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DEPRAG and Universal Instruments

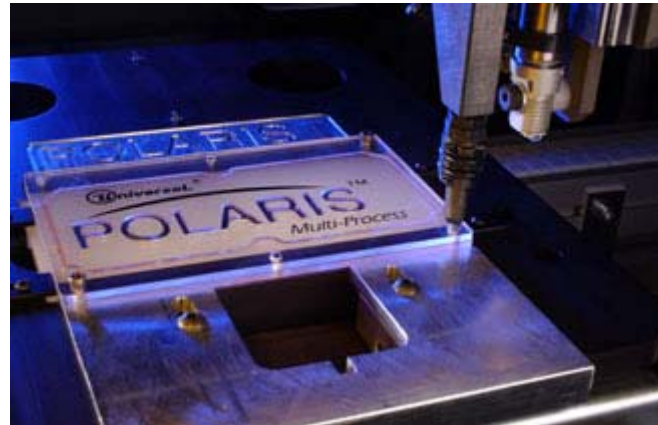
Late in the 3rd quarter of 2002, the Odd Form & Final Assembly Division of Universal Instruments contacted DEPRAG USA about a mutually beneficial screwdriving application. Universal had been designing a screwdriving tool module to be incorporated into the Polaris[®] Multi-Process Assembly Cell. Polaris Multi-Process allows multiple mechanical assembly processes to be performed in a single cell. Universal wanted to purchase and integrate a high-quality, durable, and easily-available screw feeding machine and screwdriving system.

DEPRAG supplied Universal with a screw feeding machine (SZG), a screwdriver function module (SFM) with feeder tooling, and a DEPRAG logic controller (LC172). Universal showcased the Polaris Multi-Process Assembly Cell with the DEPRAG system at the Assembly Technology Expo (ATE) in Chicago in September 2002. In addition to screwdriving, Universal also demonstrated dispensing, pick and place, and vision inspection on Polaris Multi-Process.

Polaris Capabilities

The Polaris Assembly Cell builds on Universal Instruments' industry-leading expertise in helping customers optimize their productivity. Precise positioning and control of placement force, combined with new tooling attachments, allow a wide variety of parts and materials to be placed and verified quickly and accurately.

PICTURES



The modular, platform design of Universal's Polaris Assembly Cell means several processes can be performed in a single cell for efficient use of shop floor real estate, or distributed across multiple cells to boost productivity. As volumes begin to increase, multiple operations can be performed on the same cell, allowing more efficient allocation of human resources to higher value tasks. What's more, the flexibility of the Polaris Assembly Cell means a cell can be added to a line or moved to a different position within the line in response to rapidly changing production requirements.

In addition to scalability, the standard tool interfaces of the Polaris Multi-Process Assembly Cell allow it to be easily reconfigured after completing a project, reducing total cost of ownership and maximizing ROI. Tools can be added or replaced easily and quickly based on application requirements. If custom tooling is required, it can be designed as a module to fit within the platform, eliminating the need for a customized cell.

DEPRAG is very proud to be selected by Universal Instruments as a supplier of screwdriving equipment for the Polaris Multi-Process Assembly Cell, and we are looking forward to a long-lasting, successful relationship.