PRACTICAL COMPONENTS SUPPLIES NEWLY UPDATED AIM PRINT TEST BOARD AND KIT

LOS ALAMITOS, CA -April 8, 2010- Following the success of their 2007 test board and kit, Practical Components and Aim Solder has updated their offering with a new AIM print test board and kit that is designed to include many printing challenges commonly in manufacturer's assemblies.

The updated version includes new and challenging component technologies which mirror real life production environments. Added in the updated version are .4mm and .5mm pitch FusionQuad components, DualRow MLF, 01005 and 0201 resistors as well as other new components.

In addition to these new additions the kit contains BGA and microBGA pads, both having circular and square pad designs to test paste release. AIM has included the standard IPC slump test pattern in order to further challenge the properties of any product tested. This print pattern is more real life and can more accurately predict slump since individual pads are used as opposed to one pad that is common in the thermometer method. There is a number on the board indicating the distances between pads, ensuring that a hard number can be used for paste evaluations.

Common pad sizes were incorporated into the layout including 1206, 0805, 0402, 01005 and 0201 rectangular pads for discrete components. These pads have varying distances between them; allowing users to determine paste solder beading. Four 250 x 250 mil pads are available for use with various aperture styles to allow for wetting tests. There are also several fine-pitch QFP pads designed to check for the propensity of any given product to cause bridging, and to confirm the existence of torn prints, peaking (dog ears) or bridging.

Board material is S-410 with a standard ENIG finish. Call for other finishes. Digitized Gerber files are provided by Aegis Software at no charge. Additionally, the kit is available with either lead-free or tin-lead components.

Practical Components Inc. maintains strong working relationships with leading industry suppliers and is able to supply cutting edge products such as this because of these relationships.

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About AIM

AIM is a leading global manufacturer of solder assembly materials for the electronics industry. AIM's full-line of assembly materials includes solder paste, liquid flux, bar, wire, performs, adhesives, cleaners, chemicals, plating anodes and indium- and gold-based specialty alloys. AIM is ISO 9001:2000 certified with manufacturing, distribution and support facilities located throughout the Americas, Asia-Pacific and Europe. www.aimsolder.com

About Practical Components

Practical Components is the worlds leading supplier of dummy components, which are exact mechanical equivalents of live components, used when only the physical properties of the components are required. These components can cost as much as 80% less than live components making the ideal for testing of solder processes, machine setup and other process evaluations. Practical Components is a team of dedicated electronics industry professionals offering value pricing, on-time delivery, and superior service to customers. The Practical Components team is ready to provide project assistance in the areas of technical component knowledge, drawings, component land patterns and PCB practice kits.

www.practicalcomponents.com