

Editorial



Volker Pape



Dr. Martin Heuser

Dear Readers,

We are standing directly before Pro-ductronica 2009, which despite its smaller size is still the world's leading fair for electronics production. We all hope to see a growth impulse for the entire sector – especially as provided by technological advancement.

Viscom could not be better equipped for its 25th anniversary year – proactive technological planning and user-oriented product design have been and remain our strengths, today more than ever. In addition to new advances in optical inspection, our inline X-ray technology sets new standards for future quality assurance. Stop by Stand A2/177 – we are looking forward to your visit.

Best regards,



Volker Pape
Executive board
Viscom AG



Dr. Martin Heuser
Executive board
Viscom AG

Viscom celebrates anniversary

Top quality in inspection technology – for 25 Years



The Viscom AG celebrates its anniversary in October 2009. For 25 years, the company has developed and produced inspection systems in Hanover. With innovative inspection solutions such as the AOI/AXI combi-system X7056, wafer inspection or wirebond control, Viscom sets the standards in quality assurance. Top quality in inspection technology is the company hallmark. As one of the leading suppliers in electronic assembly inspection worldwide, Viscom has also come to stand for first-class solutions in semiconductor or computed tomography.

25 years ago, in 1984, Viscom was founded as a private company for industrial image processing by Dr. Martin Heuser and Volker Pape. This places them among the pioneers in this new technology. The two-person business venture gave rise to a successful high-tech company. Viscom is now represented around the world,

with branches in Singapore, the USA and France as well as international representatives.

continued on pg 2 ▶

Contents:

	1/2 Company - 25 years Viscom
	3 Company - S3088-II anniversary edition
	4/5 Case Study - AOI for the Medium-Sized Company – Leveraging the Crisis
	6 Company/ Products - Viscom company nursery - Tips & Tricks
	7 Events - S3088-III - Initial introduction at Productronica - Upcoming Shows



◀ continued from pg 1



Hannover Messe 1992

Initially, concentration in the 42 m² Hanover facility was on development of image processing software. The first contracts for CD inspection soon followed. These first years also saw projects such as image processing for centering logs, or film analysis. Yet very early on, inspection of electronic assemblies drew the attention of the founders. Success has proven them right: the company has be-

come European market leader in electronics assembly inspection and one of the top suppliers in this sector worldwide.

But this is not the only area where Viscom has proven its success. Currently, the Viscom AG is the only supplier to cover nearly all areas of optical inspection and non-destructive testing. One focus is the electronics and automotive industries with their high demands for quality, although customers from aviation and aerospace technology, as well as medical technology or the foodstuffs industry, also rely on Viscom.



Viscom at the SMT 2008

proprietary X-ray, computed tomography or infrared technologies – depending on which technology offers the best solutions.



f.l.t.r. Ulrich Mohr, Dr. Martin Heuser, Volker Pape

Technological leadership, reliable system quality and authoritative consultation are the essential preconditions for this success. Close, cooperative partnership with the customer guarantees practice-oriented solutions: high performance, flexible and user-friendly. ■



Setting up the X7056

Its constant innovation has won Viscom international recognition as the specialist in production quality assurance. In addition to electronics assemblies, Viscom inspection systems also examine heart pacemakers and light bulbs, MEMS components in the semiconductor industry or motor controls for the automotive supplier industry.

It has been some time since only camera systems were employed for inspection. In addition to high resolution line scanners, Viscom utilizes



X-ray tube production



Top Quality – less expensive than you think

Our anniversary offers

Celebrate with us! We are pleased to make you a very special offer on the occasion of our 25-year anniversary:



**25 Years
of Excellence**

S3088-II anniversary edition

The S3088-II is a compact inspection system for the fast and reliable inspection of electronics assemblies. The system is distinguished by its high throughput and is superbly equipped for a zero-escape production strategy. The S3088-II can be flexibly deployed, for paste, placement and solder joint inspection.



Highlights:

- Highest inspection depth with 8M camera technology**
- Selective high resolution**
- OnDemandHR function for the best defect detection**
- Integrated defect verification for zero-escape strategies**
- Optional color evaluation**
- Fast program creation with EasyPro3D**
- Easy program transfer**
- Algorithm-based inspection for reproducible analyses**

25 % anniversary rebate
from the list price

Anniversary offer: service

25 % anniversary rebate
for our applications services

25 inspection programs
for 25,000 € (gradations are also possible, e.g. 5 inspection programs for 5,000 €. We guarantee this price for up to 30 different component types, according to the Viscom inspection library. Each program is created in Hanover based on a soldered printed circuit board without defects.)

25 % anniversary rebate
for a 1 year maintenance contract

25 % anniversary rebate
for all recommended replacement part packages

25 day 24 hour Hotline
Cost-free Hotline access Monday - Friday after setup. This offer is valid for S3088-II, and also with purchase of an X7056, S6056 or S2088-II system.

Are you interested in this one-time offer?

Then send us an email at: info@viscom.com, Keyword: Anniversary Offer.
Or speak with us at the Productronica in Munich at Hall/Stand A2/177.
We are always happy to answer questions and offer further information.

This offer is valid from 01 November to 31 December 2009 (order date applies).
Additional company rebates do not apply.



AOI for the Medium-Sized Company

Leveraging the Crisis

Small and medium-sized companies in particular are being advised to improve the marketability of their products and services. This makes an AOI system an excellent opportunity to convince customers and score points against the competition. Times of crisis are often leveraged to improve the efficiency of production processes. Here, automatic optical inspection is the key to optimized production and lowered costs.

Medium-sized electronics manufacturers satisfy customer-specific demands of varying industries with low-volume, highly complex products.

Because quality and reliability are significant criteria in such business models, these companies are directed toward a high-performance assembly inspection.

The advisability of an AOI system even for a small firm is indicated by the example of the company MINEL. As an SME, MINEL occupies 15 employees. Nonetheless, the company was convinced to take advantage of a professional AOI to further raise their high production standards and significantly reduce production costs. They view their decision for an AOI system as a future-oriented investment, even in the midst of this crisis.

“Because of its flexibility and economic benefits, only an AOI system corresponds to the high requirements set by low volume, high mix



The MINEL AG building in Buttikon, Switzerland

production. ICT, Flying Probe and functional testing make less sense in our case; they are very expensive



F. l. t. r.: Felix Senn, Development und Jack Schlappi, business manager, both MINEL, in front of the Viscom AOI-System

and less flexible,” explains Jack Schlappi, Business Manager of MINEL AG, who undertook responsibility for this investment.

High inspection depth, refined hardware and software and simple programming stood high on the company’s list during their decision process. With their new system, the most diverse types of assemblies can be inspected.

MINEL selected the AOI system S3088-II from Viscom. The system was designated to inspect printed circuit boards populated with SMD components, THT solder joints and miniature components after the soldering process. The inspection scope includes short circuits, component presence

and polarity, solder joints and text recognition on ICs. Angled view is employed quite often, since many solder joints can no longer be inspected from above. Jack Schlappi emphasizes the importance of an angled view: “With the combination of orthogonal and angled cameras, we have consciously chosen a flexible system configuration so we are also in the position to inspect very specialized components. This is the only way we could also cover upcoming customer requirements without further investment; now we are well equipped for the future.”

In addition to the inline-capable S3088-II, Viscom offers a comprehensive



sive product portfolio for inspection solutions – from the desktop AOI system S-2088-II to the high speed system S6056 or the combined AOI/AXI inspection X7056. A comprehensive range of software tools, based on 25 years' experience in the SMT business, rounds out the system range to assist smaller companies in the effective application of AOI technology.

Targeted orientation of the product and services portfolio to include medium-sized companies as an important customer group has had success: more than 70 % of Viscom's customers stem from this group, a tendency that is only rising. These companies employ between 10 and 500 employees and manufacture for all industrial branches, starting with medical technology, aviation and aerospace and ranging from industrial electronics to machine construction.

Viscom is aware that simple AOI operation is a significant criteria and so has focused on user-friendly operation with EasyPro 3D. This interface makes inspection program creation an easy task, accomplished in a short time, and can be done by less-specialized personnel.

Intuitive operation alone is not the only important factor for a medium-sized company; intelligent and useful software tools, such as the OnDemandHR function that switches resolution to suit the inspection task, bring a decisive advantage to everyday business. High resolution in-

spection is used only where required, such as in the inspection of 01005 components.

cameras – orthogonal or angled – that can be deployed for more in-depth evaluation bring additional advantages.



The MINEL Team

The MINEL company has consciously leveraged the current economic crisis to further optimize its production process. Jack Schlappi summarizes: "We no longer wanted to do without AOI. During these difficult times we have invested in the future, so we will be leading in the highly contested EMS market during the upswing, even as a small company." ■

The Integrated Verification is another example: this compact software module incorporates the results of each previously classified defect into the current evaluation. The resulting



Viscom repair station

valuable data base can automatically optimize the inspection program. This means the false alarm rate can be even further reduced and zero escape is assured, making it easy for even small companies to establish and document IPC-compliant electronic assembly production. Color



Viscom child care nursery for employees' youngsters

The Viscom AG opens its own day nursery

The Viscom AG has opened a child care nursery for employees' children. Thanks to this example of family-friendly engagement, life and work can be more easily combined.

The company nursery VIKIS was called into life by the dedicated support of several Viscom employees. The facilities are located directly adjacent to Viscom headquarters in Hannover-Badenstedt. With an interior and exterior surface of 320 m², ample space is offered for ten children be-

ployees who are now assured their children are well looked after, and so can better concentrate on their work.

The project will be fostered over the next two years through subsidies from the Federal Ministry of Families, Seniors, Women and Youth and the European Union as part of the "Company-Supported Childcare" initiative, co-financed through the European Social Fund. ■



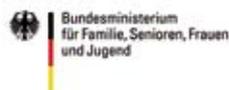
Viscom company nursery VIKIS

tween the ages of one and three, who are looked after by an accredited kindergarten teacher and a child caregiver throughout the day.

"We also wanted to do live up to our social responsibilities toward our employees," explains Dr. Martin Heuser, Executive Board Member and company founder of the Viscom AG. "The Viscom AG is an attractive employer – this includes combining family and career." Establishing the Vikis company nursery answers the desire of many younger Viscom em-



Gefördert von:



Tips & Tricks

... from Practice

One highlight of our new release is significantly eased image base processing offered by the tool BB_PROFILER_V2, which brings the following innovations:

- Display of color analysis images
- Conversion of color to greyscale images
- Rotation of grayscale images to any angle, not just multiples of 90°
- Multi-document display: several image base files can be displayed at the same time
- Tile display of all images within an image base
- Copying images with drag and drop
- Selection of several images for collective processing
- Combining the images into groups that should always be processed together
- Automatic grouping of linked inspection macros
- Saving an image base with a new name (Save as)
- \$ Image bases are also uploaded
- Up to 10,000 image bases can be loaded

You may read about all the new features of this release in Viscom Support. Our Infoline (application@viscom.de) would be happy to answer any related questions.

www.viscom.com/en_sp/index_sp.php?cc=spuk





Initial introduction at Productronica

S3088-III – The new, high-performance, economical AOI System from Viscom



With the new S3088-III, Viscom brings the latest version of the S3088 system platform to the market. This AOI system is optimized for fast, highly precise solder joint inspection with the well-known Viscom high inspection depth. Now significantly larger printed circuit boards can be inspected; the camera technology was improved even further. The system comes delivered with the new software release, again offering helpful new functions to inspection operation.



AOI S3088-III: high performance and economical

This updated Viscom AOI system is specifically oriented to the task of economical electronic assembly inspection – from prototypes to large runs. High precision solder inspection at top speed are not the only convincing features of the S3088-III; it can also be deployed for paste or placement inspection. Newly optimized positional accuracy for high resolution analyses detects even the smallest defects on 01005 components

with precise reliability. A revised PCB transport now accepts larger printed circuit boards, up to 508 x 508 mm. The system can be equipped to meet the demands of extreme cycle times or heavier boards.

Even the color evaluation was enhanced. Viscom is one of only a few suppliers to offer color evaluation for angular inspections as well. This feature improves visualization of the in-

spection results, on the system as well as at the classification station. One more innovation is the function Extended Lifted Lead Detection, to reduce false alarms such those caused by stamped edges, which are difficult to wet. The advantage: the highest defect coverage with a minimal false alarm rate.

The S3088-III also comes with established Viscom software modules, including selectable resolution with OnDemandHR or Integrated Verification for auto-

matic inspection program optimization.

The new AOI system can be economically deployed as a stand-alone or inline solution within the production flow. With the S3088-III, securing and documenting IPC-compliant electronics assembly production is now within the easy reach of small electronics service providers as well as major EMS firms. ■

Upcoming Shows second term 2009 – We cordially invite you

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