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PRESS INFORMATION

OK International - www.okinternational.com

WEEE and RoHS: Process Expertise On Hand

Productronica 2005 is unique. It provides electronics manufacturers with a golden opportunity to forge new supplier relationships before the 1st June 2006 Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive - and the 1st July 2006 Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) Directive deadlines strike.

Responding to increasing global demand for lead-free hand soldering, rework and fume extraction systems ahead of the WEEE and RoHS deadlines, OK International will launch at Productronica a new range of affordable, high performance products. Developed under the new single OK International brand, these products have been designed specifically for lead-free processes. In addition, via the on-stand 'Lead-Free Kiosk', customers will be able to meet a number of OK International's lead-free process experts to help them resolve any hand soldering and rework application issues. Productronica will be the ideal platform to explore OK International's lead-free products, process knowledge, training and support.

For soldering, desoldering and rework environments, the **NEW** MFR Series Multi-Function Rework system features compact power units and an array of tools, interchangeable heater tips and tip cartridges. To suit varied workloads, multiple units can be interlocked to power as many tools as necessary. Featuring SmartHeat[®] technology, the MFR Series units are designed to provide a flexible, reliable and cost-effective solution to lead-free processing.

SmartHeat[®] takes the guesswork out of thermal management by automatically determining and delivering the required heat energy. The benefits of SmartHeat[®] include; reduced soldering temperatures; no thermal overshoot; reduced risk of damaging components/boards and no need to calibrate.

Designed for removing and replacing thermally demanding lead-free components from 0201 to 304-pin QFP, the **NEW** HCT-900 Hand Held Hot-Air Convection Tool is engineered as a versatile, low cost solution for production facilities. Closed-loop feedback maintains target temperature regardless of changing airflow. The system features analogue controls for heat and airflow, which are individually adjustable. A unique low noise air pump design delivers precise airflow control for the most demanding of applications.

Lead-free is at its most challenging when reworking array packages. OK International's APR-5000 Array Package Rework Series provides the answer, and will again be demonstrated on the stand at Productronica. Lead-free profiles can be quickly developed via the systems' five thermocouples, with customers quoting repeatable lead-free processing within a window of $\pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$.

When equipping a lead-free workbench, fume extraction should not be overlooked. The weaker wetting forces, rapid oxidation and higher temperatures of lead-free solder alloys demand stronger, more aggressive and more concentrated fluxes than is the case with eutectic solders. These emit denser, more toxic fumes and gases. OK International offers a range of efficient, cost-effective extractors designed to protect operators from lead-free related fumes and gases.

Firstly, OK International's **NEW** MFX-2200 Fume Extraction System can support up to eight manual electronics assembly workstations or remove particulates and gases from exhaust cabinets and small bench-top wave/reflow soldering equipment. Compared with previous generation systems, the MFX-2200 offers 50 per cent more airflow, a 300 per cent increase in HEPA filter size and a massive 600 per cent boost in carbon gas filter capacity.

Secondly, the company's **NEW** BTX-208 Fume Extraction System is designed to offer high performance extraction direct from hand soldering iron tips. Featuring a

high pressure, low volume air pump, the unit can support up to eight soldering stations using 5.6mm tubes. Engineered for under bench installation, the compact (508mm width x 254mm depth x 288mm high) BTX-208 Fume Extraction System incorporates a pre-filter, main filter (offering HEPA efficiency exceeding 99.97 per cent) and activated carbon filter to remove gases.

OK International's vice president of sales and marketing, Paul Weaver, said: "As electronics manufacturers move to lead-free production they expect world-class partners that can understand the global issues while delivering products, technologies, training and support tailored to local demand. OK International meets these demands.

OK International Fast Facts

OK International is a leading global supplier of products for the electronics assembly workbench. The product range includes benchtop fluid dispensing systems and accessories, soldering/desoldering stations, array package rework equipment and fume extraction systems.

OK International is committed to understanding the product needs of its customers and supplies professional grade products that are innovative, reliable, price competitive and easy to use.

Through a global sales channel, OK International provides expert product support and responsive customer service, with localisation to meet regional market needs.