Electronica 2012 hosts the official launch of 'Re-flex® ~ On-Demand Tape'

Carrier tape production systems or tape forming machines have in the past always been specialist equipment, used only by businesses producing the tape to sell on to component manufacturers and tape & reeling service providers; or in some cases used by those component manufacturers. The main reasons being; the complexity of the operation of these machines, high cost of tooling and the lack of knowledge or understanding of the design rules for the tool – those issues coupled with being specialist machines, that need skilled operators to constantly monitor them and ensure their smooth operation. Therefore in the past, volume production was the only way to give the return on investment necessary to justify in-house tape manufacturing.

Whilst pre-formed carrier tape pricing appears to have hit its lowest level, set by the material, the manufacturers processes and the cost of shipping formed tape around the world; these costs can be significantly reduced by producing tape in house. Cost reduction and the flexibility of producing just the required amount of tape for each application further reduces costs, stock levels, space and wastage.

Adaptsys has listened to these issues and now can announce the release of the 'Re-flex® ~ On-Demand Tape' system. The Re-flex® has been designed to accomplish 3 main requirements; 1. Ability to produce simple and complex carrier tape with very accurate 'P1' positioning, 2, Easy set-up, operation and tool changing by non-skilled operators and 3, full quality inspection and traceability of each formed pocket.

Asides standard carrier tape production on to a reel, the Re-flex® is unique in its ability to provide tape directly on to a tape and reel system, thus providing tape on-demand. This feature can improve productivity on the existing tape and reel machines by as much as 10x by reducing changeover times from once per hour to once per shift. Additional benefits are less operator intervention with massive reductions in material costs and wastage.

In addition the Re-flex® uses a revolutionary tool change process allowing customers to move from one type of tool to another within minutes; including hardware changes, software set-up and time for heaters to get to temperature. This makes the Re-flex the only carrier tape forming machine that can be flexible enough to run low-medium volumes with high mix of tool changes – ideal for the European business model.

To operate the Re-flex®, all you require is compressed air, standard AC Input and a footprint space of just 75cm x 35cm.

All of these features, and many more, are covered under the issued patents for the Re-flex®.

Come and see the Re-flex® being demonstrated, live at Electronica 2012, Hall 1, Stand 375.

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About the Adaptsys Group
The Adaptsys Group is an independent supplier of electronics production equipment with offices in the UK, Germany, France and Eastern Europe. Adaptsys specializes innovative products for the tape-and-reel industry, including manual and automatic equipment, component counters, peel-force testers, tape splicers and the full range of associated consumables and in providing programming equipment for integrated circuits. Adaptsys also provides installation, training and a comprehensive process integration service.
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