BLUNDELL TECHNOLOGY WEEK

Your invitation to Blundell Technology Week

20th-23rd April 2009

Blundell Production Equipment is going to hold an in-house Technology Week and Mini exhibition during the week of week 20th - 23rd April.

The company's broad product range and ability to offer turnkey systems will result in visitors being able to see and appreciate a wide range of production equipment, all of which will be working. There will also be ample opportunities to discuss particular process issues with Blundell's service management team and engineers.

Several of Blundell's regular partners who supply complimentary equipment will be attending and will have displays of their own products (see page 2 for details).

It will also be an opportunity for new and established customers to see the company's new 12,500 square foot facility in Coventry.

You will need to pre-register to attend. Please complete and return the reply card enclosed with this newsletter.

A great deal to see at Technology Week

The breadth and depth of Blundell's product range puts us in a unique position to be able to hold our own exhibition, and to be able to demonstrate a wide range of production tools and equipment including hand assembly and hand soldering stations, fume extraction, pick and place, PCB assembly, wave reflow and selective soldering, inspection, conformal coating, moisture control, cleaning, rework and X-Ray systems.

PARTNER COMPANIES AT TECHNOLOGY WEEK

Several of Blundell's regular partners who supply complimentary equipment will be attending and will have displays of their own products.

NUTEK

Conveyor manufacturer Nutek have many years of experience in supplying PCB handling and traceability equipment. They can produce customised conveyor solutions including stackers, magazine loaders and unloaders, linking and inspection conveyors, in and out feed conveyors, inverters and lifts. Nutek have worked with Blundells on a number of recent projects involving PVA conformal coating machines and soldering lines.

BLT

BLT has a long standing co-operation with Blundells for the supply of soldering consumables such as solder bar, solder paste and flux. Greg York of BLT is well known in the industry and much respected for his in depth knowledge of soldering chemistry. Greg's wide experience is invaluable when it comes to solving soldering process problems. He will be on hand to offer advice and assistance.

ROBOTAS

Dave Walters of Robotas will be demonstrating his latest development of the Mascot PCB assembly workstation, which has been updated integrate with today's hand assembly needs. The addition of clever new software and photographic images of assembly sequences make the Mascot ideal for inserting odd form components or for box build of complete electro-mechanical assemblies.

VALOR

Valor is a leader in the field of manufacturing software development and has designed some new manufacturing support software called I-Plan. Valor has been working with iPulse to produce a very powerful CAM tool which will provide iPulse placement machine users with fast, accurate information and data processing for CAD translation, optimisation, multi set-up programs, automatic vision data and many other features. These capabilities will be demonstrated at Technology Week alongside the new iPulse M8 slimline SMT mounter.

HUMISEAL

Humiseal are leaders in the field of conformal coatings, and we regularly work with them when we install PVA selective coating robots. Their latest development is UV40 which is a VOC free, UV curable conformal coating material. It has the advantage of eliminating solvents, from the coating process and curing is fast using a UV light tunnel. Humiseal's chemists will be on hand to discuss conformal coating methods and to answer application questions.

REPRINT

RePrint will be demonstrating two screen printers from their range, the popular R29 Spectrum in line printer, and the new R23 semi automatic solder paste printer. The all new R23 is the latest addition to RePrint's range and has all of the features expected of a mid range stand alone screen printing system. It is fitted with a vision system as standard and has low running costs.

Why First Choice chose i-Pulse

Versatility and flexibility were the key words when contract manufacturer First Choice Assembly first specified their surface mount line. In fact they were so impressed with the first iPulse M4 placement machine that they purchased in 2006, they have since bought two more of them.

"We now have three iPulse machines, and we haven't had one issue with any of them since they were installed" says First Choice's production director, Noel Garbett.

"We bought the first machine 2 years ago. At that time we were a free issue only assembly house, but when I joined the company in 2007, we decided to get serious and start purchasing components for our customers and doing the whole job" It's a tactic that has paid off. "The beauty of it is that we now have the capacity to tackle almost anything that our customers throw at us" says Noel. "One customer recently gave us 11,000 boards to assemble and they assumed it would take us 2 weeks. We completed the job in 3 days".

"We never let customers down on delivery now, and the accuracy of the iPulse machines means that the quality is also faultless." He adds. Two of the machines have fully paid for themselves already and the third one will be paid off this year. First Choice also have an Ersa Hotflow 5 reflow oven that they purchased from Blundells. "Having Blundells to support us is also a big bonus, we know that help is always at the end of the phone if we need it, but the beauty of the iPulse machines is their reliability – they just don't break down".

Noel Garbett of First Choice can be contacted on 01384 891991.
Their website is: www.firstchoiceassembly.co.uk

New Rework facility expands CEM's capabilities

A south coast based contract manufacturer has greatly benefited from installing a dedicated BGA rework facility supplied by Blundell Production Equipment. Portsmouth based Phase One Electronics has been providing CEM services for the past 20-years. During this time the company has specialised in low to medium volume SMT and PTH assembly for a wide range of markets including Military, Medical, Automotive and Transport. During the latter part of 2008, managing director Tony Stanley saw a niche opportunity to provide a dedicated BGA rework service for existing customers, with the potential to extend it to new customers. A key requirement for the facility was having the ability to rework large, complex PCBs as well as handling standard sized boards. Tony quickly identified that IR based systems are now regarded as superior for lead-free applications over aging hot-air technology. After demonstrations from Blundells, Tony purchased the Ersa IR-650 system in preference to two other, lower cost IR systems because of the large PCB handling area (460mm x 560mm). He was also influenced by the IR-650's 4,600W power capability. To complete his facility Tony installed from Blundell an ERSASCOPE under BGA optical inspection system and a UFB500 Drying Oven for prebaking of PCBs before reworking as recommended by IPC Standards.

Anyone wishing to take advantage of Phase One's rework or inspection facilities is invited to contact Tony Stanley on 02392 862394

BLUNDELL
PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT

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