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NEWS

Johannes Tekath in front of the new Peters-test unit handling a specimen holder. To the right, a can with the respective pre-treatment product supplied by Atotech.
Photo: Axel Küppers

Inkjet solder resist: Peters Cooperates with Atotech

Kempen, 28 June 2021 Peters is cooperating with Atotech for the development and testing of their new environmentally friendly and resource-saving technology in the field of inkjet solder masks. Atotech is one of the world's leading suppliers of specialty chemicals. Peters has set up a new laboratory test facility for further developing a fine-structured application of solder resists on PCBs by means of an inkjet method, while Atotech supplies the accurate pre-treatment chemicals and advises Peters on the fine-tuning of the associated process. The aim of this cooperation is to provide the electronics industry with a coordinated system of pre-treatment processes and inkjet solder resists.

Johannes Tekath, responsible for research and development at Peters, commented: "We are pleased to have Atotech at our side as a competent partner for the further development of our product. The challenge of this complex process is to coordinate the interaction between the surface treatment and the ink."

Atotech's Global Product Manager Christopher Seidemann added: "Peters is a market leader in high-tech PCB coatings. We find it particularly exciting that we can support them in working on a perfectly matched inkjet solution that brings both economic and ecological benefits." Being an international chemical technology company, they want to contribute to sustainable action in the coatings industry.

Peters is successful in research on ink printing technologies using the droplet-jet method for PCBs. The chemical company from the Lower Rhine area is continuously developing its solder masks, thus offering solutions for the constantly growing demands in electronics. The inkjet method, as a digital printing variant, permits to apply solder masks in fine structures.

For this reason, the Peters research team is laying special emphasis on the further development of this technology. The substrates to be coated with inkjet solder resists are pre-treated using Atotech's CupraEtch® SR8000 method, which ensures an excellent adhesion of the solder resist to the PCB. In addition,

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Atotech has specifically developed the InkPromotor T15 method for this process that prevents low-viscosity coatings from uncontrolled bleeding.

When it comes to the fine-tuning, questions are raised: Which process parameters, which compositions, which dosage should be chosen? An in-depth exchange is going on among the experts of Atotech and Peters. Kevin Poth, project manager at Peters, explains: "First of all, we want to become familiar with Atotech's pre-treatment method and apply it, before we adapt our inkjet solder resist and the printing process accordingly."

Once this development project is completed, one can expect two excellently matched products. Thanks to this process, Peters and Atotech will be able to provide the electronics industry with high-quality solutions for inkjet solder resists.

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THE PETERS GROUP

... based in Kempen, Germany, is an independent family-owned company and the only full-range supplier of coating materials in the world.

As market leader in high-tech coatings for the manufacture and protection of assemblies and electronic components, Peters supplies its products for a use in automotive electronics, aerospace engineering, industrial electronics, medical technology, LED applications or other industrial applications.

For more than 50 years, our highly specialised research and development team has been working closely with our customers to develop innovative, trend-setting and practical solutions.

With international sales offices and around 65 agencies abroad, we are the competent local partner in over 90 countries serving more than 4000 customers.