

## Amsterdam and the EIPC Summer Conference

Needless to say, I may have under-packed for the weather. Determined to make the best of my free time, I bundled up and made my way outside. I was fortunate enough to be able to squeeze in a visit to the Van Gogh Museum and the Anne Frank House. After visiting these Museums, I'm embarrassed to say it took two years for me to take the time to see them both.

The summer conference was a two day event with a schedule that included close to 20 presentations with a theme that was titled "Improve Profitability through Technical Leadership and Innovation to Meet Future Market Requirements". This was a great theme for me to work with because to me this topic screamed, "VALUE"! The presentations were wide ranging, covering topics from high temp flexible materials, embedded power, and impedance measurements to the ever popular Inkjet Soldermask (can you guess which topic I presented on?).

The conference was again well attended with 80 some delegates in attendance at various times throughout the 2 day event. As always it's a great time to see some longtime colleagues and meet some new ones. I must admit many of these presentations were not centered in my wheelhouse, but it's always interesting to me to see others as passionate about their profession as I am about mine.

As this was my first trip to Berlin it was important to me to tour some of the historical landmarks I had only previously seen in pictures. I was able to jump on a tour bus that took me to see the Berlin wall, Checkpoint Charlie, the Brandenburg Gate and the Holocaust Memorial. Much of this beautiful city was destroyed during the war (including all but 3 of the city's bridges). They've done a great job rebuilding the city while at the same time preserving their historical landmarks.