ASMPT enabling the digital world

Zollner

Global player tests new SIPLACE V platform

Zollner Elektronik AG safeguards its technological leadership

The challenge

As a globally operating EMS provider, Zollner AG faces international competition on a daily basis. To safeguard its position as a technology leader, the company continuously evaluates new placement machines – also with the aim of being able to provide their manufacturers with practical feedback. As a long-term equipment partner of ASMPT, Zollner was one of the first users to deploy the newly developed SIPLACE V platform as part of a field test under real-life production conditions. To do this, the company integrated the SIPLACE V into an existing line and evaluated it based on crucial criteria such as performance, space productivity, process stability, and user friendliness.

> **"After placing 7.3 million components on roughly 25,000 circuit boards, we can confirm that the field test of the SIPLACE V was a complete success in our high-mix/low-volume production. The new placement machines from ASMPT once again set standards in terms of effective placement performance, flexibility, and quality."**

Martin Zistler
VP Global Engineering
at Zollner Elektronik AG

- **16 seconds shorter cycle time** for PCBs measuring 194 × 271 millimeters
- **Compatible** with existing hardware and software solutions from ASMPT
- **User-friendly machine concept**
- **Easier placement head changes** thanks to a new interface
- **Short ramp-up times** thanks to mature technology
- Fast and competent **support**

The solution

The SIPLACE V – a new placement platform developed from the ground up
As part of the field test, Zollner replaced one of four existing SIPLACE SX placement machines in a production line with the newly developed SIPLACE V platform. The machine has an innovative frame, highly efficient linear drives and measurement systems with significantly improved resolution – features that enable significantly stronger accelerations and even more precision, thus forming the basis for even more real performance. In sectors that are particularly critical for the electronics industry such as automotive, consumer electronics, smartphones, IT and networking technology, the SIPLACE V makes it possible to achieve performance improvements of up to 30 percent under realistic production conditions.

Maximum flexibility even in the high-speed segment
The SIPLACE V covers the entire component spectrum from ultra-small 016008M chips to large-format components and shows its strengths particularly in the way it accommodates OSCs with great efficiency. The machine is available in single- and dual-gantry versions and can be configured with single or dual conveyors. An optional 3D Coplanarity Module is also available.

Consistently optimized CP20 placement head
For the test operation, the SIPLACE V was equipped with two CP 20 heads. By being able to place up to 52,500 components per hour with a precision of 25 µm @ 3 σ, the collect-and-place heads set a new standard in high-speed applications, and their new universal interface makes it possible to switch out heads without having to interrupt the production operation.

The success story

After a few small, typical start-up problems were resolved, the production line ran with exceptional stability from the start after the update – clear evidence of a successful alpha test.

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About Zollner Elektronic AG

Zollner Elektronik AG is a leading globally operating EMS provider headquartered in the Bavarian town of Zandt. The family-owned company offers a broad range of services along the entire product life cycle covering development, production, testing and maintenance for electronic and mechatronic systems from the idea to after-sales services. With roughly 12,500 employees in 26 locations, Zollner supports industries such as automotive, measuring technologies, rail technologies, health care & life sciences, aerospace & defense, data technology, and industrial electronics. With revenues of 2.5 billion euros in 2025, Zollner is Europe's EMS market leader.

Zollner manufactured the high-mix/low-volume product spectrum that is typical in this environment and allowed the SIPLACE V to demonstrate its increased performance in practical operation. For example, a previously optimized process of manufacturing boards measuring 194 by 271 millimeters that took 54 seconds on the old line could be shortened by another 16 seconds.

The full compatibility of the SIPLACE V also had a positive impact on the upgrade because Zollner was able to keep using its existing feeders and software solutions from ASMPT without any limitations. The new machine's internal signal transmission based on Gigabit Ethernet technology also contributed to its speed and process stability improvements.

Also positive were the employees' evaluations of the machine's ergonomics, as was ASMPT's technical support, which was able to resolve any issues quickly and unbureaucratically.

ASMPT GmbH & Co. KG
Rupert-Mayer-Strasse 48 | 81379 Munich | Germany | Phone: +49 89 20800-22000 | Email: smt-solutions.de@asmpt.com

asmpt.com | smt.asmpt.com

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