

PRESS RELEASE

LPKF and Harting agree on cooperation

Launch of LDS method in micro-packaging

Garbsen, 12.11.2003 – LPKF Laser & Electronics AG and the Harting technology group have signed a cooperation agreement. This partnership enables Harting to produce and further develop 3D-MIDs for micro-packaging in particular – using the LPKF LDS method. Micro-packaging is used for very compact housings for chips and similar components and is therefore a very small type of MID (moulded interconnect device).

LPKF's strategy behind this agreement is to qualify the LDS method for micro-packaging. The material used will be Vectra® LCP which has just recently been licensed by LPKF to Ticona. LPKF and Harting will further develop the LDS method in this sector to make it ready for series production. LPKF's contribution is the 3D-MID laser system specially designed for the activation of 3D-MIDs. This enables Harting to produce 3D-MIDs completely in-house and to guarantee the provision of prototypes and series production for MID customers in the micro-packaging sector.

Harting is one of the world's leading manufacturers of industrial connectors, one of the areas where micro-packaging is to be used in future. Harting's expertise primarily lies in electrical, electronics and optical connection technology, transmission and network technology, production, mechatronics and software design. It can deliver customized solutions and products such as connectors for energy and data transmission, e.g. in mechanical engineering, railway engineering, wind turbine systems, factory automation and in the telecommunications sector. Harting also produces electronic components for the automobile industry and is market leader in electronic shop and service systems like cigarette and pre-paid card machines and the associated merchandise management.

In addition to qualifying the LDS method for series production, LPKF Laser & Electronics AG also benefits from this cooperation by consequently continuing the 3D-MID marketing strategy.

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