



For Immediate Release

Photo Stencil Named SMT VISION Award Finalist

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado – March 19, 2008 – Photo Stencil has been selected as a finalist for this year's SMT VISION Awards. Instituted in 1991, the SMT VISION Awards honor the products and technologies that have shaped the PCB manufacturing industry over the past year. Under consideration for award is the company's BGA/QFN Repair Tool for Multiple Packages in the category Rework and Repair.

Rework and repair of defective or misplaced components is cost-effective with today's expensive assemblies. Traditional repair methods require printing solder paste directly onto the board, which can be challenging and tedious, especially with small components and dense layouts. The BGA/QFN Repair Tool enables printing of solder paste directly on the QFN pads or BGA balls instead of the board. Thus, the need to navigate densely packaged areas with a mini-stencil is eliminated, and typical component placement operations can be completed in about 30 seconds.

"We would like to congratulate the finalists of the VISION Awards. Every step and contribution to the technology is quite an amazing thing. The time, energy, and intellect given to new ideas often go unnoticed. Therefore, we are especially happy to take a few moments out of the hectic pace of IPC APEX to applaud you for winning this prestigious award," states Gail Flower, Editor-in-Chief, SMT magazine.

Nominees for the SMT VISION Awards are evaluated on their ability to meet a significant industry challenge, creative application of a new or existing technology, overall quality and consistency of performance, economic merits, and throughput characteristics. Products are judged specifically on their innovation, cost-effectiveness, speed/throughput improvements, quality, ease of use, maintainability/repairability, and environmental responsibility.

The winners of the 16th Annual SMT VISION Awards will be announced on Wednesday, April 2, 2008 at the Mandalay Bay Resort & Convention Center, Las Vegas from 6:00 to 7:30 P.M. For more information, visit www.photostencil.com.

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About Photo Stencil

Photo Stencil is a leading full-service provider of high-performance stencils and tooling for the surface mount technology (SMT) assembly industry. Their innovations include the patented AMTX E-FAB[®] electroformed stencils, the high-performance, proprietary NicAlloy[™] stencil, laser-cut stencils and chem-etch stencils. Step or multi-level stencils are offered in all three technologies. Stencil design support and customer-specific design libraries are also provided.

Photo Stencil's comprehensive portfolio of related products includes a complete line of squeegee blades, featuring the patented, electroformed E-Blade[®], and tooling products, such as thick film and metal mask screens.

Headquartered in Colorado Springs, Photo Stencil was founded in 1979 and currently holds many patents, trademarks, and proprietary technologies. The company has additional manufacturing facilities in Mexico and Malaysia. For more information, visit www.photostencil.com.

AMTX E-FAB, E-Blade and NicAlloy are trademarks of Photo Stencil.

About SMT /PennWell Corporation

SMT magazine offers greater technical depth than any other publication of its type, providing an up-close look at the electronics industry for OEMs and MS providers who design, assemble, and test surface mounted printed circuit boards. Through the print magazine, E-Newsletter, and website, our readers get the latest information and analyses on technological developments and industry trends in materials, components, equipment, and methods for surface mount assembly. SMT is published by PennWell Corporation, a diversified business-to-business media and information company that provides quality content and integrated marketing solutions for the following industries: Oil and gas, electric power, water, electronics, semiconductor, contamination control, optoelectronics, fiber optics, enterprise storage, fire, emergency services and dental. Founded in 1910, PennWell publishes 75 print and online magazines and newsletters, conducts 60 conferences and exhibitions on six continents, and has an extensive offering of books, maps, web sites, research and database services. In addition to PennWell's headquarters in Tulsa, Oklahoma the Company has major offices in Nashua, New Hampshire; Houston, Texas; London, England; Campbell, California; Fairlawn, New Jersey; Moscow, Russia; Schwabisch Gmund, Germany, Hong Kong and China.

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