

Testtalk *focus*

ONE OF THE LARGEST GLOBAL PRODUCERS OF FLEXIBLE PRINTED CIRCUITS (FPC) AND FLEXIBLE PRINTED CIRCUIT ASSEMBLIES (FPCA)

CheckSum TestJet is BIG on small components

The company has design and manufacturing operations in the USA and in China.

When one of the test engineers contacted CheckSum, they brought a sample of one of the test fixtures from another test system they had used for many years. The test system vendor had recently stopped development of their test systems and only provided limited support for repair and maintenance.

They asked if CheckSum could design an interface to use these fixtures on a CheckSum test system.

Like many ICT fixtures, the mechanical design is unique however; the function is the same; to connect a set of organized test resources to a specific net/node on the unit-under-test (UUT). CheckSum was able to create a custom interface to utilize their existing test fixtures. They purchased several test systems initially.

We discussed the benefits of using standard CheckSum test fixtures that did not use the custom interface with a cost as low as their existing fixtures and increasing the test coverage significantly plus provide better analysis of any UUT failures.

Over time, their assemblies continued to become smaller, denser and include more components. They continue to 'push the envelope' in miniaturizing assemblies on flexible circuits and open circuits are the dominant defect in their fault spectrum. The CheckSum TestJet Technology can identify these failures even on their tiny assemblies.

Over the last 9 years, they have purchased several test systems. They normally verify the test systems setup in the USA and once approved, they transfer their test sets to one of their plants in China.