



LPKF Laser & Electronics
12555 SW Leveton Drive
Tualatin, OR 97062
503-454-4200
Fax: 503-682-7151

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CONTACT

Jennifer Adams, Marketing Coordinator
LPKF Laser & Electronics
Email: jadams@lpkfusa.com
Website: www.lpkfusa.com

LPKF Launches Entirely New Flex Drilling & Cutting Laser

Tualatin, OR, January 2016 - Electronics manufacturing equipment manufacturer and laser specialist LPKF Laser & Electronics AG is launching an entirely new laser drilling and cutting system specifically tailored to the needs of the flexible circuit industry. The LPKF MicroLine 5000 is a UV laser based flex drilling system with a large working area of 21" x 24" and is available in two different laser power classes, depending on customer needs for various substrates and thicknesses. The system is equipped with precise process monitoring systems as well as intelligent vision systems for fiducial recognition and alignment.

Nils Heininger, Senior Vice President at LPKF explains, "We believed that the flex drilling market was underserved with the solutions currently existing in the marketplace in terms of speed, quality and cost. With LPKF being a specialist in laser based circuit processing, we felt we can do better and serve the industry with a modern laser system that is very fast and delivers superior quality drill holes at a very low cost of ownership." Although the system is mainly focused on high-speed drilling of both blind vias and through holes, it is equally effective for contour cutting of flexible circuits. With a small laser beam spot size of only 20 µm, it allows for precise cuts of intricate flex circuit geometries. The laser system is operating in the UV wavelength allowing it to drill and cut delicate substrate materials with a minimal heat affected zone. For added flexibility, LPKF's MicroLine 5000 can also be configured for reel-to-reel handling of flex substrates.

The company will demonstrate the LPKF MicroLine 5000 system for the first time in North America at IPC APEX EXPO 2016 (booth #228), at the Las Vegas Convention Center from March 15th through 17th, 2016.

To learn more about LPKF's MicroLine 5000 please visit www.lpkfusa.com/flexdrilling/

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About LPKF

Established in 1976, LPKF Laser & Electronics manufactures milling machines and laser systems used in circuit board and microelectronics fabrication, medical technology, the automotive sector, and the production of solar cells. LPKF's worldwide headquarters is located in Hannover, Germany and its North American headquarters resides near Portland, Ore.