

CONTACT:

Patty Chonis
A-Tek
5473 Tiller Court
Fort Collins, CO 80528
Tel: (303) 485 6007; Fax: (970) 366 0146
Web site: www.atekllc.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**A-Tek LLC Signs an Exclusive Distribution Agreement with Asscon Systemtechnik**

FORT COLLINS, CO USA ~ May 1, 2006 ~ A-Tek, a distribution company based out of Fort Collins, CO is pleased to introduce Asscon (www.asscon.de) Vapor Phase Technology to the North American market.

Vapor phase soldering process allows the highest level of thermal control and lowest delta T's across complex circuits. The use of an inert liquid with a boiling point at or slightly above the desired soldering temperature creates a vapor blanket which through the process of condensation onto the circuit heats the circuit homogeneously without elevated ramp rates or differentials between large and small components. The phase change (condensation) at the surface of the solder piece lasts until the assembly has reached the temperature of the vapor. Due to the high vapor density and the liquid film created at the interface of the Vapor blanket and the circuit as a result of condensation, the complete heating takes place in an oxygen free environment. The transferred quantity of heat is linear to the supplied heating energy making control simple and energy efficiency very high.

Today's vapor-phase soldering machine is an environmental friendly, very economical system – based upon the physical laws of the heat-transfer with vapor. Its process ensures the highest possible solder-product quality.

Batch (stand alone) and inline systems are available.

Batch- or stand-alone machines:

Their main application is the production of samples and small series. These machines feature a state-of-the-art vapor-phase soldering process, i.e. pre-heating, soldering, drying, and cooling. As a rule the loading of the machine and starting of the soldering process is done manually by its user. These batch machines may be additionally equipped with an automation system. This makes it possible to fully automate the machine's soldering process .

Inline machines:

The new inline-condensation-reflow-soldering machines close the gap between the automatic batch units – which produce a first class solder-quality but not the required throughputs - and the convection-inline-machines for large mass production series. Using the temperature gradient control and the automatic solder-temperature identification, designed as classical inline machine with separate conveyors for loading, pre-heating and cooling of the printed circuit boards arranged in the direction of the process, these machines may produce very high levels of productivity.

With standard SMEMA interfaces the machines may be integrated into any automatic inline production process without problem.

The main area of application is the production of complex high density boards or complicated components, high mass circuits and very large back planes. In areas where temperature stability and consistency are essential this new technology obtains the very best results. Due to the tremendously favorable efficiency for the condensation heat-transfer, the machine requires only a very moderate energy supply. The average energy consumption is very low even when operating at full capacity.

As the respective process vapors create an oxygen-free atmosphere in the soldering-zone, the machine does not require any additional protective gases, e.g. nitrogen. With its integrated circulating cooling system for the necessary cooling water, the machine is independent of an external water supply.

Allen Duck, CEO of A-Tek commented, “The advent of no lead alloys, sensitive CSP and micro BGA devices, miniature ceramic parts, pressure on cost and maximization of yields, it is our belief that Asscon’s line of machinery brings both a great match to the productivity needs of the USA manufacturers but also the process control demanded by current designs and legislation.”

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About A-Tek LLC

Established in 2005, A-Tek is a full service distribution company based in Fort Collins, CO. A-Tek sources and supplies a production equipment, including lead-free reflow ovens, lead-free wave solder machines, PCB routers, board handling equipment and now SMT screen printers. All the products supplied by A-Tek meet today’s requirements for high quality, competitively priced equipment. A-Tek supports the electronics manufacturing community throughout North America.

About Asscon Systemtechnik-Elektronik GmbH

Asscon was founded in 1995 as a development and manufacturing association for progressive and innovative vapor phase reflow soldering systems. Today there are hundreds of machines installed worldwide. The customer base includes some of the most renowned enterprises in the world. The innovative company has met the challenge of the change over of all electronic products to lead-free technology, as imposed by the legal regulations of WEEE and RoHS. All Asscon systems are suitable for the higher temperatures required in lead-free soldering.