

Steca Elektronik invests in Mek AOI



Steca Elektronik GmbH has recently announced investment in Automatic Optical Inspection technology from AOI specialist, [Mek Europe BV](#) and distributor, [SmartRep](#).

[Steca Elektronik](#) is an electronics service provider and manufacturer based in Memmingen, Germany. The company manufactures up to 18,000 printed circuit boards per day and offers electronic services for residential, automotive, agricultural, environmental, traffic and building technology as well as for the industrial and medical sectors. Steca also has a solar division developing products for feeding the public grid, stand-alone systems and solar hot water systems. The company is actively involved in research projects for efficient energy use and climate protection and uses only manufacturing processes that conform to strict ecological criteria.

Steca selected the iSpector HDL 650 following trials with multiple suppliers to acquire comparable performance data. A matrix was developed and points awarded to each system for capabilities most significant to Steca's manufacturing model: Overall system speed; maximum PCB size; speed and ease of entering and processing CAD data; best evaluation of the solder joint; inspection of tall components. At the conclusion of the trials the Mek iSpector HDL 650 was the AOI system with the largest number of points and became the AOI system of choice.

AOI is typically at the heart of quality control procedures within PCB manufacturing and the iSpector and Catch yield enhancement software will provide Steca with a completely closed loop, powerful process monitoring and quality control tool. The iSpector HDL is designed for customers for whom production quality is priority. It reliably inspects SMT and THT component bodies for presence/absence, type, polarity, offset, text, colours etc. and

components solder fillets for excessive, insufficient or no solder, shorts, lifted leads etc.
Suitable for use in pre reflow, post reflow, post wave and post selective, it can also be used for 2D solder paste inspection and first article inspection.

www.mek-europe.com

About Mek Europe BV

A former division of Marantz well known for its high quality Audio/Video products, MEK Japan (Marantz Electronics Kabushiki Kaisha), developed its first AOI system in 1994. Developed to inspect PCB assemblies for correct component placement and soldering, the company's original AOI system was designed for use in Marantz factories. Proving to be a highly successful, cost-effective alternative to traditional human inspection, MEK developed its first generation commercial system in 1996. With a steadily growing installed base, MEK Japan and its European headquarters, MEK Europe BV, have sold over 5000 units worldwide to date. Now well established as a leading force in AOI technologies, the company recently launched a 5D post-print SPI system which combines 3D and 2D image processing methodologies to deliver unprecedented defect detection.

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