

Pick 'N' Place

◆ Issue Number 52

March 2001 ◆

Surface Mount 2001 Powerhouse Museum Darling Harbour Sydney September 18 to 20

Surface Mount 2001 and Austronics (formerly Elenex) are the most important events for the Electronics Industry in Australia and New Zealand. Not only do you have the opportunity to hear from local and international experts but you also have the opportunity to see the latest equipment, supplies and services on display at Elenex.

One of the greatest benefits of attending the conference (apart from the feast of technical information available) is that you get to network with hundreds of your colleagues in the electronics industry from throughout Australia & New Zealand.

This year we have planned presentations and workshops - covering subjects on new and emerging technologies, SPC for Surface Mount Technology, High Speed PCB Design, Design for Manufacture from an engineering/manufacturing perspective, Lead Free Technology Update and a host of others still being negotiated.

Lee Ritchey Returning to Australia for Surface Mount 2001 in Sydney

High Speed PCB & System Design Course

This course is a must for anyone involved with the design of high speed PCB's.

This course should not be missed with over 200 attendees already throughout Australia and New Zealand

Cotton Delivers HDI Technology Seminar in Melbourne

The SMCBA was extremely fortunate to be able to conduct an afternoon seminar on 1 March in Melbourne about new high density interconnection (HDI) technologies. Mr Martin Cotton Design Engineering Director, ViaSystems UK, who was in Melbourne on vacation, very generously agreed to give his time for the seminar. Martin presented details of his unique concepts for high density interconnection using non-round vias and embedded coaxial technologies. The SMCBA wishes to express its sincere thanks to Martin and his wife Christine for breaking their holiday for the SMCBA and its members.

John Howard the Signal Integrity and EMC Wizard returns to Christchurch and Sydney Late March

John Howard who presented a highly acclaimed 2 day design/engineering workshop on "The Foundation of PCB EMC and Signal Integrity" at Surface Mount 2000 in Melbourne, is returning to New Zealand and Australia to again conduct his workshop. The workshop in Christchurch on 26 & 27 March had 45 PCB designers in attendance and similar numbers are expected in Sydney on 29 & 30 March. **If you are interested in future EMC design workshops please contact Andrew Pollock at the SMCBA on Tel: (03) 9568 0599, Int. 61 3 95680599 or Email: pollocka@smcba.asn.au**

Pick 'N' Place is published by the **Surface Mount and Circuit Board Association**

Assoc Reg No: A0016674X Incorporated 1988 ABN 61-228 044 453 Publication No: ISSN 1033-5366
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International Affiliate **SMTA** Member **IPC** & Licensed Distributor Administrator Australasian Chapter



IPC STANDARDS UPDATE

New IPC Standards:

IPC-9252 – Guidelines and Requirements for Electrical Testing of Unpopulated Printed Boards.

IPC/JPCA-2315 - Design Guide for High Density Interconnects.

IPC-7095 - Design and Assembly Process Implementation for BGA's.

IPC-HDBK-001 - Handbook and Guide to the Requirements for Soldered Electrical and Electronic Assemblies to Supplement J-STD-001.

For price and availability contact Andrew Pollock at the SMCBA on Tel: (03) 9568 0599 or email pollocka@smcba.asn.au

Why not send it out with Pick 'N' Place?

If you'd like to include something with Pick 'N' Place phone (03) 9568 0599 to find out how.

IPC Rework and Repair Courses A Great Success in 2000

The SMCBA conducted a number of Operator Proficiency IPC-7711 Rework courses during 2000. Twentyone people have successfully completed the course. A course is being run in Brisbane 19,20,21 March at the Queensland University of Technology. Dates for Melbourne and Sydney are currently being set so keep a look out in Pick N Place, in the mail and on the web – www.smcba.asn.au for further information

National Electronics Industry Meeting Held In Canberra

A meeting of 30 industry leaders and managers was held in Canberra on 20 February. The meeting was organised by AEEMA following discussions late last year between Angus Robinson Executive Director of AEEMA and several industry associations (including the SMCBA), other industry groups and leaders about the state of the electronics industry in Australia, impediments to growth and its future in this country. A resounding message was that the electronics industry

whilst one of the largest economic contributors and employers in Australia is highly fragmented and has been unable to present a united case to Government about the issues that are effecting the industry and the strategies that should be pursued in the future to ensure its long term viability in Australia. The representatives at the meeting unanimously agreed that an expression of interests should be prepared and presented to the Government for consideration under the Action Agenda Program. AEEMA was appointed to co-ordinate the preparation of the expression interests. It was also agreed to provide the necessary support and data that would ensure the development of an industry strategy.

IPC Training Available for IPC A-610, J-STD-001 and IPC- 7711 & IPC-7721

The SMCBA can provide training at the operator and worker proficiency level in the three key IPC standards areas:- IPC-A-610, J-STD-001, and IPC-7711 & IPC-7721. Keep a look out in Pick N Place, in the mail and on the web – www.smcba.asn.au for information and dates for courses being conducted throughout Australia and New Zealand during 2001. If you have a number of people you wish to train in-house call Andrew Pollock on Tel: (03) 9568 0599 at the SMCBA for a quotation.

IPC Designer Certification Program

The SMCBA last year became an IPC Licensed Centre for the delivery of the IPC Designer Certification Preparation Workshop and Examination. As a Licensed Centre the SMCBA is able to offer the Designers Certification Workshop and Examination as an ongoing program. Workshops were successfully conducted in Melbourne, Christchurch and Auckland last year involving 36 candidates and dates are currently being worked out for 2001.

LEAD-FREE

YOU'VE READ ABOUT IT AND YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT IT IF YOU ATTENDED SURFACE MOUNT' 99 AND SURFACE MOUNT 2000.

BUT ARE YOU READY TO MAKE THE CHANGE?

Taking Advantage of the Change to Lead-Free?

Developments overseas, particularly in Japan, confirm that the electronics industry **will** move to lead-free materials and processes. And, driven by market forces rather than legislation, this change will probably occur sooner than some in the industry have been expecting. If the electronics industry in Australia and New Zealand is going to hold its place in the mainstream it must be ready to make the change to lead-free. If, rather than just keeping up, they are a little ahead of their competitors in some other parts of the world in being able to offer lead-free processing, assemblers in Australia and New Zealand may be able to take advantage of the move to lead-free to increase their market share.

Choosing a Lead-Free Technology

At the moment there are literally dozens of options being considered with no single solder alloy yet emerging as the universal choice. Most companies in the electronics industry in Australia and New Zealand do not have the resources to undertake the sort of large-scale evaluations that would be needed to ensure they make the best choice. Some are waiting for their customers to tell them which alloys and processes to use. But many customers are themselves looking for advice from assemblers on what is practicable. Some companies are relying on getting advice from their overseas affiliates but many are finding that they are themselves still a long way from a final choice.

Can the SMCBA Help?

The SMCBA came into existence to help the electronics industry in Australia and New Zealand adapt to an earlier development in assembly technology: Surface Mount. The organisation now stands ready to help the industry in the new challenge of converting to lead-free. It has already started by devoting sessions on the subject at Surface Mount 1999 and at Surface Mount 2000, the Association brought to Australia one of the world's leading authorities on the subject. An up-date on lead free is being planned for Surface Mount 2001. The SMCBA recognises that the time for practical implementation has come. The industry in Australia and New Zealand is not large enough to cope with the capital expense and diseconomies of scale that would be incurred if too many alternatives are adopted. There may be benefits for all participants if the change to lead-free could be undertaken in a coordinated and cooperative way. The SMCBA has some ideas on how this could be done but will await feedback from members before proceeding further.

Let Us Know if You are Interested

If you are interested in participating in a cooperative program for the introduction of lead-free technologies in the Australian and New Zealand electronics industry complete the registration form below and fax to the SMCBA or send an e-mail to the Executive Officer, Andrew Pollock at pollocka@smcba.asn.au

**SMCBA LEAD-FREE PROGRAM
Registration of Interest**

I/We would like to be included on the mailing list for information about this program.

I am/We are:

- Assembling electronic circuitry
- Repairing electronic circuitry
- Supplying assembly materials
- Supplying assembly equipment
- Making printed circuit boards

Other:

Name:

Position:

Company

Address

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Fax to: (03) 9568 0622

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or Email your response to pollocka@smcba.asn.au