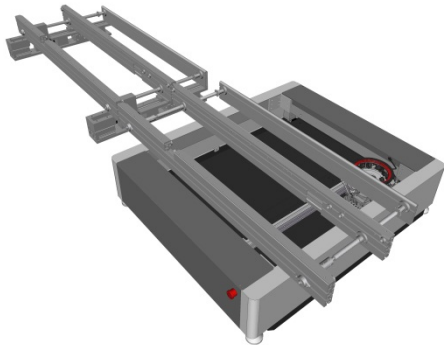


Mek turns AOI On Its Head with In-Line Bottom Side PCB Inspection



Mek Europe BV, formerly known as Marantz Business Electronics, successfully launched the new SpectorBOX “Bottom-Up” Modular AOI system at last week’s Productronica exhibition in Munich. The system replaces traditional board flipping alternatives in less space and at lower cost.

Optimized for the inspection of Wave & Selective soldering of THT & SMT components, SpectorBOX is designed to inspect PCB’s inside solder frames directly from the conveyor system. With its totally new mechanical platform, it is the only modular AOI in the market that can be equipped with 9 cameras, including an optional Z-axis moveable head to precisely position and focus for varying PCB distance and warpage. The XY drive gantry with ball screw mechanics delivers high speed inspection while maintaining high accuracy and precision. Specially coated shafts deliver quiet operation and minimize wear to virtually eliminate maintenance and calibration requirements. With its general purpose I/O, SpectorBOX can be simply interfaced with existing or new conveyor systems.

100% simultaneous inspection can be accomplished with two SpectorBOX platform modules combined for bottom and top sides, incorporating up to 18 cameras. Board sizes up to 550x520 mm (21.7” x 20.5”) can be accommodated

-ENDS-

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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