

Controlar Honored with Global Technology Award for PicAI Test Platform

ROSEMONT, Ill., October 2026 – Controlar today announced that its PicAI probe inspection system received a 2026 Global Technology Award in the Test Equipment category. The award was presented on Tuesday, October 27, 2026, during the Global Technology Awards ceremony at SMTA International, held at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, Illinois, in the Chicago metropolitan area.

PicAI — AI-Driven Probe Inspection Control — is a fully automated system that validates Bed of Nails Test Fixtures by analyzing the probe marks left on printed circuit board test points. The patent-



pending platform combines dual-sided vision inspection with adaptive artificial intelligence to detect probe misalignment, insufficient contact, and early wear with micron-level precision, replacing a verification step that has traditionally been performed by hand. By turning fixture validation into a repeatable, data-driven process, PicAI helps manufacturers reduce rework, shorten troubleshooting time, and maintain consistent quality across production runs.

“This recognition reflects the impact PicAI is having across the electronics manufacturing industry, not just in the United States but globally,” said David Leite, Business Developer of Controlar USA. “Fixture verification has long been one of the last manual steps in the test process. PicAI closes that gap with a level of precision and repeatability our customers haven’t had access to before. As Controlar continues to grow its presence in North America, this recognition reinforces the engineering depth we bring to every customer relationship, here and around the world.”

PicAI was developed by Controlar’s global engineering team and first introduced publicly at productronica 2025 in Munich. Since then, the platform has been evaluated and adopted by electronics manufacturers across Controlar’s international customer base, reflecting the company’s continued focus on combining automation, artificial intelligence, and precision engineering to solve test and quality challenges on the production floor.

Since 2005, the prestigious Global Technology Awards have recognized the absolute best new innovations in the printed circuit assembly and packaging industries. It brings together the global SMT and advanced packaging industry in a celebration of the companies and people that are achieving the highest standards and driving our industry forward. For more information, visit www.globalsmt.net.

For more information about Controlar, visit www.controlar.com.

About Controlar

Founded in 1995 in Alfena, Portugal, Controlar is a global provider of advanced test, automation, and manufacturing solutions for the electronics industry. The company operates across Portugal, Spain, Mexico, India, Malaysia, Morocco, Tunisia, and the United States, and holds ISO 9001 certification and Inovadora Evolution status. Through close collaboration with tier-1 manufacturers and continued investment in engineering, Controlar develops customized test, automation, and inspection systems

that help customers improve production efficiency, product quality, and manufacturing intelligence worldwide.

About Controlar USA

Controlar Innovating Industry LLC is the North American branch of the global Controlar brand, headquartered in Anderson, South Carolina. The team provides commercial and technical support across the United States, supporting industries including automotive, aerospace, and electronics manufacturing. Backed by local presence and full engineering back-up from Controlar's global team, Controlar USA develops and supports customized in-circuit and functional test systems for North American customers.

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