

News Release

Wednesday, October 08, 2008

RPS Introduces Rhythm EX Selective Soldering System

North American manufacturer of selective soldering systems delivers industries largest capacity native selective soldering range at 24 x 24 inches (600 x 600 mm)

Spokane Valley, WA, October 8, 2008— RPS Automation, LLC, a global supplier of selective soldering systems to the circuit board manufacturing and assembly industry, today announced the delivery of the Rhythm EX Selective Soldering System, the latest addition to the RPS family of selective soldering systems.

The Rhythm EX offers the industries largest native selective soldering range of 24 by 24 inches (600 mm x 600 mm); no manual rotation or adjustment is required to achieve this range. Based on the popular Rhythm System, the EX offers the most advanced robotics on the market with closed loop servo-driven X, Y, and Z axis motion that articulates the solder wave and flux beneath the PCB.

The EX is designed to successfully operate in high mix and, when properly configured, high volume PCB production environments. The system can be programmed in minutes to handle basic to complex through-hole soldering needs. All systems includes independently heated and programmable Nitrogen inertion for superior soldering performance and quick-change solder nozzles for industry-leading selective soldering keep-away (less than 1.5mm) and lead protrusion clearance (6mm).

New Automated Features: The EX delivers advanced automation capabilities for wave height management, system standby and start-up, automated conveyor width adjustment, dedicated witness vision systems, adjustable temp N₂ DirectHeat and ergonomically improved EasyLoad™ solder pot management. The available fiducial correction vision system can be utilized to perform solder defect inspection.

RPS EasyLoad™: The EasyLoad feature of the EX requires substantially less effort for solder pot removal for maintenance and lead to lead-free changeover. The removal process is a pull motion laterally out of the system, with no vertical lift required. All other selective soldering systems in the sub-\$100,000 class require much greater strength and safety precaution when reaching down to remove hot 50 pound solder pots (when loaded with solder).

The EX is for organizations seeking a selective soldering system with an affordable price point, efficient foot print, large board processing capacity and advanced automation. The EX is moderately priced and competes with much more expensive European systems.

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(continued from previous page)

About RPS

RPS Automation LLC is a privately company that designs and manufactures a complete line of innovative and advanced automated selective soldering equipment for electronic assembly and circuit board manufacturing. The company has over 490 installations and 300 global customers. All systems feature closed loop servo robotics, precision selective miniwave performance, and easy programming. RPS is regarded for high performance soldering, long term durability, and exceptional customer service. All RPS products and software are designed and manufactured by RPS in Spokane, Washington USA. More information on RPS Automation can be found at www.rpsautomation.com.

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www.rpsautomation.com

Made in USA

THE RPS CUSTOMER COMMITMENT

RPS will design and manufacture reliable, high quality, and reasonably priced selective soldering systems. RPS systems will help our customers reduce manufacturing costs and improve the speed, quality, and productivity of their electronics manufacturing. RPS will provide a customer experience based on honesty, integrity and a dedication to customer satisfaction.