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Leading the way in **electronics**









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DAVE'S WORLD

By: Dave Raby

October 2013

Welcome to our November issue of the STI Newsletter. Our plans are to go back to a monthly issue so we look forward to communicating with you more frequently. We're also changing the format to make the information more useful to you and easier to navigate through.

At STI, we like to celebrate. We celebrate holidays, birthdays, good months, and anything else that seems like a good reason to get together and eat. My favorite thing for us to celebrate (even more than a good month – or at least as much as a good month) is employment anniversaries. I used to be able to take everyone out to lunch for their anniversary but eventually we had too many people and I weighed too much to continue that tradition. Now we celebrate anniversaries that end in 0 or 5 starting with the 10th. We currently have 19 people who have been here at least 10 years including 8 with more than 15. These are my favorite because by the time you've been here 10 years, you've been through, as Jimmy Buffett would say, "good days and bad days and going half-mad days" and you've stuck with us through all of those and you've shown the character that we want representing STI.

Earlier this year, we reached a new milestone when we had the first (non-Raby) 25th Anniversary. As I mentioned previously, STI began a little over 30 years ago in California. I think the most employees we ever had in California was around 10. One of those employees, hired in 1988, was the son-in-law of the pastor of the church my parents attended. Randy Baumgarden didn t have any experience in our industry but was a nice guy from a good family and seemed like he'd be a hard worker. He worked in our kit room (we all did that at some point - packaging training kits), he answered phones (we all did that too), he made microsections (most of us did that), he bought parts and did whatever else he was asked or whatever he saw needed to be done. He also had a great mechanical talent where he could take almost anything apart (most of us could do that) and putting it back together where it worked better than before (not something most of us could do). We quickly saw Randy had a talent for jumping into a project and figuring out how to do

the job. When STI moved from California to Alabama in 1993, Randy, who had never lived outside of Los Angeles County other than when serving in the US Navy, was one of two non-Rabys who had the courage and the faith in STI to make the move along with his wife and two small children. I think they've all enjoyed Alabama and the kids have even grown up speaking Southern. Randy has continued to wear a variety of hats (and boots) and for the past couple of years has been the Buyer for our Engineering Department. We now have people to do a lot of the things Randy used to do but you can still find him stepping in whenever needed to make sure things get done.

I'm proud of Randy for the way he has grown up with STI over the past 25 years and the faith he has had in the Rabys. I appreciate the many things he has done and still does to help make STI successful and earn the reputation for doing things right and taking care of customers and I look forward to working with Randy for many years to come.

For many of the same reasons, I'm very appreciative of the other STI employees who have reached various anniversaries or will in the future. We have good smart



people who make STI a great place to come to work each day but they also make us a valuable asset to you by providing years of experience, a "can do" attitude, and a desire to help. They are also a great reason to get together and eat. October is the time for my favorite industry gathering, the SMTAI Conference & Expo, which was in Fort Worth this year. I love attending this event because while it is the industry's best technical conference, it is like a relaxed family reunion (without some of those really weird relatives which we all have - or at least my family says we do). This year was certainly no exception. Also this year, STI was honored to receive the SMTA Corporate Partnership award.



Contact Information: **Dave Raby** President/CEO draby@stielectronicsinc.com

It was very nice to be recognized for our time and efforts put into the organization locally, nationally, and internationally, but in reality we do it for selfish reasons. We get so much more from the educational programs and the people of the SMTA than we put in. We probably should be giving them the award. Either way, the award and the SMTA are very much appreciated by STI.



Please enjoy this newsletter and let us know how we can be of service to you.

Please follow us on twitter (@daveraby) or facebook (STI Electronics) for more up to date STI information.

HAPPY VETERANS DAY

STI would like to thank all members of the Armed Services for their commitment and sacrifice on behalf of the United States of America.

electro

We Appreciate all that you do!







TRAINING SERVICES

Hands On Skills Development

Creative training for a strong work force.

STI Electronics, Inc. is a world renown, premier provider of training courses for the electronics assembly and related

industries. STI has been an IPC Approved Training Center for over 16 years and currently offers Instructor and Operator level training for

NASA/MSFC Certification Courses

STI, as an Approved Training Site for Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC), offers the following NASA courses including Staking/Conformal Coating and Cable & Harness Assembly.

Customized Training Courses

STI has the expertise to design develop customized and training courses to meet your company's needs. Topics include Basic Soldering, Wave Soldering, Lead Free Soldering, Flex & Rigid Flex Soldering/ Rework, and BGA Rework to name a few.

Training Center

IPC

Highly Skilled Staff

The staff of STI's Training Services Department is unsurpassed in knowledge, experience and commitment to the students that pass through our classes. STI has 6 full time Master Instructors that collectively have over 120 years of experience in industry and military applications.



Contact Information: **Pat Scott** Director of Training Services pscott@stielectronicsinc.com







TRAINING SCHEDULE



To register for a course or for additional information go to www.stielectronicsinc.com or email us at training@stielectronicsinc.com



MADISON, AL

MONTH	DATE	CLASS
December	02	IPC-A-610 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Recertification Program
	04	IPC J-STD-001 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Recertification Program
	06	J-STD-001ES Update, Space Application Addendum to J-STD-001E
	09	IPC J-STD-001 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Certification Program
		IPC Rework/Repair and Modification Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Recertification Program
	11	IPC/WHMA-A-620B Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Recertification Program
	16	J-STD-001 Certified IPC Specialist (CIS) Certification Modules 1-6 (Space Addendum Included)

TEXAS & OKLAHOMA

MONTH	DATE	CLASS	WHERE
December	02	IPC-A-610 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Certification Program	Broken Arrow, OK
	09	IPC J-STD-001 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Certification Program	Houston, TX



STI's Training Services

2014 Schedule



J-STD-001 "Requirements for Soldered Electrical and Electronic Assemblies"

J-STD-001 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Certification Course - Madison, AL

February 3-7 June 2-6 December 1-5

Training Center

April 21-25 August 11-15

J-STD-001 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Recertification Course - Madison, AL

January 29-30 March 26-27 May 29-30 July 30-31 September 24-25 November 19-20 February 26-27 April 30-May 1 June 25-26 August 27-28 October 29-30

J-STD-001 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Space Addendum Course - Madison, AL

January 31 March 28 May 2 July 2 September 26 November 21 February 28 April 25 June 27 August 1 & 29 October 31

J-STD-001 Certified IPC Application Specialist (CIS) Certification Course (Modules 1-6) -Madison, AL

February 3-7 Sept. 29-Oct 3 June 23-27



IPC-A-610E "Acceptability of Electronic Assemblies"

IPC/WHMA-A-620 Training Center

IPC-A-610 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Certification Course - Madison, AL

February 18-21 April June 9-12 Augu December 8-11

April 15-18 August 18-21

IPC-A-610 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Recertification Course - Madison, AL

January 27-28 March 24-25 May 27-28 July 28-29 September 22-23 November 17-18 February 24-25 April 28-29 June 23-24 August 25-26 October 27-28

IPC-A-610 Certified IPC Application Specialist (CIS) Certification Course - Madison, AL

November 12-14



IPC-A-600E "Acceptability of Printed Boards"

IPC-A-600 Training Center

IPC-A-600 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Certification/Recertification Course - Madison, AL

January 21-23 March 25-27 October 15-17

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STI's Training Services

014 Schedule



IPC/WHMA-A-620 "Requirements and Acceptance for Cable and IPC/WHMA-A-620 Wire Harness Assemblies" Training Center

IPC/WHMA-A-620 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) **Certification Course - Madison, AL**

March 11-14 July 8-11

Mav 19-22 October 20-23

IPC/WHMA-A-620 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) **Recertification Course - Madison, AL**

January 23-24 May 8-9 September 11-12 April 21-22 June 30-July 1 October 15-16

IPC/WHMA-A-620 B Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Space Addendum Course - Madison, AL Prerequisite: IPC/WHMA-A-620B CIT Certification or Recertification Course.

March 24-28 July 14-18

May 12-16 September 15-19



IPC-7711/7721 "7721B Rework, "Modification and Repair of IPC-7711/7721 Electronic Assemblies" Training Center

IPC-7711/7721 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) **Certification Course - Madison, AL**

March 3-7 October 6-10 July 21-25

IPC-7711/7721 "7721B Rework, "Modification and Repair of IPC-7711/7721 Electronic Assemblies" Training Center

IPC-7711/7721 Certified IPC Trainer (CIT) Recertification Course - Madison, AL

April 23-24 January 22-23 July 28-29 September 4-5 November 13-14

IPC-7711/7721 Certified IPC Application Specialist (CIS) Certification Course - Madison, AL

August 11-19 December 8-16

IPC-7711/7721 Certified IPC Application Specialist (CIS) Recertification Course - Madison, AL

December 17-18

Basic Soldering - Madison, AL Available upon request.

January 6-10

MSFC/NASA-STD-8739.4 Cable Harness **Certification Operator/Inspector**

January 13-17 April 14-18

MSFC/NASA-STD-8739.1 Staking and Conformal **Coating Operator/Inspector**

February 18-21 November 3-6

> To register for a class visit our website at www.stielectronicsinc.com.

ELECTRONIC ASSEMBLY

VALUE ADDED SERVICES

In addition to a complete line of electronic assembly and solder supplies, STI offers a complete array of inventory management tools. Vendor managed systems help reduce overall purchasing costs as well as insure product availability at the point of use. Inventory Management Systems can be as elaborate as vending type machines configured specifically for the customer's needs and product mix to a simple scanner system.

- Consumption Reduction (Typically 20-40%)
- Productivity Savings
- Visibility to Consumption Allocation at the Point of Use
 - Distribute inventory based on actual demand rather than pushing based on outdated and selective user input
 - Monitor consumption by user, machine, job number & work order
- Optimize inventory
 - Eliminate obsolescence based on hard data
 - Standardize on parts & SKU's
 - Define minimum and maximum levels on actual demand
- Automate the Restock Notification, Ordering & Reporting Functions
 - Alerts can be sent based on various criteria I.e. minimum level reached

E-STORE

For the convenience of our customers, all products available at STI can be purchased from our E-Store accessible at www.stielectronicsinc.com



EXCELTA EXTECH FANCORT HAKKO IDEAL **IDENTCO** JANPAK JBC **KAHNETICS KESTER** KOLVER LEWIS BINS LINDSTROM LUFKIN METCAL MICRO-CARE NICHOLSON O.C. WHITE PACE

PURITAN QRP R&R LOTION SIMCO STEINEL UTICA WELLER WIHA WISS XCELITE

PANAVISE

PRODUCTS

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Hakko Customer Upgrade Promotion

American Hakko Products is offering a special upgrade opportunity for loyal Hakko customers. If you have any of the following Hakko products listed in the Hakko Discontinued Product table below, you can now upgrade to your choice of the Hakko products listed in the Hakko Upgrade Product table at the advertised discounted price. Limited Time Offer. Expires Nov. 29, 2013. While Supplies last.

Hakko Discontinued Product



939 Soldering Station (PN: 939-1) FP-101 Soldering Station (PN: FP101-01) FP-102 Soldering Station (PN: FP102-01) HJ3100 Fume Extraction System (PN: any HJ3100) 470 Desoldering Series: 470, 470B, 471, 472, 472B, 473

Hakko Upgrade Products

FM-203 Dual Port Soldering Station PN: FM203-01	\$399.00 \$549.97 MSLP \$150 VALUE!	-03
FX-951 Soldering Station PN: FX951-66	\$199.00 \$262.77 MSLP \$63 VALUE!	S
FA-430 Fume Extraction System PN: FA430-16	\$475.00 \$625.07 MSLP \$190 VALUE!	
FM-204 Desoldering Station PN: FM204-01	\$525.00 \$690.97 MSLP \$165 VALUE!	jor
FM203-HD Heavy Duty Soldering Station PN: FM203-HD	\$449.00 \$596.27 MSLP \$147 VALUE1	-

261 Palmer Road, Madison, AL 35758 FAX 1-888-650-3006 sales@stielectronicsinc.com • www.stielectronicsinc.com

TRAINING MATERIALS

ASSEMBLY & SOLDER KITS

STI Electronics, Inc. is one of the largest distributors of Electronic Assembly and Solder Kits including BGA, Fine Pitch, Through-Hole and Mixed Technology to mention a few. STI's staff designs the boards and kits based on current industry needs. All kits can be customized to fit a customer's particular need and are available in various tin/lead free finishes.

ASSEMBLY & SOLDER AIDS

STI's goal is to offer solutions to the challenges our customers face on a daily basis. As a result, STI offers a full line of assembly and solder aids that can be used for manufacturing or training purposes.

DUMMY/ NON-FUNCTIONING COMPONENTS

IPC APPROVED DISTRIBUTOR

> STI is an approved Distributor for IPC which includes Video, Standards, Desk Reference Manuals and a variety of other products that can be used for training as well as manufacturing aids.



STI Offers a full line of dummy/nonfunctioning components through our Training Materials group. Any component used in our various skill and process proofing/profiling kits can also be purchased in bulk quantities.



MANUFACTURING ANALYSIS

STI's involvement in research and development programs, both in component packaging technologies and electronics assembly manufacturing, has brought about the installation of the latest and most advanced equipment and the acquisition of the top people in this field. STI is staffed to design, develop, assemble, and test a ruggedized electronics assembly in an advanced cleanroom laboratory (Class 1000/ISO Class 6 certified) to meet our customer's specifications.



MANUFACTURING

STI Electronics' manufacturing lab encompasses 26,000 sq ft of floor space containing two surface mount lines,

automated throughhole processing, and multiple flexible work cells for final assembly, 7711/7721 certified rework and repair, box build, and test. The facility and equipment is complimented by a

highly skilled and trained work force of electronic technicians and associates, all of whom are certified to the highest standard of IPC J-STD-001 ES (Space Addendum).

MATERIAL/FAILURE ANALYSIS

STI'S Analytical Laboratory's enhanced capabilities are the result of the recent addition of several new analytical tools and equipment. The analytical equipment includes some of the industry's newest and most advanced tools.



MICROELECTRONICS PACKAGING

The Microelectronics Lab was established to meet the rising need for advanced

> systems development and packaging to address the emerging challenges and issues facing today's electronics assemblies. Advanced design and modeling software enables STI to design and develop highly integrated hardware

to meet shrinking form and fit factor requirements as well as increasing thermal loads. Emerging packaging materials are continuously evaluated



to optimize electrical and thermal performance. The microelectronics lab specializes in state-of-the-art packaging design and assembly including current technologies such as Chip-On-Board (COB) and Multichip Module (MCM) as well as emerging technologies such as STI's patented packaging technology termed Imbedded Component/Die

CIRCUIT DESIGN

STI's involvement in research and development programs, both in component packaging technologies and electronics assembly manufacturing, has brought about the acquisition of the top people in this field and the installation of the latest and most advanced equipment and design tools. STI is US-based, ITAR registered,

and staffed with engineers to design. develop, and assemble a ruggedized



electronics assembly in compliance with our customer's specifications. With experience in Defense, Aerospace, Space, and commercial applications, STI is adept to designing and assembling a product to satisfy our customer's requirements.



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TESTING

STI Electronics Inc.'s Engineering Department serves the aerospace, military, and commercial sectors of the electronics industry offering test and evaluation services for component-level and system-level electronics hardware. STI offers customized test protocols as well as performs testing in compliance with various EIA/JEDEC, IEC, AEC, ASTM, IPC, and MIL standards.

ELECTRICAL TEST SERVICES

STI offers a variety of electrical test services from component-level testing/ characterization to system-level testing. Electrical testing is offered to validate values in accordance with component manufacturer's performance specifications, a customer's test specification, as well as standard test methods.



Analog and Digital Designs

- High Frequency RF Layouts
- Controlled Impedance Designs
 - Design Attributes
 - Rules Management
- Design Library Generation
 - Part, Package, and Electrical Symbols
 - Full Forward/Back
 Annotation

ENVIRONMENTAL TEST SERVICES

All electronic hardware is susceptible to the damaging effects of moisture, temperature, and contaminants. STI understands the criticality of reliability testing and test-to-failure. Improper selection of assembly materials and manufacturing processes can result in field failure returns which can lead to high warranty reserves thus affecting longterm profitability. STI's environmental testing capabilities include replicating environments such as Humidity/Moisture Resistance, Thermal Shock/Thermal Cycle, Steam Aging and Vibration/Shock testing. Coupled with the ability to perform in-situ electrical testing as well as a full range of post-test analysis of samples, these tools allow for rapid "aging" of componenets and prediction of operational life of hardware.

- Thermal Shock
- Temperature Cycling
- Moisture Resistance
- Humidity Cycling
- Shelf Life
- Accelerated Aging
- Vibration Testing











