



EIPC SPEeDNEWS

The Weekly On-Line Newsletter from the European Institute of Printed Circuits.

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NEWS FROM THE UK

MICROTECH 2015

IMAPS UK has now announced the programme for its annual conference, MicroTech, that will take place on **March 5th** at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, in Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 0QX

The conference will feature Keynote talks, technical presentations & table top exhibits on the latest developments, technologies and capabilities, in addition to a high-impact session and poster displays from UK research.

Start Duration Details

08:30	0:40	Registration & Exhibition
		Welcome, Introduction and Briefings: Suzanne Costello
09:10	0:20	& RAL Intro (Neil Geddes, Director of Technology, Science and Technology Facilities Council)
		<u>Session One: Future Technology Trends - Wearable Tech</u>
09:30	0:25	Presentation 1 - Keynote 1: "Trends , Challenges and Solutions in Wearable Tech", TechSearch International, Jan Vardaman
09:55	0:20	Presentation 2: "Smart Textiles for Wearable Technology", NPL, Chris Hunt
10:15	0:20	Presentation 3: "Wearable tech & Intelligent Fabrics", CPI, Mark Beckwith
10:35	0:25	Mid-Morning Break & Exhibition

<u>Session Two: Academic Research Session</u>		
11:00	1:00	Five high-impact presentations covering: Medical / Monitoring / Wearable / Miniaturisation / Interconnect
12:00	0:30	<u>IMAPS-UK: AGM</u>
12:30	1:15	Lunch, Exhibition & Posters
<u>Session Three: Future Technology Trends & Internet of Things</u>		
13:45	0:20	Presentation 4: "Flexible Electronics - TBA", Sharjil Siddique, FlexEnable Ltd
14:05	0:20	Presentation 5: "Internet of Things", Dave Hankey, BAE Systems
14:25	0:20	Presentation 6: Peratech, TBA
14:45	0:30	Mid-Afternoon Break & Exhibition
<u>Session Four: Advanced Packaging</u>		
15:15	0:20	Presentation 7 - Keynote 2: "The Power of IC Packaging", ASE, Rich Rice
15:35	0:20	Presentation 8: "Nano-ceramic Aluminium in Semiconductor Packaging", Cambridge Nanotherm, Giles Humpston
15:55	0:20	Presentation 9: "New Substrate and Board Technology to handle Power and Heat", BPA Consulting, Nick Pearne
16:15	0:15	Awards & Closing Remarks
16:30		Close

Who Should Attend: End-Users, Manufacturers, Production & Manufacturing Engineers, Researchers & Developers, Scientists, Supply Chain Companies, Process Engineers, Product Designers & Students etc.

Click [HERE](#) for a review of previous MircoTech events, to see why you should attend in 2015!

Delegate Registration: The event is open to all including non IMAPS-UK members. If you or your Company are members of IMAPS-UK, the event is only £40 to attend (registration is required), otherwise the following delegate rates apply:

IMAPS-UK Member: £40
IMAPS-UK Student Member: £25
IMAPS-UK Event Partners: £55
Non Member: £75

All prices plus VAT and inclusive of free parking, lunch & refreshments.

Exhibitor table-tops are also available.

Full details can be found on our website (www.imaps.org.uk). Book NOW, places will fill up fast.

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SOUTHERN MANUFACTURING & ELECTRONICS
Farnborough, Hampshire, England February 10th – 12th 2015

The initials in the title are SME, and are entirely appropriate, by and large. It is true that there are many large companies represented, but the other SMEs, the Small to Medium Enterprises, were here in droves, and they covered the very best in British manufacturing and electronics. 700 exhibitors in two enormous halls were there to cater for the myriad needs and diverse interests of over 7000 visitors. The visitors came from a split between aerospace, automotive, defence, electrical engineering and mechanical engineering industries, many of whom were within an hour's drive of the show.

Milling and drilling, cables and labels, detectors and connectors, enclosures and disclosures, hydraulics and ergonomics, the complete inventory of manufacturing was present, and within the many aisles were the stalwarts of the UK PCB industry as well as many of the assembly houses and assembly equipment suppliers.

Graphic PLC has been coming to this show for many years. Between 60 and 70% of their production in Crediton is for the Mil/Aero sector, and

much of that is exported. According to Trevor Sanders one of the biggest impediments to increasing that export business is export licencing. The allocation of human resources to the requirements demanded of HMG impinge upon both supplier and customer, and thus it is that a potential customer in, say, France, or Germany, faced with the onerous paperwork required should they wish to deal with a British supplier, may, and often does, choose a supplier from within their own country where no such demands are made. However, with customers in the multi-million pound bracket, Graphic are in a league at the top of the market.

Spirit Circuits see their exports increasing, however, although much of their production is for the UK market. Spirit can offer a complete engineering service for assembly, all under one roof. Peter Dobromylski their Sales Manager said that being at this show enabled them to meet with most of their UK customers for whom an annual visit to Farnborough is a must.

Anglia Circuits have been in the business for 46 years now, and sales increase quite satisfactorily thanks to an excellent reputation for reliability. They have now been awarded ASI9100 certification, and specialise in the quick-turn prototype market, which is of great value to the smaller start-up company for whom the larger board shop is not equipped. Customer sales are from the £100 account to the £100K account, and their pre-engineering and full testing ensure that Anglia is a company that really has grown by default; this was their first year with their own stand and Laura Robson, their Sales Manager, is now a member of the Institute of Circuit Technology, and joins MD Matthew Kember who has been a stalwart supporter of that organisation for many years.

Merlin PCB Group are a bit like the birds wings, they are pretty spread out. Lancing Sussex, Hartlepool, Co. Durham, and Chester in Cheshire are not exactly adjacent. But they do have a great proximity with their customers in the rapidly-expanding flex and flex-rigid fields, and can offer 12-24 layer flex-rigid boards from Hartlepool, and from 1 to 32 multilayers boards from Cheshire, as well as conventional flexible circuitry from the South Coast. Turnover had doubled in the last year, and just under 50% of sales are now for export. Colette Bentall is their Sales Manager and relayed the news that Dennis Price is indeed retiring

this year, which will be a major loss to an industry that has benefitted from his vast experience and knowledge over many years.

The Southern Manufacturing & Electronics Show is like a mini-Productronica, and has been successful in making it possible for companies, not only from the UK, to exhibit at a modest cost in a logistically convenient location to their customers, old and new alike.

That they have pretty much sold all the stand space for next year says it all, really. Without the costs of going all the way to Munich, and the beer is better, too.

John Ling
Editor