	✓	✓
Multi-channel Output accuracy, Crosstalk in Multichannel PMIC	✓	✓
300W PSS/e-Load Channel Ganging Multi point Sweep Voltage/Current	✓	✓
300W PSS/e-Load Channel Ganging : Line Reg, Load Reg, Transient Load	✓	✓
Ramp-up time	✓	✓

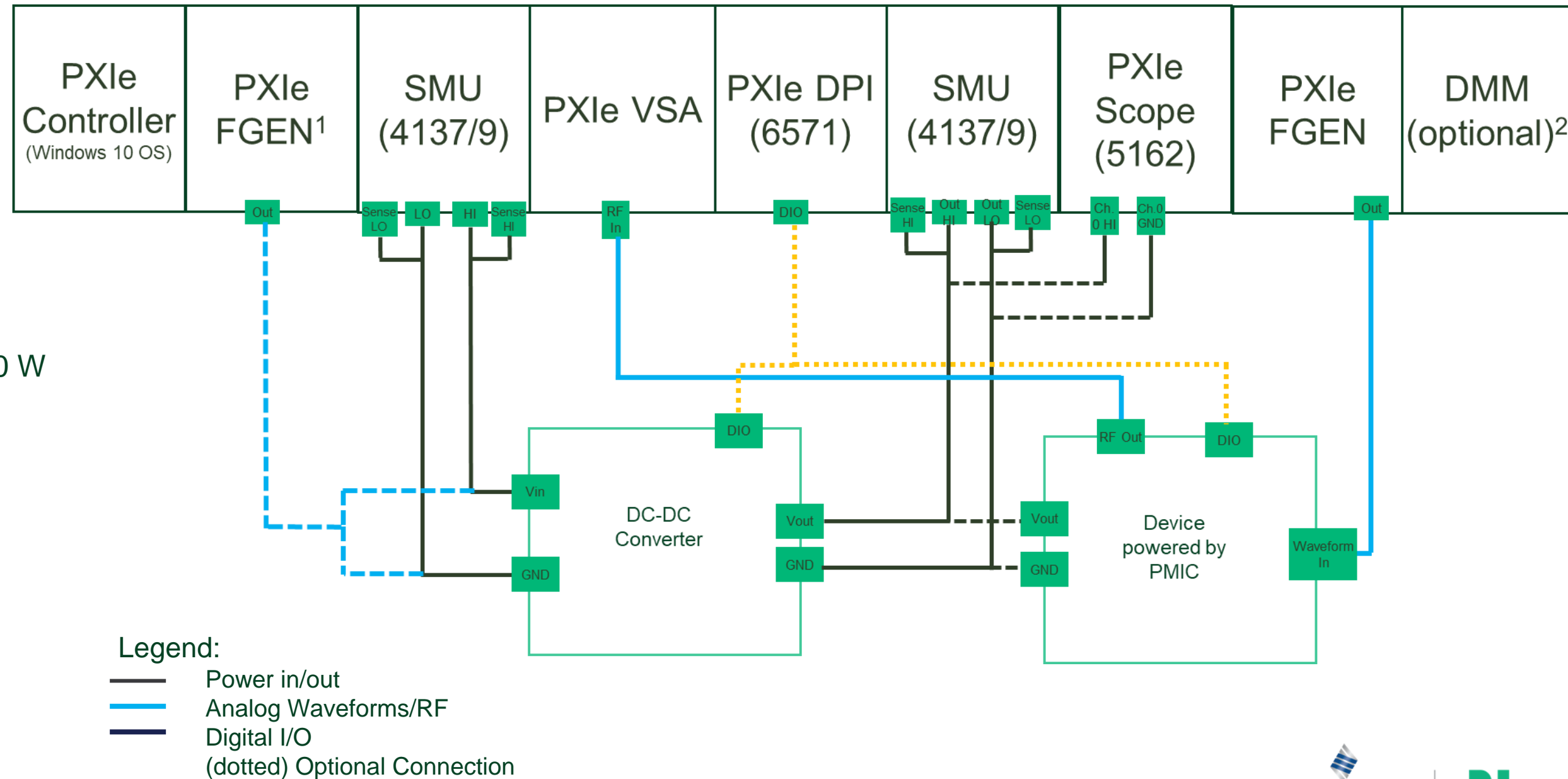
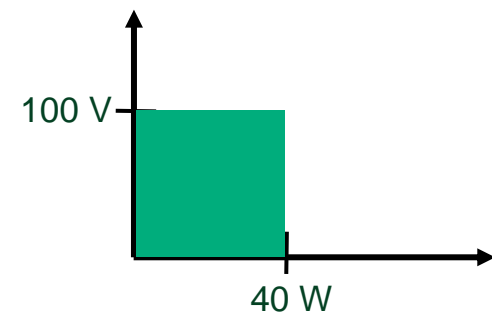
# PMIC Key Instruments Supported by Library



# PXI Test System Block Diagram – Lower Power DUTs

## DUT Limits:

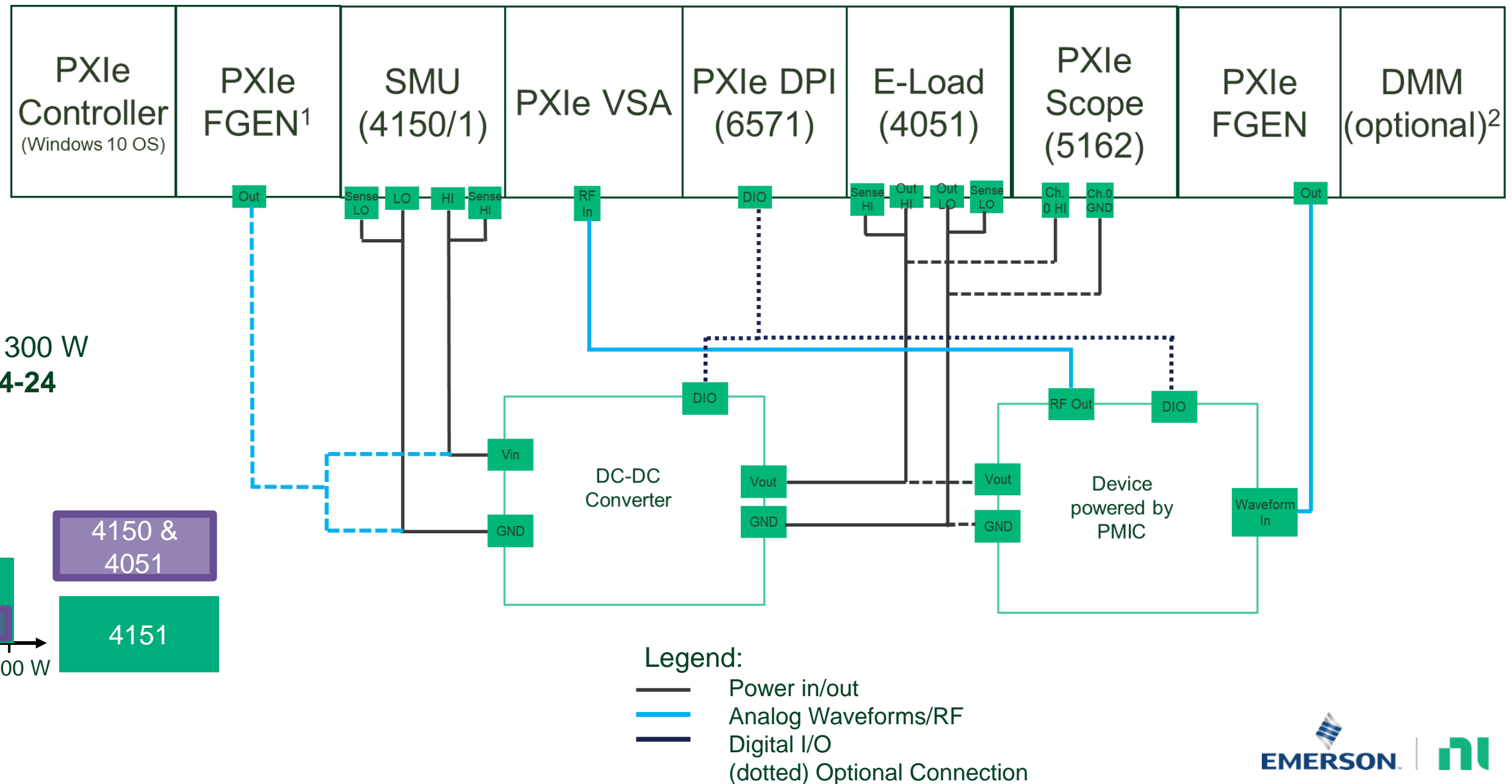
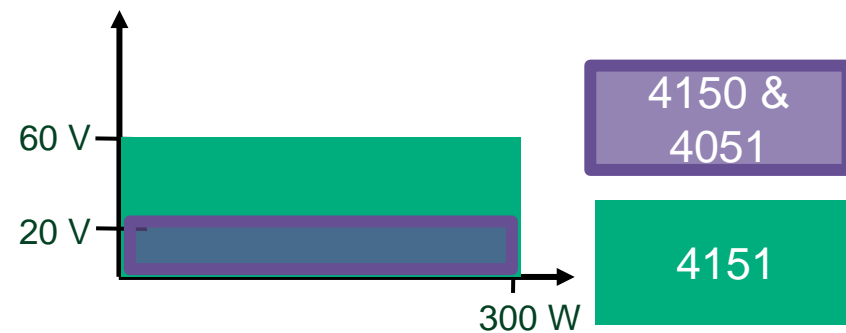
- Max Vin = 100 V
- Max Pin & Pout = 40 W
- **Available Now**



# PXI Test System Block Diagram – Higher Power DUTs

## DUT Limits:

- Max Vin = 60 V
- Max Pin & Pout = 300 W
- **Available Now/Q4-24**



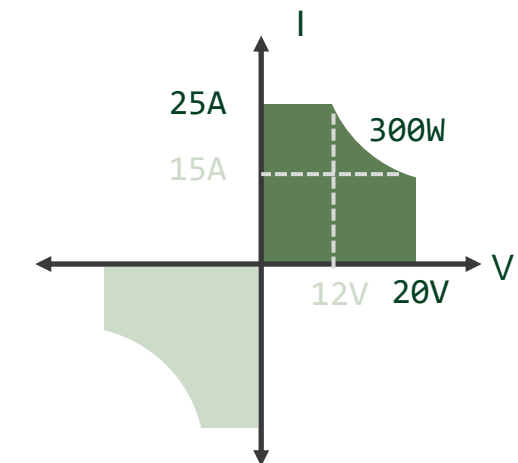
# High-Perf. 20 V, 300 W PXI Power Supply

*2-slot PXI Power Supply with DMM-like Measurement Accuracy*

- PXIe-4151 20 V, 25 A, 300 W Programmable Power Supply
  - 20 V up to 15 A
  - 25 A up to 12 V
  - 150 V CAT I Isolation
- Ranges
  - Current: 25 A, 1 A, & 100 mA ranges (up to 10 nA resolution, 0.03% + 30  $\mu$ A accuracy)
  - Voltage: Full scale and 6 V ranges (up to 1  $\mu$ V resolution, 0.022% + 500  $\mu$ V accuracy)
- Simultaneous current and voltage measurements
- Floating design can be manually inverted for negative V & I (i.e. Quadrant III)
- Down-programmer stage “pulls” the output down with reverse current source
- Output Noise: 20 mVpk-pk & < 6 mV<sub>rms</sub>
- Requires auxiliary power input (48 V, ~400 W)
- Will work in any PXI Express chassis, but limited to 22 A in 38 W chassis



PXIe-4151

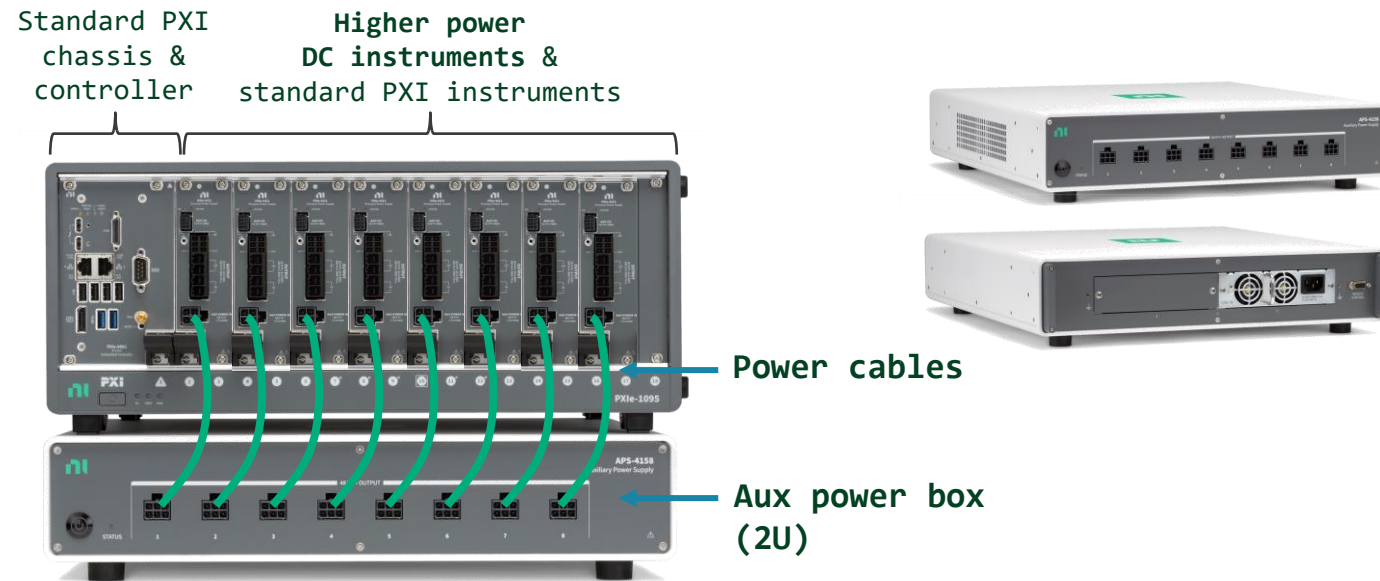


Requires ~400 W, 48 V  
auxiliary power input



# PXIe-4150/1 Auxiliary Power

*To source 300 W in the PXI form factor, the PXIe-4150/1 requires 48 V auxiliary power input*



## APS-4158/9 2U Multi-Channel Auxiliary Power Supply [Released]

- Ideal for systems with multiple (up to 8) PXIe-4150/1 supplies
- Provides clean, bulk 48 V power to the front of the PXI instrument
- Options for 800 W or 1,600 W of usable power per aux. power supply
- Requires simple power budgeting\* for max instantaneous power across all connected PXIe-4150/1 units
- For example, with a 1,600 W aux. power supply, you can:
  - Supply 5 PXIe-4150/1 units with the full 300 W each
  - Supply 8 PXIe-4150/1 units with an average of 200 W each

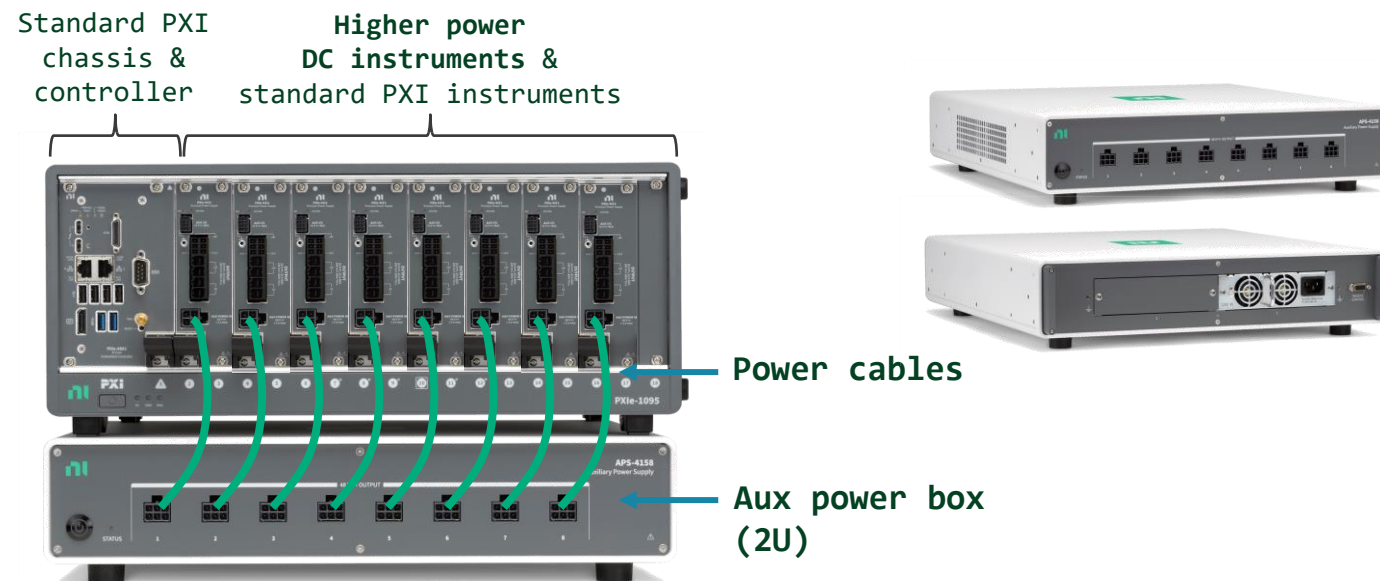
## Use 48 V Bulk Power from Other NI System Infrastructure

- NI is adding support for the PXIe-4150/1 in the Semiconductor Test System (STS) and will use an internal 48 V bulk power rail
- Additionally, NI's next generation of Smart Rack solutions will provide more bulk power distribution and could support this use case

*\*Simple power budgeting provides a conservative estimate of usable power available to connected PXIe-415x.*

# PXIe-4150/1 Auxiliary Power

*To source 300 W in the PXI form factor, the PXIe-4150/1 requires 48 V auxiliary power input*



## Laptop-style Power Brick **Under Development**

### APS-4158/9 2U Multi-Channel Auxiliary Power Supply **[Released]**

- Ideal for systems with multiple (up to 8) PXIe-4150/1 supplies
- Provides clean, bulk 48 V power to the front of the PXI instrument
- Options for 800 W or 1,600 W of usable power per aux. power supply
- Requires simple power budgeting\* for max instantaneous power across all connected PXIe-4150/1 units
- For example, with a 1,600 W aux. power supply, you can:
  - Supply 5 PXIe-4150/1 units with the full 300 W each
  - Supply 8 PXIe-4150/1 units with an average of 200 W each

- Recent innovations in wide bandgap GaN power semiconductors have led to commercially available, fully enclosed, and passively cooled AC-DC power supplies with enough power to support the full range of a single PXIe-4150/1 channel
- This option was not available at project kickoff, but we are researching options for productizing a laptop-style power brick that can provide enough power for a single PXIe-415x (up to 300 W)
- More ideal for low-channel-count systems and evaluations

\*Simple power budgeting provides a conservative estimate of usable power available to connected PXIe-415x.



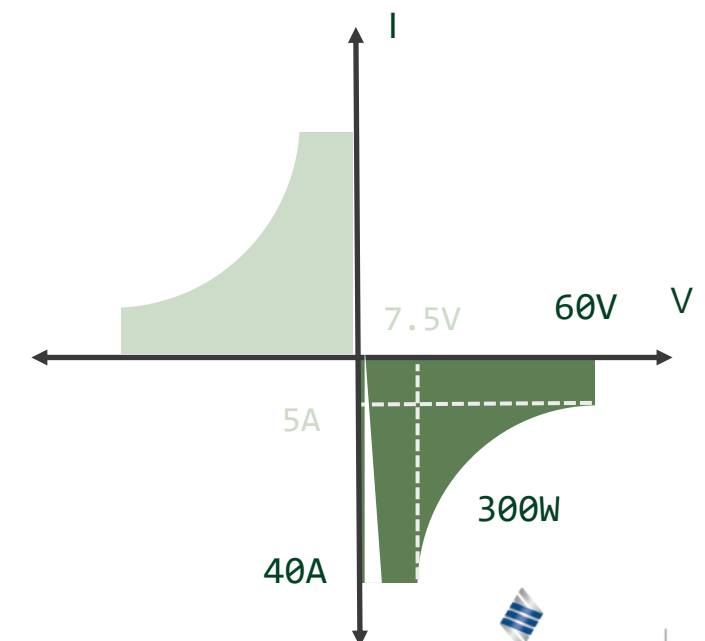
# High-Performance 300 W PXI Electronic Load

*3-slot PXI E-load with DMM-like Measurement Accuracy*

- Max sink power = **300W**
  - **60V, 40A**
  - 150 V CAT I Isolation
- Phase 1 Modes (**Released**): Constant voltage (CV), constant current (CC)
- Phase 2 Modes Constant resistance (CR), constant power (CP)
- Ranges
  - Current: Full scale and 4 A ranges (10  $\mu$ A resolution, 0.05% + 700  $\mu$ A accuracy)
  - Voltage: Full scale and 6 V ranges (1  $\mu$ V resolution, 0.03% + 600  $\mu$ V accuracy)
- Programmable slew rate (CC mode)
- Simultaneous current and voltage measurements
- Floating design can be manually inverted to operate in quadrant II
- Pulsing API (up to DC boundary, does not extend I-V reach)
- Will work in any 58W or 82W PXI Express chassis, but will require the PXIe-1095, PXIe-1092, or PXIe-1084 for full 300W capabilities
- Will be limited to 150 W in a 58 W chassis



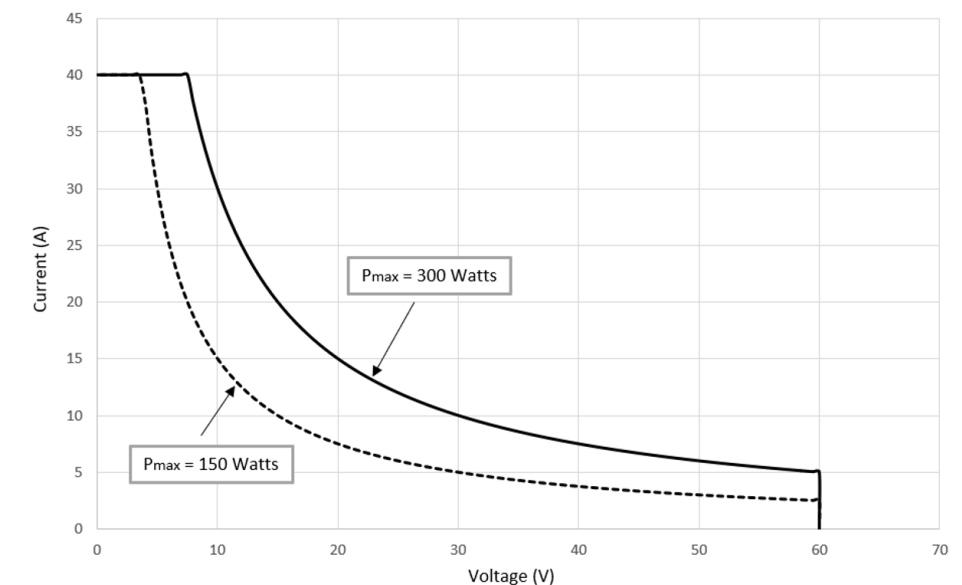
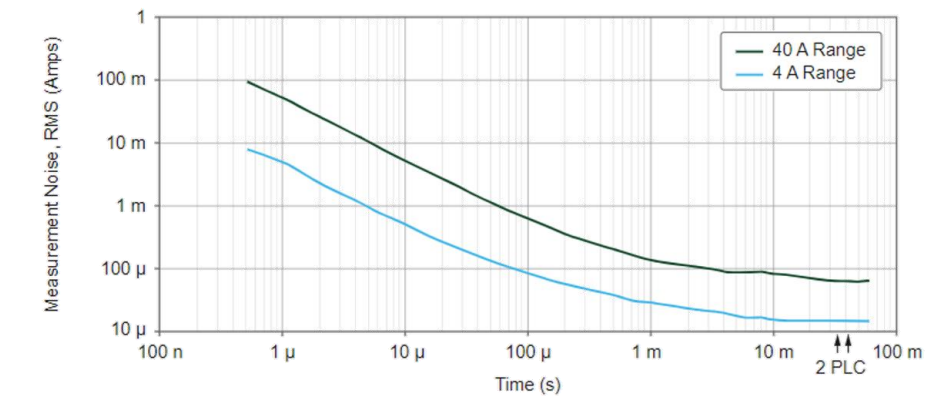
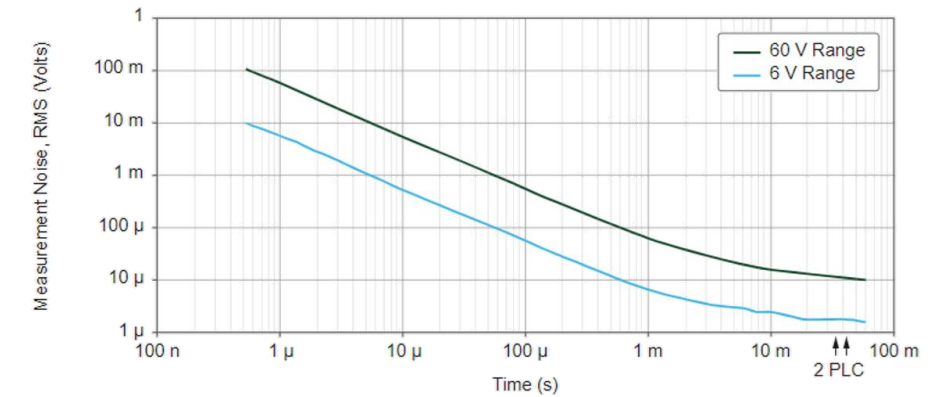
**PXIe-4051**



# PXle-4051 | Spec Summary

- Sample Rate: 1.8 MS/s
- Update Rate: 100 kS/s
- Voltage:
  - 6 V range: 1  $\mu$ V resolution, 0.03% + 600  $\mu$ V accuracy
  - 60 V range: 10  $\mu$ V resolution, 0.03% + 6 mV accuracy
- Current Accuracy:
  - 4 A range: 10  $\mu$ A resolution, 0.05% + 700  $\mu$ A accuracy
  - 40 A range: 100  $\mu$ A resolution, 0.07% + 13 mA accuracy
- Minimum Operating Voltage:
  - Minimum input resistance (Rmin): 12.5 m $\Omega$
  - Minimum 500 mV for full 40 A operation
  - Linear current derating between 0 V & 500 mV ( $V_{in}/R_{min}$ )
- Max Slew Rate\*:
  - DC current: 10  $\mu$ s rise time, 3 A/ $\mu$ s
  - DC voltage: 103  $\mu$ s rise time, 0.38 V/ $\mu$ s or 380 kV/s
- Power & Cooling Requirements:
  - Requires PXle-1084, PXle-1092, or PXle-1095 for full 300 W
  - Limited to 150 W in 58 W chassis (other than PXle-1084)
  - Will not work in 38 W chassis

\*Slew rate depends on SourceAdapt settings and system setup. With proper tuning performance values may increase



# PMIC Validation | More on Oscilloscopes

- **$\pm 50$  V is the maximum voltage range for NI PXI Scopes**
  - Must use probes with 10x/100x attenuation for DUTs with voltages beyond  $\pm 50$  V
  
- **Core PMIC measurements that need a scope:**
  - Capturing line/load transients that require a faster SR than 1.8 MS/s
  - Noise, ripple/PSRR
  - Start up sequence and shut down sequence for DC-DC converters
  - OVP/UVP/OCP/UCP when fast sampling rate is needed
  - LED dimming test
  - Gate driver propagation delay, rise time, fall time, and pulse width distortion





# Q&A

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**THANKS !!!**  
**GRACIAS !!!**  
**GRAZIE !!!**  
**DANKE !!!**  
**MERCI !!!**  
**ARIGATO !!!**  
**XIEXIE !!!**  
**GAMSAHAEYO !!!**





# Anatomy of a PXI Test and Measurement System

