Written by Mike Buetow
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LAS VEGAS -- CIRCUITS ASSEMBLY today announced winners of its second annual New Product Introduction awards.

The awards were presented during a special afternoon ceremony at the start of the IPC Apex trade show.

The winners are:

Automation Tools	ASYS (FIFO Buffer System FPS30B)
Cleaning Equipment	Speedline (Electrovert's Aquastorm 100)
Cleaning Materials	Kyzen Corp. (Aquanox A4241)
Component Placement - High-Speed	Juki Corp. (FX3)
Component Placement - Multi-Function	Juki Corp. (JX100)
Device Programming	BPM Microsystems (Flashstream –C)
Dispensing Equipment	Asymtek (DispenseJet DJ-100)
Labeling	Polyonics (Product Sentry)

Materials-Flux	Nihon Superior (NS-F850)
Process Control Tools	KIC (RPI)
Rework/Repair Tools	VJ Electronix (400ST)
Screen/Stencil Printing	Milara (TD2929 Automatic Inline Printer)
	Assembléon (Yamaha YGP)
Software-Production	Juki Corp. (Intelligent Shopfloor Solutions)
Soldering-Materials	Henkel (Multicore LF700)
Soldering-Reflow	Heller Industries (Mark 3.5 Series)
Soldering-Selective	Juki Corp. (Flex Solder Series)
Soldering-Other	EVS International (EVS 7000 Solder Dross Recovery)
Soldering-Hand Tools	OK International (Metcal MX-5000 Series)

Test & Inspection-AXI	Dage Precision Industries (Dage XD7600NT$_{100}$)
Test & Inspection-ICT	Agilent Technologies (Cover Extend)
Test & Inspection-AOI	Mirtec Corp. (Mirtec MV-3L)
Underfills	Henkel (Hysol UF3800)

Now in its second year, CIRCUITS ASSEMBLY's NPI Awards recognize the leading new products for electronics assembly during the past 12 months. Awards were selected by an independent panel of four practicing industry engineers. They evaluated the entries on the basis of the following:

- Creativity and innovation
- Compatibility with existing technology
- Cost-effectiveness
- Design
- Environmental friendliness
- Expected reliability
- Expected maintainability/reparability
- Flexibility
- Performance
- User-friendliness.

In presenting the awards, CIRCUITS ASSEMBLY Editor in Chief Mike Buetow said, "I sat with some of the judges as they evaluated the entries, and can say they often expressed tremendous admiration at the ingenuity of the products. The plaudits ranged from ease-of-use and ease of implementation, to accessibility and repeatability."